



KIMBERLEY JR P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR KIMBERLEY FAMILIES

JANUARY 2023

WELCOME BACK! LET'S JUMP INTO 2023...

We hope you had a fun and relaxing break or, at the very least, were able to make some memories with your family (and sleep in!). As we start a new year, have you or your family made any resolutions? [Here's an article on how to help your kids make goals.](#) *Psychology Today* wrote [this piece](#) about what resolutions kids want their parents to make. *Coles Notes*: they want to spend more time with us, want to make decisions for themselves, and they want us to actively listen to them.

A few timely reminders:

- Next Thursday, January 19 is Healthy Families Night for Kimberley and Beaches. Join us for dinner and free workshops (more details on page 2).
- Our next school council meeting is the following week on Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The link and an agenda will be shared in advance via email and on kimberleysc.com. Please join us!

If there is something specific you'd like to see here, let us know or send other feedback and questions to kimberleyjpscouncil@gmail.com.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Healthy Families Night** – January 19
- **School Council Meeting** – Tuesday, January 24, 7:00 p.m.
- **Lakeridge Ski Trip for Grades 4-6** – February 9
- **Family Movie Night** – February 10
- **School Council Meeting** – Wednesday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.
- **Skating Day at Ted Reeves** – March 7
- **Family Math Skills & Games Night** – March 27
- **School Council Meeting** – Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

HEALTHY FAMILY NIGHT IS ON THURSDAY

Join us on Thursday, January 19 from 5:00 to 7:45 p.m. for a free community Healthy Family Night with food from the Lunch Mom and discussion to better your child's mental health.

Healthy Family Dinner - 5:00-6:15 p.m.

- Dinner is served from 5:00 to 6:15 p.m.
- Veggie and meat chili served with garlic bread, rice and veggie sticks, while quantities last.
- Vegetarian option is \$7, meat option is \$7.50 per adult/child and can be preordered (link below).
- Free fruit and desert from the KBAS snack program.
- Pay-what-you-can Might & Main coffee



Free Workshops and Learning - 6:00-7:45 p.m.

- Meet us in the library for a workshop on mental health from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.
- A discussion on mental health for children from the Health Promoters at East End Community Health Centre with Sudha Ellie.
- Question period following the workshop until 7:00 (in nearby classroom).

- Join us again in the library for a session on children's empowerment, either from 6:30 to 7:00 or 7:15 to 7:45
- "Celebrate You!" speaker and author of *Mommy, Am I Pretty?*, Margot Denomme
- Margot will discuss the impact of the pandemic and social media on children's mental health and how parents, teachers, and caregivers have never played a more vital role in a child's self-image.

RSVP and preorder dinner until 5:00 p.m. on January 16. Beaches families that wish to pre-order please email ruweida.hassan-bismilla@tdsb.on.ca. If you don't pre-order dinner, you can take a chance and see what is available the day of the event. Bring cash for dinner (if you didn't pre-order), pay-what-you-can coffee and to purchase Margot's book or a pink shirt.

JOIN US! GET INVOLVED

Looking to get involved? We are starting to plan our biggest fundraising event of the year: June's Fun Fair. Email us if you'd like to volunteer. We'd love to have you!

Did you know you can support our activities just by shopping through FlipGive?
Buy gift cards or shop online at popular retailers such as Sport Chek, Canadian Tire, Starbucks and more using our unique code: BCTC9Z

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The content on this page is provided by the DEI Committee.

The Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee wishes all Kimberley Junior Public School and Beaches Alternative School families a Happy New Year and all the best in 2023!

In December 2022, the committee submitted a proposal for the TDSB Innovation Grant. This is a \$1,500 grant to support innovative projects that engage parents/caregivers and builds school council’s parent/caregiver capability around various themes. The committee has chosen to focus on education around local food production and building skills around planting, growing and harvesting by building a community garden at the school and facilitating gardening and growing at home. We will share more about this exciting community initiative soon.

CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR

Lunar New Year is the grandest ancient traditional festival in China and many Asian countries and populations. This festival, which occurs January 22 to February 5, means the beginning of spring and the arrival of the New Year. The customs of Lunar New Year include watching fireworks, dragon dances, cooking traditional foods and exchanging red envelopes or giving lucky money. Celebrate Lunar New Year with various events on Sat., January 21 presented by the Toronto Public Library, including an in-person celebration, an origami workshop and music from a Chinese Dulcimer Yangqin Master.



