

Islington Junior Middle School

Newsletter - March 2019 Edition



Principal: Rocco Coluccio
Vice Principal: Alessandra Faraone
Superintendent: Tracy Hayhurst
Trustee: Patrick Nunziata

School Council:
Co-Chair: Alex Song
Co-Chair: Daman Thable



Islington recognizes Flag Day and uses a critical lens to answer "What Does it Mean to You?"



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Website:

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

March: Honesty

"It takes two to speak the truth – one to speak and another to hear."
Henry David Thoreau



Principal's Message

February has been a great month and March promises to be even better with a number of exciting things on the go! We celebrated African and Asian Heritage Month with student-led announcements and a school-wide assembly. The staff and students fundraised throughout the month for Project Smile. We are pleased to share that we raised over \$600. Way to Go Islington!!! This is a testament to the voice shining through strong. These initiatives were all student-generated and led. The Bag 2

School campaign was a huge success with over 350kilos of clothes donated. The Eco Team donated the proceeds to Project Smile. We had a very successful Kindergarten Registration in mid-February, during which we met our future students and families and gathered relevant information that will help us plan for a successful start in September. If you have children or know of children who will start school in September of 2019

and have not yet been registered, please take an opportunity to visit our school office as soon as possible. Our students are all very excited about the upcoming March Break! This year, March Break spans from March 11 – March 15. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe break that includes fun, rest and relaxation. For great ideas on fun activities around the city, visit:

<http://www.toronto4kids.com/Calendar/>



Full STEAM Ahead

After 4 long months of design, training and swim tests, two teams ventured to Swansea Junior Public School to build a boat made only of cardboard and duct tape. They built the boat in two hours then jumped in and tried to paddle it across

the length of the pool against 28 other teams. For the first time in Islington history Eze Amaro successfully and safely paddled his ship across to the other side! Unfortunately we weren't able to load other members into the

boat for the weight challenge but we have set a new standard for future teams! Way to go Islington!

<https://photos.ap.p.goo.gl/DuHVZ1xCw1FkSaiH7>

ECO News

Our Eco team has had an exciting month with many things going on. A team of Grade 8s participated in the **Eco Leadership Conference** to learn how to present an eco-event. They also learned about plastic pollution which is a major problem today. **Our Bag2School** was a great success! We redirected more than 350 kg of textiles from ending up in our landfills. Our **Winter Walk** was snowed out and is rescheduled for March 7.

ATHLETICS



The junior boys basketball team has advanced in their tournament, finishing second overall and took the team to the quarter finals. Go, Panthers!"

Congratulations to the Junior Girls Volleyball Team on their successful season! The girls made it the semi-finals in a competitive tournament at James S Bell middle school and played their hearts out! Good job, girls!

The senior boys basketball team represented Islington with passion, teamwork and commitment at their tournament in February. We are extremely proud of them.

The coed volleyball and badminton teams are practicing often, preparing for their tournaments in March. Looking ahead to the spring track and field, junior and senior coed ultimate frisbee, and senior coed flag rugby will be starting soon!





Mr Sanogo's class integrated reading and music into a lesson celebrating diversity at Islington. The students sang an African song, in part to celebrate African Heritage Month, and also to launch the students to bring some of their first languages into the classroom.



Vive la diversité!

Dans la classe d'immersion française de M. Sanogo, les élèves sont d'origines diverses. Pour créer un environnement inclusif favorisant l'apprentissage, on met à l'honneur l'origine des élèves à travers la musique. C'est dans cette optique que la classe a appris une chanson traditionnelle africaine intitulée : **Olélé Moliba**

L'objectif était de développer la fluidité langagière en même temps que la segmentation des mots en syllabes pour faciliter l'apprentissage du décodage en lecture. Ils ont appris à segmenter quelques mots de la chanson en syllabes tels que : Olélé – Moliba – Makasi. Ce fut une opportunité d'intégration des matières telles que le Français, la Musique, et les Études Sociales.

Vu ce succès, on a essayé de l'adapter en Mathématiques. En effet, je demandais à un élève de compter dans sa langue d'origine, et toute la classe répétait après lui. Cela a permis aux élèves de constater des similitudes entre certaines langues.

Pour ceux qui voudraient écouter cette chanson, cliquez sur le lien ci-dessous:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wleM4PM7aZw>

Health Matters - Nourishing our Children

It's simple: when children are hungry, they can't focus, and if they can't focus, they can't learn. That's why more than 750 school-based Student Nutrition Programs (SNPs) provide over 170,000 nutritious meals every school day. Here, students eat a healthy breakfast, lunch, or a snack so that they can focus on learning rather than hunger.

Islington JMS offers the Morning Meal Program to all of our students. The Morning meal is distributed before morning recess. The morning meal program consists of the three food groups recommended by the Canada Food Guide.

