

Sunday, June 25, 2023

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:
Janet Bambrick
Vice Principal:
Lynette Bacon

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

Upcoming Events:

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

June 27-Volunteer
Appreciation Tea 8am in
library; Room 4 to the Fire
Station

June 28-Tribal Vision Dance
Performance -11am-11:45 am
(lunch time from 11:45am -
12:40 pm); Report Cards and
Yearbooks go home; Teachers
vs Students Baseball Game

June 29-Rm 7 to the Fire
Station; Grade 1-6 Playday in
the PM

June 30-LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



Wednesday, June 28 Lunch from 11:45AM-12:40 PM

In celebration of Nation Indigenous History Month, the students in grades 1-8 will be watching a performance by Tribal Vision Dance: Visions of Turtle Island on Wednesday, June 28th at 11 am. The performance will run approximately 45 minutes. Students will be dismissed for lunch when then performance is over (**approximately 11:45 am**). For students who go home for lunch they will be leaving the school later than normal but will be expected back to school and in their classes for the **regular time of 12:40 pm**. We are looking forward to this performance which comes to us from Prologue for the Arts.

Report Cards and Yearbooks

Report cards will be going home with students on Wednesday, 28th in the afternoon. Students with IEPs and students with ELL reports, will receive those documents with their report cards. Students who ordered yearbooks will receive them on Wednesday, the 28th as well. A very special thank-you to parent, Jennifer Avveduto, who worked on this year's yearbook!

Office Closed July 4 for Boiler Conversion

The boiler conversion project is in full swing and will begin in classrooms as soon as the school year finishes on June 30th. This will mean that the office will be closed as there will be a lot of dust and construction debris from the removal of the old radiators and pipes. Office staff will respond to emails from families from July 4-7, after which time summer holidays will begin for office staff. The office will open again on August 28th. The first day of school will be the day after Labour Day, on September 5th.

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](#)



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

Track and Field City Finals

Congratulations to all the track and field athletes who competed at the City Finals this past week! Bessborough sent a record of 34 athletes to this year's finals! We are so proud of all the athletes for their hard work getting to this point. Special mention to our medal winners at the City Finals include:

- Samantha Macdonald (Grade 4 Girls Hurdles) First Place
- Warren Appleton (Grade 4 Boys Shotput) Second Place
- Chloe Wilson (Grade 8 Girls 1500m & 800m) Third Place
- Blaire Orman (Gr 8 Girls Hurdles) First Place
- Keaton Collis (Grade 8 Boys Shotput) Third Place

Congratulations Bessborough and we can't wait for next year!



Pride Parade-June 19

Many thanks to the Pride Alliance, teachers Ruby Balshin, Tina Reid and Sue Thurow and the many families who joined us! Thanks as well to parent Allison Lort for these wonderful pictures!



Kindergarten June Concert



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.

tdsb.on.ca





Bessborough School Council - It Has been a Busy Year!

Bessborough School Council has facilitated our community coming together to support all those in our schools - kids, staff, and families. It's a lot of work, and an invaluable contribution.

Pause and consider our year:

- Weekly bulletins, class parent emails, maintained a current website
- General School Meetings in person and zoom, Executive Meetings (and minutes for each!)
- We supported our staff, appreciating them with massages, cookies, flowers, gift cards and caffeine!
- We brought back the lunch programs after a Covid hiatus!
- We introduced new parents through the Kindie Coffee and Grade 7 Parent Welcome Nights
- We brought our parent community together with our first ever Trivia Night, Street Crawl and booked Lawn Bowling for next year
- We have new stylish Bessborough Spirit Wear
- We started a new hot lunch program and served 9 pizza lunches!
- Our families and community came together at our Welcome Back BBQ & Movie Night and Mayfair
- We support the celebration of years of growth at Bessborough with Grade 8 graduation ceremonies

- We bought spring plants from Plantables AND supported our school
- 'We' wrote many cheques, made many deposits, organized Cash Online purchases and processed expense reports and budgets to go with
- We supported the staff who teach our kids perspective on being citizens of a bigger world

Message from School Council Chair, Andrea Bee

As this school year comes to a close, I would like to thank all of the Parents and Caregivers who contributed their time to ensure the success of our School Council events this year, and every year. It truly does take a village! The initiatives run by School Council and Parent community are truly what makes the Bessborough Community one to be proud of.

Thank you to the entire **School Council Executive Committee**, Geoff Lamb, Andrea Jeffery, Lisa Suutari, Christine Davis, Eva Svec, Sarah Pooley, Josette Katkic, Kozue Schmidt, and Charlotte Fleming.

Grade 8 Graduation Committee - A massive thank you goes to the Grade 8 Graduation Committee for organizing such a memorable evening for our Grade 8 students. To Heather McKelvey for taking the lead and to our other Grade 7 parent volunteers; Maria Tsvetkov, Deryk Beal, Janet Embir, Rebecca Handford, Jacqui Dickens, Tammi Visano, Judy Marshall, Jennifer Peel, Eva Svec and Margie Mills. A shout out to those Grade 7 parents that helped us on the day with cleaning up and chaperoning - thank you!

It is in the spirit of "Paying it Forward" that Grade 7 parents volunteer to make the Grade 8 Graduation stress free for the current Grad Parents. The committee looks forward to handing the wisdom over to next year's volunteers!

Kilometer Club - Thanks to Allie Lort, Heather Wright, Adrienne Zarem and Leila Baghdadadi for dusting off the runners and getting the Kilometer Club running again! Thank you to those parents that showed up every morning this week to hand out popsicle sticks and necklace charms. What a fabulous week and way to start the day.

Yearbook - Another thank you to Jennifer Avveduto for the many hours spent putting together our yearbook - it's no small feat!

In no particular order, a few more final thank you's for the following:

Movie Night - Celine Smith La Gousse - we will miss you!

Grade 7 Parent Social - Judy Marshall and Jen Peel

Pizza lunch - Vanessa Kent, Sarah Pooley, Rachel Gordon, and Andrea Bee

Kindie Welcome - Laura Wright and Rachel Gordon

Kindie Coffee - Rachel Gordon, Heather Sheehan, and Andrea Bee

Kindie Concert - Heather Sheehan and Laura Wright

Mayfair - Christine Davis, Charlotte Fleming, Andrea Jeffery, Laura Wright, Alison Toh, Alison Steinman, Lia MacLeod, Andrea Bee, and Celine Smith Le Gousse

Trivia Night - Andrea Bee and Rachel Gordon

Spirit Wear - Allie Lort

Plantables - Rachel Gordon

Class Parents - Laura Wright, Heather Sheehan, Jenny Banwell, Alison Toh, Rhonda Nauth, Lindsay Freelan, Robin Masters, Kelly Gianopoulos, Kozue Schmidt, Leanne Rhee, Heather McKelvey, Helen Froggatt, Laura Rumble, Celine Smith Le Gousse, Lisa Suutari, Leah Brock, Tamara Moore, Carmen Chang Choi, Ally Diniz, Jacqui Dickens, and Allie Lort

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

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 Parents' Representative. The Team Leads and Core Team members will provide guidance and connection to the wider initiatives.

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](#)

Have a relaxing, safe, and happy summer Bessborough. We look forward to next year.

See you in September!



Sept 8th - Welcome back Movie Night



Bessborough School Council is on Insta! @bessboroughschoolcouncil