



September 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We hope that the summer break was a most relaxing and memorable one for you and your families. We are extremely excited about the upcoming school year 2016-2017 and look forward to **collaborating** with you in supporting the growth and success of *all* students. While this letter contains some important updates below we encourage you to continue accessing school information whether it be through monthly Newsletters, Twitter, our school Website and various other mediums.

Firstly I'd like to acknowledge the passing of our dear **Mrs. Teuscher-Ozdundar** who passed away this summer. She contributed a great deal to the Crescent Town community through her role as an Early Childhood Educator and positively impacted the lives of students, staff and parents. In honour of Mrs. Teuscher-Ozdundar, school staff will be coordinating efforts to place a **Memorial Bench** in our school yard. While her passing may have been a time of sadness for all that knew her, it is our hope that the bench will be a source of comfort, warmth and reflection.

As **construction** is in progress to various areas of the school we'd like to share some **important** safety protocols which will be in place during this time. Please note all of our **Kindergarten Classes** will **enter/exit** through our **Main Doors** while the FDK Playground is being worked on. As a result of this, all **Grade 2 classes** will now **enter/exit** from the **Lower Pavement Doors**. Also, we'd like to inform you that while the new **Front (Victoria Park) Walkway** to the school is paved and open for use, there are some areas of the hill that will be fenced off for ongoing Agricultural work. The lower field and pavement area will be open for play and we look forward to completion of the entire project in the coming months. Please contact me anytime if you have any questions regarding construction at the school.

Finally I'd like to thank parents in advance for your support in completing the important package of forms that you received with this letter. Having the most updated and accurate information on our students is critical to ensure their safety and appropriate care at all times. Please **review** and **complete** the various **forms** (e.g. Medical, Emergency Contact, Media Release, etc.,) and **return** the package to your child's teacher.

It is an honour to serve the students, staff and parents of the Crescent Town community and I wish you all a rewarding school year ahead!

Sincerely,

Harpreet Ghuman

Principal

Crescent Town P.S. 416-396-2340 Ext. 20010



Calendar of Events

International Languages Elementary Fall Registration Dates -
Thursday September 15
First Day of Classes - September 22

- Sept 1| Installation of the Holy Scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib Sikhism
- 5 | Ganesh Chaturthi Hinduism
- 5 | **Labour Day Canadian Public Holiday**
- 6-15 | Samvatsari – Parva Jain
- 8 | International Day for Literacy UN
- 9-14 | **Waqf al Arafa (Hajj)* ** Islam**
- 11 | Coptic New Year Orthodox Egyptian
- 11 | Ethiopian New Year Rastafari
- 11 | **Eid al Adha** Islam**
- 12-23 | **Caring and Safe Schools Week**
- 15 | Anant Chaturdashi Jain
- 15 | Daslakshan Parva Jain
- 15 | International Day of Democracy UN
- 15 | Kshamvaani (Forgiveness Day) Jain
- 18 | Fall Ohigon (Japanese) Buddhism
- 19 | Powley Day First Nations, Métis
- 21 | Eid ul Ghadeer Islam
- 21 | International Day of Peace UN
- 22 | Mabon* Wicca/Pagan
- 26-30 | LGBTTQI2S Ally Week YMCA
- 26 | National Tree Day & National Forest Week
- 27 | Elevation of the Cross Orthodox Christianity
- 30 | Orange Shirt Day First Nations, Métis, Inuit



Crescent Town Elementary School

Proud to be a Gold Eco-School

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Harpreet Ghuman , Principal
Peppi Kondilis-Minos, Vice-Principal
Rumana Islam, Settlement Worker
Lucy Giannotta, Superintendent
Sheila Cary-Meagher, Trustee
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>

Continuing Education - Learn English with Us

Adults can build literacy and English language skills for FREE for eligible learners. Learn about your community and the services available. We offer a wide range of classes from beginner to advanced to help you improve your conversation skills, further your education, and prepare for citizenship and language proficiency tests.

Registration opens the week of August 29 and is ongoing. For more information visit www.ESLtoronto.ca or call 416-338-4300. @TDSB_ConEd

Caring and Safe Schools Week September 12–23

This year, September 12-23 are Caring and Safe Schools Weeks 2016. During this time we focus on caring and safe school initiatives and also promoting and celebrating the outstanding partnerships and programs that promote harmony and respect in our schools.

During Caring and Safe Schools Weeks, we focus on Promoting a Positive School Climate, reiterating the Board's support of bullying prevention and intervention practices and promoting the activities of our Caring, Safe and Accepting Schools Teams. At our school Crescent Town Elementary School.

This is also the time of the year where we remind parents to make sure they have up to date contact information on file at their child's school. One measure of keeping students safe is ensuring students have safely arrived at school. If your child is going to be late or absent for any reason, it is important that you contact the office immediately and report the reason for the absence. At the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) we now have an automated call-out system that will attempt to contact you if your child is late or absent on the day where the school was not previously informed.

All of us have a part to play in making and keeping schools safe. By working together, we can provide learning environments that are caring, safe, healthy, accepting, respectful and inclusive, where students can acquire the knowledge, skills and values they need to become responsible members of their communities.