- a serving of vegetables or fruit
- a serving of a whole wheat grain
- a serving of milk or alternative

Although we receive funding from provincial and municipal grants, these funds cover only a small percentage of the cost of running the program. **ALL donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. To make a donation, please use the form that was sent home last week. If you need another donation form, please stop by the office. Your donation is appreciated!**

Kinder Corner



In Room 2 and Room 4, we celebrated the 100th Day of School on Monday, February 11th! Each day, since the first day of school, we either added one marble to our virtual jar or added a number to our 100 Chart. The children learned to skip-count by 10's to 100 in preparation for our 100 Day activities. We read books on 100 Day, such as 100th Day Worries, by Margery Cuyler, where a little girl named Jessica was having a tough time deciding on her 100 items to bring to school for 100 Day, and 100 Day Wishes, by Liza Charlesworth, where you could wish for 100 of your favourite things. We played games to reinforce count by 1's and 10's to 100, brought 100 items in for Show & Share, and even created a poem and wrote about our 100 Day Wishes. HOORAY for 100 Day and being 100 Days Smarter!



Student Achievement – Making Student Learning Visible

As our teachers continue in their Professional Learning Communities to *make visible* student learning in order to be better able to solve complex problems, we see students working independently and in fluid groupings, on multi-media and non-traditional surfaces, applying their thinking to activities that are designed to engage and spark interest in our learners.

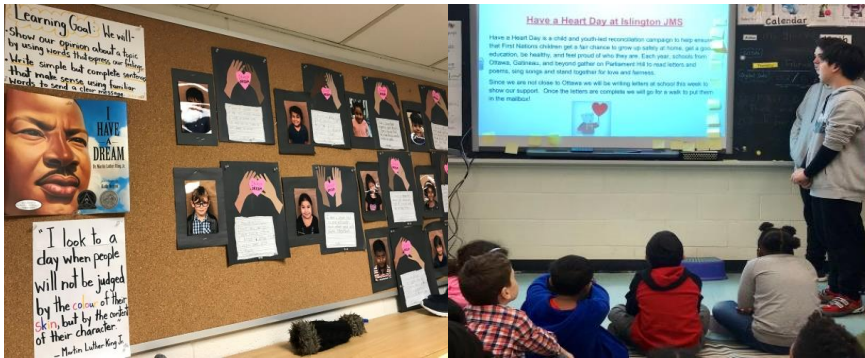


Figure 1 Students in grade 1 share their dreams for a better world, after studying Martin Luther King's inspiration.

Figure 2 Grade 8 Me to We Club students visit classes to share their research about healthcare in First Nations communities

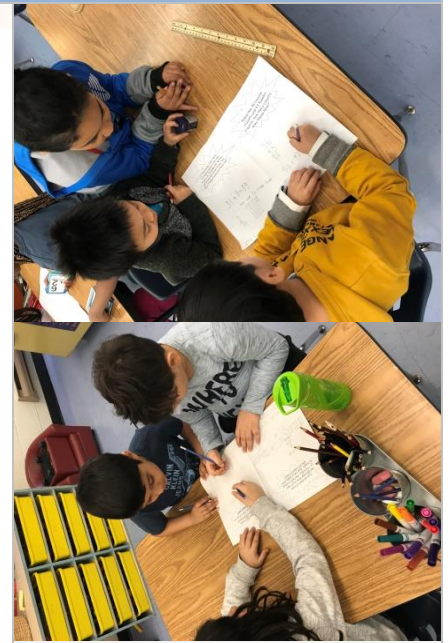


Figure 3 and 4 Students in Grade 2 work collaboratively to solve open response math problems

Your School Council

Do you have ideas about how parents can support our school? Bring your ideas to the next **SAC meeting on April 15, 2018 at 6:30 pm**. We will be planning for a STEAM event in May and identifying volunteer opportunities both during the school day and after hours. Meetings last about an hour to help and are followed by an opportunity to chat with other parents/staff 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. More information about our meetings is available at <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/islington/School-Council>

Interested in learning new strategies to support your child's success - consider attending the Parents as Partners Conference on Saturday, [March 30, 2019](https://www.parentsaspartners.ca) - more information is available at <https://www.parentsaspartners.ca>.

Below: February's meeting featured a student/staff presentation to parents on Google Keep.





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

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

Main Office – 416-394-7870

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

SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION

Please arrive at school 8:35 – 8:50 to be on time for entry at 8:55.

Class begins at 8:55.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 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 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.**

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

| Event | Date |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grade 8 Grad Photos | Fri March 1 |
| Pizza Lunch | Wed March 6 |
| Winter Walk Day | Wed March 6 |
| March Break – No School | March 11 - 15 |
| Honours and Merits Assembly Grade 4-8 | Fri March 22 |
| International Day of Pink | Wed April 10 |
| Kindergarten 'Grad' Photos | Thurs April 18 |
| Good Friday – No School | Fri April 19 |
| Easter Monday – No School | Mon April 22 |
| | |