

# PERTH PULSE

## Principal's Report

Spring is in the air!. The snow has melted. Time for Spring, Perth! The month of March seemed to come and go so quickly!

We have received some preliminary figures for projected enrollment numbers for the 2019-2020 school year. We are scheduled to have 470 students enrolled at Perth next year. Approximately 290 students in Regular Program and 180 students in French Immersion. Teaching staff is scheduled for 27 teachers, which is 3 more teachers from this year.

Parents, if you know that you will be leaving our school community, please let your child's teacher and the office know. This helps us plan and organize for the upcoming school year. Every student counts!

On March 1, we had an amazing assembly celebrating Chinese and African Heritage Month. At the same time, we also acknowledged the Grandfather Teaching—Courage. The March character trait was Honesty. These themes remind us to live by the golden rule—"Treat others as you would like to be treated" and being mindful of including each individual. Forgiveness fosters tolerance and allows us to move forward instead of holding on to anger or resentment. Perth Avenue Junior Public School's approach to discipline aims to promote a culture of caring through restorative practices by listening to understand differing perspectives and encouraging opportunities for reparation.

Yours in Partnership,

Andrea McPherson

Proud Principal at Perth Ave JPS

### Rainbow Week—April 8-12

There are a variety of activities being planned for this week. On Tuesday April 9, we are planning to do a school photo in the shape and colour of a rainbow.

Each Grade is being assigned a colour to wear:

Kindergarten—Wear Red

Grade 1—Wear Orange

Grade 2—Wear Yellow

Grade 3—Wear Green

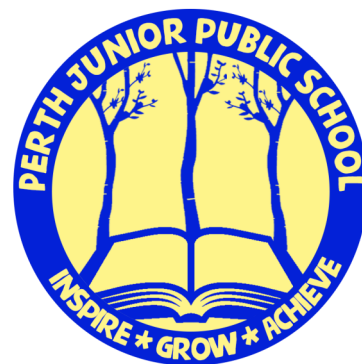
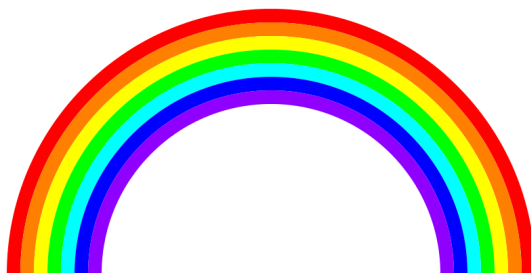
Grade 4—Wear Blue

Grade 5/6—Wear Purple

In the morning, we will arrange the students into a rainbow and then take a photo from the roof. Stay tuned to Twitter!

**On April 9th**—Grade 6 students will have their grad photos taken as well so bring your purple shirt and your grad photo clothes!

**April 10th**—everyone wear pink!



**April 2019**

**Character Trait:**

**Co-operation**

Perth Avenue Public School

14 Ruskin Avenue,

Toronto, ON

M6P 3P8

Tel: 416 393-1410

Fax: 416 393-1403

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

April 8-12—Rainbow Week

April 9 - Wear your Rainbow colour assigned to your grade

April 9—Grade 6 grad photos today

April 10—International Day of Pink

April 16—Healthy Child Screening

April 19—Good Friday, **no school**

April 22—Easter Monday, **no school**

April 23-26—Library closed due to Revitalization

April 29—Grandfather Teaching Assembly—Generosity

*April is Latin*

*American History,*

*Sikh Heritage and*

*Genocide Awareness Month.*

# Resilience at Perth

by Arwyn Carpenter

What builds resilience? Is it having fewer teachers and larger class sizes?

My own opinion (and not necessarily that of the school or the board) is I don't believe that resiliency is built through hardship. I've seen resiliency fostered when kids know that their teachers care for them and have time for them. I don't believe resiliency can thrive when the group is too large for everyone's voice to be heard.

Students, and teachers, at Perth are a resilient bunch. Through restorative circles, a meeting tradition practiced by indigenous peoples worldwide, we are learning to express inner thoughts and concerns, and even more importantly, we are learning to hear each other's voices and consider how best to support our community members in need.

In a restorative circle, a question is presented and each circle member in turn is invited to respond, remembering that we don't interrupt, that we think about what the person is saying, and that we are appreciative of each contribution.

A circle could be used to welcome a new student to the school, to support a student through the death of a loved one, to repair hurt caused by a bullying incident, to help us process a difficult current event, or for many other school or community concerns.

Returning from March Break, students had a lot of heavy things to consider:

- We continue to discuss the hard truth about Canada's residential schools, the abuse that occurred and the intergenerational trauma that resulted.

