



## Twentieth Street Junior School

April 2022



### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Spring is here, and the longer days are welcome! We're hoping for warmer and more spring-like weather soon. Before you know it, we will be into the summer months. Let's all think summer!

With spring and the warmer, wet weather, we also get a lot of mud. We ask that students keep a pair of indoor shoes to wear in the school. A pair of running shoes is best so that they are appropriate and safe to use in the gym as well.



All parents are invited to attend our next school council meeting scheduled on **Tues. April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** It will be a virtual meeting and the Zoom link will be shared with those parents who register to attend by completing the form here: <https://forms.gle/7zvHDDbV86bdX3es9>

The meeting will take place from 7:00 – 7:30.

**Parent Workshop:** On April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 there will be a one hour Parent Workshop on *Tackling Anxiety and Stress through Arts and Mindfulness (TASAM)*.

The session will be led by a child development expert and will teach strategies, tips and tools that will effectively help parents deal with shy, anxious or stressed children during these unprecedented times. Early intervention and creating a safe and nurturing environment where the child feels protected, understood, in control, and develops healthy habits is the key to tackling these issues.

We hope you can join us for the TASAM session on Tues. April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 – 8:30 pm. All students from JK to grade 5 will also have sessions to support Mental Health and Well-Being the Week of April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Topic: Twentieth Street-TASAM- Parent Talk-School Community- 7:30-8:30**

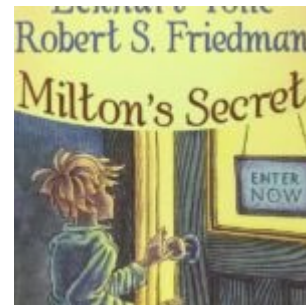
**Time: Apr 5, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83663091650?pwd=K3VjaHQ2QlRtVFdkRFR6RFUwMm83UT09>

**Meeting ID: 836 6309 1650**

**Passcode: 494767**



### PRESENTATIONS FOR STUDENTS FOCUSING ON KINDNESS & BULLYING AWARENESS

During the week of April 11<sup>th</sup>, the school will be putting a focus on Bullying Awareness as well as being kind and caring to others. There will be presentations to highlight these messages for all students from JK – Grade 5. On Tues. April 12<sup>th</sup> our KNG students will be treated to a presentation by Arts Express called "Milton's Secret". Grade 1 and 2 students will enjoy this same presentation on Wed. April 13<sup>th</sup>. Milton's Secret is a story

about a boy name Milton. Milton is a happy kid until he encounters a school bully. He worries all the time about what the bully will do. Milton encounters a few situations that help him understand a very important thing: the only way to be happy is to live in the NOW! Using the lessons in the story and mindfulness techniques students will learn how to stay in the moment and cope with fear and anxiety.

On Wed. April 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a presentation for our Grade 3-5 students entitled “Tackling Anxiety and Stress through Arts and Mindfulness” (TASAM). This presentation addresses the same issues as the parent presentation taking place a week earlier. Using a creative arts approach, the children will be provided with lifelong strategies and techniques to cope with anxiety and stress, helping them effectively eliminate the stigma and discomfort of these issues.



### **PINK SHIRT DAY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022**

The **International Day of Pink** is a worldwide anti-bullying event held annually during the second week of April. This year it falls on Wed. April 13, 2022.

*This Day originated in 2007 when David Shepherd and Travis Price along with their friends organized a protest to stand up to bullying and harassment after a grade 9 student was bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. The next day David Shepherd and Travis Price rallied their school community. They bought and distributed 50 pink shirts to students in the school to wear in support of their young classmate. The grade 9 classmate was moved by the kindness shown by the community and the bullies were never heard from again.*

We encourage **all students and staff to wear a pink shirt in honour of International Day of Pink on April 13, 2022**. Bullying of any kind has **no** place in our school and in the Toronto District School Board. Today our diversity is becoming more visible than ever as people continue to embrace their cultures, identities, and true selves in more open and direct ways; making the need to **Lift Each Other Up** and have greater acceptance, respect, and inclusion for everyone so important. Wearing pink shows your commitment to being an ally and standing up to bullying.

