

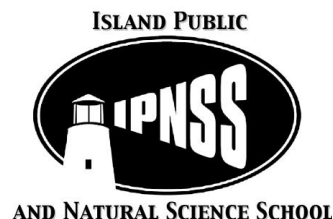
# Island Breeze



The Newsletter of  
Island Public School  
Phone: (416) 393-1910  
Boat Supervisor: (416) 729-7183



Island Public/Natural Science School  
30 Centre Island Park, Toronto, ON M5J 2E9  
Scott Woolford, Principal  
Mary Linton, Superintendent of Education  
Stephanie Donaldson, School Trustee



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

## End of November-Beginning of December 2021

Dear Island Public School Families:

With only three 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. We are raising the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Flag; Grade 5 & 6 Students will lead our 2<sup>nd</sup> food gift card drive campaign (Halloween Scare Hunger Gift Card Drive raise over 350\$); and all students will celebrate with the upcoming 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. 8 & 9 – Food Gift Card Drive
- Dec, 10 –IPS Virtual Winterfest
- Dec. 15 – Card Making for Island Residents
- Dec. 17 – Last Day of School
- Dec. 20 to Dec. 31 – Winter Break School Closed
- Jan. 3 – School Re-opens ☺
- Jan. 14, 2022 – P.A. Day (no School)
- Feb. 15, 2022 – Term 1 Report Card Sent Home
- Feb. 18, 2022 – Term 1 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Feb. 21, 2022 – 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.

## Indigenous Education Month

November is Indigenous Education Month at the TDSB. It is important to centre First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories, contemporary realities and voices. For classrooms, this is an opportunity to learn from Indigenous perspectives on treaties, Indigenous leadership, achievements, resistance and creativity. Truth and Reconciliation is a guiding principle at the TDSB. At the Island Public School we are very excited to be able to share in the official raising of the [Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation](#) Flag at the school on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Elders, Councillors and Members will lead us in this exciting event:

- Land Acknowledgement
- Opening Song and Drum Opening
- Honour Song Flag Raising
- Sharing of Knowledge: The Traditional Uses of the Island



Raising the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Flag will give us an opportunity to further strengthen the relationship with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation as an act of Reconciliation and to continue to engage in meaningful opportunities to learn together about our shared histories and to build stronger relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples.

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# IPS Virtual Winterfest

IPS Families are welcome to join our Virtual Winterfest on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00pm via a Zoom Link. Each class will be preparing a song and share an outdoor activity to showcase on this day. Your child's teacher will be contacting to let them know when their recording day is scheduled in order to ensure all students have an opportunity to participate. 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 5 & 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 8 & 9<sup>th</sup> – look for the students in **Red & White**.

### Daily Health Screening

Ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff is a 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](#).

Learn more about next steps using the [Toronto Public Health COVID-19 Decision Guide](#)

### Mental Health and Well-Being Resources During COVID-19

As we prepare for the holidays in a few weeks, 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:*

- [Parent Caregiver & Student Well-Being Kit](#)
- [Student Well-Being Kit](#)
- [Teen Well-Being and Mental Health Kit](#)
- [TPH Covid-19 Mental Health Resources](#)
- [Culturally Responsive Mental Health Supports](#)

## 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](http://www.toronto.ca/health), contact your family doctor, or Telehealth Ontario. 1-866-797-0000.

## 2021 AIA Christmas Boutique

Annually IPS has provide the chilli for this event as a fundraiser to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Students in Grade 5 & 6 would volunteer to serve the chilli. However with the pandemic restrictions we will have to wait until 2022. IPS Families are still invited to attend and support the AIA Boutique!

ALGONQUIN ISLAND ASSOCIATION

# 2021 Christmas Boutique



At the Algonquin Island Association  
Clubhouse

*Boutique open for sales one day only:*

**Saturday, December 4**

**11 am to 4 pm**

Covid restrictions apply: must be double vaccinated  
\* prepare to show proof of vaccination; wear a mask \*  
No food or drink available in clubhouse

For online viewing and sales visit:  
[algonquinislandassociation.weebly.com](http://algonquinislandassociation.weebly.com)