

Quote of the week

Learning is like rowing upstream:
not to advance is to drop back.

Chinese proverb

Don Mills Collegiate Institute Weekly Bulletin 2021/2022



January is Tamil Heritage Month

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Jan. 17 Week 2	Jan. 18 Week 2	Jan. 19 Week 2 Late Start	Jan. 20 Week 2	Jan. 21 Week 2
Jan. 24 Week 1	Jan. 25 Week 1	Jan. 26 Week 1 Late Start	Jan. 27 Week 1	Jan. 28 Week 1
Jan 28, 31, Feb 1: Credit Rescue Days Feb 3 – First Day of Semester 2 Feb 10 – Electronic Report Card Distribution				

Return to School January 17 Week: Safety Information

Masks

- DMCI is very happy to see the smiling eyes of our students and know beneath their masks their smiles are ear to ear 😊 Thank you for instilling safety by ensuring all students always maintain their **masks on**. We all want our school to remain open and working together we can do this. Together we can fight this Omicron Variant. Thank you for our understanding that **SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT**. All students must wear their masks all times in every location of the school (classrooms and hallways). If there are any students that do not comply, we will contact home and arrangements will be made for the student to learn from home.

- Please be also advised that cloth, non-medical masks are not sufficient protection for the spread of the Omicron Virus. We do have level 1 medical masks at the entrances of the school and any student needing one will be provided one. This will include all students wearing cloth/non-medical masks. If students still wish to be fashionable with their masks, they can still fit their fashionista mask over the level 1 medical mask!

Positive Test Results for Covid and Class Work

- This is a tense time for all students as much of their major work is due in the next few weeks. With the rising rates of illness due to Covid, we recognize that many accommodations need to happen while some students may be too ill to work while recovering. The most important focus is always health first. Our teachers understand this of course and please keep in contact with your teacher for all accommodations during this period. If you need more assistance please contact one of the Vice Principals: Joan Slacer at joan.slacer@tdsb.on.ca for students with last names A to L and Sandra Baker at sandra.baker@tdsb.on.ca for students with last names M to Z.
- Please be advised that students must stay home if they are exhibiting any Covid symptoms. Any student who exhibits COVID symptoms will also be sent home. Please know this is a caring approach for students and for our staff. Our system has an extreme shortage of supply teachers and if high numbers of our staff are ill, we will not have bodies to teach the students. I believe we can work together to keep DMCI open and learning if we all keep monitoring our own health, we use the daily NOW APP and **wear our masks**, we can beat this and enjoy our year.

Positive Test Results for COVID and Cohort Notifications

- Please continue to contact our school for any positive cases. With the new Provincial Rules, we would not be sending cohorts home as was done previously when students were in close contact with another student who tested positive for Covid. However, the admin team will send an email to each family of any cohort affected - to let them know if there was a positive case in the class. If you receive an email of this kind, it is vital that the student continue to fill out the electronic NOW APP screening tool and remain at home if any COVID symptoms are evident.
- If a student has tested positive and/or has any symptoms, students must stay home minimum for 5 days if double vaccinated and 10 days if you have less than two vaccinations. For more information from Public Health click this link: [**5 DAYS OR 10 DAYS ISOLATION PERIOD**](#) Since there are only 9 instructional days left in this semester, and marks cannot decrease anymore after December 17 (see TDSB email/letter that was sent on Jan. 13 eve) you may wish to speak to the teacher about any accommodations and marks. As stated earlier, health comes first, and we all want our students and staff to begin semester two with healthy minds and bodies.

Test Kits for Students

- Test Kits will only be provided to a student if they have any COVID symptoms. Two Testing Kits will be provided for these students who are symptomatic. We unfortunately do not have enough Testing Kits to provide for all families currently that do not have symptoms. TDSB is working with Public Health and Hospitals to try and secure more.

Secondary Assessment and Evaluation Update:

- With the switch back and forth to online learning, some of the culminating activities cannot be done the same way. To that end, teachers have communicated to the students on whether the culminating activity has been accommodated/modified/or even eliminated so that only the term work is used. Please speak directly to your teachers for any questions and see the related note below sent from TDSB last Thursday, Jan. 13th eve:
- As per the TDSB letter that was sent on the eve of January 13th, final marks will not be negatively affected by the final evaluations (final performance tasks, interviews, etc.). Marks will reflect work done up until December 17, 2021. Teachers will continue to assign learning tasks and culminating activities and provide feedback; however, this work will only be taken into consideration for Semester 1 final marks if it improves the student's mark. This means that a student's mark will not drop because of end of semester evaluations. Credit Rescue Days for Semester 1 remain as scheduled for January 28, 31 and February 1, 2022. Please note that at DMCI we are aiming to have all credit rescue opportunities completed by January 31 or before unless there are extenuating circumstances – which in that case credit rescue can also be done on February 1.

Toronto Public Health Links and Updates

- **COVID PCR TESTING:** MGH will continue to support and accept the take-home COVID-19 PCR test kits for schools in East Toronto. These kits will be prioritized for symptomatic students and education staff attending in person learning.

