



February 2023

544 Horner Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M8W 2C2
Tel: 416-394-7670
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<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck>

Upcoming Events

- February 2:** National Sweater Spirit Day
February 3: Middle French Immersion
Applications Close (for Grade 3 English students only)
February 8: School Council Freedom School Presentation, 6:30PM
ZOOM link: <https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/5433391421>
February 9: J. Nunez Percussion Performance
February 10: Family Dance Night, 6:30-8:30
February 10, 24: Council Pizza Lunches
February 13: School Council Hybrid Meeting
6:30PM Staffroom
ZOOM link: <https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/5433391421>
February 13: Report cards sent home
February 14: Red and White Spirit Day
February 17: PA Day Reporting to Parents/Guardians
February 20: Family Day Holiday
School Closed
February 21-24: JK, SK & Gr 2
Dental Screening

African Heritage Month

Character Attribute for February is Fairness

Principal Michael Kanalec
Vice-Principal Lauren Rovas
Superintendent Dr Debbie Donsky
Trustee Patrick Nunziata
School Council Co-Chairs
Corinne Frey, Beverley Essue
Photo Credit: Steve Burazin
Centennial Logo Credit: Eliane Dibon-Smith

Will your child be absent from school?
Call our Safe Arrival Number.
NEW ** 1-833-250-2290 **

Principal's Message:

It is hard to believe that we have arrived at the mid-way point of another school year. During the month of February, the TDSB proudly recognizes African Heritage Month. It is an occasion to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of peoples of African descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2022-2023 is Black Joy. To kick off African Heritage month at the TDSB, we are excited to extend an invitation to all students, staff, and the TDSB community to join us in marking this significant month with entertainment, and noteworthy speakers at the African Heritage Month Virtual Launch on Wednesday, February 1st, 2023 from 10:00 am - 10:45 am, Zoom Webinar Link:

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/97398652590>

Thank you to parent/guardian volunteers that continue to support our skating excursions and to the many who came in to read as part of our literacy week finale. As the snow accumulates the markings on our 2 designated accessible parking spaces often get covered up. Please remember that these parking spots are reserved for vehicles displaying accessible *parking* permits issued to the individuals that require accessible parking. Please do not use accessible parking spots at drop off or pick up times.

We are well on the way to the reporting period for the Provincial Report Card. We look forward to providing parents/guardians with the opportunity to discuss their child's progress at the Report Card /Kindergarten Communication of Learning conferences. We know that children benefit most when parents/guardians and teachers work together as partners in learning. Report cards will be sent home on Monday February 13, 2023 and conferences will be scheduled that week and on the evening of February 16 and the morning of the PA Day, February 17th. We will be opening our online booking system from Monday February 6th – 10th – please be sure to book your parent/guardian-teacher conference. A separate email will be sent out to all families with instructions. Please contact us immediately if you are unable to keep an appointment.

Kindergarten registrations will take place in February. If you have a child who was born in 2019 or know a family that is interested in registering, please have them register online: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/KindergartenMonth>. Lastly, we would like to remind you of the extra-long weekend in February. Friday February 17 is a PA Day and Monday February 20 is Family Day. Please take this time to enjoy with your immediate and extended family as the purpose of this holiday is emphasizing and celebrating the importance of families taking time to be together.
Yours in partnership!

M. Kanalec
Principal

Lunchroom Supervisors Needed

Do you have an hour to spare in the middle of the day? We are seeking energetic, reliable and trustworthy individuals with a love of working with children that are interested in becoming Supply Lunchroom Supervisors. If you are interested, please contact the school at 416-394-7670 for more details.

Literacy Week at Sir Adam Beck

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go." — Dr. Seuss

This year the Toronto District School Board has identified the importance of building joy, engagement and belonging in schools as a foundation for academic achievement and student success as one of the most important system priorities. This is something that, we at Sir Adam Beck, have embraced and have worked tirelessly toward.

