



# GL ROBERTS CVI

NEWSLETTER 2022-2023, Volume 1

## Greetings to everyone!

We are excited to welcome back all students to a great start of the new school year! The office staff would like to first welcome our new Vice-Principal, Mrs. Jenine Yellowlees who has joined Mrs. Crosby in supporting a strong start to this school year. Mrs. Yellowlees has been a great fit for GL Roberts CVI as she comes with a background in guidance and technology. Her transition to GL Roberts for the school has been a great one. In addition to Mrs. Yellowlees joining Laker Nation we would also like to welcome our other new staff, Ms. Perez, Mrs. Merlin, Mr. Huynh, Mr. Henderson, Ms. Salmers, Mr. Doxtater, Ms. Burkholder, Ms. Abraham, Mrs. Gardzinski, Mr. Harris, Ms. Henry, Ms. Ellison, Ms. Smulders, Mrs. Millar, and Mrs. Boulding. Collectively they bring a host of skills and expertise that will support our students and their success.



We are so pleased and thankful to ALL staff who are leading and helping with activities/groups that have resumed and are thrilled to see these being enjoyed by GLR students. Again this year we are excited to be offering our affinity groups for students including, Indigenous Circle, Black Student Association, Gender Sexualities Alliance, Muslim Student Association and new this year the Asian Heritage Association. We continue to host various lunch time activities including Intramural sports, Student Council and so much more!

Our SCC meetings have already begun, and we have had the pleasure of meeting already this year. We look forward to providing new opportunities for parents, and will provide more information as it becomes available. The value of parent voice is critical to ensuring partnership between families and school as we support our students and their success.

Lastly, the Character Trait for the month of November at DDSB is "Empathy". It has been proven that an empathetic outlook leads to higher academic achievement, better communication skills and lower likelihood of bullying incidents. As we encourage our students to be empathetic with one another, we are expecting to foster more positive relationships.

*- Mrs. White , Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. Yellowlees*

# WELCOME BACK!

We have completed week one of welcoming back our students. Below are some pictures from our grade 9 day. What a great way to start the year, huge thank you to all staff for all your support.



We are proud to be the [#GLRLakers](#) and we hope this [#SWAG](#) for our Grade 9s helps them feel proud to become part of our [#Laker](#) family & community!

## RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS!

Here at G.L. Roberts, we like to acknowledge students who work hard and go the 'extra mile' in their efforts and actions. Our staff members nominate students and three recipients are chosen twice a semester who exemplify respect, responsibility and excellence. We are proud to announce our first set of winners!

### RESPECT

#### Rayleah Jones-Sheard

Rayleeah is always very polite and respectful to her peers and her teachers. She is very helpful in class and supportive to her other classmates when in need.



### RESPONSIBILITY

#### Aidan Paul

Aidan has been doing a great job with his work placement! He works hard, listens well, is polite to everyone, and has received wonderful feedback from their manager. Aidan is also very helpful in class!



### EXCELLENCE

#### Alice Miranda

Alice has been working very hard to earn an excellent mark in their biology course! They complete their assignments exceptionally well and ask questions for descriptive feedback to drive future improvements. Alice also is quick to help others when in need!



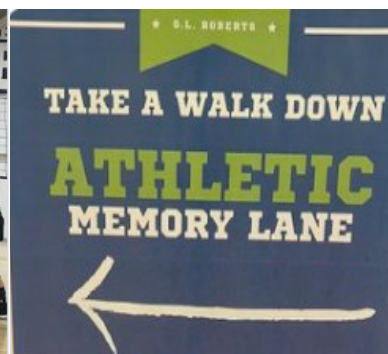




**What an amazing weekend of festivities as we celebrated 50 years of GL Roberts excellence.** It was such a memorable experience to be able to share this celebration with the first Principal of GL Roberts, Chuck Powers, and so amazing to listen to the stories from 50, 25 or even 5 years ago; To hear how “this teacher was so caring” and how “that teacher did this”, and “I remember when Mr. Powers caught me doing that...”. It was wonderful to listen to the journeys down memory lane that could be heard throughout the halls and the gratitude for that special teacher who made a difference. It was these moments that made all the work worth it.

