



## **FRIDAY FILE – Feb. 9th, 2024**

***KINDNESS. RESPECT. PRIDE.***

***Follow us on X (former Twitter) @ZionTdsb***

**School Website Link** <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/zionheights/>

**School Contact Information:**

5900 Leslie St, North York ON M2H 1J9

Phone: 416-395-3120 Email: [zion@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:zion@tdsb.on.ca)

Dear Zion HMS families,

We hope everyone had another wonderful week of focused learning!

For those who are celebrating, we also want to wish our entire school community a Happy Lunar New Year! May the Year of the Dragon bring happiness, good health and prosperity to all.

Our Lunar New Year Assembly is on Monday, Feb. 12 so make sure you wear something RED on Monday!

Report Cards also go home on Feb. 13 and parents can book an in-person Parent-Teacher conference via our online booking system starting at 7:00 PM - see our reminder below!

Please scroll down for more important school and community updates in this week's Friday File



*Please take good care,*

***Chi Le***  
***Principal***  
***Zion Heights Middle School***

***Monica O***  
***Vice-Principal***  
***Zion Heights Middle School***

## ***Looking Ahead at ZHMS***

Feb. 12 - Gr.6 Girls' Volleyball Tournament (AM)

Feb. 12 - Lunar New Year Assembly & Lion Dance Presentation @ 1:45 PM - wear something RED

Feb. 13 - Gr.7 Girls' Volleyball Tournament @ JB Tyrell

Feb. 13 - Term 1 Report Cards Go Home & IEPs to be sent home digitally

Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day - Candygrams & Musical Serenades

Feb. 14 - Gr.6 Boys' Basketball Tournament @ Woodbine MS

Feb. 14 - Gr.8 Girls' Volleyball Tournament (PM)

Feb. 15 - Parent / Teacher Conferences - Evening

Feb. 16 - Parent-Teacher Conferences / Professional Activity Day - NO SCHOOL

### ***Student Clubs / Extracurriculars @ ZHMS***

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| - Boys Basketball                  | - Eco Team                 |
| - Seneca Hill Chess (after school) | - Zion Advisory Club (ZAC) |
| - Library Helpers                  | - Band / Strings           |
| - Math Club                        | - Basketball (drop-in)     |
| - Volleyball                       | - ZAC activities           |



# What's Happening at ZHMS...

*ZAC was busy selling Candygrams and Musical Serenades this week in advance of Valentine's Day*





*Our Grade 7 Boys Basketball Team played very well at their tournament at Bayview MS and are advancing to the next round!  
Way to go LIONS!!!*

*Congratulations Coach Burgess and Coach Chong!*





## **ZHMS IMPORTANT SCHOOL UPDATES**

### **REMINDER - Booking Parent-Teacher Conferences Online via School Appointments Website**

Parent-teacher conferences provide an opportunity for families, students and teachers to share important information about student learning and progress, and the development of learning skills to support student success. This is also an opportunity for parents to build relationships with their child's teachers.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be in-person on

- Thursday, February 15th from 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM and Friday, February 16th from 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM.
- Virtual appointments and alternate times may be arranged with ZHMS homeroom and rotary teachers
- Please register online on School Appointments before booking Parent-Teacher conferences online
- How to use SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS ONLINE: [School Appointments - Parent Instructions](#)

The online sign-up will open on Tuesday, Feb. 13th at 7:00 pm

Please contact the main office or your child's homeroom teacher if you have any questions regarding booking an online appointment.

If your child is meeting grade-level expectations in their subject areas an interview with your child's homeroom teacher will not be required at this time

- Parent instructions condensed: [school appointments condensed instructions](#)

- Step by Step Parent Instructions: [school appointments full parent instructions](#)



## The 2023-2024 ZHMS Yearbook Is Now Available to Order on SchoolCash Online!



There are lots of memories tied to the school and we hope that you join this celebration with us. The school yearbook remains one of the best investments in a child's school memories. To secure your child's copy of the yearbook **please ORDER YOUR ZHMS YEARBOOK on SchoolCash Online! All ZHMS families can purchase a yearbook!** Please email Ms. Barlas at [toula.barlas@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:toula.barlas@tdsb.on.ca) if you require assistance using SchoolCash Online!

## *School Drop Off & Pick Up Safety Reminders*

At Zion Heights Middle School, we are fortunate to have several safety initiatives, programs, and policies that contribute to a safe and caring school. Even though most incidents happen away from school, we want to emphasize to all students, staff and parents the importance of awareness and the need for extra care in even the most ordinary and everyday routines, no matter where you are.

