

Vanier Community Newsletter – Week 36 (May 31st, 2024)

Dear Vanier Family,

This was truly a week to remember at Vanier! We had so many amazing events taking place during this past week! We held our annual Arts night this past Tuesday, a night filled with joy and excitement. Attendees had the opportunity to stroll through a gallery of our students' creations, a visual feast for the eyes, and to listen to the melodious sounds of our vocal class and choir, a treat for the ears. A big shoutout to all the Arts teachers, led by Mr. Bodden, for their hard work in putting this night together. Below you'll find some pictures from this night and links to some of the musical performances.



Our PEEL students showcased their exceptional athletic abilities and enthusiasm at the TDSB Special Needs Track & Field Championship on Tuesday. Their outstanding performance led to many of them securing the top spots in their respective events. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the students for their remarkable achievements. We also express our immense gratitude to Mr. Bajwa and the PEEL program staff for their meticulous planning and execution, ensuring the event was a resounding success. Please find some snapshots from this memorable event below.

On Wednesday morning, we had our last staff meeting before the start of the exam season. Our parent council prepared a magnificent feast. Thank you to all our parents and caregivers who donated funds for this breakfast. Our staff really appreciated it! Thank you!

Another highlight from this week was our annual athletic banquet, a joyous occasion to celebrate the achievements and dedication of our student-athletes. We applaud all our athletes for their hard work and commitment. Special congratulations to our junior athletes of the year, Alina Kazimi & Mohammad Awayed and our senior athletes of the year, Stephanie Badia & Trevor Wai.

This grand event, however, would not have been possible without the unwavering efforts of our staff and community coaches. We deeply appreciate their dedication and support throughout the year, which has helped our student-athletes shine. Thank you for your invaluable contributions.

Finally, this Friday, we had our first-ever combined carnival and fun fair! What an epic event! There were interactive games, inflatables, a dunk tank, and foods from around the world, and our staff and students had a blast. Thanks to Ms. Manji, Mr. Devji, our student leaders from SAC and various school clubs, and the entire Vanier staff for working tirelessly to put on this amazing event. Well done, everyone!

Karen Johnson

Principal, Georges Vanier SS
416-395-3250 Ext. 20010

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/georgesvanier>

Arts Night 2024

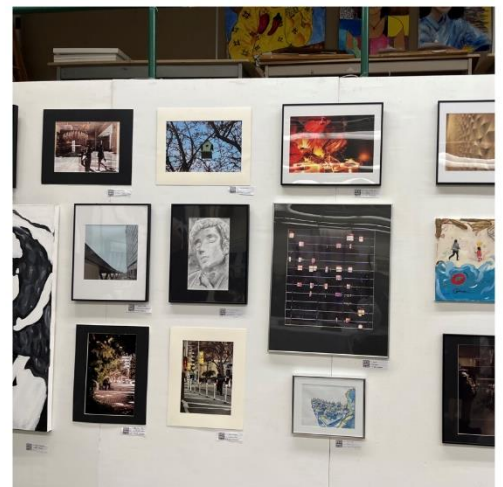
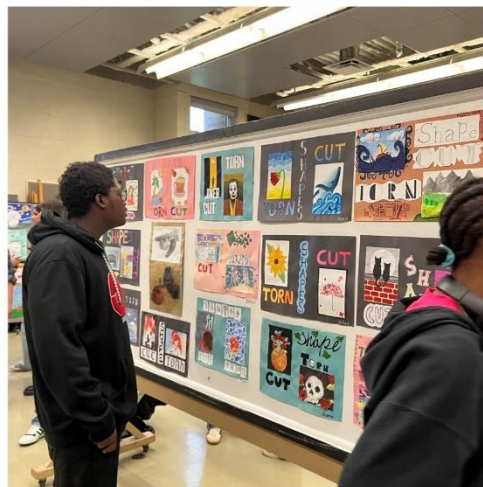
[Sound clip 1](#)

[Sound Clip 2](#)

