



Parkside ES March 2024 Newsletter

Principal's Message



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Spring is here (maybe!?) This month we welcomed the change of seasons with the annual tapping of maple trees in the courtyard. The flowing sap at the start of spring provides another opportunity to better understand our relationship with the land and environment and enjoy the beauty of Parkside. This was one of the ways that students connected with our school wide Indigenous Education goal. We also had our inaugural Indigenous Games on the afternoon of March 8, including bannock and blueberries for snack, as seen in the picture above. Read more about this wonderful experience in further detail later in this newsletter.

As the weather continues to warm up, we see an increase in people walking to and from the valley and nearby parks on or near the school property. Please note that staff are vigilant and redirect passerbys off school grounds as much as possible. Families are encouraged to

also remind their children of safety precautions to ensure a safe and caring environment at all times.

Student Voice Crew

Thank you for your continued support of the Student Voice Ramadan Food Drive, which continues until April 5! Donations are coming in on a daily basis and \$87.30 has already been raised through online donations! Here is the link if you wish to contribute online <https://www.dailybread.ca/?form=FUNCTVNSFLV&fundraiser=NBLRULKA>, and a list of most needed items:

- ☒ Canned fish
- ☒ Canned fruit
- ☒ Canned vegetables
- ☒ Canned tomatoes
- ☒ Oatmeal
- ☒ Nut butters

In addition to Food Drive preparation, we also discussed what's going well and what we can improve at Parkside.

Here is a summary of the discussion.

What's going well	What we can improve
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- People are walking to garbage cans and not throwing litter on the ground- Less students getting hurt at recess- students are behaving at recess- Students are listening during art and gym- Indigenous Games Day was great! Can we do it again next year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Keep the lunch line quieter Idea: Let the quiet people go with the Lunchroom supervisor and the loud people wait with the supervising teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be quieter in the class during lessons

Solar Eclipse

As communicated to families in February, this is a reminder that the PA Day originally scheduled for Friday, April 19, 2024 has been rescheduled and will now occur on Monday, April 8, 2024.

TDSB made this adjustment due to potential safety concerns with regard to a rare total [solar eclipse](#) on Monday, April 8, 2024, that will put parts of Ontario into temporary darkness.

As the eclipse will occur around the dismissal times of many schools, there were concerns that children would be outside and possibly looking directly at the sun, which without appropriate protection, can lead to serious problems such as partial or complete loss of

eyesight. There were also traffic-related concerns as students could be walking home in temporary darkness.

This decision, which was made following guidance and consultation with the Ministry of Education, is in line with similar changes announced by other school boards in the Greater Toronto and Golden Horseshoe Area, including the Toronto Catholic District School Board, with which we share student transportation services.

For more information about the Total Solar Eclipse, including how to view it safely, please review information from the [Canadian Association of Optometrists](#).

We understand that this change may impact families' plans for the upcoming PA Day; however, our top priority is always the safety and well-being of our students.

Greek Heritage Month

March is a significant month for the Hellenic community and March 25 is celebrated each year as Greek Independence Day. Proclaiming March as Hellenic Heritage Month provides an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of the Hellenic Canadians in the province.

The theme for this year is: "Greek Thought and Civilization: From Myth to Logos"

«Ελληνική Σκέψη και Πολιτισμός: Από τον Μύθο στον Λόγο»

At Parkside students engaged in a variety of activities connected to Greek Heritage, including art projects, dances, vocabulary and even cheese pies for snack on March 1! It was great to see some of these experiences showcased at today's assembly.

Artist Visiting Parkside

Next week, Grade 3-5 students will be participating in a silkscreening workshop with artist Kingi Carpenter from Peach Berserk silkscreening studio. It is going to be an amazing opportunity for the students! They will each create a design, and every student will get to create a silkscreen to use to print on various fabric items, and a tote bag. They will be able to keep these materials to wear or use. This is connected to our school ecoliteracy goal, as we will be reusing and repurposing materials and considering the environment when creating our designs. Thank you to the TDSB Arts Department and the Parkside School Council for your partnership on this opportunity.

Kindergarten Registration

A quick reminder about Kindergarten registration. It's not too late to register your child for Kindergarten in September! To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four-years-old by December 31. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five-years-old by December 31. For more information about the Kindergarten program and registration requirements, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

Please call the school office at 416-396-2425 with any questions about Kindergarten registration.

X/Twitter

Parkside is on X/Twitter. Please follow us [@TDSB_ParksideES](#) for all the latest updates. It is an honour to serve the Parkside community.

Sincerely,
Heather Myrvold

THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



Elementary Summer School Registration open!

by **TDSB**

The focus of the 2024 Elementary Literacy and Numeracy Summer School Program is to continue student engagement through July. Programs, embedded in Literacy and Numeracy, are developed by the local summer school principal to reflect the school focus.

Programs are offered in-person to students in K to Grade 8, from July 2 to July 26, 2024. This year, one remote program will also be available for Grades 4 to 8.

Registration Information

- Program Dates - July 2 to July 26, 2024, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Registration is online. To fill out an application, please click on the registration form link for the school below.
- 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 LINK: [Elementary Summer School 2024](#)



Indigenous Games Day

by: Ms. Aprile

On March 8th all of Parkside kindergarten to grade 5 students and staff alike participated in Indigenous Games Day. The students in grades 1-5 had been learning different Indigenous games for children during their Physical Education classes for a month before so they were ready when the big day arrived! Not only did they learn how to play but also the significance of the games as well.

We started our games day with a beautiful Gratitude to the Land written and presented by the grade 4/5 classes. Everyone got to participate in 5 different games and even had a snack break where they got to enjoy fresh berries and bannock. A great day was had by all and we hope to make this an annual event here at Parkside!

Upcoming Events

April 1- Easter Monday - school closed

April 3 - Grade 5 Grad Photos

April 3 - School Council Meeting - 6:30pm - Zoom

April 4 - Family Time in the Library - 3:20pm

April 8 - PA Day - No school for students

April 12 - Popcorn Recess - PM

April 16 - Theola Ross School Council Parent Engagement Workshop

April 22 - Student Voice Crew Meeting - Lunch

April 25 - Pizza Lunch

April 29 - Assembly 1:15pm

April 30 - Parkside Shuffle - PM

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



Parkside Elementary School
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