

Africentric Alternative School News

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Upcoming Events

- ✓ Grade 7/8 Drumming workshops with Mr. Saikou, March 28, April 4, 5, 11, 12
- ✓ April 8 PA DAY - no school
- ✓ April 15 Estella Wheeler Memorial Event
- ✓ Jamaican Patty Day - Friday, April 12 & 26
- ✓ Tuesday, April 3 - Parent Council Meeting
- ✓ Pancake Breakfast - Tentative - Friday, April 26 - TFSS & UPS VOLUNTEERS
- ✓ April 30 - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Open House & Kindergarten Information Session
- ✓ May 20 Victoria Day Weekend
- ✓ Vaccination - Grade 7/8 May 29, 2024
- ✓ June 19 Grade 8 Graduation - 10:00 a.m.
- ✓ June 28 - Last day of School

Newsletter April 2024

Hugh Reynolds, Principal
Kurt McIntosh, Superintendent
Alexandra Lulka, Trustee

School Council Co-Chairs:

Ria Clarke
Norgie Williams
Contact us:
aas.vol@gmail.com

Email: AfricentricAlternativeSchool@tdsb.on.ca
School Website: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/africentricschool/>



Principal's News

Dear Africentric Alternative School Community,

As we step into April, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all parents and caregivers for your unwavering support during what continues to be a challenging time for our school community. Your strength and solidarity have been a source of comfort as we navigate through the loss of our beloved teacher, Ms. Wheeler. Your presence and support have truly made a difference, and for that, we are immensely grateful.

As we continue to honor the memory of Ms. Wheeler, I want to extend an invitation to all members of our community to attend her celebration of life on April 13, 2024, at the West Toronto Church of God, located at 995 Wilson Avenue. It will be a time for us to come together, reflect on her impact, and support one another through this difficult time.

I would also like to express our appreciation to those who attended the Barilla Canada Cooking demonstration on March 23, 2024. Your participation in such events not only enriches our school experience but also strengthens the bonds within our community.

Additionally, I want to remind all parents that April 8th is a Professional Activity

(PA) day, and the school will be closed on that day. Please plan accordingly. Please share information with your network regarding our Open House and Kindergarten Information session which will take place on April 30, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Please ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the weather as there is usually temperature fluctuation during Spring. Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony is set for Wednesday, June 19, 2024. The Graduation Committee is well underway with their plans for this important milestone. Please support fundraising activities as proceeds will go to support this ceremony.

Once again, I want to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support, compassion, and understanding. Together, we will continue to uphold the spirit of our community and honor the legacy of Ms. Wheeler.

With warm regards,

Hugh Reynolds
Principal

AFRICENTRIC ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

**MONDAY APRIL 15, 2024
9:00-10:15AM IN THE GYM**

CELEBRATION OF LIFE ASSEMBLY



PROGRAM

Welcome
Land Acknowledgement
Black National Anthem
Drumming Session
Classroom Presentations
Open Floor To Share
Closing Remarks & Thank You
Releasing of Balloons
Cupcakes

Thank you to our School's Nutrition/Snack Program Supporters.

We would like to acknowledge and thank President's Choice for the President's Choice Children's Charity School Nutrition Grant (PCC). Our Nutrition Program is also supported by the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS), City of Toronto – Public Health, Ministry of Children & Youth Services and Parents and Community.



We are grateful for the support of the following:

Afro Crush -

Donated funds for the Nutrition Snack Program

Augustine Asa Nte-Frempong -

Donated Kente Strips/Sashes to the 2021/2022 graduating class

Angus Systems -

a very substantial donation to assist classroom technology needs

Barilla Canada -

Since 2021 donated cooking demonstration (Chef Tim), pasta, and a very substantial financial contribution for Chromebooks and music program supplies

Downsview Community Services Organization

Donated funds for the Nutrition Snack Program

House of Jua

Donated funds for the Nutrition Snack Program

IFARADA CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE/JASMINE JEAN-FRANCOIS

Through the Adinkra Youth Leadership Program/ Service Corps Canada -
Donations of 17 hardcover books written by black authors, for our library



Jays Care Foundation

Donated winter wear

MLSE - Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment -

Substantial donation towards school improvements in classroom and gym

Moez and Marissa Kassam Foundation and TFSS - (Toronto Foundation for Student Success)

Morning Meal/Snack Program Freezer donation

Shutterstock -

Donated books and puzzles created by black authors and illustrators

Start2Finish -

Donated backpacks and school supplies

Turner Consulting Group Inc. -

Tana Turner, Principal Consultant generously donated books and resources for our library

Theme of the Month - April

Co-operation - Ujamaa



Honor bespeaks worth.
Confidence begets trust.
Service brings
satisfaction. Cooperation
proves the quality of
leadership.

