



December 12, 2021

Good evening Students and Families,

We made it to the last week before the break! As we head into our last week, we want to thank our students and staff who have been making this month extra-special. Our student council continues to gather donations for Red Door Shelter. Our MSA is selling candy-grams in the front foyer, with proceeds going to support a local charity. Our ILP program has been accepted to be a part of the Jays Cares Challenger Baseball program. We also thank our student groups who supported our December 6 school wide events to Commemorate the Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Our music students played outside in front of the school, students distributed ribbons, painted beautiful signs, and created moving announcements for classes to hear. Our history classes also had the opportunity to work with Carrying Testimony, who provided virtual presentations sharing Holocaust Survivor stories.

As we move into the break, we would like to wish all our students and families a relaxing break. We can't wait to see you in the New Year!

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### CHINESE HERITAGE MONTH – CALL FOR POSTER DESIGN ENTRIES

The month of February is proudly recognized by the Toronto District School Board as Chinese Heritage Month (CHM). This year CHM coincides with one of the most important Chinese celebrations, the Lunar New Year! We encourage everyone to participate and make our Chinese Heritage Month spectacular.

Our theme this year is "Year of the Tiger: Brave, Compassionate, Adventurous, and Optimistic." We invite all students from grades k - 12 to submit an image that reflects this year's theme.

**Deadline: No later than January 17, 2022 by 11:59 pm.**

Only entries submitted electronically will be accepted and they must be in a .pdf or image file format. Details on how to submit and prizes for selected images may be found on the [attached](#) document.

### COMMUNITY SAFETY

Please continue to be cautious when crossing streets and during drop off and pick up from school. We have a busy street with many from our community passing through the front of the school. We ask that we all do our part to ensure that we are mindful of crossings, those cycling, and while dropping off students.

### MINISTRY UPDATE

We have been asked to share two letters with you in advance of the winter break with information related to COVID-19 and the rapid antigen tests that all TDSB students will be receiving, as well as other



COVID-19 related information. You can read the letters from the [Minister of Education and Chief Medical Officer of Health](#) and from [Toronto Public Health](#) on our website.

This week, rapid tests are also being distributed in homeform classrooms. These tests include instructions for use. Any students who have a spare in the morning, may come by the office during lunch or after school to pick up the tests.

### PROJECT SEARCH 2022-2023 INFORMATION SESSION

Project Search Toronto, in partnership with the Toronto District School Board, is holding Information sessions for Project SEARCH 2022-2023 ([see attached flyer](#)). Project Search Toronto is a transition-to-work program for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Students in their final year of high school will gain marketable skills needed for employment. Students participate in classroom workplace life skills education and complete three cooperative learning placements at UHN Toronto Rehab and Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital.

The [attached flyer](#) details information about the program and application information.

### TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH – POEM/SPOKEN WORD CHALLENGE

We are proud to recognize Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB through various educational opportunities for students to learn about the history, culture, and traditions. One initiative being offered at this time is an opportunity for all secondary students from grades 9 - 12 to participate in a Poetry Challenge. Secondary students are asked to write a poem/spoken word that reflects this year's theme Our Histories. Our Legacies. Our Homelands.

Please see the [attached](#) document for full details of the Poem/Spoken Word Challenge.

Selected students will be invited to present during a virtual Poetry Night on Monday, January 31, 2022 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm EST. The event will be open to all TDSB staff, students, and TDSB community members.

Deadline: All entries must be received by January 14, 2022 by 4:00 pm

All entries must be sent to: [Tamilheritagemonth@gmail.com](mailto:Tamilheritagemonth@gmail.com)

### RADIO MONARCH

The Radio Monarch team is looking for student input for songs in the AM. If you are interested, please fill out [this form](#) to share music choices for our morning Radio team. Please note that only clean versions of songs are permitted.

### REQUEST TO RE-SUBMIT PARENT PARTICIPATION IN VICE-PRINCIPAL INTERVIEWS SPRING 2022 \*\* EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Toronto District School Board is currently recruiting for parents/caregivers/guardians who are interested in participating on the Vice-Principal Interview Committees. Procedure 705 - Selection, Promotion and Placement Process for Vice-principals allows for parent/caregivers /guardian



representatives identified through the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) to participate in Vice-Principal interviews.

NOTE: We are asking all those who had expressed interest to please res-submit their interest. If you would like to volunteer to participate in the Spring 2022 Vice-Principal interviews you are required to do the following:

1. Complete the Expression of Interest [PVP Spring 2022](#) (link - <https://bit.ly/PVPSpring22>)
2. Be available for the virtual VP Process and Interview Training Session scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, 2022  
5:00 to 8:00 pm.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

\*\*Due to the current Covid-19 impact, this training session will be completed virtually.

Please note attendance at a training session is mandatory in order to participate as a Parent/Guardian Representative on a Vice-Principal Interview Team.

