



March 2024

Administrators' Message

This month's Character Trait focus is Honesty. We speak with students about the importance of always telling the truth, even if that means they, or someone else, may get into trouble for doing something wrong. We often remind our students about the importance of honesty and owning their actions at all times (the good actions and sometimes the not so good ones). We are always learning from the choices we make, and we recognize that being honest and taking responsibility for what we do and say can be hard sometimes, but it is a very important life lesson. Honesty is the best policy!



At the end of January we welcomed Trustee Rajakulasingam and Superintendent Gala to our school for a visit. This month Learning Centre 3 Executive Superintendent Strangway will come to see our school, along with Superintendent Gala. We are proud to highlight the wonderful learning and teaching going on in our school, and are excited to celebrate our amazing community of learners and their families, and of course our staff.

Our staff Professional development continues to focus on foundational literacy skills and using explicit targeted instruction to build students' literacy skills. When you walk around the school you can see students learning letter sounds, how to blend sounds together when reading and writing, and students learning various reading comprehension strategies and how to apply these strategies to gain meaning from texts. Our mathematics professional development sessions are currently focusing on building early numeracy skills in Grades 1-3. These

sessions for teachers followed the Building Thinking Classrooms sessions that our Grade 4-6 teachers attended which focused on rich math tasks, collaborative problem solving amongst students and explaining math thinking and reasoning.

Staffing Update

We would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Lewin, our Acting Vice Principal, who has been supporting our school since January. Mr. Lewin has been a wonderful addition to our Malvern JPS Team and has brought with him a warm smile, a caring approach and a wealth of knowledge. Mr. Lewin will be leaving us at the end of March as he returns back to retirement and his lovely wife Charmaine. We thank him for his support and wish him all the best!

On Monday, April 15th we will welcome Demitra Zervas as our Acting Vice Principal. She will be with us until the end of May. We look forward to welcoming her to our Malvern JSP community.

Kindergarten Registration

Thank you to our many families who have registered their children for Kindergarten for the 2024/2025 school year. It has been such a pleasure meeting and welcoming our soon-to-be Malvern JPS students.



As the office staff works through the online registrations, they will call you to complete the rest of the registration process. If you have not done so

already, please register online. For more information about the Kindergarten program and registration requirements, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten. All families who have registered will receive an email with information about our Welcome to Kindergarten events taking place in May.

School Council



Our School Council hosted their second Bake Sale in March which was another big success! Thank you to our many families for your donations and to our students and families who purchased items. School Council is currently working on planning a **Ramadan Bazaar** which will host a variety of vendors for families to explore and visit. It will take place on **Thursday, April 4th** from **3:00-6:00 p.m.** More information will be shared with families via email.

Our next School Council meeting is Monday, April 29th at 5:30 p.m. A link will be sent to families closer to the meeting date.

Student Mental Health & Well Being Resources

Supporting students and fostering daily positive mental health and well-being in all school communities is a priority at the TDSB. Visit [the MHWB website](#) to access mental health toolkits, identity affirming resources, and information about a variety of wellness topics. Whether you need immediate support, or want to learn more about a particular topic, there's information and support available.

Earth Hour 2024



On Friday, March 22nd at 2:00 PM TDSB schools and offices are asked to go as electricity-free as possible for **ONE HOUR**.

Earth Hour presents a great opportunity to raise awareness focused on energy conservation and climate change. Wherever possible, our schools and offices will turn off all interior lighting except necessary emergency lights, any non-essential electronics and powerbars. Energy reduction will again be tracked at each TDSB school, with the top 25 Elementary and Secondary schools getting a shout out. Let's make this year our biggest energy reduction ever! To help maximize energy reduction, explore the [TDSB EcoSchools Earth Hour resources](#).

As an Eco School, we have practices that we intentionally use which are eco-friendly (e.g., recycling program, lights off in rooms that are not occupied, encouraging lunches for school made with reusable containers). These small daily habits help to make a difference. At home, you can discuss as a family what your family can do together to be more eco-friendly. We can all make a positive impact with small changes! For more information on Earth Hour you can visit: www.earthhour.org

March is Greek Heritage Month



The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is proud to recognize Greek Heritage Month during the month of March. It has been celebrated across the school board since March 2015 when a motion was carried by at our Board of Trustees meeting. This heritage is also celebrated within the Province of Ontario because of the Hellenic Heritage Month Act, 2019

that was passed. This Act reads, in part:

March is a significant month for the Hellenic community and March 25 is celebrated each year as Greek Independence Day. Proclaiming March as Hellenic Heritage Month provides an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of the

Hellenic Canadians in the province.

