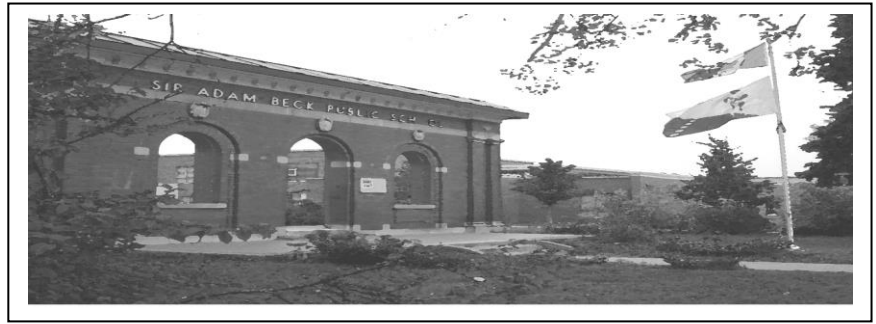


# Newsletter

École  
Sir Adam Beck  
Junior School



## October 2020

544 Horner Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario M8W 2C2  
Tel: 416-394-7670  
Fax: 416-394-6142  
<http://www.siradambeck.ca>

Will your child be absent from school?  
Call our Safe Arrival Number.  
**416-394-3884**

### Upcoming Events

October ½: Terry Fox Walk/Run Week  
October 12: Thanksgiving – **School Closed**  
October 13: Re-organization Day  
October 13-16: Virtual Curriculum  
Presentations  
October 30: Spirit Day- In Class  
Costumes

### Character Attribute for October Responsibility

TDSB Islam Heritage Month  
TDSB Somali Heritage Month

### Important Notice School Newsletters

**Please remember our newsletters will be emailed out and available the first of each month on our school website. Please let your child's teacher know if you are not able to access the online version so that a hard copy can be sent home.**

### Website Update

Our website is currently being rebuilt. Sorry for the inconvenience – we hope to have it up and running soon.

### *Principal's Message:*

Welcome back once again to all our returning and new families. Whether you are a family that has returned in person or you have decided to have your child attend virtually we have all settled into our new routines. Thank you to the families that have returned their hard copy and online data verification packages – if you have not returned the hard copies please do so as soon as possible. If you are still not able to access the online forms please contact the office for assistance.

This month we started our fall fire drill and lockdown rehearsals. Fire drills will look a little different as physical distancing restrictions guide us in safely practicing our evacuations. On September 30th we wore Orange and took time to reflect on the harm that the Residential School System did to First Nations, Métis and Inuit Children and to recognize that “Every Child Matters”. Finally, the month wrapped up with a run for Terry. Thank you to those who were able to donate.

<http://www.terryfox.ca/SirAdamBeckJuniorEtobicoke>

Our website is currently being rebuilt. We would like to thank Mr Gard for the many years and hours he has dedicated to creating and maintaining our website. We hope to have our new TDSB site up and running soon.

On October the 1st the Ontario Ministry of Health released an updated *COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care*. The TDSB in consultation with Toronto Public Health will be providing direction to schools regarding any changes to our Operational Guidelines. We appreciate the support of our entire community as we strive to provide the safest environment for every student and staff member at SAB. On that note I would like to thank all parents/guardians and caregivers who have cooperated by clearing the schoolyard at the end of the day. We also appreciate everyone modelling the mandatory wearing of masks at drop off and pick up every day.

The home and school connection as well as the relationship with our families and our Alderwood Centre partners has always been the strength of our community. Unfortunately this year we have had to cancel the in-person Curriculum night and Council welcome back bbq. Plans are being developed to hold virtual curriculum presentations the week of October 13. Details will be shared soon.

In the spirit of being true Canadians, we will continue to venture outdoors as much as possible this year. Yes this means rain or shine - warm or cold. Please make a point of checking the daily forecast in order to assist your child in selecting the appropriate outdoor gear for that day.

On behalf of all the staff at SAB we would like to wish all our students and their families a wonderful Thanksgiving long weekend.

Continue to keep well and safe,  
M. Kanalec

**Principal** Michael Kanalec  
**Vice-Principal** Amira Kamel - Zia  
**Superintendent** Dr. Debbie Donsky  
**Trustee** Patrick Nunziata  
**School Council Co-Chairs** Paul Younger and  
Kristen Fox  
**Title Photo credit:** Steve Burazin

## Allergies in School

We feel that all parents would like to be aware that there are children in our school with severe life-threatening food allergies called anaphylaxis. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although peanuts and peanut products are the most common foods to cause anaphylaxis, shellfish, fish, eggs, sulphites, milk, sesame seeds, soy or other food can cause this dangerous condition. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. Although this may or may not affect your child or your child's class directly, we want to inform you so that you choose to send foods to school with your child that are free from these products. The Toronto District School Board has procedures for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions. If you are interested further information is also available through the Anaphylaxis Network of Canada (416) 785-5666. If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation in ensuring the safest environment.



