

November 28, 2021

Good Afternoon S.O.L.E. Students and Families:

Hope you all had a nice weekend. Please see below for important information for this week.

Wishing you a wonderful week ahead.

CREDIT RESCUE AFTERNOON – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

The afternoon of Friday, Dec. 3 will be a credit rescue day. If you are failing, or close to failing, you can come in for extra help from 12:15-2:45. A nutritious meal will be available starting at 11:45 am. We'll be here to help you get caught up. You should have received an email from Caitlin, but if you're not sure, check with your teacher to find out your current grade. If you plan to attend, please email caitlin.hewitt-white@tdsb.on.ca.

HOMEWORK HELP

Homework Help Mondays starts on Mon. Nov. 22 in the Student Lounge 2:45-3:45. Come get help with completing assignments and understanding course material.

LUNCHTIME WELLNESS BREAK: YOGA AND SLEEP

Students are invited to join Caitlin in Room 328 at 12:00 noon sharp on Thurs. Dec. 2 to learn some easy yoga moves to help improve sleep.

MINISTRY UPDATE

The Ministry of Education shared a number of updates to support the health and safety of students and school communities across Ontario. The TDSB will review these in more detail and more information will be provided as it pertains to our work in the TDSB. You can read the full media release [here](#), but some of the key highlights are:

- Secondary schools are able to return to a regular semester model, starting in February 2022.
- All Ontario public school students will be sent home with [five rapid COVID-19 tests](#) to use over the holidays and throughout the return to in-person learning.
- The Ministry also reminded families to review the established [federal international travel policies](#) – including the [guidelines for unvaccinated, school-aged children](#) – in advance of the December break in an effort to prevent absences in January related to post-travel requirements.

As we receive more information, we will provide info to our school community.

STUDENT COUNCIL UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Clothing Swap: Wednesday December. 1 - lunchtime, Room 328

Guidelines: Clothes should be washed and in good condition. No underwear or sock donations please. Bring something to take something. Limit of 15 items per person. Additionally, Guidance will be giving away some brand-new clothes and boots that were donated to the school.

Next Student Council meeting: Wednesday. December. 1, 2:45 PM, Room 328

We also have a week of cozy and festive holiday activities coming up! More details t.b.a.

FROM STUDENT SERVICES

University/College Applications

Book an appointment with Rob if you need assistance applying to college or university:

robert.reed@tdsb.on.ca

NUTRITION PROGRAM

Thank you to our student volunteers for their ongoing assistance with serving nutritious food in the mornings. If you need community hours, we are still accepting volunteers for set-up and clean-up.

Contact Rob: robert.reed@tdsb.on.ca.

SWITCH BETWEEN IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL LEARNING

As you know, all TDSB students selected either in-person or virtual learning for the 2021-22 school year. At the time of selection, we communicated that there would be one opportunity to switch between in-person and virtual learning in February 2022.

In order to plan ahead for students to switch between in-person and virtual learning for Semester 2 in February 2022, parents/caregivers and students requesting a change must complete a Switch Form between November 29 and December 6, 2021. Students who do not wish to make a change do not need to complete a form.

If you are considering a switch, please speak with your child before submitting a Switch Form. We expect that parents/guardians with shared decision-making responsibilities will come to an agreement before completing the form.

We recognize that we are asking for this decision well in advance of February and thank you for your understanding, as this process takes time to complete. While we cannot guarantee that all switch requests will be met, it is our goal to accommodate as many as possible based on available programs and space (e.g. French Immersion, Extended French, Specialized Programs, Alternative Schools, other limited circumstances).

Students who switch learning models will begin attending Semester 2 classes on February 3, 2022.

For more information, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/switchform.

TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH

Tamil Heritage Month is proudly recognized in January nationally since October 2016, provincially since March 2004 and by the TDSB since 2016. This coincides with one of the most important festivals celebrated by Tamils in South Asia and all over the world. Traditionally, during this month, Tamils, irrespective of their religion, celebrate Thai Pongal, a harvest festival that offers prayers of thanks to the sun and nature for giving bountiful crops. The theme for this year is: Our Histories. Our Legacies. Our Homelands. (எமது வரலாறுகள். எமது மரபுகள். எமது தாயகங்கள்).