- **Morning Drop-Off and After-School Pick-Up Reminders**
  - Morning supervision begins at 8:38 AM, teachers are on duty during this time and students should not be dropped off at school earlier than 8:38 AM
  - ***Please do not idle in the drop-off/pick-up area; starting next week staff on duty will kindly ask parents idling in the morning to proceed to the exit lane to reduce morning congestion outside the school***
  - The community parking lot can also be used across the field for morning drop-off
- **Afterschool Pick-Up Reminders Morning Drop Off and After School Pick Up Reminders**
  - Teachers are on duty after school from 3:05 PM - 3:20 PM; an outbound phone in the office can be used by students to call parents when needed
  - ***Please do not idle in the drop-off/pick-up area; starting next week staff on duty will kindly ask parents to park in a parking spot or proceed to the exit lane to reduce congestion outside the school***

- The community parking lot can also be used across the field when our school parking lot is full during after school pick up

*Please Slow Down When Entering & Exiting our School Parking Lot*

### **LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS NEEDED AT ZHMS**

If you are interested in becoming a Lunchroom Supervisor at Zion Heights Middle School please email Ms. Toulia Barlas at [toulia.barlas@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:toulia.barlas@tdsb.on.ca)

Please note that experience working with children is required for this position.

### **SCHOOL COMMUNITY MESSAGES**

**Greetings from our School Trustee James Li**



Trustee James Li

Ward 13, Don Valley  
North

***I wish everyone who is celebrating a prosperous, healthy, and joyful lunar new year. 新春快乐。***

**- TDSB Ward 13 Trustee James Li**

### **Sikh Heritage Month at the TDSB: Poster and Video Challenge**

Sikh Heritage Month has been proudly recognized at the Toronto District School Board during the month of April.

As part of the celebration to mark Sikh Heritage Month, all TDSB students are invited to be creative and demonstrate your talent in one of the following ways! All elementary school students from kindergarten to grade 8 are invited to create a poster, infographic text, etc. on paper or digital and



all secondary school students from grades 9 to 12 are invited to create and submit a short information video, spoken word, poetry, etc., (1 to 2 min) related to theme of "Chardi Kala" (The Positive and Uplifted Site of Mind).

According to Sikh beliefs, "Chardi Kala" is a state of mind that radiates positive energy, optimistic attitude, and virtuosity. With true belief in the supreme power of God and the oneness of humanity, this state of mind can pave a way for the well-being and happiness of all.

Please see the [attached](#) for full details about eligibility and prizes. The winning entries for first place (poster and video separately) in the three divisions (K to 4; Grades 5 to 8, and Grades 9 to 12) will receive a \$100 Gift Card from Chapters/Indigo.

Deadline: All entries must be submitted on or before Wednesday, March 6, 2024, by 4:00 pm.

## **Sikh Heritage Month at the TDSB: Calling all talented Students / Virtual Launch Celebrations**

Sikh Heritage Month has been proudly recognized at the TDSB since 2016 as the Board of Trustees voted to designate April of each year as 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 matches the recognition proclaimed by the Government of Canada on April 30, 2019. Sikh Heritage Month is recognized nationally across Canada.

As part of the celebration to mark Sikh Heritage Month at the TDSB as we will be hosting a virtual launch celebration in early April and we're reaching out to all students!

Calling all talented students with a passion for showcasing their unique skills!

We're thrilled to invite you to take the virtual centre stage during our upcoming Sikh Heritage Month launch ceremonies! This year's theme "Chardi Kala" (Positive and Uplifted State of Mind), offers the perfect opportunity for students to unleash their creativity and captivate the audience in TDSB.

Deadline: Wednesday, March 6th, at 4:00 pm

Whether you're a singer, musician, or have a special talent to share, we are looking for students to create a performance that embodies the spirit of "Chardi Kala".

1. The item should be between 2-5 minutes long.
2. This will be recorded, so we would need media release forms from the parents of the student.

Educators are asked to share this message and google link with interested students:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cDMTRI4A3WG\\_b2nyBVEvHKSwOoPt3onp3m7MU7SgGH8/edit?ts=65b82299](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cDMTRI4A3WG_b2nyBVEvHKSwOoPt3onp3m7MU7SgGH8/edit?ts=65b82299)