James Cash Penney

BrainyQuote®



Cooperation

O	U	S	H	E	L	P	F	U	L	N	E	S	S
O	A	N	O	A	E	A	O	I	N	M	L	A	I
I	T	I	I	N	E	O	N	I	A	T	C	A	R
L	E	H	A	O	I	C	N	R	A	N	A	L	A
R	G	P	R	T	N	P	N	E	E	O	N	R	D
T	N	C	O	N	N	E	C	T	I	O	N	L	H
E	E	C	E	A	G	R	E	E	M	E	N	T	O
M	N	C	M	U	L	I	A	S	R	S	N	I	R
C	A	L	L	I	A	N	C	E	F	N	L	T	H
F	C	P	A	R	T	N	E	R	S	H	I	P	C
C	O	M	P	L	I	A	N	C	E	A	E	T	A
I	D	N	E	I	R	E	D	A	R	A	M	A	C
D	C	O	L	L	A	B	O	R	A	T	I	O	N
E	A	S	S	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	M	O	E

- CONNECTION
- AGREEMENT
- UNION
- ALLIANCE
- COLLABORATION
- ASSISTANCE
- HELPFULNESS
- COMPLIANCE
- CAMARADERIE
- PARTNERSHIP

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3453605/>

What goes up but never comes back down?

🤔 Your age

Nobody empties me, but I never stay full for long, what am I?

🤔 The Moon

The Benefits of Being on Time - Punctuality

Punctuality is a habit of:

- Attending a task **on time**.
- Doing things at the **right time**.
- Not missing parts of the lesson and school routines
- Managing your work and personal life

Punctuality is one of the keys to a successful life.

The following are a few reasons that prove why punctuality is important for life:

1. Punctuality and time management **affects the process of learning.**
2. **A key to success...** Being punctual gives you a sense of stability, security and self-confidence.
3. **It shows your integrity and demonstrates respect for others...** being late affects those around you by interrupting other students and teachers in the class.



Dear Parents, Caregivers, Guardians, and Visitors,

Please note the following:

1. To ensure a well-ordered and safe school please always start your visit at the school office.
2. If your child is late for school, please attend the school office immediately for a late slip. For safety and the prevention of attendance errors, all children need to obtain their own late slip.
3. If a parent, caregiver, guardian, or visitor wishes to meet with a teacher or other staff person, they are required to call or email to make this appointment ahead of time. Please do not interrupt a class at any point without express permission from the office. Teachers are busy with the lessons and interruptions affect the classroom routines.

Name _____

Character Trait Word Search

t	c	u	e	n	o	n	u	c	g	f	r	t	n
t	h	k	n	c	s	f	t	t	a	e	s	c	e
c	e	o	i	s	i	s	r	c	l	t	t	r	r
i	f	p	t	n	e	t	s	i	s	r	e	p	u
t	r	t	m	n	d	l	a	t	e	c	o	g	t
s	s	a	o	p	s	b	f	s	n	n	f	t	a
a	c	h	r	r	l	r	p	i	f	t	d	t	m
i	a	s	r	e	y	o	s	m	s	r	a	l	e
s	r	y	a	p	n	a	r	i	l	h	y	l	y
u	i	r	e	s	p	e	c	t	t	i	s	b	u
h	n	o	i	t	a	r	e	p	o	o	c	i	r
t	g	b	c	r	f	r	c	o	u	r	a	g	e
n	l	u	f	t	h	g	u	o	h	t	d	t	l
e	m	p	a	t	h	y	e	h	e	n	h	e	t

respect	honest	courage	responsible
cooperation	empathy	caring	enthusiastic
friendly	optimistic	kind	mature
thoughtful	unselfish	sincere	reliable
persistent			

<http://worksheetsplace.com> ©



Ria Clarke - Co-Chair

Norgie Williams – Co-Chair

Lotoya Jackson - Secretary

Robert Griffiths - Treasurer



Odo Nnew Fie Kwan meaning...Love does not lose its way home. Those led by love always end up in the right place.



Adinkra symbol, in the Akan language, which means – None is greater than God, the Creator. The symbol is called Gye Nyame (pronounced Gee-Nah-May)



Harmony

Adinkra symbol, meaning Love, Faithfulness & Harmony










Sinkofa: A symbol of the wisdom of learning from the past to build for the future.

