



Twentieth Street Junior School
3190 Lakeshore Blvd.
Toronto, ON
M8V 1L8

November 2021



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Thanksgiving and Halloween have passed and we are already into November! The school year is moving quickly, with holidays and events marking the passage of time. Although Halloween celebrations looked different this year, Twentieth Street students and staff showed great *spirit*!

In November, we observe Remembrance Day, a day to honour and remember those who have served our country in times of strife and conflict, as well as those who have lost their lives in doing so. This is a time to think of how lucky we are to live in a country that welcomes people from all over the world. The diversity and richness represented in our communities just here in Toronto speak to the unique and wonderful country Canada is. Many have fought to preserve the ideals that build and continue to

build this country. November is a time to remember as well as give thanks.



REMEMBRANCE DAY



On Thursday, November 11th, students and staff at our school will mark Remembrance Day with announcements and classroom activities. During Remembrance Day, our teachers make connections between global events and students' lives by promoting peace within our school community. On this solemn occasion, our staff, students, parents, and the wider community all join together in a call for peace.

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders Fields.*

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

--John McCrae



A message from our School Council:

On Tuesday, October 5th we had our first School Council meeting of this school year. We wanted to thank all of the parents and guardians of Twentieth Street JS for attending the first meeting of the year and getting us off to such a great start. We are excited to be your Executive Members for this school year and look forward to representing you and our community as we work to keep our children enriched, healthy and safe through this unexpected time in our lives.

Without further ado, we would like to introduce Our School Council Executive Members:

- *Shelby Richardson, Chair*
- *Nyron Ali, Vice-Chair*
- *Maricon Torres, Secretary*
- *Meghan Casey, Treasurer*

Our goal is to ensure the school environment is as healthy, inclusive and enriching as possible for our students, while providing support to our teachers and administrators at the school. This year will be unlike any other, but with the support of our school community, we know we can make it a great one.

If you would like to stay abreast of community news, join our Facebook Group at Twentieth Street Junior Public School – Toronto.

If you would like to reach the School Council directly, please email us at shelby.richardson@tdsb.on.ca.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m. All meetings are virtual. Parents will be able to register to receive the link for the meeting a week prior to the meeting.



PROGRESS REPORT CARDS

On November 17, 2021, your child will be bringing home their ***Elementary Progress Report Card***. This report card will inform you of the progress your child is making at this point in the school year. Your child's progress will be reported as follows:

The first page indicates how well your child is developing the learning skills and work habits that are essential for success. They are:

- Responsibility
- Organization
- Independent Work
- Collaboration
- Initiative
- Self Regulation

The second page provides a report on your child's overall progress towards the achievement of curriculum expectations. Your child's teacher(s) will check on of the following to indicate his/her progress:

- Progressing very well
- Progressing well
- Progressing with difficulty



PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Regular parent-teacher communication is an important part of student learning. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled throughout the year after report cards are sent home. For this reporting period, Progress Report Cards will be sent home on Wed. Nov. 17th. A letter will be coming home from your child's teacher asking you to set up a time to meet and discuss your child's progress so far this year. Parent/Teacher meetings this year will be scheduled virtually or by telephone.

These interviews are your opportunity to ask questions about your child's progress and to discuss any issues. In addition to regular scheduled parent-teacher interviews, you can request a meeting at any time during the school year by contacting the school or your child's teacher directly.



KEEPING KIDS SAFE

Drivers are reminded to do their part to keep children safe near school buses.

Drivers should follow these tips:

- Stop and never pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing.
- Leave space around school buses and avoid blocking school bus loading zones so children can enter and exit safely.
- Never drop off children in the bus loop; always drop off in the designated area(s)

- Be prepared to stop for a school bus at any time, not just during school hours.

- Always obey the rules of the road and watch for children, especially in school zones.

- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and school crossings.

Parents can also help keep their children safe by reminding them to be aware of their surroundings when they are on or near school buses.



LATES AND ABSENCES (SAFE ARRIVAL)

One measure of keeping our students safe is to ensure we can account for any absences or reasons for being late to school.

We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, we ask that you contact the school immediately and report the reason for the absence. The Safe Arrival Line takes messages 24 hours a day at (416) 394-7810. If we are not informed about the absence, we will make attempts to contact you through our automated call-out system to determine the reason for the absence.

To find out how this automated system works please visit

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/HighSchool/CaringSafeSchools/SafeArrivalProgram.aspx>

SICK KIDS COVID-19 SALIVA TESTING KITS

We are thrilled that our School was one of the first to launch the SickKids COVID-19 Saliva Testing Program! The kits are available to Twentieth Street students and their families. They are very simple to use and non-invasive. The kits are picked up at the school, collection of the specimen is done off school property and then they are returned to the school by an

asymptomatic individual. We ask that you please ring the bell at the main school entrance and someone from the office will meet you at the main door to collect the kit.

