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# The Dragon's Fire

Latest news and bulletin updates

Issue #6 April 2023

## Latest School Updates...



Happy May Dallington-ers,

Families, as we head into May, we are working through our penultimate month of learning.

April was filled with great learning. We started our Mindfulness sessions, had a pancake day, Earth day, Character assemblies, Track and Field tryouts, dental screening, Parent Council and so much more.

As we have ended April and deep into the rains of May (apparently), it is important to note that this is our last month for pita lunches and cookie sales. In June, we will continue to have pizza sales and an Ice Cream Day.

A big thank you to all our parents and guardians who have been volunteering and participating in class trips. We are thrilled to have you back in our building and our learning spaces.

Thank you also to our families who are demonstrating such care and caution with the safety of our students at morning drop off. As we continue to keep student safety our upmost important priority, we thank you for respecting our School Bus Loading Zone, our parking lot, and refraining from stopping on the East side of the street. Our students can only learn when they are safe, and we appreciate you doing all you can to help us in protecting them as they arrive at school.

## School Activity Council



It finally feels like Spring! As we head into May, we have lots to look forward to. We have our annual **Move-a-thon fundraiser** on Friday May 26<sup>th</sup>. Pledge forms have gone out to students to start collecting pledges. There will be prizes for the top student fundraisers and a pizza lunch for the top class! Please note, there was a typo with our PAC email on the form. Please use the one listed below. Also, have a look at the amazing prizes for our top "Movers". There is also a draw for our top-secret mystery prize.

Thank you to all the new parents volunteering for **pizza lunches**. We welcome anyone who is interested in coming. Just arrive at the school for 10:30 and we have a great group of parents to welcome you!



We had our **4<sup>th</sup> PAC meeting** earlier this month. The minutes will be posted shortly. Thank you for the great turn out!

**Staff Appreciation lunch: early June.** (date to be confirmed) This is a lunch to say thanks to the teachers, administrators, caretakers, lunchroom supervisors etc. for all they have done throughout the year. More info to come.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**-Parent Council meeting #5 (last of 2023 school year):** Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm online. A zoom link will be sent out closer to the date. Minutes from the last meeting are posted on the website and the agenda will be posted prior. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

In addition, we will be looking to add several co-positions on the council in September as for many of the current members have children graduating from Dallington and will be leaving at the end next school year. We are hoping to transition positions during the next school year (2023/24). Please let us know if you are interested and we can send you a self nomination form.

If you wish to volunteer for us for any of the above events or join us for the meeting, please RSVP to:

**dallingtonspac@gmail.com**

Looking forward to a fun and exciting May!  
Jackie Chau  
\_\_\_\_\_(PAC chair)

## See Our Work The latest updates

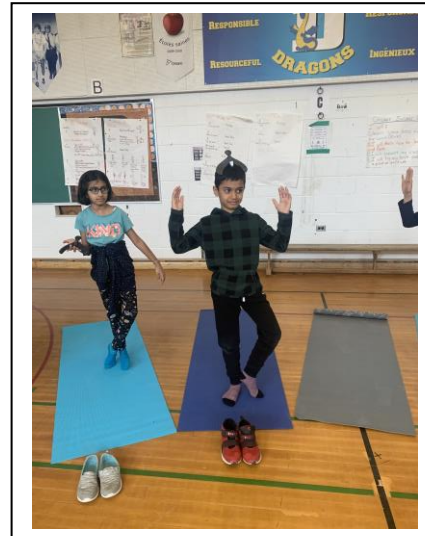
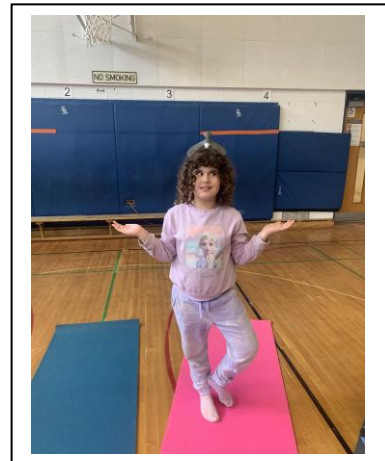
Our walls are blooming with the signs of Spring. Have a look. We have fantastic Art outside of Ms. Thompson's class, Mme. Gahongerwa's Classroom and down our Jr and Primary halls. Dallington, we are so proud of the work that is on display.



Ms. Lay and Ms. Forman's class did their character trait assembly in April. They celebrated co-operation and did a wonderful job showing how co-operation is highlighted in our classrooms, school and by our brilliant students.

### Mindful Movement

Here are pictures of some of our learners participating in our Mindful Movement sessions. Our school has partnered with Young Yogis to develop and practice strategies and techniques to improve mental wellness and mindfulness.



## Pancake Day was a Sweet Success

Thank you to all volunteers who came out to bake and serve pancakes. The students and staff loved it, and the school enjoyed seeing all of you back either again, or for the first time. Thank you community. We appreciate you. A big thank you goes out to Ms. Chase for her excellent organization and running of the event.



## Mindfulness Moment

David Gelles of the New York Times published an article titled Mindfulness for Children (linked below).

Here he states that all children can benefit from mindfulness, calling it the “simple practice of bringing a gentle, accepting attitude to the present moment.” Gelles states that doing a mindfulness practice can help promote happiness and relieve stress. He highlights that mindfulness is a tool that can help children to pay attention to the present, and that the earlier that children start to focus on particular moments, the stronger the likelihood that this will continue into adulthood, increasing the opportunity for our “children to (have the habit) of being peaceful, kind and accepting”.

