

Newsletter #26 Friday, February 18, 2021

Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism in the Canadian & North American Context *NEW Course

Alert: We are excited to present **IDC4U1 - Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism in the Canadian & North American Context** available now on MyBlueprint. This Interdisciplinary Studies Course will examine and deconstruct the complex nature of anti-Black racism in Canada and within the broader North American context through the study of historical oppression, via overt and covert means as well as the political and social theories around Blackness. Students enrolled in this course will develop their ability to identify, name and effectively address anti-Black racism and discrimination in all its various forms. Furthermore, the course will examine the concept of allyship in partnering in the fight for racial equality. Ultimately this course will enable students to understand the intergenerational trauma that has been inflicted upon Black people, develop their critical consciousness in understanding issues of equity, in a broader context, and equip students with the tools needed to create and carry out social action initiatives designed to enhance and empower their local community. **Ask your guidance counsellor for more info or if you want to change your course selection.** Ms. Giannotta at laura.giannotta@tdsb.on.ca (alpha A – H); Mr. Stoitsiadis at paul.stoitsiadis@tdsb.on.ca (alpha I – P); Ms. Rayner at jennifer.Rayner@tdsb.on.ca (alpha Q – Z)

Grad Photos *NEW: DMCI is excited to be able to offer Grad Photos to both our in-person and virtual Grade 12 students! Photo sittings must be booked directly through Edge Imaging following the instructions found [here](#). Students will wear a mask, enter the building from Door 9 (gym/cafeteria door), sanitize hands, sign-in and go straight to the conference room at their designated appointment time. Students will not be permitted to walk through the school or use alternate entrances. The photo company is not permitted to provide props like diplomas or flowers. If your graduate would like a special memento (soccer ball, flowers, etc) included with their photo setting, they should bring that to their appointment. Any questions, please email Ms. Evans gillian.evans@tdsb.on.ca

School Council Meeting *NEW: The next school council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23 at 7pm. Our Superintendent Mr. Courtney Lewis will attend. Here is the [Zoom Meeting Link](#), Meeting ID: 976 2934 7285 and **Passcode: DMCI**. One tap mobile +16475580588,,97629347285#,,,

Yearbook Selfies *REMINDER: The Yearbook Team is hard at work putting together an amazing collection of memories of the 2020-2021 school year, but we need your help! We can't have a traditional photo day at school this year, so instead, we are going to include your own selfies/self portraits. Click [here](#) for instructions on how to submit your school-appropriate selfie to the Yearbook! Don't delay, the due date is **March 5, 2021** and you don't want to miss out!

IPRC's *NEW: All Level 1 IPRCs are being held over the phone for the week of February 22 to February 26, 2021. Please do not come to the school for IPRC's next week. If you would like to attend this meeting, please share your contact information (phone number where you can be reached) with the head of Special Education, Shannon Russell at Shannon.Russell@tdsb.on.ca

Report Cards Sent Via Email *UPDATED: Password protected emails containing Report Cards (Quad 2 Final Report Cards, Quad 2 Term 1 Civics/Careers Report Cards, and Alternative Report Cards) were sent to student and contact #1 email addresses on file on Friday, February 12. You were required to enter a password, which is the birthdate of the student. The format must be MM/DD/YYYY, including the forward slashes. Example: 05/03/2004 for the birthdate May 3, 2004. This information is also contained in the email sent. **If you did not receive your report card please check your junk folder. Alternatively, you may have a different email address on file. If you need assistance please contact jason.smit@tdsb.on.ca**

Textbook Return for In-Person Students *UPDATED: DMCI students are asked to bring any outstanding textbooks and return them to the cafeteria daily after am classes at 12:30pm

Textbook Return & Pick Up for DMCI Virtual *UPDATED: DMCI Virtual students are asked to bring any outstanding textbooks and drop them off at the box in the main office and pick up textbooks from the main office.

New TPH Screening Tool for Students *REMINDER: One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our schools, is for [students](#) to screen themselves daily for any symptoms of COVID-19 and also follow the circumstances in which they should stay home. Please remember that **Toronto Public Health (TPH) has revised its screening tool for students, effective immediately.** The update is that everyone in a household must now complete the updated COVID-19 screening daily. Both the [TDSB Student Health Pass](#) (*printed copies at school*) and the TDSB Health App have been updated with this change. A reminder that we strongly encourage students to use the [NOW Health Screening App](#).

Testing for Covid-19 *REMINDER: Toronto Public Health recommends staff, students and their household members who have even **one mild symptom of COVID-19 get tested**. TPH will continue to recommend asymptomatic testing in schools where necessary and will work with testing partners to coordinate testing in high-risk cohorts.

Continued Health and Safety Practices *REMINDER: Please remind your child of the continued importance of hand washing, physical distancing and mask wearing, which is required for all staff, visitors and students JK to Grade 12. Toronto Public Health offers guidance on the [qualities of a good mask](#), which includes being made of at least two layers of tightly woven fabric and, if possible, a middle “filter” layer. Please remember that parents and students are not to congregate in the school yard, and, outside of school, students should not gather with others, even with those in their cohort. Please see this image about a well-fitting mask: [The Best Mask is the One that Fits Well](#). If you need masks, please contact jason.smit@tdsb.on.ca

March Break *REMINDER: The Minister of Education announced yesterday that March Break — originally scheduled for March 15 to 19, 2021 — has now been delayed by approximately a month in hopes of reducing community transmission of COVID-19. On the advice of public health officials, the break is now scheduled for **April 12 – 16, 2021**.

Gr. 12 Community Involvement Hours *REMINDER: All graduating students this year (2020-2021) are required to earn at least 20 community volunteer hours to satisfy OSSD requirements. The remaining 20 hours will be waived for graduating grade 12 students this year only (total = 40 hours). Visit <https://www.volunteertoronto> or <https://www.sparkontario.ca/> for virtual and face-to-face volunteer opportunities. Here is a [LINK](#) to the Community Involvement Form to print and document your volunteer experience. Please submit your completed community involvement hours promptly to your alpha guidance counsellor.

Course Selection Information *REMINDER: DMCI students and families attended Course Selection information sessions hosted by our Student Services department this week as we prepare for the 2021-2022 Course Selection process. MyBlueprint opened to students on February 11 @ 8pm and will remain open until February 26 @ 3pm. If you missed attending the information session, we highly recommend that you watch our Course Selection Video (click [HERE](#) for the link). Additional information can be found on the DMCI webpage and the Student Services Google Classroom (code: kylnkg). Students are asked to contact their alpha Guidance Counsellors with any course selection or pathway questions they might have.

Resetting Passwords *REMINDER: If you are having difficulty resetting your password, please contact TDSB IT [Support Services for Password Device Help](#).

Tech Issues? *REMINDER: Please see the [TDSB Student Device FAQ's](#).

Full Disclosure / Maintain Mark After Date for Quad 3 *REMINDER: Full disclosure for Quad 3 was originally scheduled for April 5; however, because it falls on a holiday, the new date is now **April 6, 2021**. Thus, the full disclosure dates for the remaining quads are as follows: **Quad 3: April 6 & Quad 4: June 7**.