



June 2017

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians:

May was certainly one of the busiest months this year and featured in this newsletter are just some of the exciting highlights. I'd like to begin by congratulating all of our students that were recognized at this **month's Character Assembly** for demonstrating Integrity! We are very proud of each and every one of you.

The International Language Classes Celebration also took place this month highlighted rich linguistic diversity and learning. Events such as this are a great example of honoring student and community voices. Crescent Town's **Track Team** proudly represented the school at a recent competition held at Birchmount Stadium while our students in the **Hammer band** (Violin) performed at Fairglens P.S. These moments give us such great pride as we watch our students shine. We want to thank all of you that support the children and guide them along these different paths.

A definite stand out event was our **STEM Showcase** which took place on May 10<sup>th</sup> and was a culmination of our school wide STEM challenge. We were truly amazed at such an incredible turn out for this evening and thank you for your tremendous support. Thank you to our staff and students for their ongoing for work over the past months in leading up to this showcase. Some of the families in attendance commented on their amazement in both the design and construction phases of the work and were most proud of our young Crescent Town engineers.

Crescent Town students continued to work extremely hard in support of the **Heart and Stroke Foundation** and raised a record amount of over **\$2500.00!** This is way over our goal of \$1000.00 and we appreciate your generous support of this initiative. Thank you to Ms. Lunan for her continued advocacy and leadership.

Our **ESL** team celebrated with students and parents a unique Book Launch on May 23<sup>rd</sup> for "Our Newcomer Letters From Canada". Written to their loved ones back in their native country, students share reflections of their journey to Canada as well as memories of what they have left behind. Thank you to our ESL Teacher for supporting the students in coordinating such a wonderful project. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> book published by our ESL Team!

The **Community Fair** took place on May 24<sup>th</sup> and was a most festive time for the many families in attendance. Ms. Rumana who has been coordinating this event for many years was once again able to bring together local community vendors, organizations, artists and small businesses to celebrate with the community.

A very special **Girls' Club** Mother and Daughter Dinner and Celebration was held on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all of our staff involved in coordinating the Girls' Club this year and providing a unique dinner which enabled students, parents and staff to enjoy a warm meal celebrate a year of reflection, positive self-image and supportive friendships.

We were pleased to recognize our amazing **Volunteers** on May 26<sup>th</sup> during a special breakfast ceremony and wish to thank them again for their commitment and dedication to the school. Each

Finally, we wish to congratulate our Grade 3 students for persevering through **EQAO** Testing and putting their best efforts forward. The students shared with me how prepared they felt on this journey and this really speaks to your support as parents and to their wonderful teachers. This can only result in the success of our students.

It's truly an honor to serve the students, staff and community at Crescent Town.

Sincerely,

*Harpreet Ghuman*



- **Italian Heritage Month**
- **Portuguese Speaking Heritage Month**
- **PRIDE Month**

- 1 | Intergenerational Day Toronto
- Intergenerational Partnerships (TIGP)
- 1 | Jun- 2 July LGBTTQI2S Pride Month (Toronto) Toronto Pride
- 4 | Pentecost Judaism, Eastern Orthodox & Western Christian
- 5 | World Environment Day UN
- 9 | P. A. Day - No school
- 12 | World Day Against Child Labour Day UN
- 16 | Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Ji Sikhism
- 17 | World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought UN
- 20 | World Refugee Day UN
- 21 | National Aboriginal Day (Canada) First Nations, Métis, Inuit
- 21 | Lailat al Qadr Islam
- 21 | **Litha/Summer Solstice\* Wicca/Pagan**
- 23 | Jumu'ahtul Wida Islam
- 24 | St. Jean Baptiste Day Quebec and Francophone Culture
- 25 | **Eid al Fitr\* \*\* Islam**
- 26 International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking UN
- 26| International Day in Support of Victims of Torture UN
- 27 | Grade 4 Farewell Ceremony
- 28 | Report Cards go home
- 29 | Last day of school
- 30| P.A. Day - No school
- July 1 | Canada Day Public Holiday

## Crescent Town Elementary School

*Proud to be a Gold Eco-School*

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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>

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](mailto:CrescentTown@tdsb.on.ca)



## **Girls Club Celebration**

Girls Gala was an incredible tribute to our Crescent Town girls. Our special girls were honoured Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 5-6:30 in the library.

The girls enjoyed a beautiful dinner that consisted of pizza, salad, spanakopita (Greek spinach and feta pie), samosas, fruit and cupcakes. The girls decided on the menu and our staff worked hard to make sure it came to life.

Ms. Lendor sold popcorn to raise some money for the girls' dinner. Thanks Ms. Lendor!!!! The girls came with their mothers as their significant women in their lives, to celebrate and hear Raisa speak from International Girl.

Finally their artwork, which is sooo beautiful is on display in the hallway upstairs in the Crescent Town school.

We wanted to share with everyone the great advocacy for girls and the seriousness of the issues that face them. Everyone needs to do their part to ensure that girls equal rights, health, education and so more are upheld.



Ayda and Raafe are working on their collage projects which were inspired by the work of Charlie Harper.



Sprihaa is putting the finishing touches on her Op Art. The grade 3 students learned how to create art with optical illusions.





**Excerpts of work written by ESL students in Ms. Hasan's class**

**June is Italian Heritage Month at the TDSB**

"We cannot teach people anything; we can only help them discover it within themselves."

