



# BLYTHWOOD JPS

Principal: Mrs. R. Barone-Pace  
Superintendent: Mr. Roni Felsen

School Office: 416.393-9105  
Trustee: Rachel Chernos-Lin  
September 2023

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents/Guardians:

We extend a warm welcome to all new students and families to the Blythwood family. Welcome back to our returning students and families. We hope you had a very pleasant and restful summer.

The staff at Blythwood are very excited to welcome our students back and continue to be committed to the development and growth of each student. Together we teach, mentor and coach our students to grow as learners and to challenge themselves to achieve success. In alignment with TDSB's goals, the Blythwood staff will continue to develop student achievement and transform student learning; build positive school and workplace cultures that support mental health and well-being; and promote equity and inclusion to enhance learning opportunities for all students.

On Friday, all parents will receive a welcome letter from your child(ren) teacher(s). Please note that much time, thought and reasoning has been placed with the organization of all our classes. Students' academic and social well-being have been considered. For this reason, request for changes will not be considered at this time. Please support your child with a positive

The organization of class lists and student placements is always done with the best interest of each student. Much time and attention are taken to ensure appropriate placement. Please note that should there be any significant increase and/or decrease in student population, we may need to reorganize some classes within the school. We will be reviewing our student numbers throughout the next few weeks and follow Board direction. Should a change impact your child, you will be informed by the school prior to any changes. Should reorganization NOT occur, all class placements will remain as currently assigned. Changes will not be made

Please read the Parent Handbook for important information.

I look forward to working with you and wish you a happy, healthy, and successful year!

Best Regards,  
R. Barone-Pace

## SCHOOL HOURS

8:55 a.m.	Entry/Start of Day
9:05 a.m.	Anthem/announcements
10:05-10:20 a.m.	Morning recess
11:40-12:45 p.m.	Lunch
2:10-2:25 p.m.	Afternoon recess
3:35 p.m.	Dismissal

## SCHOOL STAFF FOR 2023-2024

Principal	Mrs. R. Barone-Pace
OA (Office Administrator)	
Caretaker	
FDK JK/SK	Mr. A Zamora/Ms. A. Senthivel
FDK JK/SK	MS. J. Lindsay/Ms. M. Karras
GR.1	Ms. C. Stants
GR.1	Ms. A. Scalzo
GR.2	Ms. M. Katyal
GR.2	Ms. J. Singh
GR.3	Mr. R. Rampersad
GR.¾	Ms. G. Evelyn
GR. 4 (a.m./ Ms. E. Zacaj p.m.)	Ms. J. Solomon
GR.4/5	Ms. B. Ugolini
GR.5/6	Mr. P. Carnide
GR.5/6	Ms. C. Brown
French (4-8)	Ms. E. Zacaj
Physical Education	Mr. D. Haywood
Special Education	Ms. Z. Lucas
ESL	Ms. N. Compton/Ms. B. Ugolini
Educational Asst.	Ms. D. Kumpf
Sp. Needs Asst.	Ms. D. Kumpf

## Safe Arrival Program



If your child will be absent from school for any reason, please call the school office 416-393-9105 option 1or 1-833-250-2290. Please leave details of the absence on the voicemail.

Messages can be left 24 hours/day, 7/days a week. The TDSB's automated call-out system will call parents for students that are absent without a known reason.

## SUPERVISION

Staff supervision in our schoolyard begins at 8:40 a.m. Students should not be dropped off in the schoolyard prior to this time.

Schoolyard supervision, at the end of the day, ends at 3:50 p.m. Parents/caregivers should meet students at their designated exit/entry door by this time.

**\*\*Please note that staff does not supervise the Playscape before and after school. If you allow your child to access the Playscape during these times, parents are responsible for supervising their child(ren) \*\***

### **DROP OFF AND Staff Parking Lot**

Please do not park in the school parking lot. We have limited parking for staff and TDSB visiting staff.

Your child(ren) safety is very important to us at Blythwood. Please follow the safety traffic rules for drop off and pick up. We encourage parents driving to school to please use the Kiss and Ride program. It ensures that your child is safely removed from your vehicle.

Parents, please do not have your children stop to tie their boots/shoes or adjust their clothing behind your vehicle. Cars pulling up to drop off their children may not see your child crouched down and this may result in a serious accident.

