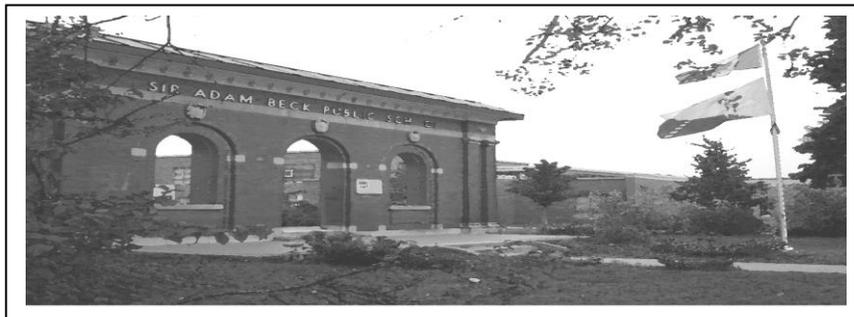


Newsletter

École
Sir Adam Beck
Junior School



October 2021

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

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

Upcoming Events

October is Walk to School Month
Every Wednesday will be a WOW day
Walk on Wednesdays

October 4: COVID Q&A with Mr Kanalec 4PM

link: <https://meet.google.com/ore-prjd-vme>

October 11: Thanksgiving – **School Closed**

October 12: Re-organization Day

October 14: Virtual Classroom
Open House

October 25: School Council Meeting, 6:30 PM
meet.google.com/owg-xfiw-yej

October 30: Spirit Day- In Class Costumes
(Tentative – more details to be announced)

November 5: Photo Day

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 at the beginning 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.

Principal Michael Kanalec
Vice-Principal Lauren Rovas
Superintendent Dr. Debbie Donsky
Trustee Patrick Nunziata
School Council Co-Chairs
Paul Younger and Cori 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:

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 continue to look a little different as physical distancing restrictions guide us in safely practicing our evacuations. On September 30th we wore Orange to honour the first annual National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. By wearing orange we acknowledge the legacy of residential schools in Canada and we honour the survivors.

Our Terry Fox walk/run was a huge success. To date we have raised almost \$1800 dollars which doubles the amount raised over the past five years. Thank you to those who were able to donate
<http://www.terryfox.ca/SirAdamBeckJuniorEtobicoke>

We continue to navigate COVID-19 by following our Operational Guidelines. The TDSB in consultation with Toronto Public Health continues to provide direction to schools as updates are made.

We appreciate the support of our entire community as we strive to provide the safest environment for every student, staff and family member at SAB. We are happy to announce the arrival of the The SICK KIDS COVID-19 Saliva Testing Program to SAB scheduled to begin on October 11th. An informational PowerPoint will be posted on our school website and links to weekly webinars can be found on p.6 of this newsletter.

We appreciate everyone modelling the mandatory wearing of masks at drop off and pick up every day as well as the care being shown in completing the screening pass on a daily basis. Please join me for a Virtual Q & A on Monday October 4th @ 4PM.

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. This year we will be hosting a virtual open house on Thursday October 14, 2021. Teachers will communicate the details of their open house directly to their class/families. Classes will be using their Goggle classrooms to connect and offering two virtual open house times to accommodate families with siblings – ie 6:00-6:15PM and 6:20-6:35PM

We continue to promote the health and safety benefits of being outdoors, 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

PR - 728 - Reporting and Responding to Racism and Hate Incidents Involving or Impacting Students in School

At the TDSB our collective goal as educators is to create classrooms where students will thrive through culturally-affirming pedagogical innovations and sustained, equity-informed relationships with educators and each other. These principles are at the root of all that we do to ensure that we are creating safe spaces where students feel comfortable expressing themselves and feel a strong sense of pride and belonging.

On our September 3rd professional development day, we were able to engage staff in training with regards to Procedure 728 - Reporting and Responding to Racism and Hate Incidents Involving or Impacting Students in School. This Procedure details how all adults in our building are to respond to incidents of race, hate or bias.

Once an adult has been made aware of an incident occurring they are to report it immediately to an administrator who is then responsible for logging the incident in the TDSB Race, Bias, Hate Portal. The administrator will then undertake an investigation and will create a subsequent action plan to repair the damage. At the discretion of the Superintendent, an Organizational Response Team will be convened to discuss the incident and subsequent action plan.

Our goal at Sir Adam Beck is to empower all of our students and staff, through education and professional development, to become activists within our community. Over the past few weeks Mme Rovas and I have been able to visit all classrooms and read the story: "The Name Jar" and engage students in discussions about how we are responsible for creating an environment where students feel safe to speak their truths without fear of reprisal. The insights that came from both our youngest learners to our oldest students have shown a tremendous amount of knowledge and empathy.

You may hear the term advocate referred to at home. It was a new word for many of our students but it will become part of everyone's daily vocabulary. At Sir Adam Beck all students and adults have been empowered to advocate for their community members and to create the conditions where everyone will thrive and feel welcome.

We also recognise that all parents and caregivers are partners in creating a community free from racism, classism and hate both intentional or unintentional. Over the next few months we will work actively with staff and the Parent Council to seek out opportunities for families to interact virtually with our school to continue promoting inclusion and education for all.

As a school we have also committed to celebrating the work that is happening both at the classroom and school level during monthly virtual assemblies. We want to thank Mme Brown and Mrs Paul for starting off the year with a celebration of inclusion: It's cool to be me and Bienvenue à l'école. We look forward to these assemblies on a monthly basis to highlight and reinforce the role that we all play on a daily basis on advocating for one another.

We look forward to working in partnership with the entire community to continue building momentum toward this vital initiative.

Yours in partnership,

Michael Kanalec



September 2021 Council Corner

Email: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com

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

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

Join the School Council Executive!

