

Bessborough E & MS Newsletter



Bessborough Elementary & Middle School

211 Bessborough Drive
Toronto, ON M4G 3K2

Safe Arrival:

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416.396.2319

LN5 Superintendent:
Andrew Howard

Ward 11 Trustee:
Rachel Chernos Lin

Principal:
Dima Nijmeh-Mantia
Vice Principal:
Frances Themeliopoulos

Office Administrator:
Renee Cronier
Secretary: Toyin Bere

Upcoming Events:

- November 17 –Progress Reports sent home.
- November 19 – Cozy Sweater Spirit Day
- November 20 –P.A. Day
- November 26 –Virtual School Council Meeting
- December 2 – Leaside H.S. Live Virtual Open House



Health & Safety

We ask for your continued partnership in ensuring the safety of all students, staff and community members by following Toronto Public Health and TDSB health and safety guidelines.

We continue to communicate with our Public Health Nurse COVID-19 School Liaison about the Covid-19 response at Toronto Public Health. Along with our TPH Nurse, we urge everyone to ***maintain physical distancing and wear a mask or face covering at all times***. Following health and safety guidelines helps to reduce the spread of the virus and the risk of possible health repercussions.

All parents/guardians/caregivers are required to wear a mask/face covering when outdoors on school property, during pick-up and drop-off. For the safety of our staff, students and community, we ask that all adults remain off school property during school hours.

Everyone should be going straight home after school and students should not be returning to school property as gatherings (e.g., to play manhunt) are not permitted. We ask that you please also review these expectations with older siblings who no longer attend Bessborough.

The safety and well-being of everyone in our community is our top priority. We need everyone working together and taking every step to stay safe and well.

Please review Toronto Public Health Tips to Prevent the Spread [HERE](#).

Remembrance Day 2020

On Wednesday November 11th we all paused to remember and honour the men and women who have sacrificed their lives for our freedoms. Thank you to Mr. McMillan for reimagining and organizing our annual Remembrance Day ceremony. We also thank contributing students and staff members, and appreciate the time and care that went into preparing the artwork and the moving and memorable presentations. We especially appreciated hearing students talking about their reflections after our virtual ceremony. Thank you also, to Mr. Roynon for delivering students' art to Sunnybrook Veterans Centre and sharing the images of the Veterans receiving the artwork.

Parents/Guardians recently received TDSB school forms electronically. We ask that you please complete and submit all forms **as quickly as possible**. While we were unable to share our Remembrance Day ceremony with families for privacy reasons, we would like to share school happenings and memories of our 2020-2021 year at Bessborough once Media Release forms have been received.

Communication for Grade 8 Families

To help you make an informed decision when choosing a school, TDSB schools will host virtual open houses and information sessions (live or pre-recorded) for parents/guardians and students between November and January. All families are invited to join on the scheduled dates and the complete list is available [HERE](#).

Some key dates to keep in mind:

- December 2, 2020 – Virtual Open House at Leaside High School
- January 11, 2021 – Course Selection Opens (using myBlueprint)
- January 13, 2021 – Virtual Open House at Northern Secondary School
- January 29, 2021 – Optional attendance forms due at secondary schools. [Download HERE](#).
- February 12, 2021 – Deadline for parents/guardians of students to be informed of the status of the Optional Attendance application

Please review the 2020-2021 TDSB Secondary School Information Guide [HERE](#).



Covid-19 School Information for Parents and Caregivers: [HERE](#)

Toronto Public Health: *Who is a close contact at school?*



Upcoming School Council Meeting

Our next school council meeting will be held virtually on Thursday November 26th at 7:00 pm.

Details on how to join will follow. Minutes from the previous meeting can be found on the website at www.bessboroughschoolcouncil.com

Let's Meet – Virtually

Does anyone else miss meeting up with other Bessborough parents....?! We do!

Does anyone want to get creative and think of ways we can meet some new parents in our community?

If anyone is interested in a delayed welcome event for JK and/or Grade 7, please email Christine Davis (brent.christine.davis@gmail.com).



Bessborough E. & M.S. School Council is on Insta

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November 20 – P.A. Day

November 26 – Virtual School Council Meeting



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