



September 2014

Message from the Principal
Lori McKay

Dear Bowmore Rd. Families:

As I begin my first year as Bowmore Road’s principal and my twenty-fifth year in public education, it is my pleasure to welcome our families to the 2014-2015 school year. I firmly believe in the value and strength to be found in strong partnerships among school, families, and the greater community. I am thrilled and honoured to be working with your children, our skilled and committed staff, and our supportive parents. Together, we shall educate all our diverse learners so each one can achieve strength, resiliency, and engagement within a supportive, nurturing, and safe environment.

At the core of my leadership is the belief that schools must reach out to ALL diverse learners and to teach the whole child beyond the 3 R’s. Regardless of whatever pathway students choose, the commonality must include: creating a culture of high expectations, the ability to problem solve real life situations, the opportunity to be creative, and the skills necessary to handle success and deal with failure. In order to produce successful global citizens, it must be our priority to teach children how to get along with one another, to understand societal expectations, and to appreciate and value life beyond the academics. Therefore, as a team, it should be our common goal, both as educators and as parents, to establish a positive school climate that values the whole child, including student’s physical and mental well-being.

In moving forward this year, as we establish a community of excellence, I invite staff, students, and our parent community to model the importance of respect for each other, accepting responsibility, making safe choices, and engaging in learning.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for making the first two weeks at Bowmore Rd. Jr. & Sr. P. S. run efficiently and productively. It is an exciting place to work, and as your principal I look forward to continuing to learn, grow, model, and motivate. Engaging classrooms are starting to take shape, extra-curricular activities are beginning to roll out, school trips are in the works! As Paul J. Meyer stated, “Productivity is never an accident. It is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning, and focused effort.”



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

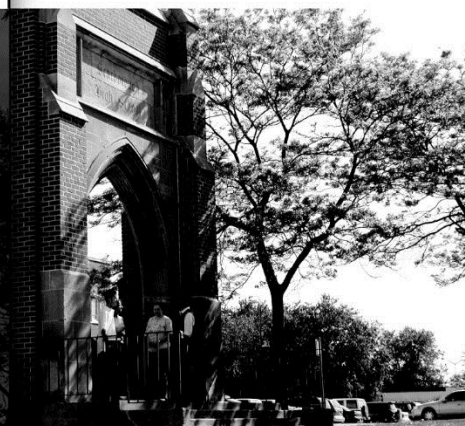
- October 1 | QSP Team pm assembly
- October 1 | International Day of Older Persons (UN)
- October 2 | Grade 7 & 8 Immunization Clinic
- October 2 | We Day – Air Canada Center
- October 3 | Day of Hajj (Muslim)
- October 4 | Yom Kippur (Judaism)
- October 5 | World Teacher Day
- October 10 | World Mental Health Day (WHO)
- October 11 | International Day of the Girl (UN)
- October 7 - 9 | Camp Wahonowin
- October 9 | Parent Council Meeting
- October 10 | World Mental Health Day
- October 10 | Bring Your Teddy Bear to School Day
- October 11 | International Day of the Girl
- October 13 | Thanksgiving
- October 14 | Jr. Boys Football Tournament
- October 16 | World Food Day

Bowmore Road Public School

80 Bowmore Road, Toronto, Ontario M4L 3J2
T:416.393.9450 F:416.393.9448

Lori McKay, Principal
Ryan Naidoo, Vice Principal
Linda Taillefer, Vice-Principal
Vicky Branco, Superintendent
Sheila Cary-Meagher, Trustee
Email: bowmore@tdsb.on.ca

School Website: <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/bowmore>



Your Community



TRANSPORTATION/PARKING/DROP OFF

At Bowmore we highly value the safety of our children. During the month of September the parking authorities worked with school administration during the first week of school to help address ongoing safety concerns in the school drop off zones around parking, standing and stopping. The officer in charge spoke with the administration and directed and alerted community members to the signs indicating the drop off zones, time limits and bus loading zones. He also provided drivers with yellow traffic hazard leaflets highlighting the problems, solutions and definitions of driving in school safety zone and how they can positively contribute to a safer school community. This proactive approach to supporting the school was greatly appreciated by the entire school community.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Students

The safety of our students is of paramount importance to all members of the Bowmore community. Please make sure that you **DROP OFF** your children within the drop off zone on **Wrenson Road** and use the pathway between the parking lot and the tennis courts to enter the school yard. **Do not use the school parking lot or the bus loading zone in front of the school to drop off / pick up your child.** The school parking lot is only for TDSB staff/volunteers between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. When picking up your child during or at the end of the school day **ALL** parents are asked to check in at the office. You may be asked to provide identification. Your co-operation regarding our students' safety is much appreciated!

