



April/May 2018



Tel: (416) 397-3000
www.tdsb.on.ca

11 Gadsby Drive
Scarborough, Ontario, M1K 4V4
Tel: (416) 396-6280 Fax: (416) 396-6293



Ms. Demitra Zervas – Principal
Ms. Shirley Chan – Superintendent (416) 396-9178

Mr. David Smith – Trustee
Phone No. (416) 393-8809

Principal's Message

Welcome to spring! After a long and cold winter it is hard to believe that spring has officially arrived and there are only two months of school remaining! As we enter into the final months of the school year, it is very important that everyone continues to contribute to the "learning team" and work towards improving student outcomes.



Starting May 22nd to June 4th, grade 3 and 6 students will be participating in the Education Quality and Accountability

Office's (EQAO's) Grade 3 or Grade 6 Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Students will do a variety of assessment activities in six one-hour sessions designed to allow them to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to reading, writing and mathematics as described in The Ontario Curriculum. It is important that students come to school regularly and on time especially during EQAO. If you have questions about EQAO, please speak with your child's classroom teacher.



We are pleased to announce that on April 30th (kindergarten students in the morning) and May 3rd (grades 1-3 in the morning and grades 4-6 in the afternoon) we will be engaging in wellness focussed activities. Students will be rotating

through various workshops focussed on Yoga, safety, Mindfulness, and Nutrition. In addition, on May 3rd at 12:45 p.m. there will be a parent workshop focussed on Children's Health. We encourage all parents who can, to attend the session. A flyer was sent home with students last week. Please return the bottom portion of the flyer back to the school no later than May 1st, 2018.



Ms. Alexiou has been leading the kindergarten team in beautifying the kindergarten play area. The

kindergarten classes have created Fence Art and are working on flower gardens using recycled tires. They have also created signage for the area. We will continue to add to it each year. The

play area is starting to look great and we want to thank Ms. Alexiou and the kindergarten students and staff for all their hard work!

A reminder to all parents and students that Monday, May 21st is Victoria Day and the school is closed. Also, Friday June 8th is a P.A. Day and there is no school for students.

Thank you for your continued support of your children and our school.

Parking Lot



We continue to have concerns regarding the school parking lot at entrance and dismissal times. Despite a request for those driving students to school not to park in the school parking lot during entry and dismissal times, many parents continue to disregard this request and continue to do so. This puts students, staff and others in danger as the parking is overcrowded and there are vehicles stopped in no parking areas. Many times our Lunchroom Supervisors arrive at school to find there is no parking and they must park on the street.

Adults driving children to school are encouraged to park on Bimbrok Rd. or Broadbent Ave. and walk their children to the schoolyard.

The parking lot is for staff parking only. All staff have been given parking passes for their vehicles. All other vehicles will be tagged. As all our families live in the area, we encourage all students to walk to school.

News from the Library



As always, it's been a busy couple of months in the library. I have been working with Ms. Sawh and her grade five class as they embarked on an inquiry journey. Students completed research to learn more about green spaces and created models of these spaces. Some of our students presented their work at the Innovative Voices Student Symposium at David and Mary Thomson on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. Well done students!



Mr. Lauria and I have been busy with the grade twos as we explore the Movement unit in science. We started by looking at ways different living and non-living things move. Students then used Pebble Go to learn about the six simple machines and how they make work easier for people.

Students investigated how various machines make our life easier but how they can also impact humans and the environment in a negative manner. On the morning of Thursday, April 12, 2018, we had a scientist from the Scientist in the Schools program come and work with us in the library. Students had the opportunity to work in groups to conduct a number of experiments and investigations involving simple machines. It was a wonderful morning of learning! We are now starting our unit on Growth and Changes in Animals and the students are super excited about our new learning!

As always, I continue to encourage our students and their families to explore and use the various resources on the Virtual Library.

Your partner in reading ~ Mrs. Karaoulis

Computer Lab News



Grade 3 and 4 students have started learning about 3D printing technology. The students will design simple objects using a program called "Google SketchUp", and they will print

their objects by attending one of the Toronto Public Library branches which have 3D printers (not all branches do). This project will enable students to develop various math skills, such as manipulating geometric shapes in three dimensions; constructing various shapes; rotating objects; measuring angles, etc.

Please encourage your child to attend a library branch which has a 3D printer (e.g. Kennedy & Eglinton branch) with you. This will give them a chance to explore the technology. Many libraries offer a free 1-hour 3D printing certificate program.

