Toronto District School Board 1 | World AIDS Day UN 2 | International Day of the Abolition of Slavery UN 3 | International Day of Persons with Disabilities UN 2-6 | Book Fair 6 | Movie Night 6:30-8pm 6 | National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Canada 8 | St. Clements or Ohrid Patrons Day Orthodox Macedonian 10 | Human Rights Day UN 12 | Holiday concert 5:30-6:30 13 | Pizza Lunch 13 | Birthday of Imam Aga Khan Islam 18 | International Migrants Day UN 20 | Last day of school before Winter Break 21 | Winter Solstice – Yule\* Wicca/Pagan 25 | Christmas Christianity and **Public Holiday** 26 | Hanukkah 26 | Boxing Day Public Holiday 26 - Jan 01 | Kwanzaa African Canadian & American Jan 6 | Return to School

Peppi Kondilis-Minos, Principal Kwame Lennon, Superintendent Michelle Aarts, Trustee Email: Gledhillpsjr@tdsb.on.ca School website: http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/gledhill



Dear Parents/Guardians:

We want to congratulate the many students from Rm 25 & 29 that shared empathy skits with us at our November sharing assembly. It was so great to have students model for others how to show empathy to each other. Student voice is a priority!

As we move forward, the Character Trait focus for the month of December will be on Kindness and Caring which will be highlighted through numerous lessons and activities. All the children have been trying to get **Caught You Caring** at school!

Although **Indigenous Education** month comes to a close, we will continue to make a commitment to furthering our own personal learning and your child's about Indigenous history, culture and perspectives throughout the school year. We have focused on teaching and learning this past month and we are extremely proud of all the work that is taking place. We are planning on having knowledge keeper, Clayton Shirt come to the school and speak to us about the seven grandfather teachings. As well, we will be working with a Metis artist here at the school. We are planning so many exciting events this year.

Through **Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week** we were able to connect through announcements and discussions about relationships. Most social conflicts are great ways for students to learn to resolve and use problem-solving skills required as one of the 21st century competencies needed by students. Adults don't intervene right away to allow students to amicably resolve differences amongst themselves. Adults will step in when necessary and with the age-appropriate language. We talk about the experiences and then engage students to go through the process all over again in the next conflict, hence building skills and resilience. This is training ground for learning how to socialize and build on relationships with others. All the Caught You Caring Cards will be displayed in the Main Foyer which we encourage everyone to view.

We can't forget to mention the beautiful **Remembrance Day** assembly that we had. Thank you to Ms. Chitayat, Ms. Bailey and staff for the great collective efforts. Remembrance Day is always a solemn occasion to honor and pay tribute to the sacrifices made by military personnel in wars and conflicts, ensuring their bravery is never forgotten. It serves us as a reminder of the importance of peace and the value of freedom, while fostering gratitude and reflection on the costs of war. We stand proud Gledhill!

It is an honour to serve the students, staff and parents of the Gledhill Jr Public School.

Sincerely, Peppi Kondilis-Minos Principal



## <u>Winter Weather at our School</u> Winter Weather and Student Transportation

From time to time, it may be necessary to cancel student transportation, classes and/or programs because of <u>severe weather</u>. On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites.

With approximately 238,000 students in nearly 600 schools, any decision to cancel buses, classes and/or programs or to close sites can have a significant impact on thousands of families across Toronto. This decision is not taken lightly. When schools remain open on days with inclement weather, parents/guardians make the final decision on whether to send their children to school and they can keep children home from school if they so choose.

Should a cancellation or closure be necessary, information will be posted on the TDSB web site and TDSB social media by 6 a.m. Visit the website to learn about <u>Snow/Cold Weather</u> and the <u>Procedure for Severe</u> <u>Weather</u>.

#### National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - December 6

On December 6, TDSB students and staff mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day coincides with the anniversary of the death of 14 young women who were tragically killed on 6 December, 1989, at l'École Polytechnique in Montreal because of their gender.

On this national day of remembrance, we honour the memory of these women and reflect on the ways that gender violence continues to affect us. For more information, visit Status of Women Canada and participate in their #ActionsMatter Campaign.



## Stay Healthy During Flu Season

Flu season is here again. In Canada, flu season tends to run between October and April. The Ontario government is encouraging Ontarians to avoid getting sick this flu season by getting their annual flu shot.

Toronto Public Health is recommending that whenever students and staff experience flu-like symptoms, they are sent home and do not return to school until they are no longer infectious to others. Therefore, ill students and staff should be symptom-free (especially from vomiting and diarrhea) for at least 48 hours before returning to school.

The primary concern is for the health and safety of all students and staff. Please note that no special measures are required when there is a case of influenza in a school or daycare. However, everyone should do their part to stop the spread of the flu. As parents, you can also assist by:

- Reminding children to wash their hands often especially after using the washroom and before and after eating;

- Reminding children to cover their sneeze and cough;
- Watching for symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, and/or high fever;
- Informing the school if your child is ill;
- Keeping your child at home when he/she is ill.

For more information, please visit the Toronto Public Health website www.toronto.ca/health, contact your family doctor, or Telehealth Ontario. 1-866-797-0000.



#### **Special Education and Inclusion**

# Drop In Sessions 2024-2025 for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

Special Education and Inclusion is pleased to once again offer a number of drop-in sessions for parents, guardians, and caregivers. These sessions aim to support parents/guardians/caregivers by providing information and resources for accessing special education supports and services. Participants can ask questions, share experiences, and connect with other families in a friendly environment. Please see this flyer for upcoming dates, times and links.

