

BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday May 10, 2019



Track and Field

Congratulations to all of our 22 Grades 4-6 athletes who competed in the Track and Field meet on May 6th. These students represented Blake School positively, and we all had fun competing in the spring sunshine. A special mention goes to top performer Savannah Cutler who placed 3rd in the Running Long Jump and will advance to the South Conference finals in June. A big thank you to our parent volunteer drivers for their time and support.



We Walk For Water

Today 30 of our #WESchools club members participated in the WE Movement's, "WE Walk for Water Day" at Regent Park Athletic Field with 10 other schools from across the GTA. With an audience of a few hundred educators and students, our very own grade 6 students, Reyan and Shorna, addressed the audience assembled with confidence, speaking about the work we have been doing around raising awareness about water issues globally.

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The students were excited to meet with other guest speakers - WE Walk for Water Chairperson Spencer West, as well as two young women who go to WE College in Kenya. Both young women shared their personal stories about how having fresh water in their communities freed them up from the daily chore of fetching water for their families, so that they could then start to attend school.

After the speeches, we all walked for about 50 minutes around the track - simulating the walk that many girls around the world do each and every day. We even had heavy jugs to carry! Most students could only manage the jugs for one lap, and many wanted to stop walking after 3 laps (we did a total of 6)! They definitely came away from the morning with an appreciation for the hard work that is required.

Our morning was capped off by pizza that was provided, and some great dancing by the kids assembled! Thanks to everyone for the support. We have one more freezie sale - next Thursday at lunch recess, and if you're interested in making a donation to our online fundraiser, please follow this link: <https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/blakes-walk-for-water/blake-streetjunior-public-school>



EQAO

For all parents / guardians of grade 3 and 6 students; please note that EQAO will take place from May 21 to June 4th from 8:50 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. We ask that you try to avoid appointments, lateness and absences during these days when possible. Should you have any questions about the testing, please feel free to contact me directly.

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September Placement: parent Input

The process of student placement for the upcoming school year followed at Blake Street Public School is a collaborative one that has input from these sources:

- sending and receiving teachers
- principal and office administrator
- support personnel

During the early weeks of June, several meetings will be devoted to student placement. During these meetings, the best possible educational experience for your child will be given the utmost consideration. Parent information shared throughout the year at parent/teacher conferences will be helpful as the Blake Street teachers discuss the student placement process and consider the following:

- balance of numbers in a class
- Ministry of Education primary class size caps
- ratio of males & females in a class
- balance of students' levels of English Language Proficiency
- balance of academic performance according to Ministry expectations
- consideration of possible negative peer influences
- social, emotional and physical needs of the student

While we try to accommodate parent suggestions, please understand that a great deal of professional time and consideration will be devoted to the student placement decision.

If there is information you feel should be considered by the committee regarding your child's placement, please submit it in writing to the office by **Monday May 20, 2019**. *The 2019/2020 school year staff, teachers and their grades are not yet finalized. You will be notified of your child's classroom for 2019-2020 in September. Tentative class lists (first names only) will be posted on the exterior rear doors of the school on Labour Day weekend.*

Your information/requests should indicate your child's needs and program preferences, as opposed to names of teachers. **No requests for individual teachers will be accommodated for the reasons mentioned above, along with the potential for staffing and class arrangement changes right up until the end of October.**

Our tentative (pending the possibility of a fall re-organization) approved staffing model for next year is below. A co-teaching model means that two teachers will share a large space and co-teach together.

English:

FDK

FDK

FDK (under 16 students with no ECE)

Grade 1 and Grade 1 /2 (co-teaching model)

Grade 2 /3

Grade 3 /4

Grade 4 am which streamlines into the Grade 4/5 in the pm

Grade 5 am co-teaching with the Grade 6 am, which streamlines into either the Grade 4/5 or 5/6 in the pm

Grade 6 am which streamlines into the grade 5/6 in the pm

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French:

SK FI

SK FI

Grade 1

Grade 1 / 2 and Grade 1 / 2 (co-teaching model)

Grade 2/3 and Grade 3 (co-teaching model)

Grade 4/5

Grade 4/5

Prep subjects offered will include:

1.5 Physical Education / Health

0.5 Library

2 Special Education Teachers

1 Music Teacher

0.5 Drama

Have you moved? For those of you who have moved out of the Blake Street attendance area over the school year, your child has been permitted to complete their 2019 school year here at Blake. ***For the 2019/2020 School Year you will need to register your child at his/her home school.***

Please help us with our placement meetings and enrolment by letting us know ASAP if your child WILL NOT be returning to Blake Street P.S. in September 2018.

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

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

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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 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

Blake School Council meeting next week on Wednesday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m. in our school library. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

Our **Online Silent Auction** goes Live on Monday May 13th at 10:00 a.m. Check out the link at: <https://www.32auctions.com/BlakeAuction>. Make sure you pre-register an account so you're ready to go on Monday!

Parents' Night Out!!

Join us for an adult's only event featuring Blake's own Darcy Losell as DJ

May 25th at Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre, from 8pm-10pm

The online auction will close at the same time as the event ends, so if you're not able to make it out, you can play along at home!

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For any questions regarding the auction or to volunteer for the event, please contact Valerie: valerielaurie@hotmail.com

Wine and Beer donations still appreciated!

The **Fun Fair** is coming up on Saturday, June 15 from noon to 3:00 p.m.

Laser Tag, bouncy castles, ponies, games, balloons, food!

Volunteers are needed! Please reach out to erin.barr@tdsb.on.ca to help out.

The **Gardening Team** is looking for volunteers to help water the Blake vegetable garden this summer. If you have time to water a couple of times a week any time this summer, please let us know. Not only will you benefit by knowing that you are helping our plants thrive, but you also get to reap the rewards by harvesting from the food garden. Email blakeschoolcouncil.TDSB@gmail.com

Blake's **Annual Welcome Back Potluck Picnic** will be held on Thursday September 5th, 2019 at 5:45pm with live music and BBQ to get us excited for the next school year!

So mark your calendars and start thinking of your favourite dish to share!!! All families are welcome. Flyers will be distributed shortly.

- Blake School Council