

# Churchill Heights P.S. Newsletter February 2021



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School Website <http://tdsb.on.ca/schools/churchillheights>

School Council Email [ChurchillheightsSC@gmail.com](mailto:ChurchillheightsSC@gmail.com)

## Message from the Principal

Dear Churchill Heights Families,

As we welcome in February, we are also looking forward to the second half of the school year. It's

amazing that the year is more than half over. It FINALLY feels like winter has arrived! I am hoping that families are enjoying brighter landscapes and finding opportunities to enjoy some fresh air and activity together daily.

During the month of February TDSB celebrates and recognizes Chinese Heritage Month and African Heritage Month. Staff and students also engage in learning activities highlighting these celebrations.

Report cards will be emailed by Tuesday February 9th. Please take the time to sit with your child and discuss their report card with them. As always, should you have any concerns regarding your child's report, I encourage you to get in touch with their classroom teacher. As we approach our learning with a growth mindset, the end of term one is a fantastic opportunity for setting goals and self-reflection.

We would like to thank Ms. Wu for supporting the students in the grade 5/6 class while Ms. Blatchins was on leave. Her ability to jump in and build rapport with our students was appreciated.

Kindergarten registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are planning on sending a JK student to the school in September 2021, or know a parent who is, we greatly appreciate early registration as this allows us to plan for the coming year. If you have any questions, concerns, or want to know more about what's going on at school - I am always excited to share. Give the school a call and leave a message as we check messages frequently! Also feel free to drop us a line. We are all in this together!

*Talcia Richards*

## Character Trait Winners

### January - Teamwork

Rm 1	Nafisa, Samira
Rm 3	Aiden, Vahrun
Rm 6	Rohamallo, Sajjina
Rm 7	Dhruvika, Kaneesha
Rm 8	Sophia, Thushal
Rm 21	Nehan, Victor
Rm 23	Sahithiyan, Yash
Rm 26	Eric, Vinusan
Rm 28	Mohnish, Katherine

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2021/2022 school year begins in February. To enter Junior Kindergarten, your child must turn 4 years old by December 31, 2021.

You may begin the process by completing a registration form online **on or after February 1<sup>st</sup>**. Once we have received it, we will contact you to arrange an appointment to review your child's documents.



Click [here](#) to access the TDSB Kindergarten site for registration and other useful information, or contact the school if you have any questions.

ChurchillHeights@tdsb.on.ca  
416-396-6160

## Find Local Services

Log in to [211central.ca](https://211central.ca) to look for community and government services in the GTA such as:

- Covid-19 Priority Topics
- Food
- Homelessness
- Mental Health/Addictions
- Abuse/Assault
- Child/Family Services
- Community Programs
- Emergency/Crisis Services
- Employment
- Government/Legal
- Health Care
- Income Support
- Newcomers
- Older Adults
- Transportation
- Youth



## Mental Health & Well-Being

Mental Health and Well-Being are always important, even more so during this time when school is not open to in-person learning. Many people, including children, may feel frustrated, isolated and disconnected from their friends and family. It is with this in mind that we would suggest that you take advantage of some of [the resources the TDSB has pulled together](#) and recommended. These include: listings of agencies that can help with crisis moments, community mental health organizations and resources for students and caregivers alike.

If you or your family require any support, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school. For emergencies, please contact your local emergency operators.

## Google Meet & Zoom Safety

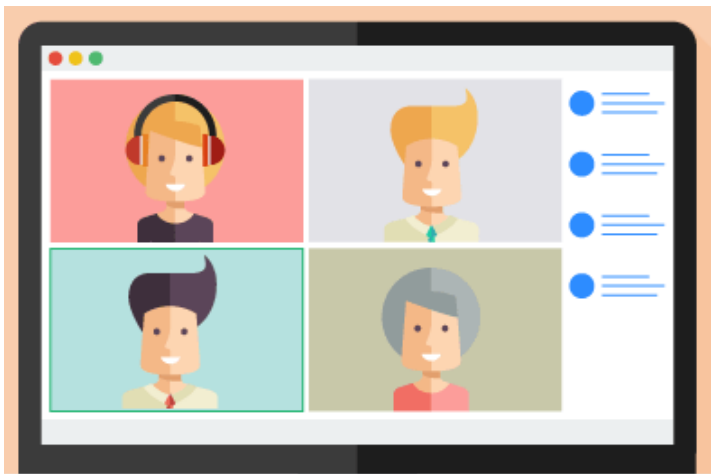
Student safety is a priority at the TDSB and we are doing everything we can to ensure the security of all online learning sessions and the safety of students and staff while participating.

