



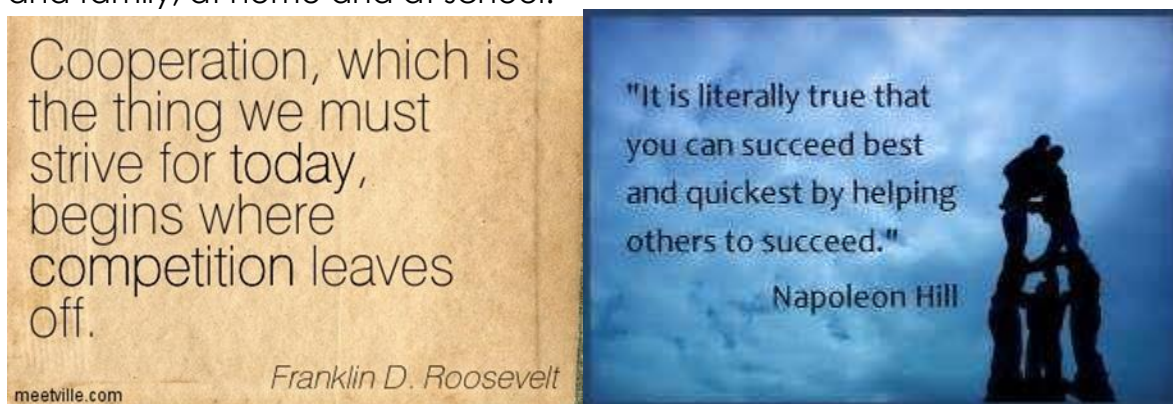
James S. Bell Junior Middle Sports and Wellness Academy
Principal's Newsletter
April, 2018



School Community Building

April's community building character trait focus was 'Co-operation'. If you walk into James S. Bell at any given moment during the day, you will see co-operation in action. From preparing for our concerts, reading buddies, sports teams, collaborative inquiry groups, competing in Science and STEM challenges or chess tournaments, Green Team efforts, Rock band, strings, band, boys group, track and field day and the other numerous activities that happen at our school, co-operation is essential! We had some wonderful quotes read over the morning announcements to remind us of the importance of co-operation and how we may demonstrate it in our lives.

Our next month's focus will be on the important trait of 'Integrity'. Don't forget to discuss with your children at home what integrity means to them, its value and significance and how they may demonstrate integrity among their friends and family, at home and at school.





Terrific Tigers (Student Recognition Presentations)

Our monthly Terrific Tigers Assemblies are a chance for students to be recognized for demonstrating our important character traits with their classmates, school mates and caring adults in the school. We hope all of our students will remember to strive for excellence not only in academic achievement, sports and the arts but also in positive leadership and responsible citizenship at JSB. Each student selected by their teacher received a certificate and JSB pencil! Congratulations to the following students:

<u>Room</u>	<u>Name</u>
101	Emily T.
102	Roy K.
103	Marsela M.
104	Emily M.
105	Daynthon D.
107	Rane S.
108	Hayden J.
110	Sebastian R.
112	Ashton R.
203	Ania Y.
201	Grace Z.
202	Breann C.
208	Gracie J.
210	Myra P.
206	Lily-Anna B.
213	Ellie S.
211	Nya C.
214	Shannon C.
215	Gage L.
207	Zachary J.
	Andy G. (recognized by Mr. McShane/Ms. Pacheco)

Parents will be invited by the classroom teacher to join the assembly presentations when their child is nominated for a certificate.



Strings and Band performing at our April Terrific Tigers Assembly



Green Team – Eco Schools Events!

Bike Assembly

On Monday, April 23rd James S. Bell participated in a Bike Safety Assembly. CultureLink Community and Settlement Services in partnership with TDSB and EcoSchools presented this informative session on bike safety and awareness. Students learned about basic bike maintenance, rules of the road and the A,B,C's of biking.

A	Air – make sure your bike tires have enough air
B	Brakes & Bars – check your brakes and handle bars to ensure they are in good working order
C	Chain & Crank – be sure your chain is well oiled and on properly and that the crank is tight.



Students and teachers learned about the importance of a proper fitting helmet. Ask your child about V-1-2 (ears, chin, fore head).



We hope you encourage your child to walk, bike or scooter to school now that the warmer weather is upon us!

JSB Students attend Heritage Tree Ceremony

Students in Mr. Michailidis' class and Mr. Kobe's class attended Long Branch's first heritage tree ceremony on Monday April 30th. The sun was shining as the students unveiled a plaque designating a magnificent 200 year old Red Oak as a Heritage Tree. The tree is located in Long Branch Park beside the Cenotaph. The ceremony was attended by Councillor Mark Grimes, members of the Long Branch Neighbourhood Association, and employees from Forests Ontario. The students enjoyed hearing about the history of the tree and recognize the importance of trees to life cycles and sustainability. Students also enjoyed the cake served at the ceremony!



