



September Newsletter

-Adam Beck JR PS-

Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone, I hope you had a wonderful and restful summer break. With much enthusiastic anticipation, I am looking forward to a wonderful new school year at Adam Beck J.P.S. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the families of our newest Adam Beck members, our Junior Kindergarten students and those students who have recently moved into our area. I am very fortunate to be working with a dedicated staff and supportive School Council. We will continue to work together to enhance student achievement and provide a safe and nurturing school environment for all our students. I welcome opportunities to meet and talk with parents. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Our School Council evening was another great success. If you are interested in School Council or getting involved in school activities, please feel free to join our meetings held throughout the school year. Also, please see the attached School Council Budget for the 2018 – 2019 school year which has been approved by the executive council at the last school council meeting.

Parents are reminded to always start any school visit in the office when coming to the school or portables. We ask that parents make appointments to meet with staff and check into the office first and never go directly unannounced to classes. Staff are responsible for all students and cannot meet with parents during the school day unless pre-arranged.

The Terry Fox Run was held in the morning of September 27th. Posters have been put up throughout the school to honour the memory of Terry Fox who made his journey across Canada to raise money for cancer research. It was a beautiful day for a walk/run for all the students of Adam Beck.

As we move into October, we continue to build routines with our students. Please remind your child to always pick up after themselves (sweaters, lunch bags, water containers, etc.). Our school yard has been full of litter lately and our "Lost & Found" is already building up with items. Parents, can you please help by always **labelling your children's clothing, shoes and lunch bags with your child's name.**

Adam Beck JPS will be hosting our **Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night on Wednesday October 3rd, 2018 which begins at 4:30 pm with a BBQ.** All students and teachers, please come to the gym for a short presentation at 6 pm followed by a visit to your child's homeroom/rotary teacher classroom. This is a great evening for parents and students to meet with their teachers and learn about the expectations and curriculum that your child will be learning throughout the school year. If you have more than one child, there are two rotations for visiting teachers so you have a chance to visit more than one room. Below is an itinerary of the evening:

Agenda

- 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. BBQ
- 6:00 – 6:20 p.m. Staff introduction in the Gymnasium
- 6:20 – 6:40 p.m. Classroom visits – Rotation #1
- 6:40 – 7:00 p.m. Classroom visits – Rotation #2

We will be offering a combo (Hot dog (All Beef or veggie) juice or water and snack) for \$6.00

Tickets will be sold that evening.

In addition, November is the month where Progress Reports go home and this will be an early indication of how your child is doing. Staff will request to meet with parents before this time if they need to communicate any early concerns being identified.

Cheers,
Kent Yee

Follow us on Twitter:



@ADAMBECKIRPS

School Arrival

We do our best to not interrupt classes. Parents can assist by ensuring their child arrives to school on time each day and is prepared with all the necessary items like lunches, water bottles and weather appropriate clothing.

Processed Volunteer Forms

For all of our parents who have already submitted their application for Police Clearance, please remember it is your responsibility to bring the clearance to our office once you receive it in the mail. We require the original document. You will not be active on our clearance system until you have given us the original Police Clearance Copy. The original will be returned to you once you have been added. Parents, please remember that if you wish to volunteer in any capacity in our school you must have a Police Reference Check completed. This includes volunteering for Field Trips, supporting classrooms and various Fundraising events like Pizza Lunch, Monsterbash, etc. and/or acting as a Volunteer Driver for sports events. While we make exceptions for one time occasions under staff supervision it is important



that our "regular" volunteers get their clearance. Please pick up a Police

Clearance Form from our office to get this started. The cost for the clearance is \$20.00, a certified cheque or money order payable to "Toronto Police Service".

Monsterbash

Don't forget to mark Saturday October 27th on your calendars and don't miss Adam Beck's famous "Monsterbash" event!!! It will run from 4pm – 7 pm and there is plenty for children of all ages to do! If you can volunteer to help before, during or after the event, please contact our school council chairs.