All TDSB teachers, principals and vice principals are aware of the necessary measures to take while utilizing Google Meet or Zoom web conferencing tools and implement the following security measures to prevent unwanted persons from entering class meetings:

- **Google Meet:** The host/teacher can disable non-TDSB people from entering meetings. They can also disable screen sharing and chat for participants, if necessary.
- **Zoom:** The host/teacher can enable waiting rooms and prevent non-TDSB people from entering meetings. There are also several security controls available (e.g. muting, removing participants, etc.) within the meeting itself.

If a teacher and/or class experiences any security issue during a Google Meet or Zoom session, the Principal and IT Services are notified immediately so that the issue can be investigated and support provided. In this time of online learning, we must all remain diligent and continue to work together to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Visit the TDSB website for technical support with log-in, device, and digital learning tools [here](#).



## African Heritage Month

The Toronto District School Board is the largest and one of the most diverse school boards in Canada. Nearly one-quarter of our students were born outside of Canada, and collectively, we speak more than 120 languages.

Understanding all cultures is essential to the success of our young students today as they transform and transition to be our future leaders of tomorrow.

During the month of February, the Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize and celebrate African Heritage Month. It is an occasion to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of

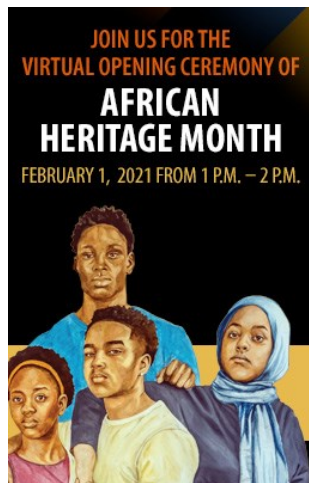
peoples of African descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2020-2021 is **Kujichagulia: Self Determination.**

Black people in Canada have diverse backgrounds and experiences – while some can trace their roots in Canada for many generations, others have immigrated in recent decades.

Black Canadians are connected by a common African history and ancestry. The African-Canadian population is made up of individuals from a range of places across the globe including, but not limited to, the United States, South America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, and Canada.

There were almost 1.2 million Black people living in Canada in 2016. The Black population is diverse and has a long and rich history in Canada.

Among the Black population born outside of Canada, the source countries of immigration have changed over time. More than half of this population who immigrated before 1981 were born in Jamaica and Haiti. Black newcomers



now come from about 125 different countries, mainly from Africa.

The African Heritage Month Volunteer Planning Committee continues to name, notice, and disrupt anti-Black racism through their organized initiatives shared throughout the TDSB and commitment to hold space for Black students, staff, parents, families, and elders to heal, to celebrate and to thrive. We are excited to share [more information about African Heritage Month.](#)

## Chinese Heritage Month

Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize Chinese Heritage Month (CHM) during the month of February 2021. This year is the **Year of the Ox: Loyal, Honest, Responsible, Hard-Working and Logical.** Many Chinese Canadians will celebrate Lunar New Year on Friday, February 12. Lunar New Year is also known as the spring festival and begins with the first moon of the lunar calendar and ends on the first full moon of the lunar calendar 15 days later. Though celebrations will be altered this year because of the pandemic, the spirit and joyfulness will remain the same through virtual events and in-home family-based festivities.

Copies of the winning posters from our poster challenge with students from all grade levels across the Toronto District School Board will be posted soon. We are also pleased to share a brief [slide deck on Chinese Heritage Month.](#) Follow us at Twitter (@tdsbChineseHM)

More information about these initiatives on our official [Chinese Heritage Month site.](#)



# February 2021—Fairness

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
African & Chinese Heritage Month	1 Kindergarten Registration Begins	2 Groundhog Day	3 X Movement Virtual Program	4	5	6
7	8	9 Report Cards Emailed	10 Virtual School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.	11	12 P.A. Day - No School Lunar New Year	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Family Day - No School	16 Return to School	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Virtual Assembly for Fairness	26	27
28						

## Upcoming Events

Mar. 10	Virtual School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.	May 9	Mother's Day
Mar. 14	Daylight Savings (set clocks forward 1 hour)	May 12	Virtual School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Mar. 15 - 19	March Break	May 24	Victoria Day (no school)
Mar. 25	Virtual Assembly for Honesty	June 4	P.A. Day (no school)
Apr. 2	Good Friday (no school)	June 9	Virtual School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Apr. 5	Easter Monday (no school)	June 29	Last Day of School for Students
April 14	Virtual School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.		