BOWMORE ROAD BULLETIN

80 Bowmore Rd Toronto, ON M4L3J3 Tel: (416) 393-9450 May 16, 2025



Principal (Acting) Kosta Flegas: konstantinos.flegas@tdsb.on.ca; Vice-Principal Jacquie Neveu: Jacqueline.Neveu@tdsb.on.ca;

Vice-Principal (Acting) Andreya Padmore: andreya.padmore@tdsb.on.ca;

School Website: Please visit our school website for important information and upcoming events.

https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/bowmore/

Bowmore School Council: www.bowmoresc.com and facebook.com/BowmoreSC/

The School Council has launched a <u>new Bowmore School Council website</u>. Please visit and bookmark this site to stay up-to-date on all things School Council, including the latest volunteer opportunities, meetings, and initiatives.

Principal's Message

Dear Bowmore Families,

This week our Caring and Safe Schools update is included in the Principal's message. At Bowmore, student safety and well-being remain our top priorities. We want to share some important updates and reminders to help us continue supporting a safe and respectful learning environment for all students.

Recently, a concerning incident involving a small group of Kindergarten students occurred, where some children engaged in inappropriate behavior, including exposing themselves and encouraging others to do the same. We have taken this matter very seriously. In response, our Kindergarten educators are engaging students in age-appropriate learning about consent, boundaries, and respecting their own bodies and the bodies of others. We have also shared resources and offered social work support to assist with this important learning. Please take a moment to talk to your children about these topics at home. We have attached a helpful resource titled The Underwear Rule, which supports conversations about body safety and consent in a child-friendly way. Flyer Link

Additionally, we want to reinforce our cell phone policy. Students may use their phones only during lunch. If a teacher asks a student to put their phone away, they are expected to do so immediately. Not following staff instructions is a violation of the TDSB Code of Conduct, and families will be contacted.

Please be aware of unsafe trends circulating on platforms like TikTok, including "virtual water fights" and tampering with laptops and other devices. These behaviours pose serious safety risks. Please talk to your children about using technology responsibly and doing their part to keep Bowmore safe.

We are also seeing a growing trend among older students known as "shipping", where students act as matchmakers or pair up their peers in romantic pairings, often without consent. While some students may see this as playful, it can lead to uncomfortable situations, hurt feelings, and sometimes the use of inappropriate or disrespectful language. We are addressing this at school and ask that you speak with your children about respecting others' boundaries and privacy.

A reminder that our **Kindergarten Open House will take place on June 9 at 4:30 p.m.** We look forward to welcoming new families and will share additional details next week.

Lost and Found Policy

Beginning June 1, 2025, we are introducing a new Lost and Found policy. All unclaimed items will be cleared on the first school day of each month and donated to a local charity. Please check the Lost and Found regularly to avoid losing valuable items.

Construction Update - Door 6 Entrance

Please note that brick maintenance work is currently taking place near Door 6. As a result, this entrance will remain closed for approximately one to two weeks. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

See you on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Have a wonderful long weekend!

Warm regards, Kosta, Jacquie, Andreya

Upcoming Important Dates

- <u>Jewish</u> & <u>Asian Heritage Month</u> (May)
- May 19: Victoria Day (no school)
- May 22: Spring Concert (Jr. classes and 3/4 class) @ 5:30 pm 6:30 pm
- May 29: Jump Rope School-Wide event
- May 29: Grade 8 Grad Panoramic Photo Day (11:30 am)
- June 9: Kindergarten Open House (4:30 pm 5:30 pm)
- June 12: Teacher Appreciation lunch
- June 23: Grad Trip
- June 25: Grade 8 Graduation (Monarch Park Cl @ 1:00 pm)
- June 25: Grade 8 Reception (Bowmore Road PS @ 3:00 pm Students only)
- June 27: Last Day of School (Hooray!

TDSB News

Link: May 2025 Parent/Guardian Special Education and Inclusion Newsletter.

