

The Waterfront School

June Newsletter 2020
From Ms. Harvey, Principal



Important Updates

Sept. 8 – First day of school

Aug.-Sept. – Plans sent to parents

July 15 – Board Meeting of Trustees (Webcast open to the Public)

June 26 – Last day of School

The Waterfront School

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This newsletter is available
on our school website at
<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/thewaterfrontschool/>

Principal's Message



We have had an unusual historic school year that has presented us with challenges and new learning opportunities. It was a big change for all of us. We learned different ways to communicate with you and with our students and created new learning opportunities through remote learning. Many of our students joined us for a virtual assembly to share their work and to celebrate excellence in learning. Our final celebration assembly of the year was held virtually through Google Meet and we had a chance to recognize some of our Waterfront School leaders and to share wonderful memories of the school year. Educating our students has changed. The positive initiatives that engaged and inspired students during remote learning have been part of our staff discussions as we plan for September. Thank you for working through this together with us.

Staffing Changes

We had a number of occasional teachers working at The Waterfront School this year and they finished their assignments at the end of June. Thank you to the following LTO teachers and we wish them all the best: Ms. Ho, Ms. Prince, Ms. Padelopoulos, Mr. Guarda, Ms. Arakelyan, Mr. Enogieru and Ms. Dulu our ECE. We also want to thank our Lunchroom Supervisors Ms. Zare and Ms. Khurana who became surplus to our school. Ms. Dimitry is moving to a new school closer to her family and Ms. Bandi will be on a planned leave next year. Ms. Malatestas is returning to our school from her leave and we are happy to welcome Ms. Kermeci (ECE) and Ms. Fortier who are joining The Waterfront School staff.

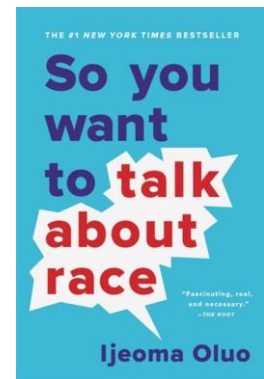
Our classes for next year will be:
JK/SK1, JK/SK2, 1/2A, 1/2B, 2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 6/7, 7/8.

Digital Library

Remember that your child can access great resources for learning on the TDSB Virtual Library. You can reach this site from the Toronto District School Boards web page.
<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/library/>

Continuing Our Learning Over the Summer

Before the end of the school year, The Waterfront staff met several times to discuss changes that we need to make to educate ourselves and our students as we continue to create a school that is free from racism and oppression. To continue our learning I have given each staff member a copy of the book "So you want to talk about race," to read over the summer. Expanding our knowledge and understanding will help us make changes.



September information

As you have probably heard in the news, TDSB has been planning since March for 3 different scenarios for school in September. (Full return to school, Remote learning or Hybrid (limiting student numbers and alternating in school with at home learning)). This decision will be made at the end of August after consultation with TDSB committees, Unions, Trustees, Ministry of Education and Toronto Public Health. There is a special Board meeting of Trustees scheduled for July 15 at 4pm which is available to the public by webcast. Just check www.tdsb.on.ca for more information. Parents will be sent a survey asking if you will be sending your child back to school. The plan for September will be shared with parents/families mid to late August.

Grade 8 Graduates

We joined together virtually with our grade 8 graduates and staff virtually to celebrate our students' achievements and to congratulate them. Students shared their reflections on their learning, a favourite memory and advice to younger students. We wanted students to have a special memory to take with them so we designed a graduation shirt and gave it to each student so they can wear it with pride and be a reminder of their achievements. Congratulations to our Grade 8 Graduates!



Parking Changes

You have probably noticed a lot of construction around the school. Here is the latest picture that I took of the new parking lot that is located just south of the school. Some of this will be for TDSB staff parking and we are working out details with the City for a parent drop off area. More information will follow in September.



Hearts and Minds

Here is the Hearts and Minds Summer Edition from our School Psychologist Melody Ashworth. Please take a few minutes to read through it. There are lots of ideas for a happy and healthy summer for you and your children.

Hearts and Minds Summer Edition

To keep with Mental Health and Well-Being, here is the TDSB Summer Well being Guide

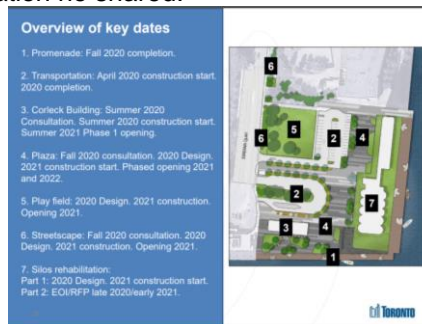
I also wanted to share with you information about construction on Bathurst in case you haven't seen it.

Construction Notice

This newsletter is available on our school website at <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/thewaterfrontschool/>

School Council Meeting

We held our first virtual School Council Meeting on June 15. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us. We had a number of guests who shared information. Bryan Bowen from the City of Toronto explained the construction happening around The Waterfront School. Here is a picture to summarize some of the information he shared.



Richard Christie from TDSB gave us an update on our playground revitalization. We are only able to work with the \$400,000 from the City. The Port Authority is not able to commit to any funding at this time. We had an additional meeting with Mr. Christie to outline our priorities from last year which focus on upgrading the field with a running track, sand pit and soccer posts. The Board will provide funding to fix the ramp and surrounding areas. We will meet again in the fall.

Tania Lewis our School Social worker shared information with us about supporting your child and teen. We know that things are not normal and it can be stressful for parents and children. She has practical and easy tips to reduce stress. Here is a link to her summary sheet.

[Supporting your Child and Teen](#)

Student Voices

I wanted to end this newsletter with the voices of our students. This piece was written by our 3/4 students with Ms. Dias. COVID-19 has prompted many of us to reflect on our values and what is important to us. We all have the opportunity to make a better world. I want to thank our students for reminding us of this.

Room 7

We Dream of a Better World

Poem by Grade 3/4 Students



We dream of a world where...

Every human and animal is happy
Everyone has a good life
All children live in peace, get a
Good education and live in good
Health
Everyone is treated equally not
Different because of the colour
Of their skin
People respect each other and
Talk with a smile
Everyone is supported equally

People stop polluting the planet
There are lots and lots of plants
All people love each other and live
In harmony
Everyone is safe and no one gets
Sick
There is no war
Coronavirus and racism do not exist
We can all go back to school
Everyone is happy and no one is sad!

Have a Happy Summer doing the things that you
enjoy & connecting with those you love!