All TDSB students are invited to participate in the Tamil Heritage Month Poster Challenge.

Deadline: Friday, December 10, 2021 by 3:00 pm. It must be sent to tdsbamilheritagemonth@gmail.com in a .pdf or .jpeg format with the student name, grade, email and contact phone #.

Full details with the contest guidelines are available in the [attached document](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

TPH AND COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff is a priority and everyone plays a role. Toronto Public Health has made updates its [COVID-19 screening for students/children in childcares and JK to Grade 12 schools](#). Please use this updated version when conducting your daily screening before coming to school.

Here is the revised [TDSB Health Pass](#) paper version and these updates are reflected in the TDSB Health Screening App.

FROM MICHAEL GARRON HOSPITAL

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FROM MICHAEL GARRON HOSPITAL

- 1) Vaccine FAQ handout and additional resources (NEW)
 - Kids Vaccine Town Hall with Joe Cressy and Dr. Janine McCready Date: Monday, November 29, 2021
Time: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Please register in advance: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7QpwPsX2Ra6ptY_mHx1TuA (NEW)
 - Video of [MGH's Community Q&A on the COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Aged 5-11](#) (Michael Garron Hospital)
 - [General FAQ flyer about the COVID-19 vaccine](#). The FAQ is also available [online](#). (ETHP)
 - [Information about the COVID-19 vaccine and fertility](#) from MGH and ETHP experts. (ETHP and Michael Garron Hospital)
 - [Fact Sheet for COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Youth](#) (Ministry of Health)
 - [FAQ About the COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines for Children](#) (University of Waterloo)
 - [COVID-19: Information About Children and Vaccines](#) (Toronto Public Health)
 - [FAQ About the Paediatric Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (Ministry of Health)
 - [How to Prepare Your Child for Their COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (East Toronto Health Partners)
 - [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)
 - [Flyer for Promoting COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Children Aged 5-11 at Thorncliffe Park Community Hub](#) (East Toronto Health Partners)
 - [Comfort Positions for Vaccinating Children](#) (East Toronto Health Partners)
 - [COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service](#) (SickKids)
 - [How to Call the Province to Book a Vaccine Appointment – Available in Multiple Languages](#) (Ministry of Health)
 - Additional multilingual resources from [Women's College Hospital](#) and [City of Toronto](#).
- 2) Flu vaccines (Update)
 - 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:
 - November 24-30: Open every day except Sunday from 10:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. Registration ends at 5:45 p.m. – please arrive before this time to ensure you receive a vaccine.
 - 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.
 - The flu vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from the flu and its potentially serious complications.
 - [Learn more about the flu vaccine](#) and [see a list of locations in East Toronto offering the flu vaccine](#).



- 3) First, second and third (booster) doses: Vaccines at Shoppers World Danforth, Gerrard Square, Eglinton Square (update)
- Individuals aged 12 and up who need their first dose, second doses or booster dose can visit these clinics by walk-in and appointment. [See all locations and hours.](#)
 - Appointments can be booked in advance at tehn.ca/VaccineAppointment. You can also use the [provincial booking system online](#) or at 1-833-943-3900.
 - The following populations are now eligible for a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine if 168 days has passed since their last dose:
 - Individuals aged 70 and over
 - Healthcare workers and designated caregivers in congregate settings
 - Individuals who received two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine
 - First Nations, Inuit and Métis adults and their non-Indigenous household members
- 4) Take-home COVID-19 PCR testing kits
Fact sheet with commonly asked questions found here: <https://tehn.ca/about-us/common-questions-about-mghs-take-home-covid-19-test-kits>

Translated versions of instructions can be found here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o6n98opwkwclki4/AADesQGWX2OKcyDgHtQf76M1a?dl=0>

We now have translations in: French, Amharic, Arabic, Bengali, Pashto, Slovak, Spanish, Tagalog, Tigrinya and Urdu.