

Islington Junior Middle School

Newsletter - December 2019 Edition



Principal:
Rocco Coluccio
Vice Principal:
Alessandra Faraone

Superintendent:
Sandra Tondat
Trustee:
Patrick Nunziata

School Council Co-Chairs:
Alex Song & Lauren Tedesco



**Follow us on
Twitter:
tdsb_islington**

Website:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/islington/Home.aspx>

DECEMBER Character Trait

Kindness/Caring/ L'attention
**and Grandfather
Teaching**
Respect/Le respect



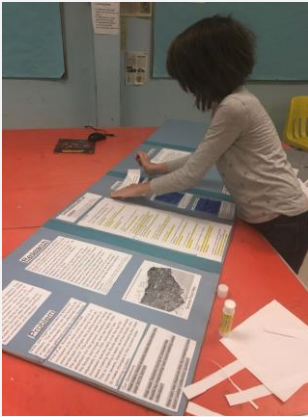
Islington gives back to the community. Bag to School fundraiser redirected used clothes out of landfills, in order to be recycled.

Principal's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff and students for rendering November such an amazing, memorable month at Islington JMS. We celebrated Indigenous Education month with many teachers centering Indigenous perspectives in their daily lessons. Some students also delved into relevant inquiries around Indigenous experiences. We observed the character trait of Responsibility/Bravery which many of our students embody as they connect with their teachers and peers in and outside the classroom. We had an amazing Remembrance Day assembly that included diverse perspectives of all those who have stood for our rights and freedoms.

December promises to be a great month as well! Our upcoming Winter Concert on December 12, 2019 sets out to bring some holiday cheer to our IJMS community and I cordially invite you all to participate. Our students are full of artistic talent and this is one way for them to showcase and be proud of this. The details of the evening are included in this newsletter. December is also Kindness /Caring and Respect month, during which we explicitly teach, talk about and point out how and when students are demonstrating these important character traits. Our SOTM assembly and parent Snack and Chat is Thurs Dec 19 at 9:15. All parents welcome!! Our last day of school for this calendar year is December 20. Please join us for our annual sing along at 9:15. Please take a moment to read through this newsletter for detailed information about upcoming events/programs. I now take this opportunity to thank all of our families for your ongoing support and dedication to making our school a great place. On behalf of our staff, I wish you all a safe and peaceful holiday with friends and loved ones and a wonderful start to the 2020 new year!

Rocco Coluccio



Full STEAM Ahead

Lego League: Since September, the IJMS Lego Panthers have been busily toiling away to prepare for their competition at Western Technical on November 30 (where they came 1st). They researched climate change related to flooding and designed a drainage solution for Toronto's streets and sewer systems and printed their prototypes using our 3D printer. They have also been working hard to code our EV3 robot to use a light sensor to follow a black line and accomplish missions on the competition board. Go Lego Panthers Go!

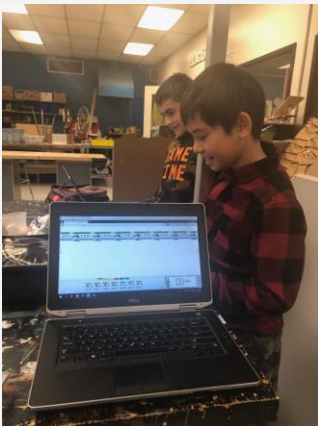


ECO NEWS



Bag to School: Our clothing drive seems to have been a great success! Thank you to all that have donated to the Bag to School initiative! We are proud to be part of keeping clothes out of the landfill and recycling them properly!

Eco Team: The waste crew of our eco team completed their first walk-around waste audit and observed that many waste items are being placed in the incorrect containers. They have found that many garbage bins were filled with food and recyclables such as bottles, bags, and cans and many recycling bins had food and non-recyclable garbage such as chip bags and coffee cups. We hope Islington can improve their waste sorting and take a look at the posters near waste bins to find out in which bin their waste belongs.



