

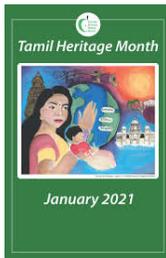


Use this bitly to access the school website bit.ly/BPCIWeb

Friday, Jan. 22, 2021

From the Desk of the Principal

anton.skerritt@tdsb.on.ca



January is Tamil Heritage Month

[Click here for Tamil Heritage Month Information](#)

Next Week@ Birchmount Park Collegiate Institute

Monday Jan. 25	Tuesday Jan. 26	Wednesday Jan. 27	Thursday Jan. 28	Friday Jan. 29
Day 4 SST 1 pm	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4

Important Dates

[Click here for TDSB important dates in Secondary School](#)

Congratulations to our  Vice Principal Ms. Ireland

On behalf of the staff and school community I would like to welcome Ms. Ireland to our administration team. Ms. Ireland is a caring educator who has been at Birchmount Park for four years as the Assistant Curriculum Leader of the Health and Physical Education Department. Ms. Ireland brings 26 years of experience in education and leadership to our team. We would like to wish her the best as she moves into a new role at our school.

From the Desk of Ms. Ireland- Our **New** Acting Vice Principal

karen.ireland@tdsb.on.ca

I am absolutely delighted to be able to remain at Birchmount Park in this new role supporting Mr. Skerritt and Ms. Ferrari and the rest of our school community. This is my fourth year at Birchmount, and I am well aware of what a special place it is, the welcome I have received already from staff, students, parents and community partners is testament to this.

I will remain true to my core values of empowering our young people to be the best that they can be and by becoming leaders within our community. I look forward to seeing our amazing school through a new lens and continuing to support our students in any way that I can.

Ms. Ireland

Student Opportunity! Dance Club!

Let's get moving BPCI...Love music? Love to dance?

Then come on out and get your groove on!

We are pleased to announce our

Virtual Dance Club!

No experience needed

When: Mondays and Fridays @ 4pm

Where: The comfort of your own home

Featuring: Dance Hall, Hip Hop and Pop Dance

Lead by one of our BPCI students and supervised by staff

Please contact Ms.Ferrari if you would like to check us out and join

[**Debora.Ferrari@tdsb.on.ca**](mailto:Debora.Ferrari@tdsb.on.ca)

School Council Co-Chair Message

From your School Council Team



[Click here for Birchmount Park School Council Facebook Link](#)

Any questions: Please email Candice.rees@tdsb.on.ca or Carol.warner@tdsb.on.ca

Guidance Corner

jo-ellen.grundy@tdsb.on.ca

Guidance and the peer leaders have been busy doing virtual class visits to grade 8 rooms this week. It has been a lot of fun to meet some of our soon-to-be- Birchmount Park family and answer their questions about moving to high school.

The peer leaders are excited about two upcoming initiatives that they are working on. They are working on both a video project for the school and restarting Peer Tutoring but on a virtual platform.

University Applications are now finished. College applications due: February 1, 2021. If you require any assistance in planning your pathway out of high school please do not hesitate to reach out to a guidance counsellor.

Challenge: As we round up another week of this lock down, reach out to someone who you have not talked to in while.



BPCI Library

vanessa.vila@tdsb.on.ca



The Birchmount Park Library and Learning Commons has purchased a licence to Criterion on Demand for staff and students. Criterion on Demand is used in many secondary schools in the TDSB and is a board approved vendor for streaming feature films, classics, new releases, documentaries and more, for educational purposes.

<https://www.criterionondemand.com/>

BEAP News

tin-gee.wong@tdsb.on.ca glenn.duncan@tdsb.on.ca



Brittany Crew

BEAP Alumni Brittany Crew is one of the top contenders to medal at the Tokyo Olympics this summer. Check out this great CBC Sports article on Brittany and how she has overhauled her diet in preparation for the Games this summer.

[Click here for CBC Sports article on Brittany Crew](#)

Special Education/DD

rudy.desimas@tdsb.on.ca lakhwattie.singh@tdsb.on.ca

Resource Program

The hours to the Virtual Resource Room have been changed to provide support to students during asynchronous/independent learning periods. Click the link [Virtual Resource Room](#) and use access code: **2yyda47** to join the Google Classroom.

Students can access VRR daily from:

- 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM



Students are also encouraged to email the Resource Room Team directly if they are unable to access VRR.

DD Program

Students in the DD program will continue to learn from home until February 10. The DD Team will continue to connect with the students and their families to provide instruction and support by email, Google Classroom and phone calls. Parents are encouraged to connect with their child's teacher if they need additional information or support.

Student Success and Gifted

andrien.pargassingh@tdsb.on.ca

We are in the process of detailing our Credit Rescue intervention. Mr. P would like to thank the curriculum leaders who offered their time to share their perspectives and feedback regarding this integral part of student success. The information will be referenced as we formalize and personalize our Credit Rescue piece of the student success puzzle.



This week we met with a number of students to discuss the challenges that impede their academic success. A BIG shout out to Ms. Russell for organizing the Google Meet this past Wednesday. It was yet another informative session for educators.



Some of the gifted kids participated in the second virtual Sixers Mixer yesterday. Shout outs to Brandon J., Ava S., Ayesha H., and Emmanuel M. for their lively participation during the social. It was also Emmanuel's birthday - Happy Birthday Emmanuel!



BIG thanks to Safi Osman for reaching out to discuss her ideas to introduce BPCI's very own virtual debate club. Cheetos or Doritos? I say Doritos! LOL. Look for more news concerning Safi's AMAZING idea in future weekly updates. Today is actually Safi's birthday!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAFI!



Finally, today at 4:00PM we will be hosting a Google Meet with students interested in initiating a Black Student Association (BSA) at BPCI. We will be facilitating a discussion for students to share their visions and ideas about a BSA and how it can compliment the school and the school community.

Black Student Association 2021

 **NE**  **BPCI** 



[Click here for the video: Is there a path from "Otherness" to Togetherness?](#)

Teacher Quote of the Week

"The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the person who is doing it."

Chinese Proverb

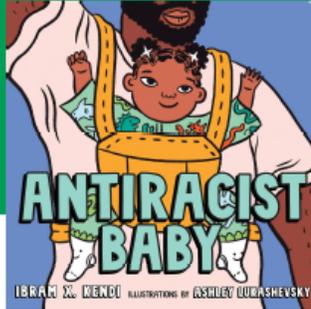


TDSB VIRTUAL PARENT ACADEMY 2021
An annual series for all parents/caregivers



Book Club Discussion Part 1

ANTI-RACIST BABY



with Tisha Nelson,
Faculty of Education,
York University

Wednesday,
January 27, 2021
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

[Click here to
join this event](#)

From the author of, How to Be an Antiracist, comes a new picture book, Anti-Racist Baby, by Ibram X. Kendi that empowers parents and children to uproot racism in our society and in ourselves.

For **language interpretation** contact margaret.horvath@tdsb.on.ca



[Learn More at The Hub](#)

Group for Tamil Parents & Caregivers

Topic: **Autism Ontario-Interim One Time Funding Session**

With Tamil speaking interpreter

- Do you have questions about the Interim One Time Funding process?
- Have you received an Interim One Time Funding form?
- Do you have questions about eligible expenses?

Who can join this Focus Group?

- Parents and Caregivers of Kids with Autism - up to the age 18
- Canadian Citizens and New Immigrants
- Live in Scarborough
- Tamil-Speaking

When: February 1, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
How: Zoom & Telephone

To Register Contact:
saidy.maurer@tdsb.on.ca