After school pick up continues to cause some disruption to our bus picking up our students. You are not to be parked in the bus pick up zone at any time during the day. Cars should not be stopped or parked on the East side of Strathgowan. Lastly, please do not park in our neighbours' driveways. This is private property and maintaining positive relationship with our community neighbours is very important. Cars should not be using these driveways to turn around or make three point turns on Strathgowan.

Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated. We all want to keep your children safe.

### **Entry and Exit Procedures LUNCHTIME**

Parents will be required to commit to either having your child stay at school EVERY DAY or go home for lunch EVERY DAY. For safety reasons we cannot manage diverse schedules for multiple students. On the occasion where a student who stays for lunch, is required to go out for lunch, parents will need to inform the school of this.

Students will eat lunch between 11:40 to 12:10 p.m. at their desks, in their classrooms, supervised by our Lunchroom Supervisors. Students can bring a placemat for their desk if they wish and must have all necessary eating utensils with them. Students will not be sharing food or utensils. Students will be outside for the lunch recess and should be dressed accordingly for the weather. In the event of inclement weather, students will be in their classrooms for lunch recess.

Students who go home everyday for lunch will be dismissed at their designated entry/exit door. They need to return to their designated area in the schoolyard at the end of their lunch recess break; remembering to arrive on time to come into the school with their class.

### **VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS**



Parents, visitors, and volunteers are required to come to the office and sign in upon arrival. A binder is available for sign in along with a visitor lanyard which you are expected to wear while in the school building. Please remember to sign out at the office when you are leaving.

**IMPORTANT:** All volunteers require a Police Reference Check. Please contact the office for further information.

### **ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT: Allergen-Aware Environment**



Please take special note that we have children in our school who have serious, life-threatening allergies to tree nuts, peanuts, all nut/peanut products, seafood products.

Students should not bring any nuts, peanuts, peanut butter or any food containing nuts or peanut products such as peanut oil, sesame seeds etc., as well as any seafood products to school.

If your child suffers from a life-threatening allergy, please ensure that the school is aware and all paperwork and medication is updated on an annual basis. We appreciate your support in creating a safe and healthy environment for all children each day.

### **STUDENTS WHO BECOME ILL AT SCHOOL OR REPORTED ILL AND AT HOME**

Before coming to school, all staff, students, and visitors are expected to conduct a daily self-assessment.

If your child is unwell, please keep your child home. If your child feels unwell at school, we will contact parents.

### **SAFETY AND ACCIDENTS**

Please take a few minutes to review basic safety rules with your child. This will reinforce the lessons taught by the teachers regarding safety and rules at school. Despite the constant reminders and attention given to students regarding safety, occasional accidents do happen.

In case of a minor accident i.e., cuts, scratches etc., first aid will be administered by the school staff. If the child continues to be uncomfortable or is in distress, it is the school's practice to notify the parent/guardian. In case of serious accidents, the parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible to request direction from them.

The principal will take the appropriate action as directed by the TDSB if attempts to contact you are not successful. In case of an emergency, it is imperative that we have an up-to-date telephone number for your home, work, daytime care provider, day care or emergency contact other than a parent. Please inform the school of any changes in contact information throughout the year.

### **AGENDAS AND SCHOOL CALENDAR**

All students in grades 1-6 will receive an agenda. This will

help keep students organized. Please review important information found in your child's agenda. Parents will continue to have access to our Blythwood google calendar. <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/blythwood/Calendar>

### CELL PHONES AND PERSONAL DEVICES



As per Blythwoods's Code of Conduct, please be reminded that the use of cell phones is not permitted by students during the school day. Cell phones must be powered off and kept out of view throughout the day and during school sanctioned events. If your child has an urgent need to call home, he/she needs to come to the school office and use the phone available to them. Electronic devices- Ipods, cameras, tablets, cell phones etc., are ONLY permitted when approved by the teacher for program use in the classrooms. If these items are used during school hours, they will be confiscated and returned only to a parent at the end of the day.

### PARENT COUNCIL

Parent council news will be coming September 6<sup>th</sup> with upcoming activities.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### TERRY FOX RUN

Our students will be participating in the annual Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students will be walking/running in support of this very important event. More information will follow.



#### CHARACTER EDUCATION



The virtue for the month of September is Respect.

Our character education assembly will be Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### CURRICULUM NIGHT

Our curriculum night will be held on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. More information will follow.

#### PHOTO DAY

Our Photo Day will be on **October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**