Sports Update

- Monday, May 19th: Holiday
- Tuesday May 20th: Grade 8 Flag Rugby Tournament @ Hodgeson PS all day/ Track and Field (Throws, distances, 4X400m, Standing Jump) @ 8:00am/ Sr. Boys Slo Pitch Practice (Bowmore White) @ 12:10 pm
- Wednesday May 21st: Track and Field (100m,200m, 4X100m) @ 8:00 am/ Jr. Girls Slo Pltch 3:45 pm-5:00 pm /Grade 7 Flag Rugby Tournament @ DA Morrison all day
- Thursday, May 22nd: Junior Girls Slo pitch hosting tournament (Morning)/ Grade 6 Boys Slow-Pitch Team playing a tournament at Wadlow Park (All Day)/Grade 6 Flag Rugby Tournament @ Pantry Park all day
- Friday, May 23rd:

Staff Appreciation Lunch - June 12

Parents in our community are organizing a Staff Appreciation Lunch to recognize the 100+ Bowmore staff who collectively teach, lead and support our children every day. In keeping with past year's events, the lunch will be catered by local businesses. The event relies on contributions from the Bowmore community to be a success, both in time and financial support. Donations can be made by etransfer to: bowmoresal2025@gmail.com until Friday, May 30. Financial contributions are optional, and any amount is appreciated. If you are available to volunteer your time to help with the event on June 12, or if you have any questions about the lunch, please email bowmoresal2025@gmail.com. This event includes all of our teachers, and we are trying to communicate this message without their involvement. Please help spread the word by sharing this information with others you know in the school community.

Bowmore Nutrition Program

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May 19th-23rd	
Monday	Holiday
Tuesday	Applesauce
Wednesday	Tangerines and Bananas
Thursday	Yogurt Tube
Friday	Cherrios

The Nutrition Team: bowmoresnack@gmail.com

Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser

Thank you to those who have already donated to our Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser for heart and stroke research. This school-wide event is meant to raise awareness of heart health and to help kids build healthy lifelong habits. Please use the direct link https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/86271

to donate to Bowmore's campaign. A percentage of the funds donated will be kicked back to fund our school needs. Ensure you comment on which room your child is from so we can keep track and reward the classroom with the most donated funds! Our jump date is scheduled for Thursday, May 29, 2025. Thank you all for your support and contributions!

Crochet Club Update: Creating Chickens with Creativity and Kindness



We are excited to share the wonderful work happening in our Crochet Club! The students have been learning how to crochet chickens, and their enthusiasm and creativity are truly inspiring. Every week, the students come with positive attitudes, a willingness to help one another, and a strong sense of persistence as they learn this new skill. We have been enjoying our lunch hours on Thursdays with these talented and kind kids. It's been a pleasure to watch them work together, support each other, and have fun while crafting.

Warmly,
Ms. Williams and Ms. Dimitropoulos

Library Update



Ms Reid, Ms. Moran and Ms. Jarvis accompanied over 60 students to the two Forest of Reading Festivals to meet the authors of this year's Silver Birch and Red Maple ceremonies. It was an exciting event with students hearing inspirational talks from the authors themselves, getting autographs and seeing firsthand which books were the winners! All Forest of Reading books are available for checking out at the library. We are already looking forward to next year's Silver Birch and Red Maple book clubs. https://forestofreading.com

Used Book Sale

We are gearing up for our annual Used Book Sale. Thank you for all the amazing donations so far. We are still collecting gently used books (Primary to Adult), puzzles, and games to be used in our book sale. Donations can be dropped off at the office or brought directly to the library. Classes will be scheduled to visit the sale throughout the week, or families can visit during the extended hours. It will be CASH onl,y and items will be priced very reasonably. All money raised will go to support our library (e.g. more bean bag chairs, chess tables, puzzles, puppets, games, books, etc.)

Used Book Sale Hours- mark your calendars

Mon, June 9 - 1:00 PM-4:00 PM Tue, June 10- 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Wed, Jun 11- 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM Thu, June 12 - 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM Fri, June 13th - 8:30 to 1:00 PM

If you have any questions to Ms. Jarvis at leah.mcnabjarvis@tdsb.on.ca Happy Reading, Bowmore!

