

Cosburn Middle School Newsletter

April 2017 Newsletter



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Kim Carreiro

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Welcome

We are pleased to welcome Kim Carreiro to the Cosburn Office as our secretary. Please be sure to take a moment to introduce yourself when you are next in to Cosburn.

Summer School

TDSB is offering a variety of summer school programs. Cosburn will be hosting a program for students currently in middle school and Diefenbaker will be hosting a program for students currently in Kindergarten to Grade 5. Please see the attachments for further details or

www.tdsb.on.ca/summer

Vaccination Clinic

Grade 7 and 8 parents, please note that the dates for the final Toronto Public Health Vaccination Clinic have been changed to June 19th and June 20th.

The Big Picture

Parent Council is proud to present Ann Douglas, parenting author on Wednesday, April 5th at 7 pm in our atrium. We hope many parents are able to attend this session on taking a big-picture approach to parenting. Please see attached flyer for more details.

David Finkelstein, Principal
Catherine Munro, Vice Principal

Screenagers

On Wednesday, March 22, over 250 parents and their kids attended a community viewing of the documentary Screenagers. The film provided a thought-provoking and compelling view on the issues we all are facing with our kids as we adjust to a society that is growing more and more connected to our screens and media devices. When the movie was over, we were guided through a meaningful discussion on the topic. Parents have commented that the discussions did not end that evening and are continuing in our homes!

All parents are invited to visit the Screenagers website at www.screenagersmovie.com for resources to guide discussions at home. When visiting the site, parents are strongly encouraged to sign-up for Tech Talk Tuesdays for a weekly email on the subject. It is a great resource!

If you missed our screening, Westwood Middle School (994 Carlaw Ave) will be showing it on May 25 at 7 pm

Graduation Volunteers Needed

Grade 6 & 7 parent volunteers are needed to help with set-up and clean-up of the graduation reception on June 28th. If you can help with this, please email

Jolie at cosburnhsa@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 5: Parent Council Presents: The Big Picture
- ◆ April 6: Gr. 8 Semi-Formal @ Cyprus Community Ctr 6-10 pm
- ◆ April 14-17: Easter Break
- ◆ April 17-21: Earth Week
- ◆ April 18: Earth Spirit Day
- ◆ April 19: School Council /Home & School Meeting 7 pm
- ◆ April 20: Blue Jays Day
- ◆ June 19 & 20: Public Health -2nd Vaccination Clinic
- ◆ Camp Walden: May 30 - June 2
- ◆ EQAO: Week of May 29
- ◆ Graduation June 28
- ◆ Report Cards go home June 28

Student Absences

If your child is going to be late or absent, please ensure to call our Safe Arrival line (416) 396-2339 by 9 am. Slowly and clearly spell your child's name when leaving the message.

Early dismissals (i.e. appointments) require written notice to be provided to the teacher; otherwise a parent must sign the student out. **For safety reasons phone calls cannot be accepted for dismissals.**

For **extended absences** we ask that you complete the **form attached** and submit to the teacher or the office. The form will also be posted on our website and hard copies are available in the school office.

Art materials

Thank you to all who made donations of materials to the art room. Not only are our students able to make amazing art with them, we are also supporting our Ecoschools goals by reducing, re-purposing and recycling.

At this time we are looking for the following materials which will complement our existing supplies which will expand the art project possibilities:

- old keys
- men's ties
- yarn
- plastic containers (yogurt type 500 ml or larger)
- beads
- cardboard tubes (over 12" long)
- shoe boxes

April is Earth Month at Cosburn

In April we finally welcome spring and celebrate the Earth by holding special events to keep the environment healthy and to become an even better Ecoschool. The Eco Club has already initiated special activities dedicated to a Water Month in March, and we want to continue this throughout the year. We also celebrated the TDSB Earth Hour at school and we turned 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 18th to Friday April 21st. The Ecoteam asks that all students bring litterless lunches each day. We plan to be conducting a school wide waste audit on April 11th. Our second annual EcoFair in the Atrium will take place on April 26th. The EcoFair allows our classes to display their eco-projects and celebrates the learning our students have engaged in this year. On April 21, Cosburn students will take part in the TDSB community clean-up. April 18 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. At the end of April, Cosburn classes will be outside, preparing the grounds for our outdoor gardens. 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 Office

A reminder to parents/caregivers that items that are left in the office for a student must be clearly marked with a name. Students are to take the responsibility of coming to the office to pick up their belongings. We will not be disturbing classes to call students down to the office.

