

Dear Clara Hughes Community,

The terrorist attack on a Muslim family that occurred in London, Ontario on Sunday, June 6, 2021 is a horrific example of the ongoing events that continue to impact the lives of community members who continue to experience marginalization and stigmatization. Clara Hughes P.S. and the whole DDSB extends its heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and everyone impacted by this hate-based Islamophobic attack.

This is a stark reminder of the importance of committing to anti-racist education and a school experience that centers on human rights and equity. Islamophobia has no place in the DDSB, and we are dedicated to ensuring safe spaces for our Muslim community members throughout the system.

The DDSB is committed to providing support for those impacted by recent events. Students, we encourage you to connect with a teacher, Ms. Knights or Mrs. Rogers, or our social worker by [connecting with our mental health team](#).

As a school, we value the voices of all our students, families and staff. Please always feel welcome to share comments, suggestions and concerns with us and know that we proudly stand alongside all of our Clara Hughes families.

Please see below for our weekly updates;

Picking up of Personal Belongings (Grades FDK-7)

Teachers will be coming in next week (June 14-18) for a half day to organize your child's belongings to get them ready for you to pick up. Please note your child's teacher will let you know when they are coming into the school to do this as they will be having Flex time in their schedules on the half day they choose. They will also post a note in your child's Google Classroom, so you are aware.

Families will be able to pick up their child's belongings the week on Monday June 21, to Friday June 25, 2021. Please come to the front of the school and our office staff will retrieve your child's belongings for you. The office will be open daily from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Please be advised that we are still under strict public health guidelines of, screening before you come to the school, masking, and social distancing.

School Loaned Technology Devices

Unless your child changing schools, or your family is moving out of the DDSB, they are to keep their DDSB issued Chromebook, or School loaned device (Chromebook, iPad, ThinkPad) over the summer months.

Girls Inc. Summer Camps

Girls Inc. of Durham is offering our virtual summer programs, each week the girls will receive a package with minds on/hands on experience for girls. This includes Operation Smart (STEM programming), Allies in Action (anti bullying programming), crafts, activities, sports, and discussions regarding bullying, friendships, body image and self-esteem; as well as leadership and community action while supported by our professionally trained program staff. Please click on the [link](#) for more information

Durham Student Transportation Services

Please be advised that DSTS will be offering our Young Rider Program virtually this year. This program is intended to educate elementary age students on safety measures and rules pertaining to the school bus prior to their first ride.

Families are able to access the platform via our website www.dsts.on.ca where they can click on the Young Rider Program banner. In addition to a video, there is a printable safety certificate to congratulate the student on completing the program.

Upcoming Events Please click on the links for more information

[Durham Behaviour Management Virtual Resource Fair](#)

Dates of Significance

June 16

Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev

Guru Arjan was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr: he gave up his life for the Sikh people.

The Guru laid the foundation of the Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib) in Amritsar. He also designed the four doors in a Gurdwara, proclaiming that "My faith is for the people of all castes and all creeds from whichever direction they come and to whichever direction they bow."

He also declared that all Sikhs should donate a tenth of their earnings to charity.

The greatest contribution he made to the Sikh faith was to compile all of the past Gurus' writings into one book, now the holy scripture: the Guru Granth Sahib. It was this holy book that made him a martyr.

June 19

Juneteenth

Juneteenth (short for "June Nineteenth") marks the day when federal troops arrived in [Galveston, Texas](#) in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the [Emancipation Proclamation](#). Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday.

<https://www.history.com/news/what-is-juneteenth>

June 20

Litha (Wicca)

Litha is a pagan holiday; one of their eight sabbats during the year. Litha (also known as Midsummer) occurs on the summer solstice, and celebrates the beginning of summer. The traditions of Litha appear to be borrowed from many cultures. Most ancient cultures celebrated the summer solstice in some way. The Celts celebrated Litha with hilltop bonfires and dancing. Many people attempted to jump over or through the bonfires for good luck.

Fundraising Initiative: Flipgive

We're using FlipGive this year to raise funds for our school. Buy what you need, and fund the school you love! Every time you shop online or buy a gift card, the school will be earning funds.

Click here to join - <https://www.flipgive.com/teams/join?joincode=CKNN3T>

If families use the link above they will be automatically directed to our campaign and won't need the code, which is CKNN3T.

Your Admin Team,

[Sharon Knights and Marianne Rogers](#)