



February 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we look back at the month of January, we want to congratulate the many students that were recognized for demonstrating *Teamwork* at our **Character Assembly** on January 31st. As we move into the month of February, we look forward to focusing on the Character Trait of Fairness.

The month of January also marked **Tamil Heritage Month** which is honoured and celebrated across our school board. Ms. Shergill's class took the opportunity to invite Mr. Vankateswaran from our community to come into the class and share many artifacts, experiences and perspectives of Tamil Culture. The students were delighted to see and listen to a fellow student's grandfather share such information on Tamil Heritage, Language and Culture. "Parents as Partners" is the motto for our School Council and Mr. Vankateswaran truly exemplified that.

Our most recent Family Reading session took place on Wednesday January 18rd with Mrs. Lloyd as our guest reader. Thank you to the many parents and families that were in attendance! We look forward to our next session on February 15th with Mrs. Khandaker as our guest reader! Ms. Minos and I also enjoyed being guest readers in our Parenting Centre this month and would like to thank Ms. Penny for coordinating a wonderful Family Literacy Day event. Enjoying a story with your child is a wonderful way to engage our young learners in Literacy and we encourage parents/guardians to continue supporting Family Reading.

The Crescent Town Maker Space was a very busy place in the month of January as classes researched, designed and built various structures including Animal Habitats, Playgrounds and their very own Robots through Lego We Do software. A big reason for the success of the Maker Space is you the parents and the support you have given our classes as volunteers. We also appreciate the leadership of Ms. Thompson who continues to support students and staff in our ongoing exploration and innovation in the Maker Space.

We also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Nazifa Ahmed (Ms. Soane's class) for her outstanding leadership as an ECO Hero! Whether it is keeping the school yard clean or encouraging her classmates to reduce and recycle, she has been an inspiration to us all. We were pleased to present the ECO Hero Certificate this month to Nazifa and the Gold Trash Can Award to Ms. Soane's class for their ongoing efforts in reducing waste.

We strive each day for **Service Excellence** but are disappointed at the number of students and classes that are not able to enter or leave the building in a safe manner. This is due in large part to some adults that are entering the school before children have gone in with their classes.

Our Kindergarten children are having difficulty getting through hallways as we have parents inside the school blocking their path. We ask for your support in this regard by waiting outside during entry and dismissal periods for the best interests of all students. Thank you for doing your part. *It's truly an honor to serve the students, staff and community at Crescent Town.*

Sincerely,

Harpreet Ghuman



- African Heritage Month
- Black Queering Month
- Chinese Heritage Month

- 1 Imbolc* Wicca/Pagan
- 1 Vasant Panchami** Hinduism
- 3 Setsubun-sai** Shinto
- 6 International Day of Zero Tolerance on Female WHO Genital Cutting/Mutilation
- 6 Bob Marley's Earth Day Rastafari
- 12-17 Sexual and Reproductive Health Awareness Action Canada for Week Sexual Health & Rights
- 14 Day Promoting Rights to Sexual Health Education and Sexual Health Care for Youth International Rights
- 15 Buddha's Death –Nirvana/Day of Miracles)** Buddhism
- 15 Meeting of Our Lord Orthodox Russian
- 17 P.A. Day for Parent Interviews
- 20 Family Day Ontario Public Holiday – No School
- 20 World Day of Social Justice UN
- 21 International Mother Language Day UN
- 24 Maha Shivaratri Hinduism
- 25-27 Intercalary Days Baha'i
- 27 Clean Monday Eastern Orthodox Christianity
- 27 Losar - Tibetan New Year Tibetan

Crescent Town Elementary School

Proud to be a Gold Eco-School

4 Massey Square, Toronto, Ontario M4C 5M9
T:416.396.2340 F:416.396.2903

Harpreet Ghuman, Principal
Peppi Kondilis-Minos, Vice-Principal
Rumana Islam, Settlement Worker
Lucy Giannotta, Superintendent
Sheila Cary-Meagher, Trustee
Sandip Dhakecha, Parent Council Chair
Email: CrescentTown@tdsb.on.ca

School website: <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/crescenttown/>