**Safe arrival calls should be made to (416) 396-2339 by 9 am
(messages can be left any time before 9 am)**

The Wonderful World of Sports at Cosburn

Grade 6 Ball Hockey Team:

Back in December our Grade 6 students participated in the Cosburn Ball Hockey League (CBHL) Intramural. The team that won the Cosburn Cup, The Flames, earned the right to participate in our 1st Annual Cosburn Invitational Ball Hockey Tournament (March 28th). Representing our school the team enjoyed the tournament with games against Earl Haig, Bowmore, and North Bridlewood. The team was coached by Grade 8 leaders, Aamir E. and Michael M. Congratulations on a great season! Team members: Darius M., Lauren G., Olivia G., Erin L., Dimitra K., Kiefer A., Maluk B., Evan A., Keenan M., Ryan-Michael H., Chris M., and Patrick M.

Grade 6 Champions League Soccer:

With spring's arrival the Grade 6 Intramural program has moved outside with lunch time **Champions League Soccer** kicking off this past week. Currently ten teams are participating: *Chelsea, Arsenal, Manchester United, Tottenham, Liverpool, Barcelona, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich, Juventus, and Paris St. Germain.* A big 'Thank You' to our neighbours, Diefenbaker E.S., for the use of their beautiful turf field as it has made this early spring house league possible.

Ice Hockey:

Cosburn is slowly transitioning into a hockey hotbed in the South! Not only did our Co-ed team place 3rd in the city but so did our Girls Team!

Training at the University of Toronto under Canadian Olympic Legends and Gold Medalists Vicky S., and Jayna H. The girls entered the TDSB hockey tournament with high expectations. Following a perfect round robin the girls lost in a shootout in the semi final game but recovered and took the bronze with a dramatic 2-0 win. The team was made up of veteran Grade 8s led by captain Maddie B. and goaltender Maria A., budding star sevens and a strong rookie contingent of 6s. The future of girls hockey is looking better than ever.

Grade 7/8 Indoor Cricket Team are Champions!

After participating in the *Scarborough Super Smash* in late January the team, captained by Asad S., continued practising throughout the winter in preparation for the *1st Annual 'March Madness' Indoor Cricket Tournament* on March 31st at L'Amoreaux C.I. At the tournament the team played exceptionally well all day long, defeating MacMillan and Amesbury in the round robin. On the very last ball of the six over tournament championship match Cosburn chased down a target of 43 runs when Aamir E. and Hudson N. ran for an extra single. Congrats to Best Batsman: Fifi M., Best Bowler: Anas S. (spinner), Wicketkeeper: Mathias A., and to the rest of the team on a fantastic day of cricket: Colin Y., Ali A., Ibraheem M., and Jonathan K. Cosburn Cricket will continue throughout the spring as both the Grade 7/8 Boys Team and Grade 7/8 Girls Team look forward to the Mayor's Tournament at Sunnybrook Park.

Blue Jays Field Trip

We know spring has surely arrived when Jose Bautista, Josh Donaldson, and the rest of the Toronto Blue Jays are back in town. With that great news, we look forward to April 20th when over 600 students, teachers, and parents will attend a baseball game between our Jays and the rival Boston Red Sox. It will be a day to sit back and enjoy an afternoon of baseball. While the game starts just after 12 pm, many classes will leave Cosburn at 9 am to participate in a walking tour of parts of downtown Toronto. It's a lot of fun for the students to become tourists in their own city. Since Toronto is such a world-class city, the students will be captivated by its sights and sounds, while at the same time being able to take advantage of the many educational and learning experiences that inevitably occur. From seeing Cosburn's name displayed on the giant scoreboard, to making banners for the prize-winning competition, we are counting the days until we see the Blue Jays at the Rogers Centre.

