



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



School Community Building

January was a month for reflecting upon the concept of 'teamwork'. Students and staff consistently work cooperatively and collaboratively to meet expectations at school and create an environment that values and fosters teamwork whether in athletic activities, musical or artistic endeavours or in clubs.



The strength of the team is
each individual member...the
strength of each member is
the team

- Phil Jackson - Coaching Chicago Bulls

boardofwisdom.com

Our next month's focus will be on 'fairness'. Don't forget to discuss with your children at home what fairness means to them and how they may demonstrate or recognize fairness 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:

Room	Name-December	Name-January
101	Jestsun O.	Josephine A.
102	Peter B.	Wish L.
103	MaKenna D.	Aaven E.
104	Ashlan K.	Joshua R.
105	Lilly M.	Ahmed B.
107	Rane S.	Stephanie P.
108	Shae H.	Drezden B.
110	Liane M.	Carter N.
112	Spencer S.	Guangzhi W.
203	Tristan L.	Reid L.
201	Ola W.	Nick K.
202	Luke O.	Yaisa S.
208	Antonio G.	Katterra S.
210	Rory M.	Reece H.
206	Lauren C.	Michael Y.
213	Teghan K.	Nathan J.
211	Danielle R.	Maia S.
214	Amber M.	Heather C.
215	Mira B.	Michael P.
204	Junior F.	Tyson F.
207	Eleni M.	Andrew M.

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



Student Council News

The student parliament organized some fun spirit days for JSB! Thursday, Jan. 25 was Jersey Day and JSB Spirit Wear Day in celebration of 'Teamwork'! Friday, Feb. 9 was Canada Day (wear red and white) as a kick off to the Winter Olympics in Pyeonychang, South Korea and of course Wednesday, Feb. 14 is Valentine's day and students are asked to wear pink or red. During the week of Feb. 12-15 they will be selling heart shaped lollipops at lunch for students to send to their Valentines. A grades 6-8 dance has been planned for just before March break. (date to be confirmed shortly)



Annual Scholastic Book Fair

Monday, February 12th – Friday, February 16th

FAIR HOURS:

Mon. – Wed. 8:50am-4:00pm

Thurs. 8:50am-4:00pm & 5:00pm–7:00pm

Fri. 9:00am – 11:00am

Please join us at the JSB Annual Scholastic Book Fair. Students will visit the Book Fair during their scheduled library period and will be able to purchase books. The library will be open for parents after school as well as Thursday evening and Friday morning during Parent/Teacher interviews. All students are welcome at this time. Primary students must be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

Ms. Youngs

Teacher-Librarian

Mental Health and Wellness is a Focus!



Students in room 112 learning chair yoga techniques with Ms. Cohen our Learning Coach to calm the body, mind and soul.



Our grades 1-3 students led by our Mental Health Student Leaders Dance it Out during our lunch hour for a little cardio, but more importantly to share laughs, spend time together and build a sense of belonging and wellbeing at JSB!

JSB Boys2Men Group

The JSB Boys2Men group have been busy constructing cooperative games for their fellow students. Members of the group have planned and built two games of Ladder Golf and are in the final stages of constructing a Washer Toss game. The group plans to build one more Washer Toss game and two Cornhole Bean Bag games before the end of the year. The objective is for teachers to be able to sign out the cooperative games for their students to enjoy.

The Boys2Men group meets at lunch once a week at JSB to construct the cooperative games. The boys also meet every second Tuesday at Lakeshore Collegiate after school. At LCI, the boys take part in a variety of activities and cooperative games. They also develop positive relationships and are mentored by senior students from LCI. Below are pictures of the games built by the group.



Washer Toss game almost complete. Ladder Golf game ready to go.

Mr. Kobe

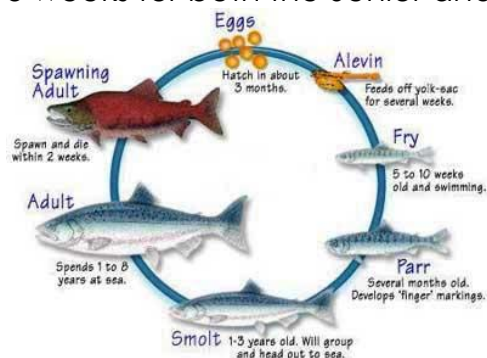


See What's Growing in Room 204

100 North Atlantic Salmon eggs have been delivered to room 204. The eggs are enjoying their life in their new fish "condo."

So excited to have the new additions to our classroom. We will be releasing the Fry into the Credit River in late May or early June.

In other news, Boys basketball is going strong and the tournaments will be held in 3 weeks for both the Senior and Junior Teams. Stay tuned for exact dates.



