

# BOWMORE ROAD BULLETIN

Friday, November 1, 2024



80 Bowmore Rd Toronto, ON M4L 3J3 Tel: (416) 393-9450

Principal: Bruce Taylor - [bruce.taylor@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:bruce.taylor@tdsb.on.ca)

Vice-Principal: Jacquie Neveu - [Jacqueline.Neveu@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Jacqueline.Neveu@tdsb.on.ca)

Vice-Principal: Kosta Flegas - [konstantinos.flegas@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:konstantinos.flegas@tdsb.on.ca)

## School Website

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

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

## Principal's Message

I hope everyone had a great Halloween last night! We couldn't have asked for better fall weather, making the evening even more enjoyable. As fun as trick-or-treating was, the real highlight for me was our Bowmore parade. It was incredible seeing all the creative costumes, and I want to thank all the parents who came out to support and cheer on the students. This tradition truly makes Fall at Bowmore special.

Looking ahead, please remember to set aside November 14th or 15th for parent-teacher interviews. Your child's teacher will be in touch soon to schedule a time to connect.

## School Council Meeting

School Council invites you to attend its second meeting of the year on Thursday, November 21st, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the school staffroom. All parents and caregivers are warmly welcome to attend in person, as the online option is no longer being offered. Child care is available, with cheese pizza offered for the kids (please bring your water bottles).

Please [RSVP here](#) by Monday, November 18th, at 4 pm.

Please also feel free to reach out to [bowmoresc@gmail.com](mailto:bowmoresc@gmail.com) with any questions.

Hope to see you at our meeting on November 21st.

Mike LeDrew and Randall Otulakowski

School Council Co-Chairs

## Indigenous Education Month at the TDSB

November is Indigenous Education Month at the Toronto District School Board.

Throughout the month, students, staff, and community members honour a number of important days to deepen knowledge, to learn from our shared histories, and to strengthen relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples.

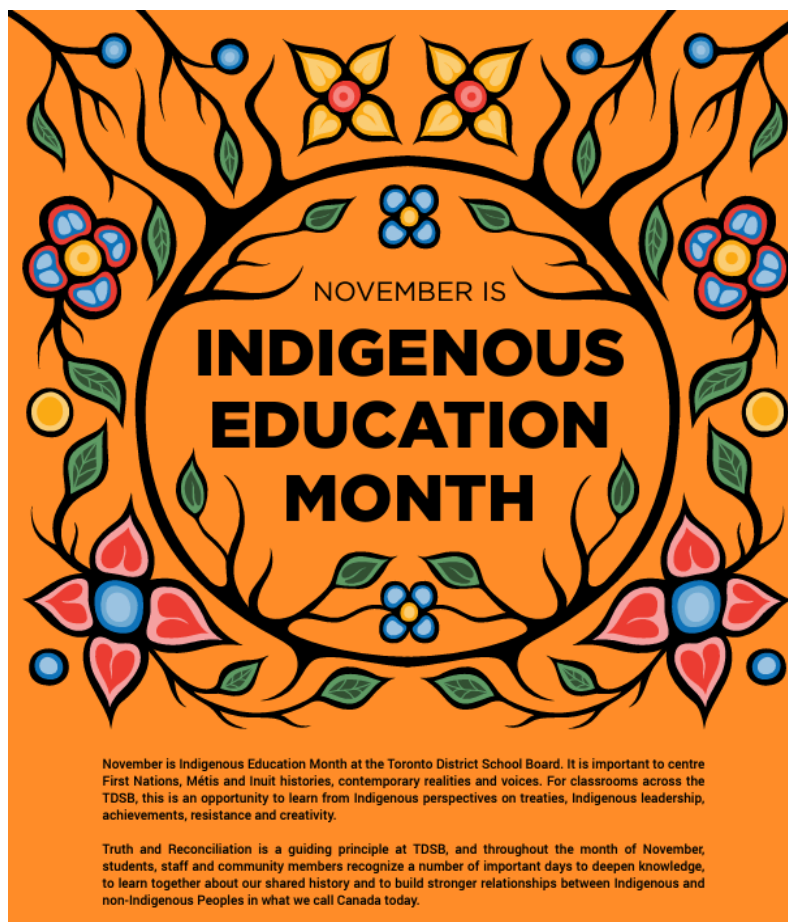
It is important that we remember to centre First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives, voices, histories, and contemporary realities across the TDSB every day. This month places emphasis on creating opportunities to learn from Indigenous perspectives on treaties, leadership, achievements, resurgence, futurities, and creativity.

