

# École Sir Adam Beck Junior School Newsletter

## January 2022

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

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

### Upcoming Events

December 3 – January 7  
Elementary Switch Form Dates

December: 20 – 31 Winter Break

January 3: Classes Resume

January 10: Virtual Council Meeting  
7:30 – 8:30pm

Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/wfp-tbty-cdd>

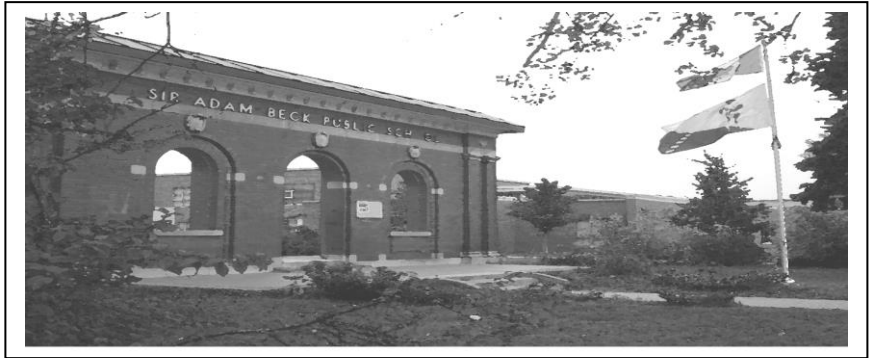
January 14 – PA Day – No School

January 28 – Stripes & Polka Dot Spirit  
Day

**Tamil Heritage Month**

**Character Attribute for January is  
Teamwork**

**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:

Thank you to the entire school community for the overwhelming response to our coat drive. Over 35 large donation bags filling two SUVs were collected to support Lifeline Afghanistan and the refugees arriving to live in Toronto.

The Elementary Switch Form choice of Virtual or In-Person for the next term/semester due date is approaching. Parents/caregivers and students who do not wish to make a change do not need to complete the form. A link to the Elementary Switch Form was sent to parents/caregivers on **Friday, December 3**. Families interested in making a switch have until January 7, 2022 to respond.

The cold weather is already upon us and so is the likelihood of severe weather. The Board's Severe Weather Procedure has been reviewed and guided by the necessary health and safety conditions as a result of the pandemic, the need to maintain cohorts and not being able to combine classes, which is often necessary on days with bad weather because of reduced staffing levels. As a result, this year, the TDSB has determined that **when buses are cancelled, all schools -- including both in-person and virtual learning -- will also be closed to staff and students.**

The initial offers of placement for Early French Immersion at SAB have been sent out to parents/caregivers. Families in this wave of offers had until December 16, 2021 to accept the placement online. Subsequent offers will continue into the new year until the placement process is complete. Due to the volume of applications, it can take many weeks for all the families to hear. Families are encouraged to check their email frequently, including junk mail.

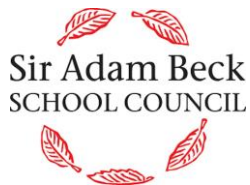
For families interested in the TDSB's system-wide Middle French Immersion Program (begins in Grade 4), there is an online process to apply. To apply for the Middle French Immersion Program (Grade 4 entry) for September 2022, applications must be completed online between [January 3 and January 28, 2022](#). Please see p. 6 for additional details.

Despite the uncertainty of the pandemic, planning for our centennial celebrations will continue in the new year. Students will work on a mural and do activities to learn more about Sir Adam Beck, the person and the school. Other activities being explored are a virtual/in-person Council Family Dance night (Friday April 29<sup>th</sup>) and Open House (Sat April 30). Thank you, Mme Monpierre and Mrs. Harwood for coordinating this work.

Happy New Year,  
Michael Kanalec

### 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.



## January 2022 Council Corner

Sir Adam Beck  
SCHOOL COUNCIL

Email: [sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com)

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

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

### Parent workshops

TELUS is pleased to host the following free technology-related workshops geared at our parent community, so mark your calendars!

