

The Grove

THE LATEST NEWS, EVENTS, AND UPDATES FROM NEWTON'S GROVE SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we move into March, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what has been an outstanding term across our school community.

Over the past month, our students have demonstrated remarkable growth and achievement - academically, athletically, and artistically - showcasing not only their talents, but also their determination, creativity, and commitment to excellence. This edition of The Grove highlights just a small sampling of the many successes we have celebrated together.

From inspiring classroom learning and competitive athletic accomplishments to vibrant performances and artistic expression, our students continue to make us incredibly proud.

That said, no single newsletter could ever fully capture the breadth of accomplishments taking place each day at NGS. Countless moments of learning, leadership, kindness, and discovery happen daily - many of which unfold quietly but meaningfully in classrooms, music studios, on the court, and shared spaces throughout our school.

Thank you for being such an important part of this thriving community. We hope you enjoy this glimpse into the energy, spirit, and achievements that have defined our term so far.

Parenting for Connection and Resilience Workshop!

We are delighted to invite you to a parent workshop on Tuesday, March 31st just after morning drop-off. This engaging opportunity is open to all parents and guardians, as well as our Book Club members.

Over the past two years, many of our families have come together to explore important conversations inspired by *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt and *The Emotional Lives of Teenagers* by Lisa Damour. These shared readings have sparked thoughtful dialogue around parenting, adolescent development, and the evolving challenges facing young people today.

Last year, we welcomed Margot Denommé for a Coffee and Conversation focused on the impact of social media on our children - a meaningful discussion that resonated deeply within our community. This year, we are excited to continue and expand this important dialogue with Clare Barron and Shiela Howe from Talk Listen Connect.

Please find workshop details and presenter bios below:

This workshop will support parents in building stronger, healthier connections with their children while navigating the challenges of stress, social pressures, and growing independence. We will explore the importance of having tough conversations with our kids - without overwhelming or bombarding them - so communication stays open and supportive. Participants will gain insight into the difference between internal and external stressors to better appreciate why their child responds the way they do and how stress, when managed well, can be empowering and growth-building. We will also address the impact of social media and help parents identify realistic, healthy boundaries that work for their family. With humour woven throughout, the workshop will create a safe and relatable space to reflect on parenting challenges.

[Click here for workshop registration](#)



Claire Barron

Claire Barron has a Master's in Education in curriculum development from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). As a trauma informed educator, she began her training as a group facilitator while working as a teacher and in guidance over 30 years ago and has since written social-emotional learning curriculum and designed stress management programs for many organizations. In addition to having led hundreds of groups over the years, Claire has trained over 50 facilitators in the Talk Listen Connect model. In addition, Claire has been a teacher at UCC, Branksome Hall and St. John's Kilmarnock and is presently the Director of Education and Learning at Park Street Education.

Sheila Howe

Sheila Howe completed her Education degree at the University of Wollongong in NSW, Australia. Sheila is a dedicated educator and community builder with 17 years of experience teaching in elementary and intermediate schools across Canada (Havergal College, Saskatoon Public Schools, The York House School in Vancouver and Ottawa Carleton School Board). She has also led community engagement and training initiatives at lululemon, always focused on creating spaces of connection and belonging. With a strong background in mentorship and coaching, and a passion for meeting people where they are, Sheila has proudly cemented her dedication to local and nationwide community partnerships like the Motionball for the Special Olympics, St John's Ambulance Pet Therapy Programs and Park Street Education.



Ontario DECA Provincial Competition

DECA is an international organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. At the provincial level, Ontario DECA provides high school students with the opportunity to compete in business-focused events that develop critical thinking, professionalism, and real-world problem-solving skills. The annual provincial competition brings together thousands of students from across Ontario to showcase their knowledge through written exams, case studies, and presentations evaluated by industry professionals.

While all participants performed admirably, three students earned special recognition for their outstanding results on the written examination:

- **Isabella T**– Top 10 Placement
- **Dylan P**– Top 10 Placement
- **Harkirat V**– Top 15th Placemen

We are incredibly proud of all nine competitors for representing our school with their academic excellence and professionalism.



Youth TEDx!

We are super proud to announce that we have officially 8 Youth Tedx'ers' at NGS. Click on the links below to hear what the students had to say about the question: "What will the future look like in 10 years". Their insights are incredibly thought provoking and engaging!

Click here to watch our students in action!