Anaphylactic Shock and Food Allergy Alert

If your child is extremely allergic to bee stings, peanuts, nuts or shellfish, please let your classroom teacher and the office know immediately. We have some children in our school who have life threatening allergies to peanuts, nuts and shellfish. A tiny amount, even touched to the lips, is potentially fatal within minutes. Please refrain from sending nuts and nut products with your child for snacks and lunches to school. I am sure that no parent would want his or her child's life at risk because of something that could have been prevented; I thank you in advance for your understanding. I am also asking parents to speak to their children about not sharing food to help us better control what the children eat

Anaphylaxis – Taking the Necessary Precautions

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be life threatening. This medical condition can cause a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although foods such as peanuts, milk, eggs, and sesame seeds are the most common cause of anaphylaxis, insect stings, medicine, or latex can also cause a reaction. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. The TDSB is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and works with Toronto Public Health and other partners to ensure the successful implementation of Sabrina's Law, which came into effect on January 1, 2006.

Sabrina's Law requires every school board to establish and maintain an anaphylactic policy that includes strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas. The TDSB has procedures for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to raise awareness about this life-threatening condition. Students who have severe allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when such products are consumed in their environment or shared with them. As prevention is the best approach, we ask that you speak with your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with other students and please do not send any snacks or lunches with your child that contain peanuts.

If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken and to ensure everyone's co-operation for a safe learning environment.

Whether you are living with the allergy yourself, caring for someone who is, or concerned about people in your community, more information about life threatening allergies is available on the Anaphylaxis Canada's web site at <http://www.anaphylaxis.org/> or by calling 416-785-5666.

Change of Information

Please contact the office if there are any changes to your telephone number, address or medical information. It is imperative for us to keep records up to date.

Giving Students Medication at School

If your child needs to take any medicine during school hours, the School Board requires that parent supply the school with a form filled out by a Medical doctor. The medication and form must be brought to the office. The form is called "The Administration of Medication Form" can be obtained at the office.

Pediculosis (Lice Check)

Thanks to our TDSB Pediculosis Nurse, Amanda Wood and Kate Mills for helping with our all day lice check in the first week of September. Please check our school website for fact sheets about lice.

Lockdown and Fire Drills

At the beginning of each school year, our students and staff prepare for the year ahead by establishing the foundations for a successful year. One of the ways we know we can help students be successful is to create a safe environment in which to learn. Though no one ever wants to see an emergency happen at a school, it's important for school staff to be equipped to deal with those situations, should they occur.

The safety of students and staff is a top priority at our school and to that end, as with all emergency drills, it is essential that we are prepared and understand the importance of procedures that will help ensure the safety of everyone in our school. The TDSB has taken steps to ensure your child's safety while in school. Each school has developed emergency preparedness plans that include steps staff will take in the event of an emergency, how staff will get students away from possible dangers, and how students' families will be contacted.

One aspect of emergency preparedness is the lockdown and fire drill. All schools are required to conduct a minimum of two lockdown drills and six fire drills each school year. Lockdown drills, like fire drills, are an essential component to ensuring student and staff safety. It is important that all staff and students are prepared and know how to respond in cases of emergencies. The drills last approximately 5 minutes and ensure plans are effective and can also systematically identify any safety concerns.

Communication is also very important in any emergency situation. The emergency contact information kept on file is important in helping this happen. It lists the people who can pick up a student from the school. If you have not yet provided this information to the office or have updates to the information on file, please make sure our office staff have that information as soon as possible.

QSP Fundraiser

Did you know that QSP sells more than magazines? You can now create your own Photo Keepsakes with one of the many "To Remember This" products. Your finished products are delivered right to your home within 15 business days.

Did you know that Adam Beck makes **30% profit** from all sales and this profit will not only support the grade 6 students trip to Ottawa but it will also help put more books and technology in the classrooms!

We still need your help and support! Our sales are down this year and we have not even made it to the half way mark! We are taking sales until Wednesday October 3rd.

Please follow this link to the QSP website and remember to support Adam Beck:

<http://www.qsp.ca/3720729>

Please do not forget to enter the Adam Beck ID!



Follow us on Twitter:



@ADAMBECKIRPS

Cross Country

Thanks to all of our amazing staff and parent volunteers for supporting Cross Country. This year we have close to over 210 students participating. Please remember the first meet is [Thursday October 4th](#).

-The Cross Country South Conference for grades 3-6 will be held on [Monday October 15th](#)

-The TEDESSA City Finals will be held on [Thursday October 25th](#).

