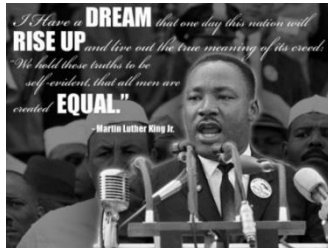




James S. Bell Junior Middle Sports and Wellness Academy Principal's Newsletter February and March, 2018



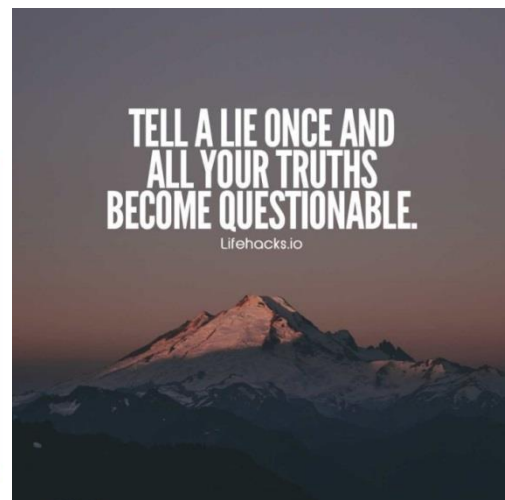
School Community Building

February was a month to recognize the character trait of 'fairness' and March was the month during which we highlighted 'honesty'. The two character traits go hand in hand. February was as you know African Heritage History month. Our senior classes attended a special Black History month assembly at the Etobicoke School of the Arts on February 15th. The theme of the show was "Black Magic and the Fight for Having It". The show was written, directed, and performed by ESA students in Grades 9-12 and included drama, spoken word, film, visual arts, vocals, music, and dance. Students returned having been educated, entertained, and empowered to have their own conversations about diversity, history, systemic and institutional racism, and oppression. Daily messages and biographies of famous African Canadian and Americans highlighting their invaluable contributions were announced in the mornings throughout the month and classrooms explored African Heritage in literacy and social studies activities.



"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou



Our next month's focus will be on 'co-operation'. Don't forget to discuss with your children at home what co-operation means to them and how they may demonstrate or recognize co-operation both 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 class mates, 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 February</u>	<u>Name March</u>
101	Caleigh C.	Erica H.
102	Isla R.	Molly W.
103	Beto D.	Sam R.
104	Alexa C.	Caterina B.
105	Izabel P.	Theo P.
107	Luka Y.	Joslin C.
108	Sydney G.	Madeline I.
110	Lauren F.	Janessa P.
112	Leanna P.	Todor B.
203	Maya M.	Huy M.
201	Pawel W.	Alexander S.
202	Tenzin C.	Alex B.
208	Jaedynn H.	Paige J.
210	Tysion C.	Sheala L.
206	Faith C.	Alexander S.
213	Sunny G.	Sarah G.
211	Carrara S.	Eric R.
214	Nicholas D.	Georgia K.
215	Andrea B.	Savannah J.
204	G-One M.	Leo S.
207	Jenna K.	Rinesa B.

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

First Term Junior/Senior Awards Assembly

On March 2, we had our first term awards assembly where we recognized the hard work of our students in various subjects. Congratulations to the students who received Best Effort and Most Improved certificates from each class. We also recognized students who received a grade average of 80% or above in first

term. Way to go to all those students who received a certificate for being on the Honour Roll. Finally, a special congratulations to all those students who received a certificate for making the Principal's List. The following students achieved 80% or higher in every subject evaluated this term:

Natalie Barnes, Dalia Blaszczyk, Andrea Braccio, Mira Braccio, Nicholas Desrocher, Gavin Hamilton, Amber Mays, Natasha Oroz, Eric Reci, Ellie Sloan and Owyn Thomas.



