



NOVEMBER'S CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE: EMPATHY

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians: You should see what has been going on at Morrish P.S. Your children have been very busy; engaged in their school work, and joining Volleyball, Flag Football, Soccer, Borden Ball, KM club, Cross Country, Environmental Club and many, many more!

Progress Report Cards will be sent home on:

Tuesday November 12, 2019. Regular parent-teacher communication is an important part of student learning. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled throughout the year after report cards are sent home. Interviews for discussion regarding Progress Report Cards will be on **Thursday November 14th during the evening and Friday November 15th during the day.** These interviews are your opportunity to ask questions about your child's progress and to discuss any issues. In addition to regular scheduled parent-teacher interviews, you can request a meeting at any time during the school year by contacting the school or your child's teacher directly.

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2019



We are beginning to prepare for our annual Remembrance Day Assembly on **Monday, November 11, 2019 at 10:15 a.m.** We have a special guest speaker scheduled. We would be honoured if you could join us.

During Remembrance Day, our teachers make connections between global events and students' lives by promoting peace within our school community. On this solemn occasion, our staff, students, parents, and the wider community all join together in a call for peace.

It was over 100 years ago when John McCrae penned the iconic poem, In Flanders Field to honour a young Ottawa soldier who died instantly in battle.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders Fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

By: John McCrae

SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Welcome to another full year into our 2019/2020 school year and welcome all the new students and parents to our Morrish Public School Family! School councils are an excellent way for parents to get involved in their child's education. Our school has an elected school council that is an important forum for involving all members of the school community in issues that affect the education of students. The school council is made up of an elected committee of parents, staff and student representatives, appointed community members, the principal, and a general membership which includes all parent of children attending the school. The school council advises the principal on a variety of issues and activities relating to student achievement, curriculum goals and priorities, school budget priorities, school safety, renovation plans, after school activities, and criteria for selection of new principals.

Morrish School Council Executive 2019/2020

Principal – Arif Nathoo

Chair – Lori Gallant

Vice-Chair – Donna Wheatley

Secretary – Denise Boswell-Buck

Treasurer – Jacqueline Chandler

Communications – Meanusa Sivaneswaran

Community Rep – Shindy Chahal

Student Reps – Richmond, Anica, Varsha

School Council Meetings:

All meetings will begin at **7:00 p.m.** and be held in the Library, unless otherwise noted. Meeting Dates:

November 21, 2019

December 12, 2019

January 23, 2020

February 20, 2020

March 26, 2020

April 23, 2020

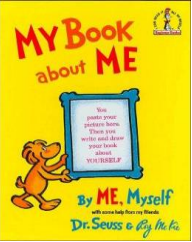
May 7, 2020

May 28, 2020

Family Fun Night: June 18, 2020

Contact the School Council: If you have an item/issue you would like to be considered for a meeting agenda, please speak with a member of council or e-mail them in advance of the meeting. If the item/issue does not pertain to council business or if it will not be placed on the agenda for the next meeting (due to time constraints), you will be advised of this. As the council follows timed agendas, items will not be added once the agenda has been created (usually two to three business days before the meeting). For individual concerns, please contact your child's teacher or the principal.

Activity to try with children: Make a scrapbook of a family event such as a holiday get-together, vacation, sports event, or special outing. Have your child create captions for the photos. These can be a great paragraph write-up about the event or speech bubbles with dialogue saying what the person in the photo might have said at the moment the photo was taken.



We continue to work with you and your child to ensure that your child reaches his/her academic and personal potential. Please do not hesitate to call either your child's teacher or myself if you have any questions. You are also always welcome to drop in for a chat. Together, we are better.

Some Tips to help your child/children be a better reader:
Choose Books at the Correct Reading Level!

Do you ever wonder if the book your child is reading is too hard? Here are some ways to find out:

Does your child struggle frequently while reading?

Do you hear frequent excuses for avoiding reading?

Thinking outside the box

For your younger children reading the words into a song is a fantastic way for them to learn new words.



STUDENT COUNCIL

Congratulations to the following students for being selected this year's Student Council Executive:

Co-Presidents: **Richmond and Anica**

Vice-President: Varsha

Executive Members: Elakkiya, Zaid, Kaajal, Shamiya

They will represent the student voice at many meetings with parents, teachers and administration. Morrish P.S. considers it important that the students play an active, positive role in the life of their school and believes that our Student Council helps to achieve this. The role of the Student Council is to:

- provide an opportunity to voice opinion and offer suggestions in relation to many aspects of school life
- discuss issues relevant to our school and encourage and promote new initiatives
- offer an opportunity to voice their opinion on proposed changes and thereby play a very significant role in improving our school
- act as a channel of communication within the school organization, between students and between home and school
- encourage students to organize events central to the life of the school
- provide an opportunity to raise funds for charities or for our School Fund.

