

Churchill Public School

188 Churchill Avenue  
Toronto, ON M2N 1Z5

Telephone: 416-395-2200 Safe Arrival Program: 416-395-2200 Fax 416-395-2209

Principal: Laura Slater Superintendent: Linda Curtis Trustee: Alexander Brown

<http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/churchill/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon., Sept. 21 – Fri., Sept. 25

- September realignment based on actual enrolment as required

Monday, September 21, 6:45 p.m.

- School Council Meeting – everyone welcome!

Wednesday, September 30

- Terry Fox Run

Thursday, October 1 (tentative)

- Welcome Back BBQ  
5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Curriculum Night  
6:45-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 5 (tentative)

- Cross Country Qualifier at Earl Bales, grades 2-5

Wednesday, October 7, 9:15 a.m.

- Prologue: TORQ – Everything and the Kitchen Sink

Friday, October 9

- Picture Day

Monday, October 12

- Thanksgiving Day – no school

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the new school year! I would like to extend a special welcome to our families new to Churchill. I also wish to welcome our new staff members: Ms. Cheng (K), Ms. Kim (K), Mrs. Nushis (Secretary), Elisa (lunchroom), Farideh (lunchroom), and welcome back to Ms. Shapiro, Mrs. Sciulli, Ms. Palser, and Mr. Katsiou.

This year we informed families of class placements on the first day, and we appreciate everyone's contribution to a smooth start-up. Because of the changing nature of our community, many placements occurred right up to the first day of school. Please remember that class placements this week and next are tentative and may change during the week of September 21 to meet the class size requirements set out for each school by the Ministry of Education.

Over the past week and into next week, students in grades 2-5 will receive **planners**, and teachers will spend some time reviewing the planner pages regarding school procedures. Grade 1 students will have received copies of the first several pages of the planners. Please make sure that you have reviewed the same pages, and that you have signed acknowledgement in your child(ren)'s planner(s). These planners are to be used on a daily basis to communicate with your child(ren)'s teacher(s). Make sure to also check the **Friday File** each weekend for important notices, and send it back to school on Mondays. You will notice this weekend several forms that need to be filled out and sent back to school; please make sure to complete these right away.

A reminder that we are connected with the **Settlement and Education Partnerships in Toronto (SEPT)** program, which places settlement workers in elementary and secondary schools that have newcomer students. Settlement workers proactively contact newcomer parents to assist with their settlement needs, refer families to more specialized community resources, provide group information sessions, and provide orientation about the settlement needs of newcomers for school staff. At Churchill, we have Russian, Korean, and Farsi speaking settlement workers. For any settlement enquiries or support, please contact Sophia at 647-999-6012 or Vera at 647-999-5340, or contact the school's main office.

The **Lunch Lady** continues to provide lunches at Churchill on Mondays and Thursdays. Please see the flyer in today's Friday File.

The School Council is busy planning the **Welcome Back BBQ** for Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, with **Curriculum Night** immediately following the BBQ. Please plan to attend this fun-filled and informative evening – it's a perfect opportunity for families to reconnect, to meet new people, and to learn about the Ontario curriculum expectations that will be covered in your child(ren)'s classroom(s) this year. ***Because of current work-to-rule job action by teachers, this event is tentative. More information will be forthcoming as we hear news of negotiations.***

Our first **School Council** meeting is Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:45 p.m. We welcome all new and continuing families to all our meetings, and hope that you can join us to hear of school updates and initiatives. Please consider joining the Council's email list to receive the latest information from Churchill.

We are moving forward with our **online milk ordering** program this year. Any milk tickets that you have at home will be accepted through to October 1. All new orders must be placed online. Please see the flyer describing this in today's Friday File. The price per carton has decreased, and the profit to the school has increased. We were one of 25 schools in the province who won \$250 for signing up for the new program last spring!

Through this fall, we will be experiencing additional **construction** at the school. All construction will be outside, and will include fixing the drainage in the new kindergarten space, leveling some of the field, moving and filling in the new rocks and tree beds next to the parking lot, among other items. As a result, a large portion of our field will be out-of-bounds for much of the year (for construction and then to allow the field to set properly). More information, including contingency planning for students' outdoor use, is to follow.

**International Languages** – Simplified Mandarin and Spanish (JK-Grade 8) will be Wednesdays, 3:30-6:00 p.m. The program is designed to give students the opportunity to appreciate other cultures and learn additional languages of their choice. No previous knowledge of a language is required. Registration will be on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-6:00 p.m. in the foyer at Churchill PS; first class is September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please bring your child's OHIP number and an emergency contact name and number. A \$20 materials fee (payable by cheque or credit/debit card) is required upon registration. Questions can be directed to Wenjie Li at 416-998-2155.

### **A Safe School**

We have policies and procedures in place to make Churchill a safe place for all of our students, staff and visitors. We ask our community's co-operation to successfully implement these routines. Please review the student planner pages for the Code of Conduct, TDSB Code of On-Line Conduct, Safety Procedures, Student Code of Conduct, Schoolyard Safety and Lunch Room Rules. Here are a few key reminders:

Our parking lots are not designed to accommodate all families' cars. **All drivers MUST REMAIN with their car if they are not in an actual parking spot. It is expected that all drivers will exercise great care and patience to ensure student safety. As alternatives to the parking lots, temporary street parking is available, and students are encouraged to walk or ride their bike to school.**

Parents and visitors must come directly to the office when they enter the school and adults will not be permitted to wait inside the school for student dismissal.

All volunteers must have a current police reference check BEFORE beginning to volunteer in an Ontario public school. All volunteers must come to the office to sign in and out and must wear a visitor's badge.

If your child is going to be absent or late please call the school at 416-395-2200. Students arriving after morning or afternoon entry times must report directly to the main office to sign in and obtain an admit slip to class. If your child must leave the school prior to the end of the school day, please report to the main office.

Teachers begin morning supervision of the yard at 8:40 a.m. Students in grade 1-5 are expected to play outside until the bell rings at 8:55 a.m. Kindergarten students must wait with their caregivers until the bell rings. In case of rain, we will ring the bell at 8:45 a.m. and students will congregate near their rooms. **Please do not send children to school prior to 8:40 a.m. when there is no supervision.**

Help keep our school as safe as possible for students with life-threatening allergies, and make sure that all food products (snacks, lunches, special class treats) are **nut-free**.

Please inform us immediately if your contact information has changed so we are prepared in case of an emergency.

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