MALVERN JUNIOR P.S NEWSLETTER

October 2026

Administrators' Message

We are off to a great start this school year! Thank you to our students, families and staff for all of your support as we worked together to settle back into our school routines and expectations over the past month and a half while also working through a school reorganization at the end of September.

Thank you to our many families, as well as our community partners, who attended our One Malvern: Family Meet and Greet Night. This evening provided an opportunity to connect with school staff, learn more about your child's classroom program, the routines and expectations that are in place, and to ask the teachers questions around programming and/or the curriculum. We encourage you to keep open communication throughout the school year as our staff works in partnership with our parents/guardians/caregivers to support our students' academic achievement and overall well-being.

Congratulations to our 50+ Cross Country runners who represented our school at the Cross Country Meet at the beginning of October, and to our 3 runners (Lamar, Subramaniyan, and Alamelu) who competed in the Cross Country East Finals. Go Malvern go!

Our monthly Character Trait and Heritage month assemblies are underway for our Kindergarten-Grade 6 students. This year our Grade 1-6 classes continue to have an opportunity to sign up each month to present their research and learning to our school. Much appreciation to Ms. Cheong and our student leaders who will be hosting our October assembly. As well, our school's co-curricular opportunities are underway with Cross Country, Soccer, Announcement Leaders, Library Leaders and Safety Patrol. We are pleased to be able to offer these opportunities to our students. We look forward to more co-curricular opportunities being offered as we continue the school year.

Much appreciation to the ICNA Sisters who provided our school with the Islamic Heritage Display in the foyer. If you are in the school, please take time to visit the display in the foyer if you have not had an opportunity already, it contains a wealth of information to share with our students, families, and staff.

Please remember to check your child's backpack on a regular basis, as forms, and/or notes are sent home with your child throughout the school year. Notices/letters sent home for the entire school will most often be sent home via email, with paper copies only being sent as needed. All newsletters and monthly calendars continue to be sent home via the School Connects email system. Should you require a paper copy, please let the office know.

School Council

Thank you to our parents/guardians/caregivers who attended our first School Council meeting.

Our School Council Executive for the 2026-2027 school year is as follows:

Chair: Bushra Shujaat
Secretary: Uzma Anjum
Treasurer: Faatima Hafejee

Congratulations to our new School Council Executive!

Parents/guardians/caregivers are welcome to attend School Council meetings as often as you can. Please look for dates and times on the school calendar. Our next School Council meeting is Wednesday, November 18th at 5:30 p.m. Meetings will be held in the library, and families are also able to join virtually (a link will be shared prior to the meeting date).

Working Together to Ensure Student Success

In order to ensure the best possible education for your child, it is necessary for them to attend school regularly and to be on time for class. A student's academic progress depends on regular class attendance. Students are expected to fully participate in learning opportunities and try their best. Research indicates that attendance patterns and attitudes are developed at an early age, so establishing and supporting these expectations at home is very important.



You can help ensure your child's success by:

- being involved in your child's education;
- knowing the school's schedule and ensuring that your child comes to school unless they are sick;
- communicating regularly with classroom teachers;
- ensuring that your child gets a good night's sleep so that they have the energy they need for the next day.

Let's work together to ensure student success!

Islamic Heritage Month

The TDSB has proudly recognized Islamic Heritage Month every October since 2016. Across Canada, Islamic Heritage Month has been celebrated in various ways since 2007, and in Ontario, it was formally established through the Islamic Heritage Month Act in November 2016.

In October, our Heritage month assembly will explore Islamic history, customs, and contributions to celebrate the rich heritage of Muslim communities.

Somali Heritage Month

The TDSB is proud to recognize Somali Heritage Month in October. In addition, the Province of Ontario proclaimed the Somali Heritage Week Act in 2020, officially recognizing June 25 to July 1 as Somali Heritage Week. This act honours the economic, political, social, and cultural contributions of Somali Canadians across Ontario.

Toronto is home to one of the largest Somali populations outside the Somali subcontinent, with thousands of TDSB students and staff identifying as Somali. Through highlighting the heritage months, we continue to promote awareness, self-identity, and understanding of heritage and rights.