Mr. McShane

Grade 7/8 - Science Update

In Grade 7 Science, students are in the midst of their "Heat" unit, which focuses on properties of heat, heat transfer and heat-related technologies. After a few lessons and a test to introduce key concepts, students chose an exciting experiment that demonstrates one or more properties of heat, created a short lab report and have been demonstrating and explaining the "Heat Science" behind it. They have also selected a heat or insulating technology relevant to their day-to-day lives, and are working on a Google slide presentation focusing on its history, evolution, future developments, how it works, how it's made and function. The unit will wrap up with a STEM opportunity to build candle-powered "putt-putt" boats!

In Grade 8 Science, students are currently working on their "Water Systems" unit. They have created some great research-based "Infographics" that focus on distribution of water on Earth, negative human impacts on our Water Systems, and how interesting developments in Science and Technology can be used to reverse and clean up some of our actions. After the Infographics, we learned about how cities process freshwater for public consumption. After a test next week, we will be wrapping up the unit with a hands-on STEM task which gives students the opportunity to create a functional water filtration device using simple materials.

As an enrichment opportunity, a team of four students joined Mr. Mak at L'Amoreau Collegiate for Skills Canada's annual cardboard boat building competition. This event requires students to create a functional canoe from cardboard and duct tape, in only two hours! Once completed, there are races for the fastest boat, and a weight challenge. Congrats to Amber M., Andrea B., Emma F. and Eric R. for their excellent effort!

In terms of extracurriculars, Mr. Mak will be starting a Lego Robotics club for Grades 6-8, using both Mind Storm and Boost platforms. Timing of the club will be announced shortly. If all goes well, we hope to eventually complete at a few local events! See photos below.

Mr. Mak



Photos courtesy of Mr. Mak (this page and next)



Grade 5-8 Music Update

In Grade 5 and 6, students continued a variety of whole-class activities to build vocal and rhythm skills, as well as learn more basic musical notation (i.e. - eight notes, eight rests, repeats). They have also extended the Ukulele skills developed in December to learn how to play a song of their choice, in small groups. Once learned, students will be writing a script for, and creating an instructional video to teach others how the song is played. We hope to present some of these at February's Terrific Tigers assembly.

In Grade 7 and 8, students used videos, images or animation to create Lyric Videos for a song they enjoy, whose lyrics have a positive message. These videos were shared with the class along with an explanation of the intended message of the song, using proof from the lyrics. We have also completed our introduction to Ukulele parts and functions, and have learned some basic chords, by playing along with the song "Riptide." Next, students will be split into beginner, intermediate and advanced groups to learn an ability-appropriate song of their choice. At the same time, students are starting a research-based project on an instrument of their choice, covering how it works, how it is made, how it sounds and its evolution over time.

In terms of extracurriculars, Mr. Mak and Miss Enns are starting a Ukulele club for students in Grade 5-8. It will be held every Tuesday at lunch in room 209, for approximately two months.

Mr. Mak



Volleyball at JSB

Our junior and senior boys and girls volleyball teams have been participating in their invitational tournaments this past month and are doing very well! I'm sure you have been seeing updates on Twitter! There is certainly a passion for the sport at our school!

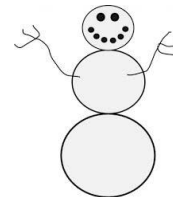


A few photos from our Junior Girls Invitational held on Wed. Feb. 7! (Photos courtesy of Heather Hurst Johnston)



ESL News

Just a reminder that the 6-STEP continuums will be going home with the provincial reports this month for all our ESL students. The continuums simply describe our ESL students' progress in learning English and are a completely separate document from the report cards. If you have any questions at all, please contact the school.



Ice and Snow School Rules

Winter is an exciting time of the year but snow and ice do create new safety challenges. Please continue to review our school rules with your child:

1. We don't throw/kick snow/ice. Snow and ice stays on the ground.
2. We stay away from icy areas that have a layer of ice on them.
3. We can't "own" the snow. The snow is a finite resource and in a school situation we cannot "own" a specific area, structure or figure. We can build but we can't "lay claim" or expect other people not to touch whatever we build. Playing at home in the snow is different than playing at school. At home you can expect what you build may last several days but at school it won't.
4. Follow the instructions of our teachers and lunchroom supervisors at all times.



Important Safety Reminders

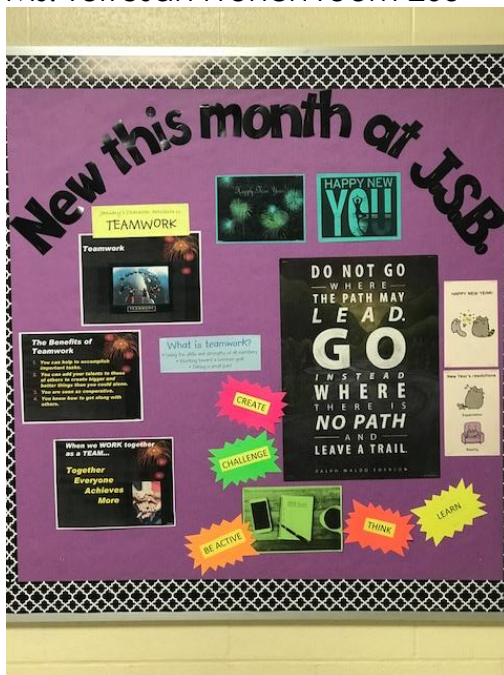
Please note that all students are expected to remain outside in the morning until the bell rings and are to line up with their classrooms in the school yard to be picked up by their teachers. Please be reminded that entry is at 8:40 a.m. and we have the playing of O Canada and morning announcements promptly at 9:00 a.m. each morning. We kindly ask that you ensure that your child is at school on time which means they are in the school yard for entry not later than a couple of minutes before the bell. Students are not permitted to enter through the front door and please note that senior students must use their proper entry and exit doors at all times. It is extremely important for students to be at school on time each morning (and afternoon) and enter the school with their teachers. We appreciate your efforts to ensure that this happens.

