



Spring is the Time

Twenty-seven years ago I had the unique experience of studying with a First Nations individual who taught me about energy cycles - or circles - that help to explain our natural energies and how we, as humans, work with them in our lives. There were many circles, and one of them described the seasons of the year. Winter is the time to rejuvenate, just like the hibernation of bears and skunks, we too need time to mentally rejuvenate and recount the past year while thinking about the year to come; it is also a time to sleep and give your mind and body some much needed rest. Spring is the time to reassess, think ahead and prepare for the summer.

Springtime, in the cycle of schools throughout most of the world, is a time when students demonstrate their mental or cognitive skills, and when many final assessments occur. Demonstrating learning is a key component of the education process, students must develop this valuable skill if they are to be successful in their academic endeavours. How a student demonstrates their learning can be done in various ways:

1) **Formative Assessment:** This is when teachers observe students as they work and play to identify their knowledge and skills. This assessment takes place as the student works, therefore there is no formal preparation. Students must be able to communicate their understanding on a continual basis.

2) **Formal Assessment:** For many students, year-end exams and other types of testing occur in the late spring and early summer. Through these assessments, students learn how to demonstrate their learning within a designated amount of time in the writing of a test or exam within a formal setting. Formal evaluations require preparation in content, skills and in knowing how to perform well under pressure.

3) **Contests:** Local, national and international contests typically take place during the spring season. Contests are a type of formal assessment which give students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills within a specific time. Contests are particularly important because students are given the opportunity to test their abilities against a standard that is set much higher than that of their day-school curriculum.

Questions for Parents During Spring Time

Spring is also a time for parents to reflect on, and assess their child's progress, and to determine the opportunities that would be best for their child to lead a successful, enjoyable, and ultimately, a meaningful life.

Six questions parents could ask themselves:

1. How well did my child absorb the required curriculum content?
2. Is my child excelling in any specific area that could be developed even further?
3. Are there any areas of improvement needed?
4. Are any of my child's peers participating in activities or programs that I didn't think of, and would any such activities or programs benefit my child also?
5. Is my child's intellectual, emotional, social and physical well-being balanced and what area(s) do they need to strengthen?
6. Evaluate your own decisions: Do you generally wait until there is a problem before you take action or do you look for opportunities to keep your child ahead of the curve?

Spring is a time to think forward and prepare and ask yourself, "what can I do to provide additional opportunities for my child?". While most parents are just thinking about getting through to the end of the school year, utilize the extra time to assess - with an open mind - then think ahead.

Sincerely,

Kim Langen

Kim Langen | CEO & Co Founder, Spirit of Math

Outstanding Achievements:

Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding accomplishments outside of Spirit of Math:



Siddhant Kharat in the middle.

Siddhant Kharat

Siddhant Kharat, a grade 7 student, along with his teammates won the Excellence Team Work and Robot Skills Award. Currently, Team 1140M - ranks 42nd in the World with 102 Robot Skills and Autonomous (Robot Programming Challenge). Top 50 teams will automatically qualify for the World Championships. Currently, Siddhant's team, Team 1140M ranks 24th in the World.

Mritik Dodla

Mritik Dodla, a Grade 6 student, won 1st Prize in St. Peter's ACHS College School 9th Invitational Chess Tournament, Junior Division 2017.



Lauren Chow



Lauren Chow, a Grade 5 student, has earned 2nd place for her recent speech competition. Her topic was on Electronic Addiction. She has been in the Top 2 spots in each of the last 5 years at RHMS.



Katrina and Samantha

Katrina and Samantha, grade 6 students, have ranked first place in VEX IQ Robotics in Canada. At the Provincial Competition on February 18, 2017, they were #1 in the Skills Competition for Elementary, and received the Create Award for Engineering. They also qualified for The World Robotics Competition taking place in Kentucky in April 2017.

Student Achievements:

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements outside of Spirit of Math:

- Sebastian Assuncao, a grade 7 student, won the Project Presentation Award for the First Lego Team 850 at Runnymede CI to make it to the second round and compete in the Eastern Ontario Provincials at UOIT.
- John Ayad, a grade 3 student, was chosen to be published in the "Sailing" by Polar Expression Contest. His short story is titled "Plants versus Zombies in the Future".
- Parisa Foughi, a grade 2 student, placed in gold, silver and bronze medals on numerous local Taekwondo Tournaments for forms and sparring.
- Anna Gordon, a grade 5 student, passed her grade 8 RCM piano exam with honours.
- Brandon He, a grade 8 student, is a member of the Intermediate Boys Basketball Team at Silverstream Public School. The team won the area championship on Feb 23, 2017.
- Lillian Hou, a grade 2 student, participated in the Skate Canada-Central Ontario Winter Glitters Skating Competition in January 2017 and was awarded the silver standard for Star 2 Freeskate. She also participated in the Kiwanis Music Festival of Greater Toronto, and received 2nd place for Piano Solo-Grade 1-Studies/Etudes.
- Will Hunter, a grade 4 student, won the North Toronto Basketball Association's Kelly Silerstein Award for Good Sportsmanship in the 2007 age group.
- Olivia Kipp, placed 2nd in her grade 7 speech competition at Holly Name of Mary College School. Her Cheerleading team with PCT Cheer also placed 1st in their

Winterfest Competition.

