

Dear Families,

Ramadan Mubarak to our community members who recognize this month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community. Our entire community is looking forward to longer days of light and warmer temperatures that will bring some colour to the land around us.

Important Dates to Remember

Friday—March 15—Last Day of School before Spring Break
Monday – April 1 – No School – Easter Monday
Tuesday – April 2 –School Re-opens
Wednesday – April 10 – International Day of **Pink**
Monday – April 22 – **Earth** Day
Friday – April 26 – **Class Photo** Day
Monday – April 29 – No School – Pro-D Day



Early Norwuz Celebration

On **Tuesday March 5**, our community recognized an early Norwuz Celebration that will fall on March 19, 2024 (during our Spring Break). Organized by Mr. Young and our Settlement Workers, Mujeeb Khalvatgar and Laila Attalla, and the generous donation of time by our two volunteer chefs, Fatema and Hamed, we invited some families and staff to celebrate with a luncheon together.

During Spring Break some other days members of our community may celebrate are the **Sikh New Year on March 14** and **Good Friday** and **Easter Monday** on **Friday, March 29** and **Monday, April 1**. If your family celebrates any of these days, we wish you all an abundance of health and happiness as you gather with others. And for our families separated from loved ones in different parts of the world, we also wish you strength and hope during the season of renewal.



Anti-Racism & Anti-Homophobia:

During the month of February we celebrated important contributions of Black Canadians to our society and this needs to be a year-long initiative. We want all members of our community to be able to look around our buildings and see themselves and/or their families represented and feel safe in our community.



We are educating our students on how to be anti-racist and eliminate discrimination while being aware that we all have unconscious biases. Twelfth Avenue has had some recent incidents of discriminatory language and actions. We want to bring this to the attention of our community because **anti-racism education also begins in the home**. Our BIPOC and LGBTQ+ members of our community are aware of racism and/or homophobia, but the work that needs to be done is with our families who do not see themselves in either of these categories. It may also mean monitoring students social media and the Youtube videos children are viewing as some of these social media stars can have racist material.

Often when we see or hear racism and/or homophobia, we may not be able to react in the moment. Thus, we are teaching our students and staff to use "interrupters".



These "interrupters" can be used in situations of homophobia too. **Saying or doing nothing when faced with an act of hate reinforces and/or accepts the action.** It will take all of us to ensure that we create safe environments and communities for all members of our society.

Cross District Applications

The School District has started looking at cross district applications and will follow their process for accepting students. Please know that the District will only accept cross district applications if they know there is space in the school.

Priority is always given to families who live within the catchment area first. Principals do not have any involvement in this process aside from sending the District our current and anticipated population numbers. Therefore, if you know that you will not be at Twelfth Avenue next year, please let Mrs. Crawford know as soon as possible.

Second Formal Reports

Twelfth Avenue will have the second formal report go home after Spring Break on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024**. We hope that your visit to our Student Led Conferences in February gave you an opportunity to see what your child(ren)'s classroom environment is like, and you are aware of their goals moving forward for the remainder of this school year.



As always, if you have any questions about your child's progress, please contact the classroom teacher through email and or a phone call. You are always welcome to set up a meeting with teachers.

School Growth Plan Goal

Twelfth Avenue is in our second year of our Mathematics school-wide goal. Our goal is:



To foster mathematical vocabulary and language in mathematical discussions and increase students' ability to explain and justify mathematical ideas and decisions. Classrooms will devote two weekly classes to open-ended word problems or number talks.

Students will be able to work in groups to tackle different mathematical tasks and share their results with one another. We believe that this practice and experience will help develop mindsets that there are multiple ways to tackle a word problem or task, and that there could be multiple entry points for a variety of students who may have English as a second language, and/or low self-confidence/self-efficacy in mathematics.

On **Thursday, May 16, 2024**, we have a School Growth Plan meeting with District and School Board personnel and selected community members to share our work this year on this goal. If you would like more information, please contact Mrs. Pitt.

Also on **Thursday, May 23, 2024**, we have hired Julia Robinson Mathematics Festivals to spend a day at Twelfth Avenue School. All students will move through the math festival stations during the day, and we will have an **Open House for families that night from 5:30-7:00 pm. Please put it in your calendars.**

Thank You Families!

Ms. Brenda Carson and the Twelfth Avenue community want to thank everyone for participating in our Read-A-Thon. The event raised \$840 for the library! Ms. Carson will use these funds to purchase new books.



PAC Samosa Fundraiser

A reminder to our community that you can pick up your Samosa orders on **Friday, March 15, 2024 at 3:00pm from the staffroom**. Please go to the parking lot door to access the staffroom.



The PAC did not get enough parent volunteers for this fundraiser so they will not be able to deliver samosas to all classrooms. *The PAC will deliver Samosa orders to Division 13 (Mr. Thola), Division 12 (Mrs. Thola & Ms. Askew) and Division 11's (Ms. Torres) classrooms.*

If your child goes to daycare, please see if the daycare can come by with students to pick up orders if you are not picking them up. The PAC does not know who is in afterschool care.

Unfortunately, we cannot store orders that have not been picked up at the school over the Spring Break. Please send another family member to get your order.

Also, we had a few families not fill out the order form identifying what flavour they wanted. **For these orders, the PAC filled them with the vegetarian option. We do not have any exchange options. The PAC picked up the exact number of flavours ordered. Thank you for participating in this fundraiser and enjoy!

The Arts at Twelfth Avenue

Ms. Shawne Chastko, our NIS provider and music specialist, is very active in getting students involved in music opportunities. At our Community Gathering on **Friday, March 15**, our Grade 2 & 3 students, who participated in Primary Days of Music, will share their music with us. Parents are invited to listen. We will have limited seating at the back of the gymnasium for families.



Maple Man Visit to Twelfth Avenue

After a year in the planning, Mr. Ng organized "The Maple Man" to do a presentation on maple syrup to all of our Grade 5-7 students who take French as part of the curriculum (and organized it for 3 other schools in the District!). Thank you Mr. Ng and the School District for covering the cost.

Students were introduced to the art and history of making maple syrup and had an opportunity to try maple taffy on **Tuesday, February 27, 2024**. Division 5 students shared their learning in a Thank You message:

Division 5 with The Maple Man We learned a lot!
Feb 2024


Thank You Mrs. Pitt and Mr. Ng!

Thank you, Mrs. Pitt and Mr. Ng for organizing *The Maple Man!*

He taught us a lot about where maple syrup comes from, how to make it and how to use sustainable practices.

Thanks for making it fun for the class!

~ Mike



WE HAD FUN LEARNING WITH THE MAPLE MAN

La Grande Coule

"Thank you for bringing the maple man to teach us how to make maple syrup because I never knew how." ~ Mason

"Thank you for setting up the maple man so he could play music for us and show us the wooden doll dancing and letting us taste the maple taffie." ~ Roy

"Thank you for the maple man coming to Twelfth Avenue to show and tell us about maple syrup and how to make it." ~ Emma

"Thank you for doing this for us we really had fun." ~ Mohammed

"Thank you for bringing the Maple Man to our school and showing us how maple syrup was made." ~ Oliver

"Thank you for showing us the journey on making maple syrup." ~ Eli

What I Learned from The Maple Man...

"I learned how to do music with spoon." ~ Maryam

"I learned that there is a big process of making the maple syrup and that you get it from trees." ~ Ibrahim

"I learned how to make music with wooden spoons and how to get maple syrup." ~ Jodie

"I learned that you have to boil the sap and add wood to burn every 15 minutes. I thought that you get the sap from the tree and then add in sugar to make syrup!" ~ Kianna

"Something I learned was how to play the spoons and learned different beats." ~ Naila

"I learned that maple syrup looks like water when it is fresh from the tree." ~ Yonas

"I learned how to make maple syrup and the process of making it." ~ Roy

"One thing I learned that when you get sap from the maple tree you still have to boil it for it to become maple syrup." ~ Mason

"I learned the process on making maple syrup. Like the boiling. You have to boil for 3 hours." ~ Eli

"I learned how to play music with the spoons and do some rhythms." ~ Alyssa

"I learned about how to make music with spoons. I took two steel spoons and two rubber bands and the spoons were like an instrument." ~ Kayla

HAVING FUN AND LEARNING!



We wish you all a very safe Spring Break.

Students return to school on Tuesday, April 2, 2024
at 8:55 am.