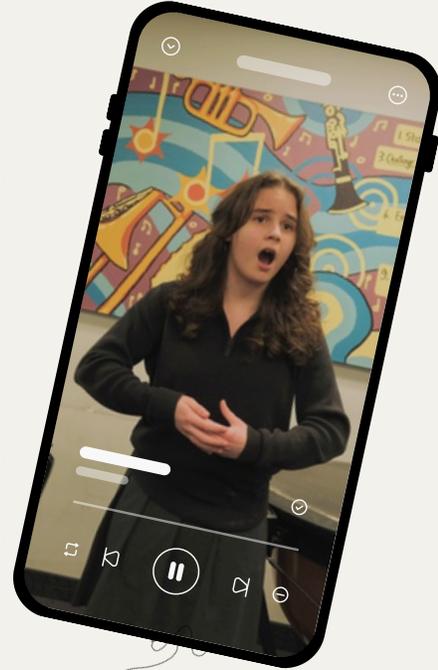
- [KISMET](#)
 [HARVIR](#)
 [ISABELLA](#)
 [DYLAN](#)
 [RITA](#)
- [SFIYAH.](#)
 [HALA.](#)
 [ARIANA](#)





A Voice to Watch: An Extraordinary Year on Stage

We are thrilled to celebrate Grade 8 student Lee, who is having an exceptional year of musical achievement. Lee has been selected for the prestigious Carnegie Hall Honors Performance Series (Vocal)! She is the first student from our program ever chosen for the vocal series. This remarkable honour comes through a highly competitive international audition process, bringing together outstanding young singers from around the world to perform on one of the most iconic stages in existence. Lee is also a member of the renowned Canadian Children's Opera Company (CCOC) and has been cast as the Queen of Hearts in their upcoming production of Alice in Wonderland, presented March 5–8, 2026 at the Fleck Theatre at Harbourfront Centre. To hold such a prominent role with a company of this calibre speaks volumes about Lee's talent, dedication, and stage presence. We have all seen this already! We are incredibly proud of her accomplishments and so happy to celebrate this milestone, especially alongside her brother Jaymes, whom you just read about!



Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra

We are incredibly proud that six of our students: Nandini, Maya, Tanak, Jaymes, Harleen, Sophie, and Stanley, along with two alumni, all who are members of the Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra (TYWO), one of Canada's premier youth wind ensembles. Admission is highly competitive, and members perform at an extraordinary artistic level under the direction of world-renowned conductor Colin Clark. These musicians have been performing all year. Our amazing musicians who participated in the 35th Anniversary of the Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra last Sunday at the Meridian Centre for the Performing Arts.

A special congratulations to Maya who was the English Horn soloist with the Symphonic Winds!



Girls Volleyball at NGS!

Congratulations to our U20 Girls Volleyball Team for winning the Gold Medal at the SSAF Championship last week! Coaches Mr. Zero and Ms. Myles were so proud of their hard work and dedication!



Congrats to the U14 Girls Volleyball Team for their Silver Medal finish at the SSAF Championships! Coaches Ms. Meister and Ms. Francis are so proud of each player for their team spirit and collaboration as a team!

Student HIGHLIGHTS!

Carnegie Hall Honours Performance Series - An Extraordinary Honour



We are incredibly proud to share that five of our high school musicians - Jaymes, Salma, Harleen, and Sfiya and Kismet - were selected for the prestigious Carnegie Hall Honours Performance Series. This is a remarkable achievement earned through a highly competitive international audition process. Students are chosen from across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia, making this one of the most distinguished opportunities available to young musicians.

Two of our students, Jaymes and Salma, have just returned from New York City, where they performed with an international ensemble in the legendary Carnegie Hall. Salma, our clarinetist, was selected as Principal Clarinet out of all participating clarinetists and performed multiple solo passages with the orchestra - an exceptional honour that speaks to her outstanding talent and leadership.

Scholastic Art and Writing Contest

Congratulations to Ganeeve and Reeya on their achievement in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Reeya received a Gold Key for her experimental photography - the highest regional honour, awarded to the most outstanding and technically accomplished works.

Ganeeve earned a Silver Key for her writing piece "Selling Suffering: How Romanticizing Teen Angst Turns Pain into a Trend," along with an Honourable Mention in the same competition.

We're proud to see their creativity and voice recognized at this level.





Science Fair is Happening at the Etobicoke Early Years Campus too!

At the Etobicoke Early Years Campus, the classroom has turned into a mini science lab! For this year's Science Fair, the students are exploring a big question: *What do plants really need to grow their best?* They are caring for three plants, each given different conditions. One plant receives both sunlight and water, another gets water but no sunlight, and the third gets sunlight but no water. Every few days, students check and document the plants and the changes they notice. The excitement is building!! And they have already seen a significant difference in their plants! This hands-on experiment has sparked so many thoughtful predictions, observations, and conversations. Our young scientists are learning that even small changes can make a big impact. They can't wait to reveal which plant thrives the most!



Congratulations to **Mr. Amir Derayatifar** who will be presenting, as a teacher from NGS, at the next ISOMA conference on April 16th, hosted by Appleby College!! He is amongst an esteemed group of presenters from well-known private schools across the GTA (BSS, UCC, St. Clements, to mention only a few). He will be talking about math anxiety, students' attention spans, and how AI can help us tackle these issues more effectively. Please see the excerpt from the Conference Brochure outlining his session:

A5 – The Dopamine Dilemma:
Math Anxiety, Attention, and
Learning with AI Support

Amir Derayatifar
Newton's Grove School

This session examines how math anxiety and low attention impact learning in Grades 9 and 12 math classrooms and how dopamine and cognitive load influence student engagement. Through concrete classroom examples, routines, and assessment strategies, the presentation demonstrates how AI-supported tools can be used to increase focus, reduce anxiety, and help students re-engage with mathematical thinking—without lowering rigor or replacing effective teaching.

inspired Education Announcements!

