

School Address

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Toronto, M8V1R4
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Principal

Eileen Dick

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Scott Woolford
Kim McInnes

Administrative Office Staff

Elaine Chowns
Karen Bianchini
Rebecca Demsyn

*

School Council Chair(s)

Jan O'Hearn
Wendy Kitson

*

Ward 3 Trustee

Bruce Davis
(416) 393-1972

Superintendent

Jim Spyropoulos
(416) 394-2042

Director of Education

Gerry Connelly

OUR SCHOOL

John English School is located on Mimico Avenue, east of Royal York Road. The original school, a one-room brick building, opened in 1884 and moved, after a series of renovations and rebuilding, into the former Mimico High School building in 1993. The auditorium, cafeteria, gymnasium, and other specialized areas are shared with the Community School.

- ✦ John English serves 750 students representing many language groups. About 25% of the students come from homes where English is spoken as a second language.
- ✦ John English offers programs in English (Junior Kindergarten-Grade 8) and French Immersion (Senior Kindergarten-Grade 8) with entry points at Senior Kindergarten and Grade 4.
- ✦ Students from the Junior LD, Intermediate MID, and Intermediate Behaviour classes are integrated into a number of regular programs.
- ✦ We are a gold level TDSB ECO-School recognized for our recycling efforts.

Mission Statement:

John English Junior Middle School is a dynamic, innovative and progressive centre for public education in the Lakeshore community. Each of our English and French Immersion students experiences personal success in developing academic, technological and life skills. In our safe, supportive and specialized learning environment, we integrate the talents and efforts of students, staff, parents and our many community partners to enable each student to become a competent, contributing member of our neighbourhood and society.

School Focus For This School Year

The partnership between home, school, and community is essential to creating a school environment which promotes high expectations in all that we do. Staff, parents, and community members are focusing on strategies and programs which will continue to improve student achievement in literacy and numeracy. While using a balanced literacy program, the main emphasis will be placed on the development of student reading skills. The promotion of numeracy, the arts and physical education continue to be important goals for this year. We celebrate student achievement at monthly house meetings and end of term assemblies by recognizing students for their diligence in their work in all subjects, for their help and cooperation, and for their contributions to life in the school. We will continue to build a foundation for student success through our 'Aspirations' student mentoring programs. The continuation of the Parent Safety Program facilitates the safe arrival of our students. Our Breakfast Program continues to ensure that many of our students receive a nutritious meal before beginning their school day.

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	743	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	219	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	261	
Grade 7 - Grade 8	263	
✦ Gender:		
Female	362	49%
Male	381	51%
✦ Primary language other than English:	213	29%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	12	2%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	32	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
- ✦ 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

- ✦ Dramatic Arts:
Live Production/Play, Performance of Mulan
- ✦ Music:
Band, Choir, Music Concerts / Performances, Strings
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
Drama, Music
- ✦ Visual Arts:
Ceramics, Crafts

Intramurals

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cooperative Games
- ✦ European Handball
- ✦ Soccer

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Badminton
- ✦ Baseball
- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Football
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Boy's Reading
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Yearbook

Leadership

- ✦ Student Activity Council:
STA
- ✦ Student Conferences
- ✦ Student Leadership:
JEL Team, Junior Equity Team, Senior Equity Team

Competitions

- ✦ Concours D'Art Oratoire
- ✦ Mathematics Competitions:
Pythagoras, Fibonacci, Byron St. Germain, Gauss
- ✦ Spelling Bee

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Metropolitan Toronto Police

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
Aspirations Program

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Caring:
Food Drives, Hearing/ Vision Screening Service, Womens Habitat
- ✦ Fundraisers:
Jump Rope for Heart, Terry Fox Run
- ✦ Nutrition Programs:
Breakfast Program
- ✦ Social Skills:
Character Development Program, Tribes, Who is NOBODY? Program

Equity

- ✦ Assemblies

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ✦ International Heritage/Languages Program
- ✦ Workshops

Student Success

Pathways Programs

- ✦ Schools to Future:
College Liaison Grade 7/8 Career Conference

Transitions

- ✦ Transitions Guest Speakers

Specializations and Other Programs

Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)

- ✦ ESL
- ✦ OFIP

Special Education Programs

- ✦ Behaviour
- ✦ LD - Learning Disability
- ✦ MID - Mild Intellectual Disability



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 information we have received from a number of student assessments and feedback from parents and teachers.

The plans below outline practices which we have found to be successful as well as new plans which will be introduced to address identified needs:

- ♦ participate in the Ontario Focused Intervention Program focusing on the development of reading strategies for students
- ♦ create a Professional Learning Community examining effective classroom practices
- ♦ provide Guided Reading with levelled books
- ♦ focus on journal writing activities in all subject areas
- ♦ teach expansion of reading, speaking and written vocabulary
- ♦ provide high interest/low vocabulary reading materials aimed at ESL learners
- ♦ expand levelled book room selections
- ♦ engage students through the use of Literature Circles to develop critical thinking skills
- ♦ teach applications of language conventions in print materials
- ♦ provide directed reading lessons to teach specific skills such as scanning, skimming, making predictions and locating proof
- ♦ use portfolios for student evaluation and goal-setting
- ♦ continue to use diagnostic tools - DRA, CASI & CAPS
- ♦ schedule computer classes with emphasis on sequential skill development
- ♦ focus on developing more complex, clearly stated ideas and supporting details
- ♦ publish regular classroom newsletters to promote home support
- ♦ parent liaison for each class to promote home/school communication
- ♦ emphasize self-evaluation and goal-setting
- ♦ integration of reading and writing skills across the curriculum

- ♦ provide agendas in JK - grade 8 to promote home-school communication and student success by focusing on recording, tracking and time management skills

To continue our focus on Mathematics we will:

- ♦ work with parents to develop links between mathematics learning at school and home activities
- ♦ the use of mathematics journals to improve understanding of mathematics concepts by having students explain the process used to arrive at solutions and conclusions
- ♦ review mathematics facts regularly to improve computation skills
- ♦ renew emphasis on problem-solving strategies through use of Problem of the Week type of activities
- ♦ continue to involve teachers in workshops and conferences
- ♦ provide opportunities for parents to become familiar with the expectations of the mathematics curriculum
- ♦ in-service for teachers to ensure consistency of expectations for evaluation
- ♦ participation in Math challenges

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

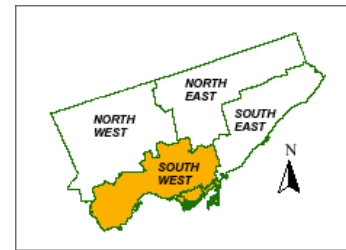