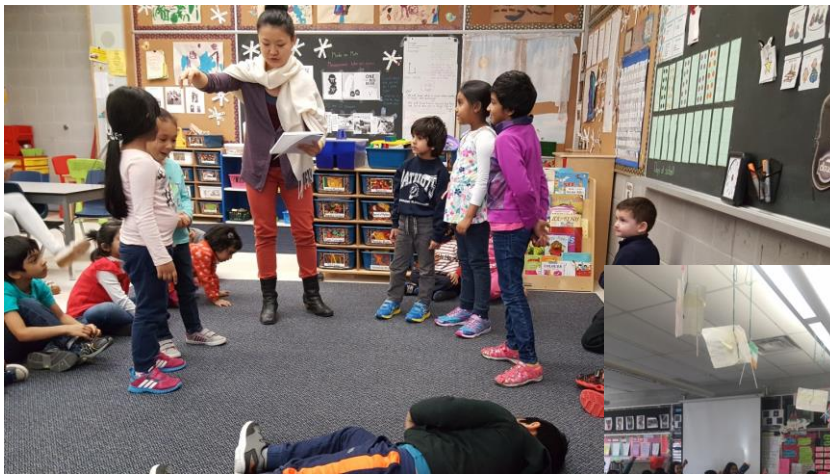
School Green Team Blog: <http://kidblog.org/CrescentTownGreenTeam/>

Parent website: <http://www.crescenttownschool.com/>

Toronto District School Board Website: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca>

Theatre Direct at Crescent Town

The Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes have been enjoying drama workshops and performances from Theatre Direct, an organization that focuses on Theatre experiences for young people. An actor came to visit each class for one week. Each student got a chance to share a story with the actor and have the story dramatized in class. The actor reads the story and students got to play the different parts to make the story come to life. Children were able to use their imaginations to express their stories and make characters meaningful. The learning about the elements of a story: plot (beginning, middle and end), characters (who is in the story) and setting (where the story takes place). Students also enjoyed drama activities led by the actors, such as moving their bodies from low to high while also sounding out letter sounds in a low to high tone. On the last week of January, the actors presented a play called Lost and Found, where they used items such as scarves, mittens and umbrellas to make puppets in their show. The students very much enjoyed the play and showed their enthusiasm with a lot of laughs and applause at the end. The Crescent Town teachers were proud to see students being respectful audience members.



Theatre Direct engages Crescent Town students!!

Family Math at Crescent Town

A BIG thank-you to all the families who participated in January's Family Math activity. We had so many great responses. The winner was Irisha in Ms. Sirizzotti's Grade 3 class. Congratulation! February's question is posted on the bulletin board outside the office. Please remember to write your NAME and your teacher's NAME or ROOM Number on your work. There's always time for a little extra math Crescent Town!!



Supporting Student Success!

A presentation for all interested parents and caregivers about family activities that will help to develop active, strong and smart learners.

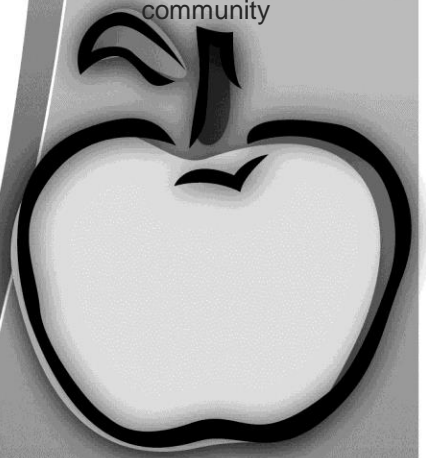
When: Tuesday, February 28, 2017
from 2-3:10pm

Where: The Crescent Town Library
Who: Salwa Mohiuddin Crescent Town's Speech and Language Pathologist, Ryerson Student nurses Tiffany and Magitha, Ms Traikoff and Ms Kurita

Kindergarten is exciting!!



STEM in Rm 122B STEM project on Bridges in our community



Lunar New Year celebration in room 122B

Parent Information



February is Chinese Heritage Month

The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize February as Chinese Heritage Month for the first time. During this month, we celebrate the energetic culture and traditions of the Chinese community with students, staff and community members.

