



## DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH & APRIL

March 10	Daylight Savings	Clocks Spring Forward 1 Hour
March 11-15	March Break	NO SCHOOL!!!
March 17	St. Patrick's Day	Wear green and drink green beer!!
March 20	First day of Spring.	
April 1	April Fool's Day	Play a fun joke on someone, but only until noon!
April 19	Good Friday	Part of Easter weekend. Schools & most businesses will be closed.
April 21	Easter Sunday	The Easter Bunny visits! Enjoy brunch or dinner with your family!
April 22	Easter Monday	Schools and some offices will be closed.

## Easter Weekend

is Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday) – Monday April 22 (Easter Monday)

It may seem sad, but Easter is a happy time for Christians. Good Friday marks the death of Jesus Christ but Easter Sunday celebrates the day he rose from the dead. Schools and many businesses are closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Today, Easter is also when the Easter Bunny visits children in their homes. This is very exciting because the Easter Bunny comes to their home on the Saturday night, and delivers a basket of candy and chocolate! The treats are the shape

of bunnies or eggs. The basket also has a small toy like bubbles or a skipping rope. Often, the Easter Bunny will hide the treats and children spend a fun morning searching for them. This is called an **Easter Egg Hunt**.

Other traditions include decorating eggs with colourful paints, getting together with family, attending church and having a special dinner. Younger children will have Easter themed activities in their school.



You can buy an Easter basket and all the exciting things to go inside the basket, at the Dollar Store. If the weather is good, you can hide some things outside in the yard. There are many Easter egg dying kits for children that you can try for a fun family afternoon.

**March in History:** Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. On **March 10, 1876** he made his first call to his assistant, Thomas Watson. He said "Mr. Watson--come here--I want to see you."

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Beginner

Over 70% of the world's maple syrup is made in Canada.



### Intermediate

Canada exports over 45 million kg of maple products each year. Quebec is the biggest producer in Canada. The indigenous peoples of North America produced maple syrup long before Europeans arrived.



### Advanced

In late winter and early spring the sap inside maple trees starts to surge. A puncture is drilled into the tree trunk, and a spout is inserted. The sap is collected and heated until the water, for the most part, has evaporated. A concentrated sweet sticky syrup remains to enjoy on pancakes, waffles, and in baking. With more evaporation, the syrup granulates for luscious, unique tasting sugar!

Be sure to find a sugar bush near you this spring to see how it's done.

<https://maplesyrupfest.com/>

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## Things To Do

### Sugar Shack TO

March 9 & 10

11:00 – 5:00

at Sherbourne Common

(Lower Sherbourne & Queens Quay)

Maple Taffy • Ice Activities  
Winter Marketplace • Specialty Bar  
Warming Station • Skating Rink  
Obstacle Course • Free Admission

### Pysanky Workshop

Learn how to make beautiful Ukrainian Easter Eggs!

April 14 2:00 - 4:00  
at **Articulations**  
2928 Dundas St. West  
Click for more info



We're all Irish on  
**St. Patrick's Day!**  
See the Parade  
March 10<sup>th</sup>

## One Of A Kind

March 27-March 31

Exhibition Place, Toronto  
The largest and most popular  
handmade craft shows in North  
America. Great souvenirs!

**Thursday March 21, 2019**  
**Happy Nowruz!!**  
Click to learn about a Nowruz event!!

## More Things To Do



**March 8-17, 2019**  
**Enercare Centre**

(100 Princes' Blvd., Toronto)

The largest display of new products, ideas & deals for home & garden!



**March 15 - 17 2019**

**Metro Toronto**  
**Convention Centre**  
255 Front St. W, Toronto



**Spring Festival**  
(Haru Matsuri)

Saturday March 2 & Sunday March 3  
12:00-5:00pm

- Arts and crafts demonstrations
- Martial arts demonstrations
- Traditional Japanese dancing
- Japanese drumming
- Japanese cuisine

**Traditional Chinese Medicine Principles for Staying Healthy & Resilient**

Thursday, March 7  
One evening workshop - Free!



**Celebrating 50 years in 2019!**



*So cool  
my hair is  
standing  
on end!*

**Interact with science!**  
**Watch the demonstrations!**  
**Try your own experiments!**

Click to learn more.

## The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald

## Gordon Lightfoot

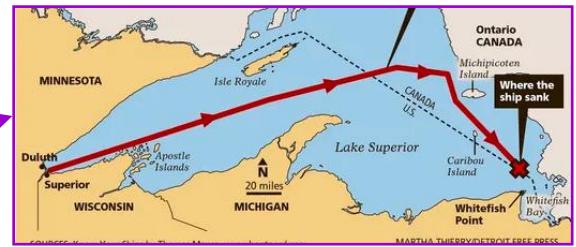
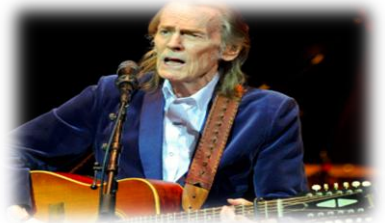
Gordon Lightfoot is a famous Canadian singer and songwriter.

The Edmund Fitzgerald was an American ship taking iron ore from Duluth Minnesota to Detroit Michigan across Lake Superior.

On November 10<sup>th</sup> 1975 there was a terrible storm. Waves were 11 metres high and the ship broke in half and sank.

Gordon Lightfoot wrote this song as a tribute to the 29 sailors that died in the wreck. There were no survivors.

Please click on Gordon's picture to hear the song, see the ship and the lyrics of the song.



*The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum in Michigan, U.S.A., estimates that there are 6,000 shipwrecks in the Great Lakes that have resulted in 30,000 deaths. Click here.*

What has **ENGLISH** Been Up To?

..... matters

- ✓ We tried the sport of curling with some families!
- ✓ We took some student families to a Haunted Forest for Halloween!
- ✓ We visited the Planetarium
- ✓ We took some students ice fishing
- ✓ We took a group of students to The Toronto Tea Festival



**How can English Matters help you?**



**April in History:** In the early morning of **April 15, 1912**, the RMS Titanic sank in the North Atlantic Ocean. It was her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York City. More than 1,500 people were killed.



## New Driving Penalties

Did you know that distracted driving is now the #1 cause of road deaths in Ontario? Distracted driving can be caused by cell phone use, food etc. Here are the penalties:

Drivers can use devices as long as they are not holding, touching or manipulating them while they are driving. So, for example, you can use your phone, in hands free mode, as long as it is mounted or secured.

Offence	Fine	Demerit Points	License Suspension
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	\$615	3	3 Days
2 <sup>nd</sup> Time	\$615	6	7 Days
3 <sup>rd</sup> Time	\$615	6	30 Days

**Please take care and put the phone down.**



## Potholes

Your teeth rattle and your head hits the ceiling of your car! In a few minutes, there's another clatter! *What happened?!*

Potholes are a fact of life in Toronto. Why are there so many potholes in Toronto?!

In warm weather, water goes through the top layer of asphalt on the road. Then, it gets cold and this water freezes and expands.

This forces some of the pavement up. The weight of the vehicles breaks this pavement, forcing the asphalt out, and creating a hole.

In this context, "a fact of life" is something unpleasant that must be accepted because it cannot be changed.

We all know that Toronto's weather fluctuates often between warm and cold. Sadly, many fluctuations lead to many potholes.

In the first 2 months of 2019, almost 17,000 potholes have been repaired in Toronto.

Toronto spends 4-5 million dollars a year to repair potholes. That's your tax dollars!

Potholes can cause damage to your car. Try to avoid them if you can!

