

**Givins/Shaw**  
Junior Public School  
Toronto District School Board



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Monday, October 22, 2018

Dear Givins/Shaw Community:

As we mentioned in September, due to our higher than anticipated student numbers in kindergarten, we needed to open a fourth kindergarten class. The new classroom is situated in Room 6 and, as per the directive from the TDSB, it does not have more than 15 students as there is one teacher but not an Early Childhood Educator (ECE) assigned to the classroom. Aside from the new teacher for the kindergarten class, Givins/Shaw also received an additional half-time teacher (to be shared one day of the week with Palmerston PS) in order to assist with the programming for the expanded kindergarten team.

Since the new classroom opened, Ms. Nadine Halligan has been the teacher on a temporary basis to assist with the transition of opening the class while we completed the hiring process for the teacher who will be with the students for the remainder of the year. Thanks to Ms. Halligan's diligence, professionalism, and acumen, and her coordination with the kindergarten team, the new classroom opened seamlessly. The students quickly adjusted to their new classmates and routines and we cannot thank Ms. Halligan enough for all her work on behalf of the students and their families.

On Friday, October 19 we received confirmation of the hiring for the new teacher and we are pleased to announce that Ms. Alexandra Melanson will now be the teacher in Room 6. Ms. Melanson comes to us as a highly recommended kindergarten teacher who has experience working with students with a variety of learning needs, and a passion for outdoor experiential learning. In order to facilitate a smooth introduction between the students and their new teacher, and the new teacher with our school, we have arranged for Ms. Melanson and Ms. Halligan to work together both today and Tuesday. We also received confirmation this morning that Ms. Jessica Marrello will be the half-time teacher who will be working the kindergarten classes during the mornings of Days 2, 3, 4, and 5. For the past few weeks, Ms. Marrello has been working in this role and we are pleased that she will be continuing as such.

We know that you will join us in welcoming both Ms. Melanson and Ms. Marrello to the Givins/Shaw team. We look forward to continuing the great start we have had to the 2018/19 school year.

Sincerely,

Dan Taylor

Principal