



# Birch Cliff PS Community Newsletter

September 2023 - Newsletter #3

## Message from the School Office

Our Terry Fox Walk was an amazing success. Thank you to all that came to help out and support us. Our Birch Cliff community is amazing!

## Meet the Teacher Open House

Birch Cliff PS will be hosting our Meet the Teacher Open House on **Wednesday, October 4 from 6-7pm**. We are looking forward to seeing everyone! Spirit Wear will also be available for sale.

## Book Fair

Birch Cliff P.S. is very excited to announce the return of the Fall Book Fair! Our neighborhood bookstore, Ella Minnow, will be curating a vast selection of new titles and high-interest books for our students.

When: October 2 - 5 (during and after school, Open House Night)

Where: In the Library

Please see the flyer attached [HERE](#) for more details.

Interested in volunteering? The library is seeking volunteers to support us during the Fair. Please reach out to Mrs. Kokolakis at [sophia.kokolakis@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:sophia.kokolakis@tdsb.on.ca) for details.

## Orange Shirt Day

September 30th is Orange Shirt Day & the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Students, Staff and families at the TDSB will recognize this day on Friday, September 29th to remember the Indigenous children that died in the residential school system and to honour Survivors. Starting September 25<sup>th</sup>, Birch Cliff will recognize Truth and Reconciliation Week, ending with a gathering on Friday September 29th at 12:45pm to start off on our annual Truth and Reconciliation Walk. We encourage all to join us in wearing Orange next Friday.

## Recognition Assembly

Our first Recognition Student recognition assembly for this year will be on **Monday, September 25th** in the morning. The TDSB monthly character trait is Respect. Congratulations in advance to our student winners!

## Cross Country

We continue to have a great turn out for Cross Country – over 85 students! Our first meet for this year will be at Chine Dr. P.S. on **Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm**. Parents are required to accompany students who wish to participate. Please note that parking is extremely limited.

## Fresh from the Farm

Birch Cliff will be working *Fresh from the Farm*, a healthy fundraising alternative to schools by selling fresh Ontario-grown fruit and vegetables. This year, we will be offering a vegetable bundle and an Ambrosia apple bundle (see the flyer found [HERE](#))

To place your order, please use the following link - <https://munchalunch.com/schools/BirchCliff/>

## 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. Additional paper copies of the participation form were sent home are available at the Office.

### 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!

### Data Verification Forms

Data Verification Forms for each child will be sent home last week. 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.

### Lunch Information Form

A few weeks ago, 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.

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### 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](mailto: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 25 – Student Recognition Assembly  
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 2-5 – Book Fair  
October 4 – Meet the Teacher Open House – 6-7 pm  
October 6 – PA Day  
October 9 - Thanksgiving  
October 10 – Cross Country – East Qualifier - 10 am  
October 17 – Toronto Public Health Immunization Clinic for Grade 7 and 8  
October 18 – School Council Meeting – 6:30pm  
October 20 – Picture Day

**Questions or concerns? Please contact us!**

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