



# Harriett Todd Public School

## NEWSLETTER

har.scdsb.on.ca/

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Principal: Jennifer Cornick  
Vice Principal: Andrea Newburn

### **Message from our Administrative Team**

May 6, 2021

Happy May! As the weather gets warmer, it is more difficult to stay inside, especially in front of computer screens. Thank you to students, family members and day care providers for helping students to stay connected to their teachers while we are learning online. Unlike last year, school staff is teaching students every day throughout the day using the Google Meet platform. This allows students to continue to learn from their teachers. It also allows them to see and connect with their classmates. We know that children miss being with their friends. Online learning allows them to see each other virtually, which is better than not at all. Teachers are using the work completed and observations from online learning for the final report cards. Although it seems far away, data is being collected for the final report cards as you read this.

We have been pleased to partner with the Sharing Place Foodbank to provide snack bags for interested families. The bags contain a variety of snack items that are always popular with students. If you would like to pick up a bag for your family, just stop by the school (or send your children if you are close enough) between 9:00 and 4:00.

We have also gifted some clothing to families who have reached out. We have a closet full of donated items and love to give them out to children who need clothes. Please contact the office or your child's teacher if you would like us to look for some clothing for your children.

We are hopeful that we will return to classrooms for the end of the year. Like you, we are waiting for announcements from the government about what the rest of the school year will look like. For now, Mrs. Newburn and I will settle for popping in to classrooms to visit with students and keep track of their progress. We encourage you to reach out to teachers or to us if you have any questions.

Follow us on social media! We are on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Harriett-Todd-Public-School-105020711167926/> and Twitter @Harriett\_Todd

Jennifer Cornick

### **Character Attribute for the month of May**

Respect—we treat ourselves, others and the environment with consideration and dignity.

More information about Character Education can be found here: [www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education)

### **Mental Health Week is May 3 to 9**

Join us for #SCDSBMentalHealthWeek! The first full week in May (May 3-9) is annually recognized as Children's Mental Health Week and Mental Health Week in Ontario. Throughout this week, the SCDSB would like to continue to bring awareness to the importance of student, staff and community mental health by focusing on resources and activities that promote positive mental health for all students, staff and school communities. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/2QdibGR>

### **Kindergarten registration for September 2021 is open!**

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2021? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten).

## **Math is everywhere! Find it together!**

Are you looking for ways to develop your child's math understanding while learning from home? Check out this parent guide for practical tips and activities that you can do together!

The Ministry of Education's, *Doing Mathematics with Your Child - A Parent Guide*, is a fantastic resource that provides activities and prompts in support of the major concepts explored in the mathematics curriculum. While this resource references the 2005 mathematics curriculum, the activities and tasks found within are still very relevant and meaningful to their current learning.

The activities in this resource promote and support critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning ability and the ability to communicate mathematically. These processes are the foundation of mathematics instruction in Ontario schools. Explore these skills as you engage your child in the activities suggested in the parent guide which can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3txWxeK>.

You are an important partner in your child's mathematics education. There are so many ways to engage your child in thinking and talking about mathematics around the house and in your community! Some activities to check out:

Adding and Subtracting Made Fun - Games to play with household items to practice various adding and subtracting strategies: <https://bit.ly/2QwUOaR>

Measurement Matters - Once your child understands how the metric system is organized and how the units relate to one another, conversions will be a snap: <https://bit.ly/3anlu3A>

Comparing Things Around the Home - By comparing items around the home, your child can begin to understand some basic principles of measurement: <https://bit.ly/3szh01g>

## **Get active outdoors**

With the warmer weather fast approaching, many of us are anxious to spend more time outdoors, especially children. Research suggests that spending time outdoors has a positive effect on our mental health and well-being. A simple trip outdoors can do wonders for relieving anxiety, stress and depression. Children connected with nature tend to be healthier, happier, sleep better and display better focus and creativity.

If you're looking for some mood-boosting outdoor activities to do with your family, here are some fun ideas to get out and enjoy the great outdoors:

### **Organize a nature scavenger hunt**

A great way to get the whole family outdoors is to organize a nature scavenger hunt. Make a list of nature items found in your yard, neighbourhood or on a trail nearby, and head out to see what you can find! Not only is this activity fun, it gets everyone up and moving.

### **Create an outdoor obstacle course**

Obstacle courses are a great way to engage children in physical activity and create a fun competition. Set up a course in your yard using toys, pillows, water bottles or anything you have at home. The fastest one through the obstacles wins! You could even start a relay for an added challenge!

### **Take your family workout outdoors**

When you are active with your kids, it sends them an important message about healthy living. Try leading your family in a group workout outdoors. If you are looking for ideas and inspiration for family-friendly workouts, visit [www.ymcahome.ca](http://www.ymcahome.ca) where you can find activities for all ages and fitness levels. Once you learn the basic movements of the workout, gather your family outside and exercise together. It's always more fun to exercise with a buddy!

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka*