



January 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a winter holiday filled with lots of rest and time with family and friends. It is exciting for our students to be back at school, eager to learn and be challenged by our curriculum expectations.

In January, we are approaching the end of our First Term of learning in the school year. With Term 1 Report Cards being distributed on February 14, 2024, we have had some parents inquiring about how student achievement is assessed and evaluated.

I would like to direct you to the **Ministry of Education's website:** www.edu.gov.on.ca. Here, you can find the specific curriculum expectations for each grade and each subject area. I will also highlight the Levels of Achievement and The Achievement Chart categories below. Each student's work is assessed against the categories provided by the Ministry according to the levels provided for educators.

Levels of Achievement – The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8

Level 1	Represents achievement that falls much below the provincial standard. The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with limited effectiveness. Students must work at significantly improving in specific areas, as necessary, if they are to be successful in a subject in the next grade.
Level 2	Represents achievement that approaches the standard. The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with some effectiveness. Students performing at this level need to work on identified learning gaps to ensure future success.
Level 3	Represents the provincial standard for achievement. The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with considerable effectiveness. Parents of students achieving at level 3 can be confident that their children will be prepared for work in subsequent grades.
Level 4	Identifies achievement that surpasses the provincial standard. The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with a high degree of effectiveness.

The Achievement Chart Categories – The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8

Knowledge and Understanding	Subject-specific content acquired in each grade (knowledge), and the comprehension of its meaning and significance (understanding)
Thinking	The use of critical and creative thinking skills and/or processes
Communication	The conveying of meaning through various forms
Application	The use of knowledge and skills to make connections within and between various contexts

If you have any specific questions regarding the assessment and evaluation of your child's work, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

As always, we remind students to: Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful.

Sincerely,
Andrea Chisholm
Principal

Cliffside PS
27 East Haven Drive
Toronto ON M1N 1M1
Tel 416.396.6170

SAFE ARRIVAL

Full Day Absence
1.833.250.2290

Late or Half Day Absence
416.396.6170 Press 1

Principal
Andrea Chisholm

Office Administrator
Voula Gountas

Superintendent
Liz Holder

Trustee Ward 18
Malika Ghous

TDSB CELEBRATES!



January is...

Tamil Heritage Month

For more information, please go to www.tdsb.on.ca

**LOOK AT OUR CLIFFSIDE CARDINALS...
CHARACTER TRAIT FOR DECEMBER –
KINDNESS & CARING**

Student	Class
Liya	JKSK
Noah	JKSK
Adhil	1/2A
Cole	1/2A
Amelia	1/2B
Mehzaben	1/2B
Iffat	3/4
Owen	3/4
Farhan	4/5MFI
Jaasia	4/5MFI
Ava	5/6
Michael	5/6
Mira	5/6MFI
Riley	5/6MFI
Aili	7/8
Cole	7/8
Mahi	7/8EF



BIRTHDAY WISHES

January

Aurora	JKSK
Bentley	1/2B
Gabriel	1/2A
Iffat	3/4
John	JKSK
Khadija	7/8EF
Naomi	JKSK
Rafeef	5/6MFI
Riley	5/6MFI
Ryleigh	5/6
Savannah	5/6
Sharleez	7/8EF
Sobian	7/8
Sofia	4/5MFI
Tanoosha	JKSK
Yuvaan	JKSK
Zoe	4/5MFI



INTERMEDIATE GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Churchill Heights Tournament – December 7, 2023



CLIFFSIDE'S WINTER PLAYLAND DOOR DECORATING CONTEST





Congratulations to Room 11 for winning our Winter Playland door decorating contest!



Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 Entry)

Applications to the Middle French Immersion program may be submitted, on behalf of students in the English program, the year the child is in Grade 3 for entry in September of Grade 4. It is an entirely online process. **All communication will be sent via the email address you provide. Please check your email regularly, including junk mail folders.**

- Please visit the application site www.tdsb.on.ca/pars
- You will need your child's date of birth and OEN. The OEN is a 9-digit number found on any report card from the TDSB.
- Please select Middle French Immersion from the drop-down menu and complete the application process.
- On-time applicants will be offered a placement via the email address you have provided. You **MUST** take action to reserve a spot by the deadline requested when you are offered a placement.
- Offers of placement will be on-going through the weeks and months following the close of the application period. **Please check your email regularly, including junk mail folders, and follow any instructions.**
- **IMPORTANT DATES:**
 - Application process opens: January 8, 2024
 - **Deadline for applications: February 2, 2024**

Please note: To participate in a live scheduled webinar, please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/School-Choices/French-Programs/Information-Sessions> and click on the link provided to join on the dates/times as outlined.

