



MALVERN JUNIOR P.S NEWSLETTER

February 2025



Administrators' Message

In February, our Character Trait is Fairness. We often remind our students that fairness does not mean that everyone gets the same thing as we all are unique and have different strengths and needs. Fairness actually means that everyone gets what they need to be successful.



Positive self-talk and self-awareness is an important part of building positive mental health for all of us. We invite our families to share affirmations with their children at home as well to support our work as a school around mental health and well being.



On January 22nd our school took part in Bell Let's Talk Day which focuses on positive mental health and well being and removing the stigma around mental health.

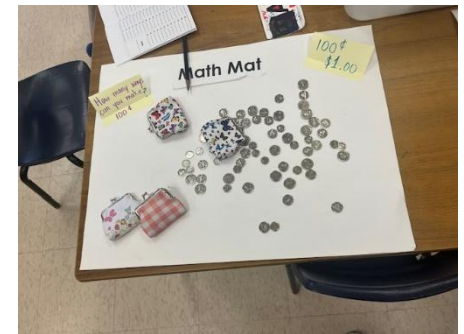
Our Healthy Schools Leadership Team renamed the day as *Malvern Talks Day* this school year. Activities were prepared in the gym focusing on mindfulness and each of our classes had a chance to practice various deep breathing and relaxation techniques.

Our classes were also invited to take part in read alouds focusing on positive affirmations and actions. Our students' reflections from the read alouds are proudly displayed in our hallway.



Some of the affirmations and actions shared are: 'I can be a positive leader with my mommy', 'I am strong', 'I am special', 'I am very brave' and 'I am smart, positive and never give up'.

On February 11th we celebrated the 100th Day of School! Our Primary students always enjoy the fun activities that the teachers prepare on this day to celebrate the 100th day of



school, and some of our junior classes also engaged in 100th day activities.



Two of our students, Soha and Sarah created beautiful pieces of art in recognition of the 100th day of school that were displayed in their classrooms.

As well, on Wednesday, February 26th our school will be taking part in **Pink Shirt Day**. **Pink Shirt Day** focuses on Lifting Each Other Up with our actions and our words which aligns with our school wide goal of creating conditions for positive Well Being, Joy and Belonging. Learning about Pink Shirt Day encourages



all of us to stand up to bullying and take action for positive change in our school and our community. We invite students, staff and parents/caregivers to wear pink on this day in support of **Pink Shirt Day**. We ALL have the power to create change, and it starts with our actions!

School Improvement Planning Goals

As a school we continue to focus on well being, joy and belonging in our learning spaces which is part of our work around School Improvement. The work we do is centered around affirming student identity and providing equitable outcomes for all students. Indigenous Education is integrated into our classroom programs, teaching students about history and Indigenous perspectives and ways of being.

We also are continuing our focus on supporting students' mathematics skills – early years foundational mathematics skills (Kindergarten to Grade 3) and for our junior students creating learning opportunities for the application of concepts embedded in rich mathematical problem solving experiences while engaging in accountable math talk and collaborative problem solving. Our literacy focus continues to be on implementing the new Language Curriculum and the Science of Reading strategies to support students' reading fluency, vocabulary development and comprehension.

We encourage our families to ask your child's teacher how you can support your child's learning at home as well, and to attend the various workshops that are offered through the TDSB and/or the school which focus on these areas, as we continue to work in partnership to support your child/children's ongoing learning, growth and success.

Travelling To and From School

Thank you to the many families who continue to walk with their children to and from school. Walking to school helps to reduce traffic congestion around our school during drop off and pick up times which helps to make drop off and pick up go more smoothly on our surrounding streets.

Remember, please do not park in the bus loading zone on Malvern Drive as our school buses need to use this zone to drop off and pick up students.

Parking in this zone is illegal. You must adhere to the traffic and parking signs that are posted around the school regarding parking, stopping and standing areas for cars. We continue to work in partnership with Toronto Police Services to monitor these areas and ensure that parking signs are being adhered to.



We understand that traffic congestion and finding parking can be frustrating and we appreciate the patience of our families as you wait patiently for driving paths to clear out on the street. Driving cautiously around the school zone is important as we have over 300 children entering and exiting our school each day. The good news is it usually only takes about 5-10 minutes at the beginning and end of the school day, and then everyone is on their way to wherever they are going next. We appreciate your support as you work with our crossing guards and school staff help to ensure the safety of students and their families during these busy times. ☺

Kindergarten Registration Month Continues in February

Registration for all TDSB Kindergarten programs began in January. We look forward to welcoming our new Junior Kindergarten students in September! To attend Junior Kindergarten in



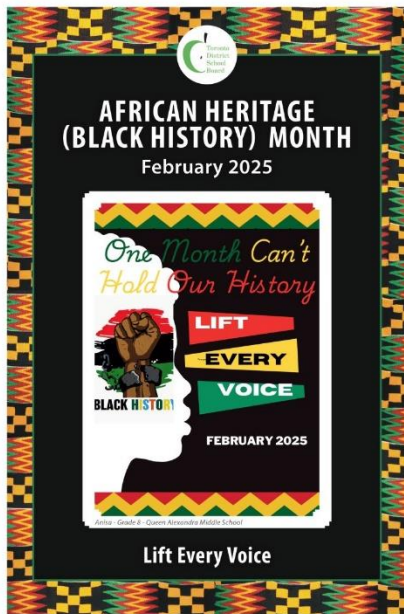
September, children must turn four years old by December 31, 2025. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five years old by

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 takes place throughout February. Once you complete your registration forms online, the office will review the registration forms and will then call you to book an appointment. Our office staff will let you know what materials 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.

