



Park Lane Public School

60 Park Lane Circle, M3C 2N2

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

Esther Leung Tou - Principal
Hripsik Sarkissian - Vice Principal

April & May 2018

Dates to Remember: June

- ❖ 4 -Salmon Release
- ❖ 4 -Project Give Back Appreciation Night and Open House
- ❖ 5 -Orff Open House
- ❖ 13 -Graduation @ 10 am
- ❖ 15 -Cassava Trio
- ❖ 22 -Summer Jam
- ❖ 28 -Last Day Of School
- ❖ 29 -PA Day

Principal's Corner

Congratulations to everyone for building our school so vibrantly with all the activities in and outside your classrooms. Our Eco Schools initiative is gaining momentum as we prepare for the audit and horticultural program. The Experiential Learning Program is taking our students outside of the school and building skills so that we can they can gain independent life skills. We are now partnered with the local Food Bank and Salvation Army. Students have been active in the new courtyard, curling and on Special Olympics day. We celebrated Asian Heritage, Jewish Heritage and Aboriginal Heritage integrated learning in May and many more musical activities. Throughout it all, the important thing is that our students are engaged throughout the day – and together, you make that happen! I am so proud of our school community. We welcomed our new Learning Coach Chris Lee, who started at Park Lane the week of May 7, 2018.



On Friday, May 25th, we witnessed a 2nd amazingly successful gala to raise awareness and funds to support our students and post-21 programming. This was a partnership between the Park Lane School Council and the Post-21 Foundation. What an evening! Thanks to everyone for making this an incredibly meaningful and fun event. I recognize that a lot of effort was put into the behind-the-scenes work to prepare for such an undertaking—thank you from the bottom of heart. More importantly, the message of our kids was so evidently shared through the beautiful music of the "I Rise Above Choir" and the eloquent words of Christopher, Jack and Jonathan. It was truly a collective effort. We gained many friends and supporters of our wonderful students. A big shout-out to our amazing friends, **the Barenaked Ladies** – and especially to Havana - for lending us your talented dad and his friends to play some awesome music for us!! What is important to us is that our young adults continue to be nurtured and inspired in learning – for life! Congratulations everyone!

We hope that our parents will take the rest of the last few weeks of school to enjoy time with your children in our many events. Please remember ...

Friday, June 8th is a PA Day and there is NO SCHOOL.
Have a wonderful weekend!

Esther

School Events

We Are One Fundraising Gala (Tina F.)

On May 25, Park Lane and the Post 21 Foundation teamed up to host a musical gala at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. This event featured the iconic Barenaked Ladies who have just been inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame 2018. Hosted by our good friend, Herbie Kuhn, guests listened to speeches, watch videos of Park Lane art students, mingled with friends and enjoyed the band's famous hits, while dining on appetizers from McEwan catering. Funds raised from the gala will go to support facility improvements at our school, continuing education at the Post 21 Foundation and respite care/camping opportunities for our students.

We would like to thank the Barenaked Ladies, our corporate sponsors and members of the community for their kind-hearted donations of funds, time and silent auction items. We are extremely grateful to the leading sponsor of the gala - Anthony and Shari Fell, who generously contributed \$30 000 to this worthy cause – and supports our students whole-heartedly as neighbouring friends. Community shops in the Leslie and York Mills area, Bayview and York Mills plaza and Shops at Don Mills donated a variety of gifts, gift cards and experiences to our successful silent auction. The heart-felt speeches carried the passion and hopefulness of many attendees who themselves have students or recent graduates of engaging programs such as Park Lane. This passionate message was met with equally passionate celebration of the accomplishments and opportunities for these vulnerable populations by highlighting the incredible artwork that the students at Park Lane had created over the years and sold Friday night through the Silent Auction. The students' love of music and movement became encapsulated in the energetic performance of special guests the Barenaked Ladies who lauded both Park Lane and Post21 Foundation on a professional and personal level – as the audience rocked to the great tunes.

Guests of the night walked away inspired of what the future can look like when we come together as one.

Photos of guests in front of the gala sponsorship wall can be found on the following website:

<http://www.yoursubjectmyfocus.com/parklanespringgala2018> (password is 0525). Photos and videos of the event with the Barenaked Ladies will be made available after they are edited. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next event!



