

Monday, April 10, 2023

Bessborough E & MS Newsletter



Bessborough Elementary & Middle School

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LN5 Superintendent:
Andrew Howard

Ward 11 Trustee:
Rachel Chernos Lin

Principal:
Janet Bambrick
Vice Principal:
Lynette Bacon

Office Administrator:
Renee Cronier
Secretary:
Vesna Bozic (Acting)

Upcoming Events:

April 12-International Day of
Pink

April 12-Grade 7 Badminton at
Bedford Park

April 14-Kindies to Science
Centre

April 17-TDSB Student Census
Begins

April 19-Grade 8 Badminton

April 21-Eid-al-Fitr

April 24-Grade 5/6 Badminton
at Bedford Park

April 26-Pizza Lunch



Bessborough Agreements

The Bessborough Caring and Safe School Committee has been focusing on the Bessborough Agreements these past few weeks by sharing challenges with the school. Various students and staff have shared their voice on the morning announcements and dropped off notes in our 'Community Dropbox' outside our library. Each week we set a challenge. Last week our challenge was:

"Have you had a time when you disagreed with someone? How have you done that respectfully?"

There were many good discussions about this challenge in classroom community circles. Here are a couple of student responses:

When I get into disagreements with my friends I say "let's do something else"- Alana

"Even when I disagree with someone, I can show respect by listening to someone when they are talking and talk it out"- Anonymous

Bessborough's Five Agreements are the foundation of supporting a Caring and Safe School Community. Staff will continue to reinforce them through community circles and listening to our students. Here are the agreements so that families can discuss them at home:

- Mutual Respect: Yourself, Others and Things - recognize and appreciate individual differences
- Participation / Right to Pass - Everyone needs to participate, but may choose to observe quietly or contribute at a later time
- Appreciation - No put downs
- Attentive Listening - Listen Carefully to the opinions and feelings of others
- Do your Personal Best

International Day of Pink-April 12

The International Day of Pink against bullying and discrimination is on April 12. International Day of Pink started in Nova Scotia when two straight students saw a gay student being bullied because he wore pink. The two students intervened and wanted to do more to prevent homophobic and transphobic bullying in their school. Encouraging everyone to wear pink is symbolic of the deeper work that we are doing at Bessborough to speak up and be allies. The International Day of Pink website can be found here: <https://www.dayofpink.org/en/resources>

April is Hispanic, Latin American and Sikh Heritage Month in the TDSB

During the month of April, the TDSB recognizes Hispanic, Latin American and Sikh Heritage Month. We will recognize these heritages on the daily announcements through quotes and information and on the Heritage Month Bulletin Board outside the library, where posters and artwork are shared as well as student/family connections to the monthly heritage celebration.

Summer Music & Art Camps 2023

TDSB is excited to announce that registration for our summer music camp in Toronto 2023 is now open! The TDSB Summer Music and Art Camps are open to young artists and musicians of all skill levels and offers a variety of programs including band, orchestra, strings, and individual instruction. Campers will have the opportunity to improve their skills, make new friends, and perform in a final concert at the end of the camp. Don't miss this chance to spend your summer making music and having fun! For more information go to: [Summer Music & Art Camps 2023](#)

Save the Date-April 27th Arts Evening Café

From Mr. McMillan

At the Bessborough Coffee House, guests will have a chance to explore a variety of student showcases and displays throughout the school. Check out some student art, hear the band and choirs sing, watch a student science presentation, and so much more! Hold the date and don't miss this fun event.

Elementary Special Education Summer School 2023

Registration Now Open!

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) will be offering a summer program for students who receive support from the **Developmental Disability Special Education Program, Physical Disability Program, and Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program**, and who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP). These half-day programs will be held at various locations throughout the TDSB. They will support students to develop their independence through programming in the areas of functional literacy and numeracy skills, activities of daily living, and communication and social skills through a creative curriculum that can include technology, physical fitness, art, music, and drama. The information below provides a brief outline of the programs. **DATES:**

Tuesday, July 4, to Friday, July 28, 2023

HOURS: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

LOCATIONS: Various locations

The online application links are below. Please note that students admitted will be contingent on overall registration numbers and staffing resources, as limited spaces are available. Bus transportation for accepted students is provided and the transportation guidelines, including code of conduct, will still apply. Please complete the application as accurately as possible to ensure timely processing.

Note: Summer school acceptance letters will be sent by the summer school before June 30th.