Symptomatic students and education staff who meet [testing eligibility](#) can pick kits up from your school and also pick up and drop off take-home COVID-19 PCR test kits at our [MGH COVID-19 Assessment Centre](#) or [COVID-19 Outreach Centres](#). You do not need an appointment to pick up or drop off a take-home test kit.

- **RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING:** Please report positive results on a rapid antigen test to a secure reporting page at [Microsoft Forms](#). The Michael Garron Hospital Infectious Diseases team will be notified of your result and will do our best to contact you to help to ensure you have the information you need to manage the infection and prevent further spread.
- **COVID VACCINATION:** MGH continues to offer first, second and/or third doses at both our school based clinics and also our MGH vaccine clinics.

Students/Staff and families can book a first dose, second dose and/or third dose **appointment** at:

- An [MGH/ETHP vaccine clinic](#)
 - Use the [provincial booking system online](#) or call 1-833-943-3900.
 - Call the MGH COVID-19 vaccine booking office at 437-537-5131.
For assistance booking a vaccine appointment for yourself or any member of your family, please contact the MGH COVID-19 vaccine booking office at mghcovax@tehn.ca or 437-537-5131. The office is open Monday to Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- A [participating pharmacy](#)

Mobile WALK-IN COVID Vaccination school clinics across East Toronto will also offer:

- **First and second dose:** Open to individuals aged 5 and older who live and/or go to school in **any** postal code. At This time Children need to have had their 5th birthday to be eligible. Children aged 5-11 can get their second dose 21 days after the first dose with informed consent from their parent/guardian.
- **Third (booster) dose eligibility:** Open to individuals aged 18+ who live and/or go to school in a **priority postal code** designated for that clinic.
- Walk-ins welcome from eligible individuals while supply lasts. Either Pfizer or Moderna will be administered.
- See all upcoming school clinics: tehn.ca/VaccinePopUps.
- **Attached** is also a flyer to share with the vaccine clinics from Jan 17-23.
- Flyers also found here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1x2rdqmiu9fzzth/AADptl1VOY4f-CIRFd8uCdtfa?dl=0>

Past Information From the Previous Weekly Newsletter:

Plagiarism

Plagiarism/cheating on assignments is never a nice conversation but is very necessary, especially as we approach the end of this semester. There are many large assignments and culminating activities due at the end of the month and all students need to recognize the importance of doing their own work and what plagiarism is. An excellent source of information is from this link: [PLAGIARISM SPECTRUM](#). Teachers are refreshing the rules and necessary skills for all students to recognize what plagiarism is. In a case by case basis, if a student willingly/knowingly does hand in work that is not his or her own, a reduced mark and/or a mark of zero would be earned and documented in the school with the admin. If you have any questions about the major assignments or culminating activities, please speak to the teacher. For more information please also refer to the link [TDSB ACADEMIC HONESTY](#)

Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)

Who can apply

If you are eligible for the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB), your household can receive \$500 (\$450 after taxes withheld) for each 1-week period.


To apply for the CRCB, you must meet all the eligibility criteria and be employed or self-employed on the day before your first application period. Click the link below for more information:

[Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit \(CRCB\)](#)

School Council Update!

Next School Council Meeting is on Tuesday, February 8, at 7PM.

The Following are Free Resources for TDSB educators, parents, and students:

 Apple is offering a complete certification course for Swift Code.


This is exciting because after completing the certification the student will be able to create apps for the AppStore and use this certification for job-seeking and entrepreneurship #bridgingthegap

<https://www.apple.com/education/k12/teaching-code/>

 Nelson Publishing has created Edwin.


This platform has curriculum linked content for grades 5 to 10. It's a massive digital library with a great user experience and it is free for all educators and students this year. They also have success teams to help teachers with lessons and additional resources.

<https://edwin.app>

 Free Guidance Counselling from Ontario Virtual School

After an in and out two years, stress around post-secondary paths is high for many students and parents. Ontario Virtual School is providing free guidance and post-secondary career counseling for all students in the TDSB and Ontario. Parents and or students can go to their website and make an appointment

<https://www.myvirtualschool.com/new-landing-page/>

 Free Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for all TDSB students and parents

The government of Ontario has made it so that every person living in Ontario has access to free CBT counseling. CBT is one of the most successful forms of therapy and is being used to help deal with stress and anxiety during the pandemic.

<https://wellcan.ca>

Paid resources to help bridge the gap:

 Allegori Online:

Allegori Online empowers students to enhance their cognitive abilities and increase their focus. The company uses evidence-based neuroscience and biofeedback training to boost focus and improve executive functioning.

<https://www.allegori.org/allegorionlinehelp>



Google has created a number of "micro" credential courses that can be used directly for job searches and applications upon completion. There are over 500k students globally already signed up. They also have a number of corporate partners that hire their graduates:

https://grow.google/intl/ALL_ca/

Late Starts for 2022

Just a reminder of the late starts continuing until the end of the school year. Please note that this also applies to our DD Program where the accompanying transportation morning pickup, will arrive one hour after the regular time.

January 19, 2022	January 26, 2022
February 16, 2022	February 23, 2022
March 23, 2022	March 30, 2022
April 20, 2022	April 27, 2022
May 18, 2022	May 25, 2022

Enjoy the Weekend!!

