

École Sir Adam Beck Junior School Newsletter

February 2022

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Toronto, Ontario M8W 2C2
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<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck>

Upcoming Events

February 1: Chinese Lunar New Year.
February 3: National Sweater Spirit Day
February 7: Virtual Council Presentation –
Telus Wise Link:

<https://meet.google.com/uef-miwc-tbq>

February 7: Virtual Council Meeting
7:30 – 8:30pm

Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/dht-enbp-nvd>

February 14 – Red and White Spirit Day
Term 1 Report Cards sent home

February 17 – Student Virtual Dance
Workshop with C-Flava

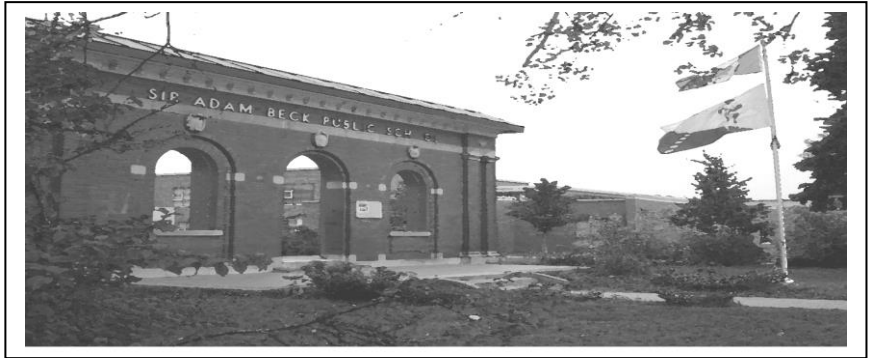
February 18 – PA Day Reporting to
Parents/Guardians

February 21 – Family Day Holiday
School Closed

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
Paul Younger, Corinne Frey
Title Photo Credit: Steve Burazin



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. We are thankful to our families and staff for working together to ensure all safety measures and procedures are being followed each day. Carefully completing the daily screening questions each day and providing your child with a back to school confirmation form when returning from an absence helps to streamline the school day for all our students. The winter months and ongoing pandemic can have a toll on our mental health. This week we recognized Bell Let's Talk day. For anyone living with a mental illness, stigma is one of the biggest hurdles to overcome. There is no better time to be reminded that talking is the best way to start breaking down the barriers associated with mental illness and accessing mental health support. Mental health and well being resources during COVID can be found on the TDSB website: [Mental Health Choice Boards](#) and [Well-Being Daily Activities](#) for educators, students and caregivers/parents.

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 14, 2022 and virtual conferences will be scheduled that week and on the evening of February 17 and the morning of the PA Day, February 18th. We will be opening our online booking system on Monday February 7th – please be sure to book your parent/guardian-teacher conference. A separate email will be sent out to all families with instructions next week. 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 2018 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 18 is a PA Day and Monday February 21 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.



February 2022 Council Corner

Email: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Facebook: [facebook.com/sabschoolcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/sabschoolcouncil)

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

Chocolate Almond fundraiser

We're launching a school-wide fundraiser selling Chocolate Almonds to support our student resources and experiences! On January 31, the eldest child of each family at the school will bring home ONE case of chocolate almonds. We are looking forward to some healthy competition as there are prizes to reward top selling classes and students. Did you know that Mr. Kanalec and Mme. Rovas, our principal and VP, both thrived as physical education teachers before moving into school administration? They will lace up their running shoes to spend time having fun with our top 3 Chocolate Almond selling classes. The top 3 student/family sellers will receive a gift card from Chapters. Stay tuned for more details!

Parent workshop coming up

TELUS Wise Workshop for Parents - Staying Safe in a Digital World - February 7

Following up on a great presentation last month, TELUS is pleased to host a second free technology-related workshop geared at our parent community:

- TELUS Wise Adults (pt 2) - Monday, February 7th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (council meeting to follow)
- Empowering you to support youth to stay safe in our digital world focuses on topics including living in a digital society, internet, smartphone and social media safety.
- Link: <https://meet.google.com/uef-miwc-tbq>

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

In February, we are recognizing African Heritage Month, also commonly known as Black History Month. Black people in Canada have diverse backgrounds and experiences – while some can trace their roots in Canada for many generations, others have immigrated in recent decades.

At Sir Adam Beck JS, we are recognizing this month by celebrating Black Joy! Recognition of African Heritage Month can sometimes focus on the traumatic history, i.e. enslavement of Black people, racism and standing up against adversity. What is often missed is Black joy, culture and celebration and excellence. For the month of February, SAB School Council is working to provide resources to teachers to read a fact of the day over the morning announcements, centering around notable Black women, Black family and food, Black authors and illustrators, and Black musicians and performers.

The Council is also supporting a **Steelpan Drumming Performance at a Virtual Assembly** this month for all Sir Adam Beck students.