Through the Student Council we hope to give our students a more active role in the organization of our school and ensure they are listened to and respected for their ideas and concerns. We are very proud of the role played by our students in developing our school and believe that we achieve a more pleasant and vibrant learning environment, as a result.

PIZZA LUNCHES

Payment for pizza lunches is now **ONLINE**.

Please visit the following website:

<https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

to register your account and pay for the monthly pizza lunches. For parents who want to pay by cash, please

pick up an envelope from Ms. Walsh in the office and ensure that the order is placed prior to the deadline date and also, ensure the exact payment is included in the order envelope as they are unable to make change. Below are the dates of this year's pizza lunches and the deadline for payment. Thank you.

PIZZA DATE (Thursdays)	PAYMENT DEADLINE
November 14	November 7
December 5	November 28
January 16	January 9
February 13	February 6
March 12	March 5
April 9	April 2
May 14	May 7
June 11	June 4

REMINDER TO CALL SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE LATE OR ABSENT:

One measure of keeping our students safe is to ensure we can account for any absences or reasons for being late to school. Please let the office know by calling 416-396-6730 if your contact information, including phone number, changes at any time throughout the school year.

In accordance with the TDSB Safe Arrival policy PR707A, "If a pupil is absent or late for any reason, the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) must contact the school immediately to report the reason for the absence". For an unexplained absence, Parents/Guardians will be contacted by **SchoolMessenger** and must indicate the reason for the absence.

If we are not informed about the absence, we will make attempts to contact you through our automated call-out system to determine the reason for the absence. The telephone number 833-250-2290 will display on the caller ID. Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep your children safe and accounted for.

FRENCH PROGRAMS APPLICATIONS

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's French Immersion or Extended French programs, we offer an online process for applying to:

The TDSB guarantees an offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) to all on-time applicants. Transportation is provided as per the Board's Transportation policy, and families are to be notified in the weeks following the application window.

(1) Applications for **Early French Immersion (SK Entry)** must be completed online between: November 4th to November 29th

(2) Applications for **Junior Extended French (Gr. 4 Entry)** must be completed online between January 6th to January 31st

Please note: families with an older sibling currently in a French program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. For further information about French as a Second Language programs, the application process and dates for Information Evenings, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/french.

GRADE 8 TO 9 PARENT INFORMATION SESSION HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHTS

To help you make an informed decision when choosing a high school, TDSB schools host information nights for parents and grade 8 students each year between October and January. Learn everything you need to know about our incredible variety of schools, programs and courses. The dates and times for all High School Information Nights are available online at:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/HighSchool/GoingtoHighSchool/OpenHousesandInformationNights.aspx>.

HOLD & SECURES AND LOCKDOWNS

From time to time, police activity and/or incidents in and around schools and their communities may result in a school being put into a “Hold & Secure” or “Lockdown.” These are procedures that are designed to keep students and staff safe. Below is a brief explanation of each.

Hold & Secure

Hold & Secure is a response to a threat and/or incident in the general vicinity of a school, but not on or very near to school property. School life continues as normal inside the school; however, as a precautionary measure, outer doors are locked and no one enters or leaves the building. Note: outer doors are typically locked during the learning day.

Lockdown

Lockdown is used in a serious emergency situation where the threat is inside a school, on or very near to school property. A Lockdown minimizes access and visibility in an effort to shelter students, staff and visitors in secure locations. Similar to a Hold & Secure, all outer doors are locked; however, a Lockdown requires that all students be kept in classrooms or other designated locations and that inner doors also are locked where possible. Entry to, and exit from, the building is restricted to emergency services personnel only.

During a Lockdown, lights are turned off in the classroom/office, curtains/blinds are closed where possible, cell phone use is restricted and all people inside the building should remain quiet. During a Lockdown, school phones will not be answered as the administration is tending to the ongoing situation. As cell phone use is restricted, students are asked not to use phones until cleared to do so.

It’s important to note that our school, like every school across the Toronto District School Board, is required to practise two Lockdown drills per year to ensure students and staff know what to do in case of an emergency.

