

Blake News

The Newsletter of
Blake Street Public School
Phone: (416) 393-9415

Blake Street Public School

21 Boulton Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 1A7

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It has now been over 100 days since we last saw each other..... The snow has melted, the seasons have changed, the temperatures have risen, and the start of summer is at our doorstep. We have desperately missed you, your children's laughter, smiles and dancing eyes when they realized they have learned something new. We do not know what September will bring, but I can guarantee you that we will be ready to return in whatever form we are called to, and that the TDSB will continue to keep us informed. Until then, this will be the last newsletter for the school year. For those of you celebrating Pride this month, we wish you happy Pride!!!! Also, this weekend brings other festivities including the Summer Solstice and Father's Day.

Please feel free to email over the summer if any plans change, or there is any way we can support. We continue to be here to help in any way. We wish you a safe, healthy, relaxing and FUN summer!!!

Report cards will be sent out electronically this year, and should be received sometime next week. For those of you without email, a hardcopy will be delivered by mail.

As is customary, classroom placements will be posted the Friday of the Labour Day weekend at noon on our centre door (Door 5). Only incoming JK students and SK FI students will receive an email in the summer notifying them of their placements.

Blake's Got Talent

Thank you to all of the courageous performers who sent in their videos for our FlipGrid talent show. What an incredible diversity of performances from magic shows, to singing, artistic displays, piano performances and so much more. If you haven't yet seen the talent show videos, please access the link below.

flipgrid.com/+paton0793

Farewell Parade

My apologies for sending out the wrong date last week. The parade will take place next Thursday, June 25th. Staff will be driving and biking along the route to say goodbye in person to our families. Come out to wave goodbye. The parade will start at 12:00 p.m. and will begin at the corner of Pape and Riverdale. From start to finish the parade should take about 20 – 30 minutes. If your street is not on the direct route, please find a spot on the route to watch, including the front of the school. Please be sure to enforce social distancing rules when watching the parade, and

explain to your children that as much as we would like to be close, we too need to keep our distance, and be limited to waiving from 2 metres away.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t4P4rk2E9ifeg7g-qDdxps_42qI2BZH23WNTN9X1xlc/edit?usp=sharing

The route will start at the corner of Pape and Riverdale.

Stay on Riverdale to Boulton.

Those on bikes can follow the purple loop quickly around the building circular drive.

Stay eastbound on Boulton.

Turn left (north) on Blake Street.

Turn right (east) on Strathcona.

Turn right (south) on Jones, followed by a **very quick left (east) onto Baird Avenue.**

Turn right (south) on Earl Grey Ave.

Turn left (east) on Dawson Ave.

Turn right (south) on Condor Ave.

Turn right (west) on Boulton Ave.

Turn left (south) on Jones Ave. (This left hand turn will be the trickiest of the route. The bikes will wait for the cars on Myrtle Ave. before proceeding)

Follow Jones Ave. down the hill and up the hill under the bridge.

Turn left (east) on Myrtle Ave.

Turn right (south) on Leslie St.

Turn right (west) on Gerrard St.

Turn right (north) on Galt Ave.

Exit Galt Avenue by turning right down the alleyway at the top.

This alley will take you back to Jones Avenue.

The Day of the African Child

Last June 16th marked the International Day of the African Child. Since 1991, the Day of the African Child has been marked on June 16 to commemorate those who took part, including many who lost their lives, in the Soweto Uprising in South Africa, and to recognize the courage of the students who marched for their right to an education. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness for the ongoing need to improve the education of children living across Africa.

Masai Ujiri, President of the Toronto Raptors, co-founded an organization called Giants of Africa, which is dedicated to the mission of using basketball as a means to educate and enrich the lives of African youth both on and off the court.

This year, Giants of Africa is celebrating by giving back with local community initiatives around the world. GOA team members in Africa, the US and Canada will be marking the day with activities that celebrate hope and youth development.

