



Islington

Junior Middle School



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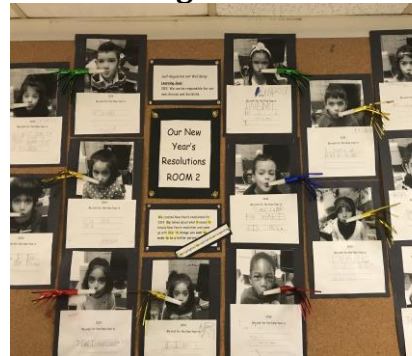
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February: Fairness

"We must be the change we
wish to see in the world."
Mahatma Ghandi



Goal Setting for a New Year



Monthly Newsletter February 2019 Edition

Principal's Message

I would like to welcome us all into the month of February. As always, our school is a bustling place full of new initiatives, ideas and programs that we share with you via this monthly newsletter. February promises to be another busy and exciting month, with kindergarten registration, Scholastic Book fair and the various excursions planned by our teachers, parent-teacher interviews and the celebrations in store in honour of Black History Month, Chinese History Month and the month in which we celebrate Fairness.

Our teachers are now in the process of finalizing your children's report cards and we look forward to seeing many of you at the February 14 and February 15 parent-teacher interviews. Once again, we will be holding a Family Breakfast on February 13 at 8am. Please join us in the large lunchroom. Please note families will have the opportunity to enjoy Family Day on Monday, February 18th. Students will not attend school on this day as the school is closed.

As we navigate the winter weather, I would like to thank Mr. Grech, our caretaker, who has worked tirelessly in the last few weeks to ensure that our school entrances and walkways are cleaned and salted throughout the day. We appreciate your patience and understanding, particularly on very snowy days when Mr. Grech, on his own, is doing his very best to restore conditions on the grounds as efficiently as possible.

I would like to extend a Thank You to the many families who contributed to our Bag 2 School Eco program which ends February 16, by donating unused textiles for proper disposal. We appreciate your partnership as we teach our kids the importance of environmental stewardship. I also invite you all to our annual Winter Walk on February 6 at 1:00pm. Let's take this opportunity to promote walking as a better and safer means of transportation, both for the health of the environment and for our own well-being. The most exciting part of February is Kindergarten Registration! If you have a child starting school in September of 2019, we welcome you to make an appointment with our school office for a time slot on February 19 and 20 to come visit our kindergarten program and to register your child. Please read the details of registration in this newsletter. Have a wonderful February!

Children Helping Children

February is African Heritage Month.

During this month we will celebrate the contributions of Canadians of African descent.

We will also be giving back to the community by providing facial surgery for at least one less fortunate child, through **Operation Smile**.

Operation Smile and its team of volunteer doctors provide facial surgeries for children in 60 countries. Some of these children are unable to swallow or smile.

At the minimal cost of \$240 we can help to save a child's life.

We will be having several fund raising events across the month. These include bake sales and the **Bag2school Clothing Drive** by donating a bag of clothing before February 16. The table of clothing bags is filling up in our front foyer one bag at a time!

Please support these efforts by donating old clothing and baked items.



SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION

Please arrive at school 8:35 – 8:50 to be on time for a day of learning.

8:35 AM	Supervision in main schoolyard provided
8:50 AM	Entry Bell
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 main schoolyard is supervised from 8:35a.m. - 8:55 a.m., each recess, and over the lunch hour each school day. The schoolyard is not supervised before 8:35, or after 3:35 p.m. **We recommend that children not be in the schoolyard beyond the supervised times unless with a parent/guardian.**



EQUITY and WELL BEING

Islington spread the word about Mental Well Being on Bell Let's Talk Day January 30

To raise awareness and to combat stigma around mental health issues, our Intermediate students showcased their support for this noble cause.

They made announcements at the beginning of each period to let all members of our school hear tips to help us support ourselves and others. Grade 8 students visited classes to raise students' awareness of mental health concerns that children may experience. Students were invited to share positive message boards that have been posted in the school.

Kinder Corner

Now that the COLD WEATHER IS REALLY HERE...



LAYERS, LAYERS, LAYERS! As the temperature continues to dip, we want to encourage our Kindergarten students to dress in layers for school. A T-shirt underneath a long-sleeved shirt provides all-day comfort, as our classrooms vary widely in temperature. It is important for your child to wear a warm jacket that may be put on and zipped independently and appropriate accessories for the weather each day, as we spend at least 45 minutes outside per day, unless the temperature is below -20 degrees with the wind chill.

