

Percy Williams Post



Welcome Back!

I would like to wish all of our families and students an enthusiastic welcome back to another year at Percy Williams. Whether this is your very first introduction to our school or you are a returning family, we look forward to working with you and your child this year. You will find our school to be hub of activity, as well as a supportive and engaging place for your child to learn. We truly have an amazing and dedicated staff that is here to support your child's continued success and growth as a learner.

For your convenience, our Newsletter and other information are also posted on our website and which is equipped with Google Translate function.

A big Percy Williams' "Welcome" to some of our newest staff members. I would like to welcome Mr. Lloyd Webster who is teaching one of our Grade 5/6 classes, Ms. Sadhna Mistry our Special Needs Assistant, Ms. Shilaja Miranda our morning ESL teacher and welcome back to Mr. Shawn Lawlor who will be our ESL afternoon teacher this year. All of our teachers and support staff have been busily preparing their classes and planning for the upcoming year and they have been eagerly anticipating getting to know your child and working with them towards a productive, challenging and rewarding school year. Thank you to our fantastic caretaking team for readying the school for the students return. The school is sparkling and looks amazing. We have had some improvements completed to the school over the summer including repairs to our exterior brickwork by door 4, both lower stairwell flights have been rebuilt and the metal work repaired, and both baseball diamonds were levelled and reclaimed back from weeds and grass that had grown over the in-field.

I look forward to seeing all of our parents out on Thursday, September 19th for Curriculum night starting in the gym at 6:30 PM. You will have an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and hear about their program and some tips to help your child have a successful year. We look forward to meeting all of our parents next Thursday.

On behalf of School Community Council, I would to extend an invitation to all interested parents to our first meeting on Wednesday, September 25th at 5:00 PM in the library. Our first council meeting we will elect our council executive positions. Our School Community Council supports many initiatives and fundraisers that support all our students.

Please take some time to read through the items in our newsletter. There are some important information items that inform you on some of our school policies, procedures and special events. You can also, check our school website and Twitter feed.

Sincerely,

Jason Donaldson

Percy Williams Jr. P.S.
(416) 396-6515

Principal
Jason Donaldson

Office Administrator
Kitty MacMillan

Director
John Malloy

Superintendent
Roula Anastasakos

Trustee
Yalini Rajakulasingam

Twitter
@PercyWilliamsPS



School Website
<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/percywilliams>

Stay Informed

Anaphylaxis – Taking the Necessary Precautions

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be life threatening. This medical condition can cause a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although foods such as peanuts, milk, eggs, shell fish and sesame seeds are the most common cause of anaphylaxis, insect stings, medicine, or latex can also cause a reaction. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. The TDSB is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and works with Toronto Public Health and other partners to ensure the successful implementation of Sabrina's Law, which came into effect on January 1, 2006.

Sabrina's Law requires every school board to establish and maintain an anaphylactic policy that includes strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas. The TDSB has procedures for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to raise awareness about this life-threatening condition. Students who have severe allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when such products are consumed in their environment or shared with them. As prevention is the best approach, we ask that you speak with your child about **not sharing** their snacks or lunches with other students and **please do not send any snacks or lunches with your child that contain peanuts or any other kind of nut products.**



Road Safety Campaign

It's back to school time and the TDSB and the City of Toronto's safety campaign is aimed at raising awareness and promoting road safety around our schools.

A few tips to help ensure students at Percy Williams are safe during drop off and pick up times:

- Use the drop off circle / kiss and ride option
- Do not park on the West side of White Heather Blvd you may be ticketed by parking enforcement
- Walk to school with your child
- Do not double park to drop your child off, park on the side street
- Avoid distractions and be extra alert in school zones and ensure your child is in a car seat or is wearing a seatbelt.

We appreciate your support.

International Language Classes

We will continue to offer **Cantonese** and **Tamil** classes in your school this year on Wednesday evenings. You can register on **Wednesday, September 18, 2019** from 5:30pm - 8 pm in the gym.

First day of class will be the following week on **Wednesday, September 25, 2019** from 5:30pm - 8 pm.



Picture Day

Thursday, September 19th

Kindergarteners will be photographed first thing in the morning, followed by our primary students

**Terry Fox School Run
Friday, September 27th**

2:15 – 3:00 PM

Parents come and join us for the run!

Nutrition Program

Our Snack Program will be up and running once again on Thursday, September 12th. Each and every child will be offered a fruit/vegetable, dairy and grain product every morning. Donations to support our Nutrition Program will be gladly accepted through CashOnLine. It is suggested a donation of \$10.00 per month would help towards the costs. If you require a Tax Receipt, please send in your cheque made payable to the "Toronto Foundation for Student Success" to Miss Kitty's attention.