DATES, TIME & LINK TO WEBINARS	ALTERNATE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
January 11, 2024 Time: 7 pm CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE WEBINAR	Webinar ID: 942 6549 8668 Phone one-tap: Canada: +16473744685 or +16475580588 Canada: +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588
January 16, 2024 Time: 10 am CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE WEBINAR	Webinar ID: 993 4167 6204 Phone one-tap: Canada: +16473744685 or +16475580588 Canada: +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588
January 22, 2024 Time: 1 pm CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE WEBINAR	Webinar ID: 925 7360 0636 Phone one-tap: Canada: +16473744685 or +16475580588 Canada: +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588

TDSB SEVERE WEATHER GUIDELINES

Children need an opportunity to get exercise and free play time outdoors, however, weather conditions sometimes warrant that indoor recesses, lunch periods and pre-entry periods be considered necessary for student and staff safety.

Conditions warranting indoor recesses:

- Rain, thunderstorms, lightning, hail, extreme winds and extreme cold
- Cold weather: When temperature and/or windchill factor indicates -28°C or lower children will remain indoors due to risk of frostnip and frostbite. When an extreme cold weather alert is issued or when temperatures and/or windchill factor indicates -20 to -28°C , recesses may be shortened to 10 minutes and lunch recess be 20 minutes depending on local conditions.
- Humidity, Heat and Smog Alerts: The City of Toronto issues heat alerts and heat emergencies based on the daily forecast from May to September.

Alerts are posted on the Web site www.toronto.ca/health or available by calling (416) 338-7600. Staff and students should be vigilant about their level of activity and should take frequent breaks for water in order to remain adequately hydrated.

Other conditions: Weather conditions change during the day. When necessary and if the weather is questionable, the school principal will consult the Environment Canada's www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca or Toronto Public Health Web sites for information.



CLIFFSIDE STUDENTS WEAR SNOWPANTS!

When going outside be sure to wear:



When going outside in winter make sure body parts most often affected by frostbite are covered in warm, dry clothing.



Remember: Snow Stays on the GROUND

As winter is now upon us, we eagerly anticipate lots of snow coming our way. Remember, **for student safety, the snow must stay on the ground!**

Students are encouraged to:

- Build snow forts
- Build snow people & animals
- Make snow angels
- Make snow burritos (roll in the snow)
- Write their names in the snow

Let's keep our eyes and faces safe!!!





FRIDAYS ARE SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR DAYS!

Be sure to wear your Cliffside Cardinal spirit wear, or our school colours of **RED** and **BLACK**.



GOLDEN BROOM AWARD

The students at Cliffside are working hard to earn the weekly Golden Broom Award by keeping their classrooms, lunchroom and hallway spotless.

Our winners in **November & December**:

Room 8 (Twice!)

Room 3

Room 9

Room 6

Keep up the great work, Cliffside!



Join us each meeting date at **9:30 am!**

February 1, 2024

March 7, 2024

April 4, 2024

May 2, 2024

June 6, 2024

Please sign in at the office.



UPCOMING DATES:

- January 8 – First Day Back to School
- January 19 – PA Day
- January 26 – Cliffside's Character Matters Assembly
- January 30 – Ontario Planetarium Visits Cliffside

CELL PHONE REMINDERS

Students are reminded to keep their cell phones in their backpacks during school hours unless specifically given permission during class time for an assignment.



Promoting Respect in the Workplace



Steps to Address Questions and Concerns

Below is the best way to talk to us, and who you should reach out to and when. Please also refer to the TDSB Parent Concern Protocol (PR505) for more information.



