

# Sir William Osler High School

## Soaring Eagle Update

13 December 2024

Dear Osler Community,

We have enjoyed another fantastic week here at Osler! It was a pleasure to see parents and guardians at our School Council meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> – many great ideas were shared. On Thursday, our Girls' Basketball group participated in a Basketball Fest at Maplewood, and we congratulate everyone on their fair play and sportsmanship. Friday was a wonderful day, with our annual Festive Brunch, Holiday Shirt Day and our dance during Period 4! Thank you to our invited VIPs who attended our Brunch and brought donations to our Food Pantry, and big thanks to CUPE for their \$500 donation to our Food School!

The last week before the break is full of many fun activities, such as our next Best Buddies trip, the Movie Trip, and watching our Winter Talent Show. We will also do our locker cleanout on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for the two-week break.

This time of year can be a challenge for families. On behalf of the entire Osler community, we want to thank the family of Osler student Nathaniel Thompson, who donated incredible food hampers that we will be able to distribute to other Osler families in time for the holidays. Thank you!!!!

We wish you a great weekend!

Ian Bain  
Principal

Jennifer Rochon  
Vice-Principal

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@OslerHS



Sir William Osler H.S. -TDSB

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20
	Best Buddies Trip	Locker cleanout	Movie Trip	Talent Show
<b>Winter Break: December 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup></b>				
Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8	Jan 9	Jan 10
Classes resume				
Monday, January 13 <sup>th</sup> : 1pm Dismissal (Staff Meeting/PLC) January 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> : IPRC Level 1 Meetings Friday, January 24 <sup>th</sup> : Spirit Day – Superhero Day		Wednesday, January 29 <sup>th</sup> : Semester 1 ends Thursday, January 30 <sup>th</sup> : PA Day (no classes for students) Friday, January 31 <sup>st</sup> : First day of Semester 2		

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>

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## Bake Sale Items

Any items purchased from our Bake Sale will go home with students on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. If you do not wish for your child to bring home the items, please contact the office to arrange alternate pick up.

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## Learn to Swim Program

The Osler Learn to Swim Program is not scheduled for next week. The swim program resumes in Semester 2.

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## Winter Break (December 23 - January 4)

The board wide TDSB Winter Break will be between December 23rd and January 4th. During this time, all schools across the TDSB will be closed.

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## Winter Well-Being Guide 2024-2025

The [Winter Well-Being Guide 2024-2025](#) is now available. The Guide is prepared by the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee, in collaboration with the Mental Health Leads and the System Leader for Mental Health and PSS. [The Winter Well-Being Guide 2024-2025](#) offers updated, culturally relevant, and responsive resources to support students and parents/caregivers/guardians in fostering mental and physical wellness during the winter months. It also includes specific supports tailored for students with disabilities and complex needs.

To ensure accessibility for our diverse community, the guide has been translated into the top spoken languages within the TDSB. You can access it here: [The Winter Well-Being Guide 2024-2025](#)

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## Winter Weather & Student Transportation

It's sometimes necessary to cancel student transportation, classes and/or programs because of [severe weather](#). On rare occasions, it may be necessary to close schools, administrative offices, or sites and when schools are closed, there will be no staff (such as principals and teachers) on-site to supervise students. Any decision to cancel buses, classes and/or programs or to close sites is not taken lightly and when this happens, information will be posted on the [TDSB home page](#) and on TDSB social media by 6 a.m.

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## Applying for Wheel-Trans

Wheel-Trans provides a safe and reliable transportation option for persons with disabilities to travel with freedom and dignity. Applicants may be eligible for Wheel-Trans service if their disability prevents them from using TTC's conventional transit for all or part of their trip.

The TTC requires eligible customers to submit a completed application to use the Wheel-Trans service. The application is available at <https://portal.ttc.ca/>.

More information about Wheel-Trans is available on the [Wheel-Trans website](#).

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## Access 2 Entertainment Card

Easter Seals Canada's award-winning Access 2 Card program was launched in 2004 with support from Cineplex Entertainment and a group of national disability organizations. The Access 2 Card program helps to ensure that entertainment, cultural and recreational opportunities are more available and accessible to all. Managed and administered by Easter Seals Canada (located in Toronto), the Access 2 Card program has grown to reach over 100,000 Canadians who are living with disabilities and includes over 500 participating partner venues across the country.

### To be eligible for the Access 2 Card, you must:

- Live with a *permanent disability*, as defined below.
- AND**
- The nature of your disability requires you to have the assistance of a *support person*, as defined below, when visiting participating venues.

**Permanent Disability**

A permanent disability means any impairment (physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication, sensory) or functional limitation that:

- Restricts the applicant's ability to attend participating venues by themselves.
- Remains with the applicant for the rest of their life.

**Support Person**

A support person is an individual who accompanies a person with a disability to provide services that are not provided by employees of the participating venue. Examples include assisting the person with eating, administering medication, communicating, using washroom facilities, etc.

The support person:

- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- May be related to the applicant.
- Does not need to be a registered personal support worker (PSW) unless otherwise stated by the participating venue.

**Age**

The Access 2 Card is for people of all ages and types of permanent disabilities who require the assistance of a support person.

For more information and to apply for a card for your child, please visit <https://access2card.ca/get-your-card/>.

### 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.