Mental Health and Wellness

Over the 2017-2018 school year, the Mental Health Leaders have been organizing fun activities for the younger students. Our group consists of students in Grade 6-8. The younger students have been enjoying the activities that we are organizing and they are also improving their mental health and physical health at the same time. Some activities we have organized include Just Dance, Benchball/Soccer, Glitter Jars, Yoga, Charades, Pictionary and Percussion. We are in the progress of organizing two activities; an Easter Hunt and a Cooperation activity. Mental Health is very important, but an under-looked thing. These activities are bringing the importance of mental health to light. We would like to thank Ms. Bellehumeur for giving us the opportunity to be leaders.

Thanks, Your Mental Health Leaders



Bench-ball and Percussion!

Grade 6 News

Mr. Maxwell's and Ms. Kis' classes did a really fun activity! What was that activity you may ask? Well, here it is! Lately both 6A and 6B have been learning about calculating the surface area and volume of objects. Now it was time to put this to the test! Both classes were partnered up (or chose to work by themselves) and created robots! The materials that were used to create the robots were spare boxes plus some tape and/or glue. We built our robots but here is where the challenge came in. We had to calculate the surface area and volume of our robots. Whatever our answer was, that would be how much aluminium foil we would get to cover it so it looked like a metal robot. The reason the Grade 6s did this activity was to see if we could correctly calculate surface area. This activity made learning math fun! See photos below.

By Rory M. (Rm 210)



Grade 7's Science

The Grade 7's finished off their unit on Heat with an exciting STEM task that involved building their own candle-powered steam engine "Putt-Putt" boats. After writing a lab report to solidify their understanding of the procedure, materials, engine function and potential safety concerns, boats were built and tested in a small pool. Upon completion, students also wrote a test to demonstrate their understanding of how the engine works, which tied into many of the curriculum concepts covered in our unit. Currently, students are working through their second-last unit of the year on Mixtures. We will cover matter, classification and properties of matter, types of mixtures and solutions, solubility, concentration and methods of separating mixtures. We will also use our understanding of supersaturated solutions to make some rock candy!



The Grade 8's wrapped up their Water Systems unit by researching, designing and building their own water filters using activated carbon, gravel, cloth and sand. As you can see in the images below, most of these worked incredibly well and filtered dirty, fully-opaque water samples into clear, transparent ones! The task was finalized with a lab report to summarize their quantitative and qualitative observations, as well as a few questions to extend their learning. Currently, the 8's are completing their second-last unit on Fluids. So far, we have

covered Viscosity, Mass vs. Weight, Density and Pressure Machines (Hydraulics and Pneumatics). Students are now planning and creating some exciting hydraulic machines capable of accomplishing a variety of tasks.



Grade 5/ Music

The Grade 5 and 6 classes have continued to build upon their Ukulele skills. In small groups, students chose a song they all enjoy and learned the chords, song structure, lyrics and strumming pattern. They then created a chord chart for their song, as well as an informative script they could use to create an instructional tutorial video to teach others to play their song of choice. Filming is just wrapping up and these are turning out really well. We will be sharing the final products with classmates over the next few weeks.

Grade 7 and 8 music classes finished up their Instrument presentations, many of which were very informative and well-done, and are now trying their hand at some music composition. Over the next few weeks, classes will be using the Chrome Music Lab program to produce original music of their own. We will also continue building upon our Ukulele skills.

Science and Music Extracurriculars and Enrichment

Advanced Robotics club continues to move forward using Lego Mindstorm to build robots and use simple computer programming to generate sets of instructions for the robots to follow. Beginner Robotics, using Lego Boost will be starting up at some point in May. Additionally, in April and May a team of Grade 7/8 JSB students will attend the annual Fluid Power Challenge. They will be using their understanding of Hydraulic systems to create machines that accomplish various tasks.

In terms of Music extracurriculars, the Ukulele club is still going strong every Tuesday at lunchtime in room 209, and the JSB Rock Band continues to work on new songs that will be presented at our upcoming Terrific Tigers assemblies, Spring Concert and Bellapalooza.