Thank you to Chief Kelly LaRocca, Trustee Carolyn Morton, Director Norah Marsh and Superintendent Jack Nigro for attending our events and supporting us throughout this entire process – the GL Roberts community is grateful for your continued support. Sincere appreciation to so many who helped make this weekend a success, in true Laker fashion.

A big shout-out to all our student and staff volunteers, who represented the school, and to all our community donors who helped make this weekend even more special, and who’s generosity will continue to help GL Roberts flourish!





# 50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS



From cake to food trucks, plant sales, alumni volleyball and basketball tournaments, decade rooms and a silent auction, GLR's open house celebrating the 50th Anniversary was a long time in the planning. Alumni reunited to share memories and make new ones, enjoying the days events and a spectacular Tribute Centre Social.



## A Walk through the Decades...





# A TASTE OF TRADES

What did you do this summer? Taste of the Trades ran a Camp joint venture with GL & Anderson CVI. [#SHSM](#) & [#OYAP](#) Our FOS - Gr. 8 & 9s explored the trades with guest speaker, SHSH facilitator Jillian Broadley. Thanks to Mr. Patterson & Mr. Melnichuk for facilitating. What a great hands-on learning experience.



## SKILLED TRADES

[#Lakers](#) helping each other this week

One student repaired and serviced this bike for the other student! Good will and using our learned skills to support one another. Well Done Lakers! This is what we like to see.



## DECA

Ms. Petric led GLR's DECA executive members in the leadership conference at the DECA fall symposium. Over 500 students from across Ontario attended this event. Students heard from a guest speaker, met members from other schools in DDSB and practiced networking. Students will learn more about business, solving problems in case studies and presenting their solutions to a "judge" in a one-on-one role play as they participate in DECA. Stay tuned for our first competition in November!



# ORANGE SHIRT DAY



Since 2013, Orange Shirt Day has been recognized as a day for schools and communities to commemorate Residential School Survivors and learn about the legacy of the residential school system. We ask that you please take a moment to view the Orange Shirt Day Presentation by Phyllis (Jack) Webstad; her story in her own words. ([Phyllis Webstad Orange Shirt Day Presentation.mp4](#)).

Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity for schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation to commemorate and recognize Residential School Survivors. Phyllis (Jack) Webstad's story recalls her 1973 placement in a residential school. Her grandmother had purchased a new orange shirt for Phyllis to wear her first day at the Mission school. Sadly, when Phyllis got to the Mission, her clothes were taken and she never saw the orange shirt again. Phyllis felt like her feelings didn't matter and that no one cared. She has been on a healing journey since childhood and tells her story so that others might benefit and understand.

## Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Since last year, September 30 has also been recognized by the federal government as the annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is important to recognize and understand the lasting impacts and current realities that continue to impact indigenous students and families. Every one of us has a responsibility to reflect upon our role in reconciliation with Indigenous peoples by educating ourselves on Indigenous history, the legacy of systemic discrimination, the residential school systems, and the ongoing impacts. To mark this day, we have compiled a collection of resources to encourage individual and collective learning, reflection, and action regarding the legacy of the residential school system and the ongoing impacts of colonization. Thank you to all for taking the time to learn more and commit to action.

### Articles/Documents

[Reconciliation Means Not Having to Say Sorry a Second Time: Conversation with CINDY Blackstock, First NATIONS Child and FAMILY Caring Society.](#)

[Whose Land Is It Anyway? A Manual for Decolonization](#)

[United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)

### Websites

[TRC Website](#)

[CBC News, Beyond 94: Truth and Reconciliation in Canada](#)

[#LandBack: What Does It Mean & How Do You Enact It?"](#)

### Videos

[In Our Words FNMIEAO Video](#)

[Colonization Road](#)

[How to Change Systemic Racism in Canada](#)

[Is it really genocide? In Canada?](#)

### Books

- *Seven Fallen Feathers* – Tanya Talaga
- *All Our Relations* – Tanya Talaga
- *Indigenous Writes* – Chelsea Vowel
- *Reconciliation Manifesto*– Arthur Manuel
- *Unsettling Canada*- Arthur Manuel and Ronald Derrickson





# STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS



**Miigwetch to Chief Kelly Larocca**, of @MSIFN, a GLR Alumnus, for sharing with the staff of GLR and Eastdale to help us in our journey as educators toward Respect, Relevance, Reciprocity, & Responsibility.