LABELS! Please ensure all clothing items, including accessories (hat, neck warmer, mittens), are labeled with your child's first name and last initial.



CHOICES! Get your child involved in picking out new outerwear. Have your child try on a new jacket before buying it, to ensure that your child is able to zip it easily. Dressing independently gives young learners feelings of pride and responsibility. It also encourages them to take care and keep track of their personal belongings. **MITTENS vs GLOVES...** Mittens are much warmer than gloves and are far easier for young children to put on independently.

**Thank you,
The Islington Kindergarten Team**



FEBRUARY IS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION MONTH!!

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT WITH OUR OFFICE AND COME VISIT US ON
FEBRUARY 19TH AND 20TH TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD

Starting school is an exciting time for your child. Our school provides a rich learning environment for all children to learn and grow. In the Kindergarten program, your child will develop their skills and abilities through inquiry and intentional play-based learning that includes math, science and literacy. Teachers and early childhood educators plan learning experiences where children are actively engaged in learning and thinking creatively. For more information, visit

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/KindergartenMonth>



In Person Registration

Step 1

- Find your [local school](#).

Step 2

- Contact your [local school](#) and make sure you have the following documents:
 - Proof of age (birth certificate, Canadian passport, Canadian Citizenship card or certificate or baptismal record)
 - Proof of address, including any two of the following [current](#) documents: lease or deed, car registration, utility bill, residential telephone bill, moving bill, property tax bill, health card, bank statement, credit card statement, or correspondence from a government agency.
 - Proof of immunization (the card that shows a list of needles your child has received)
 - Verification of date of arrival, if your child was not born in Canada. Families who are permanent residents and refugee claimants may register directly at the school. Children without immigration status are welcome in our schools and information about them or their families will not be shared with immigration authorities. To register, please visit the International Programs and Admissions Office at 5050 Yonge Street, on the main floor, for a TDSB school admission letter.

Learn more about [Admission Eligibility Requirements](#).

You may wish to print and complete the [Student Registration Form](#) before visiting the school. However, all required forms are also available from the school office.

Online Registration

Step 1

- Access the online registration system (system will go live on February 1) to create an account, find your local school and complete a registration form.
- Please note:** Once you have completed the online portion of the registration process, you will receive a confirmation e-mail, including information about next steps (e.g. when to visit the school). Please be sure to check your Inbox and Junk Mail folder to avoid missing the e-mail.

Step 2

- The following documents are required when you visit the school to complete the registration:
 - Proof of age (birth certificate, Canadian passport, Canadian Citizenship card or certificate or baptismal record)
 - Proof of address, including any two of the following [current](#) documents: lease or deed, car registration, utility bill, residential telephone bill, moving bill, property tax bill, health card, bank statement, credit card statement, or correspondence from a government agency.
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ACHIEVEMENT



As educators at Islington JMS, we strongly believe that in order to inspire students to become lifelong learners and to help them discover their talents and abilities, we have to share best practices that help students build the knowledge, skills and attitudes to succeed.

Staff teams meet regularly throughout the year to look at our student data and collaboratively explore and implement best practices. For example, our middle school PLC (professional learning community) is working on how to transform the learning environment to include student voice so we can see an increase in well-being and student engagement in thinking. This team is looking at including culturally relevant materials that speak to childrens' interests and backgrounds. From there, critical thinking challenges engage the students to develop skills to help them approach problems in areas such as social justice, the environment, and poverty.



School Council Dates

Monday Feb. 11, 2019

Monday April 15, 2019

Monday May 13, 2019

Pop in for an hour to join parents as we discuss ways to get involved and support our school. Jump into the conversation or sit back and observe as we discuss initiatives like the "design a school shirt" contest for students, school website redesign, parent/teacher communications apps and more. The meeting will be followed by an opportunity to chat with other parents/guardians while enjoying light refreshments and snacks. No childcare? Bring your kids to play in the library where we meet. All parents, guardians and families of Islington JMS are welcome.

Interested in more information and meeting minutes?

Visit schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/islington/School-Council



Generate enthusiasm for literacy by supporting this year's Scholastic Book Fair!

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school and you are invited to come and share in this celebration of literacy with us!

Now more than ever, reading is vital to leading a better life. Knowing how to read is just the beginning. Motivating young people to *keep reading*, comprehend what they read and develop the ability to think creatively are the end goals.

Scholastic Book Fairs has the books to motivate more reading. With your involvement, we can inspire children to practice reading and read more often. Together, we can make a difference in their lives that will last a lifetime.

