

Thorncliffe Park PS News

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Vice- Principal's Message

The school year continues to move quickly. We are in April already and we still have a few more months of learning ahead of us.

There were many events and activities that took place in the last few months. Please see inside for our students' perspectives about them.

"The Spring Concert for parents will be on Friday, April 26th in the afternoon. We are celebrating Music Monday after lunch and before entry to school, on April 29th. This takes place in the back school yard where the whole school gathers to sing a song for the importance of music in our schools across Canada. This year the song (anthem) is Hymn to Freedom by Oscar Peterson. It is the 15th anniversary of Music Monday. Also, on May 2nd, The Junior Choir will be singing as part of a Massed Choir at Roy Thompson Hall for the TDSB Spring Music Festival." *Ms. Rainsberry-Parker*

"Primary Choir is now rehearsing twice a week, at lunch, in preparation for the upcoming Spring Concert. We are excited to sing an Arabic piece of choral music which was also performed in Ottawa for the very first Syrian families who came to Canada!"

Ms. Reid



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Special thanks to our Arabic-speaking students who are helping us with this language! Please come and hear us at the end of April.

Our Talent show will be held in early June.

In addition, our staff participated in supporting our local Mosque and walked in solidarity to demonstrate support towards the elimination of racism.



VP- K. Kandankery

And finally, EQAO will be administered from May 21st to May 31st. Classes will continue to get ready for this reading, writing and mathematical assessment by practicing test-taking skills. The assessment will take place over 4 days. Letters regarding the testing will go home in early May. Please follow the link to the parent information quick link site.

<http://www.eqao.com/en>



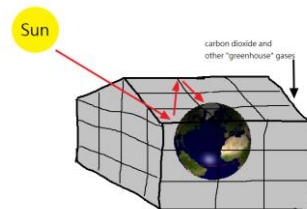
SCHOOL NEWS



On February 21st, students in Ms. Harpur's and Ms. Anfer's Grade 5 classes visited the TUSC Greenhouse, where they identified, photographed, and documented patterns in a variety of plant species. Students found examples of branching, spiral, and layering patterns, as well as examples of bilateral and radial symmetry. On February 22nd, students visited the TUSC Computer Lab, where they selected their best photographs to include in an e-book.



TUSC Greenhouse





We went on a field trip to Lynde Shore Conservation

We fed birds, then we went to the beach and we to picked up rocks. Then we chose to colour the rocks. After we coloured the rocks, we went outside to the fire. We brought marshmallows and ate the roasted marshmallows. Then we went to our school. – **Rama (Gr. 4 ESL)**

On Monday, March 18th, I went to the Lynde Shore Conservation Area and our leader was Brett. He told us how to feed the birds and we saw deer. Some of them were big and some of them were small. Then we went to Hillside Education School to eat our lunch. After lunch, we went outside and roasted marshmallows. Then we tasted sap from maple trees and made syrup. We also went to the beach and collected some rocks. – **Muhyee Eddin (Gr. 4 ESL)**

We went by school bus to the Lynde Shore Conservation Area. I saw chickadees birds and I fed the birds. I ate marshmallows after I ate my lunch. – **Fatma (Gr. 5 ESL)**

On our first day back from March Break, I went to the Hillside Education Centre. It was so much fun. First, we went to the Lynde Shore Conservation area. There were a lot of chickadees. Our leader Brett showed us how to feed the chickadees. He gave us some seeds to put in our hands. When it came on me, I was really scared. We did many other things too, like roasting marshmallows and tasting sap. They were yummy. I liked them. I also saw deer and Canada geese. We collected rocks at the beach. It was great because I found a white rock. I love my rock because it is so shiny and good. – **Arbaz (Gr. 5 ESL)**

We went on the bus to the Lynde Shore Conservation Area. We fed birds. We saw some red-winged black birds. We roasted marshmallows and saw some deer. Then we came back on the school bus. – **Abid (Gr. 5 ESL)**





Trip to Lynde Shores and Hillside Outdoor Education school

I found a geo rock somebody hid in a tree. I wrote my name on it and I put it back for someone else to find. I felt so happy when the bird came to my hand. It was a fun trip. **- Mjd- Grade 5 LEAP**

My favourite part was finding rocks on the beach. Then I coloured the rocks with markers. I liked when the bird came to my hand. It held on to my finger. I also liked taking pictures of the ducks. I felt so happy all day. **-Rana- Grade 5 LEAP**

I liked the ducks the most. We saw the ducks in the lake. There was a lot of ducks sitting on the ice. I like ducks because they are crazy. I like ducks because they are smart and soft. **-Lubna- Grade 5 LEAP**

I loved roasting marshmallows, drinking the sap and collecting rocks because they looked shinny. **-Saleh- Grade 4 ESL**

I put a marshmallow on the stick. I roasted it and ate it. That was good. **-Shaheer- Grade 4 ESL**

