



Islington

Junior Middle School



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Teamwork

**TEAMWORK
LESS ME
AND MORE
WE.**



Monthly Newsletter January Edition

Message from Mr. Coluccio

I am very excited to welcome you all back to the 2019 New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday break and that students are recharged for a successful term. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Vice Principal, Mrs. Faraone, who joins us from Dewson Street Junior Public School. We look forward to getting to know Mrs. Faraone! She speaks different languages and welcomes the opportunity to speak in both English and/or French with our students and community. She has been in education for almost 30 years and as a lifelong learner, she is excited about new experiences, especially working at Islington JMS! As a parent, she knows how important it is for families and school to work together to prepare our children to be successful academically, socially and emotionally. She is happy to join the Islington community and looks forward to continuing the good work that has been happening.

January is the month in which we celebrate Teamwork, placing emphasis on our ability to work together, listen to each other's ideas, do our share of the work and encourage one another. We are happy to continue to offer our weekly pizza lunch and the forms should be returned by January 14th with your order.



We look forward to our t-shirt design contest! Parents and students have expressed an interest in having t-shirts made for our Islington students that can promote school spirit and can be worn for any and all occasions. As such, we are inviting all students to submit a design that they think represents our school! The winner will have their design featured on the brand new t-shirts. We would also like students to create a school motto by coming up with a phrase or few words that represent our school. These words will be printed on the back of the t-shirt in French and English. More information about this will come out from our Student Parliament, who will spearhead the competition. This month, our teachers will be hard at work compiling all of their assessments from the first term and continuing to assess students' learning in order to report on the February report card. Please help us support your child by checking his/her agenda regularly for updates, homework, projects and any other communication with the teacher/s. Wishing you all a great month of learning!



We will continue our pizza lunches into the new year and the dates have already been determined. The pizza order forms will be coming home on **Monday January 7, 2019** and they are to be returned on **Monday January 14, 2019**. We will be holding seven pizza lunches this term, from January until the March break.

The dates are below:

JANUARY 23, 2019
 JANUARY 30, 2019
 FEBRUARY 6, 2019
 FEBRUARY 13, 2019
 FEBRUARY 20, 2019
 FEBRUARY 27, 2019
 MARCH 6, 2019



SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION

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 after 3:35 p.m. **We recommend that children not be in the schoolyard beyond the supervised times unless with a parent/guardian.**

STAY HEALTHY DURING 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.

Here are some tips to help prevent spread of flu:

- 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.

HEALTH and WELL BEING

Our dental screening took place in December for all students at Islington JMS! Here are some important facts that can help us make good choices that promote dental health:

- 4 grams of sugar is equal to 1 teaspoon of sugar.
- 1 juice box has almost 6 teaspoons of sugar. It's clearly better to eat the fresh fruit for nutritional purposes and drink plain old water
- 1 can of coke has almost 10 teaspoons of sugar
- 1 small carton of chocolate milk has 6 teaspoons of sugar, whereas white milk has half the amount. White milk is obviously the better option
- 15 smarties has 11grams of sugar just under 3 teaspoons.
- 1 42gram aero bar has 24 grams of sugar, that's 6 teaspoons of sugar
- Small Iced cappuccino from Tim Hortons has 33 grams of sugar, that's 8.25 teaspoons
- A strawberry banana smoothie from Tim Hortons has 27 grams of sugar, that's almost 7 teaspoons
- A snack bag of mini oreos (42g bag) has 17 grams of sugar. Just over 4 teaspoons



Free Dental Care

Free dental services are offered to children between 0-17 years.

