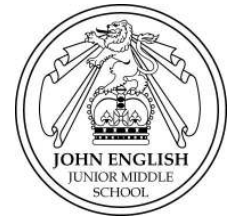




# Les nouvelles John English News



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](http://www.johnenglish.ca)

Principal: E. Dick Vice-Principals: K. McInnes, S. Woolford  
Superintendent: J. Spyropoulos Trustee, Ward 3: B. Davis

## October 2009 octobre

### NOTE

Yard Supervision for Grades 1 to 8 begins at 8:35 AM and ends at 3:30 PM. Parents are responsible for their children's safety and conduct in the yard before and after these times.

### VISITOR SIGN-IN BOOK

Visitors are requested to sign in at the main office and wear a 'visitor sticker'. This is a safety measure to ensure that visiting adults are recognized and encouraged to feel welcome in our school.

Thank You

### Thank You

It was a full house at John English on September 24<sup>th</sup> with many parents, students and relatives visiting the classrooms and joining together for BBQ'd hot dogs and drinks. Many thanks to our staff and parents who organized this great community event. We were delighted to share with you all of the wonderful programs and activities which are offered at John English. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or us in the office.

### Dental Screening

The Toronto Public Health Department will be conducting dental screening at John English Junior Middle School from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to November 10<sup>th</sup> inclusive. The screening is an assessment by a dental hygienist using sterilized instruments. The dental hygienist will assess the need for topical fluoride, scaling, sealant and any other obvious dental needs. As a follow up to the screening, only parents whose children are identified as requiring dental services will be notified. A note to that effect will be sent home with your child/children for your information and action. You may also receive a phone call from Toronto Public Health Dental Staff to assist you in accessing care.

Please be advised that this screening assessment does not replace the dental examination done by a licensed dentist. As well, if you do not wish your child to participate, please notify the school prior to November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Should you require more information about the screening, please contact Toronto Public Health, Dental and Oral Health Services at 416-338-7600.

### Congratulations on a successful Terry Fox Walk!

On Friday September 25<sup>th</sup>, the students and staff of John English laced up their sneakers and walked a route through our community in support of *The Marathon of Hope*. It was a great morning and the students showed their sense of spirit and enthusiasm towards a great cause. Money raised will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation to further the cause of cancer research.

### Lunchroom Routines

Lunchroom facilities and supervision are provided by T.D.S.B. for Grade 1 to 8 students who remain at school for lunch. A letter was sent home at the beginning of the school year requesting information as to the lunch arrangements for your child.

Students (including middle school students) who eat in the lunchroom are supervised in that area and outside on the school playground. They are expected to eat in the lunchroom and to remain on school property throughout the entire lunch period. The school does not provide

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supervision off school property. While we do our best to enforce this procedure, we cannot guarantee that your child will remain on school property if he or she decides to deliberately break the agreement you have made. If a student leaves school property without permission and the school becomes aware of it you will be notified and the student may be disciplined by the school for leaving the premises during lunch without permission. If your child is not on school property, or is not at home during the lunch period, he or she is unsupervised and their parent assumes responsibility for them.

Students who are staying at school for lunch need to bring their lunches with them in the morning. As it is disruptive to your child's school routines, please do not deliver lunches to school on a daily basis.

If you unexpectedly need to pick up your child during the lunch period, please notify the office and the supervising adult on duty.

Students eating lunch off school property are not expected to return to the schoolyard until 12:10 PM when the playground is supervised.

If you wish to change your child's lunch arrangements, we require written notification from you.

### **Student 'Emergency Information Update' Forms**

Requests for updates to emergency information were sent home recently. Thank you to all parents and guardians who have returned these forms with all pertinent information included. If you have not returned them, please do so as soon as possible.