I collected so many rocks and I brought them home. I painted three of them and decorated my room with them. **-Sharafat- Grade 4 LEAP**

I loved roasted marshmallows because no matter if you burn them or not you can still eat them. **-Yousaf- Grade 4 ESL**

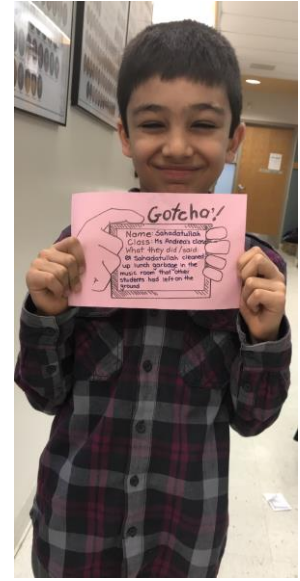
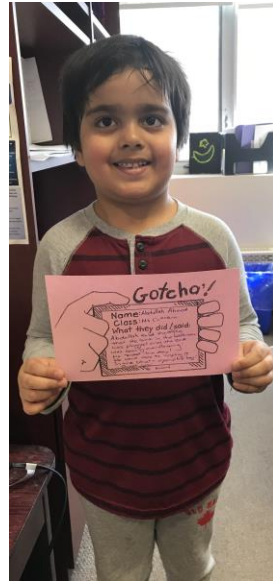
I enjoyed roasting marshmallows because they were really tasty. **-Muskan- Grade 4 ESL**

What I liked about the field trip was the Lake. I loved going to the lake because of the water. Let me show you a poem I made: "I am the moving queen, making splashing sounds when I hug the soft and slippery rocks, loving the sounds I make..." **-Ayat- Grade 5 LEAP**

On Monday I went to with my class to a fieldtrip to Hillside. There were lots of birds. I liked when the birds came to my hand. I felt something heavy and it was the bird on my hand! It was so soft, like my favorite jacket and then we went to see the ducks. We collected some rocks and then roasted two marshmallows. This has been my favorite field trip ever. **-Amal- Grade 5 LEAP**



February Award Winners-Fairness



On Thursday, February 14 **Thornccliffe Park's first-ever ball hockey team** traveled to Chester School for a 5 team tournament. No one gave our team much of a chance up against experienced schools who had several players who play competitive ice hockey. Much to the surprise of everyone in attendance we won our first game against RH McGregor by a score of 4-3. We lost our next two games to the teams who eventually finished in 1st and 2nd place. In our fourth and final game against Chester we were down 3-2 going into the final shift of the game. That was until Moumen from Ms Hopkin's class fired home a shot with 10 seconds to play to give our team a 3-3 draw. The Thornccliffe Thunder scoring leaders were Akshaya from Ms Donatelli's class, Hamza from Ms O'Sullivan's class and Muratza Ali from Ms Halliwell's class. Also scoring in the tournament was Azlaan from Ms Hari's class and Kerem from Ms Halliwell's class. Muhammad Omer, Yomna and Zoha also from Ms. Hopkin's class and Uzma from Ms Harpur's class all had excellent two-way games throughout the day. Noor from Ms. O'Sullivan's Sharks was our defensive specialist with Adil, also from the Sharks, keeping us in many of the games with several key saves. Mr Dodds would like to thank all of the students for their effort at the tournament and at the early morning practices. They should be extremely proud of themselves.



Laying in front - Adil

Kneeling in front - Azlaan

From left to right - Murtaza, Mr Dodds, Moumen, Hamza, Hammad, Muhammad Omer, Kerem, Akshaya, Noor, Uzma, Yomna, Zoha

Rich E. Dodds

HPE Teacher

Thornccliffe Park PS

We would like to thank the Canadian Tire Jumpstart program for their generous grant which enabled 598 of our Grade 2 and 3 students an experience of learning to skate. It was an awesome season where our students skated from Oct. to March.



Community News



Registration for the Spring 2019 term starts February 13, 2019 with classes starting March 30, 2019. Learn4Life offers general interest courses to anyone over 18 who want to learn a new skill, meet new people in their community, or take up an interesting hobby. Interested in learning how to weld? How about learning Spanish for your upcoming trip? Our courses include Art, Fitness, Languages, Business, Handiwork, Food and Sports.

www.learn4life.ca
[Facebook.com/TDSBLearn4Life](https://www.facebook.com/TDSBLearn4Life)
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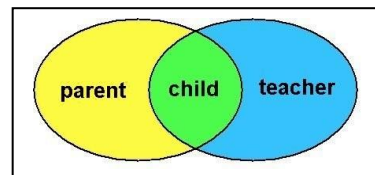


Adult ESL



Gaining proficiency in English is a critical skill for newcomers to our city, especially for many parents of children in our schools to connect with the community. Every year, over 18,000 adults benefit from the TDSB's English as a Second Language classes in 75 locations across the city. We offer free ESL classes to adults who are residents of Canada. We also offer classes for visitors on a fee per hour basis. Registration is ongoing.

www.ESLToronto.ca @TDSB_ConEd



Parents as Partners Conference 2019

Parents as Partners Conference 2019

The Parents as Partners Conference 2019 is on Saturday, March 30 and all parents are welcome!

