

Vanier Community Newsletter – Week 39 (June 21st, 2024)

Dear Vanier Family,

Today, we marked the end of the 2nd last week of the 2023-2024 school year, a year filled with growth, learning, and unforgettable moments. Many of our students wrote their final exams this week and, hopefully, are now enjoying a well-deserved rest. Teachers will be busy marking these and other culminating tasks to prepare students' results. Our week ended on a high note with a prom and graduation for students in our PEEL program (which services our students with developmental disabilities). Congratulations to our four graduates, Raihan Alom, Ridwan Alom, Pradeep Geevanandan, and Mololaoluwa Smith. Special thanks to all the families who joined us for this extraordinary event, and a huge thanks to the PEEL staff for all their hard work in preparing these students for life after high school and for putting on such a memorable send-off party for them.



Next Wednesday, June 26th, will be marks' review day (please see the June calendar below for the schedule for this day). All students are encouraged to come in to review their exam and/or final marks. Please note that report cards will be emailed to students and caregivers (if a student is under 18) on June 28th, 2024. If you do not receive it, please contact our Main Office.

Our final and most significant event of this academic year is our graduation, scheduled for next Thursday, June 27th, @ 10:00 am. This ceremony, lasting approximately 2 hours, will mark a significant milestone in the lives of our graduates. Following the ceremony, we invite everyone to join us for an informal reception with light snacks. We eagerly anticipate the presence of our graduates' friends and family on this momentous occasion. A gentle reminder to our graduates: please arrive at 9:00 am to collect your gowns, caps, and tassels and prepare for the ceremony.

Last, but not least, I hope you received the letter we sent yesterday sharing some changes in our admin team for the upcoming school year. We will undoubtedly miss our vice principals, Ms. Pereira and Mr. Robertson, because they have served Vanier well during their tenure here. However, we are excited about the potential of our incoming VPs, who are also exceptional! We are confident that they will continue the tradition of excellence that Vanier is known for.

Karen Johnson

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

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



@GeorgesVanierSS

Graduation 2024...Select your gown size.

Vanier's graduation ceremony for the 2022/23 school year will occur on **June 27th, 2024, at 10:00 am** at the school.

Graduating students are asked to complete [this form](#) **ASAP** to indicate if they will be attending this year's commencement ceremony and select their gown size.

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) to purchase their cap and tassel.

Gowns and caps will be ready for pick up on the morning of the graduation ceremony. Students must arrive by 9:00 am sharp. If students want to pick up their caps ahead of time to decorate them, they may do so on June 24th – 26th from the main office. While we always encourage student expression, cap decorations must abide by the TDSB's dress code in that they must not promote offensive, lewd, vulgar, or obscene images or language, including profanity, hate, and pornography, or include discriminatory content (e.g., racist, anti-Black, anti-Indigenous, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic, sexist, transphobic, homophobic, classist, ableist, *sizist*, etc.), or that reasonably could be construed as defamatory, threatening, harassing or promoting bias, prejudice or hate; or symbolize, suggest, display or reference: tobacco, cannabis, alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia, promotion or incitement of violence or any illegal conduct or criminal activities.



June Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Day 1 Culminating Activities Begin	4 Day 2 Anti-Hate Conference 2.0 (HSE) Pride Flag-raising 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	11 Day 1 Grade 9 - EQAO Math Ontario Science Ctr. - All Day (Szeto)	12 Day 2 Grade 9 - EQAO Math Valedictorian Vote	13 Day 1 Grade 9 - EQAO Math Moratorium Begins Valedictorian Vote	14 Day 2 YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION Moratorium Valedictorian Vote
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17 Day 1 Moratorium Locker Clean Out (Garbage bins in hallways)	18 Day 2 Moratorium	19 Exams/Culminating Tasks	20 Exams/Culminating Tasks	21 Exams/Culminating Tasks <i>National Indigenous Peoples Day</i>
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24 PEEL Graduation & PROM party → 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)

KEY DATES - SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2024-2025

Professional Activity Days	September	October	November	January	February	June
Elementary Schools	27	11	15, 29	17	14	6
Secondary Schools		11	15, 29	30	14	26, 27

Designation of Professional Activity Days	
Elementary	Secondary
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> September 27, 2024 – Professional Development October 11, 2024 – Professional Development November 15, 2024 – Parent Teacher Conferences November 29, 2024– Professional Development January 17, 2025 – Assessment and Reporting February 14, 2025 – Parent Teacher Conferences June 6, 2025 – Assessment and Reporting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> October 11, 2024 – Professional Development November 15, 2024 - Professional Development November 29, 2024 - Professional Development January 30, 2025 - Professional Development February 14, 2025 - Professional Development June 26, 2025 - Professional Development June 27, 2025 - Professional Development

EQAO: - The following dates have been established:

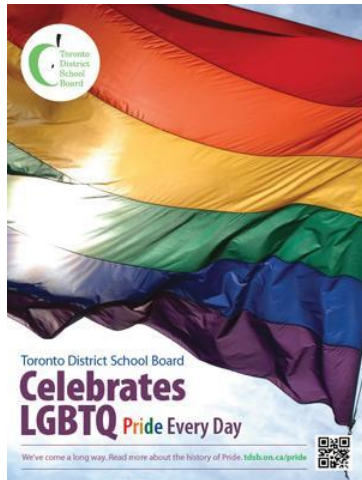
Gr. 9 Math: TBD
Gr. 9 Math: TBD

OSSLT: TBD
Primary/Junior EQAO: TBD

Dates to Remember - School Year Holidays (as per Ministry of Education)	
Labour Day:	September 2, 2024
Thanksgiving:	October 14, 2024
Winter Break:	December 23, 2024 – January 3, 2025
Family Day:	February 17, 2025
Mid-Winter Break:	March 10-14, 2025
Good Friday:	April 18, 2025
Easter Monday:	April 21, 2025
Victoria Day:	May 19, 2025

Equity

June is Pride Month at the TDSB!