Mr. Kobe

Sports update

Our grade 8 co-ed volleyball team are City Champions at the highest division possible. Team members are Eleni M., Natalie B., Hailie T., Syenna S., Faith R., Georgia K., Eric R., Bennett L., Stefan L., Andrew M., Daniel S., and Mr. Barnes. Way to go Tigers!!!

Also, as a school, we have now accumulated a whopping 155 banners over the last 10 years. Great job to all current student athletes, and our former JSB alumni. The great tradition continues!!

Mr. Barnes



Pink Shirt Day



Thanks to all for wearing your Day of Pink shirts to school on April 11. JSB students and staff stood together in celebrating diversity and embracing differences. (Thank-you for purchasing a pink shirt! We have more for sale in the office if you'd like one for next year!)

What's on our walls at JSB?



Ms. Kostiuk's room 108



Mr. Michailidis room 107

Students from Ms. Debowski's class share their Humorous Newspaper Articles!

Hippo pays a visit to J.S.B

By Dylan Yaroshak

Recently, a hippo, (probably lost) broke into a local school. Police are still closing the school for investigation. Luckily we have a few survivors. One of them explains the scene: "The first thing I heard was the loudspeaker saying 'Hello, teachers please put your classrooms into lockdown mode. 'I thought it was a drill, so I stayed calm. My teacher just told us to stay quiet, then after a while, the teacher told us that it... was... real...these words sent fear into my heart. Right when she finished I heard some loud crashing noises. Then I started to panic. My eyes were rapidly darting right and left looking for cover. Then all of a sudden the door flew crashing open. To my surprise, there was a giant hippo! Some of my friends got a hold of it and started riding it but I knew where I was heading: The door. I ran for the door avoiding wrecked objects and finally made it to the door. I was running through the hall screaming and with all the lights out it was even worse. Eventually, I made it to the parking lot and waited for help." And that was all we could get from the student. Luckily in about a week the school will be opening again.

Students Fight Hippo!

By: Guangzhi Wang

February 16th there was a hippo attack in Mrs. Debow's class, JSB. The action started when the students heard banging at the door. Suddenly, the hippo crashed through the door, gobbling up the nearest student, Milla. The hippo then ate up 3 of the desks, focusing its attention on Dejvit. It charged. Dejvit dodged, forcing the hippo to crash. Changing its mind, the hippo ate Spencer and Jasmine. Two minutes later, the chaos ending, only 3 were left: Maddy, Ashton, and Guangzhi. Maddy immediately karate-chopped the hippo. The hippo chewed up Maddy leaving the two left. Ashton suggested throwing some cheese at him. Instead, Ashton jumped on Guangzhi forming a T-rex. The hippo ate them. The hippo started to feel grumpy. Then, the hippo barfed out the class, fainting. And that is the end of my crazy report.



Mental Health Awareness Week May 7-13

Every year, the first week in May is Mental Health Week in Canada. Students will hear daily morning announcements to raise awareness and learn of strategies to support good mental health and our Mental Health Leaders continue to support JSB initiatives for our younger students. For more information, visit <http://getloud.mentalhealthweek.ca/> or check out Twitter #GetLoud



Grade 6-8 Spring Concert

Please come to see the JSB musicians! Our Band, Strings and Rock Band will play a variety of musical styles on Tuesday, May 15th at 6:30pm in the gym. Please save the date to be WOWED by our musical talent.

Friendly Reminder

On Tuesday, May 29th, 2018 the Grade 7 students will receive their vaccination.



The following vaccines will be given:

- Second dose of hepatitis B and human papillomavirus to Grade 7 students
- Toronto Public Health Nurses will also immunize Grade 7 and 8 students who missed their hepatitis B, meningococcal, and human papillomavirus vaccines at earlier scheduled clinics

If your child will be away that day, please contact your family doctor to get the vaccination.

EQAO

EQAO testing will be happening during the weeks of May 22 and May 28th. Testing will occur in the morning. There are six assessments in total, (2 reading, 2 writing, 2 mathematics). Students will write one assessment per day spread out over the two weeks. The test is not timed so students will be given the necessary time to finish.

We do not want the testing process to be stressful for students. Staff attended an EQAO workshop in March to support student preparation for the test and learned tips on how to reduce stress and anxiety.

Key messages from the workshop were:

- ✓ Know that the EQAO test does not determine your child's future, nor their level of intelligence and ability.
- ✓ The results of EQAO are not used to determine acceptance to special programs/schools.
- ✓ Help your child eat well and rest during the test period.

Helpful Websites to learn more about test anxiety and study habits are:

<https://www.anxietybc.com> - Ideas on how to deal with test anxiety as well as study tips for students and parents.

www.how-to-study.com - Study tips and articles on how to study for students and parents.

