

School Address

100 Fallingbrook Road
Scarborough, M1N2T6
Tel: (416) 396-6185
Fax: (416) 396-3351

Principal

Phany Captsis

Administrative Office Staff

Linda Riffert

*

School Council Chair(s)

Gillian Main
Jennifer Sabatini

*

Ward 18 Trustee

Gary Crawford
(416) 393-8815

Superintendent

Anne Kerr
(416) 396-9194

Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

Established in 1911, Courcelette Public School has a long history of providing excellent programs to a well established community. The school is located on Fallingbrook Road south of Kingston Road and east of Victoria Park Avenue in the Beach.

Courcelette serves 270 pupils and is a small Kindergarten to Grade 8 community school. Our school is named after a famous battle in World War I, which took place in the village of Courcelette near the Somme River in France. The front foyer of the school is graced with a beautiful period painting of that famous battle flanked by the Canadian and British flags with a substantial colourized photo of her Majesty the Queen. Traditions new and old are a vital part of the fabric of our school with many of our students' parents and even some grandparents having attended Courcelette.

Our school aspires to provide a strong academic foundation in a rich learning environment. We endeavour to support each child striving for excellence. Courcelette encourages parent and community participation in the educational process. We are committed to enhancing each child's sense of self worth, appreciation and understanding of our diverse Canadian culture.

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ to enhance our already excellent literacy/numeracy programs by the continued implementation of the specialized First Steps Writing, Reading and Jolly Phonics programs and to continue with uninterrupted teaching blocks for these curriculum areas
- ✦ to continue to implement school-wide, diagnostic literacy assessment tools that will help determine the learning needs of our students e.g., the Developmental Reading Assessment (D.R.A.), and Comprehension, Attitudes, Strategies, Interests (C.A.S.I.)
- ✦ to maintain and improve our exceptional E.Q.A.O. scores
- ✦ to continue to develop and upgrade our Information Technology Centre programming, by supporting teacher in-service, software, hardware and integration of information technology into the curriculum
- ✦ to continue to promote social responsibility and good citizenship through the implementation of the Tribes program, Student Council, "Me to We" participation and other social skills and leadership programming
- ✦ to provide enrichment experiences at the classroom level and through the Library Information Centre
- ✦ to continue to participate in the Learning Through the Arts Program in partnership with the Royal Conservatory of Music

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	245	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	129	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	73	
Grade 7 - Grade 8	43	
✦ Gender:		
Female	115	47%
Male	130	53%
✦ Primary language other than English:	7	3%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	1	0%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	4	2%

* Calculation does not include students for whom language information is missing.

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB), in partnership with students, parents, teachers and all our communities, is committed to taking responsibility for continuous improvement of schools. This is achieved through:

- ✦ **Relevant Curriculum**
- ✦ **Equity**
- ✦ **Accountability**

Regular Instructional Programs

- ✦ Languages - English, English as a Second Language, and French
- ✦ Mathematics, Science and Technology
- ✦ Arts - Music, Visual Arts, Drama and Dance
- ✦ Social Studies, Health and Physical Education; in Grades 7-8: History and Geography, Family Studies and Guidance

Special Education Programs

A variety of special education programs and services are offered to meet the needs of all students, including students with exceptionalities, such as behavioural, communication, intellectual, physical and multiple learning disabilities. Students' exceptionalities are identified through a formal review process undertaken by an Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC).

OUR SCHOOL ALSO OFFERS:

Co-Curricular

Arts Programs

- ✦ Dance:
Concert & Performances, Folk Dancing
- ✦ Dramatic Arts:
Live Production/Play, Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People
- ✦ Integrated Programs:
Learning through the Arts, Talent Show
- ✦ Music:
Band, Choir, Excursions, Itinerant Music Teachers, Music Camp, Music Concerts / Performances, Recorder
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
In-School Performances By Professional Artists, Prologue to the Performing Arts
- ✦ Visual Arts:
Animation, Ceramics, Crafts, Excursions

Intramurals

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country Running
- ✦ House League
- ✦ Ice Hockey
- ✦ Slo-Pitch
- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Skating
- ✦ Skiing
- ✦ Slo-Pitch

- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Arts and Crafts
- ✦ Blue Spruce Reading Club
- ✦ Computer
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Gardening
- ✦ Knitting Club
- ✦ Math
- ✦ Scrapbook Club
- ✦ Silver Birch Book Club
- ✦ Yearbook

Leadership

- ✦ Student Activity Council:
Agents of Change
- ✦ Student Announcers
- ✦ Student Leadership:
Special Events organization