### **MEDICAL FORMS**

*In addition, please ensure that you have filled and submitted the on-line SAB medical record form for your child. Each family should have received a link via email to be completed on-line.*

This information will help us to be aware of any special medical needs or concerns your child may have. If you have already submitted this form, thank you! If you have not received this on-line link or have had difficulty submitting it, please contact the school immediately for assistance.



### **Social Media**

If you didn't already know, Sir Adam Beck has both Twitter and Instagram accounts. We use both accounts to showcase and inform our local school community about the latest and greatest at Sir Adam Beck. We would also like to use our Twitter account to keep our school community aware of what's going on in real-time. In other words, if you want to stay in-step with the community at Sir Adam Beck as it's happening, join Twitter and follow us!

Twitter: @siradambeck or [twitter.com/siradambeck](https://twitter.com/siradambeck)

Instagram: [siradambeckjs](https://www.instagram.com/siradambeckjs) or [instagram.com/siradambeckjs](https://www.instagram.com/siradambeckjs)



## **Arrive on Time**

The best start to each school day is one that starts with arriving at school on time. In order to provide the best possible program for students, it is necessary for them to attend school regularly and on time. This means students should arrive before the bell rings so that they enter with classmates and have time to place things in their locker and get what they need for the day. The Education Act states that it is the responsibility of the parent (or guardian) to ensure that their children attend school regularly and on time.

Reminder to call school if your child will be late or absent

One measure of keeping our students safe is to ensure we can account for **any absences or reasons for being late** to school. We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, we ask that you contact the school immediately and report the reason for the absence. If we are not informed about the absence, we will make attempts to contact you through our automated call-out system to determine the reason for the absence. To find out how this automated system works please visit

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/HighSchool/CaringSafeSchools/SafeArrivalProgram.aspx>

**Please let the office know by calling 416 394-3884 Press 1 for safe arrival at any time.**

If your contact information, including phone number, changes at any time throughout the school year, please notify the office promptly.

Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep your children safe and accounted for.

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## **Visitors in School**

Please note at this time visitors are not able to come into to the school. Please call the main office to make an appointment if you need to connect with a staff member – 416 394 7670



## **Signing Students In and Out**

Parents and caregivers that are bringing students to school after the morning announcements or are removing them from school before the end of the day are asked to sign their children in or out at the office by using the Sign In/Sign Out book provided. If your child will not be riding the bus at the end of the day, please write a note for the teacher in the agenda.



### **Parking Lot Safety Reminders**

The parking lot is an extremely busy place. Please follow the Kiss N Ride rules and do not park your car in the drop off lane. Older students can be dropped on Eltham Drive which runs along our north field. Students can walk to colas safely from there.

Please **Do Not Park** in our 2 designated Handicap Spaces – vehicles may be fined and or towed.



### **Safety on the Play Scape**

Please note that the playground equipment is **not sanitized**.

Please **sanitize your hands before and after use**.

Please **maintain physical distancing** when enjoying the adventure playground (2 metres apart)

During school hours the students are asked to follow rules designed to enhance the safety of the play scape. We encourage the students to also use these rules when using the equipment outside of school hours.

- **WALK while using the equipment, running and games like Tag make it unsafe**
  - **Safe FOOTWEAR:** Your shoes need to have closed toes.
  - **KEEP HANDS FREE things in our hands, even mittens can get in the way of a safe grip**
  - **ONE AT A TIME:** Only one person at a time on the monkey bars, slides, rock wall and rope ladder. Remember, to keep your hands to yourself.
  - **FEET FIRST DOWN THE SLIDE**
  - **Eat First, Play later:** food is not allowed on the Adventure Playground. Be sure to finish eating before entering the area.
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## Early French Immersion (Senior Kindergarten (SK) Entry)

Applications to the Early French Immersion program are made the year your child is in Junior Kindergarten (or is of Junior Kindergarten age) for entry in Senior Kindergarten. It is an entirely online process. **All communication will be sent via the email address you provide. Please check your email regularly, including junk mail folders.**

Please visit the application site [www.tdsb.on.ca/pars](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/pars).

- You will need your child's date of birth and OEN. The OEN is a 9-digit number found on any report card from the TDSB.
- For non-TDSB students, please select the "Non-TDSB Student" option and follow the steps to generate an identification number. You must then return to the PARS site and follow the application procedure with this number.
- Please select the Early Immersion Program (SK) from the drop-down menu, and complete the application process.

On-time applicants will be offered a placement via the email address you have provided.

You **MUST** take action to reserve a spot by the deadline requested when you are offered a placement.

