

Hello Clara Hughes families,

We are really pleased with all the students that have been engaging in our online learning environment. We know that this has not been the easiest of times for families, but we wanted to thank you for making sure your children are following their daily schedules. Mrs. Rogers and I have enjoyed popping into Google Meets and seeing all the students engaged in learning. We have seen great lessons on comparing fractions using a number line, lots of activities in classrooms for Cinco de Mayo, Science lessons on forces and pulleys and gears and so much more great learning happening in our virtual learning spaces.

Our staff have done an amazing job pivoting to online learning and we are so grateful to have such a wonderful staff!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you need support in any way for your family. We are here to support you and will do what we can.

Please see below for our weekly updates:

Parents with children in Kindergarten: [EarlyON School Readiness workshops](#)

All workshops will focus on school readiness ideas as you prepare your child for kindergarten. Registration closes on May 15, 2021. Please click on the link for more information

From Durham Black Educators Network

Durham Black Educators' Network mandate:

Optimizing educational experiences for students, parents, community, and staff within Durham District School Board. Est. 2005

Our most recent partnership with [Side by Side Family Centre \(SBSFC\)](#) provides an opportunity for families with children in Grades 1 – 6 to seek access to tools and strategies that will improve outcomes and well-being for Black Students.

Through Ministry funding, SBSFC has built the structure for a [Student and Family Advocate \(SFA\)](#). This three-year collaboration with DBEN and the DDSB, will enhance the relationship between community and schools. Building upon *Action Item #3: School-Community Relationships* in *The Compendium of Action for Black Student Success*, the SFA role builds capacity for school leaders and families to access the supports and community connections that Black youth need.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the School and Family Advocate, Nicholas Barham. In his SFA role, he will support Black families and students in the following areas:

- Questions about IEP and IPRC
- Managing School Contacts
- Meeting Support
- Pathway to success planning
- Anti-Black Racism Support

The following tools and resources may be useful in guiding your engagement in this process:

The Compendium of Action for Black Student Success

<https://www.ddsb.ca/en/about-ddsb/resources/Documents/Equity/Black-Students-Compendium.pdf>

DDSB Equity and Diversity Strategic Plan

<https://www.ddsb.ca/ddsbfiles/EquityFlipbook/7/#zoom=z>

A Progressive Plan to Manage Challenging Interactions or Difficult Contacts With Parents – CF Memo 18/19-05 – *see Appendix G: Working with Advocates*
COMING SOON!

[Kujali Black Family Support Line](#)

A navigation line with opportunities for Black families to connect with counsellors.

An opportunity for families to engage in:

- Solution-focused conversations
- Peer to peer mentorship
- Systems navigation

For more information regarding the *Side By Side Family Services – Student and Family Advocate*, Nicholas Barham at nicholasb@sbsfamilycentre.com, www.sidebysidiefamilycentre.org

For more information about *Kujali Black Family Support Line* – info@blackfamilysupport.org

Dates of Significance

Jewish Heritage Month

The bill proclaiming the annual event passed third and final reading in the House of Commons on March 28, 2018. Canadian Jewish Heritage Month provides an opportunity

for all Canadians to reflect on and celebrate the incredible contributions that Jewish Canadians have made to our country, in communities across Canada.

Dutch Heritage Month

Ontario is home to about 500 000 Dutch Canadians. May is a historically significant month for the Dutch Canadian community. On May 5, 1945, the Canadian forces were instrumental in the liberation of the Netherlands from occupation during World War II. The Netherlands celebrates its independence and liberty, along with the heroic efforts of the Canadian forces, with a national holiday known as Liberation Day, which takes place annually on May 5th

May 5: Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo is an annual celebration held on May 5, which commemorates the anniversary of Mexico's victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862.

May 9: Mother's Day

Mother's Day was brought to North America after the American Civil War by social activist Julia Ward Howe in an effort to unite all women against war. Though unsuccessful, her daughter, Anna Jarvis started the movement to found a memorial day for women. The first Mother's Day in the United States was celebrated on May 10, 1908, and was declared a national holiday in 1914. It is celebrated in the United States and Canada on the second Sunday in May.

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](#)