

Sir William Osler High School

Soaring Eagle Update

18 October 2024

Dear Osler Community,

This has been a very busy week at Osler! Congratulations to our Special Olympics soccer teams, who competed on Thursday at Albert Campbell Cl. We are proud of how well they played and how they supported each other.

On behalf of the TDSB Transportation Department, we regret the inconvenience caused to many of our families due to bus cancellations on Thursday and Friday. We have been informed that routes should be running normally on Monday. Thank you for your patience.

Family-Staff Interviews are coming up on Thursday, October 24th. We will follow a 1pm Dismissal schedule for students that day, and interviews are from 5pm to 8pm. We will also have a number of agencies here that evening to speak to families and caregivers about resources and future planning. Brigitte will also be available to help families set up with on-line forms, Cash-on-Line, etc. Please see the next page for details.

Our swim program will be starting again this week, on Wednesday, October 23rd. Please see the next page for suggestions on what your child should bring if they are participating.

We wish you a great long weekend!

Ian Bain
Principal

Jennifer Rochon
Vice-Principal

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@OslerHS



Sir William Osler H.S. -TDSB

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Oct 21	Oct 22	Oct 23	Oct 24	Oct 25
	Cross Country	Swim Program begins	1pm Dismissal Family-Staff Interviews & Agency Fair 5-8pm	
Oct 28	Oct 29	Oct 30	Oct 31	Nov 1
Scholastic Book Fair (in the Osler Library)				
	Best Buddies Meet & Greet	Swim Program	Hallowe'en Dance (Period 4)	
Monday, November 4 th : 1pm Dismissal (Staff Meeting/PLC) Wednesday, November 6 th : Term 2 begins Thursday, November 7 th : Inuit Day			Thursday, November 7 th : 1pm Dismissal (Commencement) Friday, November 8 th : Photo Retake Day Friday, November 8 th : National Indigenous Veterans' Day	

Calendar dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances, please see website for up-to-date events.

The Soaring Eagle Updates are all archived on our Osler school site:

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

Osler Food Pantry

We are once again collecting donations for our Osler Food Pantry. Any items can be dropped off in the box by the Main Office or sent in with your child. Donations will be added to our Pantry which supports Osler students and their families.

Suggested donation items include:

- Deodorant
- Laundry Soap
- Shampoo
- Cookies/Snacks
- Canned Chicken/Ham/Tuna/Meat
- Canned vegetables & fruit
- Ready-to-serve Soups
- Peanut Butter
- Jam/Spread
- Rice
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Juice boxes
- Pudding Cups/Fruit Cups
- Breakfast items
- Noodles/ramen

Learn to Swim Program

The Osler Learn to Swim Program will be starting on Wednesday, October 23 at the Stephen Leacock CI swimming pool. Students must have already completed their field trip forms. On Wednesday, students must bring:

- Bathing suit
- Towel
- Deck footwear (crocks, flip flops) (suggested but not required)
- Swimming goggles (if desired)
- Bag for wet towel / bathing suit
- Soap if shower is desired afterwards

Thank you to Stephen Leacock CI and the TDSB Transportation Department for supporting the program for our students.

Family/Staff Interviews: Thursday, October 24th

On October 24th, we will once again be hosting Family/Staff Interviews from 5pm to 8pm. We will follow a 1pm Dismissal schedule on this day.

The following agencies will be on hand to speak with families:

- Cherish Integrated Services
- Corbrook
- Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)
- Moeen Centre
- Learning Disabilities Association
- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Sunflower Respite Services
- Post 21
- Community Living Toronto
- Community Access Learning Centre
- Mary's Centre

Beta and Gamma 10 teachers will be in the cafeteria and meetings will be on a first come-first served basis. Gamma 1-9 teachers will be in classrooms and families can reach out to their child's teachers to make an appointment; drop-in meetings will also be accommodated. Lists and maps will be posted.

We will also be offering tech support for families who are having difficulty accessing on-line forms such as School Cash Online or online forms. Please look for Ms. Boyd's table at the agency fair if this is a support you need.

Take Our Kids to Work Day

Take Our Kids to Work Day is Canada's most recognized career exploration event, engaging students with employers and the community for nearly 30 years. On Wednesday, November 6th, parents/guardians may choose to have their Grade 9 student(s) participate in Take Our Kids to Work Day events at their workplace or at the workplace of another adult in their circle of care. Parents/guardians should complete the [Take Our Kids to Work Day – Parent/Guardian Consent Form](#) and submit the completed form to their child's school by October 31st. Parents/guardians assume the risk/responsibility of their child's participation in this experiential learning opportunity.

To learn more and stay up-to-date on developments, resources, and opportunities, visit [The Official Take Our Kids to Work 2024 site](#).

