

May 2023

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck>

544 Horner Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M8W 2C2
Tel: 416-394-7670
Fax: 416-394-6142

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>

Upcoming Events

May

- 1-5:** Education & Children's Mental Health Week
 - 2:** SABs Got Talent Showcase of Learning (Classes presenting: Ceni, Monpierre, Paul, Kitaygora, Bishop and Myhal)
 - 3:** FDK Classroom Open House, 9-10AM
 - 4:** SAB Breaking News Showcase of Learning (Classes presenting Ovalles, Romano, Nait/Pappalardo, Shazand, Brown and Dibon-Smith)
 - 5:** Council Hot Dog Lunch **NEW DATE**
 - 8:** Council Meeting, 6:30PM
- ZOOM link: <https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/5433391421>
- 9-11:** FDK New Family Tours
 - 11:** FDK Information Evening for new families starting in September, 6:30 PM
 - 12, 26:** Council Pizza Lunches
 - 22:** Civic Holiday – No School
 - 23-24:** Gr 5 Trip to EOEC (make up date)
 - 28:** Stripes and Polka Dot Spirit Day

Character Attribute Integrity
Asian Heritage Month
Jewish Heritage Month



Principal's Message:

Dear SAB families,

It is so hard to believe we are 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. 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. Our SAB Knights athletes were busy this month with outstanding efforts put forth by our co-ed badminton, volleyball and soccer teams. Next up our softball and track field athletes will be preparing for their spring meets and tournaments.

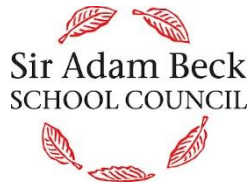
The School Council Hollywood Spring Dance and Fundraiser was a resounding success. Students, staff and parents/guardians danced to the sounds of DJ Burazin while enjoying refreshments and trying their luck at various games and fun activities. Thank you to the many Council volunteers, Mr Burazin, families that donated to the event and staff members that supported the event by attending or providing artwork to be displayed.

Today is the beginning of Education and Children's Mental Health Week. We look forward to sharing the joy, belonging and learning our students have experienced this year. We hope to see you at your child's showcase of learning concert or FDK open house this week. Grades 1-5, student performers should report to their homerooms between 6-6:15PM on the evening of their scheduled show. Families are encouraged to take in the artwork and projects that are proudly displayed on our hallway walls. Families of the new FDK students arriving in September have been invited to our annual FDK Information Evening and will have the chance to tour the school with our Grade 5 leadership ambassadors.

To the parents/guardians of our Grade 3 students please be advised that we will be administering the EQAO assessment from May 23 to June 1st, 2023. 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 is finalized.

Yours in partnership,
M. Kanalec

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



Council Corner

Email: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com

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

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

Volunteers needed for hot dog lunch this Friday

If you have a valid police check on file and want to see some student smiles, consider volunteering at this Friday's hot dog lunch or an upcoming pizza lunch! Email sabpizzalunch@gmail.com so our lunch leads can ensure there is sufficient help on a given lunch 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.

Spring Dance

Last Friday we welcomed Hollywood glitz and glam to SAB. Families (and many staff) came out for a dance and mingle at the Spring dance. The kids had a ball playing games, doing crafts and showing their best moves on the dance floor. We appreciate the support of all volunteers who allowed this dance to come together, and the support from all in the SAB community who attended. We'll provide an update on the total funds raised in next month's newsletter.