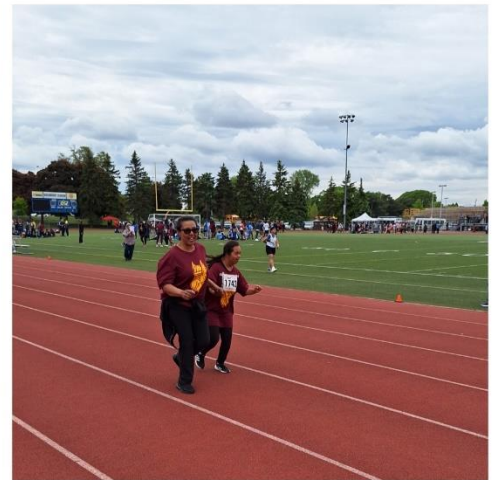
[Sound Clip 3](#)



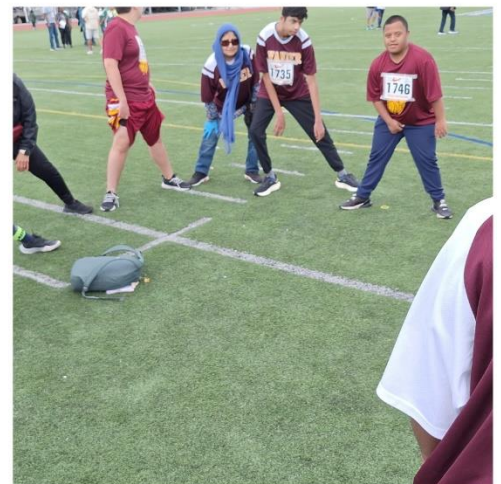
Arts Night 2024 con't



Our PEEL students at TDSB's Track & Field Event for Students with Special Needs



Our PEEL students at TDSB's Track & Field Event for Students with Special Needs can't



Athletic Awards Banquet – Celebrating Athletic Excellence



Caravan Fun Fair



Graduation 2024...Select your gown size.

Vanier's graduation ceremony for the 2023/24 school year will occur on **June 27th, 2024, at 10:00 am** at the school. This is certainly one of the highlights of the school year as we celebrate this important milestone with our graduates. To mark this special event, graduating students will wear GOWNS for the Vanier Commencement ceremony. Our school will provide the graduation gowns, but students **MUST RETURN** them at the end of the graduation ceremony. We will attempt to provide you with the best sized gown, based on the sizing information you provide below. To complete their outfit, students will also wear a



graduation CAP & TASSEL, which **THEY CAN KEEP**. Students/families must contribute \$5.00 (through cash-on-line; link is provided below) to purchase their cap and tassel.

Graduating students are asked to complete [this form](#) by ~~May 27~~ **JUNE 7th** to indicate if they will be attending this year's commencement ceremony and select their gown size.

COUNTDOWN TO PROM 2024



Attention all grade 12's

This year's prom will be held on **June 6, 2024**, at Crystal Fountain!

Ticket sales begin next week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Tickets will be \$90 until May 21st (early bird). After that date, tickets will be \$95.

Achievement - June Calendar

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| 3 Day 1 Culminating Activities Begin | 4 Day 2 Anti-Hate Conference 2.0 (HSE) SPEEL Year End Celebration @ Oakwood (Bajwa) | 5 Day 1 Indigenous Education Committee Luncheon <i>World Environment Day</i> | 6 Day 2 Science Ctr. - All Day (Szeto/Devji/Patel) PROM (Crystal Fountain Event Venue) | 7 Day 1 Afterschool Lit/Num Ends |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 10 Day 2 Valedictorian Vote | 11 Day 1 Ontario Science Ctr. - All Day (Szeto) | 12 Day 2 Grade 9 - EQAO Math | 13 Day 1 Grade 9 - EQAO Math Moratorium Begins | 14 Day 2 Moratorium |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 17 Day 1 Moratorium YEARBOOK DAY | 18 Day 2 Moratorium Locker Clean Out (Garbage bins in hallways) | 19 Exams/Culminating Tasks | 20 Exams/Culminating Tasks | 21 Exams/Culminating Tasks <i>National Indigenous Peoples Day</i> |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 24 → Exams/Conflict/Credit/Rescue Day → Failure Summary Form due to Guidance by 3pm → Recommended Course Placement Forms DUE by 3pm | 25 → Exams/Culminating Tasks → Marks Due 9am | 26 Exam/Mark Review Day Pd 1 9:00 - 9:40 Pd 2 9:45 - 10:25 Pd 3 10:30 - 11:10 Pd 4 11:15 - 11:55 → <u>Mark Verification Form</u> Due 12pm | 27 PD DAY COMMENCEMENT @ 10:00am → Mark Summaries for all S2 courses due to Subject VP by 3:15pm in <u>shared drive</u> | 28 PD DAY → OCAS Marks Update → Report Card (sent home electronically) |

