



Apple Seeds

September 2022

PRINCIPAL: DIANE JAMIESON

416-393-0710

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/ossingtonoldorchard>



Welcome back students and families! We are very excited to begin another school year together and are so grateful that this year feels much more normal as we return to pre-covid routines and protocols.

The first few days of school were hectic, but the students have been amazing. They have been so flexible and agreeable as we adjust to the reality of not having access to our wonderful back yard.

Please read below for more information about the construction project and other important initiatives that are happening this fall.

It is an honour to be the principal of OOOPS and I look forward to continuing our work together to ensure our students are supported, happy and engaged.

Please mark your calendars for **OOOPS Curriculum Night on Wednesday, Sept. 21st from 5pm – 6pm.** Classrooms will be open to parents. Teachers will present to parents at 5PM and then repeat the presentation again at 5:30PM. If possible, please attend this event without your children. This would help reduce the number of people in our school and in the classrooms. We hope to see you next Wednesday!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

All parents/guardians are welcome to join our School Council. Typically, we meet once per month to discuss school matters and to plan and support school initiatives.

The first meeting of this school year will take place on **Tuesday, Sept. 27th at 6:30PM.** At this meeting, we will confirm which parents will serve on the OOOPS Executive Committee of the Council. A virtual meeting link will be shared next week.

Please see link to a Google Form for more information and to nominate yourself or someone else for an executive position.

<https://forms.gle/TefqcCB7cJoPGW9a6>

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

We are pleased to welcome Jennifer Chan to our school community. Ms. Chan is the new Superintendent of Education for our school's Learning Network (LN21). We wish Mike Gallagher the very best in his retirement.

MINISTRY AND TDSB PRIORITIES

The key focus areas as outlined by the Ministry of Education are: *Indigenous Education, Learning Recovery, Student and School Safety, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), and Equity and Inclusive Education.*

Indigenous Education

Learning more about the history of Indigenous peoples has been a focus for several years at our school. Bringing Indigenous stories, issues and culture into the curriculum continues to be an important school priority.

Learning Recovery

Learning recovery is ongoing as teachers assess and target instruction to meet their students' needs. Teachers use a variety of assessment strategies to diagnose students' knowledge and skills and this data informs instruction. Students in all grades learn at different levels and progress at different rates. Early literacy is critical and is an important focus for us in kindergarten and the primary grades. The ministry has also announced that it will be funding the school-based tutoring program that some of our students participated in last spring. More information will be available soon about this program.

Student and School Safety

Student safety has always been a top priority. This year all teachers are required to complete a professional learning session with the Ontario College of Teachers on the topic of sexual abuse.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM),

A new Science and Technology curriculum has been introduced by the Ministry. Staff will be participating in professional learning sessions throughout this year to deepen their knowledge and skills in these areas of the curriculum.

Equity and Inclusive Education

Ensuring all students and staff feel welcome, included, and respected is critical. For students to learn, they must feel safe in their classroom and feel like they belong in their school. While we know hate and discrimination is alive and around us, we need to continue working to build an equitable and inclusive school environment and interrupt when we hear or witness hateful acts or words.

Building a school community of students, staff and parents/guardians that promotes diversity, respect and affirmation is paramount in creating an anti-oppressive, safe, and nurturing learning environment.

2022-2023 OOOPS STAFF

Please see staff directory below including staff emails.