Offers of placement will be ongoing throughout the weeks and months following the close of the application period. ***Please check your email regularly, including junk mail folders, and follow any instructions.***

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Application process opens: November 2, 2020

**Deadline for applications: November 27, 2020**

*Please note:*

- *While every effort will be made to place students in the school identified as their area French Immersion school, this is not always possible. In cases where the number of applications in a given area is greater than the number of allotted program spaces in the school, students may be redirected to schools with available program space.*
  - *Placements are made based on the child's primary home address of record prior to the application deadline. If the address changes between the application deadline and the fall of the SK year, there is no guarantee of placement in the new area.*
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## **IMPORTANT Message from Toronto Public Health**

Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

**Re: Safer Holiday Planning During COVID-19**

With religious holidays and Thanksgiving approaching, here are some reminders to keep everyone as safe as possible. Remember to:

- Wash your hands often and stay home when you are sick.
- Keep two metres distancing from others not part of your household.
- Wear a mask or face covering, in indoor public places.
- Wear a mask or face covering when physical distancing is difficult with others that are not part of your household.
- Avoid touching your face. Cover your cough or sneeze with inner elbow or a tissue.
- Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces.
- Download the COVID Alert app.

### **Avoid non-essential travel**

There has been an increase in COVID-19 among people who recently travelled in Canada and abroad. Restrictions on non-essential travel between the U.S. and Canada are still in place. All travellers returning from outside of Canada need to self-isolate for 14 days.

### **Have guests from out of town?**

If you have relatives or friends travelling to Canada to celebrate the holidays with you, please remember that they are required to quarantine for 14 days. See Government of Canada website on travellers entering Canada.

### **Keep gathering sizes small**

Smaller, outdoor gatherings are safer than indoors. Reserve close contact to members of your household and essential supports, and keep a physical distance and wear a mask from everyone else. Add a virtual event to include family and friends from out-of-town and anyone who is feeling unwell. This year, avoid buffet style food service. Instead, serve food on individual plates to avoid passing and touching items.

For more information, please visit [toronto.ca/covid19](https://toronto.ca/covid19) or call us at 416-338-7600.

Yours truly,

Nicole Welch BSc. MSc. RN  
Toronto Public Health Director



## **Halloween – Please follow the advice of Toronto Public Health with regards to having your child participate in trick or treating**

### Hallowe'en Safety Tips

Hallowe'en provides an opportunity for parents and children to spend time together creating costumes, carving pumpkins, planning trick or treat activities and participating in family parties. Hallowe'en is a big event at schools and provides opportunities for parties, creative activities, art programs and impromptu history lessons. Hallowe'en is also a time for students, parents, and schools to take extra care to ensure safety and security.

### TRICK OR TREAT SAFETY

If parents are concerned about trick or treating, here are some basic safety rules to follow:

- Children should NEVER eat any treats until parents have had a chance to go through them and inspect them. Parents should look for tampering of packages and discard any they believe to be unsafe or unknown.
  - Have your child carry a flashlight.
  - NEVER go into a stranger's house.
  - NEVER trick or treat with people you do not know.
  - Trick or treat only at homes you know.
  - Children should always stay in groups if no parent is present.
  - Younger children should ALWAYS be accompanied by an older person.
  - Accompany your child when trick or treating.
  - If you can not accompany your child then know the route your child will take.
  - Flame resistant (retardant) costumes are in order. Keep costumes short and remind children to stay away from pumpkins with candles in them.
  - Remind children to stay away from pets they do not know.
  - Remind children of road safety rules. Cross only at corners. Do not criss-cross the road. Go up one side of the road and down the other side. Never cross between parked cars. Walk facing on-coming traffic if there is no sidewalk
  - If adults are driving their children, drive slowly, with lights on and be cautious when pulling to the side of the road.
  - Children should wear their own shoes when trick or treating. Wearing costume shoes/boots can be dangerous and uncomfortable.
  - Remind children that not everyone celebrates Hallowe'en, and to avoid any homes that have no lights on. Also remind children not to run through neighbours yards or gardens.
  - With older children, be sure to know what other events (such as parties) they plan on attending.
  - Set time limits when children should return home.
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## **Homework Tips**

Homework is an important part of a student's academic program. Research shows that students do better when parents are involved in their child's education. You can help your child improve his or her academic performance by being involved daily in homework assignments. If your child is in elementary school, ask the teacher at the beginning of the year what topics, areas, and skills will be covered. Keep a folder of your child's work (writing, drawing, book list, quizzes, etc.) and take them to the parent-teacher conference.

### **Suggested Time Guidelines:**

The amount of time a student spends on homework depends on the student's needs, age and grade, subject, schedule, proximity of tests, examinations and project due dates. The following chart is suggested as a general guide only.

**JK - Grade 3:** 10-30 minutes      **Grade 4- Grade 6:** 30-60 minutes

**Tips:** These tips will help your child in developing good study habits:

- Set a consistent time when homework will be done every night.
- Provide a quiet place away from distractions such as television and telephone.
- Have your children practise mathematics, reading, and writing skills daily.
- Talk to your children about what they are learning in school.
- Read together with younger children.
- Let your children help you in reading and writing, recipes, newspapers, letters, shopping lists.
- Encourage your children to ask the teacher for help if they find the work difficult or confusing.
- Keep in touch with the teachers and call when you have a question or a concern.
- Check that homework is completed.
  - Praise and encourage your children

# **KEEP WELL AND STAY SAFE**