



Claude Watson School for the Arts

Weekly Update - Friday January 31, 2020

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Up Coming Events

Feb. 6

- Province wide Strike

Feb. 7

- rotating strike impacting the TDSB

Feb. 14

- Parent Teacher Interviews
- PA Day

Feb. 17

- Family Day

Feb. 19

- Pizza Day

Feb. 24

- School Council (7pm)

Feb. 26

- 26 Pink Shirt Day

March 9

- 9 IST Meetings
- School Performance –Outside troupe

March 9

- 13 Showcase – Music Department

March 16

- 16 – 20 March Break

Principals Message:

Highlighting one of CWSA's Amazing Teachers!



On behalf of the CWSA school community and the TDSB, I would like to thank Ms. Diack for her exemplary work with our Grade 6 students!

Ms. Diack spent countless hours preparing her students' journey into **Holocaust Education** through the exploration of **Hana's Suitcase**. Through efforts of teachers like Ms. Diack we can ensure that hatred continues to be challenged and peace education promoted to create a better, just and inclusive society for tomorrow.



Grade 6 Teachers: Mr. Plener and Ms. Diack, Principal Jones and Superintendent Papathanasakis

Please see pictures from this incredible event further on in the newsletter. Ms. Jones

Health Update

The health and safety of all students, staff and our school community is our top priority. The TDSB takes its lead from public health agencies, which, at this time, have not advised school boards to take any additional precautions. In response to the questions parents and members of our school communities may have around Coronavirus, the TDSB has created a website to house all communications, including a Q&A. The site can be found on our TDSB [website](#).

Labour Update: ETFO Strike Action on Feb. 6 & 7

Please keep updated through the TDSB website - [Click here](#)

IEPs, Report Cards, & Parent-Teacher Interviews

Elementary Update - [Click Here](#)



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School Council Page

Welcome to the
School Council

Thank you to parents and members who attended the school council meeting on Monday January 27 and contributed their time, effort and input!

Grade Representatives were nominated / self-nominated, who are going to act as liaisons between the council and the parents. Big thank you to:

Grade 4: Carl Chen and Johnny Zuo

Grade 5: Weidong Pei and George Trapkov

Grade 6: Emily and Chris Leiphart

Grade 7: Deborah Loh and Thelma Reyes

Grade 8: To be announced

SCHOOL COUNCIL BYLAWS

School council bylaws are set of rules defining operational procedures, as well as roles and responsibilities of council members. Ministry of Education Reg 612 makes it mandatory for each council to establish bylaws governing: election procedures, filling of vacancies, conflict of interest and conflict resolution process (for internal disputes).

The school council is organizing a committee / working group to develop our council bylaws. All parents are welcome to participate. Please email to SC.ClaudeWatsonSchoolfortheArts@tdsb.on.ca if you have any suggestion or would like to attend the working group.



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TDSB PARENTS AS PARTNERS CONFERENCE

"PAP is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2020 and will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at The Toronto Congress Centre. The day will offer families/guardians the opportunity to participate in day long learning, sharing and networking with families, staff and community partners. The day will feature a keynote address, informative workshops and a vendors' marketplace of local associations and agencies which provide many different kinds of support for children and families."

More information can be found on <https://www.parentsaspartners.ca/>



MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE BROWN:

WARD 12 / Willowdale Meeting Opportunity

"I am planning to meet with parents and any other public education supporters who want to share their feedback with me directly on the Optional Attendance and Secondary School Reviews.

The only date that I have available is February 10th, 2020 at 7pm. The location will be announced soon - and if I can arrange a VIRTUAL Meeting from the Boardroom at 5050 Yonge Street, I will try to do this to allow more people to participate from a remote location if that allows for greater flexibility.

Feel free to contact me at alexander.brown@tdsb.on.ca to provide feedback by email as well. "





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Additional News

Hana's Suitcase cont'd

Ms. Diack brings Holocaust Education to new heights at CWSA through her exploration of Hana's Suitcase which culminated in the participation of all Grade 6 students in a TDSB board wide webcast. Ms. Diack and several students were interviewed at CWSA after the event by **CTV**. The Webcast on January 27th was **International Holocaust Day** and 2020 marks the **75th anniversary of liberation** from Auschwitz which is where Hana Brady died.