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**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE HAVE AN UP-TO-DATE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR YOUR HOME, WORK, DAYTIME CARE PROVIDER, DAYCARE OR FAMILY MEMBER. AN EMERGENCY CONTACT MUST BE INCLUDED.**

### **Safe Arrival Program**

The Safe Arrival Program is used by parents/ guardians and schools to account for any student's unexplained failure to arrive at school. Please call the school safe arrival number 416-394-4710 before 8:45 AM or 12:30 PM (for an afternoon absence) if your child will not be attending school. This line is available 24 hours a day with voice mail. If your child is absent and we have not heard from you, we will make every effort to contact you using the information provided on the Emergency Form. The name and telephone number of an emergency contact is absolutely essential.

### **Medication and Students**

If it is necessary for your child to take medication while at school, the following procedures must be followed:

1. A signed doctor and parental authorization must be provided for all medication including over the counter medication such as Tylenol.
2. Directions from the prescribing physician must be provided by the parents.
3. Medication must be in a properly labelled container.
4. Medication is to be safely stored within the school office and NOT in backpacks or lunchboxes except for fanny packs with epipens.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that medication procedures are followed and for preparing their child to remember to go to the office to receive medication at the recommended times. There is a form which must be completed by the parent and physician.

If your child has a medical condition that requires specific management, please inform your child's teacher so that the Management of Emergency Medical Concerns form can be sent home.

### **Preserving the Learning Environment**

In the event of an emergency, we will do our utmost to relay parental messages to students; however, we will not disrupt classes to give non-urgent messages to individual students. Please make arrangements for special pick-ups prior to your child's coming to school. The agenda is an excellent tool for communication between home and school for dental and medical appointments when your child needs to leave early. Parents who are picking students up must sign out the student at the office.

### **Students- Do Not Bring Valuables to School!**

Students are reminded not to bring money for personal use or items of value to school, such as CD's, MP3 players, Walkmans, cell phones, etc. Unfortunately, when such things are lost or stolen, the school cannot be held responsible to replace them.

### **Hallowe'en**

Please join us for our Hallowe'en Parade on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 PM. Children are invited to wear their costumes to school that

afternoon. (Morning Kindergarten students will dress up in the AM.) Students from Kindergarten to Grade 5 will parade on the colas and around the block. Dress up and come along if you can. Halloween safety is important. Our public health nurse sends along a few tips to make the evening enjoyable and safe:

- Go out with an adult
- Wear light coloured, fire resistant costumes
- Wear costumes short enough to prevent tripping
- Apply makeup instead of a mask
- Have an adult check treats before they are eaten
- Have Fun!

### **First Term Progress Report Card Information**

First term report cards will be sent home to you on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. The JK students will not receive a report card this first term but will have a Parent/Teacher conference scheduled on or near the time of the Parent/Teacher Conference date of Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Conferences will be held on the evening of Thursday December 3 and during the morning of Friday December 4. More info to follow.

### **Threats to School Safety Change in Terminology**

The TDSB will has been spreading the word about the importance of learning environments where all staff and students feel safe and secure during Safe and Caring Schools Weeks in September. The TDSB works very hard throughout the year to raise awareness among students, staff and parents about the factors that make a school

community safe and affirming.

The Boards Safe and Caring Schools Team recently undertook the task of updating the Board's Threats to School Safety Procedure to provide a better framework to help prepare schools to effectively manage emergencies and to reflect a significant change in the terminology associated with lockdown procedures.

The change in lockdown terminology was done to provide some clarity on the meaning of common terms associated with the procedure and reduce the panic that parents/guardians often feel when they hear their child's school is in lockdown.

The revised terminology is now being implemented at the TDSB and will be used by all schools in conjunction with the Toronto Police Service. The revised terms are as follows:

**Hold and Secure** - The term Partial Lockdown has been replaced with the term Hold and Secure. Hold and secure means that all movement in and out of the school is restricted, however movement within the school is not restricted and the external danger near the school poses no immediate threat to the students or staff unless they leave the building.