Staff	Position
Libby Pindar elizabeth.pindar@tdsb.on.ca	Office Administrator
Tara Giguere tara.giguere@tdsb.on.ca	JKSK-Rm.9
Larysa Kalimbet larysa.kalimbet@tdsb.on.ca	JKSK-Rm.9
Kim Huynh hue.huynh@tdsb.on.ca	JKSK-Rm.10
Suzy Arruda suzy.arruda@tdsb.on.ca	JKSK-Rm.10
Dina Ikosipentarhos dina.ikosipentarhos@tdsb.on.ca	Gr. ½-Rm.21
Fern Osborne fern.osborne@tdsb.on.ca	Gr. ½-Rm. 22
Cara McQuibban cara.mcquibban@tdsb.on.ca	Gr. 2/3-Rm.11
Joseph Di Fonzo joseph.difonzo@tdsb.on.ca	Gr.3-Rm.12
Julie Grierson julie.grierson@tdsb.on.ca	Gr. 4-Rm.18 Music
Nick Panamsky nick.panamsky@tdsb.on.ca	Gr.4/5-Rm.20
Nicole Graham nicole.graham@tdsb.on.ca	Gr. 5/6-Rm.19
Mic Carter mic.carter@tdsb.on.ca	Gr. 6-Rm.16
Anna Furfaro anna.furfaro@tdsb.on.ca	Special Education
Angelo Koumentakis angelo.koumentakis@tdsb.on.ca	Physical Ed. Health
Lydia Rosenbaum ludmila.rosenbaum@tdsb.on.ca	French Library
Nelani Kokularajan nelani.kokularajan@tdsb.on.ca	K-2 Literacy Arts Gr.4/5 Drama
Nicholas Bogoeff nicholas.bogoeff@tdsb.on.ca	Ed. Assistant/ Special Needs Assistant
Lunchroom Supervisors: Maria Almeida Roula Diamantouros Filomena Moniz Zoobia Nawaid Roxane O'Brien	

Caretaking Team: Anil Dhingani Kevin Blowe Jaeda Whitehouse
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POWER SCHOOL and STUDENT ABSENCES

This year we are adapting to a new Student Information System called Power School. While we are still learning how to operate this SIS system, we ask for your patience. In Power School teachers take web attendance in the morning and again after lunch. If you know in advance that your child will be absent, please email your child’s teacher. Alternatively, please inform the school office at 416-393-0710 and leave a message on the Safe Arrival Message System.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Athletics

OOOPS is excited to offer various athletic activities this year. Currently, all Junior students (Grades 4 and up), can participate in our intramural program which will take place during afternoon recesses. Intramurals are a fantastic opportunity to play with friends, be active, release some stress, and have tons of fun! Our first intramural sport will be Dodgeball, which will be followed by various other games throughout the year.

We are also excited for the return of Extra-curricular sports. Throughout the year, Junior students can try-out to be part of various OOOPS teams, which will travel to play other schools within the TDSB. During the start of the fall season, the TDSB offers leagues and tournaments for soccer, flag football, cross-country and more! A variety of other sports will be offered at different times of the year. Currently, the tryouts for Boys’ and Girls’ Soccer teams are taking place during our lunch recesses. If your child is successful in making a team, permission forms and more information will be sent home.

If you have expertise in a sport and would like to volunteer your time and help coach to provide more opportunities for our students, please let us know and we will provide details to get you enrolled in a TDSB coaching session.

Coding Club

All Grade 4-6 students are welcome to join the OOOPS Coding club! We will be learning and practicing how to code single and multi-step games using the Scratch program. Coding Club will be every Day 2 and Day 4 during lunch recess (12:00pm to 12:30pm). Our first day will be on Thursday September 15th (Day 4). Please see Ms. Nelani or Ms. Dina if you have any questions!

Dance Club!

Junior students are invited to join a *Just Dance Club* on Day 3's during lunch (12pm – 12:30pm). Students can sign up outside the library. Please see Ms. Rosenbaum if you have questions.

Coming soon!

Grade 1-3 students, keep listening to the announcements for an opportunity to join the *Lunchtime Lego Club* and/or the *Board Game Club*.

OOOPS DANCE RESIDENCY

Beginning on Monday, Sept. 26, all students at our school will be participating in an exciting dance project. Working in partnership with Kaeja d'Dance, students will experience a series of Express Dance Workshops around the theme of *transformation*. This dance residency will culminate in a sharing session which is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 6th in the afternoon. More information will be sent closer to the date.

TERRY FOX RUN

All students will participate in a Terry Fox Run on Friday, Sept. 23rd. If you would like to make donation to the Terry Fox Foundation, an OOOPS specific donation link will be shared next week.

STUDENT AGENDAS

Students in grades 1 – 6 have been given a student agenda. This year the school will pay for the agendas and there will be no cost to parents.

Students are expected to use the agendas daily to keep track of homework due dates and important events. The student agenda is an excellent tool to develop organizational skills.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

An irrigation system has been installed on the field and the sod is down! The field is looking green and beautiful. We have been told that we will need to wait at least 4 weeks before access to the field is granted.

The crew has been focusing on building the retaining walls in the terraced gardens (the area beside the primary play structure). Hopefully, this area of the back yard restoration will be completed in a couple of weeks and students will once again be able to access this space.

