



September &
October 2016

Park Lane Public School

60 Park Lane Circle, M3C 2N2

Esther Leung Tou, Principal - Tony Gentile, Vice Principal

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

Dates to Remember:

- ❖ 6- Open House-Curriculum Night
- ❖ 10 - Thanksgiving Day
- ❖ 17- Photo Retake
- ❖ 28- Halloween Activity

November

- ❖ 11- Remembrance Day
- ❖ 16 -Progress Reports go home

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

It was wonderful to see so many families and parents at our Fall Open House Curriculum Night on October 6th. Our families were able to connect with each other and interact with the multiple community agencies that were represented. I would like to thank all Park Lane staff who have worked very hard at setting up our students for a smooth transition into a new school year. We are also blessed with unswerving support from our parents. We would like to welcome Jack & Debrah Lenz, as they take up the leadership as Co-chairs of the School Council this year. We are inviting parents from each classroom to get involved – as outreach to our parents continues to be a goal. This year, under the leadership of our new Director, the TDSB focus areas are Equity, Achievement and Well-being. Park Lane will be aligning our goals with these areas. We are now part of a Learning Network that will provide more opportunities for schools and staffs in special education to partner together. Staff from Sunnyview PS, Seneca PS and Park Lane PS met on the PA Day to learn and plan together. We have encouraged more joint school fieldtrips so that our students can have the opportunity to engage in



experiences with each other. Our students visited the Zoo in September and participated in the City-wide Barrier Free Cross Country Track Meet at Ashbridges Bay last week. Apart from swimming trips, our classes have visited farms and participated in shopping trips for the nutrition program. We welcome parents on fieldtrips and to our school-wide events. We invite you to join us to celebrate the Fall Harvest in our Halloween Costume Parade, Pumpkin & Scarecrow Decorating Contest on October 28th at 10am. We also meet every year on Remembrance Day to commemorate our armed forces and their sacrifices in World War I and II. We invite you to join us for this meaningful assembly on November 11th at 10am. Our students make and lay wreaths to remember our veterans and it is donated to the Local Legion. At this time, our teachers are busy preparing progress reports for our students which will be sent home on November 16th. These reports will give you an idea of your child's progress towards the IEP expectations. It describes how, at this point in the year, your child is demonstrating the various skills. There will be an opportunity on November 18th 2016, to meet or have a conversation with your child's teacher to discuss the details of this report. We hope you will take every opportunity to get involved with our school at Park Lane.

Esther Leung Tou

School Events

Terry Fox (Dave C.)

Park Lane students and staff walked twice for Terry Fox! We walked on Thursday, September 29th, and again on Monday, October 3rd. We would like to give a big thank you to Ms. Calabrina Boyajian, a resident in our neighbourhood who joined us for our Terry Fox celebrations and walk, and to the Toronto Police Service for escorting us on our walk



through the neighborhood.

To date, we raised over \$600 for the Terry Fox Foundation – monies that go towards cancer research and those fighting cancer.

Thanks to all the parents, caregivers and staff for their support. We hope to see you at our walk next September!

Yom Kippur Performance (Tina F.)

Jacob's aunts (Stacy and Jennifer) led a lovely concert featuring guest singers who were their own sons. Stacy and Jennifer sang a variety of upbeat and interactive songs to engage the students including True Colours, Brown Eyed Girl, The Lion Sleeps Tonight, and Twist and Shout. Students responded to the music by dancing and shaking maracas either independently or with assistance. Jennifer shared with the audience her Yom Kippur routines and spoke about symbols that represented this holiday and the Jewish New Year. Extended family members also came to show support by dancing to the music, circulating around the gym and encouraging students to touch their shofar (ancient instrument made from a ram's horn), kippahs (head covering), and tallits (prayer shawls). We thank them so much for coming on their special day and hope to see them again during the Hanukkah holidays.



Trip to the Toronto Zoo (Dave J.)

On September 23rd the staff and students from Park Lane ventured to the Metro Toronto Zoo to take in all the wonderful sights, sounds and, um... smells! With the inclement weather keeping away many patrons, we were able to get front row access to see the new panda cubs Jia Panpan (meaning Canadian Hope), and his sister is Jia Yueyue (Canadian Joy).

Although a bit exhausting trying to explore the Indo-Malaya, Africa, the Americas, Australasia, Eurasia, Canadian Domain and the Tundra Trek as much as possible, it was a fantastic day out in the community for all and we look forward to doing it again next year!