3. Be available for the Spring 2022 cycle, interviews for Elementary Vice-Principal and Secondary Vice-Principal will be held on two of the three planned interview dates below:

- Tuesday, February 22, 2022
- Wednesday, February 24, 2022

\*\*Due to the current Covid-19 impact, interviews may need to be completed virtually. If in-person interviews take place, they will be held at 1 Civic Centre Court (Burnhamthorpe and Hwy #427) during the day;

You will not be scheduled for more than one of these dates.

Depending on the number of interview teams scheduled, not all parent representatives may be scheduled.

You will be informed by e-mail no later than the week prior to the scheduled date if you have been placed on an interview team or identified as an alternate/back-up for the day.

The interview day begins with a team caucus at 8:00am with the site coordinators. The last interview of the day will commence no later than 3:30pm.

For further information please contact [Latha.John@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Latha.John@tdsb.on.ca)

Thank you in advance for your interest and support in this important process.

### STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

We are holding a holiday drive for the Red Door Family Shelter. This shelter provides several important services to many women and children in our community. Our goal is to help as many families in the community as possible. The holiday drive is an opportunity for all students, staff and members of our school to come together to have a positive impact on our community.

The holiday drive will run from Monday, December 6, to Wednesday, December 15. There will be collection boxes at the front entrances of the school and in homeroom classes.



Donations can include:

- New Winter Accessories for all ages, sizes, and gender (e.g. hats, gloves/mittens, scarfs, socks)
- New Toys: for ages 6-12 boys & girls and teens
- Non-perishable food or Food Vouchers for our shelter food banks (\$25, \$50, or \$100 denominations from No Frills, Food Basics, FreshCo, Metro, or Loblaws).
- Winter Jackets and Snowpants and boots for toddlers, boys and girls, women, and men (lightly used are ok)

For more information about the Red Door Family Shelter: <https://www.reddoorshelter.ca/>

### WINTER 2021-22 WELL-BEING GUIDE FOR STUDENTS, CAREGIVERS AND FAMILIES

The TDSB Winter 2021-22 Well-Being Guide has many resources for students and caregivers. You can access the guide [here](#). This guide has been translated into 18 languages and we hope it can reach many students and caregivers. The translations for the 18 languages can be accessed here:

<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/0k0Rpj0z0m/dHJhbnNsYXRpb25AbWNpcy5vbi5jYQ>

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

#### FROM MICHAEL GARRON HOSPITAL

- Vaccine clinic flyers from now until December 30: [Download and share neighbourhood-specific and/or individual flyers for outreach and promotion in your communities.](#)

All pop-up vaccine clinic details are available at [tehn.ca/VaccinePopUps](https://tehn.ca/VaccinePopUps).

#### Thornccliffe Park Community Hub clinic

- This is a family-friendly clinic that features private vaccination areas, toys and activities, Child Life Specialists and more. [Learn more.](#)
- Book an appointment at [tehn.ca/Covid19Vaccine](https://tehn.ca/Covid19Vaccine) or call 437-537-5131.
- [Download a flyer to help promote our COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics for Children Aged 5-11.](#)  
(UPDATED)

Dedicated clinic for First Nations, Inuit and Métis children aged 5 to 11 (NEW)

- Eligibility: Children aged 5 to 11 who identify as First Nations, Inuit or Métis. Children who are 4 years old and turning 5 by the end of 2021 are also eligible.  
Where: Thornccliffe Park Community Hub (45 Overlea Blvd.)  
When: December 18 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
How: By appointment and walk-in. Book now at [tehn.ca/FNIMclinic](https://tehn.ca/FNIMclinic).



- This clinic features a family-friendly design that helps make the vaccination experience as safe and comfortable as possible for children. A sacred pipe and smudging ceremony will be conducted at the clinic by Elder Little Brown Bear and members of The Aboriginal Healing Program at Michael Garron Hospital before opening. For those that wish to smudge, traditional sacred medicines will be available before or after their vaccination. In addition, dedicated healthcare staff and Aboriginal community members will be available to address any questions or concerns.

Other ways to book an appointment for children aged 5-11:

- Book an appointment at another clinic using the [provincial booking system online](#) or by calling 1-833-943-3900.
- Book an appointment at a [local pharmacy](#) offering the vaccine for children aged 5 to 11.
- Contact your primary care provider or paediatrician to confirm if they are offering the vaccine for children aged 5 to 11.

