

September 2019

# Viola Desmond Public School

## Mid Month Update



### VIOLA DESMOND MUSIC NEWS

The music department at Viola Desmond P.S. is back in full-swing this fall. **Mrs. Bennett** has been working hard getting the music room ready and organized for our grade 6 to 8 students. There are many ways in which students can become involved in our Viola Desmond musical groups. Here are a few examples of the opportunities that will be available this year in the music room.



**Grade 7/8 Concert Band:** Open to grade 8 and grade 7 students who are adept at their instrument (Mondays at lunch to start, and then will include Wednesday after Thanksgiving weekend).

**Grade 7 Band:** A beginning group for grade 7 students who are still learning the basics, but want to be part of a musical group. (Tuesday at lunch)

**The Viola Desmond Choir (The VDC) for grades 4-8:** Open to any students in grades 4 to 8 that enjoy singing, and want to be part of a busy and dedicated group. (Thursday at lunch).

As the year progresses, other opportunities will arise, such as a Bucket Drumming group and Jazz Band. Joining these groups is a commitment, as regular attendance is expected, but it is well worth the effort! Kids in musical groups make connections, do well in music class and develop discipline and commitment.

We also welcome to our school **Mrs. Giles**, who is responsible for teaching some of our younger grades. Here is her message:

*"I am excited to be joining Viola Desmond Public School to teach music to some of our youngest Defenders! During music classes students experience and explore the elements of music through singing, playing instruments, listening, moving and creating. Activities and musical games, support multi-sensory learning that makes learning fun!"*

*Primary students will have the opportunity to join our Primary Choir at lunch recess beginning mid October on Day 5. More information will be sent home closer to this time.*

*It is my hope to build upon your child's enthusiasm, and confidence while laying the groundwork for a lifelong appreciation of music.*

*I wish everyone a successful year of learning!"*

If you have any questions about these opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Bennett or Mrs. Giles.

39 Formosa Avenue East  
Ajax, Ontario L1Z 0M6  
T: (905) 619-7400  
F: (905) 619-7402

Principal: Jennifer Brusselers  
Vice Principal: Tina Thomas  
Administrative Assistants:  
Deb Gill and Mary Hindle

Superintendent:  
Mohamed Hamid (905) 666-6486

Area Officer:  
Julia Blizzard (905) 666-5500

Trustee:  
Patrice Barnes (905) 666-5500

#### Bell Times:

**Start**— 8:40 a.m.

**Lunch**—11:25—12:25 p.m.

**Dismissal**—3:10 p.m.

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**September 26, 2019**

**Meet the Teacher Night and  
Book Fair**

**5:30—6:30 p.m.**

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All proceeds benefit our school!

# Book Fair!

Debit & Credit Card Payment Available!

Viola Desmond P.S. Book Fair Hours:

Tuesday, Sept. 24th: 9am-3pm

Wednesday, Sept. 25th: 9am-3pm

Thursday, Sept. 26th: 9am-3pm & 6:30pm-7:30pm

Friday, Sept. 27th: 9am-3pm

Adorable erasers!

Books for all ages!

Cool technology!

Latest titles!

## Community Events



**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 5, 2019**

**1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**BOLTON C. FALBY  
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

80 FALBY CT, AJAX, ON L1S 1N4



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[www.dben.org](http://www.dben.org)**

DURHAM BLACK EDUCATORS' NETWORK presents  
The Engaged Village, Parent, Caregiver and Student Conference.

This initiative recognizes the many ways that parents, the community, and a child's entire village, partner with schools to ensure successful outcomes. We seek to reinforce Durham District School Board's Action Plan outlined in the Compendium of Action for Black Student Success.

**Youth Engagement (1:00 – 2:00 pm) Choice of:**

- Youth Empowerment through the Arts – Spoken Word/Vocal Performances
- Panel discussion highlighting Parents' / Caregivers' and Students' experiences within the Education system
- Bursary / Scholarship writing workshop

**Special Musical Interludes**

**Keynote Presentation (2:20 – 3:20 pm) – Kike Ojo, KOJO Institute**

**Sessions for Parents' / Caregivers' and Students' (3:40 – 4:45 pm) Choice of:**

- Role of the Trustee
- Building relationships and advocating for your child
- The Culturally Responsive and Relevant Classroom
- Inclusive student advocacy; The Individual Education Plan
- Black Identity and Intersections; getting support for your child



# THE ENGAGED VILLAGE

PARENT, CAREGIVER & STUDENT CONFERENCE

Recognizing the many ways that parents, caregivers, the community, and a child's entire village, partner with schools to ensure successful outcomes



Keynote: Kike Ojo, Kojo Institute



Donald McLeod & Dale Brown  
Special Guest Appearances

Navigating the Education System

Understanding Culturally Responsive and Relevant Practices

Funding Your Future

Sessions Offered



Youth Arts Performances

Supporting the academic success and well-being of Black children JK - 12



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80 FALBY CT, AJAX, ON L1S 1N4

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