



January 2014

Message from our Principal

Even with the dramatic weather changes that we have experienced over the last couple of weeks, the energy and enthusiasm in the school community remains high. Some of the wonderful activities to support safe, healthy active living that have taken place this month such as a Junior and Senior Ski Trips. These activities would not happen without the commitment and dedication of staff members and volunteers.

The theme of keeping our students healthy and emotionally safe will continue throughout February as Guidance Counselor Kelley Miller-Caise and administration will coordinate a variety of learning activities for students including: Police workshops; Interim Eco Audit to maintain Platinum status; Primary Toronto Symphony field trip; Pump Your Heart Day; Olympics Day at Bowmore; and on February 27th Pink Shirt Day. This is an opportunity for students to wear their Stand Up Bowmore shirts and learn about the story of the pink shirt.

With the onset of Term 2, we have some staff changes. Mr. McAndrew and Ms. Partridge have retired. We wish them a happy retirement. As a result, Ms. Cameron and Mr. Ross have taken over these teaching assignments respectively. Mr. Valentine has completed the first term music instrumental assignment. Mr. Prouten is currently in the position. Ms. David has taken a leave of absence and we are in the process of finding a replacement teacher. Welcome to our new staff. In the next months moving forward we will continue to focus on learning and providing enrichment activities at Bowmore to include Kids Lit, Scrabble Tournament and TIFF submissions.

Report Cards will be sent home on Tuesday, February 11th and interviews will be set aside during Thursday, February 13th at 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm. It is essential that we maintain strong school-home connections. Keeping students engaged in the curriculum, healthy, well supported and encouraged as we work through Term 2 will remain a priority for all of us at Bowmore.

Sincerely,
Thelma Sambrook

Bowmore Road Public School

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Thelma Sambrook, Principal
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Toronto District School Board Website: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca>



Calendar of Events

Feb. 1 | Dental Screening Continues to Feb. 7th

Feb. 4 | Kids Lit

Herc's Book Launch

Feb. 5 | i-walk 8:20 - 8:40 am

Feb. 6 | Primary TSO Trip

Feb. 10 | Interim Eco Schools Audit

Feb. 11 | Gr 8 Girls Immunization

Feb. 13 | Graduation Photo Day

Parent-Teacher Interview Evening
3:30-6:30 pm

Feb. 14 | Pump Up Your Heart Day

Feb. 17 | Family Day!

Feb. 18 | Kindergarten Registration
12:30 - 4:00pm

Feb. 19 | Kindergarten Registration
3:30 - 6:30 pm

Manitoba Consultants visiting
Bowmore

Parent Council Evening – 6:00 pm

Feb 20 | Olympics Day at Bowmore

Feb 25 | Scrabble Tournament

Feb 26 | Pink Shirt Day

At our school, Character Counts!

February is Fairness month! This month students and staff will promote an understanding of what does it mean to be "fair"?



Report Cards

On Tuesday, February 11th, your child's Term 1 Provincial Report Card will be sent home. Parent-Teacher conferences are not mandatory at this time as they were for the November Progress Reports. As such, teachers will only be setting up conferences with parents if their child is struggling with academic, social and/or behaviour issues. Individual teachers will be scheduling their own interview times, which may also include telephone interviews, as there is no P.A. for interviews. However, if you wish to speak with your child's teacher and have not been contacted, please feel free to contact them to set up a mutually agreed upon time to meet in person or to talk over the phone.

Parking lot

Thank you to all of our families for your overwhelming support and understanding around our school parking lot issues. The entire staff are happy to see that parents are respecting that we have a limited number of spaces for our staff and also ensuring student safety by no longer dropping off and picking up students from the parking lot. Thank you for being such a safe and caring community.



First Lego League (FLL) Ontario East Provincial Championships in Oshawa at University of Ontario Institute of Technology- Saturday, January 12th, 2014.

Forty teams competed at the 2013 First Lego League (FLL) Ontario East Provincial Championships. Ten awards were given out in three categories: Robot, Project and Core Values. In the Robot category Bowmore Road's senior school team, Tech Lightening won the Programming Design Award. Our second team, Technically Challenged did an incredible job of performing their components as well. Bowmore was extremely proud to have two teams advance to the Provincial level. This is the third year in a row that Bowmore has received the programming award at the Provincial championships.