The TDSB is committed to the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (TRC) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Below is a list of significant dates throughout the month of November:

- Treaties Recognition Week is the first full week of November, from November 3-9
- November 7 is International Inuit Day
- November 8 is National Indigenous Veterans Day
- November 16 is Louis Riel Day in Ontario

The Urban Indigenous Education Centre will host virtual events to support students and staff to learn from Indigenous Peoples. Resources can be found on the [Urban Indigenous Education Centre website](#).





## **Hindu Heritage Month at the TDSB - November 2024**

The TDSB is proud to recognize Hindu Heritage Month during the month of November. This heritage has been celebrated by our students, staff and the community since April 2018 as a result of a motion passed by the Board of Trustees.

Further, Hindu Heritage Month is also recognized in the Province of Ontario since 2016 with the declaration of Hindu Heritage Month Act, 2016. This act states, Ontario is home to a large and vibrant Hindu community. Since the first Hindu immigrants arrived in Canada at the beginning of the 20th century, Hindu Canadians from across Ontario have made significant contributions across all fields: science, education, medicine, law, politics, business, culture, and sports. Hindu Canadians have helped build Ontario into the multicultural success story that it is and have helped to build this province into the multicultural success story that it is and have helped to build this province into the best place to live, work and raise families. They continue to help foster growth, prosperity, and innovation throughout Ontario.

Hinduism is one of the oldest living religions which have flourished for over 10,000 years. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the rich tapestry of traditions, teachings and values that are integral to Hinduism and practiced by millions around the world today. November is an opportunity to celebrate the Hindu way of life, examine its impact and contributions to the world culture, and recognize values which promote compassion, tolerance, and inclusion.

This year's theme is Antah Shanti for Vishwa Shanti. This Sanskrit phrase conveys **that to foster World (Vishwa) Peace (Shanti) we need to have inner (Antah) Peace (Shanti).**

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- Nov 4th - Grade 7 vaccination clinic
- Nov 12th - Progress and Initial Observation Reports go home
- Nov 14th - Parent interviews in the evening
- November 15th - PA Day (no school for students) Parent interviews only in the morning
- Nov 26th - Photo Retake Day

### **ELEMENTARY PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY (PA) DAY - November 15, 2024**

During the school year, TDSB school staff participate in several Professional Activity (PA) Days. These days, while students remain at home, are an opportunity for our staff to engage in professional learning or communication with parents through parent-teacher conferences, which directly impacts and enhances student learning.

As per the Ministry of Education's [Policy/Program Memorandum \(PPM\) 151](#), *Professional Activity Days Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities*, school boards must designate three Ministry-mandated PA Days. This year, these PA days will focus on the priority areas of Literacy,

Mathematics, Curriculum Implementation, Student Well-being, School Safety, and Violence Prevention. Staff active participation these days is crucial in achieving the TDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan priorities.

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**Friday, November 15, 2024**

**Target Audience:** All Staff – Elementary

**Topic:** PA Day- Parent-Teacher Conferences

**Length:** Full Day (In Person)

**Facilitator(s):** School-Based Staff

**Description:** Parent-teacher conferences are held to facilitate communication and collaboration between parents or guardians and teachers. The primary purpose of these conferences is to discuss a student's academic progress, social development, and overall well-being. They provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to exchange information, celebrate successes, share concerns, and work together in the best interests of the student.

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### **Bowmore Cares Fundraiser: Support Students and Families in Need!**

Dear Families,

The Bowmore Cares Committee is reaching out to you to help students and families in need, and we invite you to join us in making a difference. You can donate essential items like hats, socks, gloves, personal care items, and school supplies by placing them in the designated boxes located in the main lobby by the office. These boxes will be available during parent-teacher interviews on Thursday, November 14, and Friday, November 15.

Your donation can make a difference in the following way:

- Assisting with purchasing groceries and other food items.
- Purchasing of toiletries and personal care products.
- Providing warm clothing and shoes for students in the winter weather.
- Allocating funds for graduation tickets, field trips, apparel, and other school-related expenses.