Mrs. Kim

National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month! If you normally don't read poetry, now is a great time to learn more about poetry and explore many of the great poets, past and present. Children enjoy reading poems because of the rhythms, the playfulness with words, and language found in poetry. Children learn about language through rhyming, which sets the foundation for reading.

Each year, TDSB publishes a collection of student poetry in Urban Voices. This book publishes poetry from students in Kindergarten to Grade 12. In this way, Urban Voices becomes a great motivator for many other budding writers. Each year our poetry club, led by Mrs. Patel and Mrs. Karaoulis, aims to have some of our students' work published. Over the last six years we have had two students who have been published twice each. This year Inithaa, in grade four, will have her poem published. Inithaa also had her poem published last year! Congratulations Inithaa! We are proud of you and hope you continue writing poems in the future.

I'm Lonely

I'm lonely as I can be
I lost the things I treasure
I tried to play with people and say hi
But no one even lets me try
People are longing to see me
But today, I'm with no glee.
But alas, I am lonely
As I can be.



First Lego League



This year at Glen Ravine, we are excited to announce we have our own First Lego League Jr Team! We are the 'Cardinal Coders'! This was a wonderful opportunity for a team of Grade 3 and 4 students to build their computer literacy, coding, robotics skills and of course to have fun!



The theme this year is

During our team meetings, students began an inquiry centered around water; its importance, scarcity and the journey it makes to reach our homes each day. Our mission is to design, build, program, test, and improve a team model to show water's journey and to improve a part of the journey. We will be showcasing our work at the TDSB First Lego League Jr. Learning Expo held at Charles Gordon SPS (May 4th, 2018) where students will have an opportunity to showcase their hard efforts against other participating schools across the TDSB. Thank you to Ms. Kim and Ms. Kuroshima for investing their time and energy into making our team a success! Wish us good luck! - Ms. Khakoo

Glen Ravine Tree For Me Event

Last year, our school was the pilot school for the 'Tree For Me' initiative. The goal was to match 50 trees to caring and kind community members to plant in their backyards or the backyard of a friend or family member. We exceeded that goal by matching more than 100 trees! This year, you can once again sign up to receive a FREE TREE from the Tree For Me program! The steps are simple!



1. Head to www.treeforme.ca
2. Complete the quiz to match your needs (space, maintenance, etc.) with the PERFECT tree for you!
3. Sign up for the tree by clicking on the Glen Ravine Logo for our event!

Our event is at our school on June 7th, 2018 from 3:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Student volunteers from Ms. Sawh's class and Ms. Khakoo's class will take you through the process of how to plant your tree and care for it. If you live in an apartment building and don't have a large outdoor container, we invite you to participate in Tree For Me by caring for a seedling. When your seedling is large enough, you can plant it in the ground or, if you don't have a place to plant it, you can return your tree and a home will be found for it at a community Tree For Me event. Please stay tuned as Glen Ravine

students of all ages have done and will continue to do wonderful things to promote our Tree For Me event! We are committed to building a stronger, healthier and more beautiful community for us all.

Folk Dancing



Our Glen Ravine Folk Dancing Team, have been dancing their little hearts out since January, learning various folk dances from around the world, with their friends. Most of the dances are traditional circle line and couple dances from all over the world. Our big performance will be Tuesday May 1st (6:30 pm- 7:30 pm), at the Cedarbrae Collegiate Field (550 Markham Road). Come on out and join the fun. We would love to see you there!

Track and Field



As the spring weather is finally arriving, we are gearing up to host the annual Glen Ravine track and field day. Hopefully the field will dry up soon so we can enjoy this day. Keep your eyes open for a flyer to be coming home soon which will provide further information.

Multi-Year Strategic Plan Consultation



The Toronto District School Board is working on a Multi-Year Strategic Plan and wants to hear from you!

The Multi-Year Strategic Plan will act as a high level statement of intent for the TDSB for the next three or more school years, set direction and identify system goals to support its 246,000 students and 583 schools. We value input from parents/guardians, families, students and staff and invite you to provide feedback on the draft Multi-Year Strategic Plan documents. To learn more and provide input online, please visit: www.tdsb.on.ca/MYSP.

Kindergarten News



The past month has been very busy for us. We have been working hard turning our Kindergarten Area into an awesome Kindergarten Play Space. We have worked on:

- ☺ Doing some spring cleaning
- ☺ Putting up signs on the tree (How we should play)
- ☺ Fence art
- ☺ Wooden tables
- ☺ Making flower garden

We are now planning for more changes next year. We can't wait!

