

Blake News

The Newsletter of
 Blake Street Public School
 Phone: (416) 393-9415

Blake Street Public School
 21 Boulton Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 1A7
Jennifer Zurba, Principal **Tina Weinberg**, Vice Principal
Mary Jane McNamara, Superintendent of Education **Jennifer Story**, School Trustee

A reminder that we are an OPAL school, and we play in all types of weather, including the rain (unless it is torrential). Please be sure to send your children with appropriate clothing as the weather dictates – rain boots, wet pants..... The office does not have a lot of extra clothes so packing an extra pair of clothes (pants, shirt, socks and underwear) is always suggested.

Cross Country

The Blake cross country team had a tremendous day at the conference finals at Ashbridges Bay on Oct 17. All the coaches and teachers are very proud of the runners. From the first race to the conference finals, there are about 800 runners in each category, so these results are outstanding. Congratulations to all the runners.

Gr3 girls: Maya 1st place
 Gr3 boys: Sebastian 35th, Ian 48th, Balthazar 70th
 Gr4 girls: Izusa 40th
 Gr5 boys: Johann 60th
 Gr6 boys: Camillo 15th, Conal 78th, Ty 88th

Camillo will advance to City Championship in Etobicoke on Thu, Oct 24.



Kilometer Club Celebrations

This week our top Kilometre Club runners enjoyed a special celebratory Subway lunch and the Grade Three students received the Golden Shoe trophy. It was a successful Kilometre Club this fall, and we are looking forward to the next Kilometre Club challenge in the spring. Keep up the great running!



Special Olympics Presentation

On Tuesday, October 15th we welcomed Special Olympics Ontario into our school. In physical education, we are exploring the idea of what an athlete is. Being physically active is of utmost importance, especially when considering how technology, electronics, and overall confidence in yourself are becoming increasing barriers to physical activity. We want our students to understand that an athlete can be anyone, regardless of ability or any other barriers such as physical or intellectual disabilities.

Callum, a multi-sport athlete with autism, was brave enough to overcome his fear of public speaking and give an inspirational speech. It was his first public speaking appearance. Being a multi-sport athlete, Callum explained that his social awkwardness was his barrier to physical activity. Since he enjoyed being physically active, he pushed himself to join in many team oriented sports with Special Olympics Ontario. It is here that he has made many friends that share in his passion to be physically active. His personal goal is to represent team Ontario in basketball at the national tournament. He hopes to perform well so that he may possibly represent team Canada in the upcoming Olympics. Thank you Callum and good luck!

-Mr. Alexopoulos

WeScare Hunger

Once again Blake's WeSchools Club is collecting non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products (shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, etc.) and baby items (diapers, formula, wipes, etc.) for our annual drive to benefit Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre's Food Bank. Items being donated should be brought into your student's classroom.

We are bringing back last year's popular *classroom competition!* The classroom that collects the most items **by Thursday, October 31st** – Halloween – will win a WE prize for each student in the class!

Help us help the families in our community by donating goods! Thanks for your support with this important initiative. #WeSchools



Shoe Bank

We are in the midst of developing a shoe bank, and we are looking for very gently used running shoes and winter boots. If you have some to donate, please drop them off directly to the office.

Extra Curriculars

Current running extra curriculars include:

Ambassadors Club for Junior Students (grades 4-6): Monday at lunch
 Junior Choir (grades 4-6): Wednesday at lunch
 We Schools (grades 4-6): Thursdays at lunch
 Girls Club (grades 4-6): Tuesdays at lunch for grades 4-6
 Advanced Uke (grades 4-6): Monday at lunch
 Beginner Uke (grades 4-6): Wednesday at lunch
 Junior Girls Basketball (grades 4-6): Monday and Tuesday after school

News from Parent Council

Volunteers Needed!

The **Halloween Dance & Bake Sale** is next Friday (25th), starting **6.30pm**! Flyers went home in the Friday folders today. We're looking for help in the following areas:

- Set up: Any time from 3.30-6.30pm
- Clean up: Between 8.30-9.30pm
- Make and serve popcorn/candyfloss
- Face painting
- Donations of baked or bought goods (sweet and savoury) for the bake sale table

If you can volunteer, email ss_healy@hotmail.com.

