# Newsletter

École Sir Adam Beck Junior School

## May 2022

https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck 544 Horner Avenue Toronto, Ontario M8W 2C2

Tel: 416-394-7670 Fax: 416-394-6142

Upcoming Events May 2-6 Education & Children's Mental Health Week

2: Council Meeting, 6:30PM Google Meet joining info https://meet.google.com/iam-crng-xzq

**5:** Virtual FDK Information Evening for new families starting in September 2022

**23**: Victoria Day Holiday – No School

27: Occupation Day Spirit Day

27: Council Family Dance Night

**28**: Centennial 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House – 10AM – 2 PM

**Character Attribute Integrity** 

Asian Heritage Month Jewish Heritage Month



PrincipalMichael KanalecVice-PrincipalLauren RovasSuperintendentDr Debbie DonskyTrusteePatrick NunziataCouncil Co-ChairsPaul Younger,<br/>& Corrine FreyTitle Photo Credit:Steve Burazin



Will your child be absent from school? Call our Safe Arrival Number. NEW \*\* 1-833-250-2290 \*\* Toronto District School Board website http://www.tdsb.on.ca

#### Principal's Message:

Dear SAB families,

It is so hard to believe we already heading into May. The warmer weather has brought excitement back to the school yard as students enjoy the playscape, four square, funnel ball basketball, soccer and a variety of tag games. Mme Dibon-Smith's ball hockey and badminton teams are busy preparing for their tournaments next week. As conditions change daily, please send your child to school prepared for spring showers and chilly mornings. Splash jackets, pants and rain boots are the best way to keep dry and comfortable throughout the day. We would like to thank the entire school community for their continued support and diligence in using the updated TPH screening tool. Please continue to monitor for symptoms, close contacts and positive RAT/PCR cases of COVID-19 of every family member.

We all enjoyed two very special wellness activities in April. Mme Ovalles presented a yoga/mindfulness activity and Mme Mahaney led us through a wonderful cooperative art activity. The resulting art works will be displayed at this month's Council Family Dance night and Centennial 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House. Excitement is building as the School Council funded Centennial pencil cases have started to be distributed to each student – thank you School Council. Mme Monpierre and Ms Harwood along with a team dedicated volunteers continue to be busy with preparations for our Centennial Open House at the end of the month. The Alderwood concourse will be transformed into a museum of historical artefacts and school photographs as well as displays of current student work. The community will be invited to walk through the display area and enjoy time at a small reception outdoors adjacent to the historical façade at the front of the school.

The first full week of May is Education and Children's Mental Health Week. Families of the new FDK students arriving in September have been invited to our annual FDK Virtual Information Evening.

To the parents/guardians of our Grade 3 students please be advised that we will be administering the EQAO assessment from May 4 to June 24, 2022. Please do not make travel plans during this time and ensure that your child is well rested, on time and in attendance during these weeks. Specific assessment dates will be communicated to each family as scheduling in finalized.

Yours in partnership, **M. Kanalec** 



### May 2022 Council Corner

Email: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com Facebook: facebook.com/sabschoolcouncil Website: https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck/School-Council

#### Family Dance Night returns on May 27!

Our Family dance night is back again with the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. Get your dancing shoes on and get ready for a fun-filled evening of music and your best moves, while raising funds for our Grade 5 kids graduating this year.

When: Friday, May 27 at 6:30 p.m.

#### Where: SAB gym

**Cost:** Tickets are \$15 for a family of four, or \$5 per person. Cash payment will be accepted at the door.

Please **register in advance** so we can plan for the number of expected attendees: https://forms.gle/C7CxYMY5cVcTfWmT9

#### **Community Clothing Exchange on June 2**

SAB is hosting the Community Clothing Exchange again on June 2 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. This is a great way to reuse clothing and reduce waste in our community!

The SAB Eco Club and volunteers will be collecting used clothing and shoes in good condition from Monday, May 30 to Thursday June 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. in the hallway at the far gym door. Please bring washed clothing and sort/label by approximate size and gender.

#### **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

#### Jewish and Asian Heritage Month

This month recognizes Jewish Heritage and Asian Heritage. Last year, the Jewish and Asian Heritage Committees collaborated to present *Chicken Soup*, *Chicken Soup*. The program, targeted at students in K-grade 3, has been described as a "very sweet book and a perfect early lesson on diversity." As Sophie, the main character in the story says about her grandmother's soups, "a little different; a lot the same." Links to resources and a video reading are available here:<u>https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/ChickenSoupChickenSoup.pdf</u>

Other resources to celebrate this heritage month:

https://www.cbc.ca/amp/1.6017664 https://www.bookcentre.ca/files/JewishBookList.pdf

#### National Speech and Hearing Month

The month of May is also National Speech and Hearing Month. Many of us take our ability to communicate for granted, but the ability to hear, speak and be heard is vital to our everyday lives, and how children learn. For those who have difficulty communicating, everyday

interactions can pose significant challenges. A communication disorder may prevent an individual from performing well at school, asking for help, hearing instructions or even saying 'I love you.' As a community, we have an opportunity to highlight the importance of early detection and intervention in the treatment of communication difficulties, and work to support those around us with accommodations, and empathy in helping people overcome and/or manage them.

