



Park Lane Public School

60 Park Lane Circle, M3C 2N2

<http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/parklane>

Lindsay Borden - Principal
Hripsik Sarkissian - Vice Principal

March & April, 2019
Edition 4

Dates to Remember:

May

9th - Mother's Day Entertainment

10th - FOREST VALLEY TRIP

20th - VICTORIA DAY

22nd - BARRIER FREE TRACK AND FIELD

24th - JEWISH HERITAGE DAY

31st - ASIAN HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION

June

5th - SING-A-ALONG WITH PARK LANE

6th - Summer Jam

7th - PA Day

14th - Park Lane Graduation 1pm-2:30pm

In May and June, students are planning to go to Ripley's, the Zoo, Forest Valley, and more. We enjoy taking students out into the community and appreciate the use of the Sunny View buses and the students' Wheel Trans accounts to do that.

April 3rd was the Park Lane Gala Fundraiser. We were fortunate to have a fabulous emcee, wonderful entertainment, an unbelievable silent auction, the support of all the families and friends that attended, and quite a few donations. As a result, we were able to raise \$30,000.00 for the school and some of the funds will be used for an accessible activity trail in the Park Lane Public School Field for the students.

We have a lot of exciting events planned for the next few weeks and hope you are able to join us at the school for the entertainers on May 9th, at our Summer Jam, or at our Graduation celebration on June 14th.

Principal's Corner

This April definitely brought showers and we are looking forward to the May flowers. Students have been working with our VP, Hripsik Sarkissian to fertilize seeds and clean up our green space so we are ready to start planting our Herb Garden with students from Marc Garneau CI on May 23rd.

Enclosed in this newsletter, you will read about all the wonderful things that have been happening at Park Lane Public School these past two months.

In both March and April, students participated in a few field trips to the library, the grocery store, Ikea, the TSO and bowling.

Lindsay



School Events

Park Lane Spring Gala 2019 (Anju P.)

On Wednesday, April 3rd, Park Lane held its third spring fundraising gala at the Granite Club. The evening began with a video of our students in action and a special musical performance by students from Don Mills Collegiate. We were fortunate to have an engaging Emcee lead us through the night. Our Emcee, Shane Farberman, not only hosted the night, but his company, Farco Entertainment donated popcorn and cotton candy. Other performers included: the Dave Borins Band, Illusionist Aaron Matthews, a special performance by Jacob's Schwartz' friends and family, and Kevin Hearn from the Barenaked Ladies. All performers donated their time and helped to create a fun and memorable evening.

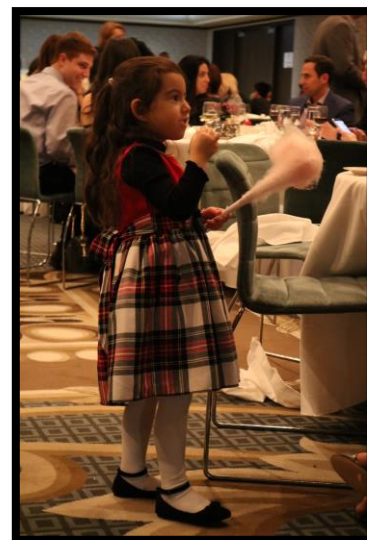


Friends, family, and local businesses showed their generous support by donating silent auction items, donating to the event or attending the event and participating in the silent auction and 50/50 draw. We would like to thank the members of the School Council, Jon Lasky, Mindy Cash, and Liz Phipps, who came together with the school Principal, Lindsay Borden, to organize this event. Park Lane is also grateful to our sponsors, Carry and Marty Cash, Liz and Wayne Phipps, Cormark Securities, Inc., and especially our Platinum Sponsors, Tony and Shari Fell, who generously offered to cover all of our costs for the Granite Club, so we will be able to put all the financial support we received directly to the school and our programs. A special thank you to our attendees who appreciated and purchased the incredible artwork that the students at Park Lane Public School created for the silent auction.



MP Rob Oliphant honoured Toni Walasek, a Park Lane Public School volunteer for over 15 years who has a positive and welcoming attitude towards every student. Attendees also learned about our special students and the challenges their families face when listening to the speeches made by School Council and Ellen Schwartz. Ellen Schwartz, the mother of a Park Lane Public School alumni who sadly passed away this year, shared her parenting insights about her experiences as a mother of a son with special needs and the life lessons she has learned from it. We would like to thank all our Park Lane friends and family for coming together to make our meaningful night a memorable success.

More Pictures from The Gala



Greek Heritage Celebration (Vicki A.)

On Friday, March 22nd room 3 hosted our Friday Activity in honour of Greek Heritage Month. Classes rotated through various Greek-inspired Art Stations around the school. Students created Santorini Sunsets, Greek Flags, Tropical Fish and made Greek-Worry Beads (Komboloi). Traditional Greek music was also enjoyed and it was a fun, sensory-filled afternoon for all.



African Heritage Month (Irene T.)

The last Friday in February, room 6 held their "Friday Activity" for the whole school. Students celebrated African Heritage Month by taking part in five interactive activities stationed throughout the school. Each station was prepared to engage students in learning about African culture. Students took part in participating in tropical smoothie making, creating beaded necklaces, making Kente cloth, exploring the sensory table with smells of different spices and the textures of animal pelts and cloths, and making maracas and drums out of recyclable materials.



