

School Address

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*

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Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

Kew Beach Public School is located in The Beach area of Toronto. The present school was built in 1963, although the history of the school dates to 1889, making it one of Toronto's oldest at 119 years.

- ✦ The school, with 420 students from JK to Grade 6, uses a model based on multi-aged groupings and straight-grade classes. Special Education Programs include Resource and Home School Program classes. About 95% of the students attending Kew Beach were born in Canada.
- ✦ The strong parental support for the school can be seen through the School Council which meets regularly and supports the school through a wide variety of fundraising initiatives; through responses to Board and Provincial recommendations and school improvement initiatives; and through an extensive parent volunteer program.
- ✦ The school also enjoys the presence of Kew Beach Daycare which was the first daycare to be in a Toronto Public School (its history dates back to 1970). At present, the daycare is licensed for 112 children and occupies the first floor of the school.

Mission Statement

To develop a love of learning and a desire for excellence within a warm, supportive environment.

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ ensuring effective curriculum delivery in all subject areas with a strong literacy focus
- ✦ continuing to strengthen reading, writing, and math skills through the use of effective questioning techniques that encourage higher level thinking
- ✦ ensuring that necessary strategies are in place for assisting at-risk students
- ✦ using information technology to enhance teaching, learning and communication skills
- ✦ enriching our science program with the Scientist in the Schools Program
- ✦ participation in Toronto Schools on The Move initiative and Daily Physical Activity
- ✦ maintaining a strong arts focus with the production of our yearly musical
- ✦ promoting a positive and respectful school environment through the recognition of positive social skills and the implementation of safe school procedures
- ✦ focusing on the Character Development initiative of the TDSB to encourage students to set high standards for behaviour and to make decisions that are empowering so that they have the knowledge, skills and values they need to become responsible members of society
- ✦ ensuring effective communication with families and welcoming parental involvement
- ✦ implementing eco-friendly initiatives to maintain our Gold Status as an ECO School
- ✦ maintaining an Anaphylaxis education program

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	394	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	265	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	129	
✦ Gender:		
Female	209	53%
Male	185	47%
✦ Primary language other than English:	26	11%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	7	3%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	12	5%

* 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

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

- ✦ Music:
Band, Choir, Excursions, Music Concerts / Performances, Strings, Vocal
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
In-School Performances By Professional Artists, Visual Arts

Athletic Teams

- ✦ 3-pitch
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Boy's Reading
- ✦ Computer
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Library
- ✦ Silver Birch Book Club

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Borrow a Book Program

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
Prime Mentors

Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:
Tutors in the Classroom (Elementary)

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Camps:
Outdoor Education

- ✦ Caring:
Free The Children, Hearing/ Vision Screening Service
- ✦ Fundraisers:
Adopt a Village, Community Barbeque, Jump Rope for Heart, Terry Fox Run, Toonies for Autism
- ✦ Nutrition Programs:
Pizza Lunches
- ✦ Safe & Caring Schools:
Let's Stop the Bullying: Bully Prevention Program

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 based on the feedback we have received from a number of recent student assessments as well as feedback from parents and our local community.

We are proud of our EQAO provincial assessment results and will continue to develop the educational programs that will maintain the high quality of our Grade 3 and Grade 6 test results.

We will continue to implement the following strategies:

- ♦ High expectations that our students will achieve excellent results in all program areas
- ♦ Collaborative grade team planning to create consistency in the delivery of curriculum expectations and in the evaluation of student progress at each grade level
- ♦ Use of Developmental Reading (DRA) and Junior Reading Assessment tools (CASI) with relevant follow-up strategies and resources
- ♦ Early identification process and support for struggling readers
- ♦ Opportunities for modelled reading to all students and student mentoring methods such as Reading Buddies
- ♦ First Steps practices, teacher observation, anecdotal records, formal/informal tests, and other assessment tools to evaluate student performance in relation to Ontario Curriculum Exemplars
- ♦ School-wide meaningful, purposeful, relevant writing activities and ongoing practice with different writing genres (e.g., letters, journals, recipes, instructions, stories, poetry, media messages)
- ♦ Integration of the language program with other subject areas to effectively meet curriculum expectations in all subjects
- ♦ Availability of the library to all students on a regular basis for research, writing, and reading support, enhancement of computer skills and access to internet related activities