Latin America History Month

The TDSB has proudly recognized Latin-America History Month every October since 2016. Across Canada, October has been officially designated as Latin American Heritage Month since 2018, following the passing of the Latin American Heritage Month Act.

In October, our Heritage month assembly will support our students in learning more about Latin-America while promoting awareness of Latin America contributions, history and heritage.

Keeping Students Safe In Bus Zones

Drivers are reminded to do their part to keep children safe near school buses.

Drivers should follow these tips:

• Stop and never pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing

• Leave space around school buses and avoid blocking school bus loading so children can safely enter and exit school bus zones (*our school's bus loading zone is located in front of the Kindergarten playground area*)

• Be prepared to stop for a school bus at any time, not just during school hours
• Always obey the rules of the road and watch for children, especially in school zones
• Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and school crossings

Families can also help keep their children safe by reminding them to be aware of their surroundings when they are around school zones which are very busy during entry and dismissal times.

A reminder to our families that you are not to park in our designated bus zone area, even for a brief amount of time, as it needs to be free from parked cars for buses to drop off and pick up students. When our bus zone is blocked it leads to more congestion on the street during an already busy time of the school day and can also affect the safety of the drop off and pick up of our students.

Terry Fox Run



Leading up to the Terry Fox run, our students learned many facts about Terry Fox. Thank you to our students who eagerly participated in our annual Terry Fox Run this year – your energy could be seen and heard! Much appreciation to Ms. Magoffin for coordinating this event for our school.

Hallowe'en



Hallowe'en provides an opportunity for parents/guardians/caregivers and children to spend time together creating costumes, carving pumpkins, and planning fun activities. Hallowe'en provides opportunities for celebrations, creative activities, art programs and impromptu history lessons.

At school, students will be engaging in a variety of activities, including Fall themed activities. On Friday, October 30th, students are welcome to dress up in a costume if they would like to wear one, or they may wear orange or black.

Safety Tips:
Hallowe'en is also a time for students, families, and schools to take extra care to ensure safety and security.

TRICK OR TREAT SAFETY
If parents are concerned about trick or treating, here are some basic safety rules to follow:
•Children should NEVER eat any treats until parents have had a chance to go through them and inspect them. Parents should look for tampering of packages and discard any items that they believe to be unsafe or unknown.
•Have your child carry a flashlight.
•NEVER go into a stranger's house.
•NEVER trick or treat with people you do not know.
•Trick or treat only at homes you know.
•Children should always stay in groups if no parent is present.
•Younger children should ALWAYS be accompanied by an older person.
•Accompany your child when trick or treating.
•If you cannot accompany your child then know the route your child will take.
•Keep costumes short and remind children to stay away from pumpkins with candles in them.
•Remind children to stay away from pets they do not know.
•Remind children of road safety rules. Cross only at corners. Do not criss-cross across the road. Go up one side of the road and down the other side. Never cross between parked cars. Walk facing on-coming traffic if there is no sidewalk
•If adults are driving their children, drive slowly, with lights on and be cautious when pulling to the side of the road.
•Children should wear their own shoes when trick or treating. Wearing costume shoes/boots can be dangerous and uncomfortable.
•Remind children that not everyone celebrates Hallowe'en, and to avoid any homes that have no lights on. Also remind children not to run through neighbours' yards or gardens.
•Set time limits when children should return home

Student Valuables/ Cell Phones

Parents can always contact their child through the main office if there is an emergency, and therefore it is not necessary for students to bring cell phones to school for calling home. Students are also encouraged not to bring valuables such as electronic devices, jewelry, expensive toys or money.

We realize that in some cases students may have cell phones for safety purposes (e.g., for walking home). While on school property; cell phones are to be turned off and placed out of view during the regular school day, on excursions and at extra-curricular and school related activities. Students are responsible for storing their cell phone in a secure location. It is important to understand that **students who bring cell phones and other valuables to school are doing so at their own risk**. The school is not responsible for the replacement of such items that may be damaged, stolen or lost.

