

A. Y. Jackson

News Update
Feb 17th , 2023



Good day AYJ Community,

We hope that everyone has enjoyed a peaceful day away from the building today and hope that there will be more time to spend together as we enter this Family Day Long Weekend.

As always, please read through below some important items from AYJ!

AYJ Staff Contact List

Please refer to the staff list and assignments linked below if you need to connect with any one of our teaching staff.

AYJ Staff List and Assignments – 2022/23 – Sem 2 (as of Feb 3rd) link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JcfU5ma6OAvFhpfEV6tBbTgdIXYDazEB/view?usp=sharing>

Course Selection for 2023-2024 School Year

Course Selection for 2023-2024 has begun. On Tuesday February 7th students had course selection assemblies, where important information about the course selection process for 2023-2024 was shared. Guidance counsellors will be available at lunch from Feb 20th-24th to assist students with pathway planning and course selection. No sign up needed.

MyBluePrint Course Selection Instructions are attached. More information is posted in the Guidance Google Classroom and on the A. Y. Jackson Website. (under Student Services)

Once students have submitted their course selection for 2023-2024 parents/guardians will receive an email request to approve the choices.

Important Dates:

Tuesday February 7th - Course selection opens in MyBluePrint

Monday February 27th - Course Selection Closes in MyBluePrint

AYJ Chamber Music Night

This year's Chamber Music Night will be taking place on Thursday, February 23rd at 7:30 pm in the AYJ Cafetorium. Come out and support our talented AYJ musicians performing in small ensembles from a wide variety of genres. Tickets can be purchased on School Cash:

<https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/160261/153/False/True>

Chamber Music Night Flyer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TxNHNN6pxp0wADZvQRz_M0_Ysb2WdWm/view?usp=sharing

Next AYJ School (Parent) Council IN-PERSON Mtg – Wed Mar 1st

Please hold the date of Wednesday, March 1st for our next AYJ School (Parent) Council Meeting and our FIRST IN-PERSON Council Meeting since the pandemic. More information will follow.

TDSB Central Special Education Parent Engagement Session

Please see the link to a parent engagement session about special education for our families.

Here is the link to the Wed. Mar. 1st flyer:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NBtRSFJL_AFe-rzpFaboDcx71dRt-ohD/edit#slide=id.p1

Tutoring Info

The TDSB is continuing to support students with unfinished learning. Through the Ministry's funding for Tutoring programs, they are pleased to announce that TDSB students will now have access to free, unlimited, online tutoring, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We will be working with Paper and Brainfuse. These two particular organizations were chosen as they could immediately serve the needs of a school board our size, while ensuring students could access the tutoring resources at any time of day.

In addition to the extra assistance teachers already offer students, the TDSB continues to support school-based tutoring by interested TDSB teachers funded by the Ministry of Education. Parents can speak with the AYJ Admin Team about joining already existing after-school Continuing Education tutoring programs currently running at AYJ.

All tutoring services are voluntary. There is no obligation for any student to participate in tutoring. TDSB is not operating online tutoring services. This means that TDSB staff will not be present during tutoring sessions.

Parents/Guardians/Caregivers and/or Students (18 years or older) who wish to participate in one of these free online tutoring services should contact the company directly to learn more about their services and the registration process.

The following Tutoring Fact Sheet provides more information about what's new and the online Tutoring opportunities. Please use your TDSB account to access the document.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1koYyLmzrTGFhRARVC8XEzKZUN8qNXFtn/view?usp=sharing>

Keisha's Korner:

(All the latest from AYJ's Graduation Coach for Black Students)

As a TDSB Graduation Coach for Black students, I am here to begin identifying strategies and opportunities to support Black students at A.Y. Jackson so that they can thrive in the educational system, and work to support their emotional well-being and belonging and ensure their academic success.

We are excited to share some news and upcoming opportunities from the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement.