Adinkra symbol, meaning adaptability



Nguzo Saba

The Seven Principles

 Umoja	<p>Umoja ▲ Unity To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.</p>
 Kujichagulia	<p>Kujichagulia ▲ Self-Determination To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.</p>
 Ujima	<p>Ujima ▲ Collective Work and Responsibility To build and maintain our community together and make our brother's and sister's problems our problems and to solve them together.</p>
 Ujamaa	<p>Ujamaa ▲ Cooperative Economics To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.</p>
 Nia	<p>Nia ▲ Purpose To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.</p>
 Kuumba	<p>Kuumba ▲ Creativity To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.</p>
 Imani	<p>Imani ▲ Faith To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.</p>

Dr. Maulana Karenga
 Creator of Kwanzaa
 ©1965

University of Sankore Press, 3018 West 48th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90043 • (323) 295-9799

**Africentric Alternative School
2023-2024 Schedule
Have a Happy Day!**

Entry Time	8:50 - 8:55 a.m.
Period 1	8:55 - 9:25 a.m.
Period 2	9:25 - 10:05 a.m.
Recess	10:05 - 10:20 a.m.
Period 3	10:20 - 11:00 a.m.
Period 4	11:00 - 11:40 a.m.
Lunch	11:40 - 12:30 p.m.
Entry Time	12:30 - 12:35 p.m.
Period 5	12:35 - 1:15 p.m.
Period 6	1:15 - 1:55 p.m.
Recess	1:55 - 2:05 p.m.
Period 7	2:05 - 2:45 p.m.
Period 8	2:45 - 3:15 p.m.



**Africentric Alternative School
School Pledge**

Today I pledge to be the best possible me.
No matter how good I am, I know that I can
become better.

Today I pledge to build on the work of
yesterday which will lead me into the rewards
of tomorrow.

Today I pledge to feed my mind knowledge,
my body strength, and my spirit faith.
Today I pledge to take my education seriously
and I will always do my best, at school, at
home, and in my community.

Today I pledge to be focused, self-disciplined
and ready to learn

Today I pledge to believe in me.

Ashe



GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS



NO SMOKING

TDSB Policy PR502 prohibits smoking on school property. Please help us keep a healthy learning environment that is free from smoking.



Student Pick up and Drop off

We are reminding you that the bus loop at the front of our school should not be used for student drop off or pick up. To ensure the safety of all students, please park in the designated parents'/visitors' parking area at the side or back of the building. Thank you for helping us to keep our students safe.



Access to Building

Reducing the number of people in the building is crucial to our success during this critical time. Only students and staff may enter the building. Essential visitors (i.e., maintenance) will be allowed into the building during the school day; however, parents and visitors will not be permitted in the school. Any parent meetings will take place virtually or over the phone. Please call the school if you would like to schedule an appointment with administration or staff.





Africentric Alternative School
1450 Sheppard Ave. West, Toronto, ON M3M 2W9 • Tel: (416) 395-5251



PATTY DAY

Friday, April 12, 2024

Order Form

See below for options. You can order your child's Patty using the form below and paying cash or through the TDSB Cash On-Line – <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Home/SignIn> (please see reverse of this page for instructions).

PLEASE REMEMBER: There are no refunds or substitutions if your child is absent on the day of this Patty Day. Thank you for your understanding.



DEADLINE for ordering: Wednesday, April 10

Name: _____ Class: _____ Teacher: _____

Item	Select X	Cost	Selection Cost
2 Beef Patties NO DRINK		\$5.00	
1 Beef Patty NO DRINK		\$3.00	
2 Veggie Patties NO DRINK		\$5.00	
1 Veggie Patty NO DRINK		\$3.00	
1 Beef Patty with COCO Bread		\$5.00	
1 Veggie Patty with COCO Bread		\$5.00	
TOTAL ENCLOSED			
<small>Please total the amounts in the last Selection Cost column</small>			

PARENTS: If you can volunteer for any of the following – counting money, tabulating orders and/or dishing out patties on “the day”, we would welcome your help. Thank you. This is a school fundraising event. Funds will be used for school trips cost offset, graduation, and volunteer recognition. Suggestions would be welcome. We strongly recommend that students drink water as it is a healthier choice.

SchoolCashOnline

The Toronto District School Board is launching School Cash Online, an easy to use, safe and convenient way for parents and guardians to pay for their children's school fees, including agendas, yearbooks and class trips. To register for School Cash Online, please follow these step-by-step instructions.

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the **SUPPORT** option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Step 1: Register

- If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> and select the **"Get Started Today"** option.
- Complete each of the three Registration Steps
*For Security Reasons your password, requires **8 characters**, **one uppercase** letter, **one lowercase** letter and a **number**.



Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use the email address and password just created with your account.



Step 3: Find Student

This step will connect your children to your account.

- Enter the School Board Name
- Select the School Name
- Enter Your Child's First and Last Names
- Enter Your Child's Date of Birth
- Select **Confirm**
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**
- Your child has been added to your account

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select **"Add Another Student"** option and repeat the steps above. Five children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **"View Items for Students"** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

Stay connected! Be sure to select the option to receive email notifications when new items become available, selecting **"Yes"**.

- I want to receive email notifications for new fees assigned to my student and updates on school-related activities.

Add Student

1. Type in the school board name and select one from the list
Toronto District School Board
 - 1.
2. Select a school
 - 1.
3. Make a student introduction
 Student Number:
 First Name:
 Last Name:
 Birth Date:
Date format: mm/dd/yyyy