- Chris Kwok, a grade 2 student, received 3 first place gold medals for grade 1 piano in the GTA Pickering Music Festival and was part of a piano festival held on January 30th.
- Alina Ladak, a grade 8 student, has been accepted into the IB program at Bayview Secondary School, beginning in September 2017.
- Darcy Lock, a grade 4 student, from the Richmond Hill North campus, obtained 90% on her Grade 2 RCM piano exam.
- Ishaan Malhotra, a grade 7 student, won the Core Values Award at the First Lego League Tournament in Waterloo.
- William Mao, a grade 3 student, was certified a Red Stripe Belt for Tae Kwon Do, as well as third place on Chinese Writing.
- Alexander Matei, a grade 3 student, has achieved a Tae Kwon Do Green Belt from his martial arts school.
- Siena Mazzotta, a grade 4 student, won 1st prize at the Kiwanis Festival for Beginner Harp.
- Celina Mew, a grade 4 student, achieved RCM Piano Theory 8, First Class Honours with Distinction.
- Jonah Mickelson, a grade 8 student, was recently one of a small number of applicants accepted into The Knowledge Society program and is VP of Forest Hill PS's Student Council.
- Bardia Mojahadi, a grade 1 student, received an award for excellence in Drama and Dance from Doncrest Public School.
- Basile Montagnese, a grade 11 Student, plays defence for the hockey team, Toronto Aero's, who won the Kraft Cup, (first place in league play). Basile also placed 5th in the Deca Provincials along with his partner and will compete in the Deca International competition in California in the spring.
- Matthew Ng, a grade 2 student, won 2nd place in the Junior Cello Solo Competition (Grade 5) in the Toronto Kiwanis Festival.
- Radin Pakseresht, a grade 6 student, achieved STEM award at grade 6 in Crestview PS.
- Daniel Park, a grade 4 student, competed in the Taekwondo U.S OPEN and will compete in the 2017 Canada National Competition in May. He is working on his second black belt!
- David Popa, a grade 6 student, and his basketball team, IEM Spartans, won the gold medal at Mumba tournament.
- Ana Rado, a grade 4 student, won first place in her 25m freestyle & 25m backstroke races in the North York Aquatics Club (NYAC) Splash & Dash swimming competition in February.
- Marco Ricci, a grade 10 student, received an award for Honour Role Athlete at St. Michael's College School.
- Danny Rui Liu, a grade 6 student, a team member of Gators Markham U12 basketball team, has gained championship of Top CAT hosted by North Region Basketball Association (NRBA) in Jan 2017.
- Thirumahal Samy, a grade 8 student, participated in the "Royal Canadian Legion Annual Public Speaking Contest" at branch level where she received first place.
- Anika Schneiderman, a grade 3 student, won a Kathak (Indian classical dance) scholarship in December 2016.
- Ben Sedleski, a grade 9 student, received an invitation to the Adidas Tri-City, which is a development camp for the top 40 basketball players in Manitoba.
- Oscar Sey, a grade 4 student, won silver in the Chess Tournament at Harrison PS (Level King 2), gold in the Friendship Tournament (Northern Karate-Sparring), silver in the Friendship Tournament (Northern Karate-Kata), and received the Golden Jersey twice this season for outstanding performance (North York Knights Hockey League).
- Analpa Vishwanath, a grade 8 student, was selected for the Tops program: Talented offerings for Programs in the Sciences in Toronto where only 50-60

candidates are accepted out of 600 applicants, and the Macs program where about 90 candidates are accepted out of 600 applicants.

- Sarah Vretenar, a grade 4 student, achieved a silver medal standing with her synchronized skating team, Ice Dreams, at the Oakville Synchro Capers competition.
- Owen Wang, a grade 5 student, has won first prize in his group in 2017 Merriam School of Music Competitive Festival.
- Haiden White, a grade 1 student, was an MC at the Chinese New Year event celebrated at his school.
- Nathaniel Willis, a grade 3 student, placed in the top 10 in his U10 GS Ski Race in February 2017.
- Katherine Wilson, a grade 3 student, has been cast as the female lead, Wendy, in her school's upcoming production of Peter Pan.
- Ronald You, a grade 7 student, won 2nd place in Royal Canadian Legion's 2017 speech contest (Branch 66) and was selected on Zion Heights Middle School's robotic team which won 3rd Place among all the participating schools in Toronto.
- Anne You, a grade 3 student, won 1st Place in Royal Canadian Legion's 2017 Speech Contest (Branch 66) .
- Charles Zhang, a grade 5 student, has participated in Piano contests at North York music festival and was awarded second and 3rd places this year.
- Jonathan Stringer, a Grade 7 student, was chosen to play for the St. Charles Garnier Senior Hockey team, as well as for the Richmond Hill Stars Select Hockey team.
- Mathis Tai, a grade 1 student, has won first class honours in RCM preparatory B speech and first class honours in drama exam.
- Sam Qu, a grade 2 student, has won the first prize for Science Olympians at his school RHMS.
- Joya Jin, a grade 2 student, has won silver at Winter Glitters Figure Skating Competition (star 2 level).
- Jessica Xu, a grade 3 student, has passed the Level 3 RCM piano exam with Honours.
- Danny Rui Liu, a grade 6 student, is a team member of Gators Markham U12 basketball team, he was the champion of Top CAT hosted by North Region Basketball Association (NRBA) on Jan 14, 2017.
- Cassidy Lee, a grade 4 student, passed her Grade 4 Royal Conservatory piano exam with First Class Honours with Distinction.

