

A. Y. Jackson

News Update
Jan 27th 2023



Good day AYJ Community,

We have firmly entered our Semester One Final Evaluations and Formal Exams (see item below). Now is the time for students to buckle down and finish strong in all of their school courses. Students who may require an extra push should confirm with their teachers when any credit rescue opportunities will occur PRIOR to the scheduled times in our Exam Schedule. If you have any questions, please contact your teachers directly.

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 1 (as of Dec 5th) link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L5n62dOsfX4sMSuYkK-jo-eMK69I84n/view?usp=sharing>

Formal Exam Schedule Continues

These **FINAL EXAMS** will continue on **Mon Jan 30th and Tues Jan 31st**. Students NOT engaged in Exam writing or **END of SEMESTER CREDIT RESCUE** activities are asked to work from home on these days.

A link to our In-Class Evaluation schedule (also copied in the Upcoming Dates section) and our FULL EXAM Schedule is listed below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pk7TMkX1px-Qh-JuGpBpPJsxv82BGxZo/view?usp=sharing>

Exam preparation resources:

[Exam Jam Session slides](#) and

[Tip Sheet for Students and Parents/Caregivers/Guardians](#)

Recently AYJ was in the news promoting our “Exam Jam” student information sessions which ran last week. Please take a look at the article from the Toronto Star linked below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BKQf1RMkdzfiXeMBoZzvMYPcvMhth7cg/view?usp=sharing>

Semester Two Timetable Distribution

Since the beginning of September we have undertaken a number of staffing changes and updates which have ultimately caused many changes to student timetables for semester two.

As such, when the latest flurry of updates have been attended to, ALL students will be emailed NEW timetables for their Semester to courses.

The date for this delivery has been set for **Wednesday, February 1st**. The information will be password protected, so please follow the password entry instructions closely. Students will also be able to view their most updated timetable information by logging into TDSB School Connects (online app).

Once received, students are asked to discard any older versions of their timetable and to follow the details on the newly distributed timetables shortly thereafter.

Grad Photos

Grad photos at AYJ will continue starting **Monday, February 13th**.

To book an appointment please visit:

<https://www.brightpics.ca/bookyourappointment>

Create an account and book an appointment using the JOB ID and GRAD ID codes listed below:

JOB ID: N9001R GRAD ID: kdfzdRb6

Each student is required to pay a \$35.00 Sit Fee to the Photographer on Photo Day. This fee includes digital proofs as well as an 11" x 14" composite of the Graduating Class.

Your proofs will be sent to the email address used to register for your appointment

Your Graduation Portrait session should be a memorable event. Please take time to look your best! We recommend all graduates wear a white collared shirt for the best results!

Graduates may also wear a tie if they choose.

Please be on time for your appointment.

If you need to make a change or cancel your appointment, please contact the studio at:

Studio@brightpics.ca

Please see the poster in the link below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EeeenuWYdKZVAcBLMi3apEYdhalWkQnw/view?usp=sharing>

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.

Black Aviation Professionals Network (BAPN)

The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement in partnership with the Black Aviation Professionals Network (BAPN) invites **Black-identifying students in grades 10-12** who are interested in learning about or possibly pursuing a career in the **aviation and aerospace industry** to participate in A Day in Aviation, in-person experience on Wednesday, February 15th, 2023. Students will connect with Black aviation professionals in the industry to explore roles and complexities within the aviation industry. The collaboration recognizes the underrepresentation of Black people in specific career fields such as Aerospace and Aviation. *A Day in Aviation* seeks to intervene and engage Black-identifying students to explore aviation as academic and career pathways.

A Day In Aviation will require students commitment and participation on the following dates:

- February 8th, 2023: 5:00 - 6:00 pm (Information session)
- February 15th, 2023: In-person experiential learning
 - o Aircraft Hanger Tour
 - o Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) tour
 - o Visit to System Operation Control (SOC)
 - o Panel discussion on Unconventional Management positions in Aviation
 - o Transportation and lunch is provided

Please share the attached flyer with students and families and encourage Black-identifying students in grades 10-12 who are interested in learning about or possibly pursuing a career in the aviation and

aerospace industry to [register for this information session](#). **Registration deadline is by end of day January 31st, 2023.**

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VX6qOTCAzxRlyDJyzQMSA2_ok7CSGAX7/view?usp=sharing

Sunnybrook Hospital Ultrasound Lab Summer Program



The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement in collaboration with Sunnybrook Hospital, invites Black self-identifying students in Grades 11 & 12 who are considering post-secondary studies in the field of health science and engineering, to attend the **Sunnybrook Hospital Ultrasound Lab Summer Program** information session on **Jan 30, 2022, 6-7PM**.

The Focused Ultrasound High School Summer Research Program is an **eight-week paid opportunity**, where students will:

- Receive 1:1 mentorship with health professionals.
- Gain hands-on knowledge through Experimental & Programming projects, as well as Biology and Engineering & Technology Development projects.

Please access this [registration link](#) to learn more.

In Conversation with Lawrence Hill

Join the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement for an intimate discussion with international bestselling author Lawrence Hill!