Decade of People of African Descent: African Canadian History in Curriculum

In this session, Natasha Henry-Dixon will discuss the importance of integrating African Canadian counternarratives into the curriculum. Participants will learn about effective pedagogical approaches and accessible resources to use in the teaching of the historical and contemporary experiences of African Canadians. TDSB staff, caregivers and community, [register](#) for this virtual event.

Date: February 22, 2023

Time: 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Go ENG Girl

Hello from the Engineering Outreach Office,

The Engineering Outreach office is excited to be partnering with [WISE](#), the University of Toronto Women in Science & Engineering student club to bring Go ENG Girl 2023 back to campus after a 2 year hiatus.

This in-person opportunity is for female-identifying youth in grades 7-9. We encourage you to share this opportunity with others who you feel may be interested.

Event Details

Go ENG Girl is an in-person day run by members of WISE, dedicated to learning about the world of engineering! Participants will hear from industry professionals about what being a woman in engineering is like and possible career paths. They will take part in interactive activities that explore key concepts in STEM and work as a team to solve everyday engineering problems!

Eligibility

Female-identifying students* in grades 7-9 (based on the grade completed in the 2022/2023 school year)

*including non-binary, trans, and/or gender diverse

When

Saturday, February 25th 2023, from 8:00AM to 3:00PM ET.

Where

University of Toronto, Bahen Centre for Information Technology
40 St. George St, ON M5S 2E4

Cost

Free! (Lunch is provided)

To register, [please click here](#).

If you have any other questions or concerns about this event, please contact our team at Engineering Outreach.

Engineering Outreach Office
Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering
University of Toronto
35 St. George Street, Room 173, Toronto, ON M5S 1A4
T: 416-946-0816 | W: outreach.engineering.utoronto.ca

Western's National Scholarship Program

Western's National Scholarship Program supports the dreams of top students whose potential can be realized through a world-class education at one of Canada's leading universities.

They're looking for high-potential applicants who excel in the classroom and in their extracurricular pursuits. Our aim is to attract and reward the best students from across Canada and around the world, helping them achieve their academic goals while encouraging their vital contributions to our extraordinary campus culture.

Some of their National Scholarships include:

One **Neen Hodgins National Entrance Scholarship** valued at \$80,000
One **President's Entrance Scholarship** valued at \$70,000
One **Beryl Ivey Continuing Entrance Scholarship** valued at \$72,000
Five **President's Entrance Scholarships for Black Students** valued at \$50,000
Four **President's Entrance Scholarships** valued at \$65,000 and up to 15 more at \$50,000
One **Neen Hodgins President's International Entrance Scholarship** valued at \$80,000 for international (visa) students
Three **International President's Entrance Scholarships** valued at \$50,000 for international (visa) students
Up to 15 **Faculty Entrance Scholarships** valued at \$30,000
Up to 46 **National Scholarship Study Abroad Awards** valued up to \$5,000
Up to 50 **National Merit Awards** valued at \$2,000 for one year

More details about all the scholarship programs offered at Western can be found online at https://registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/scholarships_awards/admission/. If you have any questions, our Scholarships Coordinator Norma Merino would be pleased to help at 519-661-2111 extension 85958 or email nmerino@uwo.ca

IMMspire 2023 at University of Toronto, Registration Now Open!

Graduate students at the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto (U of T), St. George Campus are hosting a conference for high school students to experience interactive immunology research through an event known as IMMspire.

We are happy to announce that this year, IMMspire will take place across two days **IN-PERSON** at the U of T St. George Campus on April 28-29, 2023. The theme of this year's event will be "**Cancer Immunology**."

EVENT DETAILS:

Dates of Conference:

Day 1: Friday April 28, 2023 (9 am to 3 pm)

Day 2: Saturday April 29, 2023 (9 am to 4 pm)

Length of Sessions: Approximately ~50 minutes, with breaks taking place between.

For students in grades: 11-12 (students in lower grades are welcome, but minimum of grade 9 level science is strongly recommended).

Theme of Event: The immune system and Cancer Immunology

-What are immune cells?

-What is cancer?

-How do we detect and treat cancer?

-How is the immune system involved in cancer?

