



Honesty is our March Character Attribute

March 2024 - Greek Heritage Month

1-8 Capes for Kids
 5-7 X-Movement at Gledhill
 8 Daylight Savings Ends
 8 International Women's and United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace United Nations
 8 Holi* Hinduism
 13 L. Ron Hubbard's Birthday Church of Scientology
 14 Chet - Sikh New Year Sikhism
 11 Saka New Year (Nyepi) Hinduism
 11 to Apr 8 Ramadan
 11- 15 March break – No school
 17-23 Spring Festival Ohigan Buddhism
 19 Persian New Year
 20 Hindu New Year
 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - United Nations
 22 World Water Day - United Nations
 22 Pizza Lunch
 22 TDSB Earth Hour 2-3pm
 23 Toronto Earth Hour 8:30-9:30pm
 25 Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 25 Holi Festival
 25 Grad Photo Day
 26 Epilepsy Awareness Day
 29 Good Friday – no school
 31 Easter – Gregorian Calendar
 1 April Easter Monday – no school

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



Dear Parents/ Guardians/ Caregivers:

This past month we had fantastic African and Chinese Heritage awareness building, celebrations and honouring here at Gledhill. All classrooms took the opportunity to learn and teach each other about various African facts through presentations, and a Chinese lantern parade. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was one of the individuals that we had a collective colouring contest for. We continue to learn about how racism happens and we all need to do our part to eliminate this in our community and school. We continue to learn about Black Canadians that have contributed significantly to Canada's multicultural fabric. Thanks goes to our staff for echoing the voices of our marginalized communities to ensure equity for all. The many cultures and languages across Canada contribute to its rich diversity and such platforms enable us to celebrate their significance.

This month's activities have been wonderful. Our Pink T-Shirt Day activities allowed for us to come together and show our support of anti-bullying awareness and how we can collectively make a difference. These social justice causes allow us to come together to show our solidarity and support to each other. Pink T-shirt Day and social justice causes continue to be a focus that we embed in our daily learning at Gledhill. We all heard announcements and had conversations about how we all have a part to play in making Gledhill a safe place for everyone. Most significant is the sense of individual growth and pride that our students demonstrate to us on a daily basis. We will conquer this issue and grow from the experiences. Such growth is a great tribute to Canadian and TDSB values of Equity and Inclusion. Build character, build success! Thank you all our staff and parents who model and teach empathy, compassion and caring to our students.

Our wonderful student body participates in so many different sports, such as ball hockey, and pickleball to mention a few. We are slowly gearing up for Track in the Spring. Students are always available to lend a hand with directing other students, helping out in the office, helping parents with pizza lunch, and prefects for lunch bins. There are so many students that show their leadership. Recently, we met with a TPH Nurse who has provided us with new PALS pinnies to help support games at recess time. We are looking forward to reviving recess with new games after a long winter season. We hope to recruit as many students as we can, train them and become Playground Leaders. Ms. Pace and Mr. Webb will be facilitating this great opportunity. After the Spring break, students will start teaching other students how to play different games. We are looking forward to playing in the nicer weather.

We are pleased to see many of our students participating in extra-curriculars. From Art Club, Mad Science Program, Pickleball, Glee Club, Ukelele and Choir, there are daily activities at lunch. There is something happening every day of the week. We are proud of everything we offer that makes us a great school.

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

Sincerely,

Peppi Kondilis-Minos

Gledhill Read-a-thon Suggested Monthly Reading to Support Mental Well-being and BIPOC Equity Inclusivity and Diversity

March 2024

(Special Themes: International Day to Combat Islamophobia, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, International Transgender Day of Visibility)

As we gear up for our Gledhill Read-a-thon, starting with Bingo in March, the Gledhill Parent-Teacher Council, in partnership with our principal Ms. Kondilis-Minos and librarian Ms. Jarolim, have curated a suggested reading list for Grades JK-2 and 3-5 that aims to support our kids' mental wellbeing and foster BIPOC equity, inclusivity and diversity within our school. In the Month of March, as a community we observe the International Day to Combat Islamophobia, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the International Transgender Day of Visibility. Please join us in exploring these themes through fun and inspiring books that will get our school talking and our kids engaged in caring for one another and their community. Free electronic access to each book can be found through the link below each title.

K-Grade 2

- The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad and Hatam Aly
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfmc_llybcU
- From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea by Kai Cheng Thom
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7W5YpdBPzo>
- The Artist by Nikkolas Smith
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AssNTliEA1U>
- Nos Boucles au Naturel by Matthew A. Cherry
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEPcRvMAMrU>

Grades 3-5

- Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvpY1VEgsc&list=PLCbka8XvPS4-yKOq3SS89KPXPI17S833H>
- Pride and Persistence: Stories of Queer Activism by Mary Fairhurst Broom
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37hLP9FVYk>
- Enfants du Monde: Le Racisme et l'intolérance by Louise Spilsbury
(link not available)

On behalf of the Gledhill Parent-Teacher Council,
We look forward to reading with you Gledhill!!

Greek Heritage Month – March

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is proud to recognize Greek Heritage Month during the month of March. During the month of March, several activities will be shared to mark GHM. The theme for this year is: *“Greek Thought and Civilization: From Myth to Logos”*

This year's website includes [“Daily Announcements”](#) along with featured focused days with activities.

Excellence Awards 2024 Nominations Now Open

Every year, [the TDSB Excellence Awards](#) help share the untold stories of extraordinary staff commitment, and we are delighted to announce that nominations for the Excellence Awards 2024 are now open!

We want to know about the TDSB staff you know who are supporting the success and well-being of our students, as well as our school and work communities in so many different ways. We welcome nominations from anyone – staff, students, parents/caregivers or community members – so we encourage you to **submit nominations by April 5, 2024**.

For more information and to submit a nomination, please visit [the TDSB Excellence Awards website](#): tdsb.on.ca/excellence

Student Mental Health and Well-Being Resources

Supporting students and fostering daily positive mental health and well-being in all school communities is a priority at the TDSB. Visit [the MHWB website](#) to access mental health toolkits, identity affirming resources, and information about a variety of wellness topics. Whether you need immediate support, or want to learn more about a particular topic, there's information and support available.

Follow Us on Social Media #TDSB

Join the conversation by following the TDSB on social media. See the most up-to-date information and find out what's happening across the Board by following our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

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