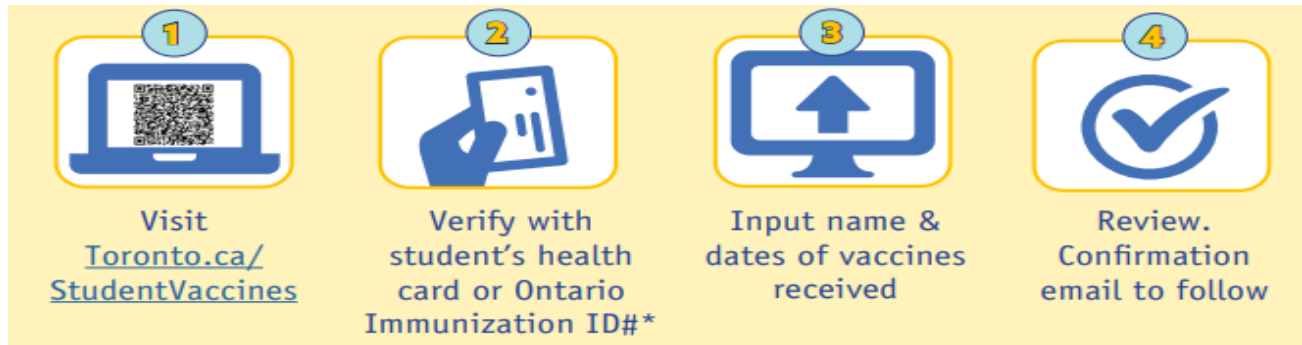
If you wish to make a monetary donation, you can do so through our online school cash online. Simply visit

<https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/272745/153/False/True>

and follow the instructions. Every contribution, big or small, is greatly appreciated. If you find yourself in need of assistance at any point during the school year, do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr. Flegas, our Vice Principal, at [konstantinos.flegas@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:konstantinos.flegas@tdsb.on.ca).

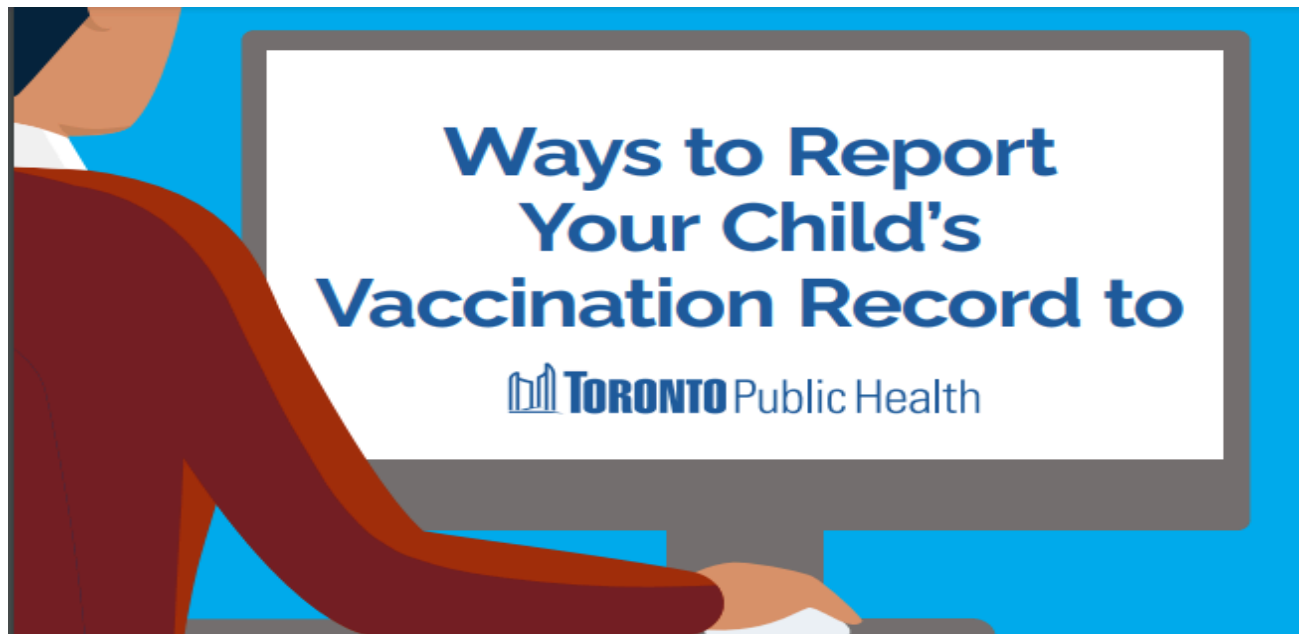
Thank you for your generosity and for helping us support our community!

**Ontario's Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)** requires that students attending school be vaccinated against 9 diseases or have a valid exemption. Parents/legal guardians and students 16 years of age and older are responsible for reporting vaccines directly to Toronto Public Health. Health care providers DO NOT do this for you.




