



BIRCH CLIFF PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Ted Vine | Superintendent: Peter Chang | Trustee: Parthi Kandavel



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From the Principal's Desk

Happy holidays! We look forward to everyone returning happy and healthy to Birch Cliff in 2019! Enjoy the holidays with loved ones and take advantage of every moment you have with them this holiday season!

See everyone on Monday, January 7th - 2019! Day 1.

~ T. Vine



Dates to Remember

- ~ Jan. 1: HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!
- ~ Jan. 7: Welcome Back!
- ~ Jan. 18: P.A. Day (No School)
- ~ Jan. 22 - 25: Kindness Club Visiting



There will be no classes from
Monday December 24th -
Friday January 4th, 2019.

School will resume on Monday,
January 7th, 2019.



Visit the TDSB public website at www.tdsb.on.ca to
view the school year calendar or the [Birch Cliff
calendar](#) for specific events.

[2018-2019 TDSB Dates of Significance
can be found here.](#)

From the Office

If there are any changes in your home or business phone numbers, please inform us as soon as possible!

Lates and Absences

The *Safe Arrival* line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If your child will be late or absent from school, call the *Safe Arrival* number to let us know!



416-396-6062

Parent Visitors

Please check in at the main office! Unannounced visitors often create concern for our students who might think a stranger has entered the building. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe school environment.



Dropoff and Pickup:

Parking Lot Closed

Everyone has done a fantastic job adapting to the change in the parking program. When dropping off and picking up students, please make sure to follow the street signs for parking.



For safety reasons, please use the sidewalks and refrain from walking through the parking lot. Pylons will be left out blocking off the parking lot throughout the day. Thank you for adapting to the change and keeping all of our students safe!



TDSB Ministry of Education Consultation

Ministry of Education's [Consultation: Education in Ontario](#).

The consultation, which closes on December 15, was open to students, parents, staff and organizations to share their feedback on education in Ontario. The questions focused on seven key areas:

- Improving student performance in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Preparing students with needed job skills, such as skilled trades and coding
- Improving provincial standardized testing
- Ensuring students graduate with important life skills, including financial literacy
- Managing the use of technology in classrooms, such as cell phones
- Building a new age-appropriate Health and Physical Education curriculum that includes subjects like mental health, sexual health education and the legalization of cannabis
- Developing the first-ever Parents' Bill of Rights

The TDSB's submission is based on a number of Toronto District School Board policies, practices, position statements, approved Board motions, Board research, current curriculum practices in schools and Board-approved system action plans, most of which have been developed with input from parents, students and the Board of Trustees.

[Read the TDSB's submission to the Ministry of Education.](#)



Canada Music Class Contest

In September Ms. Corker's Class decided to enter the CBCmusic in the classroom competition. With over 1000 entries in the competition, we narrow the list to two songs, so we blended them together. We came in the top 10 finalist in the elementary vocal category with our Serena Ryder and Leonard Cohen Mashup. I am extremely proud of our success so far and can't wait to hear the final results.

CBC Canada Music Contest:

<https://www.cbcmusic.ca/posts/20702/canadian-music-class-challenge-2018-top-10>

Link to the Video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQL-qKg4xqc&index=98&list=PLwz1WTRJS24JR2gZ2SZAkFYp57OZ_g4W6

~ *Ms. Ribble*



Chess Club



Every year from January until the March Break, the Chess Club runs for all students in Grade 1 to 8. This year, chess will be running dony days 1, 2 and 3 in the library at morning recess for primary classes and afternoon recess for Junior and Intermediate classes. The Junior and Intermediate clubs will eventually be competing in the TDSB tournament, while the goal of the primary club is to introduce chess to the students. Looking forward to another great year!

~ *Mr. Brown*

Extended Day Program

Space is still available in the Extended Day Program (EDP) at Birch Cliff!

The EDP provides seamless learning experiences and programming for children from Kindergarten to Grade 6 before school starts and at the end of the school day. The program is delivered by TDSB Designated Early Childhood Educators who engage children in various explorations and learning opportunities to support the development of skills such as collaboration, responsibility, problem-solving, creativity, citizenship, and leadership through interesting activities. Two nutritious snacks per day are also provided during the program.

For more information and to register, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/edp or contact the EDP Team at 416-394-2072 or EDP@tdsb.on.ca



Parent Council

Happy New Year to all of our Birch Cliff Families from your School Council. We will be continuing our pizza lunch and popcorn Fridays throughout the winter season. New for winter we are offering 3 slices of pizza to our older students. Munchalunch is now ready to accept orders for the "Winter Session". A reminder to those families that do not have easy access to a computer, you may also put in manual order forms and they are available in the office. Please join us for our next School Council meeting on Wednesday January 16th at 6:30 pm in the staff room. Babysitting is provided in the gym with grade 7/8 students. All parents/guardians are welcome!

Thank you,

~ SAC



Monthly Character Trait January: TEAMWORK

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Caregiver:

Every month the TDSB staff and students focus their attention on a specific character trait. Your child is involved in learning activities designed to develop good character and help children make good choices. Our focus for is **TEAMWORK**.

What does teamwork mean to you?

Your child can show teamwork by:

- helping to complete a household chore with other members of the family
- working with peers in a group to complete school assignments
- participating in a sport and working as part of a team to be successful
- taking responsibility in household chores for the benefit of the family

Questions to discuss with your child:

- What does it mean to be a team player at home and to be an integral part of the family?
- How do you deal appropriately with conflict when it occurs during teamwork?
- What are some of the ways to resolve some of the arguments that occur at home?
- Sometimes a teammate may have to make a sacrifice so that the team can succeed. What does this mean?

Projects to do together:

- Play games as a family to develop teamwork and good sportsmanship.
- Participate in sports or leisure activities together and encourage communication including active listening.

Encouraging teamwork in your child:

- Stress the importance of teamwork and the aspects of being a team player that make being on a team worthwhile.
- Stress the importance of willing to work and play with others at school, in the home, and in the community.
- Share a story that will help your child understand that sometimes “fair” does not mean “equal.”

Thank you for supporting our Character Development program.

**BUILD CHARACTER
BUILD SUCCESS**