



# Claude Watson School for the Arts

Weekly Update - Friday May 17, 2019

## Upcoming Events

### May 20

- Victoria Day Holiday

### May 20 - 24

- CARE Student Leadership Workshops

### May 23

- "Love, Limits, Live it" Parent Event 6:45 pm

### May 25

- School Council Event 8 am - 12 pm

### May 27 - 30

- EQAO

### May 30

- "Love, Limits, Live it" Parent Event 6:45 pm

### May 31

- Track & Field

### June 3-6

- Dental Screening

### June 6 (revised date)

- CWSA Dance Night at Earl Haig

### June 7

- PA Day

### June 11

- Track & Field

## CWSA Spring is Here!!



What a whirlwind of a week. Thank you to Mr. Brown, Ms. Song and Mr. Best for Wednesday night's Solobratons! Their dedication to showcasing our students is amazing. It was a fabulous evening with 38 students, 24 piano solos, 2 violin solos, a flute, clarinet, and cello solo, a Bass Trio, and a unique quintet! It can't get better than that! Each and every one of our performers gave it their all! We are so privileged to have the support of our private instructors that work with our students - they together with our brilliant staff - make CWSA such an exceptional place!

On Thursday, we had a high powered evening. Our Superintendent, Linda Curtis, Trustee Brown and our School Council Co-Chairs Jay Kang and John Choi came together to inform and bring clarity during this unique moment at the TDSB. Some parents were feeling anxious; SOE Curtis articulated her commitment to CWSA's extended day for the upcoming school year and voiced her continued support for the extraordinary art programming that happens each day at CWSA. Trustee Brown was here to connect with the CWSA community and bring clarity to the scope of the \$67 million challenge facing the TDSB. He also reiterated how parents might share concerns with FBEC the Board's Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee:

- Monday, May 27 at 4:30 p.m.
- Monday, June 3 at 4:30 p.m.

Trustee Brown reminded parents of the process for requests to speak in person which must be submitted in writing to Governance and Board Services by 4 p.m., two working days before the committee meeting day. Trustee Brown also clarified that the Board of Trustees purpose is to balance the budget while best supporting student learning and achievement and providing equitable allocation of resources.

The School Council continues to address the concerns of parents and encourages parents to reach out to the Council. Please see the special fundraising letter. [School Council Fundraising Letter 2019.pdf](#) [Online Donation Instruction CWSA.pdf](#)

As I get further information, I will share it with the community. If you have concerns, again, please contact me directly. Please rest assured that I will continue to advocate for our school community along with our school Superintendent Linda Curtis.

Lastly, this past week Mr. Handscomb shared with staff his plans to retire. We want to wish Mr. Handscomb all the best in his retirement.

Wishing everyone a tremendous long weekend!

Ms. Jones

## Prism

PRISM is a student initiative held by the Student Senate. It is an art gala and opportunity for all students across the TDSB to enjoy fantastic art pieces and performances, get involved with Learning Centre 2, and meet other students. Prism takes place May 21, 6-9 pm at Earl Haig. Please see the attached flyer. [PRISM: The Art of Imperfection](#)



## School Council: CW Neighbourhood Day: 9 days away -- your help needed!

This year, a new community engagement event has been developed, originally to showcase the school and student talents to the community. But with the current issues, it has shown the vital need also to proactively engage with the key stakeholders and build close relationships. Very timely that Councillor Filion, Trustee Brown and Superintendent Curtis have agreed to join us at this Claude Watson Neighbourhood Day.

We understand your busy weekend schedule. But do attend the event, even if briefly, to project our school spirit and unity -- to preserve the excellence of CWSA -- at this uncommon time. Together, with the alumni and newly accepted students and their parents.

We still need your help. Please indicate your interest to any of the items below  
to: [cwsaevent@gmail.com](mailto:cwsaevent@gmail.com)

### Music performance

- there are some performance time-slots remaining
- any student(s) can perform solo or as a group in a 5-10min act
- please contact Ms. Song as soon as possible and give details about your intended performance

### Volunteers

- more parent volunteers are needed, especially during the early stages of 7-9am
- just sign up as 'general volunteer' if you cannot commit to anything specific
- sign up list is on: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4faba62da7f94-claude>

### Fundraising

- do your spring cleaning this long weekend and prepare a donation bag of unwanted items (see event flyer for what can be donated) to bring on event day (if not able then, arrange to bring to school the days prior) -- the greater the total weight of items that the school donates, the greater the cash given to the school; moreover, the school can garner 'Eco-points' for its green initiative;
- donate small items (e.g., gift cards) that will be given out as raffle prizes during the event; place in donation envelope prepared in the school office;
- sign up as a yard sale vendor;
- purchase t-shirts that will be prepared for this event;
- buy food and drinks, all proceeds donated to the school;
- if you have your own idea, please share via email

\*if anyone can offer the use of a bbq grill for the 4-hour event, please inform via email

## CARE Workshops

Ms. Schroeder and Mr. Plener and Toronto Public Health have been working with our CARE leadership team. CARE is a wonderful medium for student leaders who aspire to build awareness and provide students with simple activities to reduce stress and promote wellness. CARE Leaders will be providing student workshops from **May 20 – 24th**. Concern for well-being is so important in our busy culture. Thank-you CARE Leaders!

## Space Still Available...“Love, Limits, Live it” CWSA Parent Workshop Series

**Date: Thursday, May 23rd - 6:45 – 8:45 pm**

**Topic: Helping Your Child Do Well in Life: Understanding Resilience**

- Increased knowledge and understanding plus tips on how to promote resilience

Helping Your Child Do Well in Life: Understanding Resilience (ages 10-14) [Understanding Resilience Flyer 2019.pdf](#)

## Dance Night at Earl Haig

CWSA Dance Night! Please join us at our annual Dance Night held **Thursday, June 6th, 2019** at Earl Haig Secondary School.

## Track & Field Dates

CWSA Track & Field dates: **Friday, May 31st**. Details in the next newsletter. (Please note dates vary for different schools.)

## “Love, Limits, Live it” CWSA Parent Workshop Series

**Date: Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 6:45 – 8:45 pm**

**Topic: Stress & Worry – Helping Youth Cope (10- 14)** [Stress Worry Flyer 2019.pdf](#)

**Location: Gym or Multi-purpose Rm.**

- Increased knowledge and understanding of stress and worry in youth
- How the brain works when under stress and the mind & body connections
- Ways to help youth cope with stress and worry

## Safety – In the Loop

**Traffic Alert: ALWAYS CHOOSE SAFETY OVER CONVENIENCE!**

- 1) Do NOT aim to drop off your child as close as possible to the school front gates. Always decide to drop off directly beside the sidewalk to the right, regardless of the distance needed to walk. Reduce all risk for your child.
- 2) Do NOT enter from Hollywood Ave. It is a one-way lane (except for service vehicles). Reduce all risk for neighbours and students walking by that entrance.
- 3) Do NOT park (even if very briefly) by the garbage containers. The condo management has strongly raised an issue about the ongoing disregard by parents with this illegal parking.