Thank you for making this an amazing event!

On behalf of the Park Lane School Council and the Post 21 Foundation, we would like to thank you for your support and all our sponsors for their generous gifts and donations.

*A special thank you to the **BARENAKED LADIES** for their generous donation of time and enthusiasm that made this event possible.*



Gold Sponsor

ANTHONY & SHARI FELL

Bronze Sponsors

KLQ
Mechanical Ltd.

CES
Complete Electrical
Services Inc.

 **WESTBURY
NATIONAL**

Patrons

lenz
ENTERTAINMENT

m^oewan

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LTD., BROKERAGE

Friends

Jacob's Ladder


CHATEAU
DES CHARMES

NAOMI SHAFLER

SLAIGHT FAMILY FOUNDATION

Generous Silent Auction Supporters: AGO, Arax Jewellery, Barclays Elements for Men, The Body Shop, Booster Juice, Cineplex, Congee Queen (Peter Cheung), Herbie Kuhn, Home Medical Equipment, Maple Leafs Sports & Entertainment, Dr. James Posluns, Jay Goldman, Josephson Opticians, Kimberley Gadwah, Kristin Troake, Lindt Chocolate Shop, Long & McQuade, Lorne Rose Architecture, Mamma's Pizza, Metro Supermarket, Nathan Hennick Jewelers, Dr. Noah Belman Dentistry, Nortown Foods, Party Rock, Dr. Pritchard's Clinical Skincare, Robert Oliphant M.P., Saje, Shoppers Drug Mart (Bayview/York Mills), Starbucks (York Mills/Leslie), Susan Murray, Swiss Chalet, Swiss Master Chocolates, Toronto Barber and Beauty Supply, Wright Piano Tuning, Your Subject My Focus Photography, Katherine Yamashita.

Thank you for partnering to make a difference for our students!

Park Lane Public School – TDSB

60 Park Lane Circle, Toronto, ON, M3C 2N2 416-395-8525

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/parklane> email: ParkLanePS@tdsb.on.ca

Post 21 Foundation 416-358-2750

Printing provided by:

The UPS Store 

170 The Donway West

Floor Curling (Maxine I.)

On Monday, April 23rd, 2018 Park Lane Students had the opportunity to experience the sport of curling. Rocks and Rings attended our school for a day to introduce students to Floor Curling. All students were able to participate in the event and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There were tons of smiling and laughing that occurred throughout the day.



Asian Heritage (Anju P.)

May is Asian Heritage Month. With that in mind, Room 5 and the Asian Heritage Committee at Park Lane organized school-wide activities to celebrate the long and rich history of Asian Canadians and their contributions to the Canadian society on Friday, May 18th. This year, we invited again a dhol player to play Bollywood music which created a very fun-filled environment. *(The dhol is a double-sided barrel drum played mostly as an accompanying instrument in a variety of forms of regional music.* The staff and students enjoyed the music and got in the spirit to dance.

The classes were divided into groups to perform dances to the Bollywood songs. The students displayed an engaging and happy disposition. Our Park Lane staff were amazing, especially those who came up to present a solo or choreographed group dance performance. Those performances created a very happy and fulfilled environment. The staff and students cheered on the dancers. Kudos to our Park Lane Stars/Dancers for their amazing performances and the spirit they showed through dancing. It proved that the best learning comes from a fun-filled environment where the students' minds and souls are relaxed to learn. This year's focus was the Sikh Religion. The program began with a video presentation of Sikh Heritage and its contributions to Canadian history. In the afternoon our guest of honour was Kim's husband and her kids. He highlighted the Tibetan culture, geography and traditions through video and hands-on visual arts called "Mandalla."

