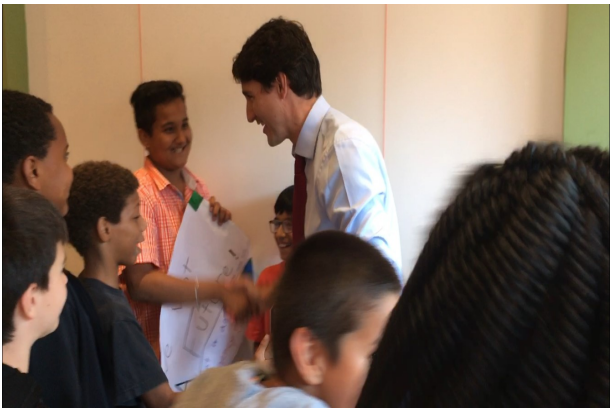


Blake News

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



Last year, the students in Mr. Nicolaou and Mr. Richman`s classes took part in two Fridays for Future rallies at Queen`s Park, with a focus on climate change inspired by Greta Thunberg`s efforts. In continuing their learning this year, Mr. Richman`s class wrote a letter to Julie Dabrusin, our local MP, (letter attached) sharing their concerns for their future, particularly as it relates to climate change. As a class, they walked up to the Danforth to her office, chanting a variety of different slogans as they went. Upon their arrival, they noticed many news cameras and saw our Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau outside Ms. Dabrusin`s office.

"Today we met Justin Trudeau and we were sooo excited. We asked him questions about climate change and the new pipeline, and asked him specifically what he was doing to help with the climate emergency he and his government declared. He answered some of our questions, gave out high fives, and we all took a group photo. Look out for us on the news tonight!!!! Today was a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet our leader. He was kind and friendly but we want to make sure that we hold him to his promises he has made to our environment."

-Marie- Claire and Ezaam

Class Reorganization News

Every September, schools review actual student enrolment as compared to initial projections from last April, and reorganize classes where required. We do our best to plan for the new school year, but there are always factors, such as new or departing students, that might affect how classrooms are organized. In addition, to ensure smaller class sizes, the Ministry of Education sets out specific class size requirements to benefit student learning.

As a result of changing student enrolment at our school, we have reorganized the English Kindergarten and Junior classrooms to best support our students. We were given an extra full junior allocation, allowing for three full day junior classes (two grade 4/5 classes and a grade 6 class), and an additional Early childhood Educator which will allow Ms. Church's class to grow beyond 15 students. These additional allocations have meant that many of our kindergarten and Junior English students will be changing classrooms and teachers come Monday.

We know that for students and parents, changing classes may be difficult and may require an adjustment period. Students will be supported as they transition through these classroom changes but we are confident in the resiliency of our students. If your child did not bring a letter home this past Wednesday, they have not been affected by the reorganization.

Toonie for Terry, Thursday September 26th

Blake Street PS is honoured to support the Terry Fox Run! We are proud of this amazing tradition at our school and we are thrilled to announce that, to date, we have participated for 10 years, raising \$5,403.29.

Let's keep it going!

At the age of 18, Terry was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma and was forced to have his right leg amputated. Determined to help others suffering from cancer, he decided to run across Canada, running a marathon a day for 143 days, to raise funds for cancer research. Unfortunately, Terry's cancer returned and he was forced to end his Marathon of Hope, but his legacy had only just begun.

Today, the future of cancer research is very bright. Thanks to thousands of schools across Canada, The Terry Fox Foundation funds a variety of different cancer research projects.

Please help to support our school during this important initiative and carry on Terry's dream of a world without cancer.

Students will be participating in our Blake Street PS Terry Fox run on Thursday September 26th.

Donate by bringing or sending in a toonie or donating online: <http://www.terryfox.ca/BlakeStreetPSToronto>

Curriculum Night , Thursday September 26

Parents, guardians and students are invited to join us and take part in our Curriculum Night next Thursday, September 26th. This drop in evening provides you with an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, see the classroom, learn about our school initiatives and priorities and explore Blake Street PS with your child.

Immediately following Curriculum Night, we will be hosting a parent engagement session in the library, with a focus on Special Education. This session will run from 7:00 – 7:30, and is specifically for parents and caregivers. Children will be supervised in the gym. This session will work to address your special education questions, and will touch on Individual Education plans, special education programs, and supports. We look forward to seeing you all then.

CAT 4 Testing and Universal Screening

Our school is one of 150 schools in the TDSB's Model Schools for Inner Cities program (MSIC). One of the key components of MSIC schools is the ongoing research to help schools identify the needs of their students and their school community, to monitor the progress made by students, and to demonstrate school improvement over time. Next week, students in Grades 2, 4, 5 and 6 will take the Canadian Achievement Test (CAT4) in order to assess their foundation skills in reading, writing and math. The CAT4 test results will be reported to parents and classroom teachers for improvement purposes. If you have any questions about MSIC research in your child's school, or if you do not want your child to participate in any part of the research, please contact your child's teacher.

