

THE **WAT** WORD

WHITNEY
EST. 1926

ISSUE 9 JANUARY 15 - 26 2018

important dates for JANUARY 15 - 26

TUESDAY JAN 16 - LICE CHECK

**WEDNESDAY JAN 17 - KINDERS &
GRADE 1s PROLOGUE SHOW @ 9:45am**

FRIDAY JAN 19 - PA DAY

from the principal

Happy New Year!

As we welcome 2018, we hope everyone had an outstanding holiday break with family and friends. We look forward to working with all of you to support your children/our students the rest of this school year. May the new calendar year bring you lots of happiness, love, joy, kindness, and prosperity.

We are all partners in the school's success.

Chris Rzepa

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

Calling all new Kindergarten students to Whitney!

If you have a child who will be entering Junior Kindergarten in September 2018, we invite you join us on **Tuesday February 27th** beginning at 6:00 pm. If you know of a neighbour with children ready for JK this coming September, please pass this information on to them. Children who will be four years old prior to December 31, 2018 (born in 2014) may enter Junior Kindergarten next school year. If a child is born in October, November, or December of 2014, parents/guardians have the option to begin Junior Kindergarten in September 2019 in all TDSB schools.

Kindergarten Registration at Whitney is expected to begin the beginning of February for the majority of the new students. Registrations can be taken at any point until the first day of school in September (and beyond for anyone living in our school district). Please e-mail Allison Walker, Allison.Walker@tdsb.on.ca to get on a distribution list to receive updates and registration information as well.

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January is Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB

In October 2016, the House of Commons voted unanimously to recognize every January as Tamil Heritage Month. January was chosen as it coincides with one of the most important celebrations for Canadians of Tamil heritage, the Thai Pongal Harvest Festival. Over 75 million Tamil people around the world irrespective of their religion celebrate Thai Pongal. This celebration offers thanks to the sun and cattle for an abundant harvest.

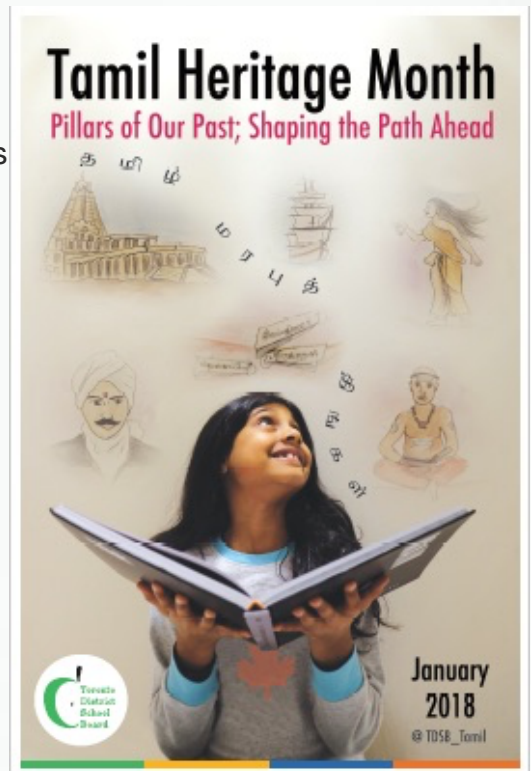
In 2014, the Government of Ontario, with full consent, passed legislation proclaiming January as Tamil Heritage Month. TDSB proudly marked Tamil Heritage Month for the first time in 2016.

The theme for Tamil Heritage Month (THM) this year is **Pillars of our Past; Shaping the Path Ahead**. To explore this theme, the THM Planning Committee is inviting students across the system to learn about the rich culture of Tamil people, and how their ancestry can shape their future. The committee is also accepting submissions for the Tamil Heritage Month series of contests in the three following categories: Narratives, Original Artwork, and Speeches.

Students are asked to respond to the question, "How could the narratives and history of our cultural past shape our identity as Canadians today?"

Please note the deadline for the Narrative and Original Artwork categories is noon on Wednesday, January 17th, 2018.

All winning entries will be announced on Saturday, January 27th during the Celebration of Tamil Heritage.



UPCOMING PA DAY

There will be no school for students on **Friday January 19th** as teachers will be involved in Professional Activities that day.

Prologue Show – Jack and Cosima Grunsky

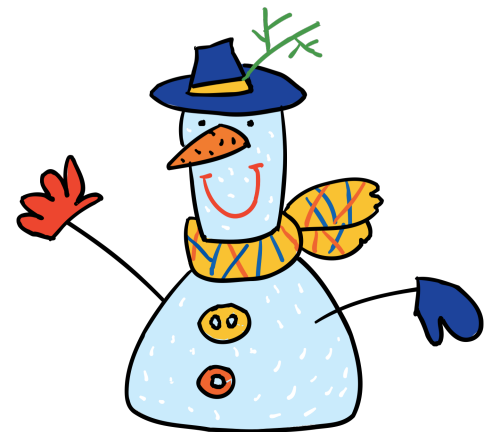
The show *Like Father, Like Daughter: Family Music Traditions* is coming to Whitney on **January 17th** at 9:45 am for our [Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes](#). Drawing on a vast repertoire of finely crafted original songs, Jack and Cosima Grunsky have joined forces in a new fun-filled interactive program featuring a wide range of instruments.