The morning activity started with our wonderful MC Melissa saying a few words about African heritage history. Followed by an amazing group of wonderful dancers Portia, Jonita, Perla, Fariba, Diane, Irene and Gloria who performed synchronized movements with the song "Waka Waka" by Shakira and the school joined in for the second half of the song. It was wonderful to see so many of our students enjoying the performance and willing to take part in the dancing.



After the African Heritage month activities, some of the Kente cloth and instrumental samples made by students at the stations were hung for display and interactive purposes at the end of our sensory wall. Many of our students enjoy interacting with the sensory wall as they walk beside it daily in the school.

Room 7

Team members: Left to right- Cynthia, Cindy, Seema Fariba and Angela



Favourite Day: We really enjoy Day 5. The morning begins with music with Gloria and Life Skills with Ruth. Our whole afternoon begins and ends with music. We meet Gloria at the piano for music appreciation. Listening to favourite songs played on a piano and flute helps relax us and sets the stage for music with Sharon, our itinerant Orff music teacher.

Favourite Activity: We enjoy art, especially painting. We explore painting using a variety of tools such as brushes, rollers and spray bottles. Recently, we learned about primary colours and used them to create secondary colours. We created a classroom book based on the story **Mouse Paint** by Ellen Stoll Walsh.

We also enjoy visiting with our friends from room 1. We play active games such as STOP and GO as well as a variety of turn taking games using cars down a ramp and a marble run.

Room 8



"A warm atmosphere where the enthusiastic staff have been able to identify and address each student's unique learning style and social-emotional needs." – Dave

Favourite Activities: 1) Swimming at Beverley – everyone loves it! From the bus ride to jumping in the deep end, it builds independence and skills, and everyone has a smile on their face 2) community walks - It gives our students and staff some fresh air and exercise. Research suggests that daily physical activity stimulates and calms the brain, allowing for clearer thinking and concentration.

Favourite Recipe the kids make: Chocolate Chip Cookies

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

1 cup butter

1 cup white sugar

1 cup brown sugar

Cream together the butter and sugar until smooth.

2 eggs

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Beat in the eggs and vanilla.

1 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

3 cups all-purpose flour

2 cups chocolate chips

Mix it all up!

Place golf ball size globs onto a cookie sheet.

Bake for about 10 minutes in the preheated oven, or until edges are nicely browned.

The Bell Choir Visit (Cindy P.)

A visit from The Bells of St. Andrew's has become a yearly tradition at Park Lane. The English band bell choir performed many children's songs such as, "It's a Small World", "Puff the Magic Dragon" and Disney songs including, "Mickey Mouse March". Students were given an opportunity to play chimes. The choir performed songs using bells as well as using chimes. Students and staff enjoyed the concert as evidenced by the calm demeanor of some of our students.



HOZA Drumming Workshop (Gloria G.)



Park Lane students were fortunate to welcome Amadou Kienou to Park Lane Public School. Born in Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso, he shared his great skill in the Djembe, showcasing the ancient traditions of West African sound and rhythm. He offered a hands-on approach and brought 20 djembe drums and 20 empty coffee tins! This activity was shared with our student partners from Bedford Park. It was fun to drum with our friends, learning various rhythms in unison. There was also an opportunity to dance to the music!



Room 6: March & April Field Trips (Irene T.)

Ikea Scavenger hunt - Room 6 students cut and pasted furniture pictures from the IKEA catalogue in class and created a scavenger hunt booklet. Each student came prepared with their booklets to IKEA and enjoyed taking pictures of themselves in the living spaces displayed and furnished for the customers. Every student got excited getting stickers whenever they found the furniture they were scavenging for. We then purchased cups and plates for the classroom that the students can use during the snack program and lunch.



Bowling - Room 6 students were put to practice the wonderful moves we have been practicing with students from Room 1 on day 4's and with Bedford integration students.

Room 6 competed with one another at a very friendly Bowling Alley by Brimley and Eglinton where they bowled 10 times each earning points with every try! Our top 3 winners were: Somi coming in third place with 119 points, Allan coming in second place with 127 points and our First place Winner goes to Shayan, with 130 points. Congratulations!

North York Central Library - Room 6 enjoyed circle time led by an amazing librarian introducing us to many book examples from the IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) Collection for Young People with Disabilities. Students enjoyed specialized formats such as Braille, PCS and Sign Language, and Tactile and textile books. One of our favorites was the enlarged version of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" since our focus on books was spring time. Afterwards, students enjoyed interactive play with sensory driven activities similar to KidSpark from the Science Centre. We also enjoyed lunch in the cafeteria and walked around Mel-Lastman Square.



Superstore Grocery Shopping Field Trip - Room 6 made a list of groceries needed to make a pizza with the integration students from Bedford Park P.S. We went from isle to isle and found the ingredients we needed. Students explored the different food categories and experienced how to self-check out items and pay for them. Back in class students had a great time rolling the pizza dough, spreading the tomato sauce on the dough, cutting the green peppers and mushrooms, and shredding the cheese to spread on the pizza. Students patiently waited as the pizza baked and they enjoyed eating the yummy pizza! We then enjoyed creating a social story of our trip to the grocery store.