Greek Heritage Month

Cosburn and Diefenbaker schools were proud to celebrate Greek heritage in our community as March is dedicated to Greek heritage in the TDSB. On March 24th, 2017, Diefenbaker ES and Cosburn MS assembled a Greek Heritage Month Assembly filled with history, music and special guests. The assembly was truly something to celebrate. Hosted by the great M.C.'s Ariana S. and Charlie P, the assembly hosted Executive Superintendent from the TDSB Sandy Spyropoulos, and City Councillor Mary Fragedakis who explained to the students how life was for them at their age growing up Greek. Students from the class of M. Mastorakos' class performed Zorba the Greek, and students from Mme. GL's class performed the traditional Greek dance Tsamiko. Diefenbaker and Cosburn students then gathered together and danced a Kalamatiano which is a traditional Greek dance. A big thank you going out to the organizing committee- Ms. Tafaro, Ms. Vasilopoulos, Maria Ioannou, Soula Sourassis and M. Mastorakos. I will definitely come back and attend this assembly next year! Opa!

By: Alexander A 8FIA

Concours Oratoire

Congratulations to our Cosburn French Speech winners who attended the annual Concours Oratoire on March 27, 2017. Aiden (in Mme Sézer's class) delivered his speech on "Le travail de l'immigrant" with poise and with great conviction. Kyra M (in Mme GL's class) gracefully and convincingly shared her speech on "L'image corporelle féminine et le rôle des médias". Karim N (in Mr Manastirli's) class eloquently and confidently spoke about "L'immigration". You've made Cosburn proud! Félicitations Aiden, Kyra, et Karim!

From Guidance

The TDSB has made Mental Health a priority for our learners and staff. At Cosburn MS, we will be working with students to be more aware about the necessity of good mental health. Mr. Daniele will be working with classes to facilitate Community Circles on the topics of Mental Health; engaging students in discussion and the promotion of healthy choices for young adolescents.

As far as education planning is concerned, Grade 7 students will be working with MyBlueprint.ca to set goals in preparation for Grade 8, and the high school transition process for the upcoming school year. Grade 8 students will continue their work with MyBlueprint, as they will be exploring Career Education topics and emphasizing such skills as resume and letter writing.

As the school year comes to a close, Mr. Daniele will be working with Grade 8 students on how "Reaching Ahead" to accumulate high school credits during summer vacations, is a way of broadening choices and opportunities once they reach Grades 11 and 12. We will also be working on the importance of Volunteerism, Networking, accumulating good references and looking ahead at awards and scholarships.

THE LIBRARY IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Forest of Reading has had another very successful year at Cosburn and the time is coming for students to vote for their favourite books on April 26th. Students who vote will be invited to *The Festival of Trees*, an award ceremony taking place at **Toronto Harbourfront** on **May 14th and 15th**. Ms. Bagli is in need of parent volunteers to help attend and supervise this trip on one, or both dates. Please contact the office if you are interested in volunteering for this fun excursion. Any help is greatly appreciated!

General Reminders

- ◆ Morning Entry Time is 8:50, students MUST be in class by 8:55
- ◆ Lunch is from 11:28 - 12:40, entry is at 12:40, students MUST be in class by 12:45
- ◆ Dismissal is 3:18

ALL VISITORS TO COSBURN, INCLUDING VOLUNTEERS, ARE TO SIGN IN AND OUT @ THE OFFICE.

Cosburn Middle School

Absence Notification

There is no need to call the Safe Arrival phone line to record your child's absence if this form has been submitted

Note: planned absences longer than 5 school days must be communicated well in advance

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

- My child/ren will be absent on the following date(s):

- Returning to school on (date): _____

- Reason (i.e. Religious Holiday/Vacation): _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

RETURN THIS NOTE TO: Cosburn School Office / Teacher