



Birch Cliff PS Community Newsletter

September 2023
Newsletter #3

Message from the School Office

And another week has passed. Time flies when you are having fun!

We need you!

Parent Council is looking for volunteers! Thank you to all those who have already come forward. If you are able to share any of your valuable time, please send an email to: michelle.lipp@tdsb.on.ca with your full name, child's name and teacher as well as your contact information.

Parent Council Meeting for September

Our first Parent Council Meeting for the 2023-2024 school year will be on **Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00pm** at Birch Cliff PS. While we would love to see you in person, the meeting will also have a virtual option for those that are unable to attend. The link will be shared closer to the date. A nomination form can be found [here](#).

Dates of Significance

To include both student and parent voices, we would like to hear from you about what special days of significance you would like to see recognized at our school during the school year. This will help us determine which special days will be announced during the morning announcements. In the future, if possible, at the time, we may also ask parents to provide information and perhaps artefacts to help us celebrate at school in a meaningful way. Please discuss this with your family and we invite you to respond [here](#) to inform us of the dates or events you would like to be recognized. We look forward to hearing from you!

Lunch Programs

This year, we will continue to offer hot lunches through the Kid's Kitchen Lunch Program on Mondays starting the week of September 11th. For ordering information, please <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dgV8Q4VctHCLp5blkCw8-UZFM7yumDSXwmBkX8LyFb0/edit?usp=sharing>

Our first Pizza lunch for this school year will be on **Friday, September 29**. To place your order, please use the following link - <https://munchalunch.com/schools/BirchCliff/> . Please wait until Monday, September 18th to place your order.

Participation in the Snack Program (Morning Meal)

Birch Cliff PS will be continuing our Snack (Morning Meal) Program this school year. We hope to have it running for Monday, October 2, 2023.

If you can help, we are accepting donations. We were just notified that Donations can be made through the Toronto Foundation for Student Success donation page here: <https://tfss.ca/donate/schoolsites-snp> . If you would like to make a cash donation, a paper donation form can be picked up in the Office.

ALL students who want to participate will have the opportunity when they return their registration form, regardless of donation to the program. Paper copies of the participation form were sent home with students last week.

Lunch Information Form

Last week, students also received a Lunch Information Form. Please complete the paper copy and return to the school.

If your child usually stays at the school for lunch but has special permission to leave school property on a certain day, they must bring a note to the office, sign-out and sign-in at the end of lunch.

Digital Start of Year Forms

At this time, the Start of Year Forms have been sent to all families. So far, we have had approximately 60% of families complete and submit their forms.

Please complete these forms as soon as possible. If you have not received the package via email, please be sure to check your junk folder.

Data Verification Forms

Data Verification Forms for each child will be sent home today. Please review the information listed and make any necessary changes before returning them to the school. Please return all forms, regardless of whether any changes were made.

Terry Fox Walk

Once again the students and staff of Birch Cliff Public School are proud to be taking part in our annual Terry Fox Walk **Thursday September 21st at 12:45 pm.**

If you are able, please donate to the Terry Fox Foundation. You can donate online by visiting:

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/BirchCliffPSScarborough>

to be taken to our school's fundraising page. Thank you for joining us in the fight against cancer.

If you are available to volunteer to help us during our walk, please send an email to: michelle.lipp@tdsb.on.ca.

Cross Country

We had a great turn out for the first week of practice for Cross Country. We will continue again on Monday morning. All students are to meet by the portable at 8:10am. All Grades 1-8 students are welcome and can still get a permission form on Monday morning. Please return it as soon as possible. Please remember to bring extra socks and maybe a change of shoes as the field can be quite damp this time of year.

Basketball

We also have Junior and Intermediate girls' basketball starting up! Junior girls will be practising on Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunch, while Intermediate girls' will be practising Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at lunch.

Lates and Absences

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the school if your child is going to be absent. Our Safe Arrival Phone is available 24 hrs and can be called at any time.

Parents/Guardians are asked to follow the prompts and leave a message or email catherine.millan@tdsb.on.ca with the following information if your child will be absent or late:

- Your child's first and last name
- Your child's grade and teacher
- Reason and length of absence
- Date of your call

Safe Arrival Phone: 1-833-250-2290 or alternatively, call the school at 416-396-6060.

Families also have the option to use the School Messenger app for a faster and easier way to report absences and receive communication sent by the TDSB and your school. [Click here to download the APP](#)

Recess and Outdoor Learning

PLEASE dress your child for the weather. We will be outside as much as possible unless it is raining hard, there is any risk of thunderstorms, or it is very, very cold outside. Should you require assistance with accessing appropriate clothing, please notify the Office.

Arrival, Dismissal and Lunchtime

The schedule for the 2023-2024 school year at Birch Cliff PS is as follows:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	Field Supervision
8:45 am	Student Entry
9:55 am - 10:10 am	Recess
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch
1:50 pm - 2:05 pm	Recess
3:15 pm	Dismissal
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Field Supervision

Upcoming Important dates

- September 20 – School Council Meeting – 6pm
- September 21 – Terry Fox Run
- September 27 – Cross Country Meet at Chine Dr. PS – 4-6pm
- September 29 – Orange Shirt Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- September 29 – Pizza lunch
- October 2 – Snack (Morning Meal) Program begins
- October 4 – Meet the Teacher Open House – 6-7 pm
- October 6 – PA Day
- October 10 – Cross Country – East Qualifier - 10 am
- October 17 – Toronto Public Health Immunization Clinic for Grade 7 and 8
- October 18 – Grade 8 to 9 Information Night – 6:30-8 pm
- October 20 – Picture Day

Questions or concerns? Please contact us!

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