Campus News & Events

We are excited to share some of our recent events and news updates with you. Stay tuned for more updates.



Spirit of Math Cuts the Ribbon on New Don Mills Campus

Toronto - When Don Mills principal and campus owner Kaynan Anshur first joined the Spirit of Math Schools (SoM) family as a teacher 13 years ago, a total of roughly 400 students were scattered throughout the program's campuses. Now, he's seen the program grow to include more than 7,500 students in campuses across North America. Kaynan became a franchise owner and has personally seen the growth of the SoM program come full circle as he and co-owner Nimo Hussein cut the ribbon of their very own custom-built facility at 73 Underhill Drive in North York on 16th February 2017. [Read more](#)



Campus Highlight: Pitching In: Spirit of Math Launches Donation Drive for Vancouver Charities

Vancouver, BC - As part of our commitment to giving back to the community, Spirit of Math Schools was pleased to support women and children in the Metro Vancouver Area with a donation drive.

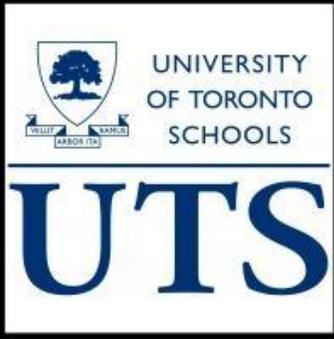
Spirit of Math Schools partnered with Sheway, the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre and Crabtree Corner in support of women and children who are victims of poverty, homelessness and violence. [Read more](#)

SMS Contest

Spirit of Math students put their skills to the test at our annual contest for students in Grades 1 to 4. Math contests provide students with a great way to challenge their skills in logical



thinking and problem solving. All students who participated will receive a certificate at the year end and will have the opportunity to be placed on the Spirit of Math national honor roll. Stay tuned for the 2017 results!



UTS day

Each year, Spirit of Math holds a math and interview skills preparatory day for grade 6 students entering the second round of interviews at UTS School. Spirit of Math teachers donate their time to teach this course with all proceeds going to the Gwen Ledger Memorial Fund. This fund provides scholarships for post-secondary education to one individual each year. This year we raised \$7400. Spirit of Math is committed to providing a high quality curriculum to our students and we are always looking for feedback on how we're doing. If you have any comments in regards to the UTS day, please send them to info@spiritofmath.com



Pakistan

We are getting closer to opening the doors to our first international campus in Lahore, Pakistan! On Feb. 3, Spirit of Math was on hand at the 3rd International Conference on Biotechnology at the University of South Asia, which provided a tremendous networking opportunity. The Spirit of Math Pakistan campus is currently in the process of recruiting dedicated full-time and supply teachers.



Our Engage Platform Has Been Launched!

The goal of this platform is to establish Spirit of Math as not just an after-school mathematics program, but a like-minded community. This platform allows SoM employees, students, parents, and guests to read, share, and produce compelling content to show the world why we're quickly becoming the global standard of excellence in mathematics. If you haven't already done so, please join our new digital community. [Visit](#)

Pre- Registration

Pre-registration for the 2017-18 school year will be starting in April. Please contact your campus to find out the exact dates. Those students who are currently enrolled in Spirit of Math will have 2 weeks to register before new students start registering. This is to ensure that you have the first chance to get into your



choice of class. Please note: although we try to place all students in their first choice, some classes in some locations fill up the first week of pre-registration.

Important Announcements

Important Dates for Math Contests and Exams.

- **Grades 3 & 4 Math League Contests (CNML):** Lesson 35.
- **NJML (New Jersey Math League):** Lesson 35
- **Mathematica:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017.

EXAMS

All Campuses (except Winnipeg and Edison)

- **Grades 4-11:** Saturday, May 13 - Friday May 19, 2017
- **Grades 1-3:** Saturday, June 10 - Friday, June 16, 2017

Winnipeg

- **Grades 4-11:** Week 33 - Wednesday May 10 and Thursday May 11, 2017
- **Grades 1-3:** Week 37-Wednesday, June 7 & Thursday, June 8, 2017

Edison, NJ

- **Grades 4-6:** Monday, May 1, 2017
- **Grades 1-3:** Monday, June 5, 2017



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STAY CONNECTED

