



# TOWN CENTRE PRIVATE SCHOOLS®



## CLAYTON CAMPUS ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024

### Giving Back to our Local Community – Toy Drive and Food Drive

The Student Activity Council (SAC) is organizing a Toy Drive for Markham Stouffville Hospital, and a Food Drive for Markham’s Salvation Army Food Bank. From Monday, December 2nd to Friday, December 13th, students, parents, and staff can donate toys and/or food items in the drop-off spot located in the front of the school – helping us fill the gingerbread house with JOY!

- Food Drive items should be non-perishable, not expired, and not opened.
- Toy Drive items should be brand new and unwrapped toys.



The SAC will make a special visit to Markham Stouffville Hospital to donate the toys, and the Markham Fire Department will be coming by to pick up the food and remaining toy donations later in December.

Thank you for your generous contributions to our Food and Toy Drives!



### IB Learner Profile Attribute for the Month: Communicators

“Communicators express information confidently and creatively, and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively in collaboration with others. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.”



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# Bullying Prevention Week!

From November 18th to November 22nd, our Elementary Division participated in Anti-Bullying Week, embracing this year's national theme, "Choose Respect." Throughout the week, students took part in engaging activities aimed at building awareness about bullying prevention and exploring ways to seek help when needed. We are incredibly proud of their dedication to creating a safe and respectful school environment.



## Markham Veteran's Poppy Campaign

TCPS students and staff attended services for Remembrance Day on November 11 to honour the men and women of the Canadian Forces. For this year's Poppy Campaign, we are pleased to inform you we were able to raise \$1788.45 with your generous contributions. Thank you for supporting the Markham Veterans Association.



## Grade 4 PYP Unit Share - Ancient Civilizations

Last week marked our first-ever IB PYP Unit Share for the 2024-2025 school year, and our Grade 4 students had the honor of leading the way! A Unit Share is a class event where students showcase their learning and the inquiry process that drives it. It's a chance to celebrate their achievements and provide a glimpse into the meaningful and exciting work happening in their classrooms.

The students, dressed in traditional ethnic clothing, presented their projects on Ancient Civilizations, transforming our studio into a historic museum. Parents were invited to visit this unique Museum of Ancient Civilizations, and the students were very excited to share their work with them. The Unit Share showcased their current unit of inquiry on **Where we are in place and time**: "By studying the past, we can better understand the present."

Through this unit, the students explored:

- Similarities and differences between life in early societies and the way we live today
- The resources used by early societies and how they interacted with their natural environment
- Contributions of early societies to the world today
- Our shared responsibility to preserve the past

This Unit Share not only brought the past to life but also highlighted the importance of understanding how history shapes our present and future. Parents, teachers, and students alike left the event inspired by the insights and creativity on display.



## Inclement Weather Policy

We wanted to update you regarding our Inclement Weather procedure for the 2024/2025 school year.

### Inclement / Severe Weather Policy

In case of inclement weather conditions, a decision to keep the school open or closed will be made by 6:00 a.m. in the morning and will be communicated to parents through the TCPS app.

**If there is no announcement regarding inclement weather, then it will be a regular school day.**

### School Closed

If a decision to close the school is made due to inclement weather:

- Our schools will be closed, and students should not come to school.

### School Open -

If a decision is made to keep the school open in inclement weather:

- Parents are asked to take every precaution and use their best judgement based on driving conditions in your area. Students who are not in attendance will not be penalized academically.
- Tests and quizzes will be cancelled and rescheduled.



We recognize that parents might have to make alternate arrangements when an inclement weather day occurs, and therefore ask that parents plan in advance for the potential of such early morning notifications.

Please continue to monitor local media for up-to-date weather forecasts and take safety precautions advised by local authorities. Our priority continues to be the safety of our students, staff members and families.

## P-T Interviews

We look forward to speaking with you on the Parent-Teacher Interview Days.

Wednesday, December 4, Gr. 6-8 & Subject Teachers P-T Interviews from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 5th, Gr. 2-8 P-T Interviews from 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**The Parent-Teacher Interview Day on Thursday, December 5th is a non-school day for students.**

In order to stay on schedule, it is important for the teacher and the parent to use only their allotted time. If necessary, a continuation may be requested on an alternate day. Parents are reminded that teachers are unable to meet parents without appointments.

For parents who have not been able to book an appointment but would like to do so, please feel free to stop by the office and we will do our best to accommodate.

## Christmas Pot Luck Lunch and Party Day – Thursday, December 19

Students will have an opportunity to have a special lunch with their classmates on Thursday, December 19th. Teachers will post the Christmas lunch sign-up sheet outside their classroom typically one week prior to the luncheon. Parents are encouraged to sign-up for something and are reminded that if you would like to contribute a food item, we strongly recommend store or restaurant bought foods. Please note that a list of all ingredients must accompany the contribution. We ask all parents to please be mindful of allergies and we ask for your cooperation not to send nut or peanut products to school.



## Reminders for the last few days of school for 2024

From December 16 to 20, students will be doing a class bin, coat hook, and locker cleanup throughout the week, and parents are asked to take home all children's belongings. Please take home all snow pants, boots, gym clothes, school sweaters, and all your personal items to allow our maintenance staff to conduct a thorough cleaning of all classrooms and common areas.

Thursday, December 19: is the last day of school for 2024 for the Main Campus. Students will participate in special holiday activities during the day, including a class potluck lunch.

Friday, December 20: is a PD Day. The Main Campus will be closed for professional development workshops. There will be no school for students on this day.

Monday, January 6: is the first day of school for 2025!

**2025**  
— HAPPY NEW YEAR —

**On behalf of all the staff, we would like to wish our TCPS families all the best for this holiday season and we hope you have a safe and restful break.**

**We look forward to seeing everyone when we return on January 6, 2025.**