This free conference - planned by parents, for parents - includes a variety of workshops and resources that will help any parent support their child in their achievement and well-being at school and at home.

This year's keynote speaker is Karl Subban, a former TDSB principal and the father of five children, including three NHL hockey players.

Transportation, food and translators are all provided, as well as free day camp for children ages 4-12 to support participants attending the conference.

Registration is now open at www.parentsaspartners.ca

Thorncliffe Park Eco Club

Bag2School Clothing Drive

Thank you to everyone who promoted, supported, and participated in the clothing and textile drive for the Bag2School Program. Our school collected over 610 kilograms of textiles, and raised \$122 for Eco-Club initiatives. This is a fantastic result, and we thank everyone for their work and dedication. A special thanks goes out to the Eco Club members who worked hard to keep their fellow students informed through the morning announcement updates, the classroom presentations, creating posters, and by loading the truck on the day of the collection. Some of the money raised will be put towards composting and planting materials, and any remaining funds will be put towards future Eco Club initiatives.



Coming Soon: School Cleanup Week from April 22- 26

The Eco Club will be organizing a School Cleanup Week from Monday April 22 to Friday April 26, where students and teachers work together to tidy our yard after the winter. Additional information will follow in April.



Health News

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

April 3, students are welcome to wear blue to celebrate Autism Awareness Day!

We celebrate with over 355 municipalities and 300 schools across Ontario as they Raise the Flag. At our three central offices, 5050 Yonge Street, 140 Borough Drive and 1 Civic Centre, and many of our schools, we will raise the Autism Ontario Awareness flag to promote awareness and understanding. We encourage students to wear blue that day and come and see our flag in the front hallway. ASD is a complex neurological disorder that has a lifelong effect on the development of various abilities and skills.

ASD is characterized by challenges in communication and social interaction, as well as unusual patterns of behaviours, interests and activities. ASD occurs in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups at a rate of:

- **1 in 68**
- **1 in 42 boys**
- **1 in 189 girls**

Let's join together to support the 3,000 TDSB students who have ASD every day, and help promote an increase in awareness and understanding of this disorder.

**For more information about autism please visit
raisetheflagforautism.com**



Nutrition Tips for School

March 2019: Warmer weather is around the corner and spring is best known as the season of change and growth, branches begin to bud with leaves and flowers start to bloom! Now is a great time to make some changes in your diet too. With all those delicious and colourful plants growing out of the ground comes endless opportunities. Give yourself a new recipe challenge and try a meatless meal once a week. Plant proteins like lentils and beans are a wonderful source of fibre and iron. Including plant proteins in your diet can help to lower your risk for heart disease. Lentils and beans come canned and dried, they are economical and perfect for soups, stews, salads and dips like hummus! So spring into the season with a weekly meatless meal and checkout this recipe for your kiddos ☐

Double Chocolate Brownies: Kid testers gave this one “two thumbs up”!

1½ cups canned black beans, drained, rinsed and
mashed **¾ cup** whole-wheat flour

½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder

1 tsp baking powder

1/2 tsp salt

3 large eggs

1 cup granulated sugar

1/4 cup unsweetened applesauce

3 tbsp canola oil

2 tsp vanilla

¼ cup miniature semi-sweet chocolate chips

1. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Line an 8-inch (20 cm) square metal baking pan with foil, leaving a 2-inch (5 cm) overhang at opposite ends. Lightly spray foil with non-stick cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine beans, flour, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt. With a wooden spoon, beat in eggs, sugar, applesauce, oil and vanilla until well blended. Stir in chocolate chips.

Pour batter into prepared pan.

3. Bake for 30-35 minutes, or until just a few moist crumbs cling to a tester inserted in the centre. Do not over-bake. Let cool in pan on a wire rack. Using foil overhangs as handles, remove from pan and transfer brownies to a cutting board. Cut into squares.

Adapted from: Bake It Up! Developed by NRC and OPHA. Available:

<https://www.eatrightontario.ca/en/Articles/School-Health/Ontario-s-School-Food-and-Beverage-Policy/Bake-It-Up!.aspx>

TDSB Technology Challenge!

On March 6, four of our Grade 5 students, Moumen, Khadija, Hanna, and Ibrahim, participated in the TDSB Technology Challenge. They had to build a device to pick up plastic garbage from the ocean. They needed to use their knowledge of pulleys and gears, structures and forces, and using tools and materials properly to design, plan, and build their device. They decided to build a crane to lift and carry the plastic out of the ocean. The team worked very well together and managed to get some plastic from the ocean. The students learned a lot about working together and using their Science knowledge to solve real-world problems. They also had a lot of fun. A special thank you to Ms. Anfer for helping to prepare the team for the competition.