- Special Education [Elementary Developmental Disability](#) Summer School – various locations
- Special Education [Elementary Physical Disability](#) Summer School - Drewry School
- Special Education [Elementary Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#) - Drewry School

Wellness Club

The Wellness Committee is hosting the second round of activities for our Grades 1-6 students.

Our grade 7 and 8 student leaders are hosting three different activities:

Grades 1/2: Sustainable Fashion Show: April 4, April 11, and April 18

Grades 3/4: Clothespin Art: March 29, and April 12 and April 19

Grades 5/6: Film Club: March 29, April 5, and April 12

Thank you again to Ms. Chow, Ms. Thurow, Ms. Buksner, and Mr. Chang for helping to bring some extra wellness to our school community!

Kindergarten Registration Continues

Registration for English Kindergarten programs begins in February (*see below for information about the Early French Immersion program). We look forward to welcoming you and your child! You may choose to register using the online registration system or by booking a face-to-face meeting directly with your school.

- Only parents or legal guardians can register a child.
- There is a separate process to apply for [out-of-area admissions](#). Please contact [alternative schools](#) or [elementary academies](#) directly for more information about requirements and the registration process.

For more information go to: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/KindergartenMonthp>

Trustee Chernos Lin's Ward 11 Webpage

All families can visit Trustee Chernos Lin's Ward 11 [webpage](#) and sign up to receive her Newsletter.





PLANTABLES

Spring is finally in the air and it's time to start planning for spring plantings! Bessborough has partnered with [Plantables.ca](https://plantables.ca) this year to help our community *get growing* and to raise money for the school. For every purchase made with the code "**BESSBOROUGH**" 10% of sales will go directly to our school council which funds a myriad of great things each year to improve the school life of our kids.

How it works

1. Visit [Plantables.ca](https://plantables.ca)
2. Pick Your Plants and use the code: **BESSBOROUGH**
3. Choose your delivery week
4. Plants are delivered to your door!

Please contact Rachel Gordon at rkingston00@gmail.com with any questions.

TRIVIA NIGHT - April 19

Join us on April 19th for our first ever Bessborough Trivia Night at the Leaside Pub! The Leaside Pub has been a consistent sponsor of many of our school events and we are so happy to be able to support a local community hub after a tough couple of years. Come out and meet other parents and caregivers at Bessborough! Tickets are available now via [cash-online](#) and are \$30 each. Each ticket will earn you a spot on a team and a drink ticket. Please contact Andrea Bee at bee.andreaellen@gmail.com with any questions or team requests.

Information

April 19 at 7:00PM

Leaside Pub

Tickets via [Cash-online](#)

SPIRIT WEAR

We are pleased to share that Bessborough Spirit Wear is now available for purchase through April 14. Please visit https://www.spiritwearcanada.ca/bessborough_elementary_middle_s/shop/home to order! Please keep in mind - THERE ARE NO RETURNS or EXCHANGES. NO EXCEPTIONS. We're making this for you - so please be thoughtful about sizing and color choices. Please also refer to our sizing charts on the website. If you have questions - you can direct them to Allie Lort at allison.lort@gmail.com.

MAYFAIR - May 27

Just a reminder to Save the date for our annual fun fair, May 27 from 11AM - 4PM. Information to come soon on how to purchase wristbands for this amazing event.

SPRING STREET CRAWL - June 3

We are so pleased to bring back the Bessborough Street crawl! This is a parent/caregiver event that will take place in the evening of June 3. Save the date! More information including how to buy tickets will come shortly.

DON'T MESS WITH THE DON - April 22

Don't Mess with the Don is an all-volunteer Canadian-registered charity committed to protecting and enhancing the natural heritage of the Don Valley and Toronto ravines.

On Saturday April 22nd, Don't Mess with the Don is holding an earth day clean up and our Bessborough community is invited to come out and participate. It's a great opportunity to get out with your children and teach them about volunteering. Kids of all ages are welcome to participate - parents with young kids will be directed to suitable terrain for easy garbage pick up.

Information

April 22 10am - 1pm

If you are interested in participating, please email Heather McKelvey at hmckelvey1@gmail.com by Sunday April 16th as she will be coordinating advanced registration. Otherwise, if you're available, just show up with gloves, water, and sturdy shoes.

100 YEAR COMMITTEE

As you know we are celebrating 100 years at Bessborough in 2023. We have formed a committee to plan a Fall event for the community and need volunteers! Please contact Andrea Bee at bee.andreaellen@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.



April 26 - Pizza lunch

June 26- Grade 8 Graduation



Bessborough School Council is on Insta! [@bessboroughschoolcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/bessboroughschoolcouncil)