Olympic Spirit at Bowmore

The Olympic Spirit has come to Bowmore! We are kicking off the Olympics with a spirit day. On Friday, February 7, we are asking that students and staff wear Red and White (or Canada gear) to support Team Canada. Classes from JK to Grade 6 are assigned Canadian athletes to watch and monitor over the Olympic games. Room 204 researched and designed posters of these athletes to hang in every classroom. Which class will win the most medals?

Also, on Thursday, February 20th, we will be having Bowmore Olympics. If the weather/conditions permit, we will be having a morning full of Opening Ceremonies and outdoor events. The morning will run similarly to our June Play Day with a free flow of outdoor activities. We will also have an indoor 'warming station' with face painting, Olympic Crafts, hot chocolate and students can get their photo taken with a real Olympic torch from the 2010 Olympics. A letter will be going home in the first week of February asking for parent volunteers for the morning of the 20th. You can also email Mrs. Jarvis if you'd like to participate at leah.mcnabjarvis@tdsb.on.ca. We are fortunate to also have an Olympian join. Jason Burnett will be sharing his Olympic experiences with us that day. We look forward to cheering on Team Canada!

February 17 is a Statutory Holiday

There will be no classes on Monday, February 17, 2014 to reflect the province-wide statutory holiday called Family Day. The holiday occurs on the third Monday in February of each year for the purpose of emphasizing and celebrating the importance of families taking time to be together.

Visit the TDSB public web site at www.tdsb.on.ca to view the school year calendar.

International Languages Elementary and African Heritage Programs

In an increasingly global world, learning languages and cultures benefits children today and helps them build skills for the future.

Broaden your child's horizons with our International Languages and African Heritage programs. We teach more than 55 languages and cultures, to 30,000 children each year, in neighbourhoods across the city.

Enrollment is ongoing. Register your child today! Visit www.ILEprograms.ca more information.

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We made a bunch of very good bridges in Room 10. We made bridges because we are learning about the forces that act on arch and other [types of] bridges. Most [students] made suspension bridges. Two are arch bridges and two are drawbridges. We had a week to make it; it was fun!

By: Justin Deng

Library News



A big thank you to all the library monitors. The numbers are growing and I certainly do appreciate your interest and dedication! With the library only having a half time position it is wonderful to have the help in checking books in and out and putting away books on a daily basis.

The Forest of Reading Program is well under way with most classes having been introduced to the books selected this year: Blue Spruce for Kindergarten to grade 2, Silver Birch for grades 3 to 6 and Red Maple for the grades 7 and 8. We will be beginning a Forest of Reading book club within the next week so that children can share their reading with others. The librarian and classroom teachers will be reading the books for the Blue Spruce whereas the grade 3 to 8 students will be checking the other books out to read over the next couple of months. We are encouraging as many students as possible to read as many books as possible. These books need to be taken good care of and returned quickly so that as many students who wish to read them are able to. In order to vote on a favourite in April the student must have read five of the ten books in the category. Only the Silver Birch has three categories: fiction, non-fiction and express.

Information for the program is through the Ontario Library Association, which can be found at:

https://www.accessola.org/OLAWEB/Forest_of_Reading/Current_Program_Year/OLAWEB/Forest_of_Reading/Current_Program_Year.aspxund

Or just google Forest of Reading. If you are familiar with the board's Virtual Library and your child has received a 'Learnmark' available in the library you can also access many of the books as eBooks through the Follett Shelf. This is new to many so give it a go and see how it works. Please send me an email or come and visit me if you would like more information (sara.erskine@tdsb.on.ca).

There are many other interesting sites on the Virtual Library connected to reading and learning. BookFLIX (paired fiction/non fiction reading) and PebbleGo (science/social studies read alouds/videos) can be found on the Virtual Library as well. I have many Learnmarks with the passwords in the library!

For Family Literacy Day in January the "library" made a trip to the Parenting Centre to share some songs and stories. It was lovely to be joined by Mr. Butters who provides music to the primary classes. It was a great deal of fun and so nice to see many familiar kindergarten faces. We hope to continue the tradition of connecting with the Parenting Centre. Thanks to Margot Mather for the invitation!

It is also a pleasure to continue our relationship with the Gerrard/Ashdale Library. A couple of senior classes attended a presentation for Black History Month with Obsidian Theatre's Writer-in-Residence, Join Motion, on Feb. 3. Coming in March, another class will be attending the Water for the World Program hosted by Engineers without Borders where they will discuss the current issues surrounding water, both locally and globally.

