



MALVERN JUNIOR P.S NEWSLETTER

January 2025



Administrators' Message

Happy New Year to our Malvern JPS families! A new year brings new opportunities and wishes for the year ahead of us. The enthusiasm of our students and their smiling faces was a pleasure to see as we started the new year back at MJPS.

In January, our Character Trait is Teamwork. Before the holidays Mrs. Tharmarajah's class led a school wide Food Drive. Thanks to the teamwork of our students and our Malvern community, our school was able to donate over 200 items to the local Food Bank to support families.



Much appreciation to our Malvern JPS community for coming together before the winter break to enjoy the Winter Concert that our students and staff worked hard to prepare for. It was a joyous night and was an evening highlighting and celebrating our MJPS students.

We wish everyone all the best in the year ahead!

*NEW - Kindergarten Registration Begins in January

Registration for TDSB Kindergarten programs begins in January this school year. We look forward to welcoming our new Junior Kindergarten students in September!

To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four years old by December 31, 2025. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five years old by December 31, 2025. The registration process will be completed online and a meeting will also be booked with the school office staff to

complete the registration process. For more information about the Kindergarten program and registration requirements, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten. Kindergarten Registration Begins on Monday, January 6th. Once you complete your registration forms online, the office will review the registration forms and will call you when they are ready to book an appointment with you to complete the registration process.

Our office staff will let you know what documents you will need to have available for your registration appointment and are also able to provide guidance with completing the registration forms online if you have any questions.



Early French Immersion Program/Application Process
The Early French Immersion program begins in Junior Kindergarten (JK). For September 2025 entry, **the deadline to apply was November 29th**. Applications that are submitted after this deadline will be marked as late and accommodated if space in the program is available.

In February, only those families who applied by the deadline and have accepted an offer of placement for their child via the [central application process](#) can register in Early French Immersion.

Out-Of-Area Admissions Process

Online applications for both elementary and secondary [Out-of-Area Admissions](#) opens on **January 6, 2025**. This is the process whereby students can apply to attend a school outside of the school designated to serve their home address. Acceptance is subject to space availability and transportation is the responsibility of the applicant. The **Elementary** application deadline is **January 31 at 4 p.m.** and the **Secondary** application deadline is **January 24 at 4 p.m.**

Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 Entry) Application Process

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's system-wide French Immersion Program, we offer an online process to apply for Middle French Immersion (begins in Grade 4). To apply to the Middle French Immersion Program for September 2025, applications must be completed online between **January 6 and 31, 2025**. Families with an older sibling currently in a Middle French Immersion program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. For more information and to access the application, please visit the [Middle French Immersion web page](#).

Elementary Alternative Schools Online Application Process

The TDSB offers a wide range of [Elementary Alternative Schools](#) available to students. The application process is managed centrally and includes an online application form. Complete information about the central online application process is available on the [Elementary Alternative Schools Application and Admissions Process webpage](#). The online application for admission for September 2025 open on **Monday, January 6, 2025, and will close at 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 31, 2025.**

Tamil Heritage Month

Tamil Heritage Month is proudly recognized during the month of January at Toronto District School Board (TDSB) since January 2016. It has also been marked across the province of Ontario since March 2004 with the implementation of the [Tamil Heritage Month Act, 2014](#). Further, Tamil Heritage Month is also formally recognized nationally since January 2016 by the passing of a motion which reads, *That, in the opinion of the House, the government should recognize the contributions that Tamil-Canadians have made to Canadian society, the richness of the Tamil language and culture, and the importance of educating and reflecting upon Tamil heritage for future generations by declaring January, every year, Tamil Heritage Month.*

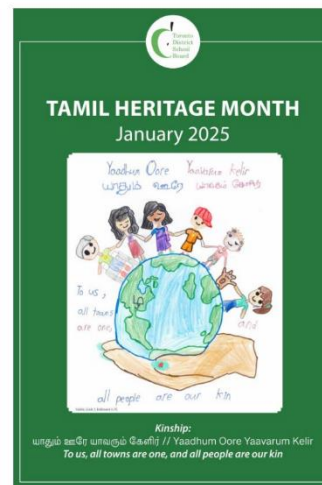
This year, the theme for Tamil Heritage Month is from a quotation by an influential Tamil philosopher named Kaniyan Pungundranar:

Kinship:

யாதும் ஊரே யாவரும் கேளிர் // **Yaadhum Oore Yaavarum Kelir**

To us, all towns are one, and all people are our kin

The theme of kinship and interconnectedness of all people is important to Tamil people. It emphasizes the idea that regardless of where we come from, we are all part of a larger family. This theme encourages us to celebrate diversity and foster unity within communities, highlighting that our differences enrich our shared human experience.



