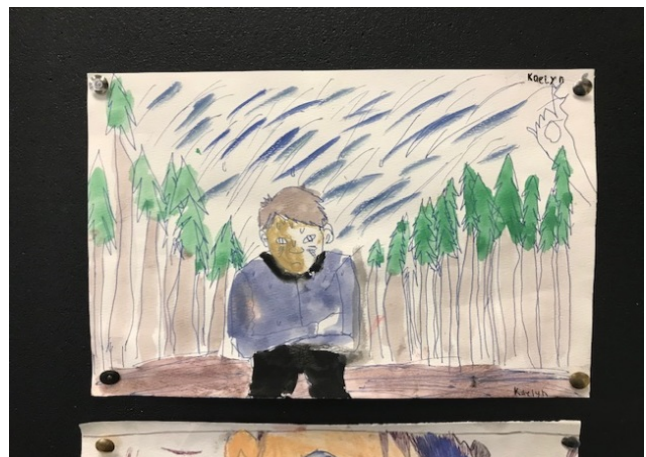
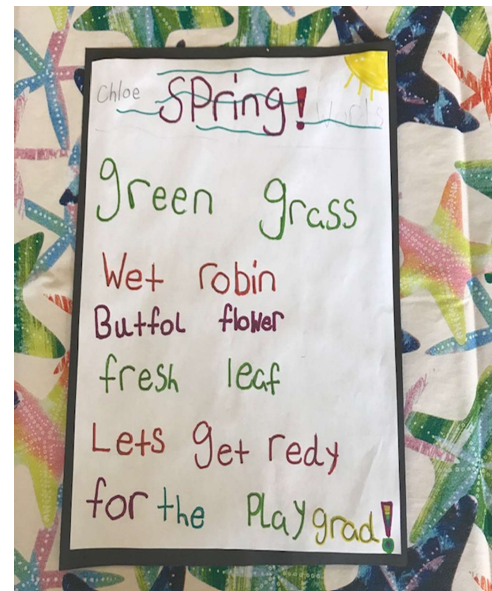
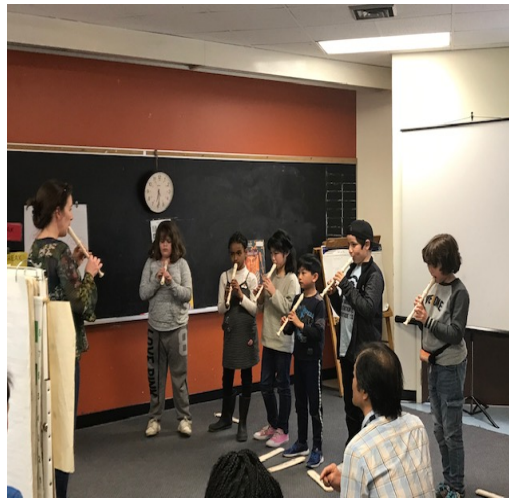