Next Council Meeting

Join our next Council meeting on Monday, February 7th at 7:30 p.m. to meet other parents and get the latest updates from the principal on school activities. The Google Meets link is included on the first page of this newsletter and you can also follow Council on [Facebook](#).

African Heritage Month – Invitation to the African Heritage Month Virtual Launch Celebration

During the month of February, the Toronto District School Board 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 2021-2022 is NIA: Walking in Our Purpose. During the month of February, several activities are being planned to mark African Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board, and they include a virtual launch to kick-off African Heritage Month (see details below)! All staff, students and the TDSB community are invited to join the LIVE STREAM event that includes speakers, entertainment, and storytelling!

African Heritage Month Virtual Celebration Launch

Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

URL: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/stream/LiveWebcast-African-Heritage-Month.html>

We look forward to seeing you there!

Family Literacy Day

On Friday, January 28th we celebrated Family Literacy Day at Sir Adam Beck! Parents, guardians and family members were invited to read a story to their child's class! We have been working very hard to promote a love of reading and know, that as key partners, families play an important role in this. It was a wonderful opportunity to have family members share their favourite story, legend or even chapter book. The classes were so excited to host the virtual readings and there was a buzz of excitement amongst the students all day long. A big thank you to all the family members that were able to participate in the day.

SAB Literacy Committee

100th Anniversary Centennial Update

Unfortunately, we were informed by the Toronto Public Health Liaison that the Open House cannot proceed due to COVID-19 restrictions in place for public events. A lot had been prepared in anticipation of this celebration. We want to thank all the volunteers who dedicated their time and efforts in planning this event.

Hopefully, if conditions improve, we may be able to celebrate together at our traditional Welcome Back Barbecue in September. Centennial keepsakes will be available for purchase, and some old photographs will be displayed. We will continue to update our plans as the health situation unfolds.

Classes have been invited to work on activities with a centennial theme (writing, visual arts). Some morning announcements and quizzes feature Sir Adam Beck's history. An in-school virtual assembly is being created for the students with an adapted version for the community.

Sir Adam Beck opened in 1921. We could not celebrate in 2021 because of school closure. We now wish our beloved school a very Happy 101st Birthday.

J. Monpierre and S. Harwood for the Centennial Committee



National Sweater Day – February 3rd, 2022

February 3rd is National Sweater Day. Le 3 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.

Lost and Found

We are not able to maintain a lost and found but items still continue to appear on the table outside of our main office. Please encourage your child to reclaim items that may have been misplaced. Thank you, Ms Holmes for putting together the following virtual slide show of items. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity before we break for March break.

Virtual Lost and Found Link:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vQFAv6G-dqGq1PzImHESKt06sOPEq5wQc_EeG0DJ8ouMeWKRjca-3AZnRu-dqbH7HRnrtzOakPU8SGw/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000



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. Mr Jasinski 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.

Loose Parts

Play supports the social and emotional development of a child as well as their overall academic success. As such, children do not learn and play, but rather, children learn **through** their play. By providing authentic opportunities for children to play, they will explore both familiar and new concepts, develop and test theories, and come to new understandings.

It is through play that children explore, discover and make sense of the world around them. As they construct their own thinking, children engage with their senses to touch, see, smell, taste and listen to their environment. Play is a natural part of who they are. When we honour play, we honour **every** learner.

Over the next few months we will be working to create an Early Years Cupboard as we continue to explore Play and Inquiry Based Learning in our classrooms. We are reaching out to families requesting that if you have any of the following materials and would like to donate them to school please send them to school care of Mme Rovas.

Please rest assured that materials will be properly quarantined prior to use.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Loose Parts:

- Glass beads
- Buttons
- Corks
- Stones
- Tiles
- Beads
- Wood Spools
- Wood Cubes
- Beechwood Rings
- Nature treasures (eg. acorns, pinecones, etc.)
- Ribbon
- Tree Disks
- Paint Chips
- Fabric
- Shells
- Bells
- Kids tweezers
- Toothpicks
- Golf pencils

Outdoor:

- Shovels
- Rakes
- pails/buckets
- Skipping ropes
- Brooms

Literacy:

Ziplock Bags (variety of sizes)
Magnetic letters
Mini Whiteboards
Clipboards
Used picture frames (variety of sizes)
Art:
Sponges
String

Music:

Variety of instruments
(maracas, tabourines,
drums, bells, cymbals, etc)

bug/insect homes
Mirrors
Plastic crates
Magnifying glass
Binoculars

Important Reminder – Bussed Students and Bus Drop Off and Pick Zone

NO Parking Zone: Drop off/Dismissal Time

Please do not park on the North East side of the school (Eltham Drive) as it is our Bus Loading Zone at drop off and Dismissal time.

To ensure the safety of our bussed students we kindly request parents/guardians to remember to send a written note to school in the event that arrangements are made for your child to be picked up by yourself or by your designate on any given day.

Please refrain from picking up your child from the bus lines at the end of the day without prior notice.

Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

