



1 | World AIDS Day UN
 2 | International Day of the Abolition of Slavery UN
 3 | International Day of Persons with Disabilities UN
 3 | Motivation Speaker Lauren Pires from Rick Hansen Foundation
 5 | Kindergarten Play 2pm
 6 | National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Canada
 8-12 | Book Fair
 8 | St. Clements or Orchid Patrons Day Orthodox Macedonian
 9 | Holiday concert 5:30-6:30
 10 | Human Rights Day UN
 13 | Birthday of Imam Aga Khan Islam
 14 | Hanukkah
 18 | International Migrants Day UN
 19 | 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 5 | Return to School

Peppi Kondilis-Minos, Principal
 Mary Koromilos-Triadafilopoulos, Vice-Principal
 Kwame Lennon, Superintendent
 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 3, 10 and 30 that shared empathy performances with us at our November sharing assembly. It was so great to have students model for others how to show empathy to each other.

We are thrilled to have had Ms. Kristen Grinyer in Rm 30 facilitate, as a trained instructor, the **Roots of Empathy program**; one of our very own Gledhill parents. During the month of this character attribute there is no better way to facilitate learning of this quality than having a baby in the classroom to learn from. Baby Remie is so cute! The Toronto District School Board is proud to continue its partnership with the Roots of Empathy program, an evidence-based initiative that helps students develop emotional literacy, kindness, and understanding. Through regular classroom visits a parent-baby “tiny teacher,” in this case, baby Remie, teaches students to recognize and reflect on emotions in themselves and others. By observing the baby’s development and responding with curiosity and care, students build essential skills in empathy, problem-solving, and positive relationships. The program has been shown to reduce aggression and promote a more inclusive, compassionate school culture. We’re excited to see the impact of Roots of Empathy in Rm 30 as we nurture the next generation of caring, connected learners. Thank you Ms. Jeens and Ms. Grinyer for facilitating. For more information, contact <https://rootsofempathy.org/>.



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.

Through **Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week** we were able to connect through announcements and discussions about relationships. Conversations about social conflicts are great ways for students to learn to resolve and use problem-solving skills a 21st century competency needed by all students.

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

Sincerely,
 Peppi Kondilis-Minos
 Principal

Mary Koromilas-Triadafilopoulos
 Vice-Principal

Winter Weather and Student Transportation

From time to time, it may be necessary to cancel student transportation, classes and/or programs because of [severe weather](#). On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites.

With approximately 239,000 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 [Snow/Cold Weather](#) and the [Procedure for Severe Weather](#).

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.



Happy Holidays from the Gledhill Staff!

Stay Healthy During Flu Season

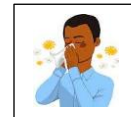
Flu season is here again. In Canada, flu season tends to run between October and April. The Ontario government is encouraging Ontarians to avoid getting sick this flu season by getting their annual flu shot.

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.



TDSB Winter Outerwear Drive

Join a growing community of supporters who come together to ensure that no student has to face the cold alone. The TDSB Winter Outerwear Drive is collecting funds to provide essential coats, boots, hats, and gloves for students across the TDSB.

Receiving a new coat can be a source of great joy and dignity for many of our students. Your support helps ensure every student can arrive to school feeling warm, confident, and ready to learn, no matter how cold it gets outside. Every donation makes a difference!

How you can help:

1. Make a monetary donation towards the purchase of a new coat, gloves, hats and/or boots on [School Cash Online](#) (select "TDSB Winter Outerwear Drive" from the drop down menu).
2. Donate a NEW coat, hats, boots and/or gloves (no scarves). We kindly ask that donations **are gender neutral in colour (where possible) and no commercial logos are preferred.** **To make an in-kind donation, please complete the [Google donation form](#).**
3. **Spread the word with colleagues, friends and family.**

100% of monetary donations are eligible for a tax receipt. Due to hygiene and storage limitations, we are unable to accept used items at this time.

Immunization Update – Immunization Clinics offered through the winter months

The Immunization of School Pupils Act requires that students in our schools have all their immunization to participate in school. **This year we have a large number of students here at Gledhill that are not all caught up with their immunizations.** If you are, please ensure you have communicated this to TPH. As you know, we currently have more than 2000 people in Ontario, mostly children with measles and this continues to increase. As a precaution of further spread, parents are required to attend an immunization clinic over the next few months to get their immunizations. Students will be suspended from school in situations in which the Medical Officer of Health has not received one of the following:

- immunization information showing that the student has completed the prescribed program of immunization; or
- a statement of medical exemption; or
- a statement of conscience or religious belief; or the Medical Officer of Health is not satisfied that the student has completed, has commenced or will commence a prescribed program of immunization.

The suspension order is for 20 days and may be rescinded once the circumstance for making the order no longer exists. Toronto Public Health (TPH) is responsible for this initiative but in partnership with the Board.

As in past years, Toronto Public Health is targeting all schools in Toronto to ensure compliance with the Immunization of School Pupils Act. For the 2025-2026 school year, students enrolled in grades 2, 3 and 4 will be identified for possible suspensions. This process has already begun and will continue over the next few months. There is a multi-week process during which students must submit the necessary documentation.

We are sending this as a preliminary notice as with Postal strikes, families may not receive the mailed communication in time to attend to the matter.

The steps are as follows:

Step 1: **First notice** (yellow paper) mailed to the family requesting up to date information

Step 2: If no response received, a **second notice** (green paper) mailed to the family requesting the same information

Step 3: the **suspension order mailed to the school and a copy to the family** advising the suspension of the student for the period of up to twenty school days if the record is not up to date by the first day listed on the order

Step 4: the active suspension (for up to 20 days). When the requirements under the ISPA are met, the students returns to school immediately.

Thank you for your support to ensure students do not miss school.