Pride Month is an opportunity to celebrate diversity and raise awareness amongst all staff and students about the rich and varied intersecting identities, cultures, and histories of 2SLGBTQIA+ communities.

Pride is a time for TDSB students, staff, and families to continue learning about Queer history, joy, excellence, and resilience; it is a time to celebrate the diversity that exists in every school community across the TDSB. It is also an opportunity to highlight the varied issues related to 2SLGBTQIA+ communities as well as the impact of homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia on TDSB students, staff, and community members.

Italian Heritage Month at the TDSB - June 2024

Toronto District School Board (TDSB) has proudly recognized Italian Heritage Month during the month of June since 2012. The Province of Ontario also marks Italian Heritage Month and passed the Italian Heritage Act (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/10i17>) in 2010. **This year's theme for Italian Heritage Month is Sharing Our Stories and Embracing Our Future/Condividere le nostre storie e abbracciare il nostro futuro.**

We are excited to share the many stories from Italian ancestors whose contributions helped shape our Canadian cultural mosaic. Italian stories and traditions reaffirm identity and connect us to one another. These stories allow us to walk for a moment in someone else's shoes, and to see ourselves in others. Stories unite future generations while they evolve and create new customs and traditions for us to embrace. Together, the past, present, and future will redefine what it means to be an Italian Canadian.

To commemorate this year's theme, we invite all TDSB students from all TDSB schools to submit a video that captures their special memory or tradition with their nonni (grandparents) or an elderly caregiver/guardian. We look forward to sharing the videos with you!



Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month at the TDSB – June 2024

Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month is proudly recognized during the month of June at the TDSB and has been since 2011. The Province of Ontario passed the Celebration of Portuguese Heritage Act in 2001. **This year our theme is Unidos/United!**

The contributions of the Portuguese-speaking community to Canada are significant as they include the arts, sports, music, culinary arts, and many professional contributions to education and medicine. Canadians, along with all TDSB students, staff, and its communities all enjoy the energetic and vibrant traditions that are shared through the customs of the Portuguese-speaking community. Over 1,4000 TDSB students speak Portuguese as their mother tongue or as a primary language. Internationally, there are 250 million Portuguese-speaking people, making it the fifth-most spoken language in the world.

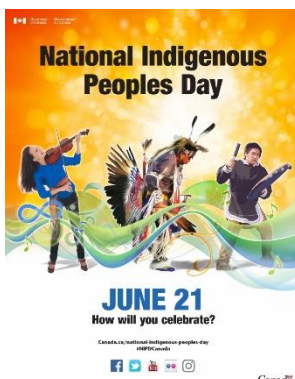


An invitation is being extended to all students, staff, and the larger TDSB community to attend the **annual Portuguese Parade taking place on Saturday, June 8th, 2024!** This vibrant and colourful parade brings the Portuguese-speaking community together to experience traditional music, dance, and food! All are welcome to join the fun and celebrate Luis de Camoes, poet and writer of Portuguese heritage who is regarded as a national literary icon. **All**

wishing to participate in the parade are asked to meet at 8:00 am in the Lansdowne Avenue and Bloor Street area. There will be clearly identified parade volunteers in the area to assist to locate the TDSB vehicle. The parade starts at 9:00 am and the parade route starts at Lansdowne Avenue and College Street and continues along Dundas Street West to Ossington Avenue. A limited amount of TDSB: Unidos/United t-shirts will be provided to participants!

An in-person celebration will be held with significant guest speakers, dignitaries, and performances to mark Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month committee at the Toronto District School Board. Stay tuned for a video of this special occasion to be shared with you! Please follow us on Twitter @TDSB_PSHM.

Indigenous Education



The Toronto District School Board looks forward to joining communities across Canada in celebrations and learning on Friday, June 21, 2024, to recognize National Indigenous Peoples Day. June 21 has long been a day of significance that represents renewal for many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples as this day marks the Summer Solstice.

Mental Health & Well-being

2024 Mental Health and Well-Being Guide, Translated into 23 Languages

The 2024 [Summer Well-being Guide](#) created by the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee, the Mental Health Leads and the System Leader for Mental Health and Professional Support Services, is now available.

It has resources, community connections, events, and ideas for parents/caregivers/guardians to promote mental and physical wellness during the summer months. The resources in this [Guide](#) are culturally responsive with many resources for students with disabilities/special education needs. The [Guide](#) has been translated into the top 23 TDSB languages spoken and is accessible. If you have any questions, please contact mentalhealthandwellbeing@tdsb.on.ca

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.

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.

***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:

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

Calendar for Next School Year

Please click [here](#) to view the TDSB's calendar for next school year

Trustee Update (Ward 13): June 2024

You may read the latest newsletter from Trustee James Li here: [Trustee Update: June 2024](#)



Parent Concern Protocol

1

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

2

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

3

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

4

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](https://twitter.com/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