

PTP EAST CENTRE  
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SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

- Federal election
- June Events
- Spring
- Earth Day
- ...and more

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# PTP Advocate

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12

MAY - JUNE 2011

## Student of the Month: Eled M.

We're pleased to announce that this issue's Student of the Month is Eled Mohammed. We talked with her shortly after she was chosen, and here is what she had to say.

Q. How do you feel about being Student of the Month?

A. I feel excited and happy.

Q. How did you hear about PTP?

A. I heard about PTP through the YWCA.

Q. How long have you been at PTP?

A. I've been at PTP for almost eight months.

Q. What do you like about PTP?

A. I like the friendly environment.

Q. Would you change anything about the program?

A. The thing I would like to change is to have more computer classes.

Q. How do you get along with people here?

A. I get along with both

students and instructors. They are very helpful.



Q.



What level did you start in? Where are you now?

A. I started in Level Three and since then I gradually worked my way up to Level 5.

Q. What subject(s) do you enjoy most?

A. I enjoy all my subjects that I'm taking and the instructors who are teaching me.

Q. What are your strengths and weaknesses?

A. My strengths are communicating with others, getting along with peers, and never giving up. My weakness is problem solving in math.

Q. Have you improved any skills here?

A. I have improved my writing, reading, and computer skills.

Q. What are your goals-

short and long term?

A. My short term goal is to attend Seneca College for upgrading, and eventually get my ECE Diploma.

Q. Does your schedule work for you?

A. Yes, it works fine. I have no problems.

Q. Do you have any comments about the instructors and the program?

A. All The instructors are well-respected. They also take the time to understand your questions, and always find the time to stop and explain what needs to be done.

Q. What do you do in your free time?

A. I like to spend my free time with my family and friends.

By Patricia A. and Vida A.

# Canadian Election

. Canadian democracy has been in place since Confederation in 1867. Canadians choose their leaders to represent them in elections, which are held every four years.

On May 2, 2011, Canadians took part in another federal election to determine the new Prime Minister.

The Conservative minority government of Stephen Harper was defeated during the winter, and the opposing Liberals and NDP forced an election. Four parties were involved:



The election results surprised everyone. Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff and his party suffered a loss of seats, while the Conservatives gained many.



Conservatives led by Stephen Harper, NDP led by Jack Layton, Liberals led by Michael Ignatieff, and Green Party led by Elizabeth May.

In addition, the NDP gained many seats to form the official opposition, which has never happened in Canadian history before.



# June Events by Celina S.

## **Family Events for June in the GTA**

Made Up Show! – An hour of interactive, family-friendly improvisation and sketch comedy!

Perfect for ages 13 and under.

Date: February 19, 2011 – June 25, 2011

Location: The Second City Theatre 51 Mercer St, Toronto

Phone: 416-343-0011

Tickets: Individual Tickets: \$ 12. Family 4-Packs: 40 (Available at box office or by phone. Not available online.

Performances: Saturday mornings at 11:00 am.

## **Toronto Zoo**

**Come to the Toronto Zoo to see the ocean birds that are built to swim, dive and fly through the sea – the endangered African penguins!**

**Date: May 21, 2011 to December 30, 2011**

**Location: Toronto Zoo Meadowvale Road, Scarborough**

**Phone: 416- 392-5929**

**Hours: 9:00am – 7:30pm**

**Admission: ages 3 and younger: Free. Ages 4 - 12 \$13.00. General Admission ages 13 – 64 \$ 23.00**

**Senior: ages 65+**

## **Kids Night Out at In Play**

Every Saturday night is Kids Night Out at In Play. (Parents, this is your chance to take a well deserved break). For just \$24.99 Kids Night Out Includes: •Scavenger Hunt •Rock Climbing •Mini Golf •Bingo •Indoor Playground •Pizza Party •Movie on the big screen •4 hours of baby-sitting. Kids Night out is open to kids 4-12 years old. From: 5:00 - 9:00 pm.

