

Highland Heights Jr. Public School &  
Jean Augustine Girls' Leadership Academy

**NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2015**

Principal: Susan Lai  
Superintendent: Shirley Chan

Trustee: Manna Wong

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

The School Council met on February 23, 2015 and they decided to hold a Popcorn Fundraising event on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Please look out for the order form as we will be taking only pre-orders. All proceeds will go towards purchasing books for the library.

The next School Council meeting will be on April 13, 2015 at 6:30. All parents and guardians are welcome and child minding is provided.

If you are home during the lunch hour I encourage you to take your children home for lunch. Children will have the opportunity to share their morning learning experiences with you.

Students who bring cell phones and other personal electronic devices to school do so at their own risk. If they are lost or stolen the school cannot take responsibility. Please remind your children that if they bring these devices to school they are to be turned off at 8:30 a.m. and can be turned on at dismissal time at the end of the day.

I would like to wish everyone a very safe and relaxing March Break! If you are in

Toronto it is a good time to visit the public library or take a bus and a subway ride downtown and enjoy our beautiful City.

**BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

All students are welcome for a healthy breakfast, Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. We ask for a donation of \$1.00 each day.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Breakfast Program. Please contact the office if you are available one morning a week.



**Safe Arrivals: Please call 416-396-3303 and Press 1 to report absences.**

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## A TRIP TO PARLIAMENT HILL

By Maryam Khan

As a part of Black History month, a day trip was organized to Parliament Hill for 250 Toronto Students on January 27th, 2015 by the Children's Breakfast Club. For many of the children, it was their first experience boarding and riding a train, going to Parliament Hill, or even their first time away from Toronto. They were lucky enough to speak to some federally elected representatives.

250 Students took the trip.

Once they arrived at Ottawa after the 5 hour train ride, they went and visited the parliament buildings. They also met several MPs including Kirsty Duncan and Judy Sgro. They learned firsthand about the Government of Canada. Imagine watching grade 5 Social Studies come alive in the House of Commons! The students got to watch a question and answer period where they were welcomed with a short speech from Hon. Judy Sgro. During the Q&A the students witnessed



Arriving at Parliament Hill

heated exchanges as both sides of the House of Commons debated important issues like the economy, security and rail crossings. Alieva Homer, a grade 7 student observed that the liberals and conservatives "yelled at each other" and were "not very polite".

They learned firsthand about the Government of Canada.

Another major learning experience for the students was the tour around the parliament. The students were able to go on a tour around the parliament and view the elegant architecture which is such an important symbol of Canadian heritage and identity. They visited the library and the Memorial Room which both matched the rest of the

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rest of the beautiful parliament; they were both grand and magnificent. The number of books in the library of parliament are said to be one and a half the height of Mount Everest if stacked one on top of another.

A big treat for some the students was meeting the Hon. Jean Augustine. Jean Augustine is known for pushing boundaries: she is the first black person, and woman to be elected to the House of Commons.

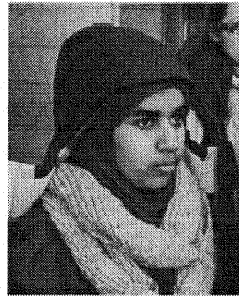
"The trip was a fun and exciting experience for all of us."

Ms. Augustine was the person who asked PM Jean Chretien in 1995 to establish Black History month. She was back with the students on this trip to support Honourable Judy Sgro as she launched the Black History Poster which will encourage schools to once a month highlight the contribution of one person of African ancestry to "the Canadian Mosaic". But what really made spending the day with Hon. Jean Augustine a treat is that their school is named for her. How many students get an experience like that?