Safe Arrival - Reporting Absenteeism

If a child must miss school due to illness or appointments, parents/guardians should phone the school and inform the office staff of the absence. The school **Safe Arrival phone number is 416-393-9450** and you may leave a message 24 hours a day. Please leave a message with your child's name, room number and reason for absence. According to TDSB policy on Safe Arrival, if you do not inform the school of your child's absence by telephone or note, we will need to call you at home or at work. Therefore it is very important to have current phone numbers at school.

With a school the size of Bowmore, you can appreciate the number of phone calls we must make twice daily and this is very time-consuming for our staff. You can help! If you know in advance that your child will be late or absent, please inform the school either by calling or by sending a note to your child's teacher.

Thank you for your understanding!

October 17 | International Day
for the Eradication of Poverty
October 21 | School Photo
Day!
October 29 | Rosedale Band
Visit
October 31 | Bowmore
Hallowe'en Parade

PREFER TO DONATE DIRECTLY TO SUPPORT BOWMORE STUDENT ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES? HERE'S HOW:

You can make a tax-deductible donation to Bowmore through the TDSB for the purpose of enriching our children's educational experience, simply by writing a cheque payable to the "Toronto District School Board" and clearly mark in the Memo section of the cheque where the money shall be sent to (i.e. Bowmore PS Student Enrichment Initiatives). Bowmore will forward the cheque to the TDSB, who will process a tax receipt for donations \$25 and over. These funds will be directed back to Bowmore for use as indicated on the "Memo" section of the cheque.

Alternatively if you are not interested in a receipt for tax purposes you can write a cheque for any amount directly to Bowmore School Council and your funds will be directed towards student enrichment with other funds raised by the School Council.

Health and Wellbeing



**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL
OCTOBER 11TH, 2014
GIRLS ROCK!**



Attention all girls in Grade 5 and 6. Bowmore's Girls Club is starting Wednesday, September 24th. We will meet over the lunch hour in Room 204. We will hang out, do crafts, learn about ourselves and learn to help other girls all around the world. If you are interested in learning, having fun, talking, and helping others, this club is for you! Bring your lunch to Room 204 every Wednesday.

Together we can make a difference!

Mrs. Jarvis and Ms. Ramphal

TERRY FOX NATIONAL SCHOOL RUN DAY

On Wednesday, September 24th, Bowmore supported the nation-wide Terry Fox campaign by participating in a run. All classes from JK to Grade 8 were scheduled during the day to run as many laps as they can around the field. Grades JK-3 are asked to support the campaign by bringing in a Toonie and Grade 4-8 will be taking home Pledge forms. Anyone can donate by going to www.terryfoxrun.org. Be sure to register your donation under Bowmore P.S. The Terry Fox run has been a long standing tradition at Bowmore and parents are always welcome to come run with us and cheer on our classes. Thanks to the parent volunteers to lend a hand. We showed our Bowmore spirit by wearing BLACK and RED clothes or Bowmore spirit wear. Leading up to the event, teachers have been looking at books and videos, making daily announcements and discussing why Terry Fox is a true Canadian Hero! *A thank you to Ms. Jarvis Ms. Jones, Ms. Mossman, Ms. Ernskinw, Ms. Varga, Ms. Moodie and Ms. Moran for organizing this very special event!*



Donations to our Snack Program

The Bowmore Nutrition Committee is pleased to continue the snack program. We hope your children are enjoying a healthy nutritious snack every morning. We are fortunate to receive partial subsidy from our Municipal and Provincial Government, but we still need your donations. Our goal is to offer a nutritious snack to every child. We encourage you to make your donation through a cheque made payable to **The Toronto Foundation for Student Success**. Please note that for any donation over \$20.00 a tax receipt will automatically be issued to the donor.