Below are links to a few very short videos on how to complete the Covid-19 Saliva Test.

Guidance on labelling your saliva specimen, completing your lab requisition and accessing your results: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LHE367dnuc>

Guidance on how the saliva collection will happen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEQAxM4pKtU>

If you have questions or concerns, please email at mobile.outreach@sickkids.ca.

If individuals are having difficulty accessing results, please email mobile.outreach@sickkids.ca with the patient's full legal name, date of birth, and health card number if applicable and a member of Sick Kids team will assist. Individuals with a **positive result** will **receive a telephone call** from SickKids and a follow-up phone call will be completed by Toronto Public Health.



Early French Immersion (JK and SK Entry) Parent/Caregiver Information Sessions

This year, three Web Chat Information Sessions for families interested in the application and placement process for the Early French Immersion program (JK and SK Entry for September 2022 only) will be held in November 2021. Please note the following dates/times of the Virtual Web Chats as listed below.

Note: For entry in September 2022 only, children who will be entering JK or SK are eligible to apply for Early French Immersion during the online application period in November 2021. Moving forward (2023), the

only entry point for Early French Immersion will be Junior Kindergarten.

Virtual Online Information Sessions

Nov 8th 7:00 – 8:00 p.m
Nov. 15th 10:00 – 11:00a.m.
Nov. 23rd 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

To participate in a live scheduled online web chat, please visit the web page below and a link will be available to join on the dates/times outlined above.

www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/School-Choices/French-Programs/Information-Sessions



TDSB VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Did you know that your child can get help from their school library when outside of school? TDSB has a Virtual Library website of digital resources (e-books, news articles, streamed video, curated sites), to help students, teachers and parents. Digital resources can be accessed anywhere, anytime with an internet connection. Some resources need passwords. Your child's agenda has a page with a list of resources and login information. The Virtual Library is an extension of your school library. It can be used for inquiry, projects, homework, building a love of reading or just for fun.

The Virtual Library can be found via:

- TDSB - <http://www.tdsb.on.ca> -- top navigation bar -- *Find Your School* -- enter your school name -- left navigation bar -- *Virtual Library*
- Academic Workspace (AW) - <https://aw.tdsb.on.ca> -- login with with Student Number and Network Password -- top navigation bar-- *My Home* -- left navigation bar *Library* on the (also

provides access to Homedrive, Google Drive, Pickup/Drop off folders)

The Virtual Library provides learning resources for students from K-12 allowing students to:

1. search multiple age/grade/curriculum relevant resources from one location
2. focus searches on one subject or many
3. read fiction and nonfiction articles, books, newspapers, journals, encyclopedia etc. online
4. read and listen to many resources with a read-aloud component
5. watch full length videos and documentaries
6. print, save, or email resources
7. access content in English, French and many languages using translation features
8. search by date or content type (e.g. images) and avoid distracting advertising
9. link to “Just Read It” for students to post recommended book titles, find out what other TDSB students are reading and even win a book prize or author visit for their school.

Parents and caregivers can also explore the **Parent Resources** section of the Virtual Library site.

For more information contact your school’s Teacher-Librarian or email library@tdsb.on.ca

**BULLYING AWARENESS AND
PREVENTION WEEK
NOVEMBER 15 - 19**



During the week of Nov. 15 -19, we will be focusing on Bullying Awareness and Prevention. While bullying prevention is always in the forefront in classrooms across the TDSB, November is a time that extra focus is put on this topic.

At Twentieth Street, bullying is something we take seriously. We have many resources to support the teaching and understanding of what bullying is, what to do if you’re bullied or if you’re the bystander and how to get support. The TDSB has made available tips to help parents with bullying:

“ What is Bullying?”

Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent and aggressive behaviour that is directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person’s body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance. [Ministry of Education’s Policy/Program Memorandum No. 144, Bullying Prevention and Intervention, October 4, 2007]

Students may attain or maintain power over others in the school through real or perceived differences. Some areas of difference include but are not limited to size, strength, age, intelligence, economic status, social status, solidarity of peer group, religion, ethnicity, disability, need for special education, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender and race.

Key Elements

According to Barbara Coloroso, there are three main factors that allow children, adolescents, and young adults to harm others without feeling *empathy, compassion or shame*.