Bowmore School Council

1. Council Funding Proposals for 2025-26

With the end of the school year approaching, School Council is turning their minds towards the 2025-26 school year. We would like to invite you to submit your proposals for items or projects you would like to see Council fund next year. The School Council budget is limited and it is essential that all proposals come with a person of responsibility who will be in charge of ensuring that the funds requested, if approved, are spent. The School Council Budget Committee will meet to consider proposals in June and voting to approve accepted proposals will take place early in the 2025-26 school year.

Please submit your proposal <u>here</u> before 5pm on Friday, May 30.

Any questions regarding the proposal form or budgeting process can be sent to bowmoresc@gmail.com.

2. Next Pizza Lunch Fundraiser - Friday, May 30

Ordering is open now on Lunchbox for our next pizza lunch on Friday, May 30. Ordering will close at noon on Sunday, May 25.

Our final pizza lunch of the year will be held on Friday, June 20.

With the end of the year coming, and more field trips and sporting events taking place, please be sure to cross reference your calendars and cancel your pizza orders for days when your student(s) won't be in school.

3. New Bowmore School Council website

We are excited to launch the <u>new Bowmore School Council website</u>. Please visit and bookmark this site to stay up-to-date on all things School Council, including the latest volunteer opportunities, meetings, and initiatives.

4. Last change to order your Bowmore T-shirts - Orders close Monday!

Only a few days left to place your order for the new Bowmore t-shirts. Shirts are available in Red or Black, in Youth and Adult Sizes. T-Shirts are \$17 each (incl tax) and must be ordered through School Cash Online by midnight on Monday May 19th. We hope to distribute the tshirts to students by Friday May 30th or Monday June 2nd. *Note: Images are for reference only to show the design and the colours, they are not the final product.* If you have any questions, please email bowmorespiritwear@gmail.com.

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER

CLICK HERE to see Shirts and Size Chart

Spiritwear is a Bowmore School Council initiative to build community and pride. Any funds raised through spiritwear orders will support various programs, events, activities and equipment to enrich students' education at all grade levels and across all disciplines.

For financial assistance to purchase spiritwear, please contact our principal, Kosta Flegas (Konstantinos.Flegas@tdsb.on.ca)

5. TDSB Budget Cuts - Your Voice is Needed!

The TDSB is currently under great budgetary pressure. The Board has been told by the Minister of Education that it must cut \$58 million from its budget by the end of June or be placed under supervision by the Ministry. Government funding of our public education system is not keeping pace with inflation, leading to increasing budget shortfalls year over year. TDSB Trustees are calling for the Government of Ontario to give fair funding of our public education system. It is time for parents and caregivers to ask for the same.

To learn more about the Trustees call for fair funding, please see their press release of May 7 here.

At risk of being cut are our children's access to a pool in school (and consequently also in the community), itinerant music teachers, special ed supports, outdoor education programs, and more. To object to pool closures, please consider signing this petition.

Please also consider calling or writing to Premier Ford, Minister of Education Paul Calandra, Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, and our Local MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon. You may use <u>this website</u> to easily send a pre-populated email to the above individuals. Templates for phone calls and emails are available <u>here</u>.

Additional resources and information on the issue are available through <u>East End Parents 4 Public Education</u> on Facebook, a group led by local parents and caregivers.

Student Artwork Featured in EcoNova Art Contest

Following our recent message about showcasing student work, we're excited to share that three students from La Salle 27 will be participating in the national art contest "Le futur se dessine! Édition 2025", organized by EcoNova.

This creative contest invites young Canadians to imagine and illustrate their vision of the future—especially as it relates to the environment and the world we want to live in. Our students designed their own version of *La ville du futur* (The City of the Future), blending innovation, sustainability, and creativity.

Please find attached their incredible submissions. We are so proud of their work and their commitment to imagining a better world! Entries are open until June 30, 2025.