One of our school goals has been implementing evidence based literacy practices into our daily programs while centering student voice, identity and lived experiences. Teachers have been actively engaged in professional development opportunities exploring phonological and phonemic awareness skills into their programs thereby helping students build their reading toolbox of strategies. Some of our teachers have even had the opportunity to attend Learning Network sessions to further strengthen and build a network of support amongst neighbouring schools.

During the week of January 23rd to the 27th, we celebrated Literacy Week at Sir Adam Beck. Students and staff had the opportunity to share their favourite books, listen to different teachers read and continue to build upon the joy and love of reading. On Thursday January 26th, we were very fortunate to welcome author Yolanda T. Marshall who came to speak and share her books: C is for Carnaval, My Soca Birthday Party and Hot Cross Buns for Everyone with students. During these sessions she was able to share her lived experiences and cultural identity with students and staff. Our Literacy Week celebration culminated on Friday January 27th with our Family Literacy Day when we welcomed Parents and Caregivers into classrooms to share their favourite books and stories.

As partners, we acknowledge the important role that Parents and Caregivers play in creating a strong bond between home and school and are grateful to everyone who was able to participate in our celebration. We would also like to thank our School Council for their continued support of such initiatives and for helping us build a foundational love of reading in all students.





February 2023 Council Corner

Email: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/290183431386941>

Website: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck/School-Council>

Not sure how to talk to your kids about racism?

Mark your calendars for a three-part series of parent workshops offered virtually by The Freedom School:

1. February 8, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. - Anti-Black Racism in Canada
2. March 1, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. - How to Talk to Your Kids About Racism
3. March 22, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. - Anti-Black Racism in Ontario's School System – Reacting as a School Community

Join the sessions in person at the school in the Staff Room or join virtually via Zoom:

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/5433391421>

Details on each 90-minute workshop are available here:

<https://freedomsthoronto.ca/advocacy-bookings/workshops/workshops-for-parents-in-schools>

Join our family dance night on February 10

We are hosting a family dance night to raise funds for our Grade 5 graduation. It takes place on Friday, February 10, 2023 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the SAB gym. This event is for families with children attending SAB and it is not a drop-off event. Siblings are welcome. Tickets are \$20 for a family of four or more, or \$5 per person. Cash payment will be accepted at the door. Drinks and snacks will also be available for cash only purchase.

RSVP in advance: <https://forms.gle/Fy6JZk4tGvXhMkc19>

Order SAB School Spirit Wear!

School Spirit Wear ordering will launch online this week via School Cash Online! You can choose from an embroidered hooded sweatshirt, a screen t-shirt or a lanyard. Youth and adult sizing available. Select sample sizing will be available for viewing in the SAB concourse outside the main office, every Wednesday and Thursday from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. as well as the evening of February 16 and the P.A. day on February 17 when parents are coming in for interviews. Orders will close on March 3, 2023. Regardless of order status, each SAB student will be gifted an SAB decal/water bottle sticker! Expected delivery of orders is at the end of March/beginning of April. Proceeds from spirit wear will help fund Council initiatives.

SAB Sensory Library Refresh happening

The School Council Sensory Library was created and funded by the council in 2019. This library is designed to house specialty items and tools to support students as they learn how to manage their five senses. Sensory overload happens to everyone young and old, but it can disproportionately affect students with unique learning styles. Students who learn how to manage their senses can self-regulate, navigate emotions, behaviour, increase their attention and learning opportunities.

We want to thank all the families who have made donations to a refresh of the Sensory Library in January. Council will purchase items that were not received via parent donations to support the needs identified by SAB teachers and support staff.

Volunteers needed for pizza lunches

If you have a valid police check on file and want to see some student smile, consider volunteering at one or more pizza lunches on designated Fridays! Email sabpizzalunch@gmail.com so our lunch leads can ensure there is sufficient help on a given pizza day. On the day itself, you'll be at the school from about 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The list of lunch dates is available here: [Calendar](#)

Thanks in advance for your support.

Fundraising update

Thanks to all families who participated in the **chocolate almond** fundraiser. If you haven't paid yet for your cases of chocolate almonds, please log into School Cash Online as soon as possible to pay \$90 per case sold. The March deadline in the online system is for administrative purposes only. We look forward to announcing winners soon! If you have any questions, please email sabchocolates@gmail.com.

