

Percy Williams' Post



The month of October is almost at an end with only a few days left. It has been a busy couple of months at Percy and we are proud of how our students have settled in to another year of learning and growing.

This past Thursday, we were presented with a banner from the Terry Fox Foundation marking the 35th school run we have participated in at Percy Williams. We are proud of our community's support for this event and this year we met our goal of raising \$3000 through our families' generous support of this event. Thank you to Ms. Couch, Ms. Perera, and Ms. Black for co-ordinating this much anticipated event. The staff wore crazy hair for a day as the students reached their ambitions fundraising goal. The students demonstrated tremendous responsibility and enthusiasm towards an important goal – to support cancer research.

Running has definitely been top of mind at Percy these past two months as our Cross Country team had close to 70 athletes training for the area meet. We sent a team of 40 athletes in Grades 4 - 6 to our area meet on October 18th, and of those participants 9 students qualified with strong enough finishes to move on to the Eastern Conference. From here, we were very proud to send 4 athletes to the City Championships at Centennial Park in Etobicoke this past Thursday to compete with the fastest runners from across the Toronto District School Board. Congratulation to our 4 City Championship competitors: Kelly (Gr.6), Jenny (Gr.6), Anna (Gr.5) and Tasbeeha (Gr.4); they all had strong finishes and they displayed incredible determination and hard work. On Friday, our Grade 2 and 3 Cross Country members took part in a School wide competition and we awarded our top three competitors. All participants received a ribbon for their commitment to training. We are so proud of all our athletes. Thank you to Ms. Romas, Ms. St. Louis and Ms. Burrell for coaching and supporting this year's teams!

Also, Congratulations to our Junior Girl's Borden Ball team. They competed in the area tournament and made it to the finals. The girls demonstrated strong athleticism and grit playing in extremely cold conditions. They defeated many teams to make it to the finals and they brought back a banner for being finalists. We are so impressed with their teamwork and skill. Thank you to Ms. Perrin and Mr. Liu for coaching the girls and fielding such a strong team.

The next couple of weeks show no sign of slowing down at Percy Williams. We had our Halloween Parade on Thursday, Jungle Sports are back next week for the second year, our Remembrance Day Assembly on November 11th and Progress Reports coming home on November 12th. Read more about these events in the Newsletter.

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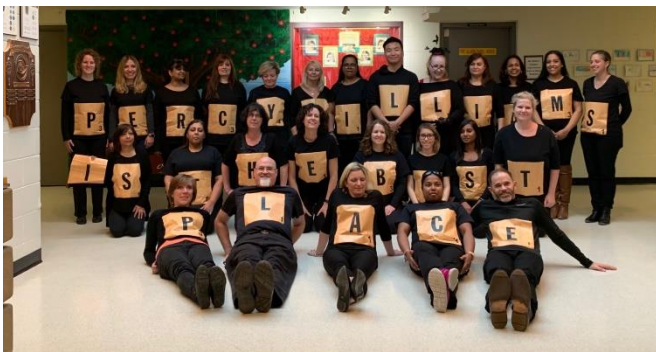
School Website
<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/percywilliams>

Stay Informed

Drop Off and Pick Up

A reminder to all our parents that **parking is not permitted in the staff parking lot** at any time during the school day. In the morning, please **use the 'Kiss and Ride' option** in our front driveway to quickly and safely drop off your child. Kindergarten students are escorted to the playground by our Grade 5/6 safety patrollers. Some parents are double parking (stopping beside a parked car) in front of the school and creating a dangerous situation for both students exiting the car and drivers. As well, in the afternoon White Heather Blvd. is becoming very congested because parents are parking on the west side of the street. This puts students and parents at greater risk when crossing the street as cars are forced to drive down the middle of the road with limited room to get through. Also, you can get a traffic ticket if traffic services is monitoring the area. We encourage any parents to walk when possible and utilize Dragoon Crescent or Big Red to park on and then walk a few minutes to the school. **Please model appropriate road safety for your child and help us keep all our students safe!**

Happy Halloween
From the Staff at Percy Williams
#PercyWilliamsIsTheBestPlace



Staff Halloween Costume was Scrabble Tiles that spelled out Percy Williams is the Best Place.

French Programs Application Deadline

For families of students in Junior Kindergarten interested in the Toronto District School Board's French Immersion program a flyer was sent home last week. Applications for Early French Immersion are completed online for September 2020.

Please visit the application site
www.tdsb.on.ca/pars

See flyer for necessary documentation to apply.

Please note:

While every effort will be made to place students in the school identified as their area Early French Immersion School, this is not always possible. In cases where the number of applications in a given area is greater than the number of spaces in the school, students may be redirected to a French Immersion school with available space.

