

BLAKE STREET PS NEWSLETTER: Friday May 17, 2019



Staffing News

A big congratulations to Mr. Nicolaou who welcomed his second child into the world on Tuesday morning. We would like to welcome Ms. Julia Gutowski who has been hired to take over the assigned grade 4/5 teaching duties until the end of the school year.

Kilometer Club

Who took week #3 of the Spring KM Club?!? Why it was the grade 1s!! So far we've had a different grade each of the three weeks. Who will take the fourth and final week?!



Forest of Reading

This past Wednesday Ms. Dymont took nine students to the Forest of Reading Festival at Harbourfront. These nine students read all 10 books in the Silver Birch Fiction category and had a great time socializing with hundreds of students from other schools across Ontario. Winner this year? "Chase" by Lynwood Barclay.



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Munschfest

Students in the primary French Immersion division were busy over the past two months preparing short plays, based on works by Robert Munsch. They had the opportunity to work through the artistic process, while preparing and staging plays aimed at kindergarten and primary audiences. These students learned 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 were performed in front of small audiences of their peers and families during the school day within a classroom space that was transformed into a stage. 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



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Girls Slo Pitch

Congratulations to the Girl's Slo Pitch team for their well-played matches today at Christie Pits. They showed great school spirit, cooperation and enthusiasm, especially when MC hit a grand slam home run!!!

A special thank you to our parent volunteers and to Mr. Richman who stepped in at the last minute to help coach and make the day possible. Go Bobcats!!!!!!



Reminders:

EQAO

For all parents / guardians of grade 3 and 6 students; please note that EQAO will take place from May 21st 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.

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

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- 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

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

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.***

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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 2019.

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

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 Soiree and Silent Auction

Our **Online Silent Auction** is **LIVE** and has raised in excess of \$5000 to date!

Place your bids at: <https://www.32auctions.com/BlakeAuction>. Bids will be accepted right up to event end time on the night - 10pm.

We'd love to know if you are attending the event. You can R.S.V.P on our [Facebook](#) post or by emailing valerielaurie@hotmail.com. If you have any items to contribute (wine/beer/food trays) or you can help at the event (sell tickets, help with set up/clean up, etc.) please let Valerie know.

Interested in joining the Executive Team of our School Council?

There are many ways for you to contribute and be part of the School Council, depending on your availability and interest. We appreciate every hour you can give whether you bake for the bake sale, pop popcorn for movie night, or ask businesses in the area to contribute to our silent auction (just to name a few examples!) Joining the Executive Team is another way to support our work. If you are interested in learning more about what is involved in the role of Chair, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, please email us for more information.

[\(blakeschoolcouncil.tdsb@gmail.com\)](mailto:blakeschoolcouncil.tdsb@gmail.com) Official elections will be held in the fall, but we encourage you to ask questions in advance to find out what is entailed in these roles.

You can learn more by reviewing the Blake School Council bylaws at [Blake bylaws.docx.pdf](#)

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Reminders:

- **Fun Fair** - Volunteers are still needed for June 15. Please reach out to erin.barr@tdsb.on.ca.
- **Bike to School Week** is coming – May 27 to 31.
- **Gardening Team** is looking for volunteers to help water the Blake vegetable garden this summer. Email blakeschoolcouncil.TDSB@gmail.com if you can help.

Enjoy the long weekend!

- Blake School Council