Call for more details or to register. Advanced registration required.

Date: January 8, 2011 to June 24, 2011

Location: In Play, 18075 Leslie St Newmarket  
Phone: 905-953-8299

Website: [www.inplayinc.ca](http://www.inplayinc.ca)

## **Jr. Jays Half-Price Saturday**

Starting opening weekend, kids under 14 will get 50% off Blue Jays tickets in the 200 and 500 outfield section. Saturdays, April 2 – September 17. Price: \$7 & \$15.

Date: April 2, 2011 to

September 17, 2011

Location: Rogers Centre

Website: [toronto.bluejays.mlb.com](http://toronto.bluejays.mlb.com)

## **Toronto Festival of Clowns**

Presented by Toronto Clown. Starts: June 2, 2011. Ends: June 5, 2011. Time: 06:30 PM to 11:00 PM. Price range: \$10 - \$19. Canada's Most Red-Nosed Theatre Festival. A clown apocalypse is coming! For four days only.

For more information contact: Phone: 416-821-3833.

Date: June 2, 2011 to June 5, 2011

Location: Scotia bank Studio Theatre at Pia Bouman School, 6 Noble Street, Toronto

Phone: 416-821-3833



# Spring by Biniam T.



**Biniam explains the reasons for the seasons.**

Why do we have seasons? Varying amounts of sunlight around the earth during the year creates the season. We have hot summers and cold winters because of the tilt of the earth's axis.

The earth's axis is tilted at an angle of 23.5 degrees. The tilt of the earth will lean towards the sun (creating summer) or lean away from the sun (creating winter) in between spring and fall.

What is the relationship between the sun and the earth? The earth revolves around the sun. The North Pole never points directly at the sun.

What are Equinoxes?

The name is derived from the Latin *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night). Equinoxes occur when

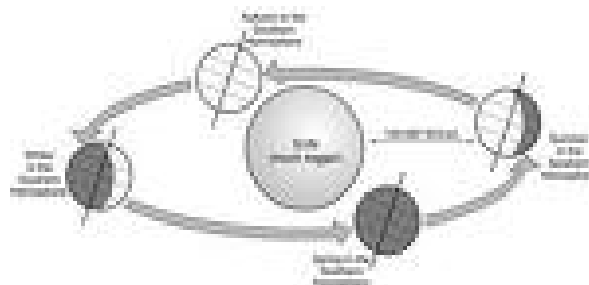
the axis of rotation of the earth (i.e. the line from the N to S poles) is exactly parallel to the direction of motion of the earth around the sun. This happens on just two days of the year, the spring and autumn equinoxes.

This means that day length is exactly the same (12 hours) at all points on the earth's surface on these days (except right at each pole, where it will be about to change from permanent light to dark, or vice versa).

There are two equinoxes; spring and fall. Spring equinox is the start of spring. Spring is the sun moves upwards in our skies and the day continue getting longer. We reach a midpoint when day and night are both 12 hours long.

Things that happen in spring?

One is "Spring forward," when we set clocks one hour ahead. Events in Toronto (in Kensington Market and other places) celebrate the spring equinox.



## Earth Day by Vida A.

Earth Day was founded by United States Senator Gaylord Nelson (June 4, 1916-July 3, 2005) who was an American Democratic politician from Wisconsin. Nelson was always passionate about the environment. In 1963 he traveled on the Conservation Tour with President John F. Kennedy, and was the principal founder of Earth Day, the first observation of which was held in 1970.

It is celebrated in 175 countries, including Canada. The first



Earth Day in Canada was held on Thursday, September 11, 1980, and was organized by Paul D. Tinari, then a graduate student in Engineering Physics and Solar Engineering at Queen's University.

The principal activities taking place on the first Earth Day included educational lectures given by experts in various environmental fields, garbage and litter pick-up by students along city roads and highways,

as well as tree plantings to replace the trees killed by Dutch elm disease.