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Visit www.adultschoolstoronto.ca for more information. @TDSB_ConEd

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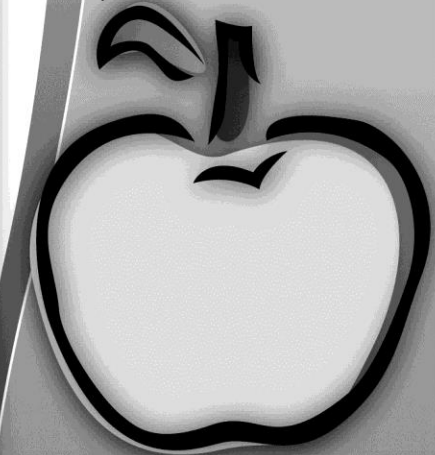
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Anaphylaxis – Taking the Necessary Precautions

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be life threatening. This medical condition can cause a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although foods such as peanuts, milk, eggs, and sesame seeds are the most common cause of anaphylaxis, insect stings, medicine, or latex can also cause a reaction. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. The TDSB is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and works with Toronto Public Health and other partners to ensure the successful implementation of Sabrina's Law, which came into effect on January 1, 2006.

Everything You Need to Know

The beginning of school can be an exciting and overwhelming time – for both parents and students. But we're here to help make the transition as smooth as possible and provide all the information you need to know to get started on the right foot. We have created a one-stop resource page full of back-to-school information, including the school year calendar, where to go when you need help, how to get involved and great homework tips for both elementary and secondary students.



As a parent or guardian, there are many ways to be involved in your child's education, such as participating in field trips, engaging them about their school experiences, reviewing homework, joining the school council and attending parent teacher interviews and school events. To learn more about school councils and parent involvement on a Board-wide basis, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/howtogetinvolved. Being in the know about the TDSB is also an important part of that and we are committed to keeping in touch with you through regular webcasts and web chats, ward forums and social media, including Twitter and Instagram. Visit www.tdsb.on.ca often to learn more about opportunities to connect.



Safe Arrival Program

One measure of keeping students safe is ensuring students have safely arrived at school. If your child is going to be late or absent for any reason, it is important that you contact the office immediately and report the reason for the absence.

At the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) we now have an automated call-out system that will attempt to contact you if your child is late or absent on the day where the school was not previously informed.

The system call-out will work as follows:

Parents/guardians identified in TDSB's Student Information Systems who has access to student records, and emergency contact with priority 1 or 2 will receive a call.

When you receive the call, you are required to listen to the entire message and follow the prompts accordingly.

You will be asked if you are aware or unaware of your child's absence.

If unaware, you will be asked to call the school immediately.

If you are aware of the absence, you will be asked to enter the reason for your child's absence. The following options will be provided for you:

- Illness;
- Doctor Appointment;
- Dentist Appointment;
- Family Matter;
- Weather;
- Other.

At the end of the message, you will have to press 2 to confirm you received the message.

If you do not confirm receipt, you will receive a call on your mobile phone.

If there is no response from a Priority 1 contact, this same process will be followed for Priority 2 contacts.

If there is no contact with either Priority 1 or Priority 2, this entire process will be repeated 3 times in 10 minute intervals.

In the evening, all parents/guardians of students who were late that day will receive a call informing them of their child's tardiness.

With this in mind, it is important that your contact information on file at the office is current and up-to-date. Please let the office know immediately if your contact information changes at any time throughout the school year.

We recognize that regular attendance is essential to the safety, academic success, and well-being of all students. Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep your child safe and accounted for.

For more information please visit www.tdsb.on.ca and search safe arrival program.

Lockdown and Fire Drills

At the beginning of each school year, our students and staff prepare for the year ahead by establishing the foundations for a successful year. One of the ways we know we can help students be successful is to create a safe environment in which to learn. Though no one ever wants to see an emergency happen at a school, it's important for school staff to be equipped to deal with those situations, should these occur.

The safety of students and staff is a top priority at our school and to that end, as with all emergency drills, it is essential that we are prepared and understand the importance of procedures that will help ensure the safety of everyone in our school.

The TDSB has taken steps to ensure your child's safety while in school. Each school has developed emergency preparedness plans that include steps staff will take in the event of an emergency, how staff will get students away from possible dangers, and how students' families will be contacted.

One aspect of emergency preparedness is the lockdown and fire drill. All schools are required to conduct a minimum of two lockdown drills and six fire drills each school year. Lockdown drills, like fire drills, are an essential component to ensuring student and staff safety. It is important that all staff and students are prepared and know how to respond in cases of emergencies. The drills last approximately 5 minutes and ensure plans are effective and can also systematically identify any safety concerns.

Communication is also very important in any emergency situation. The emergency contact information kept on file is important in helping this happen. It lists the people who can pick up a student from the school. If you have not yet provided this information to the office or have updates to the information on file, please make sure our office staff have that information as soon as possible.

Secure Access Systems

A reminder to parents that we have a secure access system installed at our main entry that gives our school staff more control over who enters our school. This means that when you arrive at our school the outside doors will be locked and a buzzer system will need to be used to gain access to the school. Using this system will provide a safe and welcoming environment and a single point of entry where visitors will be welcomed and directed to the main office.