

Principal's Message

January was another exciting month at Tom Longboat Jr. P.S. The Boys' Basketball Team began their season, a Co-ed Volleyball Team was selected and are practicing regularly and we recognized cultural celebrations, among other events. Tamil Heritage Month was celebrated throughout the school in various ways but concluded with a Thai Pongal-focussed school assembly. Thai Pongal is the Tamil harvest festival and was celebrated on January 15th. It is one of the most important celebrations for Tamil people worldwide. We thank our special guest and newly elected Area Trustee, Neethan Shan, for sharing his perspective of the festival and inspiring our students.

In January, our staff began professional development sessions to improve teaching and learning. Our goal is to improve mathematics and language instruction through the use of technology. In keeping with academics, report cards will be sent home **February 9th** and parent/teacher interviews will take place the evening of **February 11th** and during the day on **February 12th**. Parents will be contacted if an interview is required, however any parent can request to meet with their child's teacher to discuss overall progress and/or address any concerns they may have.

Also in January, Kindergarten students were visited by a Librarian from the Malvern Public Library. Hopefully her visit will inspire students and parents to visit the library regularly as it is a valuable community resource.

If you visit the office, you will see that the foyer has some new furniture that makes the space feel up to date. The previous furniture has been at the school since 1978 and the foyer needed to be brought up to standards fitting of the Longboat community. We hope you enjoy the new couch and benches and that they make your trip to the school office more pleasant. The staff at Tom Longboat is proud to serve the needs of this community and take every opportunity to instill pride in our students and their parents.

Finally, I would like to wish Mrs. Young well as she prepares to depart the Tom Longboat school office for a position at White Haven P.S. on February 8th. Mrs. Young only started with us in September but she quickly became a valued colleague among staff, as well as a student favourite. Her pleasant demeanour and excellent work ethic will be missed, but I am sure she will contribute those positive traits to her new school community. On behalf of the Tom Longboat staff and community, best of luck at White Haven, Mrs. Young. We already miss you!

As always, please do not hesitate to share any questions or concerns with your child's teacher or me. We are happy to be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Mr. R. Cousins
Principal

We're feeling HAPPY!

On January 8, we had a Happiness Club assembly with Wali Shah. He is a speaker from Bell Let's Talk and he is one of the "Top 20 under 20" in Canada. Wali Shah performed his spoken word poetry that was called "Change the World". For entertainment Mr. Smith and Ms. Stephen performed a guitar and piano performance with Wali Shah. The Happiness Club was held in the old gym. The reason why he came to our school is because he wanted to talk about his past and perform his spoken word poetry. This was a memorable assembly that we had.
by Kajavinth

Dates to Remember

- February 1 - Basketball Tournament @ Cornell P.S.
- February 2 - Basketball Away Game: Tom Longboat at Anson Taylor
- February 4 - Basketball Away Game: Tom Longboat at Heather Heights
- February 8-12 - JK Registration Week
- February 9 - Report Cards go home
- February 10 - 6:30 pm - Parent Council Meeting
- February 11 & 12 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- February 12 - PA Day
- February 15 - Family Day Holiday
- February 23 - Pizza Lunch
- February 26 - Electives Afternoon
- February 29 - Longboat Leader Assembly





What's Up in the Library?

Our school library is a wonderful resource used by staff and students. Ms. Martil and the library leaders have worked with several teachers to make our school library a huge success. For example, last year they worked really hard to get high-interest fiction books which students had a part in selecting. This year they're working hard to get new non-fiction materials to address

the revised social studies and science curriculum. That's not all! The event that the students are looking forward to is the Annual Book Fair. This event is held in our school once a year. This year it will be held during the week of Feb 8-Feb 12..

Rockin' It Out



On Thursday, December 3rd, 2015 Ms. Yung's Grade 3/4 class went to Hillside Outdoor Education Centre by school bus. Ms. Yung's class went to Hillside to study rocks and look for fossils. They have been learning about Rocks and Minerals for Science. It was an exciting trip for the students. They had an opportunity to look for fossils along the beach. The students found sedimentary rocks along the beach and cracked them open with other rocks. The students were amazed to find fossils inside the rocks. Ms. Yung's class had a wonderful time at Hillside. They played outside, saw animal fur, maple trees and had a campfire. The weather was freezing cold and there was a little bit of rain. The students wished they could stay longer.

By: Christopher N.

The Amazing Hoops Team

The basketball team is made of ten grade 5 and 6 boys. The coach of the team is Mr. Smith. They practise in the new gym after school two or three days a week. The team is practicing for the upcoming tournament on Feb. 1 at Cornell Public School.