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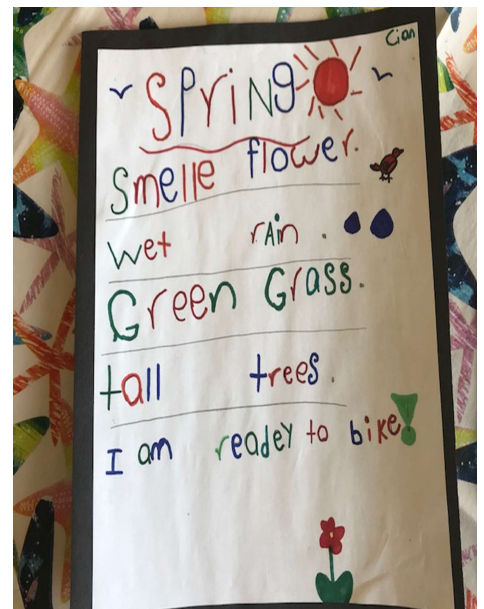
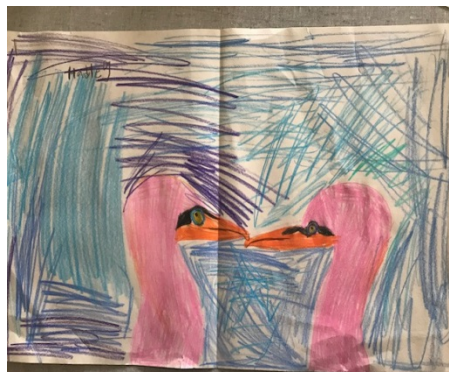
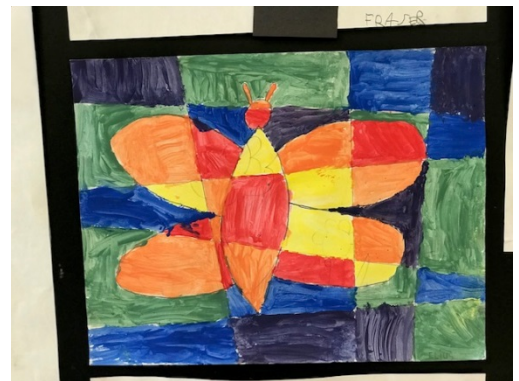
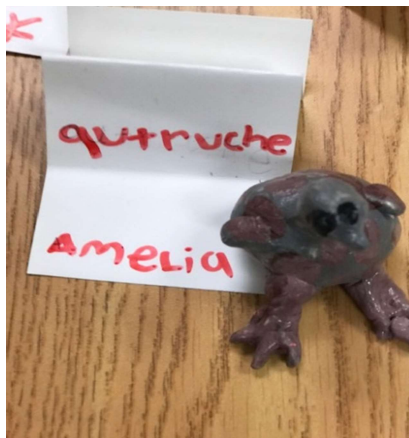
Nuit Blake



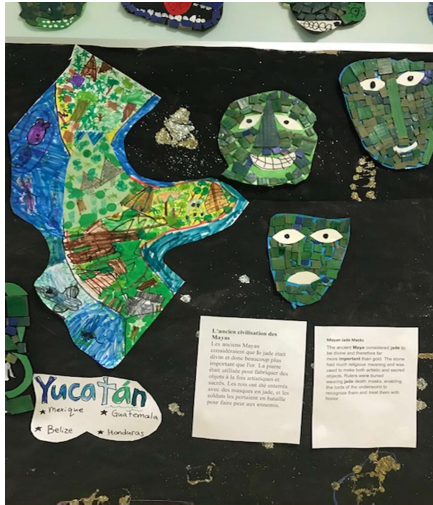
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Last night was filled with great joy and pride as our students danced, performed, created and celebrated. From the poetry, the dance and songs, the incredible displays of visual arts, and the busking – it was a wonderful night of ART ENTERTAINMENT. Art education teaches students to make judgements in the absence of rules, to be flexible, to celebrate the process as much as the final product. The arts promote students' expression and voice and validate their personal experience and ideas. Finally, the arts directly benefit student achievement by improving their estimation and computation skills. We as a staff believe in, and are committed to tapping into the power of the arts, fostering creativity, and strengthening imagination. Thank you for joining us on this journey!



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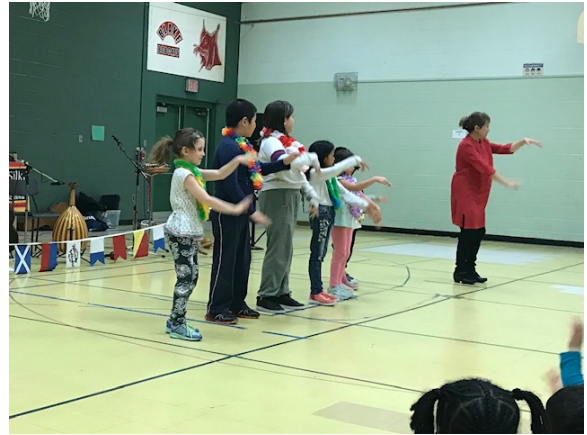
Ready for Planting

The power of teamwork was on full display this Wednesday when our children and teachers, with the help of some parent volunteers, braved the cool air and rain, to move soil to our new planters. While Mother Nature isn't yet acting like it...the warmer weather is on the way, and we will be ready for planting in the coming weeks.