"The trip was a fun and exciting

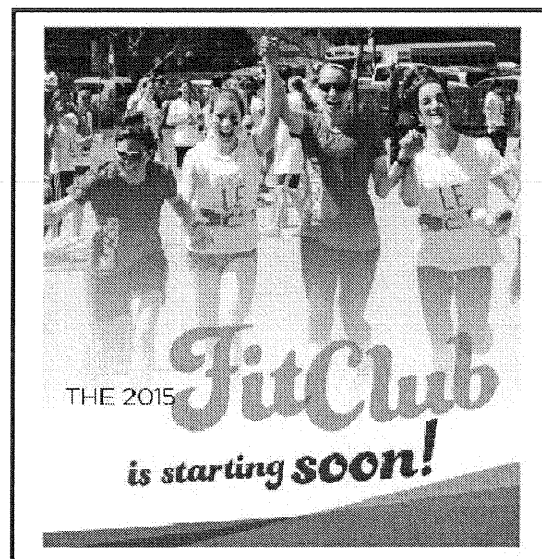
experience for all of us" states Ashanti McGovern, a student from Jean Augustine Girls Leadership Academy, who attended this trip. "We learned a lot of interesting facts"

VIA is a proud sponsor of this annual tradition. It was another successful field trip that came with an inspiring experience.



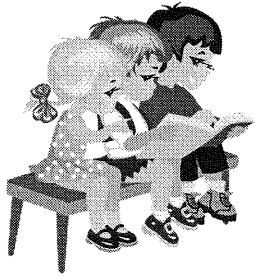
Maryam Khan is a grade 7 student at Jean Augustine Girls' Leadership Academy. She is an avid reader who also enjoys scrap-booking and playing hockey.

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**PARENTING FAMILY LITERACY  
CENTRE**



Room 113  
Mon. to Thurs. 8:45am – 1:45 pm

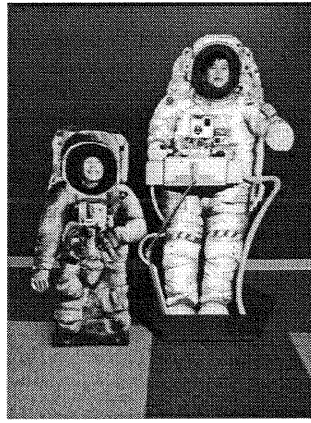
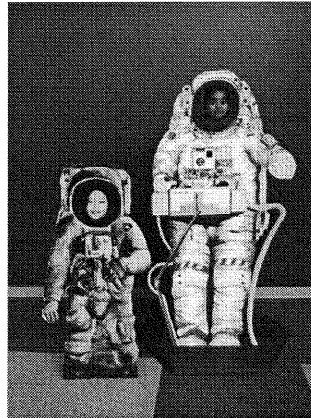
We invite families with young children to come and visit our Parenting and Family Literacy Centre. This free T.D.S.B. program is located in room 113 and is for parents and caregivers with children from birth to 6 years of age. Daily activities include story and music time, art, sand and water play, gym time and a nutritious snack. Please visit the centre whenever you can and participate in an enjoyable play based program where your child will learn school skills that will help prepare them for kindergarten. A great place for parents to make connections, discuss issues relating to children and learn about other resources in the community.

For more information please call 416 396-6335.

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**All Parents and Guardians: You are invited to an African Drum - Dance and Story Presentation on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the West Gym**

**MR. DYCE'S CLASS AT THE  
SCIENCE CENTRE**



**UPCOMING DATES**

Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Forest Valley</i>	Rm.101 & 207
Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Travelling Museum</i>	Rm. 208
Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup> - Mar. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Kearney</i>	Gr. 5/6 HH & JAGLA
Mar. 11 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Drum-Dance-Story</i>	West Gym
Mar. 13	<i>Forest Valley</i>	Rm.102 & 103
Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup>	<i>March Break</i>	NO SCHOOL
Mar. 25 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Forest Valley</i>	JAGLA
Apr. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Good Friday</i>	NO SCHOOL
Apr. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Easter Monday</i>	NO SCHOOL
Apr. 13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>School Council</i>	6:30-8:30pm

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