1. A sense of entitlement;
 2. An intolerance toward difference;
 3. A liberty to exclude, isolate and segregate a person deemed not worthy of respect or care.
- Bullying is not about conflict. In conflicts, two or more individuals disagree on a specific topic. People who are in conflict do not intend to harm others, but rather to uphold their own opinion.
 - The individual exhibiting bully behaviour tries to control and dominate others. There is intent to harm and the use of fear and intimidation is common.
 - Both boys and girls are equally involved in bullying incidents.

Types of Bullying

1. **Physical:** Kicking, punching, spitting, taking someone’s hat, tripping, etc.

2. **Verbal:** Name calling, insults, making racist, sexist, classist, ableist, or homophobic comments.
3. **Social:** Excluding others from a group, ignoring, spreading gossip or rumours, facial expressions and eye contact to humiliate or reject.
4. **Cyber:** Using electronic means to intimidate, harm, exclude or ruin a reputation – includes the use of emails and instant messaging, text or digital imaging sent on cell phones, web pages and web logs (blogs), chat rooms and discussion groups.”

Indigenous and Indigenous peoples in Canada. This includes Treaties Recognition Week, Inuit Day, Aboriginal Veterans' Day and Louis Riel Day..



Celebrating Hindu Heritage Month!
November 2018

NOVEMBER IS HINDU HERITAGE MONTH AT THE TDSB

CONFLICT	RUDE	MEAN	BULLYING
Occasional	Occasional	Once or Twice	Is REPEATED
Not planned; in the heat of the moment	Spontaneous; unintentional	Intentional	Is planned and done on purpose
All parties are upset	Can cause hurt feelings; upset	Can hurt others deeply	The target of the bullying is upset
All parties want to work things out	Based in thoughtlessness, poor manners or narcissism	Based in anger; impulsive cruelty	The bully is trying to gain control over the target
All parties will accept responsibility	Rude person accepts responsibility	Behavior often regretted;	The bully blames the target
An effort is made by all parties to solve the problem			The target wants to stop the bully's behavior; the bully does not
Can be resolved through mediation	Social skill building could be of benefit	Needs to be addressed/ should NOT be ignored	CANNOT be resolved through mediation

Source: Jennifer Astles, DASA Newsletter, January 2014, TST BOCES

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is proud to recognize Hindu Heritage Month during the month of November as the Board of Trustees voted to pass a motion in April 2018 mark this time.

On December 8th, 2016, the Province of Ontario passed the Hindu Heritage Month Act by declaring that the month of November in each year is proclaimed as Hindu Heritage Month. The Hindu Heritage Month Act

(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/16h35>)

states, Ontario is home to a large and vibrant Hindu community. Since the first Hindu immigrants arrived in Canada at the beginning of the 20th century, Hindu Canadians from across Ontario have made significant contributions across all fields: science, education, medicine, law, politics, business, culture, and sports. Hindu Canadians have helped build Ontario into the multicultural success story that it is and have helped to build this province into the best place to live, work and raise families. They continue to help foster growth, prosperity, and innovation throughout Ontario.

Hinduism is one of the oldest living religions which have flourished for over 10,000 years. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the rich tapestry of traditions, teachings and values that are integral to Hinduism and practiced by millions around the world today. November is an opportunity to celebrate the Hindu way of life, examine its impact and contributions to the world culture, and recognize values which promote compassion, tolerance, and inclusion.

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION MONTH



In November, we celebrate Indigenous Education Month at the TDSB. This month provides an opportunity to include Indigenous perspectives, histories and contemporary realities across the curricula. In classrooms within our school, we will focus on treaties, the legacy of residential schools, as well as the achievements and accomplishments of Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Over the course of this month, students, staff and community members will be recognizing a number of important days to deepen knowledge and build stronger relationships between non-

The theme this year selected by the TDSB Hindu Heritage Month Volunteer Planning Committee is: Sri Rama: Epitome of love, compassion, duty, and service. Sri Rama, who lived thousands of years ago, was the 7th avatar or reincarnation of Vishnu. Rama is known as Maryada Purushottam, or a man of perfection who took birth as a human to rid the world of some evil forces who were disturbing the peace. Rama was the ideal son, ideal husband, ideal brother, ideal friend and above all the ideal king. Rama, along with his wife, Sita, are role models for how to live life full of love, compassion, duty and service. The Ramayana, the story of Rama's life, is a great Hindu epic representing the rich cultural heritage of India. The Ramayana is also celebrated across Asia – in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Japan and China as a social and cultural icon. For Hindus the word 'Rama' is a mantra (a sacred chant) and 'Rama Rama' is a common greeting, instead of 'Hello!'.