Certificate of Participation: will be provided to IMMspire attendees that attend a majority of the event.

Transportation: Students can request reimbursement for the transportation costs to attend IMMspire.

Maximum # of Participants: Due to spacing logistics, a maximum of 80 students will be selected to attend the IMMspire program this year.

Sign up for the program: Please see the attached flyer with our QR code that gives access to the registration form and can be circulated to students.

OR at <https://forms.gle/ggwuScYWDYGbUPAC8>

OR sign up at <https://immspireuoft.wordpress.com/>

OR email us at immspire@gmail.com

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oyrqIXFTsbRAwGYK-heWurMI0AoDmNBd/view?usp=sharing>

For Youth Scholarship and Bursary Information

For over 25 years, FYI has been dedicated to breaking down barriers to education and providing eligible youths with scholarships and bursaries to fund a portion of their post-secondary education journey. For the second year in a row, FYI's Post-Secondary Application Bursary is back and opened on November 1st, 2022 giving you the opportunity to have your College, University or Trades School application expenses covered.

Please complete the following application to be considered for your chance to have your application costs covered. All questions are mandatory and to be answered accurately. There is no deadline to complete this bursary application, however please consider completing the bursary prior to completing your post-secondary applications so you can work with an FYI youth case worker to support you through the process.

Further information such as eligibility requirements and required documentation, can be found on the application form and the flyers attached to this email. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at oliviad@foryouth.ca.

Application Link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/WFWU7a1ej9>

FYI Poster:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x3DLd8mfVdcHospNdiExHGcRpeCYPINH/view?usp=sharing>

FYI Application Fee Bursary Poster Link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hmQt8Q-vtc24IADh-owU7D9_L_sVvyGC/view?usp=sharing

Black Tutors Canada

Black Tutors Canada is a tutor listing website that connects current and retired Black teachers, graduates, and professionals with students and families across Canada. Black tutors work with students at all grade levels from K-PhD levels in all subjects including Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, English, French, and Art, to name a few. We are looking for more tutors from across Canada to join our platform. We invite students of all diversity and intersectionality to access our services. For more details, see the attached flyer; click the link below to access the website or contact them at:

<https://blacktutorscanada.ca/>
info@blacktutorscanada.ca

<https://blacktutorscanada.ca/> is happy to collaborate with community organizations with a shared value.

Black Tutors Canada Information Poster:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/15LV59tYGBQgagcLxs_DEhsJYysjrDtYg/view?usp=sharing

Together we can close the achievement gap!

Black Tutors Canada

Email: info@blacktutorscanada.ca

Website: <https://blacktutorscanada.ca/>



Important Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, February 21st

Day 1 Regular Day Schedule

| | | |
|-------|--------------------|--------------|
| Per 1 | 9:00am to 10:20am | Course 1 |
| Per 2 | 10:25am to 11:40am | Course 2 |
| Lunch | 11:40am to 12:40pm | LUNCH |
| Per 3 | 12:40pm to 1:55pm | Course 3 |
| Per 4 | 2:00pm to 3:15pm | Course 4 |

Wednesday, February 22nd

Day 2 AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 9:55am

*Please keep in mind that the “Cycle Day” (Day 1 or 2) corresponds to the actual date
(**odd days** - 1st, 3rd, 5th, etc are **Day 1**, **even days** - 2nd, 4th, 6th, etc are **Day 2**)

Thursday, February 23rd

Chamber Music Night - 7:30 pm in the AYJ Cafetorium

Wednesday, March 1st

AYJ School (Parent) Council IN-PERSON Meeting at 6:00pm
-in the AYJ Library

Wednesday, March 8th

AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 9:55am

Mon Mar 13th to Fri Mar 17th

MARCH BREAK – School **CLOSED, NO** classes

Wednesday, March 22nd

Day 2 AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 9:55am

Tuesday, March 28th

AYJ Parent-Teacher Interviews – IN PERSON
Special Day 2 AM ONLY Schedule (will follow)
2pm to 4pm Afternoon Interviews
6pm to 8pm Evening Interviews

That’s all for now AYJ, have a great long weekend!