EMPATHY

Your child is involved in learning activities designed to develop good character and help children make good choices. Our focus this month will be on **EMPATHY**.

Your child can show empathy by:

- helping, and understanding how others in the family feel
- using words to describe how others may be feeling
- understanding, sensing, and sharing in the feelings and emotions of others
- showing love, sympathy, compassion, and encouragement
- speaking from “I” and owning his or her emotions

Questions to discuss with your child:

- What is empathy? How can we show empathy?
- What does it mean to be empathetic?

Projects to do together:

- Engage your child in volunteer opportunities, such as helping at the food bank or other community organizations.
- Develop a family project that is meant to help others.
- When reading or watching the news, encourage a discussion about how those involved might feel.

Encouraging empathy in your child:

- Encourage discussion, and expose your child to the language of emotions.
- Talk with your child about the importance of showing empathy through helping others.
- Share your own feelings with your child, providing him or her with the opportunity to be empathetic.
- Allow your child to express his or her feelings, regardless of whether they are positive or negative.



Keeping Kids Safe: Drivers are reminded to do their part to keep children safe near school buses.

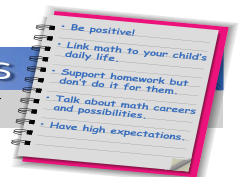
Drivers should follow these tips:

- Stop and never pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing
- Leave space around school buses and avoid blocking school bus loading zones so children can enter and exit safely.
- 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.

Parents can also help keep their children safe by reminding them to be aware of their surroundings when they are on or near school buses.

Math Tips for Parents

Supporting math learning and encouraging your child to love math



You are a math teacher! We all know that reading with a child helps literacy skills, and that playing sports in the backyard teaches the value of teamwork and being physically active. But where are the life lessons for mathematics?

The truth is that we all use mathematics many times each day, but often don’t realize it. From trips to the grocery store to swinging in a hammock, math is part of our daily lives. Don’t underestimate your own math skills. You can help your child learn math!

“You are their idol. They look up to you. They don’t do a good job listening to you, but they do a fantastic job imitating you.” – Karl Subban, retired Toronto school principal and father of three NHL hockey players (P.K., Malcolm and Justin)

Math in everyday life: It is important to help children recognize that everyone uses math all the time. Here are tips to help your child have a positive attitude about mathematics.

- Make learning math a positive experience. Don’t talk negatively about math to your child—it can lead to “math anxiety” (a proven cause of low achievement).
- Schedule math homework at the same time in a quiet location every day. Be available during this period to talk with your child. Create a math homework toolkit with

pencils, erasers, ruler, protractor, graph paper, counters (beads or beans) and a calculator.

- When helping with homework, follow the method being taught. Don't teach short cuts that could confuse your child. Do not say, "Let me show you my way – it's simpler and faster."

- Be relaxed and positive. You are not expected to be an expert. You are there to encourage learning.

- If your child becomes frustrated, stop. Remind him/her of things that he/she has already learned how to do successfully, such as riding a bicycle, writing a paragraph or speaking a second language.

- Ask your child's teacher for strategies to use at home that reflect your child's learning style. If your child asks for help and you do not know the answer, be honest and say, "I don't know, but let's figure it out together." If you continue to be unsuccessful, you can also ask your child's teacher for help. This gives your child permission to ask for help as well.

Be a math role model: Children learn by imitating the people around them. Imitating a parent's positive attitude about education helps children develop healthy academic skills.

- Talk out loud as you do everyday tasks. Talking out loud allows children to hear how you think and helps them develop important skills for "thinking things out" and solving problems.

- Do informal math together. On rainy days, family evenings and vacation time, play math games such as Dino Math Tracks, Dominoes or Connect Four. Show your child that math is fun!

- Parents worry about the amount of time that children spend on the computer and the quality of online content, but many educational web-based games, such as Mathfrog and Calculation Nation, encourage mathematical skills.

- Watch educational television programs like The Prime Radicals on TVO or Cyberchase on PBS. These programs also have websites with activities to do together, including game apps, math crafts and songs.

- Grocery stores are a great source of math lessons. For example, you can talk aloud about how to weigh fruit on a scale or how to estimate the total cost of groceries as you fill your cart.