All students and staff will be given a **PINK** t-shirt to wear on April 13<sup>th</sup> **and** to keep as a reminder to always stand up to bullying and to **Lift Each Other Up**. We will have a few extra t-shirts for sale for any interested parents and community members who wish to purchase one for a minimal cost of \$12.- Please contact the main office or email [diane.parker@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:diane.parker@tdsb.on.ca).



### **LIBRARY UPDATE**

We are currently conducting an inventory for our school library.

Student accounts with more than 2 overdue books will be automatically placed on hold by the circulation system. Notifications will be sent home with students about which books are still outstanding. We understand that books may have been misplaced during the pandemic. We ask that families do a thorough search at home and return any outstanding library books. If books have been lost and families **cannot** locate them, please have students notify their homeroom teacher or notify Ms. Wu directly in the library by emailing her at [nora.wu@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:nora.wu@tdsb.on.ca).

Lost items will then be removed from the student's account. They can then continue to enjoy borrowing books from our library, but

moving forward, we do ask that students return books on time to the library so that others can enjoy them as well.

## Elementary Summer School 2022 #TDSBSummer2022

### Elementary Summer School 2022 – Registration Now Open!

The focus of the 2022 Elementary Literacy and Numeracy Summer School Program is to continue student engagement through the month of July. Programs, embedded in Literacy and Numeracy, are developed by the local summer school principal to reflect the local school focus.

Programs are offered **in-person** to students in K to Grade 8, from July 4 to July 29, 2022. This year, one online (remote) summer school program will be available.

#### **Registration Information**

- **Program Dates: July 4-29, 2022**
- Registration is online.
- Program delivery method is in-person this year. One remote (online) program is available. Please see full list of programs below.
- Most classes run for three (3) hours from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., except for four (4) full day sites that run 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. which include: Alexander Stirling, Flemington, Rose Avenue and Yorkwoods.
- Please note, **there are limited spaces** available for both in-person and remote (online) programs.
- The remote (online) program is **NOT** associated with a particular school. Students who are registered will be grouped by grade and assigned an online teacher.

Registration is now open!

[Click here](#) for a full list of participating schools and registration information.

### JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

TDSB parents/caregivers are invited to join us for two new engaging and informative conversations on topics we heard you want to learn more about. Hear from leading experts and participate in question and answer sessions online. Our next sessions are:

Nurturing Children's Gender and Identity, with  
Presenter Vivek Shraya  
Thursday, May 19, 2022  
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Join at [www.tdsb.on.ca/conversation](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/conversation)

### STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Regular student attendance and punctuality are important in order for students to be successful at school. The Education Act states that it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that their children attend school regularly. A student's academic progress depends on regular class attendance.

TDSB elementary schools practice the Safe Arrival Program that requires schools to perform a school-home attendance check. Notify the school when your child will be absent. Students are expected to fully participate in learning opportunities and complete all homework assignments and tests when they are absent so make sure your child is getting homework assignments when they are absent.

You can help ensure that your child is in school and on time for classes by:

- being involved in your child's education;
- knowing the school's schedule;
- communicating regularly with classroom teachers (use your child's planner to send notes to the teacher);

- calling the school if your child is going to be absent
- writing a note if your child is late due to an appointment;
- ensuring that your child gets a good night's sleep so that they have the energy they need for the next day.



## HIGH WATER LEVELS BRINGS INCREASED RISKS

The Toronto and Region Conservation monitors hazardous ice conditions as thaw begins and are reminding everyone to be very careful around all bodies of water. The first hint of warming weather and the promise of spring thaw can bring extreme danger to the shores and surfaces of streams, rivers, ponds and lakes, according to Toronto and Region Conservation.

As warmer temperatures arrive, stream banks become increasingly slippery and unstable. Lake and river ice weakens, becoming thinner or with higher flows breaking with little or no warning. During this time, the potential for flooding and ice jamming is high.

Higher, faster-flowing water and extreme cold temperatures combine to create increased dangers on or near rivers, streams and ponds for people wishing to enjoy the seasonal changes. Parents and caregivers are being asked to keep children away from stream banks, ponds and lakes.