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Silk Road Performance

On Thursday morning Blake students and staff were treated to a wonderful music and dance performance called Silk Road. We were introduced to a variety of unique instruments, some of which were popular over 2000 years ago! The performers showed us how these instruments are played, where they originated from and how we use them today. We sang, chanted, and danced for a very creative, informative and enjoyable time together.



Spring Kilometre Club

Despite being delayed by two weeks due to the construction of the traffic lights at Jones/Boulton, the Spring edition of Blake's KM Club got under way before school and at morning recess, running from Monday-Thursday each day for the next four weeks. Out of a possible 262 runners, we had 90% participate in the first week - for a total of 910km covered.

This season we're changing it up a bit for our "Golden Shoe" competition - instead of class vs class, we're trying grade vs grade! Congratulations to the grade 2 students for their awesome participation week 1. Who will take week 2!?!



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Forest of Reading Wrap Up

The end of April marks the conclusion of the Ontario Library Association's, "Forest of Reading" celebration of Canadian authors for this year. All primary classrooms read the "Blue Spruce" books, <https://bit.ly/2Fierf2> and voted for their favourites! Some of the primary French classrooms also read the "Prix Peupliers" selections <https://bit.ly/2ACXDMD>, and voted for their favourites in this category! Approximately 30 students in grades 3-6 read books in the Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch, and Le Prix Tamarac categories. Fifteen students were eligible to vote in one or more of these categories, because they read a minimum of 5 books within one category - most read all 10 in at least one category! An ice cream cake party was held in the library this past Monday to celebrate and vote.

Thanks so much to Parent Council for purchasing these 50 books each year as their contribution to our wonderful library! Happy reading until next year!



We Walk for Water

Blake's WE Schools club - made up of 30 students in grades 4-6 - continue to work hard this year on a variety of issues that they're passionate about! Our primary focus in 2019 has been fresh drinking water on First Nations communities in Canada, and in impoverished areas around the world. We marked World Water Day on March 22nd by participating in a Skype Global classroom in the library, and are proud to continue our work by raising awareness and funds for WE Walk for Water Day on Friday, May 10th.

Our entire WE Club has been invited by the WE organization to participate in a morning of awareness and activities at Regent Park in order to mark the day. We have been asked to be guest speakers, and to "take 6 laps for water" - a 50 minute 'journey' on the Regent Park track with other schools and special guests, to have a better understanding of what (primarily) girls have to do in communities around the world. Walking for water is one of the major activities that keep girls from going to school.

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In order to continue to raise funds for fresh water access for First Nations communities in Ontario, we are going to hold at least two more freezie sales this year - on Thursday, May 9th at lunch, and at afternoon recess on Friday, May 10th. Since we did not hold a bake sale this year, we are hopeful that parents will consider donating a box of freezies to our club, so that the purchase of freezies doesn't have to come out of our fundraising efforts so far. If you would like to donate a box, please drop them in the office any time next week and let them know they're for the WE Schools initiative.

Alternatively, please consider sponsoring our students on their walk, by donating at our CrowdRise page here: <https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/blakes-walk-for-water>

French Plays

Students in the primary French Immersion division have been busy preparing short plays, based on works by Robert Munsch, to meet learning expectations from the Arts and French Immersion Language Curriculum. They have had the opportunity to work through the artistic process while preparing and staging plays aimed at kindergarten and primary audiences. These students have been learning drama skills in French with retired teacher and volunteer Joan Jamieson and movement and dance from parent volunteers Susie and Neesa, who are also professional dance teachers and choreographers in our community.

These short plays will be performed in front of small audiences of their peers over the next two weeks during the school day within a classroom space to share their learning. It is exciting for our French Immersion students to have an opportunity to learn and perform short plays in an authentic French language context at Blake Street Public School!

Bravo les amis!

Mme Wald, Mme Burke, Mme Clark, Mme Thomas, Mme Brooks et Mme Lafontaine

A reminder that Ramadan begin this Sunday at sundown. To all in our community who celebrate, we wish you Ramadan Mubarak!

