



Volume I Issue 4

April 2016

**Principal**  
**David Finkelstein**  
**Vice-Principal**  
**Catherine Munro**

**Office Administrator:**  
**Kim Sirett**  
**Office Staff:**  
**Adrienne Laht**

**Guidance:**  
**Claudio Daniele**

**School Council Co-Chairs:**  
**Shannon Wiens,**  
**Grant Daly**  
**Superintendent:**  
**Mike Gallagher**

520 Cosburn Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4J2P1

**Phone:**  
(416) 396-2335

**Fax:**  
(416) 396-2278

**Website:**

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/cosburn>

### Cosburn Winter Activity Day!

Thursday, March 3, 2016 saw 300 students go skiing at Skyloft Ski Resort, 150 students go to Northbeach Volleyball and 100 go to Variety Village! Students were extremely excited about their adventures and teachers couldn't stop talking about what a great day they had! The whole day couldn't have taken place without the hard work of Ms. Solomon, the CAC, Ms. Raffik and all our amazing parent volunteers. You will find some student-written articles in this month's newsletter describing each activity from our students' perspective. Thanks everyone for a great day. What a team!

### Spring @ Cosburn

Spring promises to be busy here at Cosburn as we look towards the end of our school year and begin our preparations for next fall.

**School Organization:** One vital task we have been working on is the organization of classes for next year. Our staffing committee is working on our staffing model, based on the allocation of teachers we have received from the school board. We will present the tentative model at April's meeting of the Parent Council and the Home&School association. This will take place on April 6 at 7 pm in our staffroom. All parents are encouraged to come to this meeting.

Once we have our model set and approved by our superintendent, our next step will be to place students into classes for next fall. Towards the end of April, we will be sending out a letter asking for your input about the type of class placement that would best suit your child for next year.

**EQAO:** Grade 6 students will be writing the EQAO at the beginning of June. In preparation for this, Grade 6 classes will be focusing on targeted literacy and mathematical skills during April and May. Thank you to all those who came out to the parent information night. If you were unable to attend but would like more information, please visit EQAO.com.

### Upcoming Events

- April 6th—Parent Council Mtg @ 7:00
- April 11th—Addressing The Roots of Bullying Parent Workshop @ 7:00
  - April 13th—Pink Day
  - April 15th—PADay
- April 18th—April 22nd—Earth Week @ Cosburn
- April 22nd—Toronto Clean Together @ 2:00
- April 22nd—Immunization Clinic Grade 7 and 8
  - April 22nd—Grade 6 Track & Field
  - April 28th—Talent Show
  - May 5th—Grade 8 Semi Formal

## Winter Activity Day Fun!



## The Best Trip Ever

The ski trip was one of the best school trips I have ever been on. It was very fun spending some quality time with my friends and going down hills. The best time was probably when my friends and I would fall. Because there was fresh snow we all had fun. The instructors were great! They were all over us making sure none of us were injured and they made sure they had everyone so that we could go back down the hill again. My instructor's name was Christie and she was so nice because whenever we fell she made sure we wouldn't tumble down the hill and crash into anyone. I would love to have her again for another time. Skyloft was very organized and had everything under control and that was great for me because it was very easy to find things and do things. There was also a very nice lounge where we could eat our lunch and a place to buy our food. I loved skiing so much that I asked to go skiing for March break and that is exactly what we are did. Overall, I feel that that was the best school field trip and I can't wait to do it again!!!

By: Lucas Grade 7

## From the Library

Congratulations to all students who participated in The Forest of Reading! Enjoy your sense of accomplishment, and make sure that your voice is heard by voting for your favourite book!

Voting will take place the week of April 4th-8th; at this point students will also receive a permission form to attend The Forest of Reading festivals (May 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> depending on the category.) The cost of this trip will be \$5.00 plus 2 subway tickets. There are 50 Red Maple tickets and 100 Silver Birch tickets. Please return your permission forms ASAP to ensure that you get a ticket.

**April is Poetry month**; why not try your hand at some Found Poetry (great for the whole family!) Pinterest has some excellent, creative examples that you can follow. We've decked out the library with some very inspiring poems.

Happy Reading,

Kate Tuff



## From S. Walter Stewart Library

### Get UR Game On!

Date: Tuesdays: April 5, May 24, June 7 & 21

Time: 11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Rated: PG (Teens ages 11-18)

Location: Auditorium

Bring your game face and challenge your friends to X-Box, Wii or a classic board game.

## April is Earth Month @ Cosburn

April has been declared “Earth Month” at Cosburn! We will be holding special events to keep the environment healthy and to become an even better Ecoschool. Thanks to the EcoClub and Mme. Sezer for their leadership!

**Earth Hour:** Our school observed Earth Hour by turning off the lights and all unnecessary power. Every Friday the last period of the day during the month of April, all classes will work to reduce their electricity as much as possible to conserve energy.