Earth Day Canada, a national environmental charity founded in 1990, provides Canadians with the practical knowledge and tools they need to lessen their impact on the environment.

Earth Day Events (Toronto) Toronto People's Assembly: as we commemorate Earth Day by gathering to share stories about what inspires us as people involved in the movement for Climate Justice.

Run For Your Planet: you can join thousands across Toronto and run /walk to raise awareness and funds for a healthy planet.

Earth Day is a good activity that we do for the environment. For example, turning off lights for an hour, walking instead of driving, turning down the heating or cooling, taking shorter showers, and recycling. These are all examples that save energy. Another reason why we celebrate Earth Day is to raise awareness about how we treat the Earth's environment.



[www.earthday.com](http://www.earthday.com)



# Mother's Day by Cendrina M.



*Mothers really appreciate flowers, chocolate and a sentimental card for this special day.*

Mother's day is a special day in a year that gives people the opportunity to show appreciation, to the mothers and women who have taken up that role in their lives. With that said, I would like to say thank you to every mom out there who does her best. It would be impossible without you! Back to my article

In early history Mothers' Day was in the spring time, as it is today, to celebrate the rebirth, the land and the beginning of the most fertile time of the year. Those festivals honored the goddess in all women. The modern version of mother's day has families bringing Mother's Day flowers and gifts to their moms. This

can be traced back to seventeenth century England when it was known as Mothering Sunday. It goes by many different names, but however you say it, the expression of love and appreciation is the same.

Motherhood has always been celebrated.

In prehistoric tribes the mother goddess was worshiped as the creator of life. The history of Mother's Day in the rest of the world is a bit different. In the USA, the early English settlers disapproved of the more secular holidays and the Mothering Sunday tradition never really took hold. Early attempts to have a day to honor mothers were mixed with women's suffrage and peace move-

ments and were not very popular. Julia Ward Howe, who wrote the words to the Battle Hymn of the Republic, suggested the idea of an international mother's day to women who were active with local groups holding annual mother's day remembrances, but most were more religious gatherings and not the holiday that we know today.

## Father's Day by Patricia A.

Father's Day is a widely known celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society.

Father's Day is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of June.

The first observance of Father's Day actually took place in Fairmont, West Virginia on July 5, 1908. The first June Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in Spokane, WA at the Spokane YMCA.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson went to Spokane to speak in a Father's Day celebration and wanted the celebration to be official.



US President Calvin Coolidge recommended in 1924 that the day be observed by the nation.

The day was celebrated for the first time in 1958, on the third Sunday of June, but it was not included in the school calendars due to pressure from several groups.

In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson issued the first presidential proclamation honoring fathers, designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. The holiday was not officially recognized until 1972, during the presidency of Richard Nixon.

In recent years, retailers have adapted to the holiday by promoting greeting cards and traditionally male oriented gifts such as electronics and tools.

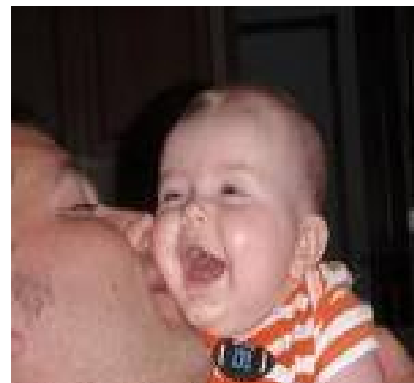
Schools and other children's programs commonly have activities to make Father's Day gifts.

More calls are made during Father's Day but the percentage of collect calls on Father's Day is much higher, making it the busiest day of the year for collect calls.

Calls during Father's Day tend to last longer.

Although Father's Day is celebrated on different days around the world, in Canada we wish everyone a Happy

Father's Day on the third Sunday of June: June 19<sup>th</sup>.



# June Horoscopes by Celina S.

## **Aquarius Jan-20- Feb-18**

You are very opinionated with strong convictions and fight for what you believe in. Your friendships are very important to you, be careful not to be too outspoken.