Should you have any questions or concerns about the content of this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me at jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca
Have a great weekend,

Jennifer and Tina

Reminders:

Extended Day Program

I have requested a list from the EDP department of currently registered students. It has come to my attention that a number of parents who received confirmation emails are not on the list I was given. Please feel free to call the office or drop by in person to ensure your child's name is on my list, and let us know if not so we can steer you in the best direction to get this matter resolved as quickly as possible.

If you have not yet registered your child and are interested in before and after care for the 2019 / 2020 school year, you can submit a registration application for our Extended Day Program by visiting <https://ereg.tdsb.on.ca/public/edplogin.aspx>.

For more information about TDSB EDPs, please visit our website at: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EDP>, or email the EDP team at EDP@tdsb.on.ca

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Summer School Applications Are Out

Summer School Programs will be offered throughout TDSB for students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 again this summer. Summer programs increase engagement and build self-confidence in our students. Attached to this letter is an application for the program being offered at Rose Avenue PS., which is the closest location to our school. At Rose Avenue the program will run from 9:00 to 3:00 each day. The focus of this program is literacy and is open to students in Grades 1 - 8. The program will build literacy skills through a creative curriculum that can include technology, physical fitness, art, music and drama. Other Summer Program locations may have a different focus. To see the full listing of participating schools, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/summer.

There are additional summer programs throughout TDSB which focus on the following:

- International Languages
- Music
- Outdoor Education Summer Camps

Information and applications for all programs can be found at www.tdsb.on.ca/summer.

The application for Rose Avenue Summer School was sent home this week. If you are interested, please complete all three pages of the application and return it to our school. We will ensure that it is returned to Rose Avenue. If you wish to apply to another school listed on the website, please complete the application and return it to Blake as well. Please note that as part of the application process, you will need to include a photocopy of the February report card.

Upcoming Dates:

May 6: Start of Ramadan

May 21-31: EQAO for Grades 3 and 6

May 25: Parent Council Silent Auction

May 23: 6:00 – 7:00 Welcome to Kindergarten Night for both English and French Immersion