School Councils are an excellent way for parents/guardians to become engaged in the school. The purpose of the Council is to improve student achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system. You are automatically a member of Council if you have a child enrolled at SAB or in virtual school and we encourage you to participate in Council activities throughout the year.

If you would like to have a stronger voice on Council, consider becoming a voting member. There are 12 vacant positions available for a one-year term, including a new Equity Liaison position to ensure equity is embedded into our work and that we are nurturing an inclusive and safe environment for all of our children. Complete the nomination form within this package or email sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com for a copy. Voting will take place during the Council meeting on Monday, October 25, 2021.

Upcoming School Council Meetings:

We usually hold meetings on Mondays once a month at 6:30 pm. Due to COVID-19, meetings have been virtual using Google Meet. We share the meeting link in advance of each meeting three different ways:

- In Mr. Kanalec's Newsletter (emailed to all families)
- Posted on the Council website (<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck>)
- Posted on the School Council's Facebook group (École Sir Adam Beck Junior School - SAB School Council Group)

Our fall meeting dates are:

- October 25th
- November 22nd

Fundraising:

Fundraising by Council supports meaningful resources for students that might not be covered through the school budget. This includes extra technology, funding for teachers to use in classrooms, extracurricular activities, such as Scientists in School, parent workshops and sports equipment, to name just a few. Based on needs identified, the Council will vote on how the funds will be budgeted and spent throughout the school year. Below are a few campaigns that are currently running.

Back again this year:

The QSP Reading Together Magazine Fundraiser promotes literacy and encourages families to read and learn together while supporting our school. To participate, follow these 4 easy steps **by October 21!**

1. Go to: shop.qsp.ca
2. Find out school using the search bar
3. Shop and Save! Select your favourite magazines and add to your cart
4. Complete your order and be sure to include Student Name at checkout. Please expect magazines to arrive 6-8 weeks from the time of order

Ongoing fundraisers:

- Indigo eGift cards: Visit <https://indigo.flipgive.com/>, search for Sir Adam Beck Jr. School or enter Campaign ID 41499 and purchase vouchers to redeem online or in store, or give as gifts.
- Mabel's Labels: Visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com, click the "Support a Fundraiser" button at the top right of the website and select Sir Adam Beck.

Parent engagement workshops:

We aim to engage parents in a number of different ways throughout the year. Last year we were able to offer several virtual parent engagement workshops on topics that were selected by our school community. Some of the topics identified included:

- Mental Math Strategies
- Raising resilient kids (workshop offered: March 2021)
- Raising anti-racist kids (workshop offered: February and May 2021)
- Building emotional intelligence
- Internet use and safety

To support planning for this year, please let Council know what topics would be of interest to you and your family. Post suggestions to our Facebook group or send them by email to: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com.

Learning corner:

Sign up for the upcoming Parents and Caregivers as Partners virtual conference to hear from a range of speakers on different topics to help you better support your child(ren).

Dates: October 16 and 17, 2021

Website: <https://www.parentsaspartners.ca/>

The Sick Kids COVID-19 Saliva Testing Program

Weekly Webinar

Supporting Staff, Students, and Household Members

Every Tuesday and Wednesday

12:00pm and 6:00pm (EST)

September 14th through October 27th

- These webinars will provide a program overview, important information and answer FAQs

Zoom Webinar Link: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/7655315867>

Webinar ID: 765 531 5867

Phone: +1 647 558 0588 Canada

Find your local number: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/u/kernEsdnRM>

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 a Twitter account. It is used 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



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 a few minutes before the bell rings and have their Health Pass out ready to be checked. 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.

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 our NEW Safe Arrival Line: 1-833-250-2290.

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.

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 connect with the office (call in or signal the office via the main door intercom). If your child will not be riding the bus at the end of the day, please let your child's teacher know by writing a note or sending an email.



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.

Early French Immersion

The entry point to Early French Immersion is currently Senior Kindergarten. However, as per recommendations approved at the Board in June 2019, the entry point will change to Junior Kindergarten for September 2022. There will be one transition year wherein students who will be entering Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten in 2022 will be eligible to apply to the Early French Immersion program during the November 2021 application period. Moving forward (2023), the only entry point for Early French Immersion will be Junior Kindergarten.

The application to the Early French Immersion program will remain an online process managed by the Central FSL Department and will take place during the month of November. All information and the online application is available at www.tdsb.on.ca/french.

Kindergarten Registration

With the entry point for the Early French Immersion program changing to Junior Kindergarten, families may access the application program to Early French Immersion (PARS) when registering their child(ren) for Kindergarten at the TDSB on the Online Registration System (OLR). Please note the deadline to apply for Early French Immersion is the end of November. While Kindergarten Registration typically begins in February, the Online Registration System (OLR) will be live and available for families to complete their child's registration for Junior Kindergarten beginning in the fall.

As always, information and detailed instructions about the Kindergarten Registration process are available online at www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

IMPORTANT

Current JK Students - If you are interested in having your child apply to the Early French Immersion program and your child is already enrolled in a TDSB JK program please apply online www.tdsb.on.ca/french.

Children starting JK September 2022 - If you are interested in having your child apply to the Early French Immersion Program families must first register their child(ren) for Kindergarten at the TDSB on the Online Registration System (OLR) to gain access to the online application at www.tdsb.on.ca/french. Please **do not** wait for Kindergarten registration month in February 2022. Please contact our main office if you require assistance.

Early French Immersion Deadline for applications: November 30, 2021



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

Hallowe'en Safety Tips

For families that celebrate Hallowe'en, it provides an opportunity for parents and children to spend time together creating costumes, carving pumpkins, planning trick or treat activities and participating in family time. 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