



April 2019

A Message from Your School Administration Team

Our students continue to be engaged in various learning opportunities at St. Margaret's PS. This month, our Gr. 4/5 and 7/8 classes will be participating in TDSB Talks, a speech arts competition that is in the format of a TED Talk. Students have been researching interesting topics and have started writing their speeches. We are looking forward to our school competition at the end of the month. One junior and one intermediate student will represent our school at an area competition that is being held at the University of Toronto, Scarborough on May 1st.

Students are also keeping active by participating in intramural volleyball at lunch and The Recess Project games and activities that are offered on Mondays and Fridays. Our Recess Project leaders are teaching their schoolmates various new games and are doing a fantastic job assisting our school coordinator, Lulu. Our Health Action Committee is also organizing a Pedometer Challenge for every class. We will be tracking the number of steps that each class takes in a day. The goal for each student is to match or surpass our TDSB Director, Dr. John Malloy, who took over 3000 steps on the day he visited our school. The class that takes the most steps will be awarded a pizza party. Let's all get moving!

We kindly ask that community members do not use our school parking lot, especially in the morning when staff members are trying to enter the lot. This parking lot is private property, and Toronto Police Service will issue tickets for vehicles that park in our lot overnight. We appreciate your cooperation.

In Partnership,

Ms. R. Tohana
Principal

Mr. R. Robinson
Vice-Principal



Upcoming Dates

Apr. 4	Parent Council Meeting in Staff Room, 9:00am
Apr. 6	LC3 Math Symposium at Woburn Cl, 10:00am
Apr. 9	Mr. Hirji & Ms. Piper's Class to Storefront, 9:00am
Apr. 9	Parents Education Expo at Galloway Road PS, 5:30pm
Apr. 10	International Day of Pink
Apr. 18	Gr. 4-8 School Track & Field Meet
Apr. 18	Mental Health & Well-Being Tea and Talk in Staff Room, 9:00am
Apr. 19	Good Friday (Holiday)
Apr. 22	Easter Monday (Holiday)
Apr. 23	Swim to Survive Starts for Gr. 4/5 classes
Apr. 26	Character Education Assembly, 10:30am
Apr. 30	Imani Recognition Ceremony at UTSC, 6:00pm

April is Sikh Heritage, Hispanic Heritage and Latin-America History Month!

St. Margaret's Public School

235 Galloway Road
Toronto, ON
M1E 1X5
416.396.6550

Principal: Ms. R. Tohana
Vice-Principal: Mr. R. Robinson
Office Administrator: Ms. I. Nour
Superintendent: Ms. S. Robinson Petrazzini
Trustee, Ward 19: Mr. Zakir Patel

Website - <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/stmargarets/Home.aspx>
Twitter - @tdsb_SMPS



School Updates



STEM Competition Update

Two teams put St. Margaret's PS on the map when they competed at the TDSB Ontario Skills Qualifier this past March at L'Amoreaux Collegiate! With teamwork and determination, students used the skills that we have been practising in our new STEAM Lab to build a structure that can lift plastics out of our oceans. Scoring in the high 90's out of 100, both the Junior team - Parker (Gr. 5), Nomesch (Gr. 5), Ahahilla (Gr. 5), and Selena (Gr. 5) - and the Intermediate team - Faijul (Gr. 7), Shaan (Gr. 7), Keyana (Gr. 8), and Sidartha (Gr. 8) - came short only a few points behind the team that continued to the next round. They gave it their all, and we are so proud! Here's what they have to say about their experience.

"This was a wonderful experience. This experience included many parts that I enjoyed greatly. For example, the competitiveness, the learning experience, and teamwork. Science is one of my passions and going on this trip has made me more confident about what I want to do for the future."
~ Faijul (Gr. 7)

"My experience was awesome. In the beginning, the challenge seemed hard when the judges gave us one hour to draw our design. But they really liked our design. We felt confident building. We started off strong, but the wood glue didn't dry quickly enough by the end of the challenge. So we had to hold it up while we tested our structure. We were still proud because our team worked hard, and we worked well together." ~ Nomesch (Gr. 5)

"My experience was good. It wasn't too hard to come up with an idea because we practised building a similar structure during our class time with Ms. Kim and Ms. Bailey in the STEAM lab. But when we started to build, it was getting difficult. But there were nice judges to help us. One of the judges named Lucas was there to give us good ideas, so we wouldn't struggle too much. I can tell they really wanted all the students to succeed."
~ Ahahilla (Gr. 5)

"My experience was good. The challenge was more difficult than we expected when we were practising. But we came up with a really good design and started building a strong structure to hold our pulley system. A kid from another group must have liked our design because he ran to his group to tell them what to do. Near the end we had only 2 minutes left and our wood glue wasn't dry. We decided just to use hot glue, but that was a bad idea. We panicked, but we did manage to put the pieces back in place. It was a good learning experience. We learned not to panic at the end and finish what you can finish." ~ Selena (Gr. 5)

"I learned a lot from this experience. I learned that hot glue does not work with wood and I learned that I am good at cutting wood. I am also good at building, safety, and staying positive for my group. I was so determined to win, but we didn't win eventually. But I would do this again. It helped me realize what I am good at." ~ Parker (Gr. 5)

Submitted by Ms. Kim

April is Sikh Heritage Month!

Sikh Heritage Month is celebrated at the TDSB during the month of April. In 2016, Trustees voted to designate April of each year as Sikh Heritage Month, making the TDSB the first school board in Canada to do so, and matching recognition by the Province of Ontario in 2013.

Sikh Heritage Month is to provide an opportunity for staff, students and community members to learn more about Sikh traditions and history, and celebrate the many contributions of Sikh Canadians. The theme for the year is **A Century of Pioneer Families**. We acknowledge that in 1919, Prime Minister of Canada, Robert Borden, at the Imperial War Conference was pressured after the great valour of Sikh soldiers to ease restrictions of wives and children to join their husband and fathers in Canada.

April is Hispanic Heritage Month!

April is designated Hispanic Heritage Month at the TDSB. Ontario is home to more than 400,000 Canadians of Hispanic origin. As early as 1914, Canadians who originated from 23 Hispanic countries began immigrating to the province and today the Hispanic community is one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Hispanic-Canadians represent a dynamic community that has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of our province. Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of Hispanic people.

School & Community Updates

LC3 Math Symposium

On Saturday, April 6th, Learning Centre 3 in the TDSB will be holding a Math Symposium: 'Math in our Lives' at Woburn Collegiate Institute (2222 Ellesmere Road) from 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-2:00 p.m. All students, parents, community groups, and educators are invited to attend this free event. You do not have to register in advance. Join Ms. Giovinazzi and Ms. Felix at the symposium and engage in some hands-on math fun. We hope to see you there!

Summer School in July

This July, summer school will be offered to students in Kindergarten to Gr. 8 at Eastview Public School from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon from July 3 to 26, 2019. The focus will be on using the global competencies, STEM and robotics to explore literacy and numeracy. Transportation is not provided and parents are responsible for drop off and pick up. Registration forms will go home this week and are due **Thursday, April 18th**. Don't miss out on this great learning opportunity!

Eco Club: Cell Phone and Battery Collection, April 1-5

Did you know that The Toronto Zoo remains the most trusted cell phone recycler in Toronto? St. Margaret's PS will be assisting the Toronto Zoo in the collection of unused cell phones and old batteries to assist in this cause. By bringing in your discarded batteries and cell phones, we will contribute to responsible waste management of electronic materials. Please bring electronic donations to the office in the week of April 1- 5. Thanks for your support!

**April's Character Trait
is
Cooperation**

***"Coming together is a
beginning, staying
together is progress
and working together
is success."***

~ Henry Ford

April is Latin-America History Month!

Latin-America History Month is celebrated at the TDSB during the month of April. This year's theme is ***The Universal Language of Art / Arte: El Idioma Universa***. The Latin-America History Planning Committee has organized many educational opportunities for our students, staff and the TDSB community to attend and learn about their history, culture and customs.



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