Celebrated Canadian writer Lawrence Hill will share his experience composing The Book of Negroes and explore the historical account of the transatlantic slave trade through The Book of Negroes historical document, and subsequent docuseries.

Date: February 2, 2023

Time: 6 – 7PM

Audience: TDSB students (Grades 11 – 12), caregivers and staff

Please share this opportunity with your staff and students. Click [here](#) to register.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HmgO8S7VFDAVwdJAeaqelullxPVcnX5Z/view?usp=sharing>

Black Student Summer Leadership Program

Registration for the [Black Student Summer Leadership Program](#) is open! Toronto District School Board students from Gr. 10 – 12 who self-identify as Black and can commit to the requirements of the program are eligible to apply. The application closes January 31. In addition, students, families and staff were invited to join us for an Information Session on January 24 at 6 p.m.

Supported by the Graduation Coaches for Black Students, TDSB Black-identifying social workers, professional researchers and various TDSB staff, the Black Student Summer Leadership Program provides paid learning experiences and enrolled students are able to receive mentorship, career training, and placements in an employment area that reflects their passions. Students also participate in Youth Participatory Action Research where they conduct their own research and presentations within social justice education.

An additional bonus is that students can enroll in an optional co-operative education selection, where they are eligible to gain up to 2 credits towards their OSSD.

We look forward to another successful year of the Black Student Summer Leadership Program at the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10kCMPs8W_OJLfk9ZVu6nKtLilARYzYo/view?usp=sharing

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>

SEE U of T Scarborough

The University of Toronto Scarborough Campus has an opportunity for your students who self-identify as Black and/or Indigenous to attend the University of Toronto Scarborough for the afternoon (approx. 12:30pm start time) every day of Semester 2. **There is an Updated deadline of January 27th to sign up.** Please direct this opportunity to the appropriate students and support staff. This opportunity is being directed towards your schools due to their proximity to the UofT Scarborough campus.

Please see the information below:

SEE U of T Scarborough planning is underway for Semester 2. We would like to open the application to **Grade 11 or 12 students who identify as Black or Indigenous.** Students will be travelling during lunch to attend the University of Toronto Scarborough for the afternoon (approx. 12:30pm start time) every day of Semester 2.

SEE U of T Scarborough - Support, Engage, Experience University of Toronto Scarborough

SEE U of T Scarborough is an access program and collaboration between the University of Toronto Scarborough (U of T Scarborough) and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) inspired by the See U of T pilot program. Opens an external site in a new window The aim of the program is to encourage students who come from communities historically underrepresented at U of T and post-secondary institutions to view post-secondary education as a viable destination.

See U of T Scarborough is a program for students to immerse themselves in university studies, leadership development, and campus life over two semesters, in Grade 11 and 12.

The following resources include a promotional poster and application form.

- [SEE U of T Scarborough Poster](#)
- [SEE U of T Scarborough application](#)

The Updated deadline to apply is January 27th, 2023.

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

Mon, Jan 30th to Tues Jan 31st AYJ Final Exam Week (see attached FULL schedule linked above)
-only students engaged in Final Exam writing or Credit Rescue activities are required to attend school on these days
-students without these commitments are to stay home to prepare for their exams

Wednesday, February 1st Exam Review/Final Marks Distribution Special AM Schedule
Day 1
Per 1 9:00am to 9:35am Course 1
Per 2 9:40am to 10:10am Course 2
Per 3 10:15am to 10:45am Course 3
Per 4 10:50am to 11:20am Course 4
Lunch CAFETERIA will be CLOSED

Thursday, February 2nd AYJ Professional Activity Day – NO classes for students

Friday, February 3rd FIRST DAY of SEMESTER TWO
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

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

P

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

January - Tamil Heritage Month

Tamil Heritage Month is proudly recognized during the month of January at the TDSB since January 2016. It has also been marked across the province of Ontario since March 2004 with the implementation of the Tamil Heritage Month Act, 2014 (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14t04>)

Further, Tamil Heritage Month is also formally recognized nationally since January 2016 by the passing of a motion which reads, That, in the opinion of the House, the government should recognize the contributions that Tamil-Canadians have made to Canadian society, the richness of the Tamil language and culture, and the importance of educating and reflecting upon Tamil heritage for future generations by declaring January, every year, Tamil Heritage Month.

This year our theme for Tamil Heritage Month is Community. Belonging. Joy. Belonging comes with a sense of acceptance and inclusion for who you are, and there is great joy that comes from knowing you belong within any given community. This year's Tamil Heritage Month theme was selected to highlight that joy and belonging, and is intentionally aligned with one of the TDSB's priorities - Joy, Engagement and Belonging.

Toronto has the largest Tamil population outside of the South Asian subcontinent with thousands of TDSB students and staff members who identify as Tamil. The importance of building awareness, creating a strong self and collective identities, and understanding one's own roots and rights are important objectives of the Tamil Heritage Month volunteer planning committee.

To mark Tamil Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board in January, various educational opportunities will be offered to students to learn about the history, culture, and traditions.

Should further information be required, please contact Chair of Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB, Veni Rajkumar at Veni.Rajkumar@tdsb.on.ca

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

Peter Paputsis (he/him)

Principal

A Y Jackson SS

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