NEW! PARENT & CAREGIVER RESOURCE LIBRARY

Our Resource Library for Parents/Caregivers is now available. Please see the list of available books below. We will establish a borrowing system soon but until then, please reach out to rohini.ranjan@gmail.com to borrow a book.



IN OUR CLASSROOM

Every issue we take a look inside a Kimberley classroom. This month, it's Mrs. Comeau's Grade 2/3 class.

During the month of December, Mrs. Comeau's Grade 2/3 class used snowfolk for many cross-curricular activities. Every day new snowfolk would pop up around the classroom. Students became very observant as they would have to find the new snowfolk and tally them daily. They also explored the area and perimeter in math using their snowfolk art. For visual arts, students designed their own snowfolk using chalk and markers.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU: SUSIE VREE, JK/SK TEACHER

Q: How would you spend your perfect day? A: A perfect day for me would be a hike through the woods with my family, then having a picnic lunch by a lake, followed by a swim. I absolutely love being outside and love it even more when I can share the experience with the people I love.

Q: When you were younger what did you want to be when you grew up? A: I pretty much wanted to be everyone and everything. I wanted to be a firefighter, an astronaut, a singer, and a doctor. I changed my mind often but I always knew that I wanted adventure, to help other people, and get the chance to keep learning. It's pretty funny that I ended up a teacher, which gives me a bit of everything!

Q: What are some of your favourite foods? A: My favourite foods are definitely sushi and Vietnamese food. These are the foods that we, as a family, always get for our celebrations.

Q: Who do you like to spend time with? A: My family, which includes my daughters Claire and Meghan, my husband Pete, and our dog Sarah. I also love spending time with my students, coworkers, as well as my best friends Caroline and Jacky. I've known them since Grade 4 and we've been friends ever since!

WINTER 2023 DONATION PUSH: PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN

It might seem like we're always asking for donations (but we hope not!) Truthfully, we've raised less this year than at the same time last year. School council's focus is to further enhance overall student wellness (mind and body, food and exercise), increase community engagement (movie nights, skating day and math skills night), and focus on diversity, equity and inclusion in all that we do. We also have our sights set on a multi-year yard improvement project.

To achieve these goals, we are asking for a voluntary donation with a suggested amount of \$35 per child. Regardless of your ability to donate, no child at Kimberley will be denied access to school council-funded services or programs. Donations of any amount are appreciated. With SchoolCash Online, it's easy to make your donation, here's how: 1) Visit [TDSB SchoolCash Online](#). 2) Sign into your account (If you don't already have an account just click on the Get Started Today button). 3) Click on Make a Donation Button under the Items tab. Choose Kimberley Junior Public School. 4) A tax receipt is emailed to you immediately. Thank you very much for your support!

SAVE THE DATE! MOVIE NIGHT IS FEBRUARY 10

Save the Date! Our next Family Movie Night is on Friday, February 10. Doors at 6:00 p.m. Movie at 6:30 p.m. Voting for which movie to screen will open on kimberleystc.com on February 1 (Don't worry, we'll also send an email).

Movie Night is a fun night out for students and a chance for parents to mingle. We sell pizza, drinks and treats to raise money for our initiatives (but it's mainly about the fun for the kids!). Want to help? Email Laura (laurajflanagan@gmail.com). We need volunteers to set up the gym beforehand, set up and sell at the food and drinks table for the first 30 minutes and clean up after the movie.

WINTER BREAK READ-A-THON RESULTS

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Winter Break Read-a-Thon. We are very impressed by the amount of reading they did over the winter break! The results are in...

- The school raised a total of \$2,535. Incredible!
- All the students who participated read a combined 29,603 minutes.
- 11 classes participated. Great job!
- The class with the highest participation rate was Mr. Wall's grade 2/3 class. Well done!
- The student who read the most minutes was grade 3 student Maisie Mitchell with 5,360 minutes. Wow! Congratulations, Maisie. Your prize of an Indigo gift card will be awarded to you shortly. And...
- By reading a combined 8,124 minutes, Mrs. Comeau's grade 2/3 class read the most minutes and wins the class pizza party!

Thank you again to all our readers and to the sponsors. Congratulations on your fabulous reading!