The theme for this year is:

“Greek Thought and Civilization: From Myth to Logos”

«Ελληνική Σκέψη και Πολιτισμός: Από τον Μύθο στον Λόγο»

Excellence Awards 2024 Nominations Now Open

Every year, [the TDSB Excellence Awards](#) help share the untold stories of extraordinary staff commitment, and we are delighted to announce that nominations for the Excellence Awards 2024 are now open!

We want to know about the TDSB staff you know who are supporting the success and well-being of our students, as well as our school and work communities in so many different ways. We welcome nominations from anyone – staff, students, parents/caregivers or community members – so we encourage you to **submit nominations by April 5, 2024.**

For more information and to submit a nomination, please visit [the TDSB Excellence Awards website](https://tdsb.on.ca/excellence): tdsb.on.ca/excellence

High Water Levels Brings Increased Risks

The Toronto and Region Conservation monitors hazardous ice conditions as thaw begins and are reminding everyone to be very careful around all bodies of water. The first hint of warming weather and the promise of spring thaw can bring extreme danger to the shores and surfaces of streams, rivers, ponds and lakes, according to Toronto and Region Conservation. As warmer temperatures arrive, stream banks become increasingly slippery and unstable. Lake and river ice weakens, becoming thinner or with higher flows breaking with little or no warning.

During this time, the potential for flooding and ice jamming is high. Higher, faster-flowing water and extreme cold temperatures combine to create increased dangers on or near rivers, streams and ponds for people wishing to enjoy the seasonal changes. Parents and caregivers are being asked to keep children away from stream banks, ponds and

lakes.

Learn4Life Adult Community Programs - Spring Registration Now Open!



Spring 2024 registration is now OPEN for Learn4Life's Adult General Interest Program! Open to adults 18 years of age and seniors, the Learn4Life program offers a unique and valuable opportunity for individuals to pursue their interests, expand their knowledge, and engage in lifelong learning with a wide range of courses and activities designed to cater to diverse interests and passions.

Just some of the new courses this term include:

- Pickleball Power Hour: Smash and Drive Mastery
- Birdwatching for Beginners – Explore Feathered Gems Right in Our Backyard!
- Feng Shui
- Payroll Level II
- Introduction to Documentary Filmmaking
- Introduction to Henna Body Art and the Ancient Art of Mehndi
- Sweet, Savoury, Flaky and Fun!
- Latin Rhythms: Salsa and Merengue for All
- Outdoor Soccer
- Aerobics to the 80's! Let's Get Physical
- Creating A New Vision for My Life
- Personal Finance and Investment Basics for Women
- Arabic Beginner Level II
- **AND MUCH MORE**

[Visit Learn4Life's program page for more information.](#)

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

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



Grade 1/2 Classes: Fire Safety Presentations	March 1
School Council Meeting	March 4
Gr. 5/6 Boys' Basketball Festival	March 5
Gr. 5/6 Girls' Volleyball Tournament	March 6
School Council Bake Sale	March 6
Staff vs Girls' Volleyball Team	March 8
March Break	March 11-15
Good Friday (No School)	March 29
Easter Monday (No School)	April 1
Grade 6 Graduation Photos	April 4
Ramadan Bazaar	April 4
P.A. Day	April 8
Spring Book Fair	April 22-26
School Council Meeting	April 29
Grade 1-6 Track & Field Day	May 10
Welcome to Kindergarten Webinar for Parents/Caregivers	May 14
Welcome to Kindergarten Family Event	May 16
Grade 1-6 Track & Field Rain Date	May 17
Victoria Day – No School	May 20
School Council Meeting	May 27
P.A. Day	June 7
Report Cards Sent Home	June 26
Last Day of School	June 28

Principal	Andrea Lane
Vice Principal (Acting)	Cyril Lewin
Superintendent	Monday Gala
Trustee	Yalini Rajakulasingam
Office Administrator	Grace Romeo
Secretary (p.m.)	Mary Kloutas
Head Caretaker	Quang Lao