Registration open for free parent conference this Saturday

The Parent Involvement Advisory Committee's annual parent/caregiver conference returns to Earl Haig Secondary School on Saturday, May 6, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Take the opportunity to meet and network with other parents and caregivers from across the Toronto District School Board, attend workshops that will provide resources to support School Council and the well-being and achievement of students.

https://www.torontopiac.com/whats-happening/conferences?mc_cid=362726632a&mc_eid=cc03df8263

Diversity & Inclusion Corner

In May, TDSB recognizes Asian Heritage Month. To mark this month, we'd like to address two relevant topics for families and kids: The Model Minority Myth and Celebrating Asian Representation in Kids' Movies

The "Model Minority" myth

The misconception of Asians as the "model minority" is a persistent stereotype which commonly views members of East, Southeast and South Asian communities as inherently successful, advantageous, intelligent, and hard-working members of society. At first glance, this may read as a positive - but it is a deeply damaging stereotype for a number of reasons, including:

1. The "model minority" myth is a harmful stereotype that can create pressure and anxiety for Asian children who may not fit into this narrow mold.
2. This stereotype can also create division and animosity between different communities of color.

3. As parents, it's important to teach our children to embrace and celebrate their own unique strengths and talents, and to recognize and challenge harmful stereotypes.
4. By having open and honest conversations with our kids about these issues, we can help create a more inclusive and equitable world for everyone.
5. Let's celebrate the diversity of our school community, and stand in solidarity with those who face discrimination and prejudice.

Celebrating Culture: Asian representation in kids' movies

We're living in an exciting time for diversity and Asian representation in the entertainment industry. In recent years, we've seen a lot of progress in terms of showcasing a wider range of Asian voices and perspectives, along with the 2023 Oscars winners, but in kids' movies as well. This is so important because when our children see themselves and their experiences reflected back in what they watch, it can help build empathy and understanding of different cultures and backgrounds.

One great example of this is the Disney+ movie *Turning Red*, which tells the story of a young girl named Mei Lee who turns into a giant red panda whenever she gets too excited (it also takes place in cartoon Toronto in 2002!). Not only is this a fun and imaginative concept, but it also features a young Asian girl as the lead character, with a variety of supporting Asian characters with different personalities, interests and personas. It's so heartwarming to see more representation for Asian children, who have historically been underrepresented in media.

Of course, *Turning Red* is just one of many examples of diverse Asian representation in kids' movies. We're also seeing more and more diverse characters in popular films like Marvel's *Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*, *Chang Can Dunk*, *Big Hero 6*, and *Raya*, which showcase different cultures and experiences in a fun and engaging way.

We believe that it's important for our children to be exposed to a variety of perspectives and cultures, and we're so glad to see the entertainment industry making strides in this direction. By celebrating diversity and inclusion in media, we can help build a more understanding and equitable world for future generations.

Path to action: Visit our Council Facebook page and tell us your family favourite movies with Asian representation!

Learning Corner

The TDSB recently hosted a Building Mathematical Minds workshop. For those of you who missed it, some handy resources are available here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xe5AqhRy5YfNB7n7Y57ZEMeqF3BuNDVA/view?usp=share_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vBcbsKD8zInpI4q7Ga2vVKm5Ao1O7k0Y/view?usp=share_link

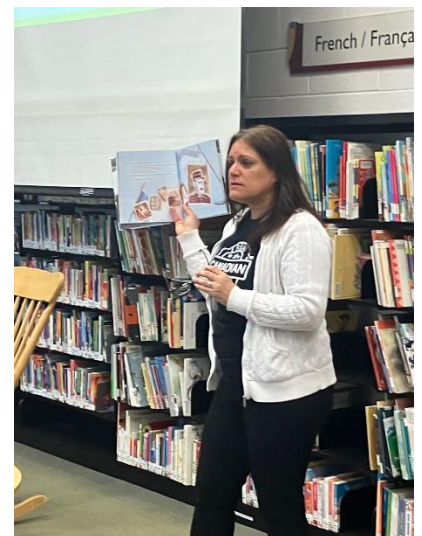
May Library News

Forest of Reading

Students participating in the Forest of Reading Club voted for their favourite book on Friday, April 28. We look forward to hearing who the winners are when we attend our Forest of Celebration Reading Trip to Harbourfront Centre on May 16. Students will be travelling with Mme. Bangma and Mrs. Harwood by Go Train and will have the opportunity to attend the award ceremony, get authors' autographs, take part in activities and games and win prizes! Students should be proud of all their hard work reading many, many books! A big thank you to Parent Council for covering a portion of the cost of this trip.

