

Sunday, June 18, 2023

# Bessborough E & MS Newsletter



## Bessborough Elementary & Middle School

211 Bessborough Drive  
Toronto, ON M4G 3K2

### Safe Arrival:

[bessborough@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:bessborough@tdsb.on.ca)  
416.396.2319

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:

June 19-Pride Parade at 1PM

June 20-Track & Field City  
Finals at Birchmount Stadium

June 21- Grade 8 Grad  
rehearsal in AM;JK/SK End of  
Year Concert at 2:45 PM

June 22-Grade 8 Graduation at  
Leaside

June 26-Grade 3-6 attend  
"Elemental" 9AM

June 27-Volunteer  
Appreciation Tea 8am in  
library

June 28-Report Cards go home



## Bessborough Staff Changes

By now, most families have learned that our wonderful JK/SK teacher, Nancy Willoughby, will be retiring from Bessborough. Nancy has dedicated her career to children in the early years. She will be deeply missed by families and our Bessborough staff. We welcome Kimberley McNamara who will be coming to Bessborough from Duke of Connaught Junior and Senior Public School to join our kindergarten team.

This year at Bessborough we have been very lucky to have worked with long term occasional teachers who have replaced teachers that were on leave. I would like to thank Alison Bondy, Ruby Balshin, Chanel Warshafsky, Sam Brown, Elisheva Blatt, Jen Hick and Veronica Hum for their incredible dedication to students and families. It has been a pleasure working with these dedicated teachers.

## Lunchtime Ukulele Program at Bessborough in 2023-2024: Registration Now

Bessborough will be offering a new lunch time ukulele program for grade 4s and 5s (current grade 3s and 4s) for the 2023-2024 school year. This music program comes to Bessborough from Juno Award winner and CBC television host Melanie Doane, who for more than 13 years has been teaching thousands of students in Toronto public schools. Please see the attachment for more information and registering for this program. There are a limited number of spots, and the commitment is for the full school year on **Tuesdays** during the lunch recess. All information about the costs and purchasing ukuleles is in the attachment. We are excited to have this program come to our school!

Watch Melanie Doane's info video and [email](#) her to save a spot for your child.

[Doane Music School Registration Video #1](#)

## Pride Parade-June 19

From the Bessborough Pride Alliance

On June 19th starting at 1 pm, Bessborough will be hosting its first Pride Parade led by our PRIDE alliance. Students are encouraged to wear their most colourful attire to celebrate. Students have been learning about various important 2SLGBTQISA figures on our daily announcements and going over what it means to have pride! We are proud to celebrate the diversity that exists in our school community and to support education about being an ally during TDSB Pride Month.

## Parking and Safety on Bessborough Drive

We ask for your ongoing partnership in ensuring the safety of all students at Bessborough if you are driving your child to school. Recently our staff have noticed an increase in cars parking the wrong direction on Bessborough which is a safety concern.

Please ensure safety at drop-off and pick-up by:

- Stopping in the designated Drop-Off-Zone on the east side of Bessborough Drive – ***south of the Bus Loading Zone***.
- Ensuring that you do not stop and block traffic at any time on Bessborough.
- Walking students across the street if you park on the west side of Bessborough so children will not walk or run between moving vehicles.



## *Volunteer Appreciation Tea*

Have you volunteered in your child's class, School Council events, class trips or anywhere in our school this year?

Join us as we celebrate your greatness, energy, generosity, kindness and support for our students, school and community.

**June 27**  
**8:00 am - 9:00 am**  
**In our Library**

## Grade 8 Trip to Ottawa

The Grade 8s have just come back from their Grade 8 Graduation Trip. Visiting the parliament buildings, going on a “Ghost Tour” of Ottawa, and having a group picture with the Ottawa sign are just a few of the highlights. Thank-you to Ms. Ciobanu, Mr. Day, Ms. Malouin, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Brown, Ms. Hick and Ms. Hum for attending this trip with the grade 8 students. A special thank-you to Mr. Day for all his organization of the trip with Edutravel.



Ottawa Ghost Tour



Parliament Buildings and group picture with the Ottawa sign in Byward Market

## 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.



### **Movie Night Under The Stars - September 8, 2023!**

Every fall, Bessborough families celebrate the return of the school year and welcome new families to the school by gathering together on the field to watch a movie under the stars. Burgers and hot dogs are available for sale, as well as candy and glow in the dark accessories for parents and children to enjoy.

This year, Movie Night will take place on Friday, September 8th. Save the Date!

To make this event a success, we need volunteers the evening of the 8th. **Please consider giving an hour or two of your time and sign up:** [2023 Volunteer Sign up list](#)

Looking forward to another amazing event!

### **Get involved with School Council for the 2023/2024 School Year**

We are actively looking for Volunteers to help with School Council events and initiatives for the 2023/2024 school year. There are many different ways that you can get involved in Bessborough School Council and many different commitment levels. If you are interested in becoming a part of our growing team please let us know using our [Getting Involved](#) form or email Andrea Bee at [bee.andreaellen@gmail.com](mailto:bee.andreaellen@gmail.com)

**Team Lead positions (School Council Leadership Team Member)** - These roles require a year long commitment with regular involvement in school initiatives, attendance at Monthly team meetings and Quarterly School Council meetings. The Team Leads will organize and manage activities that fall within their managed silo (I.e 'Communications Lead' would manage web, social etc) including responsibility to collaborate with the Student Council Leadership team to plan/execute larger scale initiatives & events. These individuals will also organize volunteers for more specific roles and provide guidance to the other team members as needed.



**Core Team positions** - These roles have a once/twice a month commitment level, working regularly with Team Leads on specific initiatives or activities. Core Team members are encouraged to attend Quarterly School Council meetings.

**Initiative or Class Parent positions** - This is a perfect role if you would like to help with a specific initiative/event (I.e Mayfair, Specific Social events or Graduation etc) or if you want to work as the liaison between your children's teacher and the parent group as the 'Class Parent' Representative. The Team Leads and Core Team members will provide guidance and connection to the wider initiatives.

### **RECYCLING CENTRE**

Nowhere to put your markers or old batteries? Look no further than near the front doors inside Bessborough. We have a new recycling centre! The School Council will ensure that these items are recycled responsibly.

### **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](mailto:bee.andreaellen@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating.



**June 22 - Grade 8 Graduation (please note date has been changed to June 22)**



**Bessborough School Council is on Insta! @bessboroughschoolcouncil**