BOWMORE PARENT COUNCIL

WWW.BOWMORESC.COM



Here is the 2014-2015 Bowmore School Council Executive!

The roles are as follows:

1. Michelle Aarts, Co-Chair
2. Elizabeth Grundon Co-Chair
3. Martin Haardt, Treasurer
4. Kathleen Sandusky, Communications Committee Lead
5. Lisa Orchard, Communications Coordinator
6. Monica Curtis, Communications Coordinator
7. Ruth Lee, Communications Coordinator
8. Cindy McGlynn, Communications Coordinator
9. Sarah Cabott, Secretary
11. Krista Nolan, Movie Night Coordinator
12. Sue Winton, Ward 16 Representative
13. Karin Sildam Eaton, Ward 32 Liaison
14. Andrew Duff – Make-it Fair-Chair
15. Nancy Botelho – Lice Check Coordinator
16. Connie Crane – Lego Club and Researching Home Ec Club
17. Shelly Baboolall – Parental Outreach/Potluck coordinator
18. Marco A. Guerreo – Food and Language – Chair

POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE

- Volunteer coordinators (s)
- Scholastic Book Fair coordinator (s)
- Book Fair team members
- Bake Sale team
- Community Outreach coordinator (please note, we do have a Parental Outreach person)

SPECIAL THANK YOU!

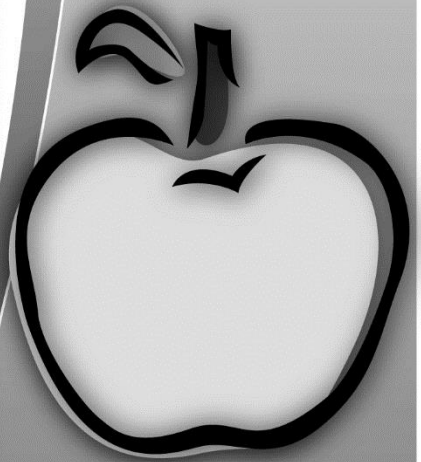
On behalf of the Bowmore staff we would like to thank all the parent volunteers who contribute their time in ensuring that our students' learning environment be prosperous!



Thank You for your support of
the **Soup and Bake Sale on
Curriculum night.**

**Next council evening is
October 9th – 6pm to 8pm.**

**First Pizza Lunch is Friday,
October 24th, 2014.**



BOWMORE LIBRARY

Bowmore Library and Information Centre

September News!

The library is off to a great start with almost all classroom orientations given; books are starting to be exchanged. The position of librarian remains a half time position but with the assistance of staff and volunteers it is hoped that the library will be used as fully as possible. Library monitor forms for those interested students in grades 4 to 8 will be made available by the end of the month.

A big thank you goes out to volunteers Cheryl Ball and Anne-Marie Meyers for their work in the library. Cheryl has made ready all of the book bags for the five kindergarten classrooms; this has made it possible to start book exchange earlier than usual. Anne-Marie has been busy with filing books as well as putting spines on catalogued books in order to get them into circulation right away. We are in need of more volunteers. In fact, we will not be having a book fair this fall because we do not have enough needed support. We are hoping that some parents might step up for a December book fair so if you have an interest in fundraising as well as supporting a strong reading community, please get in touch with me.

The library is open during periods 2, 7, and 8 most days as well as after school on Days 2 and 7. Teachers will also be using the library at other times. Parents are always welcome to come and visit and to talk to me about books and what reading materials might encourage their children to read.

I welcome everyone to make full use of our library commons. It is a wonderful space and it does help to foster a love of books and reading. A reminder: reading for pleasure is a strong indicator of a student's success in and outside of school.

Happy reading,
Sara Erskine

READING TIME

Please spend 20 minutes a day reading and sharing stories with your child. Find the time to read together; make it a routine and make it fun!

Suggestions:

- 1) Discuss the title and cover
- 2) Ask your child to make a prediction about what the story will be about
- 3) Discuss what happens in the picture!

These strategies are a good start!

HAPPY READING!





