

Monday, February 20, 2023

Bessborough E & MS Newsletter



Bessborough Elementary & Middle School

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Toronto, ON M4G 3K2

Safe Arrival:

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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:

- Feb. 20-Family Day-NO SCHOOL
- Feb. 21-G.7/8 Girls' Volleyball @ Don Mills MS
- Feb. 21-G.7/8 Boys' Basketball @ Glenview MS
- Feb. 21-Pizza Lunch
- Feb. 23-G.5/6 Boys' Basketball @Bessborough
- Feb. 24-G.5/6 Girls' Volleyball at Don Mills MS
- March 2-Parent Council at 6:30 PM &Janine Lawford



March 2nd-Creating Resiliency in Children

Mark Thursday, March 2nd at 6:30 pm on your calendar for a combined Parent Council Meeting and presentation by TDSB Social Worker, Janine Lawford. Janine will speak to what parents need to know about helping kids with self-confidence, identity, and resilience. Janine will be presenting at Bessborough Drive E&MS in the school library. Health and wellness is critically important and resources are available on the TDSB website [HERE](#)

Bessborough Wellness Club

From Mr. Chang and Ms. Buksner

We had over 50 grade 7 and 8 students step up to volunteer in a leadership role within Bessborough! Students have been mind-mapping different clubs and activities for our primary and junior students. Clubs will be starting this week at lunch times on **February 22, March 1, and March 8**. Here are the clubs:

- Bracelet Making -Grade 2/3 students**
- Volleyball Clinic - Grade 4/5 students**
- Perler Beads-Grade 1 students**

Teachers will be supporting the middle school students to run these clubs.

100th Anniversary-Looking for Committee Members

Did you know that Bessborough is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year? Bessborough was the first school to be opened in Leaside and originally opened in December 1923. The original school building consisted of 4 classrooms and, also, housed municipal offices in the basement. We are looking for members of our school community who would like to join the 100th Anniversary Committee to help commemorate this special anniversary. Please contact Parent Council Chair, Andrea Bee bee.andreaellen@gmail.com or Principal, Janet Bambrick janet.bambrick@tdsb.on.ca .



*Thank you for
your generosity,
Bessborough!*



The Student Engagement Committee raised \$ 912.80 from the Valentine's Day Candy Gram Sale and Online Donations, which will be donated to Make-A-Wish Foundation Canada. Thank you to all the online donors and all the students and teachers who worked so hard to organize this campaign. Thank YOU, Bessborough, for your immense generosity and for supporting this campaign!



February is African Heritage Month

At the Toronto District School Board, a motion to recognize African Heritage (Black History) Month was carried in January 2002 and reaffirmed again in January 2004. At Bessborough, students are engaged in learning about Black leaders in Canadian society both in class and on the morning announcements. As well, a team of Bessborough teachers are working with TDSB Equity Coaches from the Centre for Black Excellence to re-examine teaching and learning and to utilize texts that celebrate Black excellence and Black culture. Our parent/guardian community will be invited in early April (date and time TBD) to hear Michelle Munroe, Central Coordinator, Parent and Community Engagement who will lead a parent workshop entitled, "Raising an Anti-Racist Child". More details will be available in the next newsletter.

February is Chinese Heritage Month

The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize Chinese Heritage Month (CHM) during the month of February 2023. This year marks the Year of the Rabbit, which began on Sunday, January 22, 2023. At TDSB, the theme ***Year of the Rabbit: Kind, Generous, and Harmonious*** is being celebrated. This year, the Chinese Heritage Committee selected a second theme: ***Honouring a Legacy of Conviction and Fortitude*** to mark the 100th anniversary of the ***Chinese Immigration Act of 1923*** (known as the Chinese Exclusion Act). This Act restricted all people of Chinese descent from immigrating into Canada for 24 years with only 15 Chinese immigrants allowed entry into Canada from 1923 to 1946. Parliament officially repealed the act on May 14, 1947 and in 2006, the Government of Canada issued an official apology to Chinese Canadians; [Chinese Immigration Act, 1923](#). At Bessborough, students will be engaged in learning about Chinese leaders and their contributions to Canadian society in the classroom and through the daily announcements.

Kindergarten Registration-Opened February 1

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>

Resources for Grade 8 to 9: Preparing for High School

February

- Students must finalize their destination for secondary school (designated school by address, Central Program, Alternative School, Out-of-Area Admission) by completing and submitting the corresponding course selection for the accepted school in myBlueprint (February 27, 2023)
- **Course selection deadline (February 27, 2023)**
- Complete Individual Pathways Plan task(s)

Puppet-Making Fun!!

On Feb. 16, Puppetmongers came to Bessborough and performed Foolish Tales for Foolish Times for Grades K-3. Students made their own puppets in the afternoon.



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.



MAYFAIR 2023!

We've got a FABULOUS team assembled and planning is underway...stay tuned.
May 27th - mark your calendar.

School Council Meeting

Save the date for the next school council meeting. It will be held Thursday, March 2nd in the Bessborough Library. Stay tuned for more details.

100 Years of Bessborough!

This year marks Bessborough school's 100th year. We are looking for members to join the 100-year celebration committee. This group will oversee ways that we can highlight this milestone this year. Please email , Andrea Bee bee.andreaellen@gmail.com or Janet Bambrick janet.bambrick@tdsb.on.ca .if you are interested in joining.

Save the Date - Grade 8 Graduation - June 26th 2023

Bessborough's spirit of community holds a longstanding tradition where grade 7 families organize graduation, allowing families of graduates to relax and enjoy the day. While the school runs the ceremony, a team of volunteers organizes celebrations including a casual family reception and a fun after-party for the kids, supported by the School Council and grade 7 families.

We were grateful last year for the efforts of our grad committee Celine Smith Legousse, Heather Zimcik, Jennifer Avveduto, Christine Davis, Janet Embir & Amenah Ibrahim and their team of supporters who led a wonderful day to celebrate our new graduates and commemorate their time at Bessborough.

We are looking for people to carry the tradition forward. There are various roles, all well-documented from past volunteers with last year's committee members here to share information and guide. Please contact bessboroughschoolcouncil@gmail.com for more info and to lend a hand.

Thank you for your support!



Wednesday, February 22- Pizza Lunch

Thursday, March 2 - School Council Meeting



Bessborough School Council is on Insta! @bessboroughschoolcouncil