



- 1 New Year's Day International Public Holiday
- 6 Feast of the Epiphany Orthodox & Western Christianity
- 7 Feast of the Nativity (Christmas) Orthodox (Julian Calendar) Christianity
- 7 Sakyamuni Buddha's Enlightenment day
- 9 Parent Council Meeting 6:30-8 :00pm in library
- 14 Orthodox New Year's Day
- 14-17 Thai Pongal Hinduism
- 17 PA. Day – No School
- 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 27 St. Sava Devine Service Orthodox Serbian
- 27 International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust UN
- 27 Family Literacy Day
- 29 Lunar New Year
- 31 Sharing Assembly
- 31 Pizza Lunch

Kindergarten Registration has opened for the month of January 2025.

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:

As we look at back at the final month of 2024, we want to congratulate the many students that were acknowledged during our Literacy Reading Challenge. We had 3 students win the tickets to The Ross Petty Wizard of OZ show. Evelyn from Rm 21, Vivienne from Rm 6 and Benjamin from Rm 8 won the tickets. Congratulations. We hope you enjoyed the show over the winter break.

In addition, we honoured so many students who were caught in the act of demonstrating **Kindness and Caring** in a variety of ways which launched during our Bullying Prevention Week Campaign in November. It ran right through the month of December. We are proud of the ongoing work of staff and students to showcase our students showing us what kindness looks like. On our last day before the break, we had a Pyjama Day and sold cookies as a send off to students with spirits high. All such acts of kindness exemplify the sense of compassion and care that the school community holds. We were truly moved by these efforts. We need to continue accepting all students regardless of where they come from, what they believe, or what they wear. Empathy, acceptance, inclusion and reconciliation will be our continued work for 2025.



As 2025 is upon us, students will continue to learn about Indigenous and cultural appreciation. We have an Indigenous artist that will be working with all students to create a mural on the main floor. Stay tuned on developments that will unfold.

In the coming months, parents will join efforts as part of action teams. Both the School Improvement Team and Caring and Safe have met to support school efforts.

It's truly an honour to serve the students, staff and community at Gledhill.

Sincerely,

Peppi Kondilis-Minos  
 Principal

## **Happy New Year – 2025!**

I hope you enjoyed a restful winter break and are ready for the exciting opportunities the new year holds.

To our students: welcome back! Your enthusiasm makes our schools truly special, and I look forward to supporting and witnessing your growth and achievements in 2025.

A heartfelt thank you to our families for your ongoing support. Together, we create an environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally – inside and outside the classroom.

May 2025 bring curiosity, discovery, and success to each student in our community.

## **Tamil Heritage Month 2025**

Since 2016, the TDSB has proudly recognized Tamil Heritage Month throughout January. This year's theme of Kinship is important to Tamil people. It emphasizes the idea that regardless of where we come from, we are all part of a larger family.

This January, various educational opportunities are being offered so students can learn about Tamil history, customs, and traditions. Read the [full Tamil Heritage Month message](#) for details.

## **Recess During Cold Weather**

Elementary school students are kept indoors for recess and lunch times for a number of weather conditions such as rain, lightning in the area, extreme winds and extreme cold. When temperature and wind chill measure -28C or lower, students are kept indoors. Recesses and lunch hour may be shortened if the temperature and wind chill reading is between -20C and -28C.

If a student's medical condition requires further consideration due to weather conditions, or if parents have other questions or concerns about how and when weather conditions affect your child's school day, please contact the school office.

## **Stay Healthy During Flu Season**

### **Reducing the Spread of Respiratory Illness**

A reminder of the number of steps that can be taken to help keep children and others safe from an increase in respiratory viruses among children, including Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Influenza and COVID-19. Please note that Toronto Public Health, together with Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, strongly recommends wearing a well-fitted mask in indoor public settings, including in schools and childcares.

## **English Kindergarten Registration Begins in January!**

TDSB looks forward to welcoming Kindergarten students for the 2025-26 school year and registration for English begins in January! To attend Junior Kindergarten in September 2025, children must turn four-years-old by December 31. To attend Senior Kindergarten in September 2025, children must be five-years-old by December 31. Visit the [Kindergarten Registration page](#) to learn more.

## **Elementary Alternative Schools Online Application Process**

The TDSB offers a wide range of [Elementary Alternative Schools](#) available to students. The application process is managed centrally and includes an online application form. Complete information about the central online application process is available on the [Elementary Alternative Schools Application and Admissions Process webpage](#). The online application for admission for September 2025 open on **Monday, January 6, 2025, and will close at 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 31, 2025.**

## **Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 Entry) Application Deadline**

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's system-wide French Immersion Program, we offer an online process to apply for Middle French Immersion (begins in Grade 4). To apply to the Middle French Immersion Program for September 2025, applications must be completed online between **January 6 and 31, 2025**. Families with an older sibling currently in a Middle French Immersion program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. For more information and to access the application, please visit the [Middle French Immersion web page](#).

## **Special Education and Inclusion Transitions Supports Website for Educators and Families**

We are pleased to share a new [Transitions Supports website](#) with information and resources to assist students, families, and educators in navigating transitions for entry to school, from grade to grade, from elementary to secondary, and from secondary to post-secondary (and post-21) pathways. Families are asked to connect with their child's teacher or principal for more specific transition information for their child.

## **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 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 [Snow/Cold Weather](#) and the [Procedure for Severe Weather](#).