In the article, the acronym STOP is given as a tool for having children focus. Stop. Just take a momentary pause, no matter what you’re doing. Take a breath. Feel the sensation of your own breathing, which brings you back to the present moment. Observe. Acknowledge what is happening, for good or bad, inside you or out. Just note it. Proceed. Having briefly checking in with the present moment, continue with whatever it was you were doing. (<https://www.nytimes.com/guides/well/mindfulness-for-children>)

# Eco Schools Cool Corner

On Friday April 21, Dallington participated in our Earth Day celebration and a big part of that was cleaning up trash outside. The top 3 classes who collected the most trash and the poster contest winners will be awarded prizes. Thank you for your patience as we organize the awards for distribution. We will come by your classes today to hand them out.

You all made a HUGE difference and for that every student and staff member is a winner!

📣 Shout out to Mme Anik who harboured all of the trash for the entire day in her classroom space and helped distribute supplies for a safe clean-up.



This year’s winners for the clean up were .....drum roll please....



The winners of the Earth Day Poster Contest are.....next drum roll please....



Also, please take a look at our spectacular Bulletin board full of pledges. With all of the staff and student pledges, we were able to make a school wide bulletin board to get inspiration from one another about how we can all take action, every single day.



Some goals for the next clean-up:

- Sort trash and recycling during the clean-up using 2 different bags (super job if you did!)
- Tally and calculate how many individual items were collected (math outside? You bet!)
- Bring a scale to weight the total amount of trash (part of the Eco Action for certification)

Thank you!!

From the Eco Team 🌱

### Dates to Remember:

Pizza Lunch – May 17<sup>th</sup>/June 7 & 14

SST Meeting - Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>

Pita Pit Lunch - Friday May 12 & 26<sup>th</sup>

Woodbine Matilda Performance – May 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Select Classes only

Cookie Sales- Thursday May 11, 18 & 25<sup>th</sup>

Mindful Movement Sessions – May 23<sup>rd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

Track & Field (Ester Shiner)- Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup>

Move-a-Thon – May 26<sup>th</sup>

Monday May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Victoria Day – No School

Badminton Tournament – May 31<sup>st</sup>

## News You Can Use

### Information from the Toronto District School Board Site

#### [Jewish Heritage Month – May 2023](#)

Jewish Heritage Month

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Christie Pits riot that took place in Toronto in August 1933. To commemorate this moment in history, the TDSB's Jewish Heritage Committee in collaboration with the Italian Heritage Committee are offering TDSB students a chance to learn about the largest race riot in Canadian history. Together, both committees created a program designed for students in Grades 8 and 10 to learn about the riot through a re-enactment, workshops, and a visit to a newly created TDSB Peace Garden at Christie Pits Park.

For more information, please contact [shari.schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:shari.schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca).

#### [Asian Heritage Month at the TDSB – May 2023](#)

The TDSB is proud to celebrate the numerous achievements of Asian-Canadians during Asian Heritage Month. This year our theme is Joining Our Table: Celebrating Asian Canadians. During the month of May we are honoured to share with you several opportunities and resources to learn about the traditions, customs, and significant individuals that this heritage brings. Stay tuned as we share details with you throughout the month of May!

#### [2023 Summer International Languages Elementary \(ILE\) & African Heritage \(AH\) Program](#)

2023 Summer International Languages Elementary (ILE) & African Heritage (AH) Program

ILE Summer Program combines language & culture learning with engaging activities like games, songs, dance, storytelling, and writing. No language background knowledge is necessary. Afternoon cultural programs, run by community groups, are also available at a number of our sites. AH Summer Program connects students to the contributions, histories, legacies, cultures and traditions of people of African descent through inquiry and experiential learning. Learn more and register

#### **Elementary Summer School 2023: Registration Now Open!**

The focus of the 2023 Elementary Literacy and Numeracy Summer School Program is to continue student engagement through July. Programs, embedded in Literacy and Numeracy, are developed by the summer school principal to reflect the local school focus. Programs are offered in-person to students in K to Grade 8, from July 4 to July 28, 2023. This year, one remote program will also be available. For more information, including a list of schools and online registration forms, visit our summer school program page.

#### **Parent and Community Engagement**

Click the links below to get more information about the specific topic.

If you have any questions, please email us at [PCEO@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:PCEO@tdsb.on.ca).

[Funding and Grants](#) – This is where you will find information about PROGrants.

[Interpretation / Translation](#) – Here you will find information about Interpretation, Over the Phone Interpretation, Translation and Sign Language.

[Occasional Child Care](#) – Occasional childcare and child minding services enables parents/caregivers and guardians to engage in our system.

[Policies and Procedures](#) – Here you will find information about the TDSB Parent and Community Involvement Policy, The Parent Concern Protocol, School Councils: A Guide for Members, School Generated Funds,

[School Based Engagement](#) – Strong body of research has demonstrated that parent/family engagement in education can make a difference in the academic and non-academic achievement of students.

[School Councils](#) – The purpose of a School Council is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents (Reg. 612/2.1).

[School Messenger Information](#) – The provision of School Messenger accounts for School Councils is to enhance and to improve their connection and their communication with their School Council members and their family caregivers.

[Settlement Workers](#) – SWIS, also known as SEPT, offers settlement services to newly arrived families and secondary school students. You will also find the information about the Settlement Worker associated with your school.

[Webinars](#) – Here you find all of the webinars the Parent and Community Engagement Office has hosted.