**Lockdown** - A lockdown is the most serious response to a threat to school safety and should be used only when the danger is inside the school or on school property and poses an immediate and serious threat to staff and students.

The updated Threats to School Safety Procedure (PR.695) is available on the Safe and Caring

Schools webpage on the Board's website at [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca).

The TDSB is committed to making each and every one of our schools caring places that are safe for learning and a part of that commitment is keeping our parents/guardians informed.

### **Anaphylaxis – Taking the Necessary Precautions**

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be life threatening. This medical condition can cause a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although foods such as peanuts, milk, eggs, and sesame seeds are the most common cause of anaphylaxis, insect stings, medicine, or latex can also cause a reaction. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. The TDSB is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and works with Toronto Public Health and other partners to ensure the successful implementation of Sabrina's Law, which came into effect on January 1, 2006.

Sabrina's Law requires every school board to establish and maintain an anaphylactic policy that includes strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas. The TDSB has procedures for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to raise awareness about this life-threatening condition. Students who have severe

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allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when such products are consumed in their environment or shared with them. As prevention is the best approach, we ask that you speak with your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with other students. As well, please do not send any snacks or lunches with your child that contain peanuts.

If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken, and to ensure everyone's co-operation in creating a safe learning environment.

Whether you are living with the allergy yourself, caring for someone who is, or concerned about people in your community, more information about life threatening allergies is available on the Anaphylaxis Canada's web site at <http://www.anaphylaxis.org/> or by calling 416-785-5666.

## From School Advisory Council

### School Advisory Council

The SAC is a group of John English Parents that meets 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 welcome. The next SAC meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 18th, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the staffroom. Childcare is available. If needed please contact

[jan@johnenglish.ca](mailto:jan@johnenglish.ca). As well, if you would like to join the John English parent email network, please drop us a line at [sacinfo@johnenglish.ca](mailto:sacinfo@johnenglish.ca). Minutes from the SAC meetings can be found on the website [www.johnenglish.ca](http://www.johnenglish.ca).

### Curriculum Night

On September 24th the JE courtyard was a meeting place for parents and students to enjoy a BBQ and meet others from the school community before visiting the teacher. Thanks to all the parents and teachers who made it a successful evening.

### Adult French Classes

Missed out? Canadian Parents for French (formerly FIPA) is organizing Adult French Classes for November. Please contact Janet at [janetholtham@rogers.blackberry.net](mailto:janetholtham@rogers.blackberry.net) for more details.

### Chapters Bookstore Shopping Night

Thursday, November 26th has been designated as John English's Chapters Shopping Night at the Queensway/Sherway Gardens location. On that night, 10% of sales from our school community will be donated to the school. Be sure to tell the cashier that you are from John English JMS.

### Pasta and Movie Night

Come out and have a fun evening and see HOTEL FOR DOGS. This years Pasta and Movie night will be on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Dinner will be served in the cafeteria from 6:00 pm - 6:45pm. The movie will begin at 7:00 pm in the auditorium. The cost of this fun evening is \$7.00 person or

\$20 per family. All children must be accompanied by an adult. If you are able to help out with this event please email [SACinfo@johnenglish.ca](mailto:SACinfo@johnenglish.ca)

### Healthy Bites

Healthy Bites still has some space left in the program. Just pick-up a registration form at the office or in the cafeteria during a Healthy Bites lunch. We are still looking for volunteers to help out with this program. 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 mail: [healthybites@johnenglish.ca](mailto:healthybites@johnenglish.ca)

### Save Your Soup Labels

Please continue to save you labels from Campbells Soup, Prego Sauces, Goldfish snacks and V8 drinks. Place the labels in the Campbells Labels for Education Bin at the office. These labels will help us purchase more school instruments. Thanks for your support!

### Coffee n Chat

Coffee n Chat is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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. The next Coffee n Chat is on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Drop in between 8:15 am and 10:00 am in the teachers lounge near the cafeteria.

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