Guidance Department

September marks the beginning of grade 8 to 9 transition. Throughout this journey your child will be supported by their classroom teacher, school administration and Guidance Counsellor, K. Miller-Caise. Soon our grade 8 students will attend a workshop on the process and procedure of transitioning to high school. It may seem early, but important information needs to be shared with students and their families to support their decision making as they select high schools.

Students will then bring home a package and brochure outlining their choices for next year and the important dates for open house events that are hosted annually at local high schools. These packages will offer parents an insight into the transition process and the requirements that are involved in this process.

Families are also welcome to attend a Bowmore 8 to 9 information session on Wednesday, October 15th @ 6pm in the senior gym. On that evening they will hear about high school requirements, optional attendance procedures and important timelines.

Families are asked to check high school websites for additional information about application procedures if they are interested in taking advantage of optional attendance. Each school has specific deadlines and parents need to be aware of these to ensure timely delivery of application packages.

Local open house evenings:

- Malvern C.I. – January 13 @ 7pm.
- Danforth C.T.I. –November 18 (MAST program) and December 2 @ 7pm.
- Monarch Park – November 20 @ 7pm
- Riverdale C.I. – January 8 @ 7pm
- Rosedale – November 20 @ 6:15 or 7 pm

Please contact the school Guidance Counselor, Kelley Miller-Caise if you require any additional information.

Kelley Miller-Caise

Code of Conduct

One of the TDSB's mission statements is to provide learning environments which are safe, nurturing, positive and respectful. The TDSB Safe Schools Policy and procedures help us in our schools to build a safe and caring environment. All Bowmore students are expected to behave in a respectful and responsible manner. Students are expected to resolve conflicts without the use of force of any kind and to seek the advice from a teacher or supervisor. We all have a responsibility to teach our children (parents and school staff) this important life skill using appropriate strategies for the age or skill level of the student. Our school's Code of Conduct and Dress Code are outlined in the Student Agendas or classroom information sent home at the beginning of the school year. These policies are in place to establish expectations for student behaviour and consequences for inappropriate behaviour. Under certain circumstances infractions can result in suspensions.



ODDS AND SODS



What's Happening at Bowmore!

Announcements that are made over the PA in the morning are now posted in the main hallway so students/parents can find out when and where events are happening... just in case you missed it. We have also posted PHE schedules as they are released to us. They are also sent electronically. Stay tuned!!!

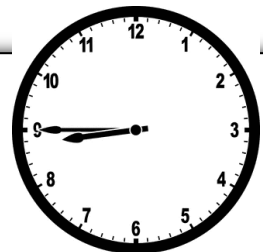


After only one month we have already collected an enormous amount of clothes. Parents, guardians and students we highly encourage you to rummage through the Lost and Found box that is located on the first floor at the center doors! Please be advised that all clothes not collected will be donated by the end of every month!

Lateness

A student who arrives late is not adequately prepared for the day and may miss important instructions or messages at the start of the school day. Children should be in the schoolyard 10 minutes before the entry bells at 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. for the Junior School. Senior school students need to arrive by 8:40 a.m. each morning and return at 12:15 p.m. from lunch. Students who are late must sign in at the office and pick up a late slip before going to class.

It is also important that students are picked up promptly at dismissal time. Primary students are only dismissed to their parent/guardian. If a parent/guardian is not on time at dismissal, the child will be brought to the office to wait.





Bowmore's Eco-Corner

ecoSCHOOLS.ca



Bowmore students, teachers and parents worked hard last year to earn our school an "**Eco-Platinum**" certification! School lunches are a major source of waste in Ontario with the average student's lunch generating a total of 30 kilograms of waste per school year. This means that an average of 8,500 kilograms (18,700 lbs) of waste is trucked to landfill from each school every year- that's the weight of two full-grown elephants!

Please help by ensuring that your child brings a litter-free lunch to school each day. Avoid ziplock bags and foil-wrapped individual packaging: Reusable containers, washable cloth napkins, refillable bottles and simple metal cutlery are healthier & cheaper over time. Save money, and the planet too! Please help by continuing to support this important initiative and promoting the "Three R's" (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) when packing your child(ren)'s lunches.