- ♦ Involvement of parents in the language program by having student portfolios and/or work samples shared with them during parent-teacher conferences
- ♦ Encouragement of parents to read to their children at home, to listen to their children's reading, and to encourage children to bring books home through borrow-a-book and library programs
- ♦ Maintaining an enriched arts curriculum with regular music classes, opportunities for participation in band and strings programs in the junior grades and opportunities to showcase student performance through concerts and musical productions
- ♦ Participation in Toronto Schools On the Move initiative and Daily Physical Activity focusing on building fitness into every child's daily routine
- ♦ Fostering positive attitudes towards all areas of the curriculum as an important result of student learning
- ♦ Regular School Support Team meetings to meet the needs of all students by providing access to specialized programs and resources
- ♦ Emphasis on the importance of social skills and responsibility in creating a positive learning environment through programs including Character Development, Roots of Empathy, Tribes, the Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum and anti-bullying programs
- ♦ Organization of regular recognition assemblies in which students are recognized for achievements as well as contributions to the life of the school
- ♦ Opportunities for students to participate in outreach to the global community
- ♦ Staff participation in professional development
- ♦ Publication of a weekly newsletter to communicate with parents and keep them informed of school events and initiatives
- ♦ Close collaboration with the School Council to support the programs offered in the school

Our School Plan



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

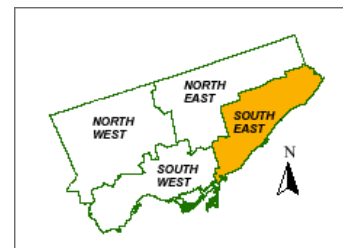
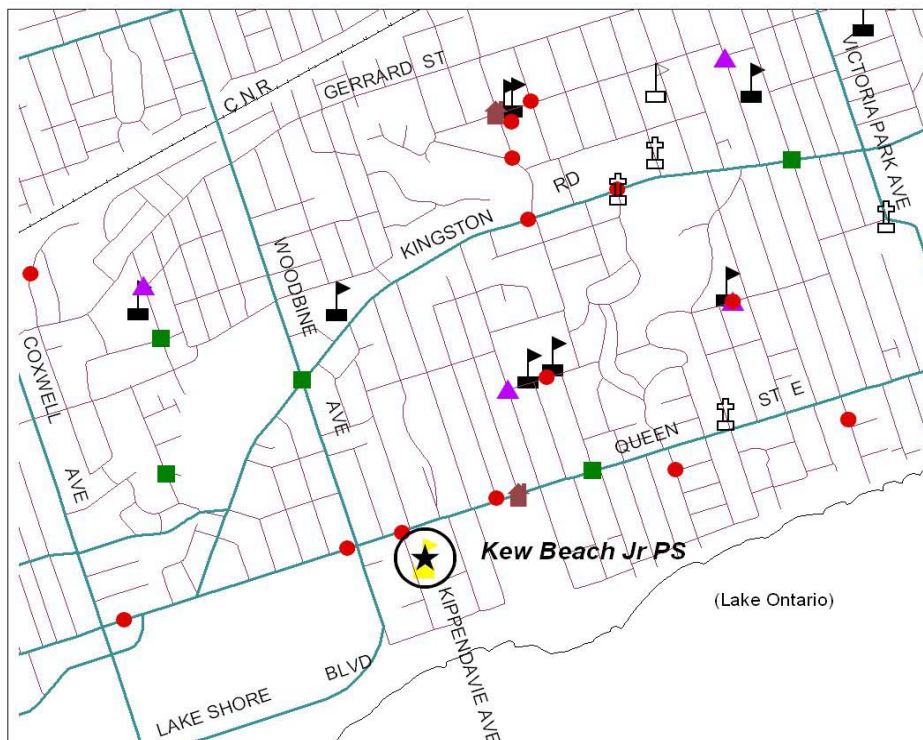
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ We have an active and dedicated School Council with at least 30 active parent members.
- ✦ Regular parent volunteers assist in classes and in a wide range of activities including: working with students in classes, helping in the library, helping with extra curricular activities, preparing and organizing book orders, running borrow-a-book programs, helping to supervise on field trips and developing playground greening plans
- ✦ The School Council implements effective fundraising programs which encourage community involvement and support school initiatives.
- ✦ Parents support regular nightly homework and the implementation of the TDSB Homework Policy.

Community Links:

- ✦ JK to Grade 6 students visit the public library for research and presentations.
- ✦ We collaborate with community/social agencies, community centres and businesses in the area.
- ✦ We provide practicum opportunities for teacher candidates from Faculties of Education at OISE/University of Toronto and many Ontario and International Universities, and for ECE students from George Brown College and Ryerson University. We host co-op students from secondary schools in the area.
- ✦ Prime Mentors of Canada provide enrichment opportunities for junior students.
- ✦ We liaise with the Department of Public Health in delivering the health curriculum and dealing with immunization and other health related issues.
- ✦ We work with the Community Police on Safe School issues and implementation of the Parent Safety Kiss and Ride Program.

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



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

0 0.5 1 Kilometers

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.