Mr. Makowiecki

OSC

The primary classes enjoyed a day at the Ontario Science Centre on March 27! Enjoy a few photos of their day of fun and learning! Thank you very much to the parents that were able to help out and join us.

Mr. Michailidis





Graduation Photos and Yearbook!

Graduating JSB Grade 8 students will have their pictures taken today! Students under the guidance of Ms. Enns are putting a yearbook together for the graduating class! We hope you will purchase one as a keepsake for the many fond memories at JSB.



Chess Team

Our chess team played at the Southwest Chess tournament on March 29 at the Bickford Centre! They showed great passion for chess and represented the school beautifully. The members of the team included: Stephanie P., Isabelle B., Matthew S., Michael P., Andrew M., Jonathan V., Edward J., Nate L., Oliver M., Tyler B., Gerd K., Arius K., Liam M-B., Matthew M-B., Alex B. Thanks to Ms. Min, Ms. Morrison and Mr. Martell for organizing chess club this term for our students.



TDSB Pink Day- Wednesday April 11th, 2018

Wednesday April 11th, 2018 is the International Day of Pink. The Day of Pink started when two students, David Shepherd and Travis Price from Nova Scotia stood up for Charles McNeill, who was being bullied. Homophobic comments were being said about Charles because he was wearing a pink shirt. As a result, David and Travis organized students throughout the school to wear pink t-shirts to show their support for Charles. Ever since this incident, April 11th has been

used as a day to raise awareness and to stop bullying, specifically homophobia and trans-phobia.

In order to recognize and prepare for this day, students and staff are encouraged to wear pink on the 11th. Classrooms will be engaged in various activities and discussions around this very significant day! (We are selling pink day t-shirts please call the office to inquire.)



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."

Elementary Summer School

Elementary summer programs increase engagement and build self-confidence in our students. This summer, from July 4th - 27th, the TDSB is opening schools across the city to help build reading, writing and math skills in students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. Visit www.tdsb.on.ca/summer for a complete list of participating schools. @TDSB_ConEd

Continuing Education – Summer Music Camps

Add to your child's summer vacation with music camp. Through three unique programs – Summer Sounds, DownTown Summer Strings and Toronto Summer Music Camps – the TDSB offers band, strings and orchestral experiences for students from Grades 3-9. Registration is open now. For more information, please visit www.tdsbsummmercamps.ca @TDSB_ConEd

French Review

With over 90,000 students in Core French and another 28,000 students in French Immersion & Extended French programs come system successes and challenges. We are proud of the Board's successes in retention rate, inclusion of students with special education needs as well as accessibility and transportation. At the same time, challenges include multiple entry points, equity of access, and transportation. As part of the Director's Response to the Enhanced Equity Task Force Report, a review of all French Programs will begin in Spring 2018. In collaboration with the TDSB Research Department, this review will focus on the current status of all French Programs, including the structure, content of the teaching and learning, and policies and procedures related to French. The board looks forward to receiving feedback about the successes and challenges of the various French Programs through face-to-face consultation with parents/guardians, Trustees, staff, students and community members and an online survey (available soon!). You are invited to join any of

the consultation meetings available throughout May 2018. All meetings will be led by TDSB staff and held in the school cafeteria from 7 to 9 p.m.

- Tues May 1st - Danforth CTI (800 Greenwood Ave)
- Thurs May 3rd - Etobicoke CI (86 Montgomery Rd)
- Tues May 15th - Birchmount Park CI (3663 Danforth Ave W.)
- Thurs May 17th - Northview Heights SS (550 Finch Ave W.)
- Thurs May 24th - Advisory Committee Consultation (5050 Yonge St - Committee Rm A)
- Wed May 30th - John Polanya CI (640 Lawrence Ave W.)