Thanks to those who participated in our first-ever **community toy sale** on December 15. We are pleased to share that we raised a total of \$746.42! We are also proud as an eco-school to have kept these toys out of landfills.

Diversity & Inclusion Corner

February is Black History Month! We are proud of TDSB's and SAB's commitments to antiracism and the initiatives focused on equity, diversity and inclusion that we have been able to support with the help of this community. Our collective action on racism is one of our greatest strengths.

To celebrate this month (and beyond), check out these resources

<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/programs-and-classes/featured/black-history-month.jsp>

Black History Month was established nearly one hundred years ago to bring Black history, Black stories and Black culture into the center of our Canadian experience – not just throughout February, but all year long. In 1995, the first Black Canadian woman to be elected to the federal government, Dr. Jean Augustine, introduced a motion that was passed unanimously by the House of Commons to recognize February as Black History Month across Canada. Since then, each February Canadians from coast to coast celebrate and learn about the storied history of Black Canadians. This year, we continue to shed light on the Black experience in Canada - both past and present.

Dental Screening 2022-2023 School Year

The Toronto Public Health Dental Department is required by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to screen children in elementary schools. The results of the screening will be used to appropriately refer students requiring dental care. As a follow up to the screening, only parents whose children were screened will be notified and a note to that effect will be sent home with their child/ren. Students who do not have dental insurance and who cannot afford to pay for dental care may be eligible for services offered by Toronto Public Health.

The students in the following grades will be screened in this school year: **JK, SK and Grade 2**

A Parent Letter will be distributed via print out and email to the aforementioned grades prior to the commencement of screening. If a parent outside of these grades wishes to have their child(ren) screened, please contact the office directly and we will make arrangements to provide screening.

Sir Adam Beck's Eco-School Waste Audit #1 Food for Thought

Which waste source (garbage, recycling, or the green bin) resulted in the most waste?

The recycling bin resulted in the most waste at 1.2kg.

Which waste category represented the largest percentage of your waste for each waste source?



Garbage: Food waste & soiled paper at 33%

Recycle: Recyclable papers at 73%

Green bin: Food waste and paper towels at 99%

How much waste does each student at Sir Adam Beck create annually?

According to these results, 1.5kg a year!

Were you surprised by the results?

Eco Rep #1-We did okay, there was some stuff that wasn't sorted properly.

Eco Rep #2-I think we did mostly good, our recycling was good.

Eco Rep #3-Pretty good and also kind of bad. because recycling was pretty good and garbage was not so good.

Eco Rep #4-Not bad, the green bin was 99% and the garbage was not really good because of the orange peels.

How much waste did you help to divert?

Based on these results, we will divert 66% of waste this school year!

Did you find any reusable items?

Yes, we found a marker. We have a *Do the Write Thing* recycling container by the main office.

How much waste in your garbage was actually garbage?

Only 62.5% of our waste was actually garbage!

Are most of your recyclables and organics getting sorted into the correct bins?

Almost! Most of our recyclables are getting recycled into the correct bins. We did find a few items that should have been in the garbage, like a yogurt container that wasn't rinsed, some pieces of laminate and paper with paint on it. Our green bin was filled with 99% food waste and soiled paper, however several orange peels ended up in the garbage which heavily affected the weight.

How can you promote proper waste sorting at your school?



According to EcoSchool Club members, SAB can do the following to promote proper waste sorting:

- Litterless lunches, have Waste Wizards on hand in the lunchroom during pizza lunches
- Reusable water bottles in the classroom
- Announcements about proper sorting
- Label bins and put posters up around the school, display on bulletin boards
- EcoClub members will show audience how to sort waste properly at assembly
- Recycling Bin Monitors are trained on proper waste sorting and handed out weekly We RecycleOOPS tags
- Visit classrooms to review proper sorting

How can you reduce waste at your school?

Our EcoClub members said SAB can reduce waste at our school by sending a note home in student lunch bags about Litterless lunches. There will be more green bins available for food waste, at lunch and at recess and waste wizard to help sort waste on Fridays. We host an annual clothing drive in the Spring to minimise

Hello from the Library, SAB Families!

