

# Bessborough Elementary and Middle School School Newsletter

February 12, 2018

Volume 1, Issue 20

Patricia Broderick, Principal

Etienne Mercieca, Vice-Principal



211 Bessborough Drive  
Toronto, ON  
M4G 3K2

School phone: 416.396.2315

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Report Cards Go Home - Feb. 12
- ◆ Social Media Speaker - Feb. 13
- ◆ Winter Activity Day - Feb. 15
- ◆ Kindergarten Registration Begins - Feb. 15 & 16
- ◆ P.A. Day - Feb. 16
- ◆ Family Day Holiday - Feb. 19
- ◆ Gr. 6 Trip to Sheldon - Feb. 20-23
- ◆ Pizza Lunch - Feb. 22
- ◆ Pizza Lunch (Gr. 6) - Feb. 26
- ◆ Home & School Meeting / Student Inquiry Showcase - Feb. 27 - 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Sub Lunch - March 5
- ◆ March Break - March 12-16

## Term 1 Report Card Cards

Students will be bringing home term 1 report cards on Monday February 12<sup>th</sup>. This is an excellent opportunity for students and parents to have a conversation about how the school year is progressing, celebrate successes, and reflect on challenges. Parents will also have an opportunity to schedule a parent-teacher conference to discuss the report card (talk to your child's teacher if you wish to do so).



## P.A. Day - Fri. Feb. 16 Family Day Holiday - Feb. 19

Please remember that Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> has been designated as a Professional Activity Day for teachers. In addition, Monday February 19<sup>th</sup> is our Family Day holiday. We hope all our families enjoy a safe and happy long weekend and we look forward to welcoming our students back on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>!



## Lunchroom Supervisors Needed!

If you are occasionally free during our lunch hour (11:40 a.m. - 12:55 p.m.), we are in need of additional lunchroom supervisors to fill in when our regular supervisors are absent. This is a paid position. If interested in learning more, please contact Etienne Mercieca at [Etienne.Mercieca@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Etienne.Mercieca@tdsb.on.ca) or call the school.

## Winter Activity Week - Feb. 12-16

If you and your family are planning on being away during this week, please ensure that you send an e-mail to our Safe Arrival address so that this can be logged into the Safe Arrival system in advance. This also applies if your child will not be participating and not coming to school on our Winter Activity Day on Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send your e-mails to: [bessborough@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:bessborough@tdsb.on.ca)



## Winter Activity Day - Thurs. Feb. 15



Please remember that if your child(ren) who are in grades 1-8 are participating in our Winter Activity Day activities, that forms and payment are now due. Students in grades 1 and 2 will be going to Harbour Front for skating. Students in grades 3-6 will be going to Snow Valley for snow tubing and skiing and students in grades 7 and 8 will be going to Mansfield for skiing. Please submit as soon as possible if you have not yet had an opportunity to do so. Thank you very much!

## Kindergarten Registration



Our Kindergarten program provides young students with a rich and safe learning environment designed to give them the best possible start.

At the TDSB, your child will have many opportunities to learn, build new skills and make new friends. Starting Kindergarten is a very exciting time. We are here to support you and your child in getting ready for school.

For helpful tips, please visit: [tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](https://tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten)

### Registration

To qualify for Junior Kindergarten, children must be four years of age by December 31 of that year. Go to [tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](https://tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) or visit the Bessborough office to get started. **Registration begins February 15 & 16!**

Please see the Kindergarten Registration Booklet and Parent FAQ that are attached to this e-mail for more information.

## Student Inquiry Showcase Tues. Feb. 27 - 6:30 p.m. - With Home & School Meeting



Want to find out more about what our students are learning about and doing in their classrooms? Then please come to the Home & School meeting on Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup>. Students and teachers will be presenting some of the inquiry projects they have been working on immediately following the meeting. More details will be forthcoming shortly!

## Lost and Found - Your Child's Belongings Want to Go Home!

Our Lost & Found is full of your kids' stuff - sweaters, hoodies, runners and more! Come claim your goods! The clothing rack is located outside the office. All clothing that is left after February 27th will be donated to New Circles Community Services to help people in need.

## H&S Redtape (The Non-Glam Side to our H & S) Updating Home and School Bylaws

Bessborough Home & School is a member of the Ontario Federation of Home and Schools Association (OFHSA), which provides us with training and templates, fundraising ideas and guidelines, and insurance for our event hosts. As a member, we are to govern ourselves in accordance with stated guidelines to ensure we act with the utmost of transparency and accountability. These guidelines come in the form of Bylaws that describe our executive, membership eligibility, voting process, financial accounting and means of parent engagement.

We have found that we need to revise the Bylaws due to relatively low turnout for our H&S votes. OFHSA requires that the number of general members voting must be greater than the number of executive committee voters. The executive has been reduced to meet this requirement. No other material changes have been made.

We will be asking for H&S Members to vote in the new Bylaws at the February 27th H&S Meeting and Inquiry Showcase. We kindly ask that you read the attached document to be prepared to vote. Please feel free to contact Robyn Israel (mail to: [robyneisrael@gmail.com](mailto:robyneisrael@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## And Some More Home & School News...

The Ontario Federation of Home & Schools has asked that Bessborough H&S reduce its Executive Discretion allocation in the annual Operations Budget, from \$1500 to \$500. This amount is used to cover enrichment requests when timing of a General Meeting (and vote) is not conducive, and must be approved by the Executive. This allocation had previously been reduced due to lack of need. To date this school year, none of this allocation has been spent. As such, the amount has been reduced as requested.

## H & S General Meeting February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Our next Home & School meeting is February 27th. It will be a brief financial and project update and Bylaw vote before the Inquiry Showcase. Babysitting will be provided in the mini gym.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## You Won't Want to Miss This! Parent Speaker Series Topic: *Social Media Security – Keeping our Kids Safe*

Home & School invites you to spend an evening with social media expert, Paul Davies, who will be speaking frankly about accountability and responsibility in social media environments - Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, as well as Cyberbullying, Digital Trails, Image Sharing, Sexting (and Child Pornography), Smartphones & Apps and Online Security. **February 13th at 6.45 PM**  
**Rolph Road School, Gymnasium**

Bessborough students in Grades 4 to 8 will have had Paul's presentation earlier that day. Attending will allow us to understand what they learned and be able to have a meaningful discussion with our children.

Learn more by visiting:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zaEnoBQSOvY>
- [www.socialnetworkingsafety.net](http://www.socialnetworkingsafety.net)

Please RSVP to: [Social Media Security Presentation RSVP](#)

## Request for Volunteers



The Bessies need your help! H&S is in need of parent volunteers to run the Bessie's this Spring. What are the Bessie's you ask? Well, it's just the best school talent show on earth! This well loved annual event went into hibernation last year, but it's back! Need to know more before stepping in? Please contact the H&S Volunteer Coordinator, Stacey Niman [staceyniman@gmail.com](mailto:staceyniman@gmail.com) to learn more about what this volunteer job entails.

The venue is booked! Leaside High Auditorium  
The date has been selected! Friday, April 27th, 2018

We just need you and a few of your friends to pull this event together and make it happen!



February 13 – Parent Speaker Series Presentation  
February 27 – Home & School General Meeting

## How to be in the Know

Visit [www.bessboroughhomeandschool.com](http://www.bessboroughhomeandschool.com) or follow us on Instagram @BessboroughHS