GLR's Laker Nation was inspired and proud to celebrate the new Mural that was erected in the Pit this past summer recognizing Black Excellence.



In November we had our first official Black Student Association lunch. Reshida Barrell, an employment lawyer, joined us and shared her journey to achieve her goals and realize her dreams. Students were able to ask questions and learn from Reshida's wealth of experience.

**The next BSA lunch will take place on Thurs. Dec. 1 in room 209. New members are always welcome!**



## First Nation/Metis/Inuit Voice

Ms. Hackett's NVE classes had a great time in November at the Nonquon Outdoor Education Centre, participating in active learning and enjoying the outdoors.





# OYAP CAREERS

Ms. Petric's Women in the World club members and Ms. Till's Grade 12 Hairstyling class attended Dreamer Day in Toronto to celebrate the international day of the girl. The event included panels and speakers discussing female empowerment and advocating for girls to enter careers that are traditionally occupied by men. These careers include skilled trades, STEAM, business and leadership. The event also had booths advertising trades and allowing girls to see themselves in different roles like paramedic and firefighter! The day ended with a performance by tiktok artist Jax! The girls had a great time and it was all possible thanks for funding from DDSB and OYAP.



## COVID-19 SCREENING Just a reminder.....

### Students, parents, and school staff

Answer a few questions before leaving for school.

To help decide if you should or should not go to school today.



covid-19.ontario.ca

### Screening Questions:

Are students currently experiencing any of these symptoms:

Fever/chills	Decreased smell/taste
Cough/barking cough	Shortness of breath
Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea	

Durhamhealth@stopthespreadosh



# REMEMBRANCE



In Memorium November 11th

*By J. Colvin*

The drum beat it calls out  
Beckoning them in  
A thousand feet are marching  
Their freedom they must win

Their loved ones wave their hankies  
Love and pride abound  
Their fears buried deeply  
Till no-one is around

Unknowing what awaits them  
They must do their part  
Looking for an ending  
To a fight they didn't start

The days are long and lonely  
The nights are filled with tears  
Yet bravely they face the enemy  
And battle back their fears

The blood around them flowing  
The bodies piling high  
Voices call out for loved ones  
When their end is nigh

Children lose their parents  
Parents lose their sons  
Daughters too are buried  
Before the wars are done

Yet as their country needs them  
The soldiers all unite  
Another day, another country  
And another person's fight

Bravely they march onward  
To defend our rights and liberties  
We remember all of these heroes  
And hope that they find peace





# GLR ATHLETICS

## Cross Country

This year's cross country team began training just as the school year began. The athletes competed in several meets with hundreds of other runners from across the province! Through hard work and early morning practices, they all were able to improve their times. We are looking forward to building our team next September!



## Senior Girls Basketball



The senior girls have been working hard at improving their skills this year and are currently in second place in their LOSSA league. Their playoffs start this week and finals are on Thursday November 17th. Team members include: Vanessa Alfaro, Emilee Dupuis, Scharla Green, Kimona Brown, Kyra Burns, Sophia Guiterrez, Atandwa Jones, Dania La Touche, Jayla Hewitt, Hoda Dawodi and Hafsa Umair. Coached by Mr. Henderson and Ms. Salmers. Keep it up!

## Senior Boy's Basketball

The boys have had a great regular season, beating most of the double A schools in their league. They are ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> going into playoffs this week. Quarterfinals and semi-finals are Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at Durham Christian. We wish the boys good luck this week! Team members included: Conner Adams, Evan Baumhour, Noah Hart, Janoy Jenkins, Malakai Kerr, Jonah MacDonald, William Nevills, Nikola Tan, Christian Moores, Ethan Johnson-Kitchemokman, Anthony Johnson-Kitchemokman and Devonte Hall. Coached by: Ms. Beresford and Ms. Till.





# MUSIC

Congratulations to our choir, band and guitar club on their first few performances of the year! All three groups performed at the opening ceremony for GL's 50th anniversary celebration on October 22nd. Our choir and guitar club performed 'O Canada' while the band performed pieces during both the processional and recessional of the stage party. First, the band performed 'Rising Star' by Samuel R. Hazo, a nod to the efforts of the founding staff and the prospect of opening a new school. 'Thunderous' by Victor López and 'Panther Rising' by Michael Sweeney were heard as the finale to the ceremony boisterously emphasizing the current Laker spirit. A spirit of celebrating our school unapologetically with a focus on what's to come next as we keep rising.