Here in Toronto, Giants of Africa would like to congratulate and celebrate the graduating classes and students of 2020. Masai Ujiri and the Giants of Africa team have put together a video for the graduating classes in the TDSB that provides an inspirational message, along with some tips (good for students of all ages) and tips from coaches with the Raptors and Raptors 905.

[Giants of Africa Video](#)

A Message from the TDSB About Secondary Program Review Interim Report

The [Interim Report of the Secondary Program Review](#) was presented to Trustees last month, a first step in the development of a plan to address the inequities and imbalances throughout our current system. This report supports our next step forward as we start to re-imagine and re-draw our system in consultation and collaboration with our communities to enhance equity and support the achievement and well-being of each and every student in the TDSB, now and in the future.

We want to hear from you! Any recommendations made through this process will have an impact on current elementary students, as young as Grade 1. Our plan, if approved by Trustees in the fall, will create the roadmap for changes to our secondary schools and programs over the next 8 to 10 years.

No specific schools have been named for consolidation and no further steps will be taken without extensive local community consultation. Over the next four months, students, parents, staff and community members can continue to provide feedback and further insight through delegations and their local Trustee, by email to secondaryreview@tdsb.on.ca or on our [online form](#). The Secondary Program Review Final Report will be presented to the Board in October 2020.

Join for a Conversation

TDSB families are invited to join in on a series of engaging and informative conversations on topics you may want to learn more about, including: Mental Health, Well Being and Routines in the Early Years; Mental Health, Well Being and Routines in Adolescents and Teens, and Talking Race with your Children. To access the zoom links, see the attachment.

Summer School

Our optional elementary summer school program focus is to close the achievement and well-being gap and to continue student engagement into July. Programs for students in Grades 3 to 8 will be delivered from July 6 to 31, 2020 from 9am to 12pm.

For students registering for English summer school, learning is focused on:

- Black affirmative learning content.
- Literacy instruction to improve fluency and comprehension.
- Learn about Transformative Justice.

Remote synchronous learning will be offered. There is a possibility that learning may move from remote learning to in-class learning environments in accordance with the ongoing guidance of the Ministry of Education. Registration is online and is currently open to the public. Check out the attached poster, and access the registration form, please visit :

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeaq9ZozignlM4NXXLk5T0rWirNqi-6vzSvR8GO4I_4M4TIIA/viewform?fbclid=IwAR0JKT_5hAcXxwjNfJm9LqJYfTRbuhv0pPMb0aPSxFpJSim3ehMFTtqvVE

French programs will also be available for students currently in a French Immersion or Extended French Program.. More information is available at <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Innovation/Elementary-Summer-School>

International Languages Elementary/African Heritage

The International Languages Elementary/African Heritage Program offers language classes to students Kindergarten to Grade 8. Classes will run from July 6 to 31, 2020 from 1:30 to 4pm. A minimum of 23 students is required to open a language class. Remote synchronous learning will be offered. There is a possibility that language learning may move from remote learning to in-class learning environments in accordance with the ongoing guidance of the Ministry of Education. Registration will be online and open on Monday, May 25, 2020. More information is available on www.ileprograms.ca.

Community Programs

Adult General Interest courses will be offered in July to continue to engage with existing learners, while increasing the presence and awareness of Learn4Life programs to new learners. Courses will be offered from July 6 to 31, 2020 through a synchronous online delivery model. Registration will be available through our website at www.learn4life.ca.

Adult ESL

Adult ESL is planning to deliver a remote synchronous learning model, with whole group and small group instruction, from July 6 to July 24, 2020 from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Classes will be five days a week for three weeks. We will also be implementing a modified Portfolio-Based Language Assessment program to include 1 to 2 assessments. The number of classes and levels will be based on student enrollment, interest and funding. More information is available on www.ESLtoronto.ca

Please know that we continue to be here to help however we can. If there is anything we can do to support you and your families, we are just an email away.

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

Be well and have a great weekend.

Jenn and Jacki