



The Armour Heights Gazette

ARMOUR HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Website: www.armourheightsps.ca Twitter: [@TDSB_ArmourHts](https://twitter.com/TDSB_ArmourHts)

January 10, 2014 Issue 4

Principal's Message:

I hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season with family and loved ones and I wish you the very best for the New Year!

A New Year is an ideal time for reflection. As the students return after the holidays, it is important to continue to revisit and refine the goals that were set during the Parent-Teacher Conferences in November. Please continue to support your child and monitor his/ her school work in the student agenda regularly. Please continue to read, discuss and enjoy a variety of texts together and if you have any academic or social concerns, please contact the homeroom teacher promptly. When parents, teachers and students have a partnership in education, our students will meet with success.

As a school, we continue to focus on critical literacy skill development and guided instruction. Our staff are engaged in professional learning on using "assessment FOR learning", creating success criteria, using effective questioning and developing higher order and critical thinking skills across the curriculum. We continue to embrace technology in all subject areas as all classes have access to Interactive Whiteboards throughout the school. Through Writing Walls and Math Walls in classrooms, each student may continuously monitor their progress and reflect on learning goals in these subject areas.

With the colder weather, we have more families driving students to school. We need to work together to ensure the safe and efficient "drop off" of the children in the morning and "pick up" after school. Please do not double park and/ or block any roadways in the parking lot and prevent others from moving through. Also, please do not park in the bus loading zones or in front of the garbage bin. With possible snow accumulation, we will all need to be patient and courteous, but with everyone's co-operation we can ensure the safety and well-being of our students.

We are looking forward to having members of our choir perform at the Toronto Raptors game on January 22nd at 7:00pm. Our upcoming FSA Meeting is on January 21st at 7:30pm. Finally, JK Registration will take place at Armour on February 11th at 9:00am.

Once again I look forward to continuing to support each other to achieve excellence for your child!



From FSA:

Happy 2014! We want to thank all Armour families for a successful Direct Donation Campaign and your continual volunteer support. Our school would not be same without your involvement! A special thanks to Wendy Shama and Jean Birch for organizing another wonderful Giving Tree event in December.

Upcoming Dates:

The annual Auction will be held Saturday April 26th at the Cricket Club. Be sure to hold the date for a fun night. Our goal is to raise money for a new computer lab and classroom IPADs. We need volunteers and donations! We will be holding a meeting on Thursday, January 23rd at the Cricket Club in the Lansing Room. This will be a planning meeting and a call for volunteers. Please come out!

To find out more about the Auction and events happening this winter please join us at the next FSA meeting on Tuesday January 21st at 7:30pm in the staff room.

Jennifer Stuart, Co-President, j.stuart2@me.com
Martha Johnson, Co-President, johnson_martha@yahoo.ca

Weather Watch

All students are expected to go out for outdoor play unless the Principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors. We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions e.g., wind chill; we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.

Wind chill - Minutes to Frostbite for exposed skin (Environment Canada)

The following are approximate values								
Temperature (°C)	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45	-50
Wind (km/h)								
10	*	*	22	15	10 ❖	8 ❖	7 ❖	2 ❖❖❖
20	*	30	14	10 ❖	5 ❖❖	4 ❖❖	3 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖
30	*	18	11	8 ❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
40	42	14	9 ❖	5 ❖❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
50	27	12	8 ❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
60	22	10 ❖	7 ❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
70	18	9 ❖	5 ❖❖	4 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
80	16	8 ❖	5 ❖❖	4 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖

The wind speed, in km/h, is at the standard anemometer height of 10 metres (as reported in weather observations).

Legend:

Frostbite unlikely	*
Frostbite possible in 2 minutes or less	2 ❖❖❖
Frostbite possible in 3 to 5 minutes	5 ❖❖
Frostbite possible in 6 to 10 minutes	10 ❖



Recess During Cold Weather

Elementary school students are kept indoors for recess and lunch times for a number of weather conditions such as rain, lightning in the area, extreme winds and extreme cold. When temperature and wind chill measure -28°C or lower, students are kept indoors. Recesses and lunch hour may be shortened if the temperature and wind chill reading is between -28°C and -20°C.

If a student's medical condition requires further consideration due to weather conditions, or if parents have other questions or concerns about how and when weather conditions affect your child's school day, please contact the school office.

Leave the Snow on the Ground!

Be Snowball Smart

In order to promote a safe and respectful environment on our school playground, students have been reminded by their classroom teacher and morning announcements, that the throwing of snowballs is prohibited. Students are aware that snowballs may contain pieces of ice and rock which can cause injury to others or damage school property. Consequences for snowball throwing will be consistent with our Caring and Safe Schools Policy. Please review this with your child/children.



Winter Fun!



OUR CHARACTER FOCUS IS:



TEAMWORK

French Immersion

French Immersion programs are designed for students who do not speak French at home. An Early French Immersion Program and a Middle French Immersion Program are also offered. Contact the [Program Application and Registration System \(PARS\)](#) for more information and application deadlines.

Early Immersion Program

The Early Immersion Program begins in Senior Kindergarten. It offers 100% French instruction in the classroom until the end of grade 3 although some specialist subjects may be taught in English. English instruction is gradually introduced beginning in grade 4 until it becomes a half-day program from Grades 6-8.

Designated school pathways exist to ensure that students have a continuation of program from the SK entry to the end of grade 12. There are 56 schools across the TDSB that offer entry to the Early Immersion Program.

The attendance area for an Early French Immersion program is created by a group of "associated" English feeder schools. To locate the Early French Immersion school in your area, you must first [confirm the English school for your home address](#), then visit our [French Immersion Location Finder](#).

Note: Attendance areas as well as associated feeder schools for Early French Immersion programs may be changed at any time in accordance with Board policy and procedures.

Upcoming Dates:

Jan 16- Mayayana New Year (Buddhism)

Jan 19- World Religion Day (Baha'i)

Jan 20- School Support Team

Jan 21- FSA Meeting at 7:30pm

Jan 22- Choir to perform at Raptors Game

Jan 24- PA Day- No School for Students

Jan 28- Grade 6 Grad Photos at 9:00am

Jan 28- Teamwork Assembly at 1:00pm

Jan 28- Girls on the Run at 3:30pm

Jan 30- Pizza Lunch

Jan 31- Lunar New Year
(Confucian, Daoist, Buddhism)

Feb 3- Setsubun-Sai (Shinto)

Feb 4- Vasant Panchami (Hinduism)

Feb 10- School Support Team

Feb 11- JK Registration

Feb 11- Term 1 Report Cards go home

Feb 15- Nirvana Day (Buddhism)

Feb 17- Family Day- School Closed

Feb 18- FSA Meeting at 7:30pm

Feb 18-21- Artist in the School (All Grades)

Traffic Safety Tips: Help Make This a Safe Winter Season

Now that winter is here, we know that severe weather will be part of our daily lives for the next few months. While traffic safety is an important matter all year long, this is a particularly good time to review what we can do to keep students safe.

The need to be aware and alert at all times, on any road, and even in the most routine circumstances is key to traffic safety. This applies to students and drivers alike. Road conditions can be challenging in the winter months. So to those of us who drive, please take extra care on the roads and in parking lots, especially in areas where children might be present.

The safety of our students is always a top priority. Let's work together to make the winter season safe so we can enjoy all it has to offer.

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