

The Dragon's Lair

March 2023

Administrators' Message

At Donwood we kicked off March with our Kindergarten and Grade 1-8 Character Trait assemblies. This month's Character Trait focus was Honesty. At our assemblies we spoke to students about the importance of always telling the truth, even if that means they, or someone else, may get into trouble for doing something wrong. We often remind our students about the importance of honesty and owning their actions at all times (the good actions and sometimes the not so good ones). We are always learning from the choices we make, and we recognize that being honest and taking responsibility for what we do and say can be hard sometimes, but it is very important. Honesty is the best policy!



This month we welcomed Trustee Shan and Superintendent Spence to our school for a visit. They visited our Kindergarten to Grade 8 classes and saw many highlights of the wonderful learning and teaching going on in our school. We are always proud to share information about our school - our amazing community of learners and their families, and of course our staff.

Our staff Professional development is focusing on Literacy skills in all grades and using explicit targeted instruction to build students' literacy skills. When you walk around the school you can see students learning letter sounds and how to blend sounds together, students learning about morphology (word origins) and students learning various reading comprehension strategies and how to apply these strategies to gain meaning from texts.

Kindergarten Registration

Thank you to our many families who have registered their children for Kindergarten using the online registration process.



As the office staff works through the online registrations, they will call you to complete the rest of the registration process. If you have not done so already, please register online. For more information about the Kindergarten program and registration requirements, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

School Council

The Donwood Park School Council has collaborated with the school to book Coby the Magician's *Anti Bullying Magic Show* in May. Coby engages students of all ages with his magic tricks while students learn about the impact that bullying has on others, ways to make choices that prevent bullying situations from happening, and what they can do if they are a bystander to bullying.



Our next School Council meeting is Tuesday, April 11th at 5:30 p.m. A link will be sent to families closer to the meeting date.

Earth Hour 2023

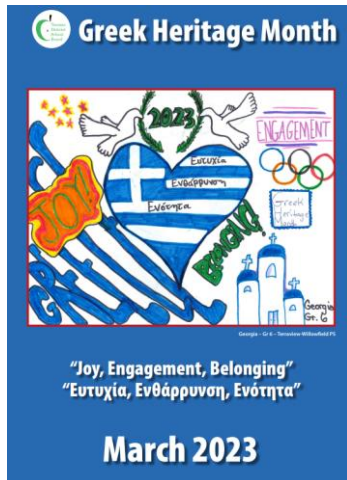


Earth Hour took place on Saturday, March 25th from 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

As an Eco School, we have daily practices that we intentionally use which are eco-friendly (e.g., recycling program, good on one side paper bins, lights off in rooms that are not occupied, Boomerang lunches with reusable containers). These small daily habits help to make a difference. At home, you can discuss as a family what your family can do together to be more eco-friendly. We can all make a positive impact with small changes! For more information on Earth Hour you can visit: www.earthhour.org

March is Greek Heritage Month

The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize Greek Heritage Month (GHM) during the month of March.



During the month of March, several activities were shared to mark GHM. A poster contest was held and all students from the Toronto District School Board were invited to submit images that best reflected this year's theme, which is based on TDSB's priorities: Joy, Engagement, Belonging.

Excellence Awards 2023 to Celebrate Staff Dedication

Every year, the TDSB Excellence Awards help shine a light on the stories of extraordinary staff commitment, and we are delighted to announce

that nominations for the Excellence Awards 2023 are now open.

We want to know about the TDSB staff you know who are supporting underserved students, as well as fostering joy, engagement and belonging in our schools, workplaces and communities in so many different ways.

We welcome nominations from anyone - staff, students, parents/caregivers or community members - so we encourage you to submit nominations before April 6, 2023.

For more information, please visit <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/excellence>

Steps to Address Your Questions and Concerns

The TDSB wants to hear your questions and concerns, and makes every effort to address them as quickly as possible.

In any situation, your child's classroom teacher is the first point of contact, followed by the school's principal/vice-principal, the school superintendent and your Trustee.

For more information visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Contact-Us/Steps-to-Address-Questions-Concerns>.

High Water Levels Brings Increased Risks

The Toronto and Region Conservation monitors hazardous ice conditions as thaw begins and are reminding everyone to be very careful around all bodies of water. The first hint of warming weather and the promise of spring thaw can bring extreme danger to the shores and surfaces of streams, rivers, ponds and lakes, according to Toronto and Region Conservation.

As warmer temperatures arrive, stream banks become increasingly slippery and unstable. Lake and river ice weakens, becoming thinner or with higher flows breaking with little or no warning.

During this time, the potential for flooding and ice jamming is high.

Higher, faster-flowing water and extreme cold temperatures combine to create increased dangers on or near rivers, streams and ponds for people wishing to enjoy the seasonal changes. Parents and caregivers are being asked to keep children away from stream banks, ponds and lakes.

Visit our school website at:
www.donwoodpark.ca



Follow us on Twitter
@TDSB_Donwood



Grad Retake Photos	April 4
Por Amor Workshops (Gr. 7 & 8)	April 4
Mrs. Apostolopoulos' Class Trip	April 5
Good Friday – No School	April 7
Easter Monday – No School	April 10
School Council Meeting	April 11
International Day of Pink	April 12
Por Amor Workshops (Gr. 7 & 8)	April 14
Spring Book Fair	April 17-21
Grade 4-8 Track & Field Day	April 24
Grade 4-8 Track & Field Rain Date	April 27
Grade 7 & 8 Vaccination Clinic	May 1
Grade 4-8 Track & Field Rain Date	May 4
School Council Meeting	May 9
Victoria Day – No School	May 22
Welcome to Kindergarten (Virtual)	May 30
Welcome to Kindergarten (In Person)	May 31
P.A. Day	June 2
School Council Meeting	June 6
Moving On Up! SK to Grade 1	
Celebration Assemblies	June 14
Last Day of School	June 30

Principal	Andrea Lane
Vice Principal	Thanasi Dimakas
Vice Principal	Brandi Perera
Superintendent	Jacqueline Spence
Trustee	Neethan Shan
Office Administrator	Sophie Guarnaschelli
Secretaries	Sinead Meechan
	Michelle Andersen
Head Caretaker	Arlene Devlin

