



# Gledhill News

February 2020

Principal Cathy McAleese  
Vice-Principal Janet Bambrick  
416-393-1745



## From the office...

January has been a busy and productive month at Gledhill! Students have been reestablishing routines, and they have been involved in learning new concepts and ideas in their classrooms. The character trait for January was Teamwork, and students had many opportunities this month to develop and demonstrate this trait, for example, by working collaboratively on tasks in their academic subjects, through daily announcements, and in specific activities with their teachers. Students have also had opportunities to demonstrate their Teamwork skills independently during their recess times. Staff have observed students working together to make structures in the schoolyard, playing sports and tag games, as well as playing imaginative games with their peers. We have had many clubs at Gledhill in January, including Makerspace for Grade 2s and 3s, Forest of Reading, Eco-Club, Pickle Ball for Grades 4 and 5 students, Karate Kids, Chess Club, and Ukulele Kids. These activities provide even further opportunities to develop peer relationships and support students to develop their skills with Teamwork. For more information about February's character trait, Fairness, please read further on in this newsletter.

Character traits are one way that we support children in our school to develop positive peer relationships. As we move into the second term of the academic year, we are reminding parents to contact your child's teacher when there are issues that we need to be aware of to support your child. Providing safe, inclusive and positive spaces accepting of all students is a priority at Gledhill. Promoting healthy relationships among students is a key way to create a safe and accepting school environment. If parents have concerns about their children in the school, for example, to do with peer relationships, we ask that you contact the school. We are committed to working together to strengthen relationships and creating engaging learning spaces for our Gledhill students.

## **Cathy McAleese & Janet Bambrick**

**FAIRNESS** is February's Character Trait. Being fair is one of the most important ingredients of being a good person. It is also key to making the world a peaceful place. Examples of how to be fair include:

- Sharing and taking turns
- Playing fair and by the rules
- Being honest
- Compromising
- Caring and including others
- Not blaming others
- Admitting when you are wrong
- Making decisions in a fair way
- Listening to others with an open mind about different opinions

When teaching about fairness we ask: How is fairness related to having respect for others? How is it related to honesty? To being reliable? To being a good citizen?

*Information from Inspiremykids.com*

TDSB Character Traits are an important part of learning, supporting students to achieve success in school.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION** Registration for all TDSB Kindergarten programs begins in February.

Parents/guardians will have the option of registering their child in person at school or beginning the registration process via online registration (OLR) at [www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) effective **February 3, 2020**. TDSB is moving toward online registration to make the process easier and faster for parents/guardians and staff, but regardless of which process caregivers select, they will be required to visit the local school to validate registration information.

**PARENT REMINDER** Students enter the school in the morning at 8:40 am. If your child's line has already entered the building, please come to the main entrance. Children who are late need an admittance slip before going to class and in order to avoid call outs to parents. Parents, please do not walk your child to class. **All adults must report to the office**. We encourage all of our families to ensure that children arrive at school on time as being on time for class is important for school achievement and academic success in the future.



**WINTER SPIRIT DAYS:** The Gledhill Spirit Squad is encouraging everyone to participate in the following Spirit Day themes:

**Thursday February 13**



**Share the Love**

**Wear your favourite red/pink/white heart or love inspired message.**

**Friday March 13**



**March Madness**

**Wear your favourite basketball or team jersey/team colours**

**VIRTUAL LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT:**

**CULTUREGRAMS** Culturegrams provides information, data sets, infographics, images, videos, maps, flags, recipes, timelines, and more for over 200 countries of the world and the Canadian provinces. Information is written and reviewed by in-country experts and updated as new information becomes available. This resource works well with Read and Write Chrome. Translation and built-in read-aloud features also add to accessibility. Look for it on the TDSB Virtual Library under Quickfinds. For more information about how to access the TDSB Virtual Library from home you can watch this short video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yrloxdLkHJM>



**FROM PHYS.ED.**

In the month of January during the lunch hour, for grade 4 and 5 students, we played house league Pickle ball. Not only did the students learn the game of Pickle ball, they also learned how to assemble and disassemble the nets, equipment safety and proper use of paddle and wiffle balls. It was a drop-in event and all were welcome. It was a fun and positive learning experience. Thank you to all those who came out and played!