During inclement weather students will be permitted to come indoors through the school yard entrances and will be supervised on the main floor beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please remind your child that if there are no students in the yard when they arrive they should enter the school.

What you'll see on our walls at JSB!



Ms. Torresan French room 205



Ms. Youngs Library

Ms. Debowski room 112



Ms. Kis room 208



Calendar Dates:

Feb 1-28 - Kindergarten Registration-please contact the office with questions
Feb 12-15- Scholastic Book Fair-please visit the library to purchase books and support the school!
 Feb 13 – Report Cards go home
 Feb 14 – Valentine's Day: Spirit Day (wear PINK or RED)
 Feb 14- AM K-5 Dance-A-Thon
 Feb 15 – Parent-Teacher Interviews (evening)
 Feb 16 – (PA day no school Parent-Teacher Interviews (am)
 Feb 19 – Family Day Holiday (no school)
 Feb 21- Grades 4-8 to Marlies Game
 Feb 23- Terrific Tigers Assembly 9:20 a.m.
 Feb 23 – Pizza Day
 Mar 1- JSB School Council meeting 7-9 p.m. library
 Mar 3- Sat. Family skate and Marlies Game (school council organized)
 Mar 8-6-8 Ski trip to Mount St. Louis



Principal's Message

Happy New Year! Gong Hay Fat Choy (Cantonese), Saehae Bog Manhi-Bad-Euseyo (Korean) and Chuc Mung Nam Moy (Vietnamese) to all those families who are celebrating Lunar New Year on Feb. 16 next week! Happy year of the Dog and we wish you much luck and prosperity.

We are thrilled to see the term in full swing. Our school has been an exciting hub of learning and activities. From numerous invitational volleyball tournaments, basketball tournaments and hockey games, Rock Band, Boys2Men club, intramural floor hockey, chess club, scrabble club, Mental Health and Wellness Leaders initiatives, classroom field trips to Cadbury Chocolate Factory, Science Centre and more students have been busy to say the least. The older students are looking forward to their ski trip on March 8 to Mount St. Louis and the grades 4-8 school planned Marlies game on Feb. 21. Of course don't forget that the council planned a Marlies game and very special family skate on March 3! February is African Heritage Month. Throughout the month of February, students are learning about the experiences, achievements and many contributions that the African community has made through classroom activities, presentations and announcements. The Toronto District School Board will also hold a variety of events to celebrate the rich heritage of the people and nations of Africa and the African Diaspora.

Report cards will be sent home on Feb. 13. Please review the report card and if you have any questions and would like to arrange a parent/teacher interview please contact your child(ren)'s teacher. The teacher may also request an interview with you and will contact you directly. Rotary teachers (French, Physical Education, Music, Special Education, ESL) may also request to see you or you may wish to arrange an interview with them. This may be done directly with those teachers or through the homeroom teacher. Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to work hard and focus on their learning. We will do the same at school. We encourage you to communicate closely with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) on a regular basis as we know that positive home-school partnerships contribute greatly to student success, well-being and achievement.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (EDI) – ATTENTION PARENTS OF SENIOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS Beginning in March 2018 at the TDSB, Kindergarten teachers will be working to complete individual questionnaires for Senior Kindergarten students in all elementary schools. Please see attached letter.

In our efforts to improve communication, we have attached the Dec.-Mar. Sports and Clubs calendars. They are also posted on our website.

Finally, as we work together to further our learning and develop our capacities to support students with numeracy, we direct your attention to a site called 'Little Giraffes'. It is a teacher created site that provides both pictures and instructions for primary math centers. There are lots of great ideas on this site. <http://www.littlegiraffes.com/math.html>

We hope you are enjoying your time with your child(ren) engaging in math!

Warmest Regards,
J. Petko and C. Bellehumeur

James S. Bell School Council News

Dance-A-Thon

Get ready for JSB's 14th annual Dance-A-Thon on Wednesday, February 14! This popular School Council fundraiser asks our kindergarten to grade 5 students to bust a move to raise money to provide enrichment opportunities at our school and increase school spirit.

Students are asked to collect pledges, and for every \$30 raised, they will receive their choice of a \$10 gift card to Cineplex or Chapters.

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!

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)