On Halloween, the music students put on a **spooktacular** lunch-time concert for their peers which included choir and guitar club performing the Cranberries' hit 'Zombie'. Choir sang 'Aw, Poor Bird' performing in four parts for the first time. Band performed a Canadian original 'Haunting of Keg Mansion' inspired by the haunted Keg Restaurant in the former Euclid Hall in Toronto. We finished the day with a Halloween Social to celebrate our successful first concert.



Thank you to the GL staff and students for supporting our music groups at our performances so far. We are looking forward to our feeder school visits later this month and our Winterlude concert scheduled for Thursday, December 8th at 7PM.





# COMFORT FOODS

Hospitality students have demonstrated a very high level of culinary excellence this semester. Grade 9 students are learning baking skills: cookies, brownies, pizza and garlic toast.



Chef Mike's Class welcomed Fall by Baking Brownies and Cookies.



Grade 11 students are developing their skills for quick breads, eclairs, marinara sauce and other bakeshop recipes. Way to go guys, Chef Mike is very impressed!



Learning about Shishito Peppers in TIJ101 (Grade 9 Exploring Technologies) class, today at G.L. Roberts C.V.I.





# GUIDANCE NEWS



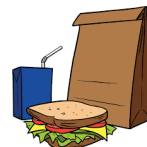
- Please welcome Ms. LeReverend to the Guidance department! Ms. LeReverend is our new Guidance Secretary and has quickly become an important part of the Guidance department.

- Our Annual **Student Awards Ceremony** took place on Wednesday, November 2nd. Recipients were students who were recognized by their subject teacher for an “**Award of Excellence**” and/or met the **Honour Roll** criteria (80% or over average) during the 2021-2022 school year. Thanks to the family and friends who joined us in honouring the hard work and perseverance of our Lakers. Congratulations to all the recipients! **Keep up the good work!**



- On Wednesday, November 2, many of our Grade 9 students participated in the annual “**Take Our Kids to Work Day**”. We hope that they had a wonderful day learning about the world of work.
- The Guidance department has been hosting **Lunch ‘n’ Learns** since September to help **students prepare resumes, search for part time jobs and practice their job interview skills**. Students can sign up using the Google Form available on the Guidance Google Classroom.

- Guidance has also hosted **Lunch ‘n’ Learns for senior students**, to help them **prepare for their next steps in their post-secondary pathway**. In September we discussed how to research programs, in November we’ll be discussing how to fund your education. In December, we will be reviewing how to apply to post secondary institutions. Students can sign up using the Google Form on the Guidance Google Classroom.



- Students should ensure they are **checking the Guidance Google Classroom to learn about upcoming opportunities**. Guidance has provided multiple opportunities so far, including filming for Fleming Fridays, creating content to celebrate G.L. Roberts C.V.I. 50th anniversary, teacher conferences, helping a community member with yard work, as well as posting links, on the **Guidance Google Classroom, for our students to find opportunities within the community**.

- On Tuesday October 25th, the Guidance department took senior students to Fleming College to participate in the **College Information Program**. This trip provided students to explore programs and gather information about Ontario colleges.

- On Thursday October 27th, some of our students attended the **Level Up Skilled Trades Career Fair** in Mississauga. This event provided students with the opportunity to explore different careers in the Skilled Trades, experiment with hands-on learning and tasks, and professionals in the industries to answer questions.



- We held **Teacher Conferences** on Thursday October 13th and Monday October 24th. We appreciate all the parents, guardians and families who attended to discuss their student’s success in their classes.



## College & University Information



Colleges and Universities are hosting Open Houses now! We encourage our students to attend these Open Houses to explore the campuses, learn about programs, and help determine if they are interested in applying to specific institutions and/or programs.

The Guidance department has organized and planned several opportunities for senior students to meet with postsecondary representatives. These sessions are listed on the **Guidance Google Classroom**. **Students need to sign up prior to the session** and will be provided the opportunity to learn about programming and ask questions about their postsecondary pathway choices.

