

#### School Address

69 Nightstar Rd.  
Toronto, Ont, M1X 1V6  
Tel: (416) 396-3040  
Fax:

#### Principal

Ruth Jory

#### Vice Principal(s)

Dean Malvern

#### Administrative Office Staff

Annette Jackson  
Kavita Mehta

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#### School Council Chair(s)

Thiru Arumugam

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#### Ward 21 Trustee

Shaun Chen  
(416) 397-3077

#### Superintendent

Uton Robinson  
(416) 396-9178

#### Director of Education

Gerry Connelly

## OUR SCHOOL

Thomas L. Wells P.S. opened in September 2005. It is an award winning school, recognized for its sustainable energy design. It is the first "LEED (Leadership in Energy Environmental Design) Silver" certified elementary school in Canada. The LEED building rating system influenced and affected all aspects of the design, construction and furniture components of the school project. Through this project, the TDSB has demonstrated their commitment to becoming a leader in "green schools" and energy conservation.

Thomas L. Wells P.S serves a large multi-cultural community. We value the diversity of our students and community and offer an inclusive curriculum, addressing the many needs of our students. Our 650 students strive for high academic achievement and value the creation of a safe and caring school environment. Our student created motto, "Where all students reach the Stars" reflects our philosophy. We are proud of the achievement of students and our rich cultural diversity (72% of our students speak a language other than English at home).

#### School Focus For This School Year:

- ✦ continuing to implement a school improvement plan for improved student achievement in the areas of literacy, numeracy, healthy active schools, safe schools, and equity;
- ✦ ongoing learning with staff through professional learning communities and implementing the Ministry of Education's School Effectiveness Framework;
- ✦ building our collection of balanced literacy resources;
- ✦ continuing to deliver a social skills curriculum (Second Step Violence Prevention Program);
- ✦ recognizing student achievement through monthly assemblies;
- ✦ maintaining a safe school environment;
- ✦ continuing to work towards becoming a gold level ECO school;
- ✦ building a strong and involved Parent Council;
- ✦ ensuring that all students build a healthy and active life style through daily physical activity;
- ✦ continuing to work with our community partners such as the Toronto Police, Crime Stoppers etc. to inform parents and students.

## OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	<b>677</b>	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	326	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	218	
Grade 7 - Grade 8	133	
✦ Gender:		
Female	331	49%
Male	346	51%
✦ Primary language other than English:	522	78%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	10	1%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	26	4%

\* 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

### 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, Dance Workshops, Folk Dancing
- ✦ Dramatic Arts:  
Live Production/Play
- ✦ Music:  
Band, Music Concerts / Performances, Recorder
- ✦ Visiting Artists:  
Music, Prologue to the Performing Arts

#### Intramurals

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cooperative Games
- ✦ Cross Country Running
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

#### Athletic Teams

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Kilometre Club
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

#### Clubs

- ✦ Blue Spruce Reading Club
- ✦ Boy's Reading
- ✦ Chess
- ✦ Computer
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Green Club

- ✦ Library
- ✦ Red Maple Reading Club
- ✦ Silver Birch Book Club

#### Leadership

- ✦ Athletic Council
- ✦ Daily Physical Activity Leaders
- ✦ Lunch Monitors
- ✦ Office Helpers
- ✦ P.A.L.S. Playground Activity Leaders in Schools
- ✦ School Ambassadors
- ✦ Student Activity Council:  
TLW student council
- ✦ Student Announcers
- ✦ Student Leadership:  
TLW student leaders
- ✦ Toronto Schools On The Move Leaders

#### Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ Family Literacy Night
- ✦ Healthy Learning Communities (York U)
- ✦ Metropolitan Toronto Police
- ✦ Scientists in the School
- ✦ Toronto Schools on the Move

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

At our school, we are continually gathering information about our students to determine what their needs are and how best to address those needs. Data collection is one very important aspect of this process. Using EAQO results, report card achievements and other assessment tools will allow staff the opportunity to develop a long range school improvement plan.

### Literacy

- ♦ school-wide focus on literacy, implementing a comprehensive literacy program
- ♦ support early readers by using levelled texts
- ♦ continue to implement guided reading through the school
- ♦ Early Reading Intervention Program
- ♦ provide teacher resources to support a comprehensive literacy program through all grades
- ♦ expose students to various writing forms
- ♦ ensure that curriculum is taught through an integrated approach across all subjects
- ♦ determine student progress by using a variety of assessment and evaluation tools such as, Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA), Comprehension, Attitude, Strategies, Interests Reading Assessment (CASI), report cards, EQAO, student portfolios
- ♦ Boys Book Club - to address the gender gap
- ♦ involve parents through Family Focus Nights

### Numeracy

- ♦ implementation of a wide range of math activities focusing on the use of math manipulatives
- ♦ integrate math activities across all subject areas
- ♦ implement a problem-solving approach to teach math
- ♦ use assessment data to address gaps in learning and provide a focus for future instruction

### Technology

- ♦ develop a school-wide plan to integrate the use of technology across all subject areas
- ♦ develop a school web site
- ♦ participate in the SMART Board technology pilot, train staff to use this teaching tool
- ♦ inform parents and students about the acceptable use of the internet

### Science and Social Studies

- ♦ deliver the Ontario curriculum through a relevant, hands-on approach
- ♦ use Board developed science kits
- ♦ invite Scientist in the Schools to provide class workshops
- ♦ implement an inclusive curriculum that raises awareness, provides knowledge, and fosters understanding of our world and the global community

### Health and Physical Education

- ♦ promote an active healthy life style
- ♦ develop an understanding and provide resources to implement the Ministry mandated 20 minutes of daily physical activities
- ♦ school-wide health hustle and "chair aerobics" using student leaders
- ♦ House league activities
- ♦ Sports programs
- ♦ build partnerships with Toronto Public Health and other professional support groups

# Our School Plan



## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Parent And Community Involvement

#### Parent Involvement:

- ✦ An active school council
- ✦ Regular parent volunteers assisting in the school
- ✦ Family Nights e.g. Yoga, literacy

#### Community Links:

- ✦ ongoing Permit use of school
- ✦ use of community resources e.g. Malvern Library
- ✦ student teacher candidates from a variety of Universities
- ✦ co-op students from neighbouring schools
- ✦ Toronto Public Health
- ✦ Toronto Police Services
- ✦ University of Toronto students to implement the Early Reading Intervention program
- ✦ York University Nursing students