Virtual Drop In Hours for Parents, Caregivers & Guardians

TDSB Mental Health and Wellbeing-Professional Support Services (PSS) Staff is excited to introduce our Virtual Drop-In Hours for the 2024/25 school year, open to staff, parents, guardians, and caregivers.

In alignment with TDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) and our commitment to fostering belonging and inclusive learning environments that prioritize mental health and well-being, we will be offering focused, themed educational presentations designed to provide pathways to care for students' mental health and well-being.

The PSS team will host four virtual drop-in sessions, each providing up-to-date information and practical resources for youth, parents, guardians, and caregivers. These sessions are aimed at equipping our community with the knowledge and tools necessary to support the well-being of our students both at home and in school.

Please see the [attached flyer](#) with details.

The dates and themes are below and all sessions are virtual from 7pm-8pm:

- 1) Oct 16th, 2024: New Mental Health Curriculum for grades, 7, 8 & 10
- 2) January 15th, 2025: What is Mental Health: Facilitated by parents from the Mental Health and Well Being Parent Partnership Committee
- 3) March 19th, 2025: Access to TDSB Professional Support Staff for Students
- 4) May 21st, 2025: TDSB Summer Well Being Guide: Pathways to summer planning for your child(ren)

We look forward to your participation as we work together to ensure a caring and supportive environment for all students.

Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Safety Plan

Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Safety Plan (if applicable) were sent home on Tuesday, October 15th. Please take a moment to review. IEPs and Safety Plans are considered "living documents" that can be changed as required. If you would like to see any changes, please connect with your child's classroom teacher.

Signed copies must be returned by Tuesday, October 29th and can be returned at the Family/Staff Interviews.

Sunflower Services: Social Group Programs

Please find attached flyers from Sunflower Services for Social Group Programs. This information is shared as a service to parents. Sunflower Services is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Toronto District School Board or Sir William Osler High School.

Online Interpreter Training

We are excited to once again offer the Online Interpreter Training program. We will be offering the opportunity to 85 TDSB parents/caregivers to receive online interpreter training in TDSB's most requested languages!

Are you a parent/caregiver with a child registered in the TDSB who:

- has full proficiency in English and another language (i.e., Pashto, Farsi, Roma, Ukrainian);
- is interested in being trained as an interpreter to work with the TDSB;
- is comfortable with virtual/online learning;
- has access to a computer, and the internet and has, at minimum, intermediate computer fluency;
- has a recording device, headphones, and dictionaries (hard copy and/or online).

TDSB is the largest school board in Canada and one of the most diverse. 23% of our students were born outside of Canada and there are over 120 languages spoken by TDSB students and their parents/caregivers. Research also identifies communication between the home and the school as essential to student success. Ensuring equitable engagement opportunities for our multi-lingual parents/caregivers, while maximizing their language assets, will enable the TDSB to improve communication between parents/caregivers and the school/Board.

Please join us on October 21, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. [See attached for more details.](#)

Ongoing Health and Safety Information

COVID Self Screening

The Toronto Public Health COVID Screening tool [can be found here](#). Students are reminded to self-screen for symptoms and stay home if they feel ill. We are following Provincial and Public Health guidance. If students are absent, they should contact their teacher to find out about missed work.

COVID-19 Health and Safety Measures and Practices

Over the past 3+ years, TDSB staff and students have been diligent in following the health and safety directions provided by the Ministry of Education and Toronto Public Health to manage COVID-19 and keep our schools and sites as safe as possible. We continue to follow the Ministry of Education guidance for this new school year. We continue to take our health and safety direction from the Ministry and Toronto Public Health, and it is important to note that this is the current information and can change based on a change of guidance.

Screening – Students and staff should continue to do a daily self-assessment before entering school or Board buildings and stay home if they are sick.

Masks – The TDSB continues to be a mask-friendly environment inclusive of all staff and students. While the Ministry of Education and public health officials are not mandating the use of masks, Toronto Public Health strongly recommends wearing a well-fitting, high-quality mask, especially in indoor public settings. The TDSB will continue to provide medical masks for staff and students who request them.

Vaccines – The TDSB will continue to work closely with Toronto Public Health to support their vaccination efforts for COVID-19 and other illnesses. School-based clinics may continue to operate to support local communities and we will share any information with our community about possible clinics at Osler.

Cohorting – Cohorting classes is no longer required for health and safety reasons.

Ventilation – More than 16,000 institutional-grade HEPA filters are in the TDSB with at least one in every occupied classroom. Caretakers will continue to increase ventilation in schools and classrooms with mechanical systems by adjusting the air exchanges and running them before and after class as well as increase natural ventilation by opening windows for short periods of time.

Enhanced Cleaning – Caretaking staff will continue to perform routine cleaning of general facilities throughout the day and enhanced cleaning of high touch surfaces such as light switches, handrails, door handles, etc.