Children are asked to return any garbage or compostable waste home. This is called a "boomerang" lunch because what the waste produced as result of lunch comes right back home.

Visit <http://www.wastefreelunches.org> for ideas about packing waste-free lunches.



Pack a **Litterless Lunch!**

Looking to volunteer in the Classroom!!

All individuals from the community who wish to come in to Bowmore PS to volunteer with a teacher in the classroom or in a sporting activity or on a field trip need to be certified by the TDSB through completing the Police Reference Check Application.

If you are a current volunteer with Bowmore PS and you have submitted a completed Police Reference Check Application and payment, you need to come to the main office to sign an Offence Declaration form for the 2012-13 school year in order to update our data base for this current year.

If you are a new volunteer to the school, you will need to come to the main office to request to fill out the Police Reference Check Application and submit a payment payable to the **Toronto Police Service** in the form of a certified cheque or money order. The fee is \$ 16.95.

Our eco-heroes are:
Ms. Baines
Mr. Naidoo

School Supervision

Our students' safety is always our number one concern. We would like to remind you of supervision starting time: **8:25 a.m.** Please ensure that your child comes to school at the appropriate supervised time, not before. Arriving earlier can put their safety at risk. We also would like to remind you that students are expected to leave for home promptly at dismissal, unless they are involved in remedial support or extra-curricular activities. **School yard supervision ends at 3:25 p.m.**



Full Day Kindergarten

On September 22nd, Ms. McKay, Mme Taillefer and Mr. Naidoo held a parent forum regarding FDK concerns with the outside play areas that are located at the front and the south side of the school. After listening to many parents' concerns such as drop-off and pick-up, we concluded that the following would take place immediately.

- 1) FDK teachers and ECEs will wear their vest in order for parents/guardians to be able to easily identify those on duty.
- 2) When dropping off your children we ask that you check in at the gate with the ECE who will at that time check your child off an attendance list.
- 3) If you wish to meet with the teacher we ask that you ask the ECE before entering to ensure the teacher is available to meet.
- 4) We discourage strollers and parents entering the gated area as congestion creates safety concerns. However, if it is essential, please ask the ECE if the teacher is available and she will then ensure a safe passage way for you to enter with the stroller. Otherwise you may request a meeting by phone or email to discuss your inquiry.
- 5) It is important that we do not crowd the exit from the gate to the school doors. Our objective is to ensure that safety for your children remains our top priority.

Thanks you – Merci for you cooperation!

Lunch Time FDK

As of October 1st, for parents/guardians who choose to take out their child during lunch please make every effort to connect with the classroom teacher in order to eliminate confusion and ensure safety during this very busy time of the day.

Dès le 1er octobre, les parents qui choisissent de sortir leur enfant pour le déjeuner doivent au préalable en avoir parlé les détails avec la professeure afin d'éviter les confusions durant un temps très occupé! Il faut en tout temps assurer le bien-etre de nos enfants!





**KICK OFF ASSEMBLY
October 1st, 2014**

QSP Magazine Fundraiser

Our QSP magazine fundraiser is back this Fall! Starting Wednesday, October 1st and ending on Wednesday, October 15th. During the fundraiser we hope to raise \$32,000 in gross sales. Our school earns \$10 on average for every subscription sold and there are more than 600+ magazines and more digital magazines to choose from. NEW this year are photo albums and purchases from these sales also go back to our school!

Where do our fundraising dollars go? The Bowmore Parent Council uses the funds collected from all our fundraising efforts to support the many wonderful extra-curricular programs such as; Prologue, Scientist/Artist in the classroom and more. Our goal is also to support a new home economic program, new kindergarten equipment for the play yard, computers and network connectivity.

Please visit www.qsp.ca, it's a simple click away. Our school group ID # 3720844 and remember to include your child's name, classroom number and Teacher. We thank you for your continued support!

Thanks,
Bowmore School Council



**OCTOBER 10th
BRING YOUR TEDDY BEARS
TO SCHOOL**



**LET'S KEEP OUR
CHILDREN SAFE!**



ON THE SIDE

It is TDSB policy that dogs and smoking are not permitted anywhere on school property at any time!

Please help us to look after the comfort and safety of our students by respecting these rules.