TELUS Wise Parents (Part 1) - Monday, January 10th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

- Supporting youth in our digital world is designed for adults and parents, and focuses on topics including screen time, gaming, sexting, cyberbullying and more.
- Link: <https://meet.google.com/uef-miwc-tbq>

TELUS Wise Adults (pt 2) - Monday, February 7th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

- Empowering you 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>

### Next Council Meeting

Join our next Council meeting on Monday, January 10 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.

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

**Call for Parent Volunteers!** The SAB Equity Committee is forming and we are looking for parent volunteers to join in helping to ensure we embrace and celebrate diversity, are equitable and are inclusive of everyone at SAB. If this interests you, or you would like to add your voice to this ongoing conversation, please contact [sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com) with the subject "Equity Committee".

TDSB has designated days of significance throughout the year. Keep this list handy for reference and please let us know if you have any resources or ideas to help us recognize any of the days of significance. A special thanks to the parents who shared some special music and crafts virtually with two classes to celebrate Diwali last year. If you have shared or are interesting in sharing your family's traditions in classrooms, please get in touch with your teachers and also email [sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com) (<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf>)



**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

Literacy:

- Ziplock Bags (variety of sizes)
- Magnetic letters
- Mini Whiteboards
- Clipboards
- Used picture frames (variety of sizes)

Art:

- Sponges
- String

Music:

- Variety of instruments (marakas, tabourines, drums, bells, cymbals, etc)

Outdoor:

- Shovels
- Rakes
- pails/buckets
- Skipping ropes
- Brooms
- Binoculars
- Magnifying glass
- Plastic crates
- Mirrors
- bug/insect homes

**SAB's December Virtual Student Assembly**

December's virtual assembly was held on Friday, December 17th. Mr. Trigianni's kindergarten students opened the assembly by sharing a song called *La neige tombe*. An upbeat song about snow falling and students catching snowflakes.

Mrs. Myhal's grade 1/2 class talked about TDSB's Character Trait for the month of December, Kindness. Students talked about how they can light up the world with kindness, by reading a personal pledge on how to make the world a kinder place. Students said they can light up the world by inviting their friends to play with them, by wearing their indoor shoes to help keep the school clean, by helping to keep their house clean and by picking up garbage in the neighbourhood to help the environment.



Mme Dibon-Smith's grade 5 class continued with a message of kindness. Each student participated in reading a book called *La gentillesse/Kindness*, in both English and French. Students shared examples of struggles they have experienced to highlight the importance of kindness because you don't always know what others are going through. A simple act of kindness can really brighten someone's day. Students then shared a kindness tree that displayed acts of kindness on leaves in the shape of a heart. Examples of kindness included messages such as saying hi to someone, holding the door open for someone, writing a letter to a friend or being kind to the Earth. The presentation ended with an act of kindness they participated in as a class. Students received a wishlist for children who are currently at Sick Kids Hospital and crossed off donations from the wishlist.



We hope everyone can spread kindness over the holidays and remember that simple acts of kindness can really light up someone's day, our community and the world. Check back next month to see what exciting topics classes are learning about!

## Middle French Immersion Program - Application Information

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's system-wide Middle French Immersion Program (begins in Grade 4), we offer an online process to apply. To apply for the Middle French Immersion Program (Grade 4 entry) for September 2022, applications must be completed online between [January 3 and January 28, 2022](#).

An offer of placement in the program (**not** a specific school) is guaranteed to all on-time applicants and will be made in the weeks following the close of the application window.

Please note: Families with an older sibling currently enrolled in a French program and who will be in attendance next year are still required to complete an online application for the new student.

Please select the “**sibling option**” within the online application.

For more information about the Middle French Immersion (Grade 4) application process, please join us for a [Virtual Webinar Session](#) on one of the following dates:

DATES, TIME & LINK TO WEBINARS	ALTERNATE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE
January 6, 2022 – 10 am <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE WEBINAR ON JANUARY 6</a>	Webinar ID: 957 9470 9338 Phone one-tap: Canada: +6473744685,,95794709338# or +16475580588,,95794709338# Dial: Canada : +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588
January 13, 2022 – 1 pm <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE WEBINAR ON JANUARY 13</a>	Webinar ID: 965 0951 9491 Phone one-tap: Canada: +6475580588,,96509519491# or +16473744685,,96509519491# Dial: Canada:+1 647 558 0588 or +1 647 374 4685
January 17, 2022 – 7 pm <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE WEBINAR ON JANUARY 17</a>	Webinar ID: 998 7090 8992 Phone one-tap: Canada: +16473744685,,99870908992# or +16475580588,,99870908992# Dial: Canada: +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588

Families can request interpretation services for this event in advance, by completing this [online form](#) before December 17, 2021.