P

Peter Paputsis
Principal
AY Jackson SS
. . . Getting Back to Business!
416-395-3140

African Heritage Month at the TDSB: Save the Date - Invitation to Virtual Launch February 1st, 2023

Further to the SAVE THE DATE message regarding the African Heritage Month Virtual Launch shared with you last week, the webinar zoom link is now available and being shared with you to attend this exciting event to kick-off African Heritage month at the TDSB during the month February. During the month of February, the TDSB proudly recognizes African Heritage (Black History) Month. It is an occasion to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of peoples of African descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2022-2023 is Black Joy.

The theme of Black Joy was selected this year by the African Heritage Month Volunteer Planning Committee. Joy is defined by the Merriam-Webster dictionary as the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires. This academic school year, "Joy" is one of the TDSB's two overarching priorities. The first priority being the importance of joy, engagement and belonging in our schools as a foundation for academic achievement and student success; and the second priority being the elimination of disproportionate outcomes for students. Black Joy emulates how Black People have been able to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally as a People and as a Community, despite the systemic barriers and oppression faced.

Full details of the virtual launch as below:

African Heritage Month Virtual Launch

Date: Wednesday, February 1st, 2023

Time: 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Zoom Webinar Link: <https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/97398652590>

Should further information be required, please contact Randy Samuel, Co-Chair, African Heritage Month Volunteer Planning Committee at randy.samuel@tdsb.on.ca

Chinese Heritage Month at the TDSB - February 2023

TDSB Chinese Heritage Month is proudly recognized in February each year. During this month, several learning resources and educational opportunities will be provided to our students and staff to further enhance their knowledge of the Chinese heritage. This year, two significant events will be highlighted to mark Chinese Heritage Month.

The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is one of the most significant holidays for Chinese communities around the world. The date is selected by the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar and the celebration lasts 16 days. This year marks the Year of the Rabbit, which began on Sunday, January 22, 2023. At TDSB, the theme Year of the Rabbit: Kind, Generous, and Harmonious is being celebrated. All TDSB students were invited to submit images to reflect the theme. The winning posters may be found on our TDSB website (<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/>).

This year, the Chinese Heritage Committee selected a second theme: Honouring a Legacy of Conviction and Fortitude to mark the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Immigration Act of 1923 (known as the Chinese Exclusion Act). This Act restricted all people of Chinese descent from immigrating into Canada for 24 years with only 15 Chinese immigrants allowed entry into Canada from 1923 to 1946. Parliament officially repealed the act on May 14, 1947 and in 2006, the Government of Canada issued an official apology to Chinese Canadians (<https://pier21.ca/research/immigration-history/chinese-immigration-act-1923>). The discriminatory impact of the Chinese Immigration Act of 1923, the progress made afterwards despite it, and excerpts of the Government of Canada's official apology are highlighted in the

PowerPoint presentation (Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/19aJCsayt1ER5Ty-CUmo95rzpon78nvlr/view>)

All TDSB students and staff were also invited to submit a 1-minute video highlighting the legacy of a Chinese Canadian who has faced adversity and demonstrated fortitude. These videos will be posted shortly.

Please visit the Heritage/History Month website <http://tdsbweb.tdsb.on.ca/equity/Heritage-History-Months/2022-2023>) for the following items:

- Quotes/Proverbs
- Chinese Heritage Month Resources
- TDSB Professional Library
- Chinese Heritage Month website.

Please follow us on twitter @tdsbChineseHM.

TDSB Ukrainian “Laskavo Prosymo” Welcome Fair

TDSB Ukrainian “Laskavo Prosymo” Welcome Fair is taking place 10:00 am – 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 15, at Western Technical-Commercial School, 125 Evelyn Crescent. All TDSB Ukrainian secondary students and families are welcome.

Please use this [registration form](#)

Deadline for registration is April 1, 2023.

Peter Paputsis (he/him)

Principal

A Y Jackson SS

. . . Getting Back to Business!

416-395-3140