## **Pisces Feb-19 –March 20**

A close friend will need your compassionate nature, be careful not to turn them away. In the long run you will need them more than they will need you!

## **Aries Mar-21 – Apr-20**

Put down your pride or you will lose everything that you worked so hard for.

## **Taurus Apr-21 – May-20**

Taking action is an everyday thing with you. Why not hand over the ropes to someone else for a change. You might just like it for a mere while.

## **Gemini May-21 –June-21**

You become very bored within a relationship often. You will almost certainly move on quickly with no concept of the devastation you are causing. You need to feel alive and keep things fresh.

## **Cancer June-22 –July-22**

You are very cautious with your money. You like to stash most of it away for a rainy day.

## **Leo July-23 – Aug-23**

You are always trying to be the leader and the center of attention. Let others have the spot light

## **Virgo Aug 24 – Sep-22**

Quit stressing this month! Trying to be a perfectionist is rough. Don't worry. Others don't mind nor do they expect you to be.

## **Libra Sep-23 – Oct-22**

Seeing both sides to the coin is a true gift. Don't waste your talents. You can succeed on anything you desire.

## **Scorpio Oct-23 – Nov 21**

You like your space, although be careful as others might feel excluded and will not come around anymore.

## **Sagittarius Nov-22 – Dec-21**

You often suffer from foot-in-mouth syndrome, choose your words carefully, prior to expressing your feelings as to not offend others.

## **Capricorn Dec-22 – Jan-19**

You see the glass as half empty rather than half full. This month try new things to stimulate your mind.

## July Horoscopes by Celina S.

### **Aquarius Jan-20- Feb-18**

You are refined and idealistic, romantic and practical, personable and likeable person. Try some new activities this month, this will allow you to be more social.

### **Pisces Feb-19 –March 20**

Sometimes you think more with your heart than your head, which will make you an easy target!

### **Aries Mar-21 – Apr-20**

Very courageous and hardworking is your key to success. If you are not happy where you work, find a better job. You have many skills that will make you quit valuable.

### **Taurus Apr-21 – May-20**

You are patient and reliable, but you are also resentful and jealous. Trust your heart as well your head. Learn that you can't always have the very best.

### **Gemini May-21 –June-21**

You are gifted with a sharp mind and high intellect, and curious nature who loves' to seek answers.

### **Cancer June-22 –July-22**

Your relationships is nurturing and caring, but with deep mood swings and a sharp tongue when provoked.

### **Leo July-23 – Aug-23**

You love to throw parties and show off. Drawing people into your sociable nature is one of your many hobbies.

### **Virgo Aug-24 – Sep-22**

You are a dream come true in the work place. Those who work with you feel your intelligent and detail-oriented.

### **Libra Sep-23 – Oct-22**

You might be hanging around with the wrong person or people this month. You despise confrontation. Just watch where you step.

### **Scorpio Oct-23 – Nov 21**

You can't stand it when others lie to you and lie to your friends. You pride yourself when it comes to telling the truth even when it hurts.

### **Sagittarius Nov-22 – Dec-21**

You love to travel and consider everyday an opportunity for another adventure.

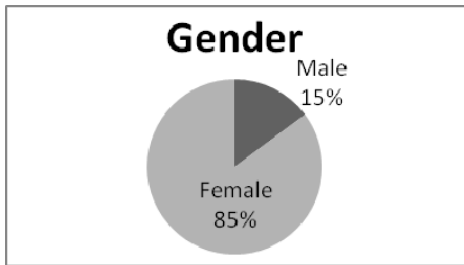
### **Capricorn Dec-22 – Jan-19**

You have the strength to rise to the top. Don't be foolish and act weak. You are inwardly quite warm and sympatric, often with surprisingly quick wit.

