



Les nouvelles John English News



ÉCOLE JOHN ENGLISH JUNIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

95 Mimico Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M8V 1R4 Telephone: 416.394.7660 Safe Arrival: 416.394.4710

Website: www.johnenglish.ca

Principal: C. Howe Vice-Principals: A. San Vicente, T. Gentile

Superintendent: J. Phillips-Long Trustee, Ward 3: P. Gough

September 2011 septembre

Welcome! Bienvenue!

As we begin the school year at John English JMS, we would like to welcome students to a new and exciting school year full of challenges and learning. We would especially like to welcome our Junior Kindergarten students who are attending school for the first time, students and families from David Hornell, George R. Gauld and Sir Adam Beck and to all families who have chosen the John English school community as home.

At John English JMS, we value the diversity and traditions of our school and look forward to the contributions of our new students and their parents as well as those of returning families. We recognize that student success can only be accomplished through partnership with parents. We encourage parents to become involved in the life of our school. There are a number of ways that parents can support school life; volunteering in the classroom, assisting with an event or activity, chairing one of our School Council committees and supporting student learning at home. We recognize that parents play a key role in the education of their children.

On Thursday September 22nd we will hold our Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night. Parents will have an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. Our teaching staff are looking forward to meeting you at that time. If you have specific concerns about your child, please contact your child's teacher to arrange an appointment to discuss these concerns.

We look forward to working with you this year.

C. Howe
Principal

Welcome to new staff

I am pleased to welcome new staff members to our school:

- Mlle. Xisto – Gr. 7
- Mme. Tan - SK
- Mme. Hehn – Gr. 4/5
- Mr. Panou – Gr. 6/7/8
- Ms. Simon – CYW

We also welcome Mr. Gentile, our new Vice-Principal and welcome back Mme. Saprykina – Gr. 1 and Mlle Spekkens - Gr. 3 who are returning from leave. We also welcome Mr. Brooks – music, Ms. Kim Gr. - 5/6 and Mme. Evelyn – Gr. 2/3

For Our Office Records

It is very important for the safety of our students that we have up-to-date records. On the first day of school, students were sent home with the following forms for you to sign and to return to their teacher:

- ✓ a medical information form
- ✓ permission form for Physical Education and Intramural participation
- ✓ permission form for local walking tour excursions
- ✓ confirm the lunch arrangements for your child(ren)
- ✓ Severe Winter Weather Form (for Grades 6-8 only)

Please return your child's signed forms to your child's teacher. Thank you!

Meet the Teacher / Curriculum Evening
Thursday September 22, 2011
6:00 – 7:30 pm

School Photos
October 26th

TTC Photos
 For our students who will be turning 13 this school year.
October 12th

Healthy Bites

Welcome back students and parents! The Healthy Bites Nutrition Program is back and running with four lunches per week in the cafeteria. If you already signed up for the program back in June we're glad you did.....and we bet your children are too! So far they've enjoyed whole wheat pizza roll-ups, perogies, pita pockets stuffed with chicken-salad or guacamole and veggies, assorted fruits and vegetables and salads.

If you're new to the school or just a little late getting organized, we still have some space left in the program. But don't delay.....we're filling fast! Just pick-up a registration form at the office or in the cafeteria during a Healthy Bites lunch.

Are you interested in getting involved in this great program? We're always glad to see new faces in the kitchen. It's a great opportunity to brush up on your culinary skills, meet and network with other parents in the school, and say hello to your kids at lunchtime! Just indicate on your child's registration form that you'd like to help out or e-mail: healthybites@johnenglish.ca

"Kiss n' Ride"

Student Pick up/Drop Off and Parent Parking Procedures

It is imperative that all parents observe the **NO PARKING** bus-loading zone on George Street in front of the school. Also, please note that a **No Stopping Zone** is now in place on Central Street off Hillside Avenue and on Mimico Avenue. Parents dropping off students in Grades 1-8 are requested to use the "Kiss n' Ride" Area in the parking lot. Volunteers will escort children safely from the parking lot to the playground. Parents of Kindergarten students are requested to park in a designated legal parking area near the school and escort children to the kindergarten doors. Please note that there is no parking on George Street or Mimico Avenue close to the school. Students walking to and from school are NOT to walk through the parking lot. Please discuss drop-off and pick-up routines with your children. We appreciate your assistance in ensuring the safety of our children. We continue to look for parent volunteers to assist with our Kiss n' Ride program. Please contact the school office if you are able to assist.

