



March 2017

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This past month's Character Trait Focus enabled classes to engage in conversations of Fairness and we congratulate all of our students that were recognized by staff. At our Character Assembly on February 28<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Cooke's class treated us to an incredible display of Drama and Dance that honoured African Heritage while Ms. Shergill's students took the opportunity to teach us of Black Canadians that have contributed significantly to the nation's Mosaic. Thank you teachers for all that you do to discuss and nurture a strong sense of character among our young learners.

For this month's Family Reading session, Ms. Khandaker offered students a choice of books through use of the Library Smartboard. This enabled students to use technology and express their interest in Reading Selections. Little Red Riding Hood Ninja was the eventual choice of students which was a perfect complement as we head into our school wide STEM challenge in the coming weeks. We'd like to thank Ms. Khandaker for this highly engaging session and we look forward to our next session on March 22nd with Mrs. Armbrust as our guest reader!

Our second in a series of Parent Workshops explored both Mental Health and Wellness and Speech and Language acquisition. We want to thank Magitha and Tiffany our Nursing Students for leading hands on activities and dialogue around the stigma of mental health and highlighting prominent figures in their fight with well-being. Salwa Mohiuddin from our School Support Team provided parents a variety of examples in which children can be engaged in daily real life experiences to support language acquisition. A big thank you to Ms. Kurita and Ms. Traikoff for all their hard work in coordinating our ongoing Parent Workshops.

Many days and weeks of teaching and learning in honour of International Mother Language Day culminated into a most memorable concert. From our wonderful student MCs, to individual and group performances that covered, poetry, drama, vocal, dance and instrumental compositions, we were all treated to a truly inspiring concert. Most significant is the sense of individual growth and pride our students demonstrated to us. Such events are a great tribute to Canadian and TDSB values of Equity and Inclusion. The many cultures and languages across Canada contribute to its rich Mosaic and such platforms enable us to celebrate their significance. We'd like to thank the many parents for their support with the concert and our staff from the ESL team in all their hard work to coordinate such a wonderful event.

We are pleased to see many of our Grade 1 and 2 students participating in our Mad Science Program which runs each Monday at Lunch. Students have explored different themes and areas of focus each week from Magnets and Energy to Chemistry! The high level of interest in the program has led to a 2nd session entitled "Brixology" which will be running in the Spring with a focus on Lego integration and building.

Thank you parents for all that you do each day in support of the many events and activities that take place our school. You play such a critical role in our collective efforts and success.

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

Sincerely,

*Harpreet Ghuman*



#### - Greek Heritage Month

1 Ash Wednesday  
8 International Women's and United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace  
9 Big Crunch Event  
9 Pizza Lunch  
**12 Purim**  
**11-12 Magha Puja Day/Latern 14 Festival**  
13 Holi\*  
13 L. Ron Hubbard's Birthday  
13-17 March Break – No School  
**14 Sikh New Year**  
16 Kuan Yin Birthday (Guan Yin)  
19 Holy Cross Day  
20 Eid-e-Navroz (New Year Holy Day)  
**20 Ostara\*/Lady Day (Spring Equinox)**  
20 Spring Ohigan  
**21 Naruz (Persian New Year)**  
21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination  
22 World Water Day  
22 Recycling Presentations in Library  
23 EQAO Information Night 6-7pm (Gr3)  
24 Hola Mohalla  
24 TDSB Earth Hour 2-3 pm  
25 The Annunciation  
25 Toronto Earth Hour 8:30-9:30pm  
26 Prophet Asho Zarhosht's Birthday  
28 Saka New Year (Nyepi)  
28 Grade 3 Concert 6-7pm  
29 Hinduism New Year (Ugandi)  
30 Parent Council Meeting 6-7pm

## Crescent Town Elementary School

*Proud to be a Gold Eco-School*

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Lucy Giannotta, Superintendent  
Sheila Cary-Meagher, Trustee  
Sandip Dhakecha, Parent Council Chair  
Email: [CrescentTown@tdsb.on.ca](mailto: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>

### International Mother Language Celebration



Last week the students from ESL classes celebrated International Mother Language Day. They performed rhymes, songs, and dances in different languages. The languages were Urdu, Bengali, Telegu, Nepali and Arabic. International Mother Language Day is observed every year on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. United Nations declared 21 February as International Mother Language Day.

### Pyjama Day at Crescent Town

We had our very first PJ Day at Crescent Town. It was a great day of fun as we supported everyone's Mental Health and comfort level.

### Valentine-o-grams and Jelly Bean Contest



We had 4 winners to the Jelly Bean contest. Our closest ballots were 700 for the jelly bean count of 701. We had to split the jar in four ways and it was fun to share the candy!!

### Family Math at Crescent Town

Congratulations Crescent Town! February is over and we received so many amazing responses for Family Math. The winner of this month's prize is Munzir from Ms. Caleb's room. Way to go! The March question is now available on the bulletin board outside the office. Don't forget to get yours. Completed questions may be dropped off in the library.

### Kindergarten students reading at Crescent Town!

Ms. Zaman's Senior Kindergarten Students showcased their hard work and amazing reading skills during their 'Celebration of Reading' on March 3. Senior parents were invited to join their child in an afternoon of reading, giving their child the opportunity to them!! All parents had to do is sit back and enjoy as their child read to them all the books they have learned to read so far this year! Fantastic reading, Senior boys and girls! You have much to celebrate and be proud of!







## **Parents as Partners Conference**

You're invited to our annual Parents as Partners Conference! Registration is open.

The Parents as Partners Conference 2017 is on Saturday, April 1 and all parents are welcome!

This free conference – planned by parents, for parents – includes a variety of workshops and resources that will help any parent support their child in their achievement and well-being at school and at home.

Keynote speakers include John Malloy, Director of Education at the TDSB, and Itah Sadu, an award-winning storyteller and author.

Transportation, childcare, lunch and translators are all provided.

[www.parentsaspartners.ca](http://www.parentsaspartners.ca)

## **Continuing Education – Summer Music Camps**

Enrich your child's summer vacation with music camp. Through three unique programs – Summer Sounds, DownTown Summer Strings and Toronto Summer Music Camps – the TDSB offers band, strings and orchestral experiences for students from Grades 3-9. Registration is open now.

For more information please visit [@TDSB\\_ConEd](http://www.tdsbsummercamps.ca)

## **From the Art Room....**



Areed, Debraj and Shahir are finishing up their collage in the Art Room. The grade 3 students have been learning how to make collages to represent their Crescent Town community.

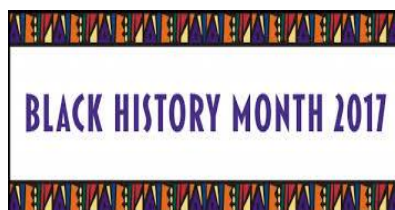


## **Parent Workshops offered at CT! Supporting Student Success!**

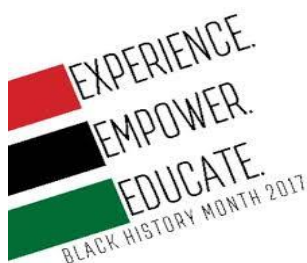
On Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> a workshop presented by Salwa Mohiuddin, Crescent Town's Speech and Language Specialist Pathologist and Ryerson Student Nurses, Tiffany and Magitha, was well attended by our Crescent Town Community. A wealth of information was shared about using everyday routines to develop children's communication and literacy skills, as well as ways to

support families' well being and good health. Thank to all of those who could come and we look forward to providing the Crescent Town Community with ongoing workshops on areas of interest.

## **Black History Month Presentations in the Library**



As February was African-Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board, students from Ms. Shergill's class presented a power point presentation related to Black-Canadian history. Our young speakers engaged students from different classes and highlighted Black-Canadians who participated in the struggle for equality in our country. It was so inspiring to see these young learners speak about racism and the ongoing struggles related to discrimination that different racialized individuals faced and still continue to do so. Our Grade Two speakers demonstrated bravery, teamwork and leadership skills - way to go!!! It is never too early to engage children to think critically about equity and courageous conversations.





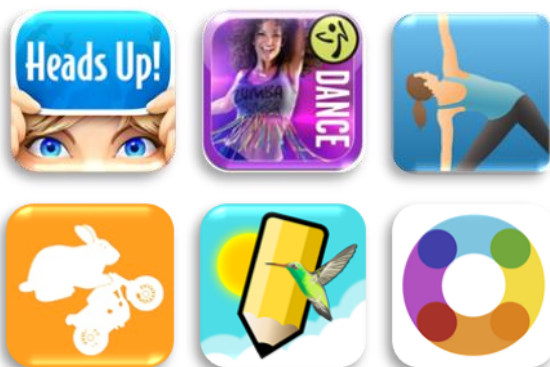
## National Sweater Day

We turned the heat down and asked all the students and staff to wear sweaters for the day. This was all in effort to conserve energy and do our part to be good stewards of the environment. The kids really liked wearing their different sweaters through the day too.



## Well-being Section on Stigma

During the February parent council meeting the nursing students hosted a workshop on **stigma** towards mental and medical illness. They talked about how **stigma** can affect a person just as much as their condition and gave examples of famous celebrities around the world. Parents also learned about stress and ways to manage it as well as, methods to spend more time with their children such as doing puzzles, yoga, cooking together and having movie or game nights. Some iTunes Apps you can look into are **Heads Up**, **Pocket Yoga**, **Zumba Dance**, **VEGGI RIDER-healthy eating for kids**, **Draw Something** and **Tayasui Colour-a relaxing colouring book for adults**. They also provided information about services available within the community such as Crescent Town Club.



## **Answer the following for a chance to WIN \$25 iTunes Gift Card!**

*What techniques do you use as a family to help reduce stress?*

Write down your answer on a piece of paper and put it in the box near the front office by **March 8**.

The winner will be announced on **March 10!**

## **TDSB Earth Hour 2017 - Friday, March 24th from 2-3pm**

During Earth Hour, we'll be using as little electricity as possible in the office, halls, classrooms, library, gym, cafeteria. Where possible, schools will also be reducing their electricity usage over the weekend.

More information is available on the EcoSchools website -  
<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ecoschools/Home/ResourcesandGuides/EarthHour.aspx>

## **Nominate Someone for an Excellence Award!**

Staff at the Toronto District School Board are among the most dedicated and qualified in Canada. Every day, nearly 39,000 professionals support our students and help them achieve their very best.

We want to recognize those staff who go above and beyond every day in support of students, staff, parents and the community. The Excellence Awards is our opportunity to honour and celebrate outstanding TDSB individuals and programs.

We invite you – staff, students, parents, community members – to nominate a TDSB staff member or team who work has made a difference in your life or the lives of those around you for an Excellence Award.

Ready to nominate? To start, you need to gather two letters of reference and one statement of recognition. The statement of recognition is an opportunity to deepen the nomination and can be written by the nominator. Then, you can complete the online nomination form.

The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 4 p.m.

All nominees will receive a personalized letter congratulating them on their nomination as well as informing them of those who contributed to the nomination. The winners are additionally celebrated at an awards ceremony in May.

[www.tdsb.on.ca/excellence](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/excellence)