Competitions

- ✦ Speech Arts
- ✦ Urban Voices

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Book Bags
- ✦ Borrow a Book Program
- ✦ Daily Independent Reading
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ Family Literacy Night
- ✦ Family Studies:
Design and Construction
- ✦ Junior Achievement

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:



- ✦ Metropolitan Toronto Police
- ✦ Science Kits
- ✦ Scientists in the School
- ✦ Sexual Health Educators
- ✦ Toronto Fire Department

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
Big Brothers/Big Sisters - In School Mentoring Program, Toronto Police Services - School Liaison Officer

Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:
Homework Clubs

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Caring:
Earth Day Activities, Free The Children, Intergenerational Program
- ✦ Fundraisers:
Book Fair, Jump Rope for Heart, Terry Fox Run, Unicef
- ✦ Safe & Caring Schools:
Buddy System, Bully Prevention Program, ECO Schools, Let's Stop the Bullying: Bully Prevention Program, Me to We, P.E.A.C.E. Program, Recognition Assemblies, Safe Arrival Program, Streetproofing
- ✦ Social Skills:
Character Development Program, Tribes

Equity

- ✦ Assemblies
- ✦ Equity Committee
- ✦ Inclusive Curriculum and Resources
- ✦ Workshops

Student Success

Pathways Programs

- ✦ Schools to Future:
Career Fair

Transitions

- ✦ Grade 9 Orientation:
School visits to Malvern C.I.
- ✦ Parent Information Nights

Specializations and Other Programs

Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)

- ✦ ESL

Information about the success of our programs comes from a wide variety of student assessments. These assessments are based on clear expectations for all learners, consistent with those described in *The Ontario Curriculum*.

The primary purpose of student assessment is to improve learning. Assessment has the greatest potential to improve learning when it is an integral part of classroom activities. Teachers assess student progress towards achieving the expectations on an ongoing basis by using strategies such as projects, class presentations, homework assignments, classroom observations, portfolios of student work, and tests.

Schools use assessment information and information from other sources to make informed decisions for school improvement planning. Schools identify areas of strength as well as areas that require improvement. Input is obtained from a variety of sources such as student assessments, teacher feedback, parent feedback, and community surveys. In this way, schools monitor, celebrate and improve their efforts in providing a supportive and challenging learning environment for all their students.

WHAT OUR SCHOOL IS PLANNING FOR THIS YEAR

We have developed the following plans for this year based on the feedback we have received from teachers, School Council and the latest student assessments conducted by the province. We will continue to implement the following strategies in Literacy, Personal and Social Responsibility Mathematics, Information Technology & the Arts

- ♦ use balanced early literacy programs in Junior/Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1,2,3
- ♦ encourage teachers to use a wide range of assessment practices in literacy to directly improve student skills, knowledge, and attitudes in reading and writing e.g., D.R.A., C.A.S.I.
- ♦ continue the implementation of First Steps Writing programs with a focus on non-fiction writing
- ♦ ensure that all staff are trained in the delivery of the First Steps program
- ♦ continue the use of Jolly Phonics literacy program for Kindergarten
- ♦ continue uninterrupted instructional time to address balanced literacy program
- ♦ continue to purchase and upgrade levelled reading material necessary for balanced literacy
- ♦ continue to expand the Library collection
- ♦ continue student mentoring methods such as Reading Buddies
- ♦ have student portfolios shared and reviewed during parent-teacher conferences
- ♦ purchase Smartboards for use in our classrooms and the computer lab
- ♦ expand student use of computer lab for cross curricular activities
- ♦ encourage teachers to attend staff development workshops in reading, writing and assessment
- ♦ provide site-based professional development in the implementation of differentiated instruction, and assessment and evaluation strategies to help inform instruction
- ♦ continue to train literacy volunteers in balanced literacy techniques
- ♦ continue the teaching of Canadian History for which we won a Grassroots Award and nomination for a Governor General's Award
- ♦ continue Learning Through the Arts professional development in partnership with the Royal Conservatory of Music
- ♦ continue to focus on personal and social responsibility issues
- ♦ continue to implement Tribes training for teachers and students
- ♦ continue Tribes processes in classes, around the school, in the lunchroom and through office procedures
- ♦ continue to encourage respect for diversity and the positive contributions of students to the community
- ♦ continue to address on-going training in social skills, anti-racist education and conflict resolution
- ♦ continue to promote active participation of the community in all areas of school life through the use of volunteers
- ♦ continue uninterrupted instructional time so that all strands of the mathematics curriculum continue to be taught effectively
- ♦ continue to update mathematics resource room with the purchase of more mathematics manipulative, kits and calculators
- ♦ continue to update and upgrade mathematics texts and supplemental materials
- ♦ students will continue to use information technology effectively and appropriately
- ♦ teachers will continue to upgrade their computer literacy skills and integrate technology into classroom practice