If you are interested in learning more about the test please visit the EQAO website:

<http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/primary-division/parents>



Lost and Found

We already have an overflow of student clothing and other items in the lost and found bins (both clothing and food/lunch containers) since the March Break. Please visit the bin in the north stairwell entrance and/or remind your child to take a look and claim items that belong to your family. Thank You!



Spring Panoramic Photo

On May 8 at 10:00 a.m. we will have our first annual panoramic photo taken of all the students and staff at James S. Bell. This photo will be taken outside in our school yard. Photos will be available for sale for \$12 each. Orders will be taken in the office once we have a copy. Details to follow.



Dogs on Property

As the warmer weather approaches, this is a reminder that dogs are not permitted on school property. Please see TDSB policy statement below: "TDSB No Dogs on School Property will be strictly enforced. Children are at risk of being bitten by any dog that is on school property, or is tied up on or near school property, in an area where children pass by and are vulnerable. Keep our children safe."



Calendar of Events

- May EQAO testing May 22-June 4
- May 3-Welcome to Kindergarten 5:30 – 6:30pm
- May 8-Panoramic Photo at 10 a.m.
- May 10-Gr 6 Slow Pitch Tournament
- May 15-Band & Strings, Rock Band Concert 6:30 pm
- May 17-Track and Field Meet Centennial Park
- May 21-Victoria Day no school
- May 25-Pizza Day
- May 25-Grade 7/8 to the Science Centre
- May 26-Bellapalooza 11-3 p.m.
- May 28-30-Muskoka Woods - Barnes, Shears, Kobe
- May 31-Terrific Tigers
- June 1-Subway Lunch
- June 8- PA day no school



Principal's Message

I'm always amazed at how quickly the school year flies by! It's hard to imagine that it is May 1st today! We certainly have been enjoying several spring showers these past few weeks and some unusual fluctuations in temperature. We are all looking forward to warmer weather in the days ahead.

We have two more months of school to go! With various sports tournaments (slo-pitch, ultimate frisbee), Terrific Tigers Assemblies/Awards assembly, Spring concert, Grade 7 and 8 trips, Track and Field meets and our annual Bellapalooza coming up we are very excited about the events yet to come.

Thanks to all those who joined us at our last Terrific Tigers Assembly during which we had wonderful performances from the band, strings and Rock Band groups!

This is a friendly reminder that our Full Day Kindergarten Open House is on May 3 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Finally, as we continue working in partnership to increase achievement and engagement in math for our students, I'd like to direct you to a free website for math fact practice where students can practice online or you may wish to print off some math sheets for them! I encourage you to go to www.webmathminute.com when you have a few moments.

We look forward to seeing you at our future events and thank-you for your continued support of our many school and community endeavours.

Warmest Regards,
J. Petko

School Council News Bellapalooza

What are you doing on **Saturday, May 26** from 11am-3pm? Hopefully, you're coming to Bellapalooza – JSB's annual fun fair fundraiser organized by JSB parents. Last year's event raised over \$8,700 for the School Council!

Want to know how you can contribute to Bellapalooza?

- If you can volunteer some of your time at Bellapalooza on May 26, email us at jsb.schoolcouncil@gmail.com to let us know. Even if it's just an hour!
- Can you donate new and used items for the silent auction, gift basket raffle, and yard sale, as well as baskets, bows and ribbons? Please bring these to the school by May 25.
- We also need donations for the bake sale. Please bring donations to the school by May 25, and email us at jsb.schoolcouncil@gmail.com to let us know what you're bringing.

Most importantly, bring your family and friends to Bellapalooza and have lots of fun!

Subway Lunch Volunteer Needed

Do your kids enjoy Subway Lunch? The School Council is looking for volunteers to coordinate Subway Lunch next year. This popular Friday lunch raises funds for the School Council, and we'd really like to be able to continue it next year.

Think you might be interested but aren't sure what it involves? The Subway Lunch coordinator prepares and photocopies order forms the week before the Subway Lunch to be sent home with students. A few days before Subway

Lunch, volunteers count the order and submit it with payment to Subway. On the Friday, the lunches are distributed to students.

Worried that if you indicate interest you'll be signing your life away? You'd have the flexibility of setting the dates for Subway Lunches in consultation with school staff. If there are months you simply can't do it, that's okay! While there has usually been about one Subway Lunch per month, there could be fewer (or more!) depending on the coordinator's availability. You'd also be free to recruit other parent volunteers or student volunteers to help you. And the School Council and school staff can offer you support as well.

Are you able to help? Please email us at jsb.schoolcouncil@gmail.com to let us know.

STAY CONNECTED!

Have you signed up for our weekly email blast? Email us at jsb.schoolcouncil@gmail.com to receive emails about upcoming events, Pizza Lunch, Subway Lunch, and other School Council information!

Like us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/jsbschoolcouncil/

Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/JamesSBellSAC

Morgen and Tara (Council Co-chairs)