To be eligible:

- You must live in Toronto
- You cannot have dental insurance
- You are not able to pay for dental care

Services include:

- Examinations
- Fillings
- Root canal treatment on selected teeth
- Extractions
- Partial and full dentures – a fee may be required for dentures

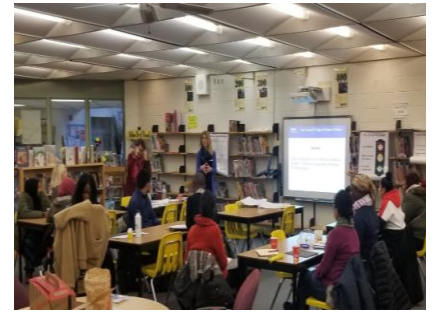
ACHIEVEMENT

We continue to explore **Social Justice** as a vehicle for teaching all of the disciplines in the Ontario Curriculum. Research tells us that, if students are engaged by relevant contexts that reflect their experiences and garner their interest, they are more likely to do well in their subjects. For instance, our Grade 8s are learning about issues such as poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, the environment and discrimination and the degree to which they place many people at a disadvantage in comparison to others. In Math, they are examining data (as part of Data Management) from *Statistics Canada* to help them understand the impact of such issues in our country and to ultimately identify **how we can help make a difference**. They are reading fiction and non-fiction texts to help them further understand these issues and they are communicating their thinking, thoughts, ideas and opinions in both oral and written form. In the primary grades, students are critically examining different gender roles and stereotypes and discussing how we can change those to be more inclusive and respectful of all people and identities.

We are committed to providing learning environments in which student voice drives the learning, the contexts are rich and the classroom walls are reflective of their THINKING. Our teachers are continuing to engage in professional learning that helps them develop this type of programming in collaborative and informative ways.



January 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

**Monday February 11,
2019**

Monday April 15, 2019

Monday May 13, 2019

FRENCH IMMERSION

For the end of the 2018 year in Mme Yaroski and M. Pascal's class, the students learned about the many different holidays and traditions around the world. We sang songs, watched educational clips and best of all, we were able to go spread some holiday cheer to some wonderful senior citizens who reside only a short TTC ride away from our school. The students sang holiday songs in French and English, alongside Ms. Koneri and Ms. Silvina's class, and they all brought gifts that they had made, which brought the biggest smiles to their faces. 'Tis the season for giving love, warmth and care. Here's hoping everyone had a beautiful holiday with family and friends.



ECO NEWS – reducing landfills!

The Eco club is doing a fundraiser, *Bag to School*, around January/February. How can you help? If you have any old textiles that you aren't 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'd like to give away, put them in a plastic bag and send it with your child to school. The holidays are almost here! If you are stuck on what to gift your kids, here are some eco-friendly ideas. A water bottle for your child is a gift that not only will bring big smiles to your child's face but also an excellent way to reduce plastic pollution. A reusable lunch container is another great gift which can help reduce garbage that ends up in landfills.



FIRST LEGO LEAGUE (FLL) – ISLINGTON SPACE PANTHERS

Our FLL focuses on solving real-world problems such as food safety, recycling, energy and more using all of the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics concepts and skills. Our team was made up of grade 6 – 8 students, who worked closely together for many months and many hours to design, build and program a Lego robot and they then competed at Runnymede CI on a themed table-top playing field with other schools. We are very proud of our Islington Space Panthers for their teamwork, dedication and tenacity as we look forward to their continued work!



Athletics



WHAT'S COMING UP!

January is going to be a busy month for Islington athletes. Both the junior and senior boys will be starting their basketball seasons thanks to Ms. Kim and Ms. Jimenez. The junior girls will get the opportunity to learn volleyball with Ms. Porteous and the senior students will begin training for their coed volleyball season with Ms. Watters. Badminton has already brought out many grade 5 and 6 students to the tryouts that began just before the winter break and that will continue now that we are back. Good luck to all teams!

Islington Junior Middle School

44 Cordova Avenue



Principal: Rocco Coluccio
Vice Principal: Simona Emiliani
Superintendent: Tracy Hayhurst
Trustee: Patrick Nunziata
Co-Chair: Alex Song
Co-Chair: Daman Thable

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Event	Date
January 7, 2019	First day back at school and pizza forms come home
January 14, 2019	Pizza forms returned
January 18, 2019	PA Day – No School
January 22, 2019	Anti-bullying assembly at 10:15am
January 23, 2019	First Pizza Lunch
January 25, 2019	Student of the Month



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