### Third doses for eligible populations

For individuals aged 50 and older (NEW)

- [Starting December 13](#), individuals aged 50 and older who received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine more than 168 days ago are eligible to get their third dose.
- If you are eligible for a third dose and would like to make an appointment as soon as possible, please [go to the MGH website](#) and click the green button that says "Book for an individual aged 12+ at Thorncliffe Park Community Hub". You can also call 437-537-5131. Appointments will take place the week of December 13.
- At this time, Thorncliffe Park Community Hub is the only MGH/ETHP clinic that accepts third dose appointments online and by phone from individuals aged 50 and older. Starting December 13, third dose appointments can be booked by this population at other clinics in the city, including our Shoppers World Danforth, Gerrard Square and Eglinton Square clinics, using the [provincial booking system online](#).
- Starting December 13, eligible individuals aged 50 and older can also walk in to our Shoppers World Danforth, Gerrard Square and Eglinton Square clinics for their third dose.

Dedicated third dose clinic for First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals

- Clinic takes place on December 15, 22, and 29 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Michael Garron Hospital. (Update)
- To be eligible for this clinic, community members must identify as First Nations, Inuit or Métis and have received their second dose more than 168 days ago.
- This clinic offers appointments and walk-ins. To book an appointment at this clinic, please call 437-537-5131. Online bookings are not available.
- More details can be found at [tehn.ca/VaccineAppointment](https://tehn.ca/VaccineAppointment).



### COVID-19 Outreach Centres

- Our COVID-19 Outreach Centres offer walk-in and child-friendly COVID-19 testing, assessments, vaccines and other supports. See all locations and hours: [tehn.ca/CovidOutreachCentres](https://tehn.ca/CovidOutreachCentres).
- Children who visit these sites receive [an oral-nasal swab](#), which is less invasive than the traditional NP swab. Physicians and nurses are available to answer your questions and concerns.
- Take-home COVID-19 test kits provided by MGH can be picked up and dropped off at these sites.
- Our COVID-19 Outreach Centres in Flemingdon Park and Taylor-Massey also offer flu assessments to local residents experiencing cold and flu symptoms, with or without a health card.
  - The fulsome assessment is performed by a family physician.
  - It includes a COVID-19 swab and prescriptions for common issues like strep throat and asthma exacerbations.
  - It may also include primary care follow-up and referrals to community services that address the social determinants of health.
  - Please share this information with your communities so they know this primary care support is available to them close to home if they have cold and flu symptoms.
- [Download COVID-19 Outreach Centre flyers](#) for all locations with December hours. Open throughout the holidays.

### Flu vaccines

- Anyone five years of age and older can get their flu vaccine at Eglinton Square Shopping Centre. Please see the dates and times for upcoming weeks:
  - December 1-24, 26-31 (Closed on December 25): Open Monday to Saturday from 10:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. Registration ends at 5:45 p.m. – please arrive before this time to ensure you receive a vaccine.
- Walk-ins welcome, no appointments needed. Health card not needed. Healthcare staff are available to answer your questions about the flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine.
- [Learn more about the flu vaccine](#) and [see a list of locations in East Toronto offering the flu vaccine](#).

### Upcoming Events (NEW)

- COVID-19 & Kids: Vaccine Town Hall with the South Asian Community on Thursday, December 16 from 7-8 p.m. The session will be simultaneously interpreted in Urdu, Punjabi, Tamil and Bengali on Zoom (Flyer attached). You can share any questions about kids vaccines or request a recording in advance to [covidvaccinesforkids@gmail.com](mailto:covidvaccinesforkids@gmail.com). If you require technical support accessing a language channel, feel free to join between 6:30-7 p.m.

### Vaccine FAQ handout and additional resources

- [MGH's Community Q&A on the COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Aged 5-11](#) (Michael Garron Hospital)
- [FAQ about the COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Aged 5-11](#) (ETHP)
- [Information about the COVID-19 vaccine and fertility](#) (Michael Garron Hospital and ETHP)



- [Flyer for Promoting COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Children Aged 5-11 at Thorncliffe Park Community Hub](#) (ETHP)
- [Why Should My Child Get the COVID-19 Vaccine?](#) available in 15 languages (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada) (**NEW**)
- [COVID-19: Information About Children and Vaccines](#) (Toronto Public Health)
- [Comfort Positions for Vaccinating Children](#) (ETHP)
- [How to Prepare Your Child for Their COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (ETHP)
- [Tips for Easing Children's Fears About Getting the COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (Toronto Public Health)
- [Reduce the Pain of Vaccination in Kids and Teens: A Guide for Parents](#) (Immunize Canada)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service](#) (SickKids)
- [How to Call the Province to Book a Vaccine Appointment](#), available in multiple languages (Ministry of Health)
- [FAQ about Ontario's proof-of-vaccination policy](#), available in 12 languages (ETHP)
- Additional multilingual resources from [Women's College Hospital](#) and [City of Toronto](#).

## UPCOMING DATES

Late Start – December 15

Full Disclosure – December 15

Last Day of School – December 17

Winter Break – December 18 – January 2 -NO SCHOOL

School Council Meeting – January 12