While the field may be available to us by mid to late October, the middle section of our school grounds (the area where the basketball courts were; in front of the portables; where the junior play structure was) will continue to be off limits. I will be working with the

project team to map out a safe route/pathway for students to access the field from the school.

We will continue to work closely with our construction partners and communicate pertinent information as it becomes available.

LUNCH/RECESS TIMES and ROUTINES:

Students in grades 1 – 6 eat lunch beginning 11:30AM. We will eat outside when conditions are favourable. Otherwise, Gr. 1 – 3 students will eat in the gym and Gr. 4 – 6 students will eat in the newly refurbished basement.

We are trying to be as creative as possible in terms of recess. Primary students are using the JK/SK yard as well as the picnic table area during morning and afternoon recess. During lunch, they are using the front of the school.

Junior students have access to the gym during recess periods. During lunch recess, students will be occasionally walking to George Ben Park.

KINDERGARTEN LUNCH: 11:15AM – 12:30PM

JK/SK Students who remain at school for lunch will eat in their classrooms with a lunchroom supervisor. Kindergarten students will also have an outside recess scheduled during their lunch break.

Please remember that we are a **Nut Free School**. Please do not pack any items with nuts in your child's lunch (or snacks). Students need to bring their lunches, a water bottle and any required cutlery and napkins. **Students are not allowed to share food with each other.**

SNACK PROGRAM

We are working to get our snack program up and running. We have new staff in place to coordinate the snack program this year. Once the required training has been done by the staff, we will be ready to implement the program. More information will be available soon.

WATER FILLING STATIONS

The TDSB has installed 2 water bottle filling stations at our school. Students should bring a labeled and filled water bottle with them to school in the morning and use the water filling station when needed.

STUDENT ENTRY AND DISMISSAL

Thank you to everyone for being so flexible and adapting to our new reality of entering and exiting through the front of the school. It is a tight space but for now we need to make this work.

KINDERGARTEN ENTRY

Parents are asked to bring their children to the JK/SK play yard gate beside Exit 2. Please hand off your child to a staff member. Staff will meet the children at the gate and they will enter and line up in a designated area with their classmates and teachers. Parents/guardians will not be allowed inside the JK/SK play yard at this time.

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES – Elementary/African Heritage 2022 – 2023 Program (In-person) Program Information

OOOPS will once again be offering Portuguese classes for students on Mondays after school. Please see link for more information and to register.

[View a list of school locations and language classes.](#)

For details, please see

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/Beyond-the-Classroom/International-Languages-Elementary-and-African-Heritage/ILE-AH-2022-2023>

ANAPHYLAXIS/ALLERGIES

Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction. We have several students who are anaphylactic in our school and we need to ensure that **peanuts and peanut/nut products are not brought to the school**. Students are not to share food or drinks of any kind with any other students and to practice good hygiene. We have students with a variety of other food allergies in our school and several who could have an anaphylactic reaction.

MEDICAL CONDITION and/or MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child has a medical condition (ie: asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, etc.), please ensure the Medical Form includes this information. Likewise, if your child requires medication at school (ie: asthma puffer, epipen), please let the office know immediately so that the appropriate paperwork can be sent home.

PERMISSION FORMS

A series of electronic permission forms were sent by the Board on September 9 and 10. Please check your emails for these forms and complete them as soon as possible.

TRUSTEE LETTER

Please see link to view Trustee Stephanie Donaldson's welcome back letter. [Welcome Back Letter](#)

UPCOMING DATES

SST MEETING	Tuesday, Sept. 20
CURRICULUM NIGHT	Wed. Sept. 21 – 5PM
TERRY FOX RUN	Fri. Sept. 23
SCHOOL COUNCIL	Tues. Sept. 27 – 6:30PM
ORANGE SHIRT DAY	Friday, Sept. 30
DANCE RESIDENCY	Sept. 26 – Oct. 6
PD DAY	Friday, Oct. 7
THANKSGIVING	Monday, Oct. 10
IEP'S GO HOME	Wed. Oct. 19
HALLOWEEN	Mon. Oct. 31
REMEMBRANCE DAY	Friday, Nov. 11
PROGRESS REPORTS	Tues. Nov. 15
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS	Nov. 17 and 18
PD DAY	Nov. 18