For more information, please contact:

Manon Gardner, Executive Superintendent, Teaching & Learning, Alternative and International Education @ manon.gardner@tdsb.on.ca



Calendar of Events

- April 3-Scientists in schools for grade 3 classes
- April 5-Senior girls volleyball tournament
- April 6- Grad photos
- April 9-Grade 5 co-ed volleyball tournament
- April 11-TDSB and International Day of Pink (wear pink! T-shirts are on sale online)
- April 13-Co-ed volleyball tournament at LCI and Humber Hawks at 3:10
- April 16-Arts Express grades 1-5 in the a.m.
- April 20-Arts Express grades 1-5 all day and Humber Hawks last day
- April 26-Terrific Tigers at 9:20 a.m.
- April 27-Pizza lunch
- April 30-Ms. Debowski's class to EFSC
- May 3-FDK open house evening 5:30 to 6:30
- May 8-Panoramic photo for all students at 10 a.m. in the school yard
- May 15- Spring Concert (band, strings, Rock Band)
- May 26-Bellapalooza



Principal's Message

We hope you had an enjoyable March break and Easter/Passover weekend! Winter is finally over and spring is in the air! We are already planning for next year believe it or not. If you are planning to move over the summer and your child will not be attending James S. Bell next year, please notify the office or your child's teacher as this information will assist us with organizing classrooms for the fall.

So many memorable events have happened in the last month! Our students enjoyed informative and interactive Scientist in Schools presentations, we have hosted numerous volleyball tournaments and invitationals as well as badminton tournaments, we had our awards assembly and Terrific Tigers assemblies, chess tournament, we had our grad photos taken, we participated in Earth Hour, our litter bug team has been busy keeping our yard litter free and so much more. We look forward to our grade 7 trip to Albion Hills and grade 8 trip to Muskoka Woods, our panoramic photo, spring concert on May 15 and Bellapalooza on May 26 to name a few.

Our staffing model for JSB next year is being discussed through our staffing committee and will be approved by Superintendent Sandra Tondat by April 13. I will be informing you of the final model in mid-April. I will also be sending a letter with information about the student placement process via email by then as well.

I'd like to once again remind everyone that the safety and security of our students lies in all of our hands. We have placed no parking signs, pylons and poles near our crosswalk to indicate that cars may not be parked in that zone. Please obey parking signs in front of our school. The bus loading zone needs to be free of vehicles at the posted times. Thank-you for your co-operation. Please see attached flyer from Trustee Gough for a ward meeting she is hosting on the topic of traffic safety in school zones. (April 25)

At this time, I'd like to share the bittersweet news that our very own Melanie Pearce will be moving onto a new role in TDSB as a Staffing Recruitment Administrator and Appraisals. Congratulations to Melanie who will be an outstanding addition to Employee Services! Equally, this will be a great loss for JSB! She will be tremendously missed by the entire community. Her last day with us will be April 13.

Finally, as we continue on our journey of math learning, I'd like to share the attached handout titled 'positive math messages'. We know that 'attitude towards math' matters in student achievement. I encourage you to post it in your child's homework space or have it handy to remind your child(ren) that positive thoughts will go a long way in approaching math tasks and challenging moments!

To all of our families celebrating Orthodox Easter on Sunday, April 8, Happy Easter to you and yours!

Warmest Regards,
J. Petko

School Council News

Bellapalooza

Save the date! This year's Bellapalooza is on **Saturday, May 26** from 11am-3pm.

JSB's annual fun fair fundraiser is organized by JSB parents, and last year's event raised over \$8,700! Over 100 volunteers came together to make the BBQ, games, face-painting, silent auction, yard sale, car wash, ticket sales, bake sale, 50/50 draw, and many other logistics happen.

Interested in helping out at Bellapalooza? Stay tuned...requests for volunteers to help the day of Bellapalooza will be sent later in the spring as we get closer to the big day!

Volunteering

Are you interested in volunteering? Do you want to make sure you hear about volunteering opportunities?

The School Council has a dedicated email address to communicate with parents/guardians about volunteering opportunities throughout the year. If you think you might be interested in volunteering (don't worry, signing up doesn't commit you to anything) please email jsb.schoolcouncilvolunteers@gmail.com to be added to the email distribution list.

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

School Council