- We listen to Greta Thunberg's even determination to provoke action against climate collapse, and experience the helplessness of living in a time when the adults are not taking responsible leadership for protection of the planet.

- We hear news reports about Islamophobic-targeted terror attacks, and other recent hate crimes.

- And in our Perth neighbourhood we had a violent incident that shocks and frightens us, and makes us wonder about the safety of our own homes.

Students spoke earnestly about their experience of the latter:

Saorise said, "We were at the Boys & Girls Club and there was a lock-down in the gym. We were scared. Then I talked to my parents after and they said the lock down is to keep us safe and that we're safe at school."

Sadia said, "I heard the gun shots. We didn't know what was happening. We were scared. Our parents said we have to stay in our house."

Through hearing each other and sharing our fears, we felt a connection to others who were experiencing the same thing. We recognized that we are not alone with our scary feelings. And that there is terrific strength in our group connection.

When crisis occurs, Perth students have a number of resiliency skills that will help them through:

- They trust in the safety of our school community.
- They know how to express their feelings and speak out if they need help.
- They know they will be heard and supported by others.

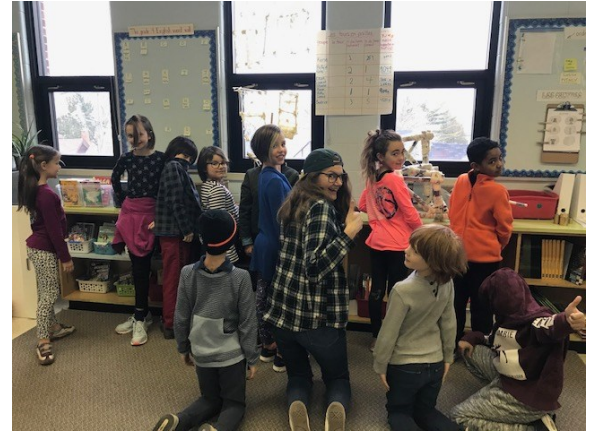
We are all humans, doing our very best to create positive outcomes in the face of multiple challenges. The more we can reach out and connect with each other, the stronger we feel.

To me, school is not about creating an army of hardened robots for an imaginary future work force. As I see it, Perth is doing an excellent job of strengthening a community of caring, conscious humans, whose value and voices are appreciated in this moment

# School Spirit Day—Backwards Day March 29



School Spirit was in full swing on backwards day! Everyone was up for wearing their clothes and hats backwards and even WALKING backwards down the hallways! Lots of giggles and hilarity ensued. We love our spirit days!



## Suspension Bridge Report by Milan, Room 210

I made a suspension bridge. I'm happy I finished it. It's made of wood, popsicle sticks, wooden skewers, and strings. I used a saw to cut the pieces and glue gun to glue the pieces together. First, I drew a plan of the suspension bridge on grid paper. I drew the front view, top view and side view. I used the drawings to help with measuring the pieces for the bridge. I burnt myself with the glue gun one time. It was fun using the glue gun but be careful because the glue gets really hot and it can burn and it hurts! It was fun building the bridge and putting it together - I like gluing the best. I showed my Mom and Dad the suspension bridge I made and they said it was amazing!



### Some general reminders from the Perth Office:

- Students who are regularly late (more than 18 days a year) learn that tardiness is acceptable instead of developing the habit of being punctual and demonstrating responsibility for an important commitment. Classes are organized with schedules and predictable routines to optimize student learning and late arrivals disrupt the learning of other students. Please ensure your Kindergarten children are present at 9:00 am. Please ensure Grades 1-6 are here at 8:45 am. Thank you!
  - We still see some parents escorting their primary-aged children upstairs after the bell rings. Please remember that instructional time should be respected and that parents and caregivers are not allowed upstairs during this time. We appreciate your cooperation! Lets keep our school safe!
-

# Thumbs Up Walk—Friday March 8

Perth staff and students participated in our first « Thumbs UP » walk to promote mental health and wellness. The winter weather finally cooperated with us and we had a glorious walk on the Rail Path!



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PINK

On April 10 we celebrate The International Day of Pink. A day of action, born when a youth in a high school in Cambridge, Nova Scotia was bullied because he wore a pink shirt to school. His fellow students decided to stand up to bullying; and hundreds of students came to school wearing pink to show support for diversity and stopping discrimination, gender-based bullying, homophobia and transphobia.

Our students and staff will be wearing pink in support of diversity, and will be participating in events and activities that will engage our community to challenge gender stereotypes.

The International Day of Pink is more than just a symbol of a shared belief in celebrating diversity - it's also a commitment to being open minded, to being understanding of differences and to learning to respect each other.

