

# Island Breeze



The Newsletter of  
Island Public School  
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Island Public/Natural Science School  
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**Scott Woolford**, Principal  
David Hawker-Budlovsky, CAP Outdoor Ed.  
Mary Linton, Superintendent of Education  
Stephanie Donaldson, School Trustee



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

## Beginning-Mid March 2021

Dear Island Public School Families:

On February 17<sup>th</sup> we arrived back to in-person learning – YEAH! As part of this return, a visit from our Toronto Public Health Liaison was required to ensure that the health and safety return to school guidelines were effectively implemented. TPH uses a COVID-19 prevention checklist format during the visit, speaks to both students and staff and views the various in-class and school-wide routines over the course of the visit. The four guideline areas reviewed were *physical space, mask/face coverings, personal protective equipment and physical distancing*. IPS met/exceeded all requirements and it was mentioned in the report email that *“the application of TPH guidelines and recommendations are evident in (the) school. This is the only situation that I do not have recommendations, rather, to continue practicing the implemented procedures and protocols in the school.”* This is a proud Principal moment. Join me in recognizing this accomplishment as a school community, who has worked hard during these unprecedented and challenging times to ensure the health and safety of IPS students, staff and parents upon our return. BRAVO – IPS Shines!

For the month of March our Character Trait will focus on ‘Honesty’.

Scott Woolford, Principal

### School Office Hours During Revised Ferry Schedule

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
(12:00p.m. to 1:00p.m. Student Office Helpers)  
Monday to Thursday  
(to 4:00 p.m. on Fridays)

### A Glance Ahead

- Mar. 11 – [The Big Crunch Day](#)
- Mar. 15-19 – IPS Spirit Days
- Mar. 15-19 – Tapping & Making Maple Syrup (K-Gr. 6)
- Mar. 21 – [International Day of Forests](#)
- Mar. 22 – [World Water Day](#)
- Mar. 26 – Toronto Earth Hour ([World Earth Hour Mar. 27](#))
- Mar. 29-April 1 – Inspirational Math Days
- April 2 – Good Friday Holiday – School Closed
- April 5 – Easter Monday Holiday – School Closed
- April 12-16 – “April-March” Break – School Closes
- April 22 – Earth Day
- April 30 – Visions of Turtle Island Performance (K - Gr. 2)