All grade 3 students across the TDSB participate in the Universal Screening Process, and all parents and guardians of grade 3 student should have received an information letter last week. The purpose of this screening test is to provide teachers with information to develop a class profile, to support programming, and to support the process of identification for giftedness. If you do not want your child screened, please be sure to let your child's teacher know.

Emergency Procedures

As part of our emergency procedures, all TDSB schools must participate in three fire drills and one lock down drill per term. As of today, we have conducted two fire drills and one lock down drill. These important emergency procedures are regularly reviewed with our students, as our primary concern is always student safety – which comes with practice. Do talk with your children about our safety and evacuation procedures – they have proven themselves to be experts in this regard!!!

WE DAY

We Day was an excellent experience. We had lots of fun and learned about what the WE community is doing around the world. For example, supplying water to countless communities around the world, and recycling batteries to make air and soil safer. Today we participated in six missions and heard from six different speakers who inspired us to take action. Stay tuned for more We Club news and activities. A big thanks to Ms. Logan for organizing this field trip and bringing us to this event.





La journée WE est une journée de célébration. Les écoles étaient invitées d'y aller. Notre école était chanceuse d'aller à la journée WE. Il avait des personnes comme David Suzuki, Sara McDaniel, Tyrone Banke et beaucoup d'autres personnes. Nous avons parlé de l'importance de l'égalité pour tout le monde.



Upcoming Extra Curriculars

Current running extra curriculars include:
Boys and Girls Soccer : Tuesdays and Thursday from 3:30 – 4:30
KM Club: Monday to Thursdays with primaries (grades 1-3) running am recess, juniors (grades 4-6) running pm recess
Cross Country Team (**invited** grade 1-6 students): Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:00 am
Ambassadors Club for Junior Students (grades 4-6): Monday at lunch
Junior Choir : Wednesday at lunch
We Schools : Thursdays at lunch
Girls Club: Tuesdays at lunch for grades 4-6

Girls Basketball and Uke will begin in the weeks to come. Stay tuned!!!

New from Parent Council

Blake School Council Announcements

Here are the minutes from the September 12 School Council meeting: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sokPKOy1m5Bz90biQgVJjGPvRuiRAHJR/view?usp=sharing>
The next School Council meeting is on Wednesday, October 9 in the school library at 6:00pm. Dinner and childcare are provided.

Halloween Costume Swap

Thursday, September 26, 6:00pm: Halloween is just around the corner! Come and take part in the Blake Street Junior PS Halloween Costume Swap. If you have a costume you would like to add to the swap, drop it off at the office next Tuesday, September 24 or Wednesday, September 25. If you are looking for a costume, come to the gym during Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 26 starting at 6pm and choose one! Everything is free. Can't make it to Curriculum Night? Ask a friend to pick something up for you. If you have wire coat hangers to spare, please drop them off in the costume bin (with or without costumes).

Halloween Dance - save the date!

When - Friday October 25th
Where - in the school gym
What time – 6:30pm until 8:30pm

A fun family event for all grades. We'll be looking for volunteers to bake, help set up, tear down...if you can help, email ss_healy@hotmail.com or blakeschoolcouncil.tdsb@gmail.com. More information to come in a later newsletter.

Sponsors needed for our upcoming Fall Raffle

Each fall we raise funds for the school through a raffle...Each year we raise more than the last, supporting various programs and initiatives for our Blake students!

This year we are hoping to cover all costs by attracting sponsors, who will cover the costs of printing the tickets and of course, our fabulous prizes! We will gladly print sponsor logos on all 10,000 tickets and promotional material, we will also find other ways to highlight sponsors' involvement and generous support!

If you are interested in sponsoring or know a local business owner, realtor, your employer, etc who might be interested, please email jeanette.rees@ymail.com.

- 1. Ticket sponsor (~\$800)
- 2. Platinum sponsor (\$1000)
- 3. Gold sponsor (\$750)
- 4. Silver sponsor (\$500)
- 5. Bronze sponsor (\$350)

Upcoming Dates

- September 26 – Terry Fox Run
- September 26: Curriculum Night, 6:00 -7:00
- September 26: Special Education parent Information Session, 7:00 – 7:30
- September 27 – Pizza Lunch Begins
- September 27 – SPIRIT DAY: Blake Colours
- September 30 – Orange Shirt Day
- October 4 – OPAL PLAY DAY
- October 4 – Cross Country South qualifier at Ashbridges Bay – 8:30
- October 9 – Prologue Presentation: Vision of Turtle Island, grades 1- 6
- October 10 – Lice Check
- October 11 -PA DAY – school closed for students
- October 14: THANKSGIVING
- October 21 – PHOTO DAY
- November 4- 20: Grade 1- 6 Mural
- 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