#PINK  
SHIRT  
PROMISE



# ARTSFEST 2019

On Wednesday March 27 and Thursday March 28th, Perth hosted another successful ARTSFEST. Thank you to Mme Carpenter who organized and facilitated such an impressive Arts experience not only for our students but for TDSB students across the city. We had over 800 students from Downtown Vocal Music Academy, Winona Senior Public, Queen Victoria, Howard Public School and Beverly Heights to name a few. Check out the pictures from the fabulous event.



Sign up for Perth's Healthy Child Screening. Its free! Just print out this page, fill it in and fax it to the number on the form. OR bring it to the office and we will!



**Registration for Healthy Child Screening at Perth Avenue Public School**  
 Tuesday April 16, 2019 from 8:45am to 12:00pm

Child's Name _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
<small>First Name</small>		<small>Last Name</small>	
Date of Birth _____	Health Card Number _____	Version Code _____	
<small>dd/mm/yyyy</small>			
Parent's Name(s) _____			
Address _____			
<small>Apt. Building/ House Number</small>		<small>Street</small>	
		<small>Postal Code</small>	
Telephone: Home _____	Cell _____	Work _____	
Family's First Language _____			
Family doctor _____		_____	
<small>Name</small>		<small>Telephone</small>	
_____		_____	
<small>Address</small>		<small>Fax</small>	

<b>To be filled in by staff.</b>		<b>*** Please make sure to specify if an interpreter is needed and the language ***</b>	
Does family require facilitation by an interpreter? Y	N	Language _____	
Child/Family participates or is enrolled in:			
Jr. Kindergarten	Sr. Kindergarten	Gr. 1	School Name _____
Daycare _____	Name of Daycare _____	Family Resource Centre (Drop-in Programs)	Name _____
Teacher/other professional comments:			
What have you talked about with this parent that you would like the screening professionals to know?			

It is recommended that all stations be visited as registration to a future clinic will not be accommodated

**Registration forms must be returned or faxed to Cassandra at 416-604-3365 by Tuesday April 9th**



# Carleton Village JS Sports and Wellness Academy



Join us!

Summer  
Program

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

- Kindergarten to Grade 8 Literacy and Numeracy skills are reinforced through creative and integrated themes. Our focus will be Science Technology Engineering Arts Math (STEAM), Health and Well-Being.
- Potential enrichment activities include: *Robotics/Coding, Fitness and Sports, Visual Arts, Music, Elements of Design and Construction, Guest presentations and performances and much more!*
- *Portuguese Heritage classes and the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club Summer programs are available in the afternoons*

**Carleton Village JS Sports  
and Wellness Academy**  
315 Osler Street  
Toronto, Ontario M6N 2Z4

[tdsb.on.ca](http://tdsb.on.ca)



CONTACT US TODAY

School Office - 416 393-1600



# Reminder: Don't forget to sign up for School Cash Online!

Our payment system, School Cash Online is the method by which we process all money associated with all school events, trips and purchases.

Please go to <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> to register your child. You can register now and when you are notified of an event, you can choose what you want to purchase from the list and pay with a debit or credit card.

It's that easy!

You will be able to see when the school has a new item posted for purchase and you will also have the option to be notified whenever your child has a new school event requiring payment.



**School Cash Online**

Paying school items just got easier!  
Sign up to get started today.

**What is School Cash Online?**  
School Cash Online is an easy to use, safe way to pay for your children's school fees.

**Get Started Today**      **Sign Into Your Account**

The banner features a dark blue header with the title 'School Cash Online'. Below it, on a light beige background, is the headline 'Paying school items just got easier! Sign up to get started today.' To the right of the text is an image of a pair of orange high-top sneakers. Below the text and image is a dark grey box containing the heading 'What is School Cash Online?' and a short paragraph: 'School Cash Online is an easy to use, safe way to pay for your children's school fees.' A yellow arrow points from this text box to the 'Get Started Today' button. At the bottom, there are two dark blue buttons: 'Get Started Today' and 'Sign Into Your Account'.

## Let's stay connected!

**NEW—Visit our new and updated Perth Avenue Website!**  
**<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/perthavenue>**

School Twitter account: [@tdsb\\_PerthAve](https://twitter.com/tdsb_PerthAve)  
Follow the school for event info, updates and photos of school activities!

Perth School Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/Perth-Avenue-Public-School-Toronto-264096063626896/>

SAC Email: [perthschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:perthschoolcouncil@gmail.com)  
Send us a message if you'd like to be on the mailing list and receive event notices and our newsletter.