



# MALVERN JUNIOR P.S NEWSLETTER

## January 2026



### Administrators' Message

Happy New Year to our Malvern JPS families! We hope your winter break was restful and filled with joy. As we welcomed back our students and families this new year, there was a sense of energy in our hallways. A new year offers a fresh start to set new goals, embrace new opportunities, and grow together as a community.

In January, our Character Trait is Teamwork. While individual achievements are wonderful, some of life's greatest successes happen when we work together toward a common goal. Teamwork is about listening, sharing ideas, and supporting one another in the classroom and beyond.



### **What Teamwork looks like at school:**

- **Active Listening:** Giving your full attention to peers/staff during discussions, presentations and lessons.
- **Encouragement:** Lifting others up when they face a challenge.
- **Inclusion:** Ensuring everyone has a role to play and feels like they belong.
- **Problem Solving:** Finding solutions that benefit the whole group, not just yourself.

We are excited to see what our "team" of students, staff, and parents/caregivers can achieve during the second part of the school year as we continue to focus on our school wide goals linked to Belong, Thrive, Indigenous Education, Literacy, and Mathematics. In the new year we welcome new experiences for students with the continuation of our STEM classroom partnering program run by Mr. Kwan and our upcoming Girls' STEM Club. Our student

leadership opportunities have continued to expand with the addition of our student Equity Champions who will be engaging in leading student initiatives school wide in the coming months ahead.

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." — Henry Ford

### Kindergarten Registration Begins in January

Registration for TDSB Kindergarten programs begins in January. 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, 2026. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five years old



by December 31, 2026. The registration process is completed online and the school office staff will follow up with families to book an appointment to complete the registration process at school. For more information about the Kindergarten program and registration requirements, please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten).

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.

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. For September 2026 entry, **the deadline to apply was November 28<sup>th</sup>**. Applications that are submitted after this deadline will be marked as late and accommodated if space in the program is available.

### 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 2026, applications must be completed online between **January 5 and 30, 2026**. 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](#). The online application process is managed centrally, and information is available on the [Application and Admissions webpage](#). The online application for September 2026 admission will be open from **January 5 to January 30, 2026, at 4 p.m.**

### Out of Area School Admissions

For students interested in attending a school outside of the area designated by their home address, online applications for out-of-area admissions open on **January 5, 2026**. This is also the process through

which students can apply to [Secondary Schools without a Boundary](#) and students currently learning in-person can access Virtual Elementary School and Virtual Secondary School. Apply by **January 23, 2026 at 4 p.m.** [Learn more](#).

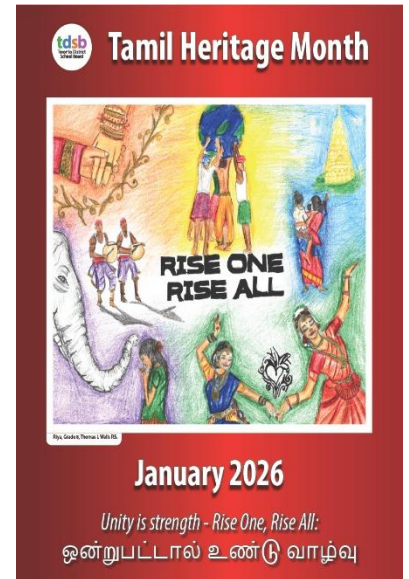
### Tamil Heritage Month

The Toronto District School Board has recognized Tamil Heritage Month each January since 2016. It is also formally recognized by the Province of Ontario through the [Tamil Heritage Month Act, 2014](#).

This year's theme for Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB is **Unity is Strength – Rise One, Rise All: ஒன்றுபட்டால் உண்டு வாழ்வு**. This theme reflects the importance of supporting one another to achieve success, leading to happiness and prosperity for all. It was inspired by poet Bharathiyar, who emphasized collective upliftment with the words “ஒன்றுபட்டால் உண்டு வாழ்வு” (*Ondrupattaal undu vaazhvu*) – *If we are united, there is life and prosperity*.

Toronto is home to the largest Tamil population outside the South Asian subcontinent, with thousands of TDSB students and staff identifying as Tamil. Throughout January, we encourage everyone to explore various aspects of kinship, whether through family ties, friendships, or community connections.

To mark Tamil Heritage Month, educational opportunities will be offered to students to learn more about Tamil history, customs, and traditions. A TDSB celebration event featuring student performances and guest speakers will take place in January, and a video of the event will be shared for all to enjoy.



## 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 Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Special Education and Inclusion Newsletter and Parent Engagement Sessions

The [January 2026](#) edition of the Special Education and Inclusion Newsletter for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers is now available on the [Special Education and Inclusion site!](#) This monthly newsletter includes important updates, tips, and resources to support students with disabilities and special education needs. Previous newsletters can be accessed [here](#).

TDSB Special Education and Inclusion is also pleased to offer a number of parent/guardian/caregiver sessions in January. Please find additional information in [this flyer](#). All parent engagement sessions for the 2025-2026 school year can be found [here](#).

### 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.**

### Clothing Resources

At our school we have purchased extra gloves for students who need them at recess times. If your child forgets or loses their gloves, scarf or hat, they can come to the office for these items.

Our school has a Clothing Resource Closet which has clothes for children in various sizes, including pants, shirts, sweaters, and some coats and snowpants. 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](mailto: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 because of [severe weather](#). On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites.

With approximately 239,000 students in nearly 600 schools, 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 web site and TDSB social media by 6 a.m. Visit the website to learn about [Snow/Cold Weather](#) and the [Procedure for Severe Weather](#).

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

Follow us on X  
[@TDSB\\_Malvern/JPS](#)



<b>Kindergarten Registration Begins</b>	<b>January 5</b>
<b>Middle French Immersion Applications (Gr. 4 entry) Open</b>	<b>January 5</b>
<b>Out of Area Admissions &amp; Alternative Elementary Schools Applications Open</b>	<b>January 5</b>
<b>PA Day</b>	<b>January 16</b>
<b>Teamwork &amp; Tamil Heritage Month Assembly</b>	<b>January 19</b>
<b>Bell Let's Talk Day</b>	<b>January 21</b>
<b>School Council Meeting</b>	<b>January 21</b>
<b>Grade 6 Mono Cliffs Trip</b>	<b>January 21-23</b>
<b>Pizza Lunch</b>	<b>January 29</b>
<b>Ms. Tharmarajah's Class: U of T Trash Team Presentation</b>	<b>January 29</b>
<b>Interview Request Forms Sent Home</b>	<b>January 30</b>
<b>Interview Request Forms Due</b>	
<b>Back to School</b>	<b>February 4</b>
<b>Fairness &amp; African Heritage Month and Chinese Heritage Month Assembly</b>	<b>February 4</b>
<b>Interview Confirmation Forms Sent Home</b>	<b>February 6</b>
<b>Ms. Tharmarajah's Class: U of T Trash Team Presentation</b>	<b>February 10</b>
<b>Report Cards Sent Home</b>	<b>February 11</b>
<b>Parent-Teacher Interviews</b>	<b>February 12 (eve)</b>
<b>PA Day</b>	<b>February 13</b>
<b>Parent-Teacher Interviews</b>	<b>February 13 (AM)</b>
<b>Family Day</b>	<b>February 16</b>

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