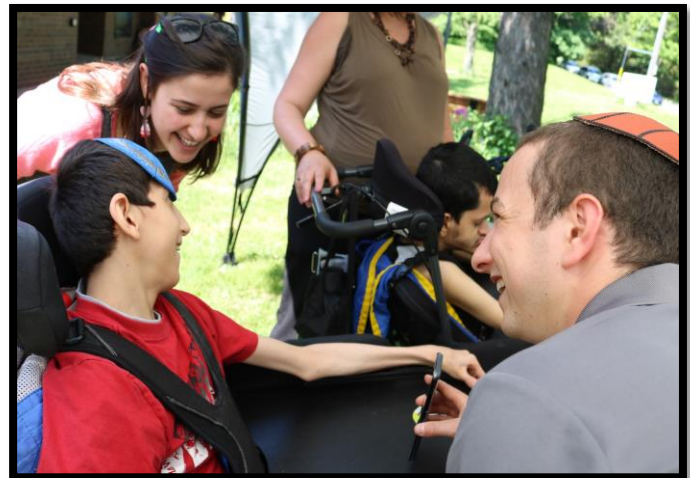
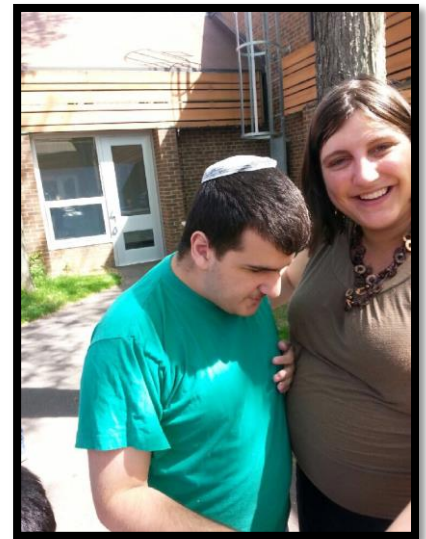


Jewish Heritage (Erica D.)

This year Park Lane had the absolute pleasure hosting a group of young Israeli leaders who volunteer in communities around the world sharing and informing Jewish communities on life in Israel, aptly called the Shinshinim (which is a play on the Hebrew words, Shnat Sheirut, meaning "year of service"). Toronto hosts 24 of the Shinshinim and they all came out on May 28th to teach and share their culture through sensory centres.

Students were treated to Israeli folk and pop music, shaving cream art to create Hamsas, a tasting and smelling Shuk (Market), personal stories and to cap the morning off- a remake of a traditional Jewish wedding complete with Chupah cover, cup smashing and dancing the Hora.

After the event staff debriefed with the Shinshinim on their impressions of our school and how incredible the connections they made with our students were. They reflected on areas in Israel that mirror our programming and left with the desire to see more options for Post21 graduates in Canada and Israel.



Eco Corner (Erica D.)

Salmon Release

It's been an incredible 5 months that our school has hosted the Salmon Hatchery watching them grow from eggs to fry size. The last step was helping these salmon complete their journey with our students scooping out the fry and, with assistance from our Aqualinks Toronto Zoo instructor Melissa, plopping them into Duffins Creek at Paullynn Park in Ajax.

Students enjoyed the sounds of the rushing water, delighted in the squiggling motions of the small fry as they scooped them into their nets for a closer look before their release. Staff and students hiked around the area and enjoyed a relaxing lunch before returning to school!



Room 9

Favourite Activities: 1) Swimming – it's relaxing, builds independence and skills, and we met some new people! 1) Our morning walks. It gives our students and staff some morning fresh air and exercise. Research suggests that daily physical activity stimulates and calms the brain, allowing for clearer thinking and concentration.

Communication and Life Skills: Our class is focused on communication skills and life skills development, to maximize the independence of our students. Some of the activities we did this year include:

- iPad use for students to make requests
- Individualized picture schedules for each student
- Practice greetings and turn taking activities in circle, and during the day
- Work boxes
- Cooking, place setting
- Recycling collection
- Green bin pick-up
- Science experiments – magnetism, buoyancy
- Grocery shopping

Room 9 staff – Portia, Sherine, Mariam, Sharon, Dave



Trustee Gerri Gershon's Updates



A reminder that our last Community Coffee with Gerri will be Thursday June 21 at 9:15 am at Longo's on Laird (on the second floor). I am looking forward to seeing you all again. In the meanwhile, have a great weekend and once again don't forget to vote in the provincial elections on June 7th!

Gerri