Continued on next column

I received a lovely poster advertising International Book Giving Day <http://bookgivingday.com/> This might inspire you to donate a book somewhere. The Bowmore Library has often supported the Book Bank in our city's east end. If you would like to do so, please have your child bring a book, new or gently used, to the library and we will be happy to take the books to the book bank. It is important to share the love of reading with others and this would be very much appreciated. I will have bins in the library for this purpose in the days leading up to February 14th. Thank you in advance for any of your thoughtful contributions.

As always, if anyone is interested in volunteering in the library, please come by to talk to me. We will be having another book fair in May so will need many volunteers at that time too.

Happy Reading,
Sara Erskine
Librarian



Here are some pictures from Family Literacy Day 2014 at Bowmore. It was a fun day with our visitors: Ms Erskine from the library and Mr. Butters, the music teacher. Thanks to all!



This is a picture of the wonderful megaphones that Room 8, Ms Jones's class, made after reading the book Willow's Whispers, companion picture book to Blue Spruce nominated book Willow Finds a Way by Lana Button.

Bowmore School Council

www.bowmoresc.com



School Council Content for December 2013 Bowmore Newsletter

Compiled by Cindy McGlynn

Filed January 27, 2013

(Images at the bottom)

Movie Night

Join us for a fun, free family night out on Friday Feb 28th when we screen Frozen - the Disney hit of the season in a special pre-release not yet available on DVD!

Where: Junior Gym – enter via the side door (under “the bridge”)

When: Friday, Feb 28. Doors open 6 pm / Movie starts 6:30 pm

Cost: Free. (Suggested donation \$2 per person.)

Details: Pizza \$2/slice. Juice boxes \$1. Juicy Pop \$2.

Note: Bring your own seating: blankets or folding camp chairs.

All money raised helps to support Bowmore student enrichment programs.

Lego Club Update

Needed: More female LEGO minifigures! Please consider donating any you may have to spare!

The first two sessions of LEGO Club (Monday and Friday) are well underway and everyone is having lots of fun and behaving beautifully. When these first two 5-week sessions are over, we'll run two more.

- 100 kids are enrolled (25 in each session), plus a waiting list of approx. 12 kids. All kids on the waiting list get first dibs when we run the club again.
- We have a good collection of donated LEGO, including base plates and minifigures.
- Gender ratio in the club is approximately 70% boys and 30% girls.
- We've been trying different "builds" each session and following some great online Canadian resources.
- Kids are acquiring new skills. We've had questions about construction ("How do I build a house?") and have older students on hand to help younger students grasp specific skills.
- Each week we post the kids' creations on our Facebook page ("Bowmore LEGO Club").
- We've documented all procedures and forms to make LEGO club “turn-key”.

Thanks again for all the support we've received from Bowmore administration, Bowmore School Council, our generous donors and our student helpers. And special thanks to our core volunteers: Connie Crane (program co-ordinator), Joanne Hunter-Smith, Susana Molinolo, Sheila Rose, Kristen Stinchcombe, Janet Webb-Hackl.

Bowmore Rocks

Mark your calendars and plan to be at Bowmore Rocks Adult 80's Dance Party and Silent Auction on Saturday April 12th. Stay tuned for more information on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/ BowmoreRocks](https://www.facebook.com/BowmoreRocks).

Donations needed!

Parents and guardians: Please support our fundraising efforts by donating items for the Bowmore Rocks silent auction. All money raised supports enrichment programming for all students at Bowmore. Donations could include things like: sports equipment, kids bikes, event tickets, art pieces, restaurant gift certificates and other new items. Please email

BowmoreRocks@gmail.com

with any questions, to make a donation, to receive a donation request letter.



SPECIAL EDUCATION INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENT/GUARDIANS OF TDSB STUDENTS

The Special Education department is hosting parent information sessions (flyer attached) on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, one in the East Region and another in the West Region. Parents/Guardians will learn about the Individual Education Plan (IEP) and the Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) processes. These sessions will provide an overview to help parents understand how an IEP is developed and implemented for any student. In addition, parents will learn about their role in the IPRC process.

Bowmore FUN-raiser Carnival

Bowmore's third annual FUN-raiser Carnival is scheduled for Friday June 13th from 3-7pm. This fantastic fundraiser event is tons of fun for kids and families - and it's a great opportunity to volunteer some time to help out at a great community event. We'll share more details on how to get involved closer to the event. For now, save the date: Friday, June 13, 3-7pm

Pizza Lunch

The next Pizza Lunch date is Friday February 21!

