

Island Breeze



The Newsletter of
Island Public School
School Phone: (416) 393-1910



Island Public/Natural Science School
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School Website: <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/island>

HAPPY SUMMER 2020 EDITION #3

Hello IPS Families

I hope you are healthy and well. We will continue to communicate through the Island Breeze throughout the summer as a way to keep connected. Please also continue to reach out via email at Scott.Woolford@tdsb.on.ca even during the summer break.

Regards,

Scott Woolford, Principal

[Mental Health & Well-being Resources During COVID-19](#)

We care about the range of emotions and questions students of all ages may be experiencing in this uncertain and unprecedented time of the Covid-19 pandemic and recent school closures. The change in routines and feelings of separation from peers, educators and other important caregivers may cause distress. However, this time offers an opportunity to strengthen our resilience and pay greater attention to our well-being. Also our very own TDSB Psychological Services [Hearts & Minds Summer Newsletter](#) for more resources.

Stay
Connected
through
[TDSBWeb](#)



STUDENT REMOTE LEARNING RESOURCES

Students and families can continue to access the list of [Online/Digital Student Learning Resources](#) and the [TDSB Virtual Library](#) over the summer months. To explore the full digital resources, please use the links within the second column. Have fun exploring!



Practicing Empathy

From our very own Nicole McSweeney, TDSB Social Worker

Do you think empathy can be taught, or it is more of an innate skill? The world currently, as you know, has had much upheaval and uprisings. By trying to practice empathy these days, perhaps some sort of understanding can emerge for the struggles others are facing right now. Dr. Brene Brown reviews how we can [Practice Empathy](#) with our children and others.

TDSB Speakers Series

Talking Race With Your Children

Speakers:

- 1) **Dr. Kang Lee**, University of Toronto profession and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in developmental neuroscience
 - One area of Dr. Lee's research is the development of social perception with a specific focus on face processing. Currently, his lab is exploring how to reduce racial biases in childhood.
- 2) **Vidya Shah**, Associate Professor, York University
 - Dr. Shah is an educator, scholar and activist committed to issues of equity and racial justice. Her research explores anti-racist approaches to educational leadership and school district reform.
- 3) **Dr. Sharon Smile**, Developmental Paediatrician, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital
 - Dr. Smile's research interest is in identifying new model of care to address feeding challenges in children/youth diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

[Click Here to Watch Recorded Session](#)

TDSB Updated 2020-21 School Year Calendar

The TDSB's [2020-2021 school year calendar](#) has been approved by the Ministry of Education and is now final. Next year's calendar was originally approved by Trustees and submitted to the Ministry in March 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and uncertainty around the next school year, the Ministry was not approving calendars at the time. Since then, the Ministry advised school boards to schedule three PA days prior to the start of student instruction to prepare for the reopening of schools.

As a result, the following revision to the 2020-2021 school year calendar was made:

- Move the June 30, 2021 PA day to September 1, 2020. This results in three PA days before the start of school for students (September 1, 2, 3)

Students will begin class on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

The last day of school will be Tuesday, June 29, 2021.