Event: Scholastic Book Fair

Date: The week of February 11-15, 2019

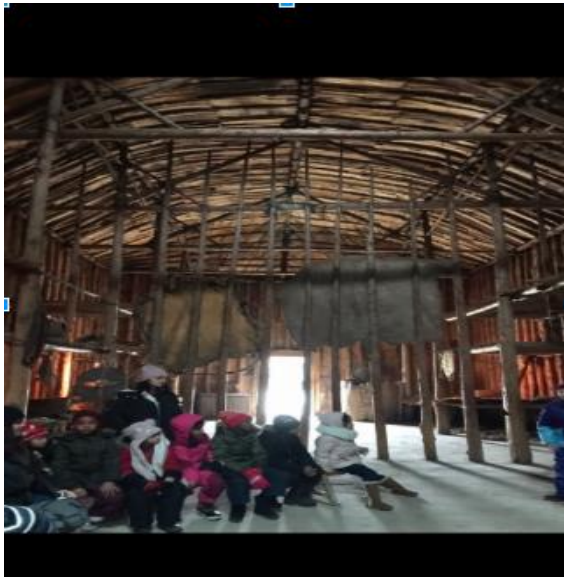
Place: Islington's Library

Time: Lunchtime - 12:00 and Afterschool (including Thurs. evening)

For: All Students and Parents

FRENCH IMMERSION

News From Madame Vuong's Class



News from Madame Vuong's class

Le 15 janvier 2019, la classe de Mme VUONG a eu une sortie éducative à Crawford Lake en collaboration avec d'autres classes anglophones de Mme BABIY, Mme GALLUZZO et Mme KIM. L'objectif de notre visite était d'apprendre davantage sur la vie antérieure des Autochtones. Les élèves ont beaucoup appris sur l'habitat des Wendats, surtout les maisons longues. Ce fut l'occasion pour les élèves de faire des liens avec leur cours d'Études Sociales. Par exemple, quand le guide parlait des objets trouvés dans une des maisons longues comme le canot, les enfants comprenaient tout de suite qu'on l'a utilisé pour traverser des cours d'eau pour faire des échanges de marchandises. A part de cela, ils ont découvert d'autres choses tellement intéressantes et informatives. Les élèves ont eu aussi l'occasion de jouer à la crosse et de faire une ballade dans la forêt pour découvrir comment les Autochtones ont usé l'environnement dans leur vie quotidienne. Nous avons tous énormément aimé cette sortie éducative à Crawford Lake. Quelle belle opportunité authentique d'apprentissage!

ECO NEWS

Dear Parents,

We had our interim audit for Platinum status in January. The auditor was very please with our community initiatives. We are continuing to make sure we educate our students and community members about sorting garbage.

The Eco club is doing a fundraiser, Bag to School. How can you help? If you have any old textiles that you are not using or want to get rid of, don't throw them out. If you have any textiles like coats, socks, bedding, shirts, etc., kindly gather as many as you would like to give away, put them in a plastic bag and send it with your child to school. All proceedings will go to Operation Smile Canada. Operation Smile Canada is part of the largest volunteer-based medical charity providing free cleft surgery for children. With the help of donations, they are able to transform and save the lives of many children with as little as \$240 per child. Operation Smile Canada operates in over 60 countries. Deadline for donations is February 16th, 2019.

On February 6th, 2019 the entire school will be participating in the Winter Walk. All are welcome to join us.

The ECO Club

Athletics

WHAT'S COMING UP!

Basketball is well underway with both the junior and senior boys preparing for their tournaments in the next couple of weeks. The junior girls are also hard at work learning volleyball, looking forward to their tournament that will be hosted here at Islington. The senior coed volleyball team as well as the badminton are preparing for next month's games. Athletes don't forget to check the calendar posted by the change rooms for



Islington Junior Middle School

44 Cordova Avenue



Principal: Rocco Coluccio
Vice Principal: Alessandra Faraone
Superintendent: Tracy Hayhurst
Trustee: Patrick Nunziata
School Council:
Co-Chair: Alex Song
Co-Chair: Daman Thable

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Event	Date
Winter Walk Day	Wed Feb 6, 2019
Pizza Lunch	Wed Feb 6
School Council	Mon Feb 11
Pizza Lunch	Wed Feb 13
Family Breakfast	Wed Feb 13 8 am
PA Day – no school	Fri Feb 15
Family Day – no school	Mon Feb 18
Pizza Lunch	Wed Feb 20
Pizza Lunch	Wed Feb 27



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

Main Office – 416-394-7870

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