Reading recommendation: *El Deafo, by Cece Bell* is a graphic novel featuring Cece, a rabbit who uses a phonic hearing aid. "*Starting at a new school is scary, especially with a giant hearing aid strapped to your chest! At her old school, everyone in Cece's class was deaf. Here, she's different.*" <u>https://cecebell.wordpress.com/good-books-by-cece-bell/</u>

#### **Learning Corner**

The TDSB's Parent and Community Engagement Office has a number of recorded conversations available on its YouTube channel on a wide range of topics, including anti-racism and mental health:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9gvsGUiLZklU8VYSnH-Sbg

The following upcoming workshop that might be of interest:

#### Nurturing Children's Gender and Identity

Thursday, May 19, 2022 6:30 - 8 p.m. Presenter: Vivek Shraya

Vivek's talk will focus on her personal journey starting from her experiences in adolescence – at home and at school – the challenges she faced as well as what helped her become the confident, self-aware, and compassionate person she is today. She will also speak to how parents and caregivers, teachers & staff can be better allies, and how we can ensure our schools and homes are safe places where our kids can explore and learn more about gender & identity.

#### **Next Council Meeting**

Join our next Council meeting on Monday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. to meet other parents and get the latest updates from the principal on school activities. The Google Meet link is included on the first page of this newsletter. You can also follow the Council on <u>Facebook</u>.

#### **Centennial Update**

Each student received a pencil case, paid for by the School Council. Mme Dibon-Smith created the logo, and Mme Monpierre the motto. Thank you! Parents will have the opportunity to purchase centennial T-shirts and tumblers online. The children's art on the centennial will be displayed in the concourse for everyone to enjoy. Mrs. Harwood and Mme Monpierre

#### **SAB** Athletics

After two long years, sports teams are back in full swing at SAB! We are always thrilled to see so many faces at all of our tryouts and practices! The turnout of students who have demonstrated an interest in joining a sports team is amazing!

Our badminton and ball hockey season is coming to an end, but we look forward to introducing our summer sports in mid-May!

In the meantime, our school is looking forward to hosting a ball hockey tournament on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Given the large number of students at tryouts, our school was able to form 2 teams and give more students the opportunity to represent our school and participate in this event. We would also like to wish our grade 5 badminton team good luck at their tournament on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at Forest Hill Junior & Senior PS

Coach Dibon-Smith

#### Meatless Mondays!

On April 26th, the Green Team Club tried an Earth Day challenge that asked them to eat plant based food for a day. The challenge was so much fun that we decided to try it as a school. Every Monday throughout the month of May and June we will be starting a Meatless Monday lunch challenge. Share a photo of your favourite Meatless Monday meal with Mme Brown at <u>amandan.brown@tdsb.on.ca</u> by May 10th.

Canada's <u>Food Guide</u> recommends proteins take up only a quarter of the plate and suggests choosing protein from plants more often. This can have a healthy impact on our health. Meat products have a much bigger carbon footprint than plant-based food so choosing meatless meals most of the time can also have a healthy impact on our environment.

Thank you,

From The SAB Eco-Schools Team

#### **Volunteer Annual Offence Declaration**

We acknowledge all of our amazing volunteers even though volunteering in the school has been put on hold. If you are listed on our volunteer data base it is important for you to carry out your annual Offence Declaration. All volunteers currently on our Volunteer Database with an approved police reference clearance are required to carry out an annual offence declaration. This can be done by contacting the main office (416 394 7670) or virtually during the COVID restrictions by emailing Michael.kanalec@tdsb.on.ca to initiate the process.

#### **Temporary Lunchroom Supervisors Needed**

If you or someone you know enjoys working with children and have time to spare in the middle of the day, please consider becoming a lunchroom supervisor. Regardless, if you are available one day a month, one day a week or more frequently please contact Mme Rovas at Lauren.Roavas@tdsb.on.ca

#### **April's Virtual Assembly**

April's virtual assembly showcased collaborative learning by Mme Grant and Mme Bangma's classes. The students learned about Spring, Sikh Heritage Month, Symmetry and Earth Day. During the virtual assembly, students shared a song, Printemps, as well as some Spring art. For Sikh Heritage Month, students learned a little bit about Vaisakhi. Vaisakhi is celebrated in the Spring and it is a celebration of the harvest. There is music, singing, and the sharing of food. A highlight of Vaisakhi is bhangra dancing. Students in Grade 1 learned some simple steps and presented their dance to the school. All classes afterwards were invited to join in the dance.



Mme Nolan's Kindergarten students also sang two songs in French about Spring.