**Earth Day and Week:** This year, Earth week will be from Monday April 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Ecoteam asks that all students bring litterless lunches each day. We will be conducting a school wide waste audit on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Our second annual EcoFair in the Atrium will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The EcoFair allows our classes to display their eco-projects and celebrates the learning our students have engaged in this year. On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cosburn students will take part in the TDSB community clean-up. The Ecoteam will conduct a waste audit on April 19<sup>th</sup>. **April 22<sup>nd</sup> will be Earth Spirit Day, wear earth-tones to show your support of our environment.**

**Maintaining the Atrium Grounds:** Every week, Cosburn’s Eco Club members maintain the atrium garden. They water the plants and maintain their healthy habitats. This helps create a healthy learning environment as well.

**School Ground Cleaning/ Preparing for Spring:** At the end of April, Cosburn classes will be outside, planting bulbs in Cosburn’s Garden and maintaining the grounds. Parents who would like to help support the Ecoteam in their clean-up activities are asked to contact Mme. Sezer.

***Simple actions like packing litterless lunches, using green bins and reusable water bottles can make a big difference for the environment and help us achieve our goal of becoming an Eco Platinum School!***

## From the GSA

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Cosburn students in Grade 7 and 8 gathered together to watch an inspirational and thought-provoking play by Roseneath Theatre, called “ Outside” that challenged us all to accept and respect the diversity of our community. The Cosburn Staff used teacher guides to have discussions in class before and after the performance. Please check in with your child to see what they thought about the play and if they have any lingering questions. If they do, and parents are unsure how to respond, please let your child’s teacher know and we will help ensure they are answered.

April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will mark the International Day of Pink. It is a day where communities across the country, and across the world, unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop homophobic, transphobic and all forms of bullying.

The International Day of Pink was started in Nova Scotia when 2 straight high school students saw a gay student wearing a pink shirt being bullied. The 2 students intervened, but wanted to do more to prevent homophobic and transphobic bullying. They decided to purchase pink shirts, and a few days later got everyone at school to arrive wearing pink, standing in solidarity. The result was that an entire school stopped homophobic and transphobic bullying.

The message of the Day of Pink is clear: anyone can bully, anyone can be victimized by bullying, but together we can stop it. Each year on the second Wednesday of April, millions of people wear pink to remember that positive actions make a difference. Change starts with each one of us.

# North Beach Volleyball Visit & Experience!

On March 3rd, 2016 Cosburn Middle school had an activity day, where all of the students had 3 choices to choose where to go to. The choices were North beach Volleyball, Skyloft (skiing/snowboarding) and Variety Village (wheelchair basketball). The reason we had this "activity day" was to get a chance to meet new and different students.

There was an assembly the day before the field trip, and we were separated into our groups. There was at least one teacher to supervise each group and we were put with different Cosburn students from different grades. Our group (Mays & Alisha) wasn't what we expected. We had no friends there, and at first we felt like we were new-comers to the school.

When the day came where we travelled on the bus to North Beach Volleyball. It was a challenge, with all the snow and traffic. The weather was not as great as we hoped, however it was worth going. When we arrived at the place we went to the change rooms and changed into our "Indoor Volleyball outfits." Then the day really began! We rushed on the courts and played in the indoor sand. There were three different places: volleyball, rock climbing and soccer. The amazing thing was all the sand! Talk about sand, there was so much sand we had to be bare footed all day or in our slippers. We had a lot of fun playing and trying out new things and meeting new people. One of the highlights was the teachers vs students game—that was really fun and I mean it! We finally got the chance to interact with our teachers in a different way! New friends, lots of sand and fun! What a great day!

---

by Mays & Alisha



# Cosburn MS

## Daily Announcements

Announcements that are made regarding clubs, sport tryouts, practices, etc. can be found on our school website:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/cosburn>

## Reminder to all Parents

The Cosburn Parking lot is for **Staff only**.

If picking up or dropping off a student, please use the front of the school.

Reminder to community that dogs are not allowed on school property

## Please Join Us! Parent & Caregiver Workshop April 11th @ 7:00

This workshop will engage parents/caregivers in discussions about bullying and cyber bullying, their causes and their impact on a child's learning and academic achievement, attendance and participation in school. Parents/caregivers will come away with knowledge and skills to respond effectively when they witness or hear about bullying and mistreatment.

Sponsored by Cosburn School Council

## Variety Village

I loved my trip to "Variety Village" because I got a chance to experience the challenges of children older or younger than me who are physically and/or mentally disabled. It made me realize how lucky I am to be an everyday person. I especially liked wheelchair basketball because it gave me a new perspective on sports and it was very challenging— just getting the ball to my hands was harder than I thought! The communication station was also great because it gave me the experience to try and communicate with my group without speaking or touching the other objects. In conclusion, my whole day at "Variety Village" was very challenging but so much fun! It gave me a chance to think about all the people who have to live with physical and mental disabilities every single day.

By Shawn Grade 6