Author Visit

On Thursday, May 27, all Grade 3-5 students were able to participate in a visit from author Heather Camlot (a past Forest of Reading nominee!). She talked with the students about social justice, and how even children can have an impact on changing the world. She read us excerpts from her books "What if Soldiers Fought With Pillows?" and "The Prisoner and The Writer". Students were then able to create their own murals with ideas and pictures for peace. These books have been purchased for the library so that students can sign them out to read more stories about brave men and women who fought for change. Another big thank you to Parent Council for funding the cost for this amazing experience!



New Books!

In the next few weeks, the library will have many new books for the students to read! Teachers have been adding to a wish list of books with a variety of themes from Anti Black Racism to heritage months (such as Asian, Islamic and South Asian to name a few) to character education. The library has been able to purchase many of these books and is now cataloging them for distribution!



End of year

June is soon approaching, and the library will be looking to collect any books that are overdue. The last week for book exchange will be June 5-9. Beginning the week of the 12th, students will be provided with lists of overdue books and we will be searching those desks and lockers to make sure books are returned before the end of the school year.

TD Summer Reading Club

Make sure to stop into the library to have your child sign up for the summer reading club. Toronto Public Library staff will be happy to explain this program!

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 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

March and April Assembly Information

Mrs. Myhal's class opened the assembly on April 6th with a presentation on honesty, TDSB's Character Trait for the month of March. Students in her class read the book 'A Bike for Sergio's' written by Maribeth Boelts to the audience. The book highlighted the importance of honesty even when no one is looking and shared a message of how honesty is more than just telling the truth.

Mme Romano's grade 1/2 class sang a song titled "La pollution, ce n'est pas bon" in front of the audience about pollution and how we have to do a good job of taking care of our planet. They shared drawings to accompany the messages in the song highlighting images of pollution contrasted with images of a clean Earth.



Next up, the Young Women on the Move Club presented work they did throughout the month of March to celebrate Women's History Day. The Young Women's Club created positive affirmation posters that included photos of themselves and messages such as Be you, I am Unique, I am welcome, I am thoughtful, I am confident, You can do anything, You are enough, and I am courageous, sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying "I will try again tomorrow".

During the month of March, students were responsible for researching influential women and created a breaking news video with a biography on a woman, such as Roberta Bondar who currently lives in Toronto. She was the first women neurologist to travel into space. They also researched inventions created by women. For example, did you know that windshield wipers were invented by a woman named Mary Anderson? Or that a woman named Hedy Lamarr was one of the inventors who invented the wifi technology? The Young Women on the Move Club was so inspired by this information, some students from the club and Mme Brown and Mme Dibon-Smith's class even created their own inventions!

Finally, April concluded with an assembly performed by Mr. Burazin's Kindergarten class. They performed a song called "Save the Planet" where they spelled out the word EARTH with giant signs. The second song was called "I love Mountains" and was performed with percussion instruments.



SAB Athletics



Co-Ed Volleyball & Badminton

Congratulations to our badminton and co-ed volleyball team on two successful tournaments hosted at Sir Adam Beck!



Thank You!

We want to extend our gratitude to all of our parent volunteers and drivers during these sporting events. Your time and support is greatly appreciated. These events would not be possible without you.

Softball

Our girls' and boys' softball season is under way. You can find us practising on the field on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The girls will play in their tournament on May 25th, while the boys take the field on May 29th at Briarcrest JPS. We wish both teams good luck!



Track & Field

Over the last couple of weeks, track & field tryouts have been integrated within the physical education program. Our grade 4 & 5 track team has been selected based on various timed events and interest. We wish students participating all the best at their first meet on May 9th at Centennial Park Stadium.