June 2023 Culminating Tasks and Exams. Culminating tasks will commence on June 3rd and exams will run from June 19 – 25. Exam Schedule and student instructions have been distributed and is linked [here](#) for you. Please be sure to review our assessment and evaluation (A & E) policy well in advanced of these dates so you are aware of the expectations for this crucial time in the school year. You may access our A & E policy by clicking [here](#).

Peer-Tutoring

Peer tutoring is available for grades 9-11 students who want help with their Math, English, and Science courses. Simply **complete THIS FORM to request a tutor.** Students can sign up at any point in the semester!

After-School Literacy/Math Tutoring

IT'S BACK! The program will start the week of Feb 26 and end, the week of June 3.

This is NOT a drop-in session! Students will need to register to attend. They may do so by coming to the main office. Classes will run from 3:30 to 4:40pm. Below are the teachers who will be providing the tutoring, along with their day and location.

Mr. Husain (Tues/Thurs) – LITERACY Room 203

Ms. Gersternova (Mon/Wed) – LITERACY Room 211

Mr. Hui (Mon/Thur) – MATH Room 320



Health and Well-Being

Mental Health Resources: Mental Health and Well-Being is essential to student success. The TDSB is committed to improving the mental health and well-being of students and has created resources to achieving this goal. Please sure to visit the [MHWB website](#) these resources.



The TDSB has created a new webpage, [Substance Use, Misuse and Abuse](#), with resources for parents, caregivers, guardians, staff, children and youth, including tips, identity-affirming community agency contacts, and where one can seek supports for youth substance use, misuse and abuse.

There is also a new TDSB webpage, [Resources to Address Inappropriate Social Media Images and AI](#). This one is dededicated to helping you, Parents, Caregivers, Guardians, Staff, Children and Youth navigate the digital safety world safely. On the site, you will be able to:

- Explore preventative measures and intervention strategies for inappropriate social media content, sextortion, and sexting.
- Find tips for parents, caregivers, guardians, staff, children, and youth on preventing and addressing inappropriate online content.
- Watch a short video from the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, offering essential insights into protecting children online.

3000 Don Mills Rd. E., North York

If you or someone in your school community encounters issues related to inappropriate social media content or sextortion, please contact your respective Manager of Social Work and Attendance or Caring and Safe Schools for assistance.

As part of their commitment to combating sex trafficking, TDSB's anti-sex trafficking professional development resources and learnings, in alignment with the [TDSB Anti-Sex Trafficking Policy P099](#), are below.

- [The TDSB Anti-Sex Trafficking Resource Webpage](#)
- AST Information Videos for Parents, Caregivers, Guardians and Staff in collaboration with Community Partners
 - Ø Video #1: [Victim Services of Toronto-Learning about AST](#)
 - Ø Video #2: [Victim Services of Toronto-AST and Stigma](#)
- Anti-Sex Trafficking Information Videos for Parents, Caregivers and Guardians to Support Students with Special Education/Complex Needs Healthy Vs. UnHealthy Relationships
 - Ø [Video #1: Relationships](#)
 - Ø [Video #2: Emotions & Boundaries](#)
 - Ø [Video #3: Relationships & Abuse](#)

***NEW* Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Helpline 9-8-8**

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) through the Canadian Radio and Television Corporation (CRTC) has announced on November 30th, 2023, a national three-digit Mental Health and Suicide Prevention hotline number, 988, will be in effect.

CMH's new role in leading the development of 988 service delivery in Canada builds on their experience delivering Talk Suicide Canada, previously known as the Canada Suicide Prevention Service. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) has been selected as the organization to lead the coordination of service delivery for the national three-digit number.

In the face of increased demand for crisis services, **9-8-8** provides:

- A number that's easy to remember in a crisis.
- Support in English and in French, by phone and text.
- Quick access to support from trained responders, available 24/7/365.
- High quality, evidence-based, equitable suicide prevention and crisis support for everyone in Canada.



For more information about 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline, visit <https://988.ca>.

