

## BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday April 12, 2019



### **National Ballet Presentation**

On Tuesday afternoon the students and staff of Blake were treated to a wonderful performance given by the National Ballet of Canada. The performers taught us about basic ballet positions, costuming, make-up, and lots of other back stage things that go on in order to put a performance together. They took time at the end of the performance to answer all sorts of interesting questions from the students. What a treat it was to have the National Ballet here at Blake! Perhaps we have inspired a new generation of ballet dancers...



### **Pizza Next week**

A reminder that pizza lunch will be held next Thursday, as Friday is a holiday. This means that pizza payment is due Tuesday at 3:30.

## BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday April 12, 2019

### Day of Pink Assembly



On Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, Blake Street PS celebrated International Day of Pink, a day when communities across the world unite in celebrating diversity and raise awareness to stop homophobia, transphobia, and gender stereotypes. We held two separate assemblies for our primary and junior students. Prior to the assembly, all students were asked to generate and draw an illustration of various professionals, such as : teacher, surgeon, nurse, pilot, firefighter.... These pictures were put aside for review after the assembly. This social experiment prompted our students to initially draw their ideas based on gender stereotypes they have acquired, and what we initially found is that more than 75% of our students drew these professionals in what society would think of based on "traditional gender stereotypes". After the assembly, students were asked to review and discuss their initial drawing. From this, we hope that moving forward, children will be critical of gender stereotypes they see , read and hear.

During our primary assembly, students watched a number of short video clips and listened to a poem about gender norms, gender stereotypes, and gender expression. We talked about ways we can support each other in our community to ensure everyone feels safe and valued for who they are, and we ended our assembly with a sing out.

The junior assembly delved deeper into the topics of gender identity, and we reviewed key terminology including LGBTQ, gender, transgender, homophobia, transphobia and stereotypes and the idea of norms. Students watched a number of short videos to learn about varied experiences of LGBT youth, learned about the power and historical meaning of homophobic words people use, the purpose of the GSA, what it means to be an ally, and ways that we as a community can ensure our school is a safe, inclusive place. As always, we are amazed at the ability of our students to empathise, be reflective learners, and care for the rights of all.

## BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday April 12, 2019

### Sikh Heritage Month

In April we celebrate #SikhHeritageMonth and #NationalPoetryMonth - come check out what we have at the Blake library! (did you detect the #libraryhumour in there ...?)



### Registration for TDSB Summer Music Camps is open.

Camps include residential (sleepover) camp at Mono Cliffs in Orangeville for one week for grades 5-8, day camp at York Mills CI from July 2-19 (cost \$598) or strings at the Bickford Centre from July 2-12 (cost \$388, grades 3-8). There are brochures in the office, or look online at [www.tdsbsummercamps.ca](http://www.tdsbsummercamps.ca)

### Reminders:

#### Extended Day Program

For those of you interested in child care through the extended day program, your registration in this program, prior to April 23<sup>rd</sup> is important, as they will be using registration numbers up to this date to staff us. To help ensure the best possibility that all who want a spot get a spot, please register by then.

To submit a registration application for our Extended Day Program please visit <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](mailto:EDP@tdsb.on.ca)

### 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](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/summer).

## **BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday April 12, 2019**

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](http://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:**

April 17: Parent Council Meeting, 6:00 – 8:00 in library

April 18: Lice Check

April 18: Movie Night

April 19: Good Friday – no school

April 22: Easter Monday – no school

April 23: Earth Day Assembly

April 26: School Wide Earth Day Clean Up

May 2: Prologue Presentation – Silk Road

May 2: NUIT BLAKE A Celebration of the Arts 6:00 – 7:00

May 6: Start of Ramadan

May 8: Family Fun Night and Parent Presentation on Inquiry, 6:00 – 7:00

May 21-31: EQAO for Grades 3 and 6

May 24: 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 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

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](mailto:jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca)  
Have a great weekend,

Jennifer and Tina

### **Blake School Council Announcements**

---

**School Council Meeting** - Join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, **April 17 at 6:00 p.m.** in the school library. Dinner and child care will be provided.

## BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday April 12, 2019

**Fall Raffle Update** – We are so thrilled that the Fall Raffle event was a huge success - thanks to the many students and their parents/caregivers who sold tickets to the tune of **over \$9500.00**. The three classes that sold the most tickets were Mr. Lowe, Mr. Fowler and Ms. Kagan's classes. At the end of March each took part in a hands-on animal education program with a team of rescue animals, organized by the Raffle Committee and facilitated by [Pawsitively Pets!](#) Congratulations to all students and thank you to you all for making this year's raffle the most successful yet!



**Movie Night** – See you next Thursday (18<sup>th</sup>) for movie night. If you'd like to contribute nut free baked goods, leave them in the office kitchen on the day off or bring them along on the night. Remember: Children must be accompanied by an adult!

**Food Allergies** – The Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) released updated recommendations on the specific timing of early introduction of allergenic foods for high-risk infants. If you're the parent or caregiver of an infant you may be interested in [Food Allergy Canada](#)'s free online webinar, **April 25<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon**, explaining the new recommendations. Sign up [here](#). Or check out their [website](#) for other useful resources.

**THU. APR. 18th**

**6:15 PM** DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 FREE ADMISSION

**Bake Sale!**

Please consider bringing some peanut & nut free baked goods to sell at the food table



Raffle  
Popcorn  
Pizza  
Savory Pastries  
Drinks

**BLAKE'S FAMILY**

**MOVIE  
NIGHT**