Continuing Education – Summer Music Camps



Add to your child's summer vacation with music camp. Through three unique programs – Summer Sounds, DownTown Summer Strings and Toronto Summer Music Camps – the TDSB offers band, strings and orchestral experiences for students from Grades 3-9. Registration is open

now. For more information, please visit [@TDSB_ConEd](http://www.tdsbsummerncamps.ca)

Elementary Summer School



Elementary summer programs increase engagement and build self-confidence in our students. This summer, from July 4 – 27, we are opening schools across the city to help build reading, writing and math skills in students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. Please ask your child's teacher for an application for your child, if interested

Classroom Organization

We are happy to announce the classroom organization for September 2018. It is as follows:

CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION
Grade
JK/SK
JK/SK
JK/SK
1
1/2
2
2/3
3
3/4
4
4/5
5 a.m.
6 a.m. / 5/6 p.m.
6 a.m. / 5/6 p.m.
Other
.5 HSP (Jr.)
.5 Resource Jr.
.5 Resource Pr.
.5 ESL
.5 Library
.6 French
.5 Gym
.4 Music
.5 Computers
.5 Prep (Library)

Student Attendance and Punctuality

Regular student attendance and punctuality are important in order for students to be successful at school. The Education Act states that it is the

School Matters!



responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that their children attend school regularly. A student's academic progress depends on regular class attendance.

TDSB elementary schools practice the Safe Arrival Program that requires schools to perform a school-home attendance check. Notify the school when your child will be absent. Students are expected to fully participate in learning opportunities and complete all homework assignments and tests when they are absent so make sure your child is getting homework assignments when they are absent.

You can help ensure that your child is in school and on time for classes by:

- being involved in your child's education;
- knowing the school's schedule;
- communicating regularly with classroom teachers (use your child's planner to send notes to the teacher);
- calling the school if your child is going to be absent;
- writing a note if your child is late due to an appointment;
- ensuring that your child gets a good night's sleep so that they have the energy they need for the next day.

Safety Routines for the Playground Structure



Now that the weather is warming up, we have reopened the playground structure. The school staff will be providing supervision at the playground during the school day, from 8:23 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Our students love the playground structure, and it is a good place for them to exercise and to develop their gross and fine motor skills through climbing, hanging, stretching, holding, grabbing, and moving from one part of the structure to the other. As with all physical activities, there is an element of risk involved. To ensure that your child has a safe and enjoyable experience while using the playground structure, we have developed a number of safety routines. All of our students are well aware of the routines, as they are reviewed with the students by their classroom teacher on a regular basis, and the rules for the playground structure are posted in each classroom.

We have listed the playground rules in this newsletter to assist you in supervising your child on the playground structure. **It is our belief that consistency between the school's safety expectations for our students when using the playground structure, and the parents, will help to avoid any confusion and inconsistency for the students.** Thank you for your co-operation.

Playground Rules

Primary students ~ Monday / Wednesday / Friday
Junior students ~ Tuesday / Thursday

Sky Runner (the one that looks like an umbrella)
~ one student at a time



- ~ no sitting on the top
- ~ line up on the paved path and wait your turn

Space module

- ~ no sitting on the roof
- ~ no more than 4 students in the module at any one time

- No tag/running games in the area
- No pushing
- No equipment – balls, skipping ropes, etc.
- Wood chips stay on the ground
- Big Foot (slide) is one way – **down**; use the stairs to climb up
- No sitting on top of the climbing structure

Please review these rules with your child and have your child continue to follow these rules even when not in school. The safety of the children is what is most important. Thank you.



Looking Ahead

May 4	~ a.m. – Recognition Assembly
May 7	~ Meeting for any Grade 5/6 students interested in Playground Pals – Room 107 @ p.m. Recess
May 15	~ Ignite Explore Inspire Student Symposium @ Charles Gordon 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
	~ Welcome to Kindergarten 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
May 17	~ Kindies to the Zoo
May 18	~ Track & Field @ Glen Ravine
May 21	~ Victoria Day – no school
May 22	~ EQAO begins
May 31	~ Recognition Assemblies – p.m.
June 1	~ EQAO ends
June 7	~ Tree for Me Event – 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
June 8	~ P.A. Day – no school
June 18	~ Scientist in School – Room 202
June 28	~ Last day of school for students
June 29	~ P.A. Day