

Bessborough E & MS Newsletter



Bessborough Elementary & Middle School

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Ward 11 Trustee:
Rachel Chernos Lin

Principal:
Janet Bambrick
Vice Principal:
Lynette Bacon

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

Upcoming Events:

- December 5-Assembly
Presentation Covenant House
- December 7 -Grade 7/8
Girls' Basketball at Pleasant
View
- December 8 -Grade 5/6
Girls' Basketball at John
Wanless
- December 9 -Grade 7 trip to
Science Centre
- December 12-Grade 5/6
Boys' Volleyball at
Bessborough
- December 13,15&16-
Bessborough Café at Lunch



Covenant House Presentation-December 5

Covenant House will be presenting in an assembly for the Grade 7 and 8 students on the topics of Mental Health, Bullying and Self-Harm. These topics are connected to the Grade 7 and 8 [Healthy Living](#) strand of the Health and Physical Education curriculum as well as being related to policies for creating Caring and Safe schools in the TDSB. The presentation will engage students in a deeper understanding of these important issues and will support students in developing a common language to describe mental health issues and issues related to bullying. Here is another resource for continuing the conversation about mental health in adolescence at home: mentalhealthliteracy.org The Bessborough Student Engagement Committee, led by Ms. Ciobanu, Ms. Ho and Ms. Wolodarsky, will be following up this presentation with a fund raiser for Covenant House on December 13, 15 and 16. More details can be found on the poster found below in this newsletter.

Winter Concerts-December 15, 16 and 19

Hold the dates for Bessborough's winter concerts! The grade 1-6 students along with the middle school choir and band will perform in a concert on December 15th beginning at 6:30 pm in the gym. The same concert will be performed again on December 16th at 9:30 am. As we have a capacity limit in the gym, **families will be limited to two seats for the evening concert on the 15th** and are encouraged to attend the concert on the 16th, if possible.

The kindergartens will be having their concert on December 19th in the gym beginning at 2:45 pm. We are asking all families to consider wearing a mask to the concerts as recommended by public health.



HOLIDAY HAMPERS: Dec 5 - Dec 15th (FDK - Grade 5)

We are thrilled that Bessborough will be participating in this year's HOLIDAY HAMPER program. TDSB social workers have been busy connecting with TDSB families in need to create wish lists for the holiday season. Classes in Kindergarten to Grade 5 are now linked with a family profile and are asked to work together to fill a "hamper" with items from their wish list. Gift cards for clothing and groceries (e.g., Walmart, No Frills) are always appreciated, allowing for choice and independence. Please note, donations do not all need to be monetary: a beautifully handmade card filled with joy, or a letter of hope can really brighten someone's spirit.

Please connect with your classroom teacher to learn more about your family's needs.

Donations will be collected in your child's classroom from Dec. 5 - Dec 15. Social workers will pick up our Holiday Hampers on Monday, Dec 19 and deliver them to their families.

Thank you in advance for your support and kindness. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn more about the power of giving, helping our community and thinking of others.

Pizza Lunch Dates

Thanks to our parent volunteers for organizing this past week's pizza lunch. The remaining pizza lunches for the year will be as follows: **Jan 25, Feb 22, March 29, Apr 26, and May 31**

TPH School Immunization Program at Bessborough

Toronto Public Health will be holding a clinic at **Bessborough Drive Elementary and Middle School** on **Tuesday December 20th, 2022**. This clinic will offer Hepatitis B, Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Meningococcal vaccines. The clinic is an on-site, school-based clinic offered during school hours.

Vaccines are safe, effective and one of the most important ways to improve health worldwide and prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Vaccinating children and youth helps protect them against infectious diseases and some cancers and can prevent children and youth from passing on an infection to other vulnerable people in their family or school community. Under Ontario's Immunization of School Pupil Act (ISPA), all students are required to be up to date with Meningococcal vaccines or have a [valid exemption](#). Hepatitis B and HPV vaccines prevent cancers and are voluntary for school attendance.

Parents/guardians of students who would like their child to be vaccinated with one or more school-based vaccines at the school's clinic on Tuesday December 20th, 2022, should do the following:

1. Read the [Hepatitis B, Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\), and Meningococcal](#) vaccine fact sheets
2. Complete, sign and return the [School Immunizations consent form](#). Have your child return the signed consent form to their teacher by December 13th, 2022.
3. Wear a mask while attending the clinic.

For information about the [School Immunization Program](#), please also review our [School Immunization Program Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) and the [School Immunization Program Facts and Checklist](#). You can also speak to your health care provider or call Toronto Public Health at 416-338-7600, Monday-Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Interpretation services are available.

Sincerely,
Toronto Public Health

Resources for Grade 8 to 9: Preparing for High School

Further Resources for Families for Grade 8 to 9 Information:

- Attend the [Secondary School Open Houses and Information Nights](#)
- Research [Secondary Central Programs and Schools](#), [Alternative Schools](#) and [Local Programs](#) in the TDSB
- Review the [Beyond 8 - Grade 8 to 9 Transitions Resources](#)
- Students with [special education](#) needs for whom a change in setting or program is being considered for grade 9 should be discussed at the School Support Team (SST) meeting (this meeting will occur with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the SST)
- Parent/Teacher interviews
- Complete Individual Pathways Plan task(s)

The Bessborough Student Engagement Committee presents:
The 2022 Winter Holidays Fundraiser

Bessborough Cafe

**(candygrams, hot chocolate and
cookies, baked at school)**

**December 13, 15 & 16 in Room 31
at lunch**

This is a fundraiser in support of



**Covenant
House**
Toronto

We also collect Pre-Paid Presto Cards, small denomination gift cards from \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$25 from fast food restaurants like Subway, McDonald's, Tim Hortons, Harvey's, etc.

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE FOR THE RED DOOR FAMILY SHELTER DECEMBER 12-16



The Red Door Family Shelter is a sanctuary for women and their children escaping abuse, for refugees and families in crisis

THE RED DOOR SHELTER IS ACCEPTING NEW & UNUSED TOYS FOR

- **BABY/TODDLER 0-3Y, SCHOOL-AGED 3-6Y, OR 7-12Y, AND PRE-TEENS/TEENAGERS 13+.**
- **AT THIS TIME, THERE IS A GREATER NEED FOR TOYS IN THE 7-12Y CATEGORY.**
- **NEW & UNUSED, TOYS, BOARD GAMES, PUZZLES, AND ARTS & CRAFTS ITEMS.***
- *** NO STUFFED TOYS, WAR THEMED TOYS, GUNS, NERF OR WATER GUNS**

YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR TOYS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

BESSBOROUGH SPIRIT WEEK (December 12-16)



MONDAY- COLOUR DAY
WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR TO SCHOOL



TUESDAY- 80'S THEMED DAY
WEAR NEON AND 80'S THEMED ATTIRE



WEDNESDAY- SPORT JERSEY DAY
WEAR A SPORTS JERSEY OF YOUR FAVOURITE TEAM.



THURSDAY- HOLIDAY THEMED DAY



FRIDAY- DRESS UP AS YOU IN YOUR FUTURE JOB

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.



Appreciation Corner

A big thank you to Vanessa Kent and her team of volunteers for organizing pizza lunch!



Bessborough School Council is on Insta! @bessboroughschoolcouncil