The diagram consists of four numbered steps in a row, each with an icon and text below it:

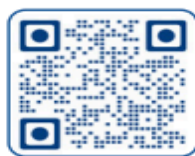
- 1** Visit [Toronto.ca/StudentVaccines](https://toronto.ca/StudentVaccines)
- 2** Verify with student's health card or Ontario Immunization ID#\*
- 3** Input name & dates of vaccines received
- 4** Review. Confirmation email to follow



A woman in a maroon top is sitting at a desk, looking at a large computer monitor. The monitor displays the following text:

## Ways to Report Your Child's Vaccination Record to

 **TORONTO** Public Health



**Scan the QR Code.** It's the fastest and easiest way to report your vaccinations through ICON.

Other Options:

 Mail a copy to:

**Toronto Public Health**  
Vaccine Preventable Diseases  
5100 Yonge Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M2N 5W4

 Fax to:

**416-338-2487**  
On the cover sheet, be sure to include identifying information, (child's name, DOB, OIID, Health Card Number) and parent's contact information.

 Email to:

**immunization@toronto.ca**  
Note: Email is not a secure form of communication, but you may use it if you wish.

**You can also use these options to report vaccinations from outside Ontario/Canada or records in languages other than English.**

## **Bowmore Nutrition Program (Week of November 4, 2024)**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Breadsticks</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Tangerines/Bananas</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Muffins</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Yogurt Tube</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Snacking Rounds</b>

The Nutrition Team: [bowmoresnack@gmail.com](mailto:bowmoresnack@gmail.com)

## **Pizza Lunch**

The next pizza lunch is on Friday, November 22. Ordering is open NOW and will close at noon on Sunday, November 17. Order early to avoid any last-minute issues!

For more information on how to order, please see the Pizza Lunch FAQ document on the school website: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/bowmore/Pizza-Lunch>

## **Remembrance Day Committee**

Dear Families,

For our Remembrance Day Assembly, we are creating a montage of photos of family members related to staff and students who served in the military. We are asking that any families from students in Grades 6-8 who have a family member who served, you are welcome to send a photo to Mr. Sekdorian to be included in our Remembrance Day assembly. Please note, if you have previously sent a photo in previous years, it will already be included (do not resend)

Please include the following:

- The photo should be a JPEG.
- The Subject line should read: Remembrance Day Photo.
- The email should include the name of the student and what grade they are in.

\*The email should include the name of the family member along with what war/regiment/role they had

\*send the above to [raffi.sekdorian@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:raffi.sekdorian@tdsb.on.ca)

**Photos are due no later than noon on Sunday, November 3rd.**

All of our students will be participating in **Remembrance Day ceremonies on Monday, November 11th**. We encourage students to dress in black and red, or if they participate in Guides/Scouts, they are welcome to wear their uniforms. Our local legion has donated poppies for each student. On Monday, November 11th, if you are able, please send your child with a small donation (e.g. one loonie), which will all be given to support our veterans through the RCL Legion branch 142.

Kind Regards,

The Remembrance Day Committee

## **Scholastic Book Fair Wrap Up**

Thank you to everyone in the community for your support of last week's Scholastic Book Fair. 50% of each purchase made is supporting the Bowmore Library and as a result of your generosity and love of reading, **we raised a little over \$8000 for our library!**

The Bowmore library is often busy with students reading, playing chess and board games, working at the puzzle table, all while a group of student volunteers (#Shelfies) help with reshelving books. With the funds raised from the book fair, our librarian, Ms Jarvis, will continue to create a safe and welcoming space for students. The total of the book fair proceeds will be used to update the library with new books and also to purchase items such as organization systems and furniture making the library a comfortable and inclusive space for all students.

A big thank you to all the parent volunteers who donated their time with a big shout out to Andrea, who was there 24/7. We could not have run the book fair without the dedication of parent volunteers.



**The EDP at Bowmore has a capacity of 60 and there are currently 15 open spots.**

### **What is an Extended Day Program?**

An Extended Day Program (EDP) provides seamless learning for children from Kindergarten to Grade 6 who require care before school starts and at the end of the school day. Children will develop skills such as collaboration, responsibility, problem-solving, creativity, citizenship and leadership through interesting activities. Extended Day Programs will be delivered by TDSB staff, including a Designated Early Childhood Educator. Children will receive two nutritious snacks per day.