African Heritage (Black History) Month

The TDSB has organized a variety of African Heritage (Black History) Month events to celebrate the rich heritage of the people and nations of Africa and the African Diaspora. The chosen theme for February 2025 is *Lift Every Voice*. This theme is drawn from the iconic first line of the Black National Anthem, and encourages collective strength, unity, diversity, and resilience. Read the full [African Heritage \(Black History\) Month message](#) for details.



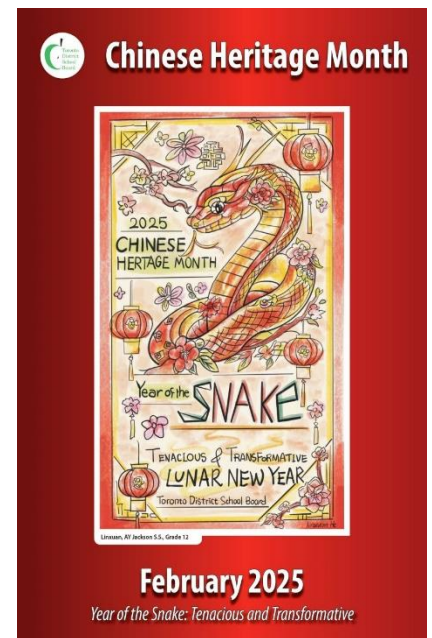
Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement

February is African Heritage Month. The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement has a [menu](#) of items for students, staff and families.

On February 22 from 10 a.m. to noon we invite families to celebrate [10 years of Pre-Kindergarten Africentric Programming](#) with us and Dr. Kerry-Ann Escayg at the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement. To learn more about our programming visit our website www.tdsb.on.ca/cebsa or follow us on [Instagram](#) and [X](#) @tdsb_cebsa.

February is Chinese Heritage Month

The TDSB proudly recognizes Chinese Heritage Month in February each year. The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is one of the most significant holidays for those of Chinese heritage. This year, the first day began on Wednesday, January 29 as we celebrate the Year of the Snake: Tenacious and Transformative. We hope to encourage students, staff, and families to make impactful changes amidst challenges. Read the full [Chinese Heritage Month message](#) for details.



School Council

All parents/caregivers are welcome to attend School Council meetings as often as possible. Please look for dates and times on the school Google calendar. The links to our virtual

meetings will be sent to parents via email. Our next School Council meeting is Tuesday, March 4th at 5:30 p.m.

School Council will be running a Pizza Lunch on Thursday, February 27th. Order forms have been sent home to families and are due Friday, February 21st.

Dealing with Abuse and Neglect of Students Policy (045) Consultation

The TDSB is currently reviewing its Dealing with Abuse and Neglect of Students Policy, which supports the Board's commitment to educate school communities about their Duty to Report, incidents of suspected, witnessed, and/or disclosed neglect and abuse of children to the Children Aid Societies. Your input is important and TDSB wants to hear from parents/guardians/caregivers, students, and community partners. To learn more, visit the [policy consultations web page](#) and share your thoughts, questions and recommendations on the draft Policy by **February 24, 2025**.

Learning Opportunities Index Policy () Consultation

The TDSB is currently reviewing its Learning Opportunities Index (LOI) Policy, which affirms the TDSB's commitment to achieve equitable academic opportunities. Your input is important and TDSB wants to hear from parents/guardians/caregivers, students, and community partners. To learn more, visit the [policy consultations web page](#) and share your thoughts, questions and recommendations on the draft Policy by **March 24, 2025**.

Special Education and Inclusion Drop In Session for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

Learn more about navigating special education services, resources and supports, ask questions, and connect with other families. The next session is February 18th. [Calendar of Drop-In Sessions for the 2024-2025 School Year](#).

Winter Weather 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 238,000 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](#).





Kindergarten Registration Continues	February
School Council Meeting	February 4
Interview Request Forms Due	
Back to School	February 5
Interview Confirmation Forms Sent Home	February 7
Grade 6 Kearney Trip	February 7-10
Report Cards Sent Home	February 11
100 th Day of School	February 11
Character Trait and Heritage Month Assembly	February 12
Superintendents M. Gala and L. Holder- School Visit	February 12
Interviews	February 13 (eve) February 14 (a.m.)
Family Day	February 17
Grade 5/6 Boys' Basketball Festival	February 20
School Bus Safety Presentations (K-3 & 4-6)	February 21
Grade 6 Graduation Pictures	February 24
Pink Shirt Day	February 26
Pizza Lunch	February 27
Family Literacy Night (tentative)	February 27
School Council Meeting	March 4
March Break	March 10-14

Principal	Andrea Lane
Vice Principal	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](#)

Follow us on X
[@TDSB_Malvern/JPS](#)