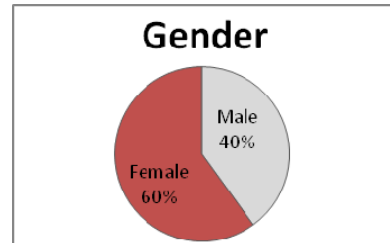
# Digital Technology Survey by Biniam T. & Celina S.

The results are in for the spring issue of 2011. We have the percentages of PTP students and teachers survey for gender, age, computer access, and computer knowledge. We also did a comparison from the last issue regarding the gender between the both surveys. Our results show around the same percentage. We have categorized the age group in three sections: 19-30, 31-45, 46-65. The teacher's age group ranged from 31-65. The students however ranged from 19-65. We are pleased to see that all of PTP students and teachers have computer access. The majority shows that the knowledge of computers was taught by schools and teachers.

Students



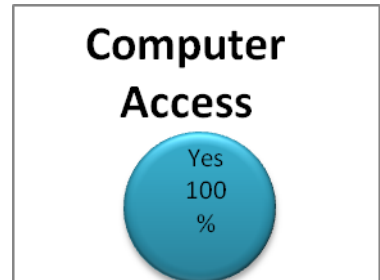
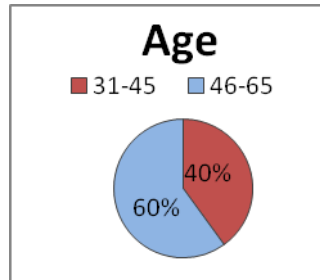
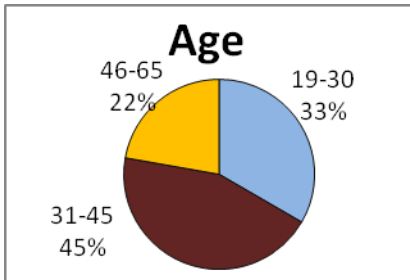
Teacher



Students

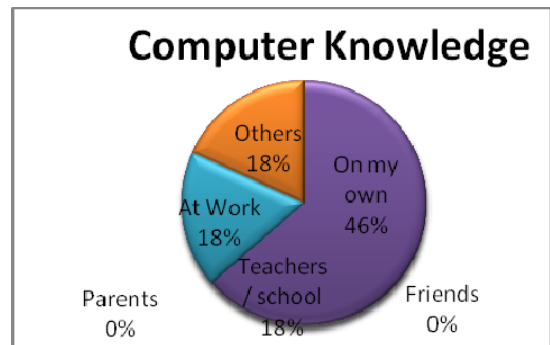
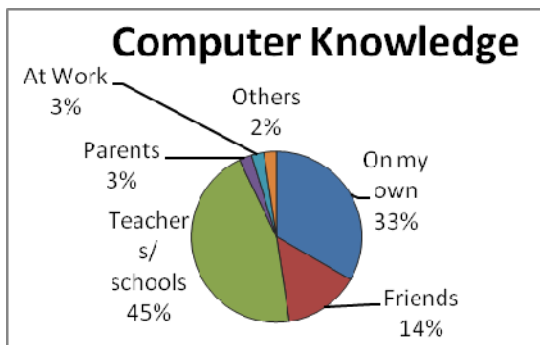
Teachers

Students & Teachers



Students

Teachers





***Another amazing PTP potluck lunch!***



ptp  
'Pathway to Possibilities'  
Adult Learning & Employment  
Programs

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**Vision**

Empowering adults to learn and find work they value.

**Mission Statement**

To provide **basic skills education**, up-grading, job search, and related services to adults preparing for training or employment.

**The PTP Advocate is published on a best-efforts basis by PTP East Centre's Newsletter Team.**



# Celina's Suduko

**Directions:** Complete the grid so that every row, column, and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive

6		1				8	5	
	4		1				3	
			7	2	5	1		
8		2		1				
		3			8		6	
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9	6	5		7		3		1
	7			6	3	5		
2	3					6		4