Would you like to Volunteer? We would love to have your help! We are always looking for people to help in the morning with preparation. If you can spare about 15 minutes of your time after you drop off your child in the morning you can help with the organization of the meal. We would also appreciate help with cleaning utensils and the containers. If you could spare a little time before you pick up your child you could volunteer from 3:00 – 3:20. Even one day a week would make a difference.

Cash on-Line

Thank you to all our parents who have set up accounts on the TDSBs Cash-on-line service. Percy Williams launched this service last year we had 100 percent of our families register for this service. The service is easy to use, safe and convenient way for parents/guardians to pay for their children's school fees, including agendas, yearbooks and class trips. We encourage our new parents who have not yet signed up to do so as we will no longer be accepting cash for the majority of school activities and events. There are translations available in both Chinese and Tamil on the site. Follow the link below

<https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com> and select "Get Started Today" to complete the three registration steps. Once registered, parents will receive an email notification when items become available online. If you have questions about the registration process or using School Cash Online, please select the "Get Help" option on the top of School Cash Online web page. Parents can also contact the School Cash Online Parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803 and parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com or see Ms. Kitty.

Follow the TDSB

Join the conversations happening on TDSB's social media communities. You'll find the most up-to-date information about us on Twitter and Facebook, and plenty of useful information too.



@TDSB



<http://www.facebook.com/toronto.tdsb>

Health and Physical Ed. Curriculum

On August 21, The Ministry of Education released the elementary Health and Physical Education (HPE) Curriculum (Grades 1 to 8) which takes effect immediately.

The HPE curriculum continues to emphasize the importance of our students' physical and health literacy, with an additional learning strand devoted to social-emotional learning skills. This new learning strand is dedicated to foster the overall health and well-being of our students through positive mental health. The specific expectations of social-emotional skills that will be integrated throughout the curriculum are: emotions, coping, motivation, relationships, self, and thinking. This strand aligns well with the TDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and our system goal of creating a culture of student and staff well-being.

Safety, including physical and emotional safety, is a major theme throughout the HPE curriculum. Students will acquire the knowledge associated with current issues such as cannabis, prescription and non-prescription drugs, signs and symptoms of concussions, cyber safety (including bullying prevention and digital privacy), as well as reducing the stigmatization of mental health by empowering students with the knowledge and information to seek professional help in the school and the community.

The HPE curriculum has clearly defined expectations related to the topic of Human Development and Sexual Health. The following Ministry of Education website (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/health-and-physical-education-grades-1-8/human-development-and-sexual-health-education-grade>) contains details on what students will learn about human development and sexual health and why these concepts are being taught at certain age levels.

Upcoming Date

- September 12th, Snack Program Begins
- September 19th, Picture Day
- September 19th, Curriculum Night 6:30 PM
- September 25th, School Council Election and Meeting 5:30 PM in our Library
- September 27th, Terry Fox Run 2:15 PM
- October 8th, Cross Country Meet Thomson Park
- October 16th X-Country Eastern Conference
- October 11th PA Day – Not school
- October 14th Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 4th – 8th Jungle Sports at Percy
- November 12th Progress Reports Home
- November 14th Evening Interviews
- November 15th PA Day / Morning Interviews

New Student Dress Policy

We would like to share some important information with you about new changes to the TDSB policy regarding student dress, effective September 1, 2019.

[The Student Dress Policy \(P042\)](#) recognizes that dress plays a fundamental role in students' lives and that students come from many diverse backgrounds, identities and experiences and ultimately their right to decide their dress resides with their family. The policy therefore provides choices for students dress and does not encourage any one choice but rather only directs students on what are inappropriate choices for dress at school.

What are students allowed to wear?

All students:

- Will wear a top and bottom layer of clothing of opaque material;
- May wear tops that expose arms, shoulders, stomachs, midriff, neck lines, cleavage and straps but will cover the nipples;
- May wear bottoms that expose legs, thighs and hips and expose straps and waistbands, but will cover the groin and buttocks;
- May wear any headwear that does not obscure the face;
- May wear dress requirements to support a creed practices and similar human rights accommodations;
- May not wear tops that expose nipples;
- May not wear bottoms that expose the groin and buttocks;
- May not wear any headwear that obscures the face;
- May not wear undergarments as outerwear;
- May not wear anything that promotes or symbolizes drugs, alcohol, illegal activity, hate or discrimination, profanity, pornography; or that incites violence or harassment; or threatens health and safety.

Policing students' bodies is neither a positive, nor effective method to encourage respectful behaviours, ensure safety and discourage harassing behaviour. However, educating students about topics of diversity, healthy relationships, sexism and discrimination, boundaries and consent is a fundamental requirement of creating a safe and positive school climate and effective strategy to ensure healthy and shared respectful spaces for everyone.

To find out more information and review our frequently asked questions please visit:

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Your-School-Day/Student-Dress/Questions-and-Answers>