Online Resources by TVOKIDS.COM and Math

NUMBER SENSE AND NUMERATION

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Caterpillar Count

www.tvokids.com/games/caterpillarcount

Connect the Dots with Artt

www.tvokids.com/games/connectdotsartt

Count with Artt

www.tvokids.com/games/countartt

Grade 4 to Grade 6

Tumbleweed's MathMaze

(beginner and medium levels)

www.tvokids.com/games/tumbleweedsmathmaze

Bruce McBruce Doodle Dots

www.tvokids.com/framesets/play.html%3Fgame%3D51

Tumbletown Mathletics

www.tvokids.com/games/tumbletownmathletics

Big Wig Sub Shop

www.tvokids.com/games/bigwigsubshop

GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL SENSE

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Shapeville

www.tvokids.com/games/shapeville

Grade 4 to Grade 6

Triangle Alley

www.tvokids.com/games/trianglealley

Build Math City

www.tvokids.com/activities/buildmathcity

Pirates Maps and Traps

www.tvokids.com/games/piratesmapsandtraps

PATTERNING AND ALGEBRA

Kindergarten to Grade 3

A Lotta Dessert

www.tvokids.com/games/lottadessert

Grade 4 to Grade 6

Flower Frenzy

www.tvokids.com/games/flowerfrenzy

DATA MANAGEMENT AND PROBABILITY

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Sort It

www.tvokids.com/games/sortit

Grade 4 to Grade 6

Space Trek Galaxy

www.tvokids.com/games/spacetrekgalaxy

MEASUREMENT

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Clock Talk

www.tvokids.com/games/clocktalk

Grade 4 to Grade 6

Beat the Clock

www.tvokids.com/games/beatclock

Tumbletown Mathletics

www.tvokids.com/games/tumbletownmathletics

Esso Family Math

The activities, research and information on this site help parents and children share their thinking and understanding of mathematics in a safe and relaxed atmosphere.

www.edu.uwo.ca/essofamilymath

Math Frog

Here you'll find resources and online games for Grades 4, 5 and 6.

<http://cemc2.math.uwaterloo.ca/mathfrog/main.shtml>

ABC Life Literacy

This resource introduces children to and teaches them about financial literacy.

<http://abclifeliteracy.ca/financial-literacy-tips-andresources>

Figure This

This site has math games and challenges for children to do with their parents.

www.figurethis.org

Math Wire

This site hosts a variety of math tools, tests and games.

<http://mathwire.com>

PedagoNet

Here you'll find many math links and games.

www.pedagonet.com

Math Dictionary for Kids

This online tool helps children learn the definitions of math terms.

www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com

Math Forum

Tips, tricks and math problems specifically for Elementary students are gathered on this site.

www.mathforum.org/students/elem/probs.html

National Library of Virtual Manipulatives

This online toolbox has age-appropriate virtual Manipulatives from Utah State University.

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html>

Kid Sites

You'll find a list of math sites for kids here.

www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/math.htm

Math Playground

This site has a variety of games and worksheets for age- and grade-appropriate math study.

www.mathplayground.com



Morrish Public School

presents

Bullying Stops Here!

A PARENT FORUM with Guest
Speaker

Coby Elimelech

On

Thursday November 7, 2019

At 6:30pm

Morrish Public School Gymnasium



Topics Covered:

- Creating a positive school climate
- Start early. Talk to your child.
- Definition of bullying and cyber bullying
- Significance of responsible social media
- Prevention strategies
- Difference between bullying and simple conflict
- Importance of speaking up and not remaining silent

Cooperation between the students, teachers, and parents have been proven to be the best way to combat bullying.



Trustee Anu Sriskandarajah

Ward 22, Scarborough-Rouge Park

Scarborough - Rouge Park school councils, student councils, parents/caregivers, community members, and school staff are invited to join Trustee Anu Sriskandarajah for a

Ward Forum

Thursday November 28, 2019, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Morrish Public School

61 Canmore Blvd, Scarborough, ON

- PIAC Election
- Special Guest: **Michelle Munroe, TDSB Central Co-ordinator, Parent and Community Engagement**
- Light refreshments will be served. Childcare will be provided upon request

For more information or to request any accommodation, including childcare and interpretation services please contact Trustee Shared Services, Tel: (416) 395-8787, Email: Maxeen.Paabo@tdsb.on.ca or Trustee Anu Sriskandarajah, Ward 22, Scarborough-Rouge Park Tel: 416-395-8787, Email: Anu.Sriskandarajah@tdsb.on.ca



Anu Sriskandarajah

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