More information is also available at [9-8-8 | CAMH](#) and [9-8-8 number for mental health and suicide prevention | CRTC](#)

Kids' Helplines:

3000 Don Mills Rd. E., North York

Kids Help Phone Line is a 24 hour/7 days per week crisis line that youth can contact for support:
Online Chat: www.kidshelpphone.ca Phone: 1-800-668-6868 Text: 686868

Black Youth Help Line – available 9 AM – 10 PM www.blackyouth.ca 416-285-9944

LGBT Youth Line – Sunday – Friday 4 PM – 9:30 PM – PEER SUPPORT*

Live chat: www.youthline.ca Text: 647-694-4275 Call: 1-800-268-9688

Naseeha - Muslim Mental Health Help Phone – 1-866-Naseeha (627-3342)

Call: 1-866-627-3342 (7 days/week 12-9 PM) Text: 1-866-627-3342 (Mon-Fri 12-9 PM)

Hope for Wellness Help Chat – offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada

Live chat: www.hopeforwellness.ca Call: 1-855-242-3310 (24/7)

Other Resources:

Help Ahead is the centralized resource and intake phone line for multiple trusted community-based mental health organizations in Toronto. Help Ahead has up-to-date information about the available programs and services and can find local supports to address the needs of your child and family.
<https://www.helpahead.ca/> 1-866-585-6486

What's Up Walk-In Clinic provides free mental health counselling for children, youth, young adults and their families, and family with infants. <https://www.whatsupwalkin.ca/resources/>

One Stop Talk is a free, confidential service that lets children and youth aged 0-17 years call or connect online from anywhere in Ontario to get brief mental health services. Parents seeking services are encouraged to visit *One Stop Talk* with their child to ensure access to a session.
<https://onestoptalk.ca/> 1-855-416-8255

Upcoming Dates & Events

- June 6th - Prom @ Crystal Fountain
- June 12th-13th - Grade 9 EQAO
- June 13th-18th - Moratorium
- June 17th - Yearbook Day
- June 18th - Locker Clean out
- June 19th-25th - Exams/Culminating Activities
- June 26th - Exam/Mark Review Day
- June 27th - Commencement @ 10:00am
- June 28th - PD Day

Parent Concern Protocol

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Classroom Teacher

Step One

If you have any questions or concerns, the first person to go to is your classroom teacher. The classroom teacher can help with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Classroom rules and consequences
- Homework and assignments

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School Principal

Step Two

If you would like more information or you have questions that are beyond the classroom, the school principal can help.

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student registration
- Student schedules
- Student suspensions
- Report card concerns
- Classroom concerns
- Code of Conduct
- Safety and security
- Budget and fundraising
- School Council

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School Superintendents

Step Three

Superintendents are responsible for a Network of Schools. They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

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Trustees

Step Four

Trustees are your elected community officials. They are available to help you with the following areas of the TDSB:

- Concerns about your community
- Ideas and suggestions for the Board
- Items on Board Agenda
- Board policies under review
- Board budget
- Collective bargaining

Board Office

You can contact the Board Office directly for any questions or concerns related to:

- Continuing Education
- Night and summer school
- Adult education
- ESL
- Board documents

Phone: 416-397-3000 • Email: GeneralInquiries@TDSB.on.ca

School Information

School Phone #: (416) 395 – 3250

School's Twitter: @GeorgesVanierSS

School's Website:

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/georgesvanier>

Our Student Support Team:

Guidance:

Jennifer Hayward (Assistant Curriculum Leader)

Supporting Students with surnames N - Z

jennifer.hayward@tdsb.on.ca

Margarita Leventis

Supporting Students with Surnames G - M

margarite.leventis@tdsb.on.ca

Loraine Chichester

Supporting Students with Surnames A - F

loraine.chichester@tdsb.on.ca

Special Education:

Steven Maurer (Assistant Curriculum Leader)

steven.maurer@tdsb.on.ca

Student Success:

Paula Burgess (Assistant Curriculum Leader)

paula.burgess@tdsb.on.ca

Superintendent: Kurt McIntosh (LC2|LN11)

416-395-8808 • Kurt.McIntosh@tdsb.on.ca

Trustee: James Li • Ward 13

416-395-8787 • James.Li@tdsb.on.ca