

Nelson Mandela Weekly Message
Saturday, January 13, 2024

Friday January 19th PA Day - No School

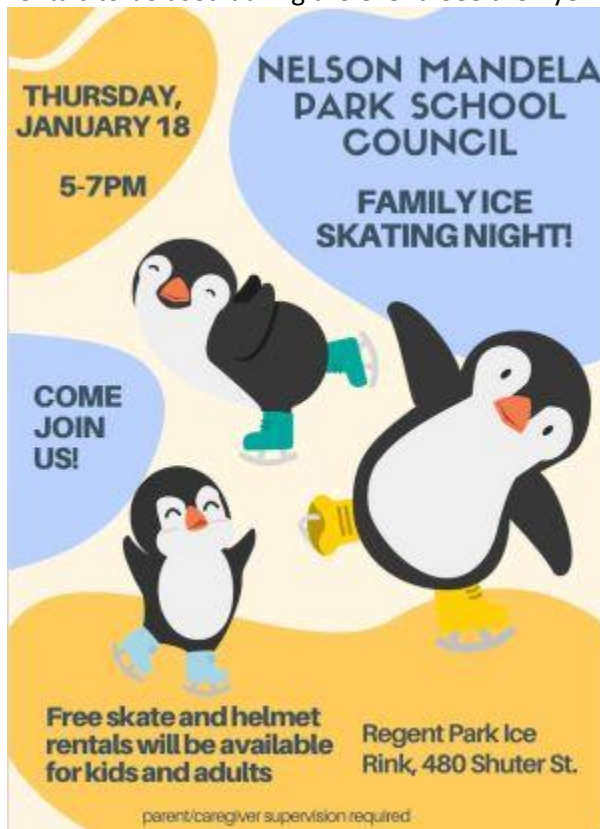
School will be closed on Friday January 19th as school staff will be participating in Assessment and Reporting Activities. [View information for January 19 PA Day.](#)

2024-2025 School Year Applications

During January and February students are able to apply for alternate programs for the 2024-2025 school year. These include Alternative Schools, Out of Area Admissions, Virtual Learning and more. See below for links to more information and application processes. All of these programs are optional for interested families. No action is required if you are continuing at Nelson Mandela Park. Students moving on to high school have already begun the process with their classroom teacher.

Family Ice Skating Night!

Nelson Mandela Park School Council presents Family Ice Skating Night, with free skate and helmet rentals to be used during the event. See the flyer below.



Restorative Question of the Week

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a safe, supportive and inclusive environment teachers engage their students in community circles where they share, talk, discuss important topics and laugh. A school wide question is shared each week. This week's question is: ***If you had a magic wand that granted one special wish related to your school year or personal goals, what would your wish be?*** Please do ask how this question was answered in class around the dinner table.

Tamil Heritage Month

Tamil Heritage Month is proudly recognized during January at the TDSB. This year, the theme is *Our Memories, Our Truths, Our Paths Forward: A Mosaic of Tamil Identity*. The theme is a reminder to pause and reflect on our memories and narratives, to consider how they shape us individually, and to look at ways that we can come together to honour and celebrate our individuality while moving forward with our collective humanity in mind. [Visit the Tamil Heritage Month webpage to learn more.](#)

Salat in Secret: Love and Belonging in Community Spaces

The Islamic Heritage Month Committee, in partnership with the Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Department, is offering students (Grades K-8), families, and staff the opportunity to attend the virtual session of *Salat in Secret: Love and Belonging in Community Spaces* on **Monday, January 29, 2024 from 6 to 7 p.m.** Sessions commemorate the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia. [Register now to attend.](#)

Snow and Cold Weather

Snow this week and cold next week, winter has arrived. Read more about the TDSB Snow/Cold Weather procedures. <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Severe-Weather/Snow-Cold-Weather>. When temperature and/or windchill factor indicates -28C or lower children will remain indoors due to risk of frostnip and frostbite. When an extreme cold weather alert is issued or when temperatures and/or windchill factor indicates -20 to -28C, recesses may be shortened to 10 minutes and lunch recess be 20 minutes depending on local conditions. With the colder weather some of our students may need warmer clothing, mitts, hats and jackets. If you see an item that your child may need please connect with your child's teacher.

2024-2025 School Year Programming Applications:

Virtual Learning 2024-25

Please visit the [elementary virtual learning](#) and [secondary virtual learning](#) web pages for more information.

Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 Entry) Application Deadline

To apply for September 2024, applications must be completed online between **January 8 and February 2, 2024**. For more information, please visit: [Middle French Immersion](#) or the [Application Process](#).

Out-of-Area Admissions

Online applications for [Out-of-Area Admissions](#) now available! The **Elementary** application window is from **January 8 to 31, 2024** and the **Secondary** application window is from **January 8 to 26, 2024**.

Elementary Alternative Schools Online Application

The TDSB offers a wide range of [elementary alternative schools](#). The deadline to submit an application is **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 4 p.m.**