Last year, the team won the tournament, This year they are hoping to win another banner for the school. The team is working hard to continue to develop their basketball skills. The team has 6 upcoming games in the year. The basketball team is fantastic.



By: Francisco and Aqib



The Amazing Co-Ed Volleyball Team

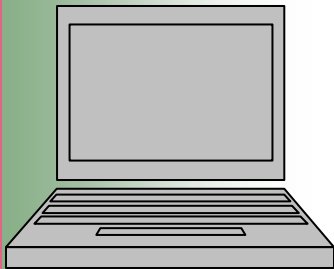
Several boys and girls in Grade 5-6 made it to the co-ed volleyball team. They practice on Wednesday after school and Thursday at lunch time. The coaches are Mrs. Yung and Mr. Mark. They are teaching us how to serve (getting the ball over the net). Also how to play a full game of volleyball so the team will be prepared for the intense tournament coming up.

Kids For Change

Every week on Tuesdays at lunchtime, the KFC members meet. There are 11 Grade 6 students and 5 teachers. The KFC members want to help the people in the local and global community by collecting food and money. In December, the Kids For Change Club learned how to make mattresses from milk bags. They give the mattress to a company called Milkbags Unlimited who send them to developing countries where people don't have beds. In October, the KFC organized a food drive called We Scare Hunger. Also, the KFC members collect pop tabs to donate to the March of Dimes to help people with disabilities. On January 21, 2016, we had a presentation about pop tabs. In February, they are holding a movie night and teachers vs. police officers basketball game.

By:

"We like helping others in the world." Sharfaa and Arani



New Year, New Technology

iPads, Netbooks, Computers! We all want to get involved with technology in this school. Well, there is good news! We now have about 30 new Chromebooks available for Junior Students during second term for student work and problem solving. Chromebooks are mini computers that use cloud-based technology and Google applications. So that means we have a balanced scale of technology to be used around the school: Kindergartens can use the 30-45 iPads, Primary's have access to the Computer Lab's 33 computers and the Juniors can use the New Portable Chromebooks, purchased with money from Fundraisers such as Pizza Lunch. So Juniors, be prepared for second term and what it has coming your way in 2016 with technology.

By: David L.

Introducing Mr. Tombran & Ms. Alexander!

In 2015 there was a new Junior division teacher at Tom Longboat. His name is Mr. Tombran. He has been teaching for 15 years and loves to see his students succeed in school. He also loves to teach Social Studies and Language. His students think he's a great teacher! If you haven't met Mr. Tombran you should.

- Achsana and Aliyah

Also new is Ms. Alexander, who started at Tom Longboat after the Winter Break. She is teaching Grade 1 and she is also taking part in the Folk Dancing Club. Ms. Alexander's students say she is so nice and always happy.

We are very lucky to have Ms. Alexander at our school!

Tom Longboat Jr. P.S.

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Time to Be Happy!

There's a new club in the school and it's called Happiness Club ! This club has 12 students that have been working very hard to try to find new ways to make other students happy. They have invited guest speakers to talk about ways to stay happy. Happiness club got Mr.Wali Shah and a yoga instructor to come to our school.

Let's see what else Happiness Club will do in 2016 !

By: Danielle

Operation Conservation

On Jan 12th and 19th ten lucky Grade 6 students went to the Toronto Zoo for a trip called "Operation Conservation". They learned about endangered animals and how humans can help protect animal habitats. The students had a behind the scenes look at many animals and made treats out of fruit for the monkeys.

By: Arunya



The Power of Pizza

At Tom Longboat we just had a pizza lunch, but not just any pizza lunch - a KFC (Kids For Change) pizza lunch! It took place on January 20th 2016, in the old gym. When KFC pizza lunches happen, they use most of the money to send to the Me to We Foundation, so they can buy bricks to build a school in Kenya. Lots of students buy and enjoy their pizza each time and for a good cause!

By Melissa

Can we help you?

There are seven helpful grade 6 students that help Mrs. A. in the office at lunch. In the office they pick up calls to help people if they have any problems. Also they do the PA and help if someone gets hurt. They all come on different days at lunch time. They help a lot and are very kind to Mrs. A. if she needs any help. The office helpers are marvelous.

February is Kindergarten Registration Month

Children born in 2012 are eligible for enrolment in Junior Kindergarten for September 2016.

Registrations will be by appointment only, and will take place during the week of February 8th to 12th.

Please stop by the school office to pick up a registration package and schedule your appointment.