1

Step One

Step 1 - Classroom Teacher

The first place to go about any classroom-related question or concern is your classroom teacher. They can help you with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Homework and assignments
- Classroom rules and consequences

2

Step One

Step 2 - School Principal

If you would like more information or if you have questions that are beyond the classroom, talk to your school principal. They can help with:

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student suspensions
- Budget and fundraising
- Student registration
- School Council
- Report card concerns
- Student schedules
- Code of Conduct
- Homework and assignments
- Safety and security

3

Step One

Step 3 - School Superintendents

Superintendents are responsible for a Network of Schools.

They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

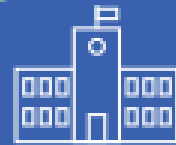
4

Step One

Step 4 - Trustees

Trustees are your elected community officials. They are available to help you with the following areas of the TDSB:

- Concerns about your community
- Collective bargaining
- Ideas and suggestions for the Board
- Board policies under review
- Items on Board Agendas
- Board budget



All TDSB schools and buildings should be welcoming spaces for working and learning.

Visitors to TDSB schools and buildings are expected to treat our staff and everyone within the TDSB community with kindness, dignity and respect. Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

TDSB recognizes the importance of a positive and constructive working relationship with the school community and welcomes feedback. We want to hear your questions and concerns. As per PR739: Promoting Respect in the Workplace, all staff have a responsibility to deal with complaints objectively, fairly, and in a timely way.



Kindness



Dignity



Respect



CONTACT US



Have a question or a concern?
 Please feel free to contact us at **416.396.6170**
 or by email:

Position/ Grade	Staff Name	Email
Office Administrator	Voula Gountas	paraskivoula.gountas@tdsb.on.ca
JKSK – Room 3	Megha Sahijwani	megha.sahijwani@tdsb.on.ca
1/2A – Room 2	Ray Keyes	raymond.keyes@tdsb.on.ca
1/2B – Room 5	Karishma Balani	karishma.balani@tdsb.on.ca
3/4 – Room 6	James Currie	james.currie@tdsb.on.ca
4/5MFI – Room 7	Ami Turay	ami.turay@tdsb.on.ca
5/6 – Room 8	Rajini Kanheswaran- Vasavan (am) Mira Vlahovic (pm)	rajini.kanheswaran@tdsb.on.ca mira.vlahovic@tdsb.on.ca
5/6MFI – Room 12	Freddie Soleimani	fereydoon.soleimani@tdsb.on.ca
7/8 – Room 9	Guillermo Cabrera	guillermo.cabrera@tdsb.on.ca
7/8EF – Room 11	Peter Thompson	peter.thompson@tdsb.on.ca
SERT/Prep	Deanna Georgiou	deanna.georgiou@tdsb.on.ca
FSL Prep (pm)	Rajini Kanheswaran- Vasavan	rajini.kanheswaran@tdsb.on.ca
Prep (pm)	Tasneem Ali	tasneem.ali@tdsb.on.ca
Library (am)	Mira Vlahovic	mira.vlahovic@tdsb.on.ca
SERT/Prep	Sara Bacon	sara.bacon@tdsb.on.ca
DECE	Yibo Hu	yibo.hu@tdsb.on.ca
SNA	Janice Holsmer	janice.holsmer@tdsb.on.ca
SNA (am)	Mallika Asokan	mallika.asokan@tdsb.on.ca
EA (am)	Naghma Ershad	naghma.ershad@tdsb.on.ca
Head Caretaker	Rick Smith	rick.smith@tdsb.on.ca
Principal	Andrea Chisholm	andrea.chisholm@tdsb.on.ca



Cliffside

Public School

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission at Cliffside is to empower all students to reach their full potential and to acquire the knowledge, critical thinking skills and values they need to become responsible members of a democratic society. To accomplish this mission, it is essential that we continue to provide a positive, supportive and safe learning environment where co-operation, personal responsibility and respect are valued and demonstrated.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Our code of conduct outlines our expectations that students will be safe, responsible and respectful members of our school and community. Cliffside students are:

SAFE

- Follow class and school rules (indoors and outdoors)
- Follow health and safety rules
- Keep hands and feet to ourselves

RESPONSIBLE

- Arrive on time and prepared to learn
- Think ahead and make good decisions
- Be helpful to others
- Accept responsibility for our actions

RESPECTFUL

- Follow **The Golden Rule**: Treat others as you wish to be treated
- Be kind, positive, and polite
- Take turns and share
- Respect the beliefs and rights of others