## APRIL IS SIKH HERITAGE MONTH AT THE TDSB

Sikh Heritage Month is proudly recognized at the Toronto District School Board (TDSB)

during the month of April since 2016 as the Board of Trustees voted to designate April of each year Sikh Heritage Month making the TDSB the first school board in Canada to do so. This designation matches the recognition by the Province of Ontario that proclaimed Sikh Heritage Month Act in December 2013, and the recognition proclaimed by the Government of Canada on April 30, 2019. Sikh Heritage Month is recognized nationally across Canada.

This year our theme is Come to learn, go to serve; the goal of education is to serve humanity. Sikh Canadians have lived in Ontario since the turn of the twentieth century. They have made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario and their traditions and culture continue to be a vibrant part of every aspect of life for Canadians today.

We are inviting all TDSB community, students, and staff to join our virtual Sikh Heritage Month launch to recognize the contributions of Sikh Canadians. Join us for a remarkable afternoon of information and celebration (see below for full details).

To learn about the Sikh Heritage an interactive slideshow is available that provides numerous books/resources and other items to gather information about the Sikh heritage. Please see link: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1sv1YxVBkzTa8C6s7DbPeH8eK0wHRoZKnjtV51nuV3VI/edit?usp=sharing>

Lastly during the month of April Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi which is also known as Khalsa Day across Ontario. During the past few years, a parade was organized within the City of Toronto to mark this day. This year celebrations will be taking place at Nathan Phillips Square on Sunday, April 24, 2022 from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Please follow us on twitter @TDSB\_SHM  
TDSB Sikh Heritage Month Virtual Launch Celebration

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Time: 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Link: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/stream/LiveWebcast-Sikh-HeritageMonth.html>



## **APRIL IS LATIN-AMERICA HISTORY MONTH AT THE TDSB**

Latin-America History Month is proudly recognized at the TDSB during the month of April as a result of a motion passed through our Board of Trustees in 2016.

This year the theme to mark Latin-America History Month is (DeColonizing) Latin-America History Month & Beyond: Learning about our collective pasts through the art of healing.

Since its creation of the Latin-America History Month Volunteer Planning Committee in 2016, the membership continues to expand searching every year for more intentional ways of working in solidarity with Indigenous Nations of Turtle Island (Canada) and ways to bring Elders, Knowledge Keepers, educators and families together to decolonize understandings of Latin-America. The Latin-America History Volunteer Planning Committee is comprised of TDSB staff, former students, parents/caregivers, and community members.

During the month of April, several activities are being planned for students, staff, and community members. We invite everyone to join us to kick-off Latin-America History Month with a virtual launch (see below & flyer for details). We're pleased to share with you the results of a Creative Arts Contest (to be posted shortly on the TDSB website) where all TDSB students were invited to participate from all grade levels. Elementary students will also be provided with the opportunity to learn about the art of healing and the powerful tool that music brings with Ruben Beny Esguerra, a Canadian musical artist and poet based in Toronto. Ruben Beny Esguerra has been nominated twice for a JUNO Award (2018 JUNO Awards in the World Music Album of the Year category and for the 2022 JUNO Awards in the Global Music Album of the Year category.)

Learning about careers in various fields, our students will have the opportunity to connect with accomplished Latin-America leaders and

acquire information about their educational and professional journey to success. In addition, secondary students will further their learning on art as a form of healing by attending a workshop hosted by a member of the Afrolatinx community. Please follow us on twitter @TDSB\_LAHM. TDSB Latin-America Month Virtual Launch Celebration

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Link: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/stream/LiveWebcast-LatinAmerica-HistoryMonth.html>

Please join us!



## **APRIL IS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AT THE TDSB**

During the month of April the TDSB recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month. In March 2010, our TDSB Board of Trustees voted that April be designated as Hispanic Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board.

As stated in the Hispanic Heritage Month Act, (May 5, 2015): "Ontario is home to more than 400,000 first-, second- and third-generation Canadian 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 the Province of Ontario. By proclaiming the month of October as Hispanic Heritage Month in Ontario, the province recognizes the rich contributions of Hispanic-Canadians to our social economic, political and multicultural fabric. Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of Hispanic people in the province."