The Chinese community is integral to the growth and success of the City of Toronto and Canada. Members of the Chinese community represent approximately 10 percent of the total GTA population and forms its second largest visible minority group. As we celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary this year, Canadians remember and appreciate the Chinese workers who helped build the Canadian Pacific Railway that united our country.

Chinese-Canadians will recognize the Lunar New Year starting on January 28 and will continue with celebrations throughout the month of February.

February is Kindergarten Registration Month

Kindergarten is the first step in a lifelong journey that will see your child learn, grow, and succeed at the Toronto District School Board. At the TDSB, we know early learners learn best through doing; so our four and five year olds are introduced to math and science through play as part of k-12 STEM programming. To inspire a love for learning, kindergarten classrooms are bustling with inquiry and exploration through science activities, math games, art projects and more. Visit your local school during February to register.

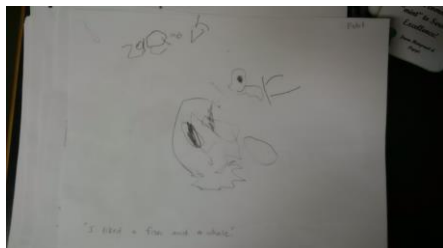
To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four-years-old by December 31. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five-years-old by December 31.

All of our schools now offer Full-Day Kindergarten where students will attend Kindergarten for the entire school day. This includes a morning and afternoon schedule and a lunch break. Visit the Kindergarten website to learn more about this program and learn how to prepare your child for school.

The Firefly Project

For two weeks Theatre Direct have worked with the grade 1 and 2 classes on a drama and storytelling project. The children have gained valuable experience using their bodies and faces to act out emotions and stories. They have each told their own story to an adult, illustrated the story and then had the class act out the story. It has been a wonderful experience.

This week the drama teachers gave each class a puppet workshop and then put on a puppet show using articles of clothing (hats, mitts, a scarf and a coat). My class was mesmerized. The next day when we talked about the puppet show the children were excited to share their favourite part of the puppet show. They drew pictures, dictated sentences and wrote about the puppet show. Here are a few samples of their work.



Wonderful students learning together in Rm 122B.



Room 122B

**Celebrating Diversity and
Shades of Me in honour of MLK day.**

February 20 is a Statutory Holiday

There will be no classes on Monday, February 20, 2017 to reflect the province-wide statutory holiday called Family Day. The holiday occurs on the third Monday in February of each year for the purpose of emphasizing and celebrating the importance of families taking time to be together.

Because teachers are involved in professional learning on Friday, February 17 for the Board-wide Professional Activity Day, students will not be attending school on Friday, February 17 and Monday, February 20 which is the statutory holiday - Family Day.

Visit the TDSB public web site at www.tdsb.on.ca to view the school year calendar.

iwalk Feb 1/ 2017

Winter i-walk is a great way to remind students about safe travels to and from school, as well as physical activity. Our Crescent Town students engaged in a walking circuit this year through the school yard. Upon completion they received hot cocoa and an iwalk sticker. Well done Crescent Town!!! Go green!



From the Art Room

In January, the grade two students have been learning about what makes them unique and special. They created many painted papers using watercolours, pastels, crayons, metallics, and poems. They used special family photos to create a collage representing who they are as individuals. The pictures attached are from Souhayla, Shabir and Lahana in Ms. Sayeed's class.



Eco Hero for
February is.....
Nazifa Ahmed

who has collected
garbage from our
playspace 32 times!!!



Art Room (continued)

Students in the art room used found materials and recycle as much as they can to ensure we are not wasting art materials. As you probably know, art materials are expensive. Students sketch their thumbnail designs on G.O.O.S. (Good On One Side) paper to ensure all the paper that is used is maximized. Yogurt containers are used for painting containers, newspaper and magazine clippings can be used as part of the collage work that students are creating. We can't wait to see the final work on display. This is when Crescent Town's community comes alive with an integrative display so everyone can walk by and see it. Stay tuned. There is a lot coming up at Crescent Town.