Information about the Middle French Immersion Program is [available in multiple languages](#). For details, please see the [information package](#). For more information about French programs, the application process and important dates, please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/french](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/french) or click on [Application Process](#).

## The Sick Kids COVID-19 Saliva Testing Program

The Hospital for Sick Children is pleased to provide the [COVID-19 Saliva Testing Program](#) in partnership with your school. Under this program, we offer COVID-19 saliva test kits for symptomatic staff, students, and household members, or those who have been identified by Toronto Public Health (TPH) as a high risk/close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 positive case. We also offer cohort and/or outbreak testing as recommended by TPH. Through participation in this program, we hope to provide a test that is painless and accessible, reduce COVID-19 cases in your school, keep schools open, promote healthy childhood development, and support the health and safety of your community.

<p><b>Where</b> do I pick up my kit?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saliva kits will be provided to your school administration if testing criteria is met:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1. <i>Have symptoms consistent with COVID-19</i></li> <li>o 2. <i>High risk/close contact identified by TPH</i></li> <li>o 3. <i>Cohort/outbreak management identified by TPH</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>- You can bring a kit home from school OR a non-symptomatic member of the household can pick one up</li> </ul>
<p><b>What</b> is in my saliva kit?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Saliva collection container (the blue liquid deactivates the virus)</li> <li>2. Laboratory form (must be filled out to receive your results)</li> <li>3. Saliva collection instructions (on the back of the laboratory form)</li> <li>4. Instructions for how to access your results</li> <li>5. A blank label for your saliva container (label with legal full name and date of birth as per your health card and stick onto the specimen container)</li> </ol>
<p><b>When</b> to use a kit?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The individual is experiencing at least 1 or more COVID-19 symptom</li> <li>- The individual has been informed by TPH that they are a high risk/close contact to a COVID-19 positive case</li> <li>- Cohort/outbreak testing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b><i>Please follow the testing window dates provided by TPH in the close contact letter and include the outbreak number on the lab requisition. If you have symptoms, test right away. Otherwise, wait until the recommended DATE from TPH.</i></b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>How</b> to collect saliva?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If you fit testing criteria, pick up a COVID-19 saliva kit</li> <li>- Collect and label your sample, fill out the requisition, seal it in the biohazard bag, and drop off at the designated school location               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b><i>Only samples with a fully completed label and lab form will be processed. If you have a health card, the information must match the lab form. Include the outbreak number if provided.</i></b></li> </ul> </li> <li>- Saliva collection instructions: <i>No eating, drinking, smoking, chewing gum, brushing teeth, vaping 30 minutes before your test. Click here: <a href="#">Saliva Collection Instructions</a></i></li> </ul>
<p><b>How</b> to drop off the kit?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At your school, there will be a pre-designated drop off location, open Monday-Friday during school hours</li> <li>- For same day pickup, please have your samples dropped off by 9am or samples may be picked up the next day.</li> <li>- Please place your sealed saliva kit (containing your labelled saliva container and the completed lab requisition) inside the brown paper bag.</li> </ul>
<p><b>When</b> do I get my results?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>If the sample is positive, you will receive a telephone call</b> from SickKids within 24-48hours and Toronto Public Health to follow up on your result.</li> <li>- <b>If the result is negative, you will not receive a call.</b></li> <li>- With OHIP - <a href="#">Access your results</a></li> <li>- Without OHIP – Please write your email on the requisition form for follow up</li> </ul>
<p><b>Questions?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please email <a href="mailto:mobile.outreach@sickkids.ca">mobile.outreach@sickkids.ca</a></li> </ul>

## **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.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

In order to minimize movement within the school and reduce the handling of items between students we are not maintaining a lost and found this year. We are doing our very best to get misplaced items back to students as they are lost (items are mostly being left outside at recess). Please continue to remind your child to track and care for their belongings.