**Webpage:** <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Extended-Day-Program>

**Questions?** [Contact the EDP Team](#)

**Call 416-394-2072 or email: [EDP@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:EDP@tdsb.on.ca)**



Apply in November



[www.tdsb.on.ca/french](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/french)

# Immersion Française

Early French Immersion Begins in Junior Kindergarten



Early French Immersion (JK entry) – November 4<sup>th</sup> to November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (4 weeks) – central application process. This deadline will help support the Planning Department in meeting its timelines for local school projections.

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's Early French Immersion Program, we offer an online process to apply. The entry point to Early French Immersion is **Junior Kindergarten**. An offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) is guaranteed to all eligible on-time applicants. While every effort is made to place students in the school identified as their area French Immersion school, this is not always possible. Students may be redirected to another school with available program space.

Families with an older sibling currently in an Early French Immersion program at the same school are still required to complete an online application for the new student. For more information, please visit: [Application Early French Immersion](#).

Please find an AODA [poster](#) and [flyer card](#) with QR Code. We ask that you print and display in prominent and visible area(s) of the school community or share in newsletters/school communications and with community partners (e.g., community centres, faith-based locations, gyms, etc.) where permissible.

At any time, please visit the [TDSB French Language Programs webpage](#) to view a [video](#) that provides information about the TDSB French Language programs as well as the application and placement process in the Early French Immersion and the Middle French Immersion programs. More information about the Early Immersion Program is available in [22 languages](#), or view the [application video](#).

A few reminders about the process and questions you may be asked at this point:

- The deadline to apply online to the program is November 29, 2024.
- If a parent/caregiver cannot access a computer, please consider accommodating them at a school computer.
- Please let parents/caregivers know the process is NOT handled on a first come, first served basis. All applications received by the deadline are managed with the same priority.
- If parents/caregiver experience difficulties, they may contact us via email at: [PARS\\_FSL\\_Admin@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:PARS_FSL_Admin@tdsb.on.ca)
- A parent/caregiver may still submit an application online after the deadline passes on November 29, 2024; the application will be marked as late, and the application will be on a waitlist subject to available space until the end of September of the entry year. There is NO guarantee of placement.
- Placements in French Immersion are offered based on current home address of record in PowerSchool, not on location or enrolment in childcare.
  - Please ensure that parent/caregiver/student addresses are up-to-date in PowerSchool.



## **When the online application system (PARS) opens...**

### *How do I apply to Early French Immersion?*

- Please invite parents/caregivers to visit the online application site at: [www.tdsb.on.ca/pars](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/pars).
- They will select the program from a drop-down menu on the right (Early French Immersion) and follow the prompts.
- This process is not first come first served. In the weeks following the close of the application, offers of placement will be sent to the email address provided by the parent/caregiver.
- Please encourage them to check this email frequently and follow the prompts in the message when the offer is made.
- Support documents ([Application Process Step-By-Step](#) and [Application Process – Tip Sheet](#)) have been added to the [Application Early French Immersion](#) to help parents/caregivers with the application process.

### ***My child is not in the TDSB and does not have an OEN. ALL families will be non-TDSB families who have child(ren) born in 2021.***

- For non-TDSB students, the parent/caregiver selects the “Non-TDSB Student” option on the PARS site and follows the steps to generate an identification number.
- They must then continue the application process with this number.
- The following support document ([Application Process Step-By-Step](#)) has been added to the [Application Early French Immersion](#) to help parents/caregivers with the application process.

### ***I can't get on the website.***

- Please reassure the parent/caregiver that the application is not handled on a first come, first served basis.
- If there is an internet issue, the parent/caregiver may try again. If there is a problem with the site, please let us know via email and assure the parent/caregiver that it will be taken care of, and they should try again in the next couple of days.
- If the parent/caregiver cannot access the internet from home or has any other challenges using the online system, please offer them assistance at the school or have them contact our office.
  - With a DOB, anyone can submit the application for the parent/caregiver.

### ***When will I hear?***

- Offers of placement will begin in the days following the application deadline and they will continue for the weeks following. Not all families in a given area will receive their offers of placement at the same time, but all will receive one.
- Please encourage the parent/caregiver to check their email frequently (including their junk mail). Please do not offer a firm date when the offers of placement should be completed.

### ***Is it a first come first served process?***

- No. All applications received by the deadline are treated with the same priority and are guaranteed a place in the program (we cannot guarantee placement in a given school).
- All applications received after the deadline will be held on a waitlist and considered subject to available space until the end of September of the entry year.

### ***Are we able to select a particular school or location for my child to attend Early French Immersion?***

- Placement in French Immersion via the central application process is based on current home address of record in PowerSchool.

