

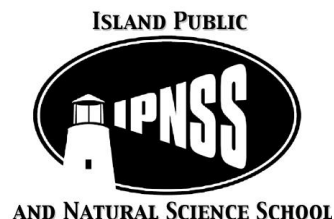
Island Breeze



The Newsletter of
Island Public School
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Island Public/Natural Science School
30 Centre Island Park, Toronto, ON M5J 2E9
Scott Woolford, Principal
D. Hawker-Budlovsky, CAP Outdoor Ed
Mary Linton, Superintendent of Education
Stephanie Donaldson, School Trustee



School Website: <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/island>

December 2020

Dear Island Public School Families:

With only two weeks to go before we break for the winter holidays, IPS continues to be a place of reflection and celebration. Upcoming events continue to show how we come together as a strong and supportive community. The Grade 6 Students will lead our 2nd food gift card drive campaign (Halloween Scare Hunger Gift Card Drive raise 600\$). All students will create cards of thanks and appreciation for our Island Senior Residents. We will showcase and celebrate the upcoming winter season with our Virtual Winterfest where each class will share an outdoor activity and music.

December's Character Education trait has been 'Kindness and Caring'. We encourage families to continue to discuss ways to express kindness and caring throughout the year. Acts of kindness and caring can go a long way, and simple acts can mean so much to someone in need especially during these unprecedented times.

Scott Woolford, Principal

School Office Hours
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday to Thursday
(to 4:00 p.m. on Fridays)

A Glance Ahead

- Dec. 9, 10 & 11 – Food Gift Card Drive
- Dec. 14 & 15 – Card Making for Island Residents
- **Dec. 17 – IPS Virtual Winterfest**
- Dec. 18 – Last Day of School
- Dec. 21 to Jan. 1 – Winter Break School Closed
- Jan. 4 – School Re-opens ☺
- Jan. 15, 2021 – P.A. Day (no School)
- Feb. 9, 2021 – Term 1 Report Card Sent Home
- Feb. 12, 2021 – Term 1 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Feb. 15, 2021 – Family Day Holiday

SchoolConnects Safe Arrival Program

If your child is absent, please leave a voice message on our Safe Arrival line (code 1). Please do not email your child's absence as staff may not be available to access or pass on the information to the appropriate staff. We have recently moved to an automated call-out system. **When you receive a call, you are required to listen to the entire message and follow the prompts accordingly.**

Alternative Arrangements for Pick-up

If there are alternative arrangements for your child's dismissal or pick up (ie. going home early or someone else is picking up your child), please send a note to the office.

IPS Virtual Winterfest

IPS Families are welcome to join our Virtual Winterfest on Thursday, December 17th beginning at 1:15pm via a Google Meets. Each class will be preparing a song and share a outdoor activity to showcase on this day to the entire IPS community. Your child's teacher will be contacting families to let them know when their recording day is scheduled in order to ensure all students have an opportunity to participate. Although we are unable to come physically together, we are excited to share this exciting annual event together *virtually*. Hot chocolate and candy canes will be enjoyed by staff and students during the virtual event.

Holiday Food Gift Card Drive

The Grade 6 Student's are leading the Holiday Food Gift Card Drive. These donations will be delivered to the Daily Bread Food Bank to support its mission in providing families across Toronto additional support during these unprecedented times and over the holidays. You can drop your food gift card donation at the ferry docks between December 9th to 11th – look for the students in Red & White.

Island Public School Card Making



This year in lieu of cookie delivery IPS students will create holiday cards that will be mailed both to the Island Senior Residents and the Ferry Docks Personnel as a way for us to say thank you for their continued support. We have consulted with TPH regarding the 7 day time period for the safe receiving of these cards. These cards will be created on December 14th & 15th and then mailed the following week. We are inviting students to bring a Loonie donation towards the purchase of postage for delivery of these holiday cards.

Daily Health Screening

Ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff remains a top priority and everyone plays a role. The most important thing families can do to help mitigate the transmission of Covid-19, is to continue to screen their children daily for any Covid-19 symptoms and keep them from school if they are sick or have had close contact with anyone diagnosed with Covid-19.

We continue to health screen both students and staff prior to boarding the ferry, school bus or entering the school. Before coming to school each day, all students must conduct an active [Student Health Screening Self-Assessment](#).

For those using the daily paper health screening pass, please now use the updated version.

- [Health Screening Paper Pass](#)

Mental Health and Well-Being Resources During COVID-19

As we prepare for the holidays, we know these unprecedented times can produce a range of emotions and questions for students of all ages. Please continue to reach out to the school during these unprecedented times. We encourage all families to continue to check out the many resources the TDSB website:

[General Mental Health & Well-Being Resources](#)

Covid-19 Specific Resources:

- [Wellness Together Canada](#)
- [Youth Mental Health Resource Hub](#)
- [How to Support your Child's Mental Health During Covid-19](#)
- [Talking to Children about Covid-19 and Its Impact](#)
- [Coping with @Home Learning: Caregiver Tips](#)

Stay Healthy This Flu Season

Flu season is here again. In Canada, flu season tends to run between October and April. The Ontario government is encouraging Ontarians to avoid getting sick this flu season by getting their annual flu shot. Toronto Public Health is recommending that whenever students and staff experience flu-like symptoms, they are sent home and do not return to school until they are no longer infectious to others. Therefore, ill students and staff should be symptom-free (especially from vomiting and diarrhea) for at least 48 hours before returning to school. The primary concern is for the health and safety of all students and staff. Please note that no special measures are required when there is a case of influenza in a school or daycare. However, everyone should do their part to stop the spread of the flu. As parents, you can also assist by:

- Reminding children to wash their hands often especially after using the washroom and before and after eating;
- Reminding children to cover their sneeze and cough;
- Watching for symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, and/or high fever;
- Informing the school if your child is ill;
- Keeping your child at home when he/she is ill.



For more information, please visit the Toronto Public Health website www.toronto.ca/health, contact your family doctor, or Telehealth Ontario. 1-866-797-0000.

Google Classroom Reminder

Teachers have created individual Google Classrooms as a way to communicate to IPS families and showcase classroom happenings. Homework, upcoming topics/themes, or student sharing of ideas take place on the Google Classroom. Please be sure you visit your child's teacher google classroom. If you require access, please contact your child's teacher directly.



Gift Giving & Exchanging in Schools

To support safe gift giving this year, TPH makes the following recommendations:

- Consider gift cards as gifts
- Consider donations to charitable organization in lieu of gifts

Grade 6 to 7 School Transitions

For the most recent and updated information on neighboring school virtual open houses, alternative school application processes and packages, IPS parents and students are encouraged to check the [TDSB Alternative Schools Website](#). *For the 2020-21 school year, you must start the online registration process now and follow the prompts.*

Upcoming Virtual Info Sessions

Alpha II Alternative TBD	City View Alternative Jan. 28 @ 7:00pm
Delta Alternative TBD	Equinox Holistic Alternative TBD
High Park Alternative TBD	Quest Alternative TBD
Horizon Alternative TBD	Spectrum Alternative TBD

The Waterfront School, TDSB

Grade 6 students who reside within the IPS attendance boundary, have a option to attend [The Waterfront School](#) located at 835 Queens Quay as their middle school. There will be a Virtual Info Session to be scheduled in the new year.