The school's 'Lost and Found' is located in a bin by the front entrance. Parents/caregivers and students are encouraged to check the bin for lost items. We ask that families ensure that their child's clothing, boots, shoes, back packs, and lunch bags are clearly labelled.

Snack Program

Thank you to Ms. Sejal, our Snack Program Coordinator, for all of her work coordinating our Snack Program start up, and thank you to our families who made donations to support the program! Our students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 who signed up for the program receive a daily healthy morning snack which is delivered to classrooms each morning.

The Snack Program is available for any family that wishes to participate in it, you just need to complete the Snack Program form for your child to receive snack.

If you choose to send your own snack for your child, remember that **some of our students have life-threatening allergies to certain foods, in particular nuts and nut products**. Please try to send a healthy energy boosting snack for your child, such as fruits and vegetables.



PLEASE
DO NOT SEND NUTS OR
NUT PRODUCTS TO SCHOOL!

Reminder: If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or the office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken, and to help ensure everyone's co-operation in creating a safe learning environment.

Lunch Supervision

Lunch time is a very busy time at our school! If parents/guardians/caregivers are at home during the lunch hour we encourage that students go home for lunch for a break, **students are to return to school right before the entry bell rings which is at 12:25 p.m**. Going home at lunch time is an opportunity for students to take a break from the hustle and bustle of the school day and to have a chance to relax with their family while enjoying their lunch.

Eco Schools

Malvern JPS continues to support Eco Schools initiatives. Our school continues to work on initiatives such as recycling of materials in the classrooms, turning our classroom lights off and technology when it is not in use and using a Litterless Lunch Program.

Families can support our Eco initiatives by teaching your children through showing Eco awareness in

your homes and supporting our Litterless Lunch Program.

Suggestions to Parents to Support Boomerang Lunch:

Pack sandwiches, fruits, and vegetables in reusable plastic containers.

Help your child pack their own healthy foods that they like to reduce food waste.

Only pack as much food as you know your child will eat.

Label all containers so that lost items can be returned home.

Avoid packing drinks that cannot be resealed

Dates to Remember

Family/Staff Connections Night	**October 1**
Kids Have Stress Too Class Workshop: Ms. Parsons & Ms. Cheung's Classes	**October 1 & 8**
National Custodian's Day	**October 2**
World Teachers' Day	**October 5**
Dental Screening (K-6)	**October 5, 7 & 8**
School Council Meeting	**October 7**
Ms. Green and Ms. Black's Class Trip	**October 9**
World Mental Health Day	**October 10**
International Day of the Girl	**October 11**
Thanksgiving Day	**October 12**
Volunteer Readers Program Begin (Gr. 1/2)	**October 13**
Safety Patrol Training Session	**October 13**
Cross Country Meet	**October 14**
Kids Have Stress Too Class Workshop: Ms. Lall & Ms. Chintakunta's Classes	**October 15**
East Cross Country Finals	**October 22**
National Early Childhood Educators & Childcare Appreciation Day	**October 21**
School Picture Day (*Retakes November 24*)	**October 22**
Grade 4/5 Classes: Swim to Survive Session 1	**October 23**
Grade 5/6 Soccer Festival	**October 28**
Kids Have Stress Too Class Workshop: Pavlovic & Ms. Bloom's Classes	**October 29 & November 5**
Character Education/Heritage Month Assembly	**October 29**
Pizza Lunch	**October 29**
Mr. Greer and Mr. Melchiorre's Class Trip	**October 30**
Interview Request Forms Sent Home	**November 2**
Ms. Green's Class: U of T Trash Team Lesson 1 – Plastic Cycle	**November 5**
Interview Request Forms Due Back To School	**November 9**
Grade 4/5 Classes: Swim to Survive Session 2	**November 6**

Principal	**Andrea Lane**
Vice Principal	**Maureen Damian**
Superintendent	**Monday Gala**
Office Administrator	**Grace Romeo**
Head Caretaker	**Quang Lao**

Visit our school website at: Malvern JPS