Volunteering on pizza lunch days is fast and it's fun. The students are excited and enthusiastic and the whole thing takes less than an hour. Please send us an email if you can help out. It's a great way to introduce yourself to volunteering at Bowmore: bowmoresc@gmail.com

The upcoming Pizza Lunch dates will be:

February 21

March 28

April 25

May 30

Next Bowmore School Council Meeting is Wednesday, February 19, from 6-8pm in the senior cafeteria.

Every Bowmore parent has a vote and a voice at council! Upcoming school council meetings:

Thurs March 27

Wed April 23rd

Thurs May 22nd

Thurs June 19th (tentative)

Bowmore "Make It!" Fair: Saturday, March 29!

If you love DIY electronics, or have a passion for hacking your own craft projects, then the Bowmore "Make It!" Fair wants you! We're organizing a one day event on March 29, 2014 to showcase Bowmore-area makers. A day to share, learn, get inspired, and even buy kits to make at home. Send us your project ideas, and let us know you can "Make It!" on March 29th! bowmoremakeitfair@gmail.com

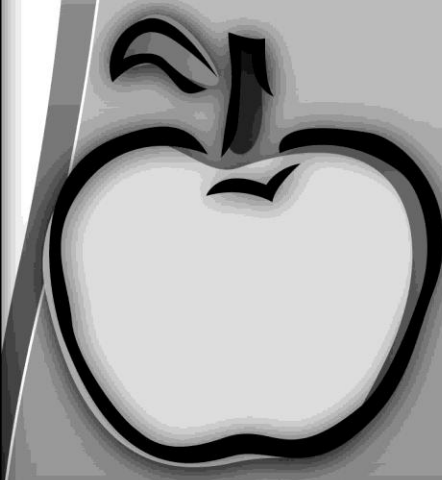
Stay in touch!

E-newsletters and Online: Sign up for our e-newsletters @ www.bowmoresc.com and visit our calendar while you're there, to stay up-to-date on upcoming Bowmore activities.

Social Media: Like us on

Facebook -

facebook.com/BowmoreSC - to read daily announcements from Bowmore. These communications services are provided by the parent volunteer School Council team to enhance parent/school communication.



Your Community



Young Women On the Move Conference



"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world." Four of us along with Mrs. Jarvis attended the TDSB Young Women on the Move Conference to celebrate the International Day of the Girl. This quote from Malala inspired us deeply during the conference. We came away with the message that every girl deserves an education and to feel good about who you are. We talked about how girls' rights are human rights and that everyone should have equal rights and opportunities. Everyone should get an equal chance to go to school, girl or boy. We left the workshop understanding that it is important for us to be more confident, courageous and caring. We were thrilled to listen to Alexandra Beaton (Emily from The Next Step) as she talked about how beauty is on the inside and to be proud of who you are. We also heard from the Olympic medalist Ohenewa Akuffo whose message was to be original and never give up. She talked about the importance of being your own biggest fan and to find your true gift. We had a great day and are looking forward to sharing what we learned with the other members of Girls' Club.

Welela L. , Riley C., Katie W. and Margaret B.

Health & Wellness



Bowmore Dental Screening & Vision/ Hearing Testing

Bowmore students' health comes first.

During the week of Jan. 27th, 2014, Public Health and the Toronto Foundation for Success facilitated the screening for our students.

Health and wellness are paramount priorities for our students.

TDSB's Mental Health Strategy

On 28 January Director Donna Quan announced the TDSB's Children and Youth Mental Health and Well-Being Strategic Plan. This plan delivers on the commitment made as part of the Years of Action 2013-2017 to direct and align resources to support student achievement and well-being.

This year the Board will expand anti-stigma programs, support schools in developing local mental health plans and provide administrators and educators with tools that promote student mental health.

TDSB students are fortunate to benefit from a range of mental health and wellness supports that have existed for many years and we are confident that the four-year strategic plan for creating Healthy Schools. Healthy Relationships will help to create a culture where mental health and well-being is integrated into every aspect of our students' school experience.

Please read more about the TDSB's Children and Youth Mental Health and Well-Being Plan at www.tdsb.on.ca/mentalhealth.

Teach ESL

Learn theories and methods for teaching English as a Second Language. Our program provides new approaches and practical activities designed to build your confidence and prepare you for the classroom. Our Teaching English as a Second Language program is a TESL Ontario certified training program.

Our 2014 program runs from September 16, 2014 - May 21, 2015.