Jack and Cosima's gentle approach to engaging students with their unique brand of family music traditions will inspire, teach respect and nurture a sense of self-worth and community spirit.



LICE CHECK

Our second of three Lice Checks will take place **Tuesday January 16th** throughout the school day. Nitwits, a professional company, will be in to check all students in the school. Thank you to our School Council for providing the funds for this service. If there is a reason your child should not be checked, please let the office know. There will be a third and final check done on April 24th.



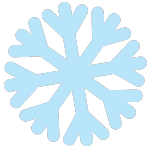
LOST & FOUND

Please have a look through the pile of clothes, gloves, jackets, water bottles, shoes (yes, shoes!) in the Lost & Found. There is a ton of winter clothing in there! Any items left over will be donated mid-February.



Whitney Lunch Programs

Baby it's cold outside! Let your kids warm up with Whitney lunch time programs this winter starting the week of **February 5th**.



Registration is up on the Whitney Cashless System:
<https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com>



First come, first served and the class max sizes are HARD LIMITS. Once a program is sold out, we cannot make more room. If the program appears on your child's tab, your child is within the grade range and can be registered. All programs run for 8 weeks excluding March Break. If you have any questions, please email janice_meredith@me.com or susie24saba@gmail.com

TUESDAYS

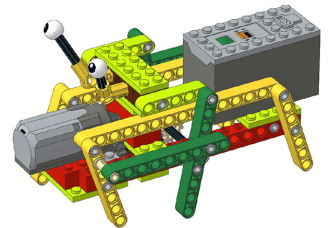
Kinder Science (JK/SK) - Junior Adventurers introduces kinders to many of the world's sciences. From birds and water to structures and music, each week brings a different topic and children will create a special art piece each week! (8 weeks/ \$144.25)

DIY MashUp (grades 1-4) - In this 8 week session you will get to create 4 awesome projects from 4 different themes! Using a variety of materials and learning new skills, you will get to create 1 DIY Emoji project, 1 DIY Puppet project, 1 DIY Duct Tape project and 1 DIY Fashion project! You will create a new project every two weeks and each one will be unique and yours to keep! (8 weeks/ \$110.75)



WEDNESDAYS

Brixology (grades 2-5) - This STEM program has the students building a different LEGO project inspired by an engineering theme in each class. The students will explore engineering fields such as mechanical, structural, aerospace, nautical and bioengineering. Build - Learn - Take Home! (8 weeks/ \$144.25)



Art from the Heart (grades 2-5) - This hands on course will have students make their own creative decisions on how they want to use the art materials provided. They will have fun, invent, design, explore and most importantly develop art and design skills - expressing their own 'art from their heart'. (8 weeks/ \$137.75)

THURSDAYS

Build it, Dream it, Architect (grades 2-5) How do you build, create and invent something amazing? Children will build their own "dream" house, buildings and towers using wood blocks, foam, clay and more. They will invent unique furniture to decorate and finish off the whole project with landscaping. (8 weeks/ \$148.00)

DIY Fashion Crafting (grades 2-5) - This program is ideal for the fashionista inside all of us! In this Designer Co. DIY Fashion program, you will snip, stitch and craft your way to wearable fashion accessories! Here you can focus on creating stylish and trendy pieces you will love. Over the course of 8 classes you will create 6-8 pieces to add to your wardrobe! (8 weeks/ \$110.75)



SIGN UP NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com>

TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY January 15	TUESDAY January 16	WEDNESDAY January 17	THURSDAY January 18	FRIDAY January 19
Div 1 Boys Basketball Practice (3:30 pm)	Div 3 Boys Basketball Practice (7:30 am) Whitney vs Brown Hockey Game (12:00 pm)	Girls Volleyball Practice (7:30 am)	Div 1 Boys Basketball Practice (7:30 am)	SLEEP IN! It's a PA DAY!
MONDAY January 22	TUESDAY January 23	WEDNESDAY January 24	THURSDAY January 25	FRIDAY January 26
Whitney vs Regal Road Hockey Game (12:00 pm)	Girls Volleyball Practice (7:30 am)	Winter Classic Hockey Tournament @ Hodgson (8:30 am - 12:00 pm)	Div 1 Boys Basketball Practice (7:30 am)	Girls Volleyball Practice (7:30 am)