June 7: PA DAY – no school

June 10 – 12: Grade 6s at Mono Cliffs

June 15: FUN FAIR

June 18: Volunteer Tea

June 20: Play Day for grades 1- 6

June 26: Blake Graduation, 6:00 – 7:00

June 27: Last Day of School

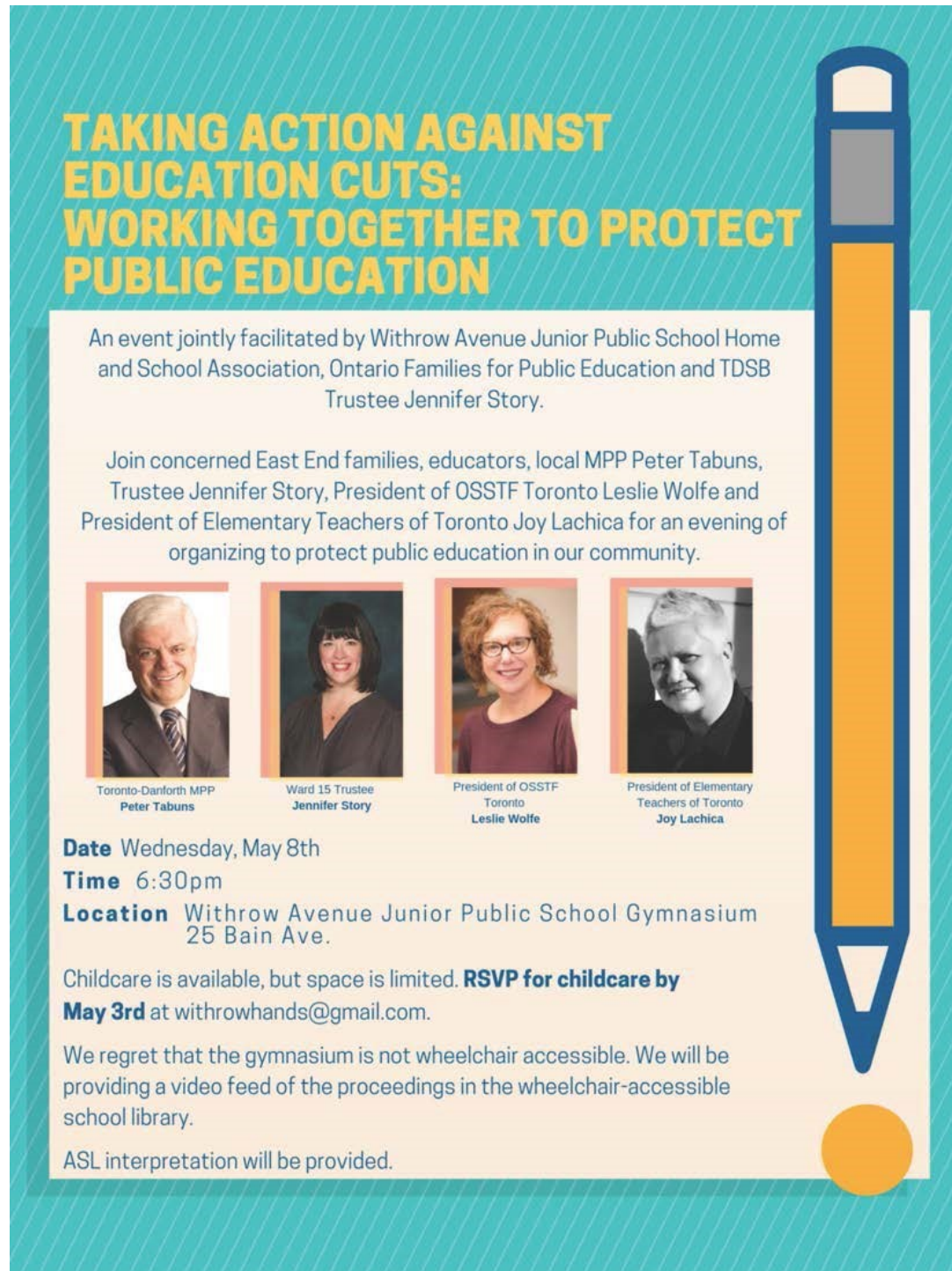
Blake School Council Announcements

School Council Meeting - Next meeting is on Wednesday, **May 15th at 6:00 p.m.** in the school library. Dinner and child care will be provided. You can listen to audio from the April meeting on our [Blake Blog](#).

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Taking Action Against Education Cuts – See the flyer below for information.

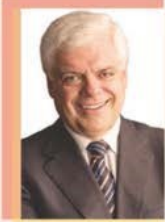



Wednesday **May 8th**, 6.30 p.m. at Withrow Ave. J.P.S.



TAKING ACTION AGAINST EDUCATION CUTS: WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT PUBLIC EDUCATION

An event jointly facilitated by Withrow Avenue Junior Public School Home and School Association, Ontario Families for Public Education and TDSB Trustee Jennifer Story.

Join concerned East End families, educators, local MPP Peter Tabuns, Trustee Jennifer Story, President of OSSTF Toronto Leslie Wolfe and President of Elementary Teachers of Toronto Joy Lachica for an evening of organizing to protect public education in our community.

			
Toronto-Danforth MPP Peter Tabuns	Ward 15 Trustee Jennifer Story	President of OSSTF Toronto Leslie Wolfe	President of Elementary Teachers of Toronto Joy Lachica

Date Wednesday, May 8th
Time 6:30pm
Location Withrow Avenue Junior Public School Gymnasium
25 Bain Ave.

Childcare is available, but space is limited. **RSVP for childcare by May 3rd** at withrowhands@gmail.com.

We regret that the gymnasium is not wheelchair accessible. We will be providing a video feed of the proceedings in the wheelchair-accessible school library.

ASL interpretation will be provided.

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Lear how to keep your kids safe online – A free event hosted by Leslieville Public School, happening in their gym on Thursday May 9th, 6-8p.m. See the attached flyers for more information. Mandarin translators will be available on the night along with childcare.

- [websaftey flyer v2.pdf](#)
- [websaftey flyer chinese v1.pdf](#)

Have a great weekend!

- *Blake's School Council*

blakeschoolcouncil.tdsb@gmail.com