Toronto has the largest Tamil population outside of the South Asian subcontinent with thousands of TDSB students and staff members who identify as Tamil. Throughout the month of January as we recognize Tamil Heritage Month, we encourage you to explore various aspects

of kinship—whether through family ties, friendships, or community connections.

To mark Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB various educational opportunities will be offered to students to further learn about the history, customs, and traditions.

Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement

We are offering a variety of learning experiences for students, staff, caregivers and community members. Join us for [Equity and Belonging Begins at Home](#) with Dr. Andrew B. Campbell, OISE, University of Toronto, on **January 15 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. (virtual)**, and [The ABC's of Literacy](#) on **January 28 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (virtual)**. Visit www.tdsb.on.ca/cebsa for more information and follows us on Instagram and X @tdsb_cebsa

Traffic Safety Tips: Help Make This A Safe Winter Season

During the winter season, we know that severe weather will be part of our daily lives for the next few months. While traffic safety is an important matter all year long, this is a particularly good time to review what we can do to keep students safe. The need to be aware and alert at all times, on any road, and even in the most routine circumstances is key to traffic safety. This applies to students and drivers alike. Road conditions can be challenging in the winter months. So to those of us who drive, please take extra care on the roads and in parking lots, especially in areas where children might be present.

School staff periodically review street and traffic safety with students. Parents can help reinforce these safety messages with children at home. Below are some tips that might be helpful to review.

Stop, look, and listen for traffic. Only cross at corners and crosswalks. Make eye contact with drivers. Walk on the right side of the crosswalk. Wear appropriate footwear to reduce the chances of slipping.

Never run out into the street or into the parking lot. Obey all crossing signals and signage, including directions from crossing guards on duty at intersections.

Cross only if it is safe and clear to do so. Walk on the sidewalks, not on the road, in the parking lot or on the edge of the curb. Where there are no sidewalks, walk as far away from traffic as possible, facing traffic. The safety of our students is always a top priority. Let's work together to make the winter season safe so we can enjoy all it has to offer

School Council



Parents/Guardians/Caregivers are welcome to attend School Council meetings as often as you would like. Our next School Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 4th at 5:00 p.m. This is a hybrid meeting which will take place in person and virtually. A link will be sent to families closer to the meeting date.

Clothing Resources

Now that the cold weather and snow is here we have purchased some extra gloves for students who need them at recess times. If your child forgets or loses their gloves or hat, they can come to the office to borrow these items.

Our school also has a Clothing Resource Closet which has clothes for children in various sizes, including pants, shirts, sweaters and some coats. If you are in need of clothing items for your child(ren), please contact the office.

We can also assist with other resources that your family may need, so please let us know if we can be of any assistance. You may also choose to connect with our School Settlement Worker, Nasim Daya. Nasim works in collaboration with our families to access a variety of resources, including settlement services. She can be reached at 647-296-0245 or by email at ndaya@cathcrosscultural.org

Severe Weather Procedure and Student Transportation

From time to time, it may be necessary to cancel student transportation, classes and/or programs due to severe weather. On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites.



With approximately 238,000 students in our schools and sites each day, any decision to cancel buses, classes and/or programs or to close sites can have a significant impact on thousands of families across Toronto. This decision is not taken lightly. When schools remain open on days with inclement weather, parents/guardians make the final decision on whether to send their children to school and they can keep children home from school if they so choose.

Should a cancellation or closure be necessary, information will be posted on the TDSB website and social media and provided to local media by 6 a.m. For more information, visit the website to learn about [Snow/Cold Weather](#) and the [Procedure for Severe Weather](#).



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| Kindergarten Registration Begins | January 6 |
| Middle French Immersion Applications (Gr. 4 entry) Open | January 6 |
| Out of Area Admissions & Alternative Elementary Schools Applications Open | January 6 |
| Teamwork & Tamil Heritage Month Assembly | January 16 |
| PA Day | January 17 |
| Mrs. Simos & Ms. Green's Class Trip | January 24 |
| Grade 6 Kearney Trip | January 27-29 |
| Interview Request Forms Sent Home | January 30 |
| School Council Meeting | February 4 |
| Interview Request Forms Due | |
| Back to School | February 5 |
| Interview Confirmation Forms Sent Home | February 7 |
| Report Cards Sent Home | February 11 |
| Parent-Teacher Interviews | February 13 (eve) |
| PA Day | February 14 |
| Parent-Teacher Interviews | February 14 (AM) |
| Family Day | February 17 |

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| Principal | Andrea Lane |
| Vice Principal (Acting) | Maureen Damian |
| Superintendent | Monday Gala |
| Trustee | Yalini Rajakulasingam |
| Office Administrator | Grace Romeo |
| Secretary (p.m.) | Shahana Gobimanoharan |
| Head Caretaker | Quang Lao |

Visit our school website at:
[Malvern JPS](#)

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