School Sports

September is an exciting time as school sports begin with Cross Country for students in Grade 1 – 6. Coached by Madame Zorzit, Madame Zaimi, Madame Gagnon-Roy, Madame Brand, Madame Bruce, Madame Charest, Madame Jones, Mrs. Sickinger, Ms. Panova, Mr. Quance, Mr. Currie-Sinclair, Ms. Butler and Miss. Smith. The Grade 6 Boys Soccer was coached by Mr. Bines & Mr. Cherif and Mr. Abd El Sayed. Madame Bettas-Protopapas & Mr. Cizar are coaching the Grade 6 Girls' Soccer team. Mr. Volpato & Mr. Yee are coaching Grade 6 Boys & Girl's Touch Football team. Good Luck to all the teams!

Follow Us on Social Media

Join the conversations happening on TDSB's social media communities. You'll find the most up-to-date information about us on Twitter and Facebook, and plenty of useful information too.

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/toronto.dsb>

Follow us on Twitter:



Keeping Kids Safe

Drivers are reminded to do their part to keep children safe near school buses.

Drivers should follow these tips:

- Stop and never pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing.
- Leave space around school buses and avoid blocking school bus loading zones so children can enter and exit safely.
- Be prepared to stop for a school bus at any time, not just during school hours.
- Always obey the rules of the road and watch for children, especially in school zones.
- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and school crossings.

Parents can also help keep their children safe by reminding them to be aware of their surroundings when they are on or near school buses.

Road Safety Campaign

It's back to school time and the TDSB is launching a three-week-long road safety campaign aimed to raise awareness and promote road safety around schools. You will notice the City of Toronto "Whoa! Slow down" lawn signs displayed on school property. These signs are intended to remind drivers to slow down in school zones! In recent years, TDSB staff has been working closely with the City of Toronto's Transportation Services, Toronto Public Health and other community partners to improve road safety for school aged children and youth in the City of Toronto. In 2017, the TDSB launched its Traffic Safety Program (TSP), which encourages the implementation of education and engineering measures to improve safety. The TSP program aligns with the City of Toronto's Vision Zero Road Safety Plan – a five year \$108 million plan to reduce the number of traffic-related deaths and serious injuries on Toronto's roads.

To learn more about road safety, please visit <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Road-Safety>

Safe Arrival Program

One measure of keeping students safe is ensuring students have safely arrived at school. If your child is going to be late or absent for any reason, it is important that you contact the office immediately and report the reason for the absence. At the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) we now have an automated call-out system that will attempt to contact you if your child is late or absent on the day where the school was not previously informed.

The system call-out will work as follows: Parents/guardians identified in TDSB's Student Information Systems who has access to student records, and emergency contact with priority 1 or 2 will receive a call. When you receive the call, you are required to listen to the entire message and follow the prompts accordingly.

You will be asked if you are aware or unaware of your child's absence. If unaware, you will be asked to call the school immediately. If you are aware of the absence, you will be asked to enter the reason for your child's absence.

The following options will be provided for you:

- Illness;
- Doctor Appointment;
- Dentist Appointment;
- Family Matter;
- Weather;
- Other.

At the end of the message, you will have to press 2 to confirm you received the message.

If you do not confirm receipt, you will receive a call on your mobile phone. If there is no response from a Priority 1 contact, this same process will be followed for Priority 2 contacts. If there is no contact with either Priority 1 or Priority 2, this entire process will be repeated 3 times in 10 minute intervals. In the evening, all parents/guardians of students who were late that day will receive a call informing them of their child's tardiness.

With this in mind, it is important that your contact information on file at the office is current and up-to-date. Please let the office know immediately if your contact information changes at any time throughout the school year. We recognize that regular attendance is essential to the safety, academic success, and well-being of all students. Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep your child safe and accounted for.

For more information please visit www.tdsb.on.ca and search safe arrival program.

Student Transportation

At the TDSB, busing service may be provided for elementary students (K-5) residing 1.6 km or more from their designated school. TTC tickets may be provided for middle school students (grades 6-8) residing 3.2 km or more from their designated school.

The safety and welfare of students is a shared responsibility and parents can help by stressing school bus safety with their children. Here is some useful information that will help make your child's journey a safe one.