Visit www.tdsbtesl.ca @TDSB_ConEd

February is African Heritage Month

African Heritage Month is a time for TDSB staff and students to learn about and pay tribute to the many ways in which Black Canadians and people of the African Diaspora have helped shape our society, and to recognize the invaluable contributions they have made to our province, country and world. Throughout the month of February, TDSB schools will engage in local initiatives, and participate in a variety of community events that reflect this history of a people and the countless triumphs and struggles they have experienced over hundreds of years. TDSB's Equitable and Inclusive Schools site provides many opportunities to reflect, celebrate and bring to life the rich legacy of the African Diaspora for our diverse local school communities.



Bowmore's Eco-Corner

ecoSCHOOLS.ca



Sarah Melamed came to Bowmore to do an Environmental presentation with the Junior Division. She talked to students about Urban Forestry and our new trees. Students were really excited to think about how big Toronto is and how many trees co-exist with us in the same space. They were delighted to see that animals also occupy trees and rely on the trees for shelter and food.

Our eco-heroes are:
Lily Halton
Zoe Reichert

Ms. Bigall's class
Rm 26 for their organic
waste collection efforts

Eco Club at Bowmore!

We are the junior eco club! Some of our jobs are to check each classroom and see if there are no lights on. Another one is to check each classroom and see if the vents are covered or if something is in front of it. Another job is to see if the blinds are down. This is a great job. I'm pretty sure everybody in eco club likes to make posters that say things like...."Turn off the lights when not in use!" or "lower the blinds at the end of the day to keep the room heated!" We also tell classes what goes in which bin for example. Paper goes in the recycling bin and food that you haven't finished goes in the garbage, apple cores and banana peels go into the garbage. I do the lights with Sophie. What we do is go to each room and at the bottom of our tracking sheet we record if the lights are on or off. I hope you have learned a bit about eco club. (p.s. it is really fun!)

Madeline S. & Sophie L.

February is Kindergarten Registration Month

Kindergarten Registration Month is just around the corner. Parents and guardians are encouraged to visit their local public school for more information and to register their child for Kindergarten classes that begin in September 2014.

To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four by December 31st of that year. To attend Senior Kindergarten, children must turn five by December 31st of that year.

To Register a Child

Parents/Guardians must bring proof of the child's:

- age (a birth certificate or baptismal record or passport)
- address (two pieces of identification that show your address, such as a telephone bill)
- immunization (the card that shows a list of needles your child has received)

Note:

If your child was not born in Canada, verification of date of arrival is required. Families who are permanent residents and refugee claimants may register directly at the school. All other families should visit the International Program and Admissions Office, Toronto District School Board (TDSB), 5050 Yonge Street, for a TDSB School Admission Letter. Children without immigration status are welcome in our schools and information about them or their families shall not be shared with immigration authorities, as per TDSB Policy P.061 SCH.

To learn more, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten

Learn English with Us

The TDSB offers free English as a Second Language classes in communities across the city, to adults who are residents of Canada or are applying for residency.

Build your literacy and English language skills. Learn about your community and the services available. Prepare for further education, citizenship and language proficiency tests. Improve your conversation skills.

Discover our bilingual programs, where English is taught with the help of other languages.

Visit www.ESLtoronto.ca or call 416-338-4300.

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Summer 2014 ESL Program for International Students **July 6 - July 26, 2014**

Invite your friends and family, who live in other countries, to learn English and explore Canadian culture with the Toronto District School Board this summer!

International students, aged 12-17, will enjoy intensive English classes - taught by our qualified teachers - at world's most multicultural and multilingual school board.

In addition to classroom learning, students will have unique opportunities to practise their English skills, explore Toronto and experience Canadian society and history through trips, tours and social activities.

Students can also live with a homestay family, to experience Canadian life first-hand.

Visit www.tdsbglobaleducation.ca

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Elementary Academies

Registration for the five Elementary Academies kicks off this month, providing exciting opportunities for students to explore their individuality and creativity within the TDSB.

The five Academies - including Boys' Leadership, Girls' Leadership, Sports and Wellness, Health and Wellness and Vocal Music - opened in nine schools across the Board in September 2012. These Academies build on the TDSB's record of creating programs that promote excellence and encourage the talents of students in new and innovative ways.

Students attending an Academy are part of a culture that balances academic excellence with a focus on personal leadership, character development and innovation. They provide a dynamic array of learning options to follow their own path to success. There are no specific admission requirements - just interest and passion.

For more information or to register, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/academies