- An offer of placement will be made based on the child's current home address of record in PowerSchool prior to the application deadline.
- If the address changes between the application deadline and the fall of the entry year, there is no guarantee of placement in the new area.

## **Grade 8 to 9 transition**

A smooth transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9 contributes to a strong foundation for success in secondary school and beyond. Grade 8 is a time for students to look to the future and begin thinking about their selection of courses for Grade 9 and throughout high school. The information and links below will assist Grade 8 students and families in planning:

- [Open Houses and Information Sessions](#)
- [TDSB Beyond 8 website](#)
- [Out-of-Area Admissions](#)
- [Secondary Schools without a Boundary](#)
- [Central Student Interest Programs website](#)

*Please note: There is a 'Translate' button at the top of the TDSB website that will translate the contents of the web pages to your preferred language.*

## **Elementary Alternative Schools Application Process and Information Sessions**

The TDSB offers a wide range of [Elementary Alternative Schools](#) available to students. The application process is managed centrally and includes an online application form. Complete information about the central online application process is available on the [Elementary Alternative Schools Application and Admissions Process webpage](#).

The online application for admission for September 2025 will be open from Monday, January 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. to Friday, January 31, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Elementary alternative schools will hold information sessions and/or open houses for students and parents/guardians/caregivers in late November 2024 to mid-January 2025. More information is available on the [Elementary School Open Houses and Information Nights](#) webpage.

TDSB staff is hosting two Elementary Alternative Schools live webinars, including one daytime and one evening session. Registration is required, and a recording of the webinars will be posted on the [Elementary Alternative Schools Application and Admissions Process webpage](#).

Register here:

[Daytime Session - Tuesday, November 26 from 1:00PM to 2:00PM](#)

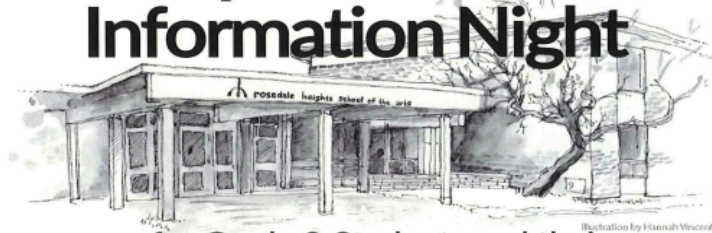
[Evening Session - Tuesday, November 26 from 7:00PM to 8:00PM](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Associate Director [Audley.Salmon@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Audley.Salmon@tdsb.on.ca), or System Superintendent [Roni.Felsen@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Roni.Felsen@tdsb.on.ca) .

Are you  
thinking of coming to  
**rosedale heights  
school of the arts?**

You are invited to attend an

**Open House  
Information Night**



for Grade 8 Students and their  
Parents/Guardians

**Wednesday, November 6, 2024**

6:00 pm or 7:00 pm

Information, Performances & Tours



visit: [rhsa.ca](https://rhsa.ca) for details

[rosedaleheightsschoolofthearts](https://rosedaleheightsschoolofthearts.com)  
711 Bloor St. East (at the DVP)

**Parking is very limited.** Please use public transportation.  
Castle Frank subway station is right at our front door.

### **City of Toronto Facilities & Parkland Master Plan consultations**

The City is seeking input from all Toronto residents, particularly families, for their input on priorities for the coming years. Past consultations had resulted in the creation of new community recreation hubs (with schools, libraries, and childcare centres within) in several neighbourhoods in the city. The City is encouraging residents to participate in an online survey and/or one of the public consultations happening in each ward in November. Families can help shape the future of their recreation opportunities.

As part of this , the City of Toronto is seeking community input in the Ravine and Park Strategy. As part of the Parkland & Recreation Facilities Strategies the City has shared a classroom engagement kit, now available for download directly from the [Parkland & Recreation Facilities Strategies: Community Engagement](#) webpage under the Get Involved drop down. The materials are available for easy access here:

[Planning the future of Toronto: Recreation Facilities and Parks \(Classroom Workshop\)](#)

[Design a new park \(Classroom Activity\)](#)

City staff are excited for the opportunity for students and teachers to participate and encourage teachers to submit a summary of their classroom's feedback to the City, which will help inform updates to the long-term plans for recreation facilities and parks across the city. [Online Submission Form - Classroom Engagement Kit \(chkmkt.com\)](#)

For additional information, visit the City of Toronto [Parkland & Recreation Facilities Strategies: Community Engagement](#) webpage.