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

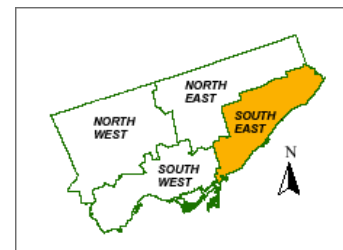
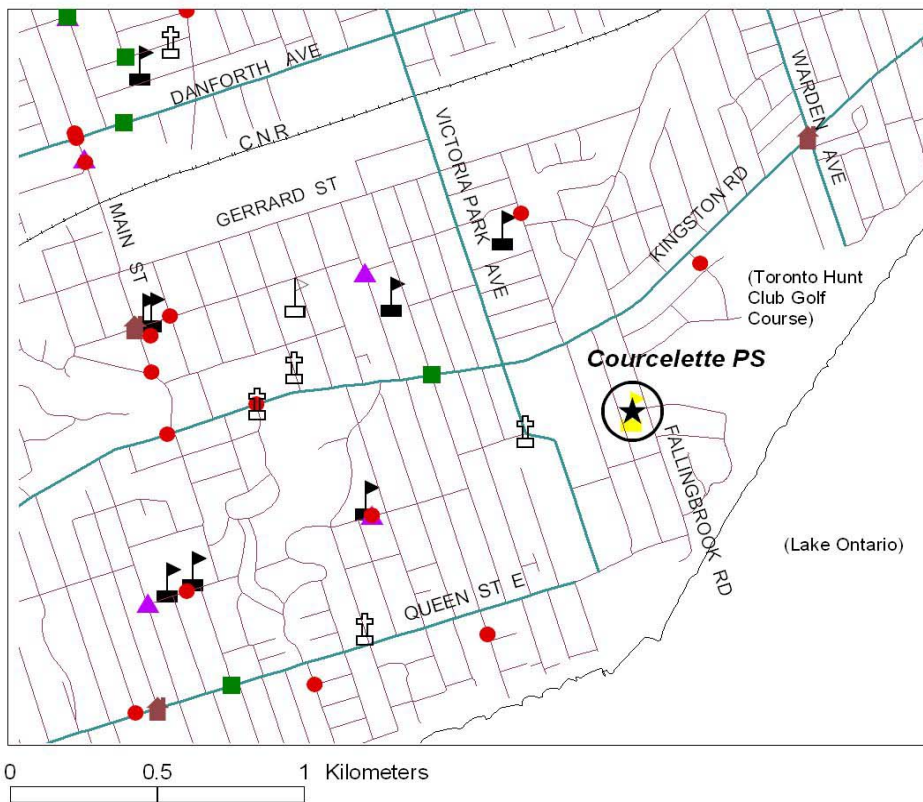
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ Strong volunteer program of parents and community members who read with our younger students
- ✦ Ongoing collaboration with School Community Council; fundraising through Fall Fest Committee to support school wide programs and initiatives
- ✦ Active R.O.C.S.(Revitalization of Courcelette School) committee which is a sub committee of the Community Council dedicated to the revitalization and greening of the schoolground

Community Links:

- ✦ partnership with the Royal Conservatory of Music
- ✦ donations to The Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre, Canadian Free the Children Fund, Terry Fox Walkathon to raise funds for Cancer Research
- ✦ partnerships with Faculty of Education Teacher Training programs (OISE/UT and Ryerson University Early Childhood Education)
- ✦ partnership with local Veterans who participate in early literacy programs
- ✦ partnership with Big Brother and Sisters of Canada
- ✦ partnership with Free the Children
- ✦ partnership with Leadership - Me to We Programs
- ✦ partnerships with numerous local businesses

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



- ★ OUR SCHOOL
- ▢ TDSB Elementary School
- ▢ TDSB Secondary School
- ⊕ Separate School
- Daycare/Nursery School
- Family Resource/ Parenting Centre
- ▲ Community/ Recreation Centre
- 🏠 Public Library

Notes: The map shows the locations of local schools, community and social service facilities. For more information about these locations please contact the school. Sources: TDSB - Academic Accountability, Facility Services; City of Toronto - Children's Services, Toronto Land Information Services.