We are thrilled to share some exciting news - our very first student is embarking on an exchange to an Inspired partner school! Sfiyah, presently in Grade 10, will be heading to the Australian International School (AIS) in Thum Thiem, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for 6 weeks at the start of the next school year. She will be spending six weeks at AIS, fully immersed in the school and its vibrant culture.

We can't wait to follow Sfiyah's adventures and hear all about her experiences when she returns. Bon voyage, Sfiyah!

Should you want to learn more about the Inspired Exchanges, please reach out to me directly (cgrogan@newtonsgroveschool.com) or [click here](#) to learn more on the website!



Inspired Global Camps: A summer that changes everything

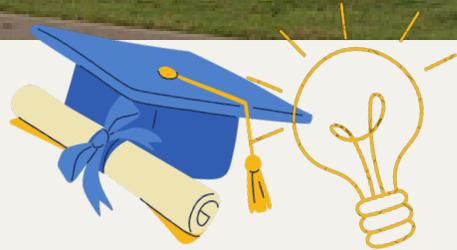
Don't miss out on the incredible opportunities offered by Inspired Education through their Global Summer Camps!

Your child (and family if you like) could travel to the King's College in the Bahamas and experience "Marine Science and Leadership", or how about travelling to Milan for an immersive camp experience in "Art and Culture" or perhaps travel to Sotogrande School in Spain to experience tennis, golf or horseback riding camp - just to name a few of the opportunities! Be sure to [click here](#) to learn more about the 9 Global Camp experiences around the world!





Nsouli Scholars Programme



Newton's Grove School and Inspired Education has announced the launch of the Nsouli Scholars Programme 2026, a scholarship initiative offering fully funded places at its schools to exceptional pupils who would otherwise be unable to access high-quality educational opportunities.

Applications are currently open at <https://inspirededu.com/> and close on May 1, 2026, with successful scholars announced later in May 2026. **Note: Nsouli Scholarships are for students who are NOT presently enrolled in an Inspired School.** The Nsouli Scholars Programme is designed to identify and support high-potential young people with outstanding academic ability and exceptional talent in sport or the performing and creative arts. The programme will award full day or boarding scholarships to pupils joining one of Inspired's schools from September 2026, building on the group's existing robust scholarship programmes. The initiative honours Nadim M. Nsouli, Founder, Chairman and CEO of Inspired Education, who established the group in 2013 with the ambition of redefining international private education through a pupil-centred, globally relevant approach.

"The Nsouli Scholars Programme is about opening doors for young people with the talent and drive to succeed, regardless of their background," said Nadim M. Nsouli, Founder, Chairman and CEO of Inspired Education. "By providing access to an Inspired education, we are investing in future leaders who will excel academically, creatively and athletically, and who will go on to make a positive impact in the world."

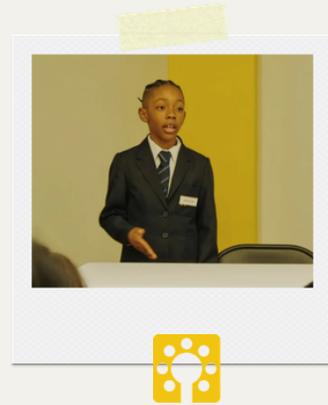
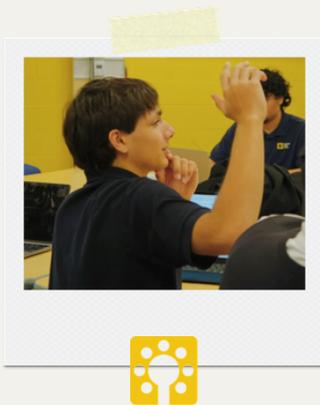
Should you know of a student not presently at Newton's Grove, but know they would be a great fit, please reach out to me at cgrogan@newtonsgroveschool.com. Your insight would be so helpful!

Re-Enrolment Reminder

If you haven't had a chance to complete re-enrolment for your student(s) yet, please log into your Parent Portal and click on the Re-enrolment button.

A quick reminder for our local families that our Early Payment option deadline is April 1st, 2026. Paying tuition in full by this date means you can take advantage of the discount. Of course, should you have any questions or need assistance, you can always reach out to Kim Mellet at kmellet@newtonsgroveschool.com.

Thank you so much for taking care of this promptly, and for being such a wonderful part of our school community!



As we wrap up this edition of the Grove, we are reminded that the achievements highlighted here are just a glimpse of the incredible energy, talent, and dedication that fill our halls every day.

Thank you to our students, faculty, staff and families for making this term truly remarkable. Wishing everyone a restful, joyful, and inspiring March Break - may it be filled with laughter, adventure, and a little time to celebrate all that you've accomplished so far this year! See everyone back at school on Monday, March 23rd!

Warmly,



Cheri Grogan
HEAD OF SCHOOL

Should you have any questions or suggestions, our doors are always open to you!