- Applications for Early French Immersion (for a Junior Kindergarten aged child) opens on November 4th and the deadline is November 29th.

For further information about French as a Second Language programs, the application process and dates for Information Evenings, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/french.



Stay Informed

November is Indigenous Education Month

In November, we honour Indigenous Education Month at the TDSB. This month provides an opportunity to centre First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives, histories and contemporary realities. In classrooms across the TDSB, it is an opportunity to learn about treaties, Indigenous leadership, achievements, and resistance.

Over the course of November, students, staff and community members will be recognizing a number of important days to deepen knowledge and build stronger relationships between non-Indigenous and Indigenous peoples in Canada. This includes Treaty Recognition Week (Nov. 4-8), Inuit Day (Nov. 7), Aboriginal Veterans' Day (Nov. 8), Louis Riel Day (Nov. 16), and an opportunity to Rock Your Mocs (Nov. 9-16). Learn more: bit.ly/2NuTBvq

Remembrance Day

On Monday, November 11th, students and staff at our schools and across the city will mark Remembrance Day with classroom activities and school assemblies. For Remembrance Day, teachers make connections between global events and students' lives by promoting peace within our school community. On this solemn occasion, staff, students, parents, and the wider community all join together in a call for peace.

As a point of interest, TDSB's Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute has the recognized distinction of having the greatest number of students, graduates, teachers, and other staff enlist in the military during the Second World War than any other school in the British Commonwealth.



Safe Arrival

One measure of keeping our students safe is to ensure we can account for any absences or reasons for them being late to school. We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, we ask that you contact the school immediately and report the reason for the absence. If we are not informed about the absence, we will make attempts to contact you through our automated call-out system to determine the reason for the absence. The system will call all of your phone numbers several times during the day. If your child is late, you will receive a call in the evening asking you to confirm. To find out how this automated system works, please visit:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/HighSchool/CaringSafeSchools/SafeArrivalProgram.aspx>

Please let the office know by calling the school if your contact information, including phone number, changes at any time throughout the school year. Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep your children safe and accounted for.

School Council Meeting

Thank you to all the parents who attended our first school council meeting in September. At our first council meeting we formed our new council for the upcoming school year. Donna Bell has remained in the position of Co-Chair for her second year, along with our new Co-Chair, Toni Atell. Toni has been our School Nutrition Co-ordinator for the past two years and integral in our school fundraising efforts. Also returning are, Sajee Puvaneswaran as school treasurer and Kelly Patterson as Secretary. I would like to thank Crystal Mallory for co-chairing our council the past two years. Last year our council raised close to \$9000 for the school. These funds support two Scientist in the School programs for each class, money for school presentations, grade 6 graduation and our kindergarten outdoor play revitalization. Our next school council meeting is on Wednesday, November 20th at 5:30. We will be joined by members of Richmond Park association. Please join us in the library.

Stay Informed

Parent Meet and Greet with Toronto Public Health Nurse – November 7th 9:00 AM

Join us for an informal presentation with our Public Health Nurse, Sharon Chin, to learn about Healthy Living Habits and your child. The presentation will be at 9:00 AM in our staff room. Sharon will share with you some tips for supporting your child's healthy development. As well, you will have a chance to meet other parents and enjoy some light refreshments. After the presentation, parents will also have a chance to check out our JUNGLESPORT program in the gym. The presentation will be approximately 30 minutes. Please call Ms. Kitty if you plan on attending and require babysitting. Translators will be available for the presentation.



Next week we welcome back the JUNGLESPORT program to Percy Williams. This program was a huge success last year and challenged our students to work through a number of rope and climbing courses, as well as a zip line. Almost all students have signed up and will have three sessions with the instructors. If you have still not registered your child, go to "Cash-on-Line" to sign your child up and return the purple waiver form.



Progress Report

Regular parent-teacher communication is an important part of student learning. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled throughout the year after report cards are sent home. The progress report will be sent home for each child on Tuesday, November 12th. A form came home this week for parents to request an interview time on either Thursday, November 14th from 4:00 – 8:00 PM or on Friday, November 15th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

These interviews are your opportunity to ask questions about your child's progress and to discuss any issues. In addition to regular scheduled parent-teacher interviews, you can request a meeting at any time during the school year by contacting the school or your child's teacher directly.



Starting Friday, November 8th we will be collecting bags of gently used clothing items from our families. We accept all clothing items including shoes, belts, curtains, towels and bedding. Please drop off your donations in a secure garbage bags at the front office throughout the week. We will accept donations up until Friday, November 15th. Our student leaders will help load all of our donations onto a truck on Friday, where it will be weighed and we will receive a cheque based on the total weight. Last year we managed to raise close to \$150 for our Nutrition Program and diverted close to 1400 lbs of clothing from landfills.