### 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.

## Virtual Book Club

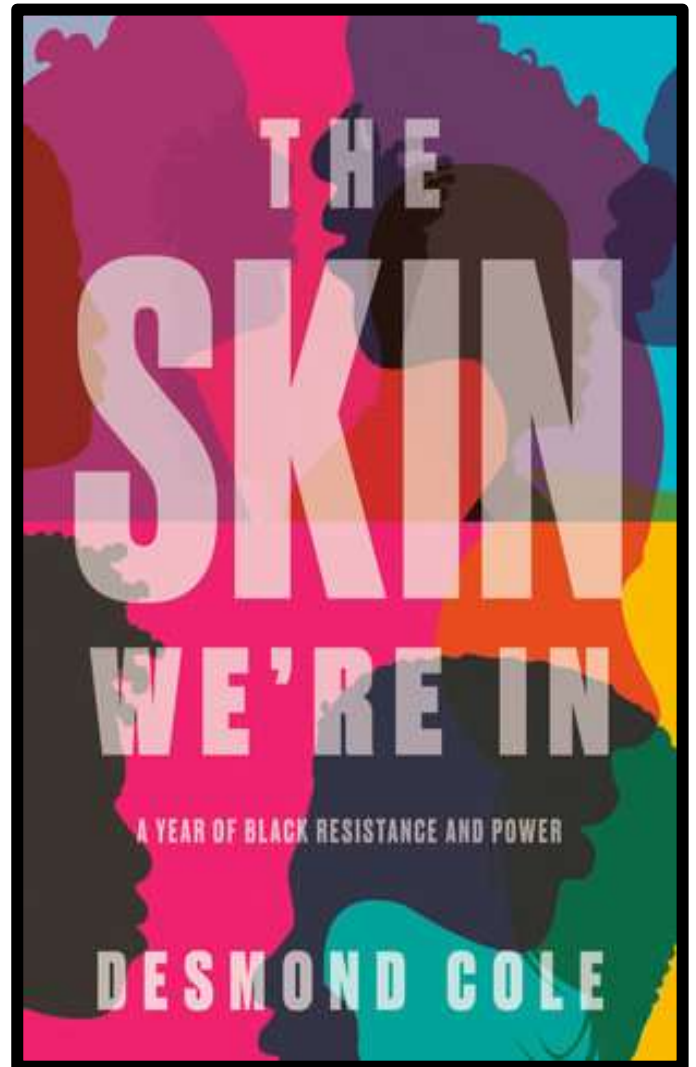
### *The Skin We're In by Desmond Cole*

The IPS Equity School Council Committee hosted the initial meeting March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00pm. We are excited and grateful to have Desmond Cole moderate the evening's conversations.

*Register using the google form link below:*

<https://forms.gle/2wU2RA54MJezNLWw8>

It's not too late to register and receive your E-Book and get started reading! We greatly appreciate the support of Rakuten Kobo Canada who arranged for a reduced cost and donated books of *The Skin We're In* by Desmond Cole.



## **Podcast: TDSB Human Library:**

### [Conversations around Equitable, Anti-Racist and Anti-Oppressive Practice!](#)

- **Natasha Henry speaks about *African Canadian Experiences and the Curriculum***
- **Gen Ling Chang speaks about *Understanding & Addressing Anti-Asian Racism***

## Tapping Maple Trees & Making Maple Syrup

With the postponement of March Break into April come the opportunity for students at IPS to can take part in the making of Maple Syrup. Cool nights and warm days are the hallmark of the sugaring season and this year looks like perfect weather. Students will learn how to identify a maple trees, collect sap, and see the boil at our open-air brick sap stove. Thank you to Amy from Outdoor Ed who will be providing this exceptional outdoor learning experience for all our students.



## Virtual Great Big Crunch

Get your apple of other crunchy fruit & vegetable ready to crunch LOUD on March 11<sup>th</sup> @ 2:30pm with other healthy school food enthusiasts. IPS has registered for this event to show the importance of eating healthy foods to help maintain a healthy body and mind! Students are encouraged to bring an extra crunchy snack for this day.



## World Water Day Valuing Water

Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, IPS will reflect on what water means to them. Water means different things to different people. How is water important to your home and family life, your livelihood, your cultural practices, your well-being, your local environment? Students will share their *I Wonders...* to create questions to investigate their own answers. IPS continues to practice the use of reusable water bottles to *Take Back The Tap* and does not purchase or support plastic water bottles.



*World  
Water Day*

## IPS Spirit Days – March 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>

Monday – School Colours Day (Blue & White)



Tuesday – Mismatch Day

Wednesday – Pajama Day

Thursday – Career Day

Friday – Class Theme Door Day



## TDSB Earth Hour 2021

On Friday, March 26, schools across the TDSB are recognizing Earth Hour from 2 - 3 p.m. Schools are asked to reduce their electricity usage for one hour. During Earth Hour, IPS will be using as little electricity as possible in the office, halls, classrooms, library, gym, cafeteria. Where possible, we encourage you to reduce your electricity usage over the weekend.

### High Water Levels Brings Increased Risks

The Toronto and Region Conservation monitors hazardous ice conditions as thaw begins and are reminding everyone to be very careful around all bodies of water. The first hint of warming weather and the promise of spring thaw can bring extreme danger to the shores and surfaces of streams, rivers, ponds and lakes, according to Toronto and Region Conservation. As warmer temperatures arrive, stream banks become increasingly slippery and unstable. Lake and river ice weaken, becoming thinner or with higher flows breaking with little or no warning. During this time, the potential for flooding and ice jamming is high. Higher, faster-flowing water and extreme cold temperatures combine to create increased dangers on or near rivers, streams and ponds for people wishing to enjoy the seasonal changes. Parents and caregivers are being asked to keep children away from stream banks, ponds and lakes.

### March is Greek Heritage Month at the TDSB

March is Greek Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board! It is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Greek Canadians to Canada, and an occasion to mark and enjoy the history of Greek culture.

The theme for this year is  
"Inquire, Innovate, Inspire -  
Σπουδή, Καινοτομία,  
Έμπνευση"