



# Updates

## From School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope that this message finds all of our families well.

What beautiful weather we have been enjoying lately- it is hard to believe that it is close to the middle of November! We do know, however, that November is in full swing and the cooler weather is quickly approaching. Please ensure that your child(ren) is/are coming to school with clothing appropriate for the colder days as we do spend more time outdoors this year.

At Julie Payette PS, the month of November signals a period of reflection as it marks the first reporting period of 2019-2020. It is the perfect time for students and guardians to receive a formal update of "how things are progressing". The goal of this interim report card is to provide an opportunity to identify both the student strengths and areas for improvement early in the school year. It provides parents with a snap shot of their child's progress.



### **VOLUNTEER OF DISTINCTION**

The Durham District School Board is committed to excellence. Our schools excel because of the contributions of staff, students, parents and community volunteers. The volunteers in our school board make a priceless commitment to the success of our students.

Each year the Volunteer of Distinction Award is given to a person that has demonstrated a commitment to the school and have been actively involved in furthering the goals of the Durham District School Board. This year we were pleased to honour Tawnya Descarie as the recipient of this year's award.



Traditionally, the DDSB hosts an evening to honour all the recipients. This year we were able to present the award at the school. Students and staff were involved in thanking Mrs. Descarie for her commitment to our school and for her support of students, parents and staff alike. We are so very thankful to have you as part of our team!





## A GLIMPSE INTO CLASSROOMS

As this year is different than any other and we cannot welcome you into the building as we normally would, we wanted to give you a glimpse into classes and the school through our "Updates from School". We hope that you will enjoy seeing what we have been up to! 😊

In October, the grade 5/6 classes of Mme Gibb and Mr. Ochran were fortunate enough to have a virtual, live presentation from Ontario Tech University! It was run by outreach volunteers and they develop, test and maintain curriculum-aligned, hands-on/minds-on workshops, which they deliver for classrooms and community groups across Canada! The program they participated in was called *The Bone Zone* and it aligned with their current science units. The kids discovered how our skeletal system provides protection, support and movement. They then made a model hand and tested it for strength and stability (gr 5 human body unit). They also spoke about adaptations and various bone structures in mammals and vertebrates (gr 6 biodiversity unit). Students were able to tell us:

- ~ how many bones are in the human body (206 in an adult)
- ~ how many bones in the hand (14 in fingers & 5 in palm)
- ~ the names of the bones (3 phalanges/finger and 2 phalanges in the thumb & 5 metacarpal bones in palm).

What a great learning opportunity for our JPPS students!

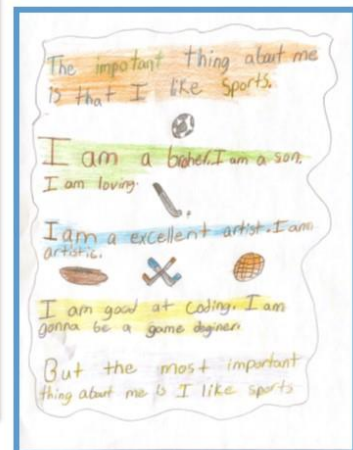
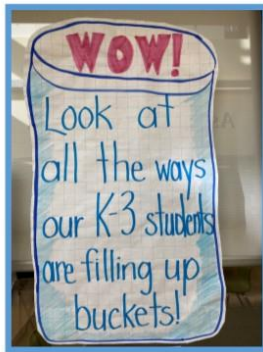




# Character Corner

During our virtual assemblies in October we focused on what makes us important and how to make other people feel important as well. Our primary students worked on "filling up buckets" by completing acts of kindness. Our junior and intermediate students had some time to reflect on what makes them important. They had a chance to share it with us.

Enjoy a few samples below:



## **PARKING LOT**

A reminder that our parking lot remains closed to all traffic except buses at entry and dismissal. We have seen an increase in parents arriving before the buses arrive and then leaving while the buses are trying to depart. The buses are on a tight schedule and each time a car is added to the line trying to exit the school, it delays our buses. As such, we would respectfully ask you continue to adhere to the expectation that vehicles entering and exiting the lot is only allowed once all buses have cleared. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this.

## **RECESS**

Recess continues to be a challenge for many of our students as they are limited in what they can do outside. We continue to work on providing them with different ideas of games that they can play at recess. We are looking to create classroom bags (large IKEA bags) which would be assigned to each homeroom. The homeroom class would be responsible for their bag and would be able to use the equipment outdoors within their cohort. They would, of course, have to wash/sanitize hands before and after use of the equipment. If you have any large IKEA bags or gently used items such as soccer balls, soft foam balls, scoops, hula hoops, pool noodles etc. that you would like to donate to the school, please call the school to let us know. Indoor recess can also be a challenge for students with the new safety protocols as they cannot play in groups and/or share equipment. As such, we are requesting that students have something with them in their backpack that they can do on their own during inclement weather recesses. Some ideas of activities would be as follows: independent reading books, Soduko, colouring, sketch books, cards, container of lego, origami, rainbow loom or embroidery floss for bracelets etc.

## **VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL**

In order to keep everyone safe, whenever possible, we are limiting visitors to the school. As such, unscheduled visitors, along with family members child(ren) may not be able to enter the school without previous arrangements. If you need to get in touch with someone at the school, please call or email the school at 905.668.2225 or [juliepayetteps@ddsb.ca](mailto:juliepayetteps@ddsb.ca)

## **LUNCH PROTOCOLS**

We have seen an increase in students at the intermediate level leaving school for lunch and going into the community. In our effort to keep students with their cohorts during the school day our expectation is that all students will stay at school for lunch, unless they are going home. If you would like your child to go home for lunch each day, please contact the school office to make arrangements. Please note that students should come prepared with their lunch each day. Students will not be allowed to have lunches ordered to the school. As always, we appreciate that there can be emergency situations where an exception must be made. Should this be needed, please contact the school ahead of time.

## **ACCES TO THE SCHOOL**

As we make every attempt to minimize outside traffic into our school, we need to ask for your assistance. Please make sure that your child has all of their necessary items each day when coming to school, as access to the school is largely by appointment.

It is essential that your child arrives at school on time and enters the building with their cohort. If your child is late, they will need to enter the building through the main entrance, give their name and class, they will be marked as late and will proceed directly to their classroom.

## **SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL INFORMATION**

🌸 Julie Payette SCC Virtual Holiday Market ~ Happy Shopping!! 🌸

This year our SCC would like to focus our fundraising efforts within our community by supporting small businesses. Please see the flyer attached.

This year's fundraising monies will go to the purchase of much-needed school technology.

Please note all items must be picked up from vendor or direct shipping to the customer may be available.

These items will NOT be available for school pick up

\*the more you purchase, the more we fundraise.

New Vendors will be added throughout the Holiday Market!

If you have any questions please email [SCC.JuliePayettePS@scc.ddsb.ca](mailto:SCC.JuliePayettePS@scc.ddsb.ca)