~ Galileo Galilei

The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize June as Italian Heritage Month. In June 2010, the Province passed the Italian Heritage Month Act, recognizing "the important contributions immigrants have made in building Ontario's communities and the economic, political, social and cultural achievements of Italian Canadians throughout the province. Italian Canadian immigrants have played a prominent role in supporting Canada's post-war boom and Toronto's emergence as a diverse, vibrant world-class city.

During this month we celebrate the spirited culture and traditions of the Italian community with students, staff and community members of the Toronto District School Board and province of Ontario. Events are scheduled throughout Toronto to recognize the Italian heritage and below are three for your reference:

Evening of Italian Culture – June 1, 2017

Italian Contemporary Film Festival – June 8 – 16, 2017

Taste of Little Italy – June 16 – 18, 2017

To find out about Italian Heritage Month events throughout the city, visit [www.italianheritagecanada.com](http://www.italianheritagecanada.com).

**Arts in the Parks: Free Arts Events in a Toronto Park Near You**

Toronto has become an international summer hotspot as our city buzzes with energy and culture during those blissful summer days and nights. For a second year, Toronto will be coming alive as never before with an exciting new initiative called Arts in the Parks. Think music, theatre and dance ... think film, arts installations and performance. Everywhere throughout the city from Etobicoke to Scarborough and North York to the downtown core. All of it completely family-friendly and free! It's the biggest, most inclusive arts initiative that Toronto has ever seen. Visit [www.artsintheparksTO.org](http://www.artsintheparksTO.org) for full events listings, dates and details.

**Sun Safe Behaviour**

Getting students outside and active is good for their health but too much sun can have serious side-effects, including burns, eye damage, premature aging of the skin and skin cancer. We encourage all students to practice "sun safety."

What exactly does sun safe behaviour look like?

- Cover up: Even on days with a moderate UV index students should wear a hat and sunglasses, especially if they'll be outside for over 30 minutes.
- Stay cool: Students should stay in shady areas, particularly at midday when the sun is strongest.
- Use sunscreen: Choose sunscreens with SPF 15 or higher that include protection from both UVA and UVB rays.

Date: Feb.20, 2017

Dear Nanu (maternal grandma),

I remember when I left Bangladesh. You came to the airport to say goodbye.

When I went on the plane, I felt sad for you. When I landed in Toronto, I missed you a lot. I was making a picture of you in my mind to remember you.

In Canada it is different. I like to visit many different places like Zoo, Niagara Falls, Royal Ontario Museum and Ripley's Aquarium.

I don't like when people bully others.

I miss Nanu, Nana (maternal grandpa), other grandparents, my old school, my friends and my favourite treat like coco.

From

Faiza

Date: Feb.20, 2017

Dear grandpa,

I remember when I left Syria. You used to take me for a walk, and bought many toys for me.

When I went on the plane, I felt like crying. When we landed, we were happy.

In Canada, it is different. I like Canada. I like the house, the dogs, the school, the teachers and the friends.

I don't like that I can't speak English very well.

I miss my house and my aunts.

From Mahmoud

Scribed and translated

## **June is Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month at the TDSB**

“Words were not given to man in order to conceal his thoughts.”  
~ Jose Saramago, Writer

The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize June as Portuguese-speaking Heritage Month. During this month, the TDSB's Portuguese-speaking communities are provided with opportunities to share their vibrant culture and traditions and also gain a better understanding of the Portuguese-speaking diaspora.

The contributions of the Portuguese-speaking community to Canada's history are vast as it includes the arts, sports, medicine and public life.

- 250 million Portuguese speakers worldwide, making it the fifth-most spoken language
- More than 1,400 TDSB students speak Portuguese as their mother tongue or as a primary language
- Portuguese is the official language of eight countries: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome & Principe and East Timor
- While the Archipelago of the Azores and the Archipelago of Madeira are a part of Portugal, they are simultaneously Autonomous regions which share in the Portuguese language
- As well, due to historic ties, various regions of the world including Macau, China and Goa and Damao, India, celebrate their Portuguese influences

Events are being planned through the City of Toronto to recognize the Portuguese-speaking heritage including the Portuguese Parade on Saturday, June 10 from 11 am to 1 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and join the team participating from the TDSB.

### **Elementary Summer School**

Elementary summer programs increase engagement and build self-confidence in our students. This summer, from July 5 – 28, we are opening schools across the city to help build reading, writing and math skills in students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. Visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/summer](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/summer) for a complete list of participating schools. @TDSB\_ConEd



***Have a  
fantastic  
summer!***



Pride Month in Toronto will be hosting on the streets of Toronto, a 35 year old gathering that initiated as a protest that has become a parade...embracing a respect for right, but also for people.

The origins of Pride actually go back even further: in 1971 a Gay Day Picnic was held at Hanlan's Point; Toronto's first Pride Week was commemorated one year later.

Mayor Tory was joined by City Councillors, leaders from Pride Toronto, and more than a dozen council colleagues, and excited members of the public to announce Pride Month.

"This June, everyone is at home in Toronto," Aaron GlynWilliams, co-chair of Pride Toronto's board of directors, told the assembled crowd. GlynWilliams also made some frank comments about relations between the LGBT and other communities, saying that "our community can be especially discriminating along intersections of race, gender identity, and age," and pledging that Pride was putting an emphasis on bridging those divides.

Black Lives Matter activists will help lead the Pride parade this year. Many of the major cultural institutions in Toronto will also be taking part in Pride Month, including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Art Gallery of Ontario, TIFF, and the Royal Ontario Museum.

- Excerpt from Toronto Star