Room 2

Team: Aida, Hibo, Tina (front row),
Krisztina, Maria (back row)



Favourite Days: Our favourite days are trip days in the community! We also like Day 5s because we have Snoezelen first thing in the morning. In the afternoon, we get to see Meera in the gym and Gloria at the piano.

Favourite Activities: Special activities in the gym where we can dress up and learn about other peoples' cultures.

Favourite Foods: Staff in our room enjoy taking turns to prepare lunches for each other. Students enjoy smelling and tasting pureed foods from the nutrition program.

Sensory Recipe:

4 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup salt

1 and 1/2 cups warm water

Optional mix-ins: food colouring, cinnamon, pumpkin spice, vanilla.

1) Mix flour and salt. Gradually add water, stirring with a large spoon. Finish mixing with hands. Knead until soft and pliable.

2) Roll out on floured surface about 1/8 inch thick. Cut shapes with cookie cutters. Place on cookie sheets with parchment paper. With a straw, make a hole in the top of the ornament for threading ribbon.

3) Bake at 325 degrees F (165 degrees C) until hard, about 40 minutes. Optional: decorate with paint, sparkles, and/or varnish to preserve.

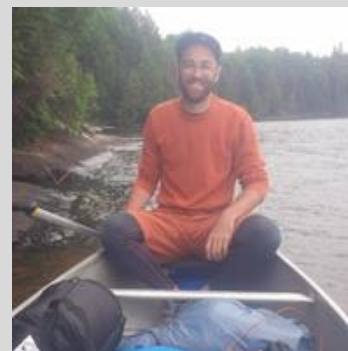
Erica



My name is Erica Denburg and I want to wish all of our Room 6 students and families a warm welcome back to Park Lane. I and our Room 6 Educational Assistants: Diane, Paula and Melissa are looking forward to the year ahead with your child and getting to know you better.

Pictured above are me and my 3-year old son, Jacob enjoying the last licks of ice cream in Nova Scotia, where I grew up, this August. Being new to Park Lane I wanted to let you know about myself. Besides being a proud parent and former East Coaster, I have been working in Special Education the past 5 years as a teacher, as an Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA/IBI) therapist and a Child and Youth Worker, prior to teaching across the GTA. I received my MA in Child Studies and Education through U of T and hold a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from York. All skills I bring integrate into my teaching.

Adam



I grew up in the west end of Toronto, attending Runnymede Public School, HumberSide Collegiate and then a year at City School before moving on to the University of Guelph. After some time working, I went back to Humber College to get my Child & Youth Worker Diploma. I then spent time working in group homes, secure custody and a shelter for homeless youth. I spent the last school year working at Charles E Webster Public School in a primary DD room. I am excited about the opportunity to work at Park Lane and have thoroughly enjoyed the first few weeks of school!

Halloween at Park Lane (Paula M.)



We will be celebrating Halloween on Friday, October 28th,



because many classes are swimming on October 31st. Please

send your child in a costume for that day. It will be a lot of fun: we will be parading around the school and trick or treating as a special activity. Plus, there will be sensory activities and a dance in the afternoon.

Our Professional Support

We would like to once again introduce you to our professional support staff as there have been some changes. The work they do is crucial in the team approach we have at Park Lane, in the assessment and service of the many medical, physical and cognitive needs of our students. The information they provide to our teaching staff helps us to better plan a program for our students to consistently develop their skills. If you wish to speak to any one of our professional support staff, please see the teacher or the school principal.

Speech and Language Pathologist

My name is Joanne Banks. I am the speech language pathologist at Park Lane Public School and am experienced in working with students with communication disorders.

My role as a consultant is to assess students with delays in the development of communication and language skills and discuss with their teachers, classroom-based programming to develop these skills further.

I also provide information to parents and professionals involved with the students in the community.

Typically I become involved with a student after a referral to Speech-Language Pathology Services has been recommended at a School Support Team meeting and it is signed by the parents. The referral remains active for up to one year.

Social Worker

Park Lane's new Social Worker is Adriane Gravenor. Her role at school is varied and dependent on the needs and wants of the community with the goal to fully support your child. She is a counselor for the students, families and staff. She counsels individuals and facilitates therapeutic and support groups. She can also help link families with community resources and funding.

Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist

We are Deborah Harding, Physiotherapist and Fumiko Takeda, Occupational Therapist from the OT/PT Services Department at the TDSB. We provide consultation services to support your child in the classrooms for Developmentally Disabled children at Park Lane School. Our emphasis is on a life skills approach that is consistent with the student's developmental level and physical presentation. A few of the areas we look at are: Activities of daily living, gross motor skills, mobility/safety, fine motor skills, positioning, lifting and handling, oral motor function, assistive technology as appropriate and the design and procurement of therapeutic classroom equipment.

School Nurses

Our nurses include: (from left to right are Silvana, Koshiga, Damaris, Sheila, Ishar, Debbie (not in the photo.)

Saint Elizabeth Nurses at Park Lane School provide care and support to the students with medical needs to maintain their education during school year.



School Council

School Council

Our School Council meets once a month. Please join us on Wednesday, November 23rd @ 7:00 PM in the Life Skills. All parents are welcome to attend.

Child care is provided. Please take this opportunity to meet Esther as well as other parents and staff from the Park Lane community.

Parent council Report

Dear Parents,

My wife, Debrah and I are happy to be part of your Parent Council this year and hope we can achieve a great sense of unity and collaboration on behalf of all our special children.

We know that there are many challenges to meet and that each of you are facing unique challenges to provide the best care and education for your children.

Let's work together to provide representation for all the classes at Park Lane and meet once a month to hear your concerns and to plan to better serve your needs.

Please contact me at 1-416-899-6363 or by email at <jack@lenzent.com> if you have any questions and thanks for your interest and support for our wonderful school. We plan on having our next monthly meeting on Tuesday, the --- of October.

All the best,

Jack and Debrah
School Council Co-Chairs

**Park Lane School Council
Together We Can!**



Parent Reminders

Join our E-mail List NOW!

We would like to keep you informed with any emergencies and updated school information. We would also like to send you our newsletters electronically. If you would like to receive electronic updates from the school, please send a message to nancy.henderson@tdsb.on.ca, or print your email address on the form and return it to the school. If you have already sent in your contact, please help us by confirming it.

Help us stock up! Thank you

Please provide enough supplies for your child's routine toileting/changing activities for each week. E.g. diapers, wipes, bibs and creams. Soiled laundry will be packaged to go home on a daily basis.



TDSB News

School Bus Disruptions for Toronto's Public



Accessible

The Toronto District School Board is experiencing school bus delays. In particular, parents of students who use Attridge Transportation, Wheelchair Transit or Sharp Bus Lines should expect significant delays and the possibility that some buses may not be running due to an unanticipated bus driver shortage. We are working to fix this issue as soon as possible.

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STUDENT HEALTH & SAFETY



Common colds and other contagious illnesses can pose a health risk for our high risk students. If you are aware that your child is developing a cold or will, we ask for your co-operation in **keeping your child at home**. Also, if your child has a fever, please keep them at home until they are fever free for 24 hours. There may be occasions when your child arrives at school ill or becomes ill during the day. Parents may be called to pick up your child in case of illness.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation in an effort to keep all our children safe and healthy.



Trustee Gerri Gershon's Ward 13 Forum

Date: Thursday, October 27th,
2016

Time: 7pm to 9pm

Location: Northlea Elementary
and Middle School – Library

Agenda

1. Welcome - Gerri Gershon, Trustee
(Don Valley West)
2. Welcome to Northlea
(David Ehrlich, Principal)
3. Trustee Report – Gerri Gershon
4. Introduction of Panels

A. Parent Panel

- ❖ Wilmar Kortleever (Northlea)
(Parent Communications)
- ❖ Nazerah Shaikh (Gateway)
(Positive Initiatives to Support Teachers &
Students)

- ❖ Krista Sevdalis (Rippleton)
(Attracting and Keeping Volunteers)
- ❖ Ruth Kenny (Norman Ingram)
(Safety and Supporting Curricular
Initiatives)

B. Principal Panel

- ❖ Kevin Battaglia (Valley Park)
(Transitions)
- ❖ Carolyn Rosenbloom Bessborough (Math
Initiatives)
- ❖ Craig Haid (Windfields)
(Mental Health and Well-Being)
- ❖ David Laredo (Dunlace)
(STEM)

C. Supervisory Officer Panel

- ❖ Leila Girdhar-Hill
- ❖ (Administrative Reorganization)
- ❖ Kathleen Garner
(Equity Framework)
- ❖ Ian Allison
- ❖ (Staffing and Class Reorganization)
- ❖ 5. Future Meeting Dates
- ❖ 6. Adjournment

Childcare is available