Student Agendas

The use of agendas or a student planner is an excellent method to teach student's how to organize their daily lives. It is also valuable as a communication tool between home and school. We support the use of student planners at John English Junior Middle School.

Students can use the planner can be used as a reminder of assignment due dates and important events. Students can use the agenda to note the date, time and location of extra-curricular activities, test and assignment dates and special occasions.

Also, Grade 4-8 students will be expected to carry their agendas if they leave the classroom between periods, as the agenda acts as their 'hall pass'. In this way, we can better monitor safety in the hallways and ensure that students are not out of the classroom unnecessarily.

Parents can make use of the agenda to communicate with their child's teacher. A short note is written in the agenda and brought to the teacher's attention. The agenda serves many different purposes.

We will be asking for \$6.00 to cover the cost of your child's agenda. Please send this amount with your child to school by Monday, September 12, 2011.

A New School Year is Here. Are You Ready?

Getting ready for a new school year can be a whirlwind of frenzied activity and erratic emotions. But don't panic yet, we're here to help. Here is some information to help you and your child have a stress-free start to the school year.

Starting School for the Very First Time

It's a big step in your child's life, filled with many firsts. Get an overview of the TDSB's Kindergarten program and to read about activities you can be doing at home to help prepare your child for school. Go to www.tdsb.on.ca and select Kindergarten from the Parents menu. Click on the Getting Ready for Kindergarten link.

Who'll Mind the Kids?

For many parents, coordinating work and school schedules can be hard, but the TDSB can help. We have more than 300 child-care centres in TDSB schools serving infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers, kindergarten and school-age children, before and after school. Visit www.tdsb.on.ca and select child care from the parents menu.

Mimico Children's Choir Starts Thursday, September 15th at 3:30, at Mimico Baptist Church.

The Mimico Children's Choir will begin its 6th year of music making this fall under the volunteer leadership of professional musicians and local parents Mary Bella and Jennifer Robinson! Come to our meet and greet rehearsal on September 15th (snack is at 3:30, rehearsal is 3:45 - 4:45) to try it out, and bring your friends! Girls and Boys SK through grade 6 are welcome. This choir is a community ministry offered by Mimico Baptist Church.

From School Council

SAC is a group of John English Parents that meet monthly. SAC welcomes all staff, students and families back to a new school year! We trust that everyone had a safe and wonderful summer vacation and that the students are ready for an exciting year. For those families and staff members that are just starting at John English - we welcome you and look forward to working with you. SAC is looking forward to starting another successful year, supporting and enhancing our children's educational experience.

SAC meetings are held monthly. The Principal, Vice Principals and a teacher representative also attend these meetings. SAC meetings are a great opportunity to participate in decisions that affect your children's school experience. Come out and meet other parents. Everyone is invited to attend our monthly meetings to keep informed. Look for the school that will outline activities, upcoming events and how you can help to support our efforts.

The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 14th at 7:00 pm in the library. Childcare is available. If needed please contact sacinfo@johnenglish.ca. Minutes from the SAC meetings can be found on the website www.johnenglish.ca. Hope to see you there!

Class Rep Program

Parents who want to connect with their child's class are strongly encouraged to sign up for the class rep program. Each teacher will have a representative to help promote communication amongst class parents. This is a great way to stay informed and to stay connected. Please sign up in your child's classroom on Meet the Teacher Night. Consider becoming a rep for your child's class. To do so, speak to their teacher directly or contact the class rep network at info@johnenglish.ca

Coffee n' Chat

Coffee n' Chat is held on the 1st Friday of every month. This is a great opportunity to come and meet other parents at John English in an informal setting. Everyone is welcome. Our first Coffee n' Chat date is Friday, September 9th. Drop in between 8:15 am and 10:00 am in the teachers lounge near the cafeteria.

Magazine Subscriptions

Hold on to your magazine renewals. Once again we will be asking you to renew your magazine subscriptions through the QSP fundraising event at John English. This is a great opportunity to promote reading to your children, to do some holiday gift shopping and to support our school with funds that help provide such things as field trips and added programs for our students. There will be great daily and weekly prizes to be won. Please wait to renew your subscriptions until we launch this program. The campaign will kickoff of September 21 and run in late September and early October. Thanks for your support!

Keep Me Informed

Please take the time to complete and review the 'Keep Me Informed' form. John English E-news is sent out on an occasional basis to keep our community informed about upcoming events and activities at the school. If you would like to be added to the enews please email our webmaster at enews@johnenglish.ca. If you would like to assist as a Parent Rep please complete the form and send to your child's teacher.