'Hana is a child like me': Toronto students explore horrors and lessons of the Holocaust



The event was covered by CTV news: missed the media coverage? – [click here](#)

Mia Beinert and several Grade 8 students traveled with a parent volunteer to view this historic TDSB webcast first-hand at 5050 Yonge Street.





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Above: Ms. Diack, in an interview with CTV
Below: Gr. 8 student, Mia Beinert, in an interview with CTV



Right: Students participated in the question & answer period: Lucas, Emma, Cole, Sophie, Sophia, Ever, Beatrice, Marlee, Sinead, Clara and Koshin

Left: student with author of Hana's Suitcase Karen Levine





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Ms. Lim Grade 7 & 8 Science Teacher / Grade 5.2 Core Teacher

As many of you might be aware, Ms. Lim, is recovering following knee surgery. We thank Ms. Moon for stepping in to support our CWSA students until we complete the LTO hiring process. We are hoping to have an LTO in the position in the next 2 weeks.

Welcome Back Ms. Mackay

This week we are pleased to welcome back Ms. Mackay. To those families new to CWSA, Ms. Mackay is a Grade 8 Core Teachers, she is also our primary Drama teacher at the Intermediate level. At this time we wish to thank **Mr. Razaghi-Kashani** (a.k.a. Mr. H), for being such a fabulous LTO at CWSA. He has made wonderful contributions to the school community and CWSA students have loved learning Salsa this year under his supervision.

School Office

We continue the TDSB search process for an Office Administrator. We are very thankful that Ms. Owens has been able to assist us this school year. We thank her for her dedication and hard work as we continue to work through the TDSB process.

Uniforms

All uniforms orders from September to December have been distributed. We thank the School Council and the many parent volunteers for their assistance in this complicated and lengthy process which took 3 staff and 5 parent volunteers to complete.

If you have recently placed an order or still feel you have an outstanding order from earlier this year please print your order form and bring it to the school office. Ms. Owens will make every effort to fill orders brought to her in the morning by the end of the school day or the following day. To avoid disappointment please contact Ms. Owens by phone in the afternoon to ensure your order is available for pickup prior to coming into the office at 3:30pm. Please pick up orders before Ms. Owen leaves at 4pm.

Secondary Program Review and Optional Attendance

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is undertaking a review of secondary schools to ensure all students have equitable access to programs and opportunities, as close to home as possible. As part of the Secondary Program Review, the TDSB is reviewing the **Optional Attendance** policy (P013), which allows students to apply to schools other than their designated school by home address.

A public consultation process for both the Secondary Review and P013 started in November 2019. Please visit the TDSB website for more information and opportunities to provide feedback: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Secondary-Program-Review>. If you have any questions and/or comments, please email SecondaryReview@tdsb.on.ca



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PA Announcers

We are currently signing up students for the February – June PA announcers. If your child would like to participate in this CWSA leadership opportunity remind them to sign up outside of the office. All students are welcome!

February is African Heritage Month at the TDSB

The Toronto District School Board is the largest, and one of the most diverse school boards in Canada. Nearly one-quarter of our students were born outside of Canada and collectively, we speak more than 120 languages. Understanding all cultures is essential to the success of our young students today as they transform to our future leaders of tomorrow.

February is African Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Peoples of African Descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2019-2020 is "**UBUNTU: I am because we are**" which is derived from the Nguni Bantu term in Southern Africa. **UBUNTU** is a South African term used by the Zulu community that represents an ethic of African traditional life. The philosophy of **UBUNTU** realizes that everything is interconnected; "everything that I do has an effect on you and your well-being and everything that you do has an effect on me and my well-being."

February is Chinese Heritage Month at the TDSB

A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark."

~ Chinese proverb

Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize Chinese Heritage Month (CHM) during the month of February and the theme of TDSB's Chinese Heritage Month is Year of the Rat:

Intelligent, Wise, Charming, Social, & Ambitious,

celebrated Lunar New year on Saturday, January 25. Lunar New Year is also known as the Spring Festival and begins with the first moon of the lunar calendar and ends on the first full moon of the lunar calendar 15 days later.

During this month, we celebrate the energetic culture and traditions of the Chinese community with students, staff and community members of the Toronto District School Board and the City of Toronto.



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Weather

As the temperature drops please remember that CWSA operates in all types of weather. Students should come prepared in appropriate clothing. Recess and lunch breaks will still occur when it gets cold. During extreme cold (when the temperature/windchill factor is between -20C and -28C recess might be shortened.

Toronto Public Health - Immunizations

Toronto Public Health (TPH) began sending letters, in early January, to parents requesting their child's immunization information. TPH are seeking school support to promote **online reporting** to parents. Families without a healthcard, can make an appointment at the **free vaccination** clinic. Language interpreter services are available at 416-392-1250. To avoid unnecessary school disruptions it is important parent keep student vaccinations up to date. Grade 7 student vaccination clinic is scheduled on Monday, April 6, 2020, AM.

Flu season is here again

Toronto Public Health is recommending that whenever students and staff experience flu-like symptoms, they are sent home and do not return to school until they are no longer infectious to others. Therefore, ill students and staff should be symptom-free (especially from vomiting and diarrhea) for at least 48 hours before returning to school.

The primary concern is for the health and safety of all students and staff. Please note that no special measures are required when there is a case of influenza in a school. However, everyone should do their part to stop the spread of the flu. As parents, you can also assist by:

- o **reminding children to wash their hands often especially after using the washroom and before and after eating;**
- o **reminding children to cover their sneeze and cough;**
- o **watching for symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, and/or high fever;**
- o **informing the school if your child is ill;**
- o **keeping your child at home when he/she is ill.**

For more information, please visit the Toronto Public Health website www.toronto.ca/health, contact your family doctor, or Telehealth Ontario. 1-866-797-0000.



The Lunch Lady

Here at The Lunch Lady, we love being able to offer students at your school hot, healthy & delicious lunches. What makes it even better is when we can do this and also make lunch FUN!

The Valentine's menu will be offered alongside the regular menu on your lunch service days on **Feb 13 & 18**.



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Ballmatics Registration

Claudia Mandekic (Academic coach), Dave McNee (Head Coach) and Kaya Fearon (Assistant coach) invite you to register for a new session of Ballmatics at 416.855.5572 or info@qsla.ca. The program this term will be open to **Grades 4-8**.



BECOME A MATH/BASKETBALL WIZ!

CLAUDE WATSON SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

**BASKETBALL & MATH
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**
In partnership with QSLA

BALLMATICS

SHOOTING ★ INTEREST ★ DRIBBLING ★ FRACTIONS ★ PASSING ★ GEOMETRY ★

OVERVIEW
Are you ready to take your Basketball and Math skills to the next level? Join the QSLA BallMatics Math and Basketball training program for fun next level skill enrichment! In BallMatics, students will improve their fundamental basketball skills in a fun inclusive environment while learning how so many aspects of basketball utilize and relate to math!

Over the course of 8 weeks students will cover math topics such as Interest (compound vs. Simple), Percentages, Cartesian plane, Fractions, Analytical Geometry and more!

QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS
Our instructors are certified coaches and teachers well versed at teaching the BallMatics math curriculum. Our basketball coaches have many years of experience training basketball players of all levels with a fun enthusiastic approach. Our program is designed to meet the needs of all student-athletes regardless of age or experience. All are welcome!

PROGRAM DETAILS
Dates: Wednesday, Jan. 22 - March 11
Duration: 8 weeks | Cost: \$120
Frequency: Once a week | Time: 3:30 - 5:00 pm
When: After School | Open to Grades 4 to 8

PLAY BASED LEARNING
We enhance each student's interest in bettering their math skills through our play based learning curriculum. Each session of BallMatics is 1.5 hours in length and includes fundamental basketball skill building (shooting, passing, ball handling, footwork, etc) and fundamental movement skills (FMS). Each lesson includes math topics introduced through FUN basketball activities including modified and small sided games.

FEATURED ON:
MORNING NEWS



info@qsla.ca | www.qsla.org/ballmatics | 416.855.5572