Ms. Hudgin, Head of Guidance, has been busy visiting Grade 12 English classes to discuss with our students the process for applying to postsecondary institutions. Students are encouraged to visit with Ms. Hudgin, during lunch, in Guidance if they require additional support.

**In December, we will be welcoming some of our recent graduates to discuss their learning journey, after high school, with our senior students. Please check the Guidance Google Classroom for information regarding this opportunity.**

**Looking for free money to help fund your future schooling?** **Scholarships and Bursaries** are posted regularly on the Guidance Google Classroom. Additionally, students are encouraged to speak with Guidance about how to access the Trade Report, a digital resource for Ontario students, to help them learn about potential scholarships that are available.

## University and College Applications

College students are encouraged to go to [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) to begin their online application. The **deadline to complete and pay for your application is February 1st, 2023**, to receive equal consideration for admission into programs. It is highly recommended that students complete their college application with their payment well before the **February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023** deadline.

Students interested in pursuing University need to be aware that, in November, students will receive their individual OUAC pin numbers, which allows them to proceed to [www.ouac.ca](http://www.ouac.ca) to begin their online application. Ms. Hudgin will be working with University-bound students to provide their OUAC pin number and explain the application process. Students applying to university must have 6 4U credits, to be eligible to apply. Application deadline for Ontario Universities is **Thursday January 12th**. Once again, it is highly recommended that students complete their university application with their payment well before the **January 12, 2022** deadline.



## Individual Pathway Planning (IPP)

Ms. Hart has been posting tasks on the Guidance Google Classroom to help students explore, reflect and consider their Individual Pathway Plans (IPP), and next steps. Completion of the IPP is a [Ministry of Education](#) directive with the purpose of, "career/life planning program designed to help students achieve their personal goals and become competent, successful, and contributing members of society. This is a whole-school program delivered through classroom instruction linked to the curriculum and through broader school programs and activities." Life success can be greatly improved by planning and goal setting and that is the purpose of our students visiting and completing the My Blueprint tasks. Our goal at G.L. Roberts is that each of our students graduate high school, leave with confidence, and have a clear plan for their initial post-secondary destination; whether it be the apprenticeship, college, university, or the workplace. Once these tasks are completed, students are invited to book a one-on-one appointment with Guidance to discuss their plans and next steps.



## Community Involvement (Volunteer) Hours

As part of the Ministry of Education requirements to graduate with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, students must:



- Earn 30 credits (combination of compulsory and elective course)
- Successfully complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), or the equivalent Ontario Literacy Course (OLC401)
- Successfully complete 2 eLearning courses

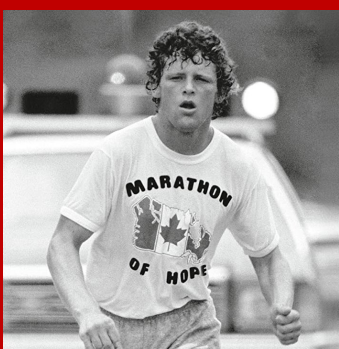
**Earn 40 hours of Community Involvement.** This is the minimum requirement and can be broken down to earning 10 hours per year of high school. However, students are encouraged to earn more than the minimum requirement, as studies have shown that volunteering can help counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety.

### Friendly Reminders

- Please ensure your student has joined our **Guidance Google Classroom**. Students should join the online classroom to keep up to date with events, news and opportunities available through Guidance. Did you know that you can change the Settings, so that you can receive alerts when new information is posted?
- Parents/Guardians can join their student's myBlueprint account. We encourage families to participate in their student's Individual Pathway Plan, by discussing course selections, postsecondary plans, areas of

## LOVE OF READING

Great way to end a week! Ms. Hackett hosted a book tasting in ENG 1D1. You could hear a pin drop except for the occasional, "this looks so good" or "I'm reading this first." Several have picked their first read already and everyone had at least one YES on the sheet. [#SelfSelectedReading](#)



"Nobody is ever going to call me a quitter" Terry Fox

## TERRY FOX

Laker Nation participated in our Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 23rd.

"I set daily goals for myself, & it's really important that I achieve them. I need to have a daily sense of accomplishment." Terry Fox

Terry was an example of courage, humility, determination, and perseverance.