The Forest of Reading Program is well underway and we have 40 students in Grades 3-5 who are eagerly reading books in four different series. They are enjoying visiting each book expert and receiving a signature on their passport for each book they complete. This program will continue until April when students will have an opportunity to vote for their favourite book.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 2 are also participating in this program by listening to read alouds during their scheduled library times. These students will also be voting for their favourite book out of the ten they hear in class.

Overdue Library Books and Lost Books:

Library books have a loan of three weeks. Students have library once per week and are encouraged to return their books during their scheduled library period to avoid their books becoming overdue.

Please note:

1. There are no longer overdue fines from the library, however if a book has not been returned 30 days past its due date the book becomes marked as “lost” in the TPL system. Parents of the card holder will receive a letter or email letting you know the cost of the book. If the book is returned, the fee is then removed from the account.
2. When students have more than 10 overdue books, their account is blocked, which means they are not able to take out any more books until the ones they have are returned.

Many students, especially those in Grades 3-5, are also taking out books after school when they visit the library on their own time, which is amazing! Please help ensure they don’t run into either of the two problems above by reminding them to be responsible for returning their books on time. **If you do happen to receive an email or letter noting there have been charges on their library account, please ask your child to check their locker/desk/bedroom/backpack to locate the book and return it to the library.** Once located, please send me an email (sarah.harwood@tdsb.on.ca) to let me know the book is on its way back so I can have TPL staff update the account.

Lastly, if you are signing out books for your own use, please use your personal library card. If you don’t have one, the library will give you one for free. It’s easy to set up and will prevent issues like blocked accounts from arising.

TPL Afterschool Programs

The Alderwood Branch offers many drop in programs for school-aged children after school. Currently, there is lego club on Mondays, and colouring club on Tuesdays. Please check their website for other programs as well: www.tpl.ca (search “Alderwood in the search bar).

Sarah Harwood

B.HSc, B.Ed, OCT

Teacher-Librarian/Grade 1-5 Physical Education & Health

Sir Adam Beck Junior School

416-394-7670, Ext. 20020

National Sweater Day – February 2nd, 2023

February 2nd is National Sweater Day. Le 2 février est la Journée nationale du chandail. National Sweater Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about climate change and energy conservation, and show how together – classroom by classroom, school by school, home by home, – we can be a part of the solution.

Heating accounts for 80% of residential energy use in Canada. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 4 megatons – that's equivalent to taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road! A simple solution to reducing these emissions is to wear a warm sweater instead of raising the thermostat in our buildings. **Let's all do our part!** We invite the SAB community to participate at school & at home by wearing a warm sweater and lowering your thermostat.



PET DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY



This is reminder that dogs are not allowed on school property during the school day (8:20AM – 3:25PM). Some of the members of our school community have allergies and/or are uncomfortable (uneasy) with dogs in close proximity. Our custodial team has worked hard with our ground crew to introduce signage around the property reminding our families and visitors of this TDSB Risk Management Policy. If you do enjoy walking your pet after hours please do remember to pick up after your pet.



February 2023

SAB Athletics

CONTACT US

Mme Mahaney
Mme Dibon-Smith
Mme Matthews



Volleyball

Our volleyball season is underway. Our girls' and co-ed volleyball team have been announced. The co-ed team will continue to practice at lunch time on Tuesdays, while the girls' team will continue to practice on Thursdays. The girls' tournament will be held at the end of February, while the co-ed tournament is scheduled for some time in the spring.



Ball Hockey

Ball hockey is back at Sir Adam Beck! Tryout permission forms went home last week and are due back on Wednesday, February 1st. Ball hockey practices will be held on Wednesdays during the lunch hour. The first tournament will take place at Sir Adam Beck at the end of February.

Sir Adam Beck SKATING!

Students have been enjoying their skating periods at the Sir Adam Beck Rink. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers for their help on and off the ice.



Coming Up!

The badminton season will begin as soon as ball hockey season is over.