**QUALITY SCREEN TIME** Kids of all ages love to use technology and we often question the benefits and drawbacks of screen time. In library classes, students learn about becoming responsible digital citizens and using available technology and media in responsible ways. We talk about respecting digital property, creating a positive digital footprint, using technology as a tool for learning and maintaining a healthy balance. In addition to the rich resources on our Virtual Library Website, consider exploring the resources below to support literacy development at home: Story Line Online - [www.storylineonline.net/](http://www.storylineonline.net/), a video streaming website featuring a collection of books read aloud by actors and well known people.

Story Bird - <https://storybird.com/>, a platform for students to engage in creative story writing. On this website, users can access hundreds of illustrations and animations created by artists from all over the world and write stories that can be shared with others in various ways.

Apps to support early literacy and numeracy skills - <http://www.duckduckmoose.com/>, choose from a wide selection of educational apps for iPads and androids.



**WINTER WEATHER AND STUDENT**

**TRANSPORTATION** On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites or cancel transportation. This decision is not taken lightly. Should a cancellation or closure be necessary, information will be posted on the TDSB website, TDSB social media and provided to local media by 6 a.m. For more information, please see the TDSB’s Procedure for Severe Weather: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Detail/docId/242>

**NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY:** On January 21st, students in grades 1 to 3 participated in a special presentation by a Canadian author - Susan Aguilo. Susan read stories from her Bedtime Adventure Series and talked to students about harnessing the power of imagination and writing. Check out her work on this website: [www.abedtimeadventure.com/](http://www.abedtimeadventure.com/)



February 19th is “I Read Canadian Day”. On this day, we will celebrate the wonderful work of Canadian authors and illustrators by reading and talking about their rich and diverse work. In the library, we will be reading books selected for the Forest of Reading. Here is a link to a list of some Canadian authors and illustrators - <https://bit.ly/2O8h0UG>



**CONTACT US**

School Office: 416-393-1745  
 School Website: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/gledhill>  
 Cathy McAleese, Principal  
 Janet Bambrick, Vice-Principal  
 George Poursanidis, Office Administrator  
 Dawn Russell, Secretary  
 Marisa Silver, School Council Chair  
 Nadira Persaud, Superintendent of Education (LN24)  
 Michelle Aarts, Trustee (Ward 16)

**FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH AND CHINESE HERITAGE MONTH**

February is African Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Peoples of African Descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2019-2020 is “*UBUNTU: I am because we are*” which is derived from the Nguni Bantu term in Southern Africa. **UBUNTU** is a South African term used by the Zulu community that represents an ethic of African traditional life. The philosophy of UBUNTU realizes that everything is interconnected; “everything that I do has an effect on you and your well-being and everything that you do has an effect on me and my well-being.”

February is also Chinese Heritage Month in the TDSB. During this month, we celebrate the energetic culture and traditions of the Chinese community with students and staff members.

We will be recognizing African History Month and Chinese Heritage Month at Gledhill through our daily announcements and activities in the classroom.

**PARENT COUNCIL** Did you know that 2020 is a leap year? It only happens once every four years, so you’ll want to spend your extra day wisely! What better way than by hitting the dance floor with friends and neighbours while raising funds for beloved enrichment programming at Gledhill? Join us Feb 29th for a Leap Year Party- tickets are just \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. This event is open to the community (19+), so bring your friends! Get your tickets today at <https://sagoto.com/gsc/party/>

We are always looking for more amazing silent auction items. Have a connection or something you’d like to contribute? Let us know at [thegledhillguardian@gmail.com](mailto:thegledhillguardian@gmail.com). We show our donors lots of Gledhill Gratitude! See you on the dance floor!

**COMING EVENTS**

*Please mark these dates in your calendar:*

February 14	Elementary P.A. Day-no school
February 17	Family Day-no school
February 18	Parent Council Meeting-6:00 PM in the Library
February 28	Pizza Lunch
February 28	Movie Night-6:30 PM
February 29	Parent Council Leap Year Party-8 PM 1240 Woodbine Avenue (19+ Event)
March 8	Daylight Savings Time Begins-Clocks spring ahead one hour
March 16-20	March Break