For baked goods donation; brandyhumes@gmail.com

Reminders and Suggestions:

- Please dispose of your garbage responsibly in the appropriately labelled bins
- Bring your own refillable water container. A water dispenser will be available (free) and water can also be obtained from the school fountain. There will be NO water bottles for sale. Juice boxes will be available and we may have some coffee for sale for the adults; to go along with some spooky treats! Again, BYO mug.
- Bring small change if you can
- We're hoping to have designated coat area in the gym (south east corner) to keep the hallway and seating areas free of clutter. There will be no one supervising the area; items are left at owners' risk. If you're driving and parking close by maybe you could leave your coats in the car?
- Parents can dress up too! If you or your kids don't have a costume there'll be a prop stand to the left as you enter the gym entrance where you can borrow an item and snap a pic.

This is a fun, family friendly, school community event - If dressing up is not you/your kids thing, no problem, costumes are optional! We just want you to come out and have a great evening.

The **Grants Team** also needs your help! There are many grants available right now that would help us to build a playground, develop our green space, and enhance the programs (arts, sports, nutrition)—but we can't do it without your hands-on support. You don't need to be a writer to join the team—there are many jobs to do, e.g. internet searches, making phone calls to potential sponsors. If you're able to help out in any way or for more information, please contact Sue Yahoda (sueyahoda@gmail.com).

Donations have started rolling in for the **Free Clothing Fair and Textile Drive** taking place on:

- November 14 3:30-8:00pm
- November 15 9am-12pm

Blake Street Junior Public School



FREE

CLOTHING FAIR & TEXTILE DRIVE

THUR, NOV. 14

FRI, NOV. 15

3:30PM-8:00PM

9AM-NOON

IN THE GYM AT BLAKE STREET JUNIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

REASONS TO COME:

- IT'S FREE FOR EVERYONE! YOU DON'T NEED TO DONATE TO PARTICIPATE.
- THERE'S CLOTHING FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN, OUTDOOR WEAR, SHOES AND BOOTS, BOOKS, GAMES AND ELECTRONICS.
- THE TEXTILE DRIVE IS AN ECO-FRIENDLY FUNDRAISER! BRINGING YOUR STAINED, RIPPED OR WORN OUT TEXTILES FOR BAG2SCHOOL RAISES MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL AND KEEPS ITEMS OUT OF LANDFILL BY GIVING THEM A SECOND LIFE AS STUFFING FOR VEHICLE SEATS, UPHOLSTERY, INSULATION, CLOTH WIPES, AND MORE.
- KIDS AND ADULTS ALL LOVE TO HUNT FOR TREASURES! FIND THAT PERFECT OUTFIT OR THAT BOOK YOU HAVE BEEN EAGER TO READ.
- IT BUILDS OUR COMMUNITY. IT'S A GREAT CHANCE TO MAKE FRIENDS AND COMPARE FABULOUS FINDS WITH OTHER FAMILIES FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
- NEED A BUTTON? THERE WILL BE A CARE AND REPAIR TABLE, WHERE YOU CAN GIVE SOME LOVE TO YOUR CLOTHES THAT NEED A STITCH OR TWO.
- IT'S GOOD FOR THE PLANET! WEARING PRELOVED CLOTHING KEEPS THEM OUT OF THE TRASH. ACCORDING TO BAG2SCHOOL, IN NORTH AMERICA 85% OF TEXTILES STILL END UP IN LANDFILL!

Remember to bring your own shopping bags!

WANT TO MAKE A DONATION?

DROP OFF CLEAN, GENTLY USED ITEMS TO ROOM 203 AT BLAKE STREET JPS BETWEEN OCTOBER 15 AND NOVEMBER 11.

BE SURE TO SEPARATE SWAP ITEMS FROM TEXTILE DRIVE (BAG2SCHOOL) ITEMS AND LABEL THEM ACCORDINGLY! IT REALLY HELPS OUR VOLUNTEERS OUT!

Upcoming Dates

October 15 – November 15: Grade 1- 6 Mural
October 17 – Lice Check
October 21 – PHOTO DAY
October 24 – OPAL PLAY DAY
November 11: Remembrance Day
November 15: Parent Teacher Interview Day
November 20: Photo Retake Day and Sibling Photos
November 29: SPIRIT DAY – Dress Like your Favourite Video Game Character
December 6: PA DAY
December 13: Prologue Presentation: Duffle Bag Theatre K - 6
December 20: SPIRIT DAY – WHITE PARTY
December 23 – January 3: WINTER BREAK

Should you have any questions or concerns with the content of this newsletter, or any other school related issues, please email me directly at jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca

Have a great weekend.

Jenn and Tina