NOW CANADA-WIDE!

Black Youth Helpline is pleased to announce that our STAY-IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM & SUPPORT SERVICES for Canadian Youth is available Canada-wide!

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## BUSSING UPDATE



### Secondary School Bus Cancellations

With colder temperatures approaching, we are sharing information on how the DDSB is handling the cancellation of buses due to winter weather in order to ensure everyone remains safe.

In the event that transportation services are cancelled due to inclement weather, secondary schools located within the affected cancellation zone(s) will switch to a virtual learning day for all students. **All secondary students will be required to stay at home.** Students will be taught virtually in RealTime by their teacher with the exception of the “Study Hall” period where students will be supported through FlexTime (asynchronous) learning. If any students arrive at school, we will ensure that they can return home safely.

#### How will I be notified if transportation services are cancelled and/or schools are closed?

Families will be notified as soon as possible (no later than 7:00am) through a posting on the DDSB website, social media and where possible, through local radio stations.

#### What zone am I in?

**Students at GL Roberts are in Zone 4.**



## Ignite Durham Learning Foundation

The Ignite Durham Learning Foundation is a charitable community organization that supports DDSB students facing financial barriers to success. It could be a student that doesn't come to school on cold days because they don't have a winter coat, or a child who can't concentrate in class because they're hungry. There are countless ways that poverty shows up in Durham schools and creates barriers to learning. The Durham District School board is responding to the challenge with this new foundation that now has charitable status. Donations can be made online at [ignitedurhamlearningfoundation.ddsb.ca](https://ignitedurhamlearningfoundation.ddsb.ca).



# CHROMEBOOK SUPPORT MESSAGES

Students learning *in-person* should report any Chromebook or other device damage to their teacher. From there, the teacher should generate a help ticket and direct the student to the main office for the LAN Technician to assess the device and plan a repair/replacement strategy. The LAN Tech is available to support students from **9am to 1pm in Tech HUB Tuesdays, Thursdays and alternate Fridays**. While student devices are being fixed, they may borrow a temporary replacement for use while in the school from the Library. Intentional damage to DDSB assigned devices may result in an invoice which will require repayment. Parents of students enrolled in **DDSB@Home** in Grade K-6, please note that a DDSB device is not required as any web-enabled device can be used to access DDSB@Home lessons and resources. DDSB@Home students and parents can access troubleshooting tips by visiting DDSB@Home Elementary or DDSB@Home Secondary websites. If the problem persists, students should report their device to their teacher. From there, schools will submit an IT Incident as per the standard process. The family will be contacted via email to book an appointment for a curb-side swap at the Education Centre.



## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

Tentative Tech Support Days—Wednesday/Thursday/Alternate Fridays:

### *Dates to Remember*

Friday, December 23—Holiday Break Begins  
Monday, January 9—Classes Resume  
January 25—February 1—Formal Exams  
Thursday, February 2—Credit Completion Day  
Friday, February 3—Semester 2 begins  
Thursday, January 12—University Application Deadline  
Thursday, January 19—tentative Gr. 8 Transition Night  
Friday, February 17—Professional Priority Day  
Monday, February 20—Family Day Holiday  
Tuesday, March 7—Career Day  
March 10—17—March Break (no classes)  
Friday, April 7—Good Friday (no classes)  
Monday, April 10—Easter Monday (no classes)  
Wednesday, April 19—Semester 2 Term 2 Begins  
Monday, May 22—Victoria Day Holiday (no classes)  
June 21—27—Formal Exams  
Wednesday, June 28—Commencement  
Thursday June 29—Professional Priority Day  
Friday, June 30—Professional Priority Day



**BELL TIMES  
@GLR**

### WEEK1 SCHEDULE

Period 1: 9:30-10:50  
Period 2: 10:55-12:10  
LUNCH: 12:10-12:55  
Period 3: 12:55-2:10  
Period 4: 2:15-3:30

We would like to recognize the gracious donations supporting our Student Breakfast and Lunch programs. Sincere thanks for your generosity....**Cobs Bakery, Durham Child Nutrition, Peterborough Child Nutrition, the Ignite Learning Foundation and Food Hub, and Independent Community Donors.**