Boarding/Departing Bus

Parents/guardians are encouraged to review their child's walking route to the bus stop. Students getting off a bus at a stop must have an adult there to pick them up. In order to change their normal bus and/or stop, parents must contact the school office. Passengers should arrive at the bus stop no later than five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Once bus doors are closed and the bus has departed, drivers cannot stop for late arriving students.

While waiting at the bus stop, students are expected to stand a safe distance from the street and are expected to respect private property. When the bus approaches, students must observe the instructions of the driver, especially in the winter when slick road conditions exist. If students are required to cross the road, they should follow the driver's instructions and always cross in front of the bus with the aid of the flashing stop sign lights and crossing arm. Students dropped off at school loading zones where the bus lights are not activated, should wait until the bus departs before crossing the street.

Accidents/Breakdowns/Delays

School bus travel is extremely safe. Bus drivers are trained in defensive driving techniques and buses are carefully maintained. The size and bright yellow colour make school buses very visible. Yet, given the thousands of miles travelled annually, and the traffic conditions in our area, accidents, breakdowns and delays due to inclement weather can happen.

Parents can get the latest transportation information by signing up to the transportation portal to receive email notifications when bus companies report late buses. Delays will also be posted to <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org/>.

In addition, parents can contact the Toronto Student Transportation Group at 416-394-4287 or their local school in the case of delays of more than 15 minutes. Please note, however, that at the beginning of each new school year there is always a short adjustment period as drivers familiarize themselves with new routes and students so there may be short delays during this time.



Severe Weather

Occasionally, severe weather conditions may require the TDSB to cancel transportation. This may occur before the beginning of the school day or if conditions become severe during the school day. Visit the www.tdsb.on.ca or <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org/>, check Twitter @tdsb or listen to local radio or TV stations starting at 6 a.m. for bus cancellations.

Passenger Safety

The bus driver is responsible for ensuring each passenger arrives to and from school safely each day. Drivers receive special training and rigorous examinations and must maintain a good driving record. Safe, respectful conduct is expected of all passengers.

The TDSB reserves the right to suspend transportation privileges for any student who demonstrates behaviour unreasonably distracting to the driver which may contribute to unsafe operation.

Parents are requested keep the school and transportation company up-to-date on any changes to their children's medical health and contact information so that emergency contacts are accurate at all times throughout the year.

Welcome Returning & New staff

We have had a few changes at Adam Beck JPS this past year and would like to welcome back staff and introduce new staff members to Adam Beck JPS:

Mr. Abd El Sayed – Room 10 – Grade 5/6 - FI
Mr. Abderrahame Cherif – Portable 2 – Grade 3/4 - FI
Mr. Colin Currie-Sinclair – Gymnasium - Phys. Ed
Ms. Rachel Monk – Room 20 - Grade 2/3 FI
Ms. Alison Nason– Room 11 – Grade 3/4 – English
Mr. Brett Quance – Room 6 – Grade 2/3 – English
Ms. Dimetra Lazaridis – ECE – Room 7 – JK/SK
Ms. Leilani Jordan – ECE – Room 5 – JK/SK
Mrs. Tharsha Manivasagara – ECE – Room 23 – JK/SK

Important Dates

Monday October 1 – Girls' Soccer Tournament – Pantry Park
Wednesday October 3 – BBQ - 4:30 pm & Curriculum Night – 6 pm
Thursday October 4 - South Area Cross Country Meet @ Ashbridges Bay
Friday October 5 – PA Day – School Closed
Monday October 8 - Thanksgiving – School Closed
Tuesday October 9 – Boys Soccer Tournament – Williamson Rd.
Friday October 12 – School Council Movie Night - 7 pm - Gymnasium
Monday October 15 – South Conference Finals Cross Country Meet @ Ashbridges Bay
Wednesday October 17 - Pizza Lunch
Thursday October 18 – School Council Meeting– 6:30 pm - Studio
Monday October 22 – Girl's Touch Football Tournament
Thursday October 25 - City Finals Cross Country Meet @ Centennial Park
Friday October 26 –Principal's Newsletter & RendezVous Café
Saturday October 27 – MonsterBash – 4 – 7 pm
Wednesday October 31 - Halloween Parade – 12:45 pm

Follow us on Twitter:



@ADAMBECKJRPS