ATHLETICS

The Intermediate Girls Basketball team coached by Ms. Porteous had a successful tournament on November 22nd! Congratulations to the girls for playing with heart and great sportsmanship. They represented Islington with pride! Go Panthers!

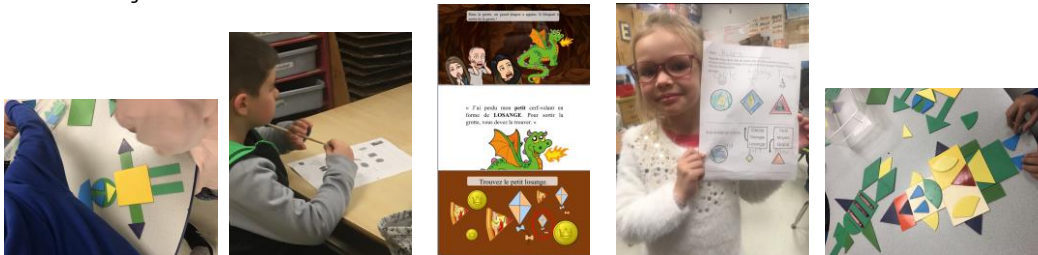


FR EN IMMERSION

Learning in Madame Yaroski & Monsieur Pascal's SK Class

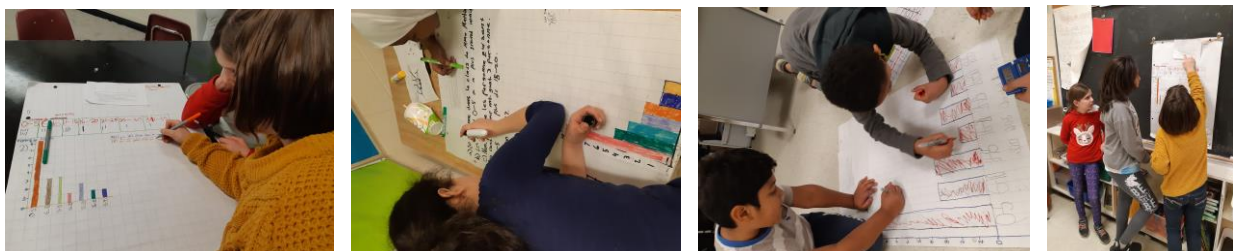
In Room 1 the students have been working on shapes of different sizes, as well as finding shapes in everyday objects around them. We have built stories about shapes, we have created pictures using shapes, and even modeled shapes with pipe cleaners and playdoh. The students are enjoying exploring the different shapes and using their imagination to create unique images of the way they see the world.

Dans la salle 1, les élèves travaillent avec les formes de différentes tailles, et ils trouvent des formes dans le monde autour d'eux. Ensemble, on a créé des histoires au sujet des formes, les images en utilisant les formes, et même la modélisation des formes avec les cure-pipes et le playdoh. Les élèves s'amuse bien en explorant de différentes formes et en utilisant leur imagination pour créer des images uniques pour représenter la façon dont ils voient le monde.



Learning in Monsieur Gueye's Gr 4/5 Class

The students have been working on presenting how to create, analyze and interpret graphs. They have been asking critical questions about them. In these photos, the students had to organize the punctuality of students in an (unnamed) class, create a bar graph, analyze it, and suggest which actions they would take if they were the teacher of that class. Using their background knowledge, they suggested the teacher could talk to their students to try to understand why they are late (not enough sleep, late breakfast, bus issues...) and if necessary, meet with parents or guardians to discuss the issue.



Parent Snack and Chat Session

Our topic this month: Oral Hygiene



ALL PARENTS WELCOME!!

- Sessions are informal, drop-in opportunities for parents.
- Come connect with other parents.
- Learn about services and supports for parents and students.
- Sessions start at 10:00 after the Student of the Month Assemblies.
- Drop in for a coffee and snack to meet members of our school supports staff such as your Public Health Nurses (Joanne and Iolanda) and your school Social Worker (Rachel)

Let the office know what topics you would like to discuss to help you support your child(ren).

Let's talk!

See you Thurs December 19 10AM



Kinder Corner

Learning in Room 4 with Ms. Jimenez & Ms. Mishriki

The students of Room 4 have been busy the past few months, learning and exploring. Our inquiries have flourished and the students have asked great questions and discovered many new things. We have inquired about the changing seasons, pumpkins, Orange Shirt Day, Remembrance Day, and how to be a good friend.

So how do we share all this learning? Documentation is a way to display the children's work, efforts, ideas and learning in a beautiful and respectful way, and supports our value in children that they are capable, thoughtful, and creative. The bulletin boards in front of room 3 and 4 showcase and represent the ongoing learning each month in our rooms.



Documentation makes learning visible for children, educators, families and other community members. Family participation and input enriches the learning that happens in the classroom. The documentation invites you to share your ideas and learning that happens at home that influences learning in the classroom.

Parents, you are our partners in learning, so by sharing documented work at school with you, it is a great way for you to participate in your child's learning in a more intimate way. Documentation also allows you to understand the work and learning that your child is engaged in and think about ways you can contribute to the work in a thoughtful way.

There are many ways parents and families can be involved and contribute after examining documentation:

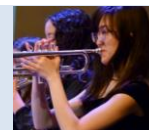
- By listening to their child's thoughts and ideas
- By helping them to collect materials they may need
- By helping them record their ideas to paper
- By making suggestions
- By reading with the child about the topic

The Junior Girls Club

The Junior Girls Club joined girls from across the Board, attended an empowering "**Women on the Move**" event at The Montecassino Event Centre. Finding inner peace while meditating and reflecting on "I want to be the best version of me" were examples of inspiring activities enjoyed by all 400 young girls who attended. The colours of the multicolour bracelets they made represented their individual traits such as strength, energy, and knowledge. "We are confident, caring, and courageous!"



Winter Concert - December 12



The students have begun practicing for our upcoming Winter Concert

- Children will be supervised in their classrooms, or the designated rooms listed near the front entrance of the school, from 6pm until the end of the concert.
- Bake sale (funds going to towards our three school goals in the areas of Achievement, Equity and Wellbeing)
- Parent Council will also be selling Islington JMS t-shirts and toques.
- Doors open at 6pm

Thank you in advance for your support of the art programs and our school. We are looking very forward to showcasing the talent here at Islington Junior Middle School and are wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday!

Holiday Carnival - Dec 18



Calling all parents!!

We are looking for parent volunteers to help out at the holiday carnival in the afternoon. If you are willing to help supervise & run games, and you you've got your police check please e-mail Mme.Bravo at nadia.bravo@tdsb.on.ca.

Much appreciated! We hope to see you there!

- Many activities will be free of charge, and some will require tickets
- Tickets will be .25 each and will be sold in classes the week of Dec 16 – 18
- There will also be a peanut-free bake sale

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.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



On December 6, TDSB students and staff mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day coincides with the anniversary of the death of 14 young women who were tragically killed on 6 December, 1989, at l'École Polytechnique in Montreal because of their gender.

On this national day of remembrance, we honour the memory of these women and reflect on the ways that gender violence continues to affect us. For more information, visit Status of Women Canada and participate in their #ActionsMatter campaign.

To find out how you can help prevent violence against women visit www.ontario.ca/page/lets-stop-sexual-harassment-violence. Within the TDSB, please contact www.tdsb.on.ca/gbvp for further support or questions on any issues related to gender-based violence.

Your School Council

Parents - join your Parent Council to find out what is happening at Islington and how parents can be involved in initiatives that help our children! We will have a Principal's Update, hear from parent council and discuss what initiatives you want to see this year. Meet your School Advisory Council, school staff and other parents. Refreshments and light snacks will be provided.

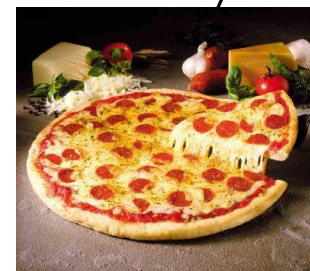
Next meeting: **December 9 at 6:30pm in the Library**

No child care? Bring your children - of any age! They can play alongside us and activities will be provided.

Early ON Centre

Families and caregivers are invited to come to the EarlyOn Centre with your **babies and preschoolers**. It is a **free** program from Monday to Friday at our school. Drop in (come and go) between 12 noon and 4 pm. Both adults and children can learn and make new friends while having fun together. Come to the main office and ask for the EarlyOn room.

Pizza Days



We are happy to be able to offer pizza days once again.

Pizza Days will be on the following WEDNESDAYS:
Dec 4, 11, 18

News from our Student Parliament



This year our Student Parliament Ministry members have been working hard to make a difference in our school. In November, we had the **Remembrance Day ceremony** that honoured our country's veterans that have served our country, and some have lost their lives. Students also paid tribute to the contributions of women in war. As well, we recognized the 75th year of liberation of Holland – Canada was a part of that liberation and had been gifted thousands of tulips after WWII. Ministry organized a **Fall Dance** requiring a food item donation for entry. The food will be donated to local shelters/community centre/Islington United Church. We also started initiatives for both the **WE Scare Hunger** and the **WE Silent** movements that are going to get started very soon.

Even though it's only the beginning of the year, we wanted to communicate our shared accomplishments thus far. We hope to do much, much more this school year. Thank You.



Islington Recognizes Hindu Heritage Month

The month of November was Hindu Heritage Month in the TDSB. In recognition of Hindu Heritage Month, Student Parliament members organized a 3-day "**Mehendi For All**" event during which henna designs were offered to students who were interested, staff and visitors to our school.





MERRY & BRIGHT

A Musical Concert at ISLINGTON JUNIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

When: Thursday December 12, 2019

Where: School Gym

Time: 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:15)



Join us to showcase the talents of our students Kindergarten - Grade 8. We will feature performance from all of our classes in both French and English, including our Strings and Band Ensembles.

Come taste yummy treats for sale at our Bake Sale.

We look forward to having you join our pre-holiday musical celebration!





Islington JMS is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students. Sabrina's Law requires every school board to establish and maintain an anaphylactic policy that includes strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas.

We all must do our best to keep nuts out of the school and yard during the school day. There are children AND staff in the school who have life-threatening allergies to nut products. **For this reason, we will remain Food Sharing Free. We ask that parents do NOT send baked goods for parties.**



Follow us on Twitter: [tdsb_islington](https://twitter.com/tdsb_islington)

Website: <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/islington/Home.aspx>

Main Office – 416-394-7870

Student Absent Line (24 hours) – 416-394-7874

SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION

8:35 AM	Supervision in main schoolyard provided
8:50 AM	Entry Bell
8:55 AM	Classes begin
10:05 - 10:15 AM	Recess
11:35 AM	Lunch
12:35 PM	Entry Bell
2:00 - 2:10 PM	Recess
3:10 PM	End of Instructional Day (Grade 6-8)
3:15 PM	End of Instructional Day (Kindergarten)
3:20 PM	End of Instructional Day (Grades 1 - 5)

The schoolyard is supervised from 8:35a.m. - 8:55 a.m., each recess, over the lunch hour, and after school. The schoolyard is not supervised before 8:35, or after 3:35 p.m.

Children should not be in the schoolyard beyond the supervised times unless with a parent/guardian.

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Event	Date
Wed Dec 4	Pizza Day
Thurs Dec 5	Raptors 905 Excursion Grades 5 - 8
Fri Dec 6	PA DAY – No School
Dec 10 - 17	Dental Screening
Wed Dec 11	Pizza Day
Thurs Dec 12	Winter Concert 6:30pm
Wed Dec 18	Last Pizza Day – new orders in the new year Holiday Carnival K-4 , in the PM
Thurs Dec 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student of the Month Assembly 9:15 • Parents Snack and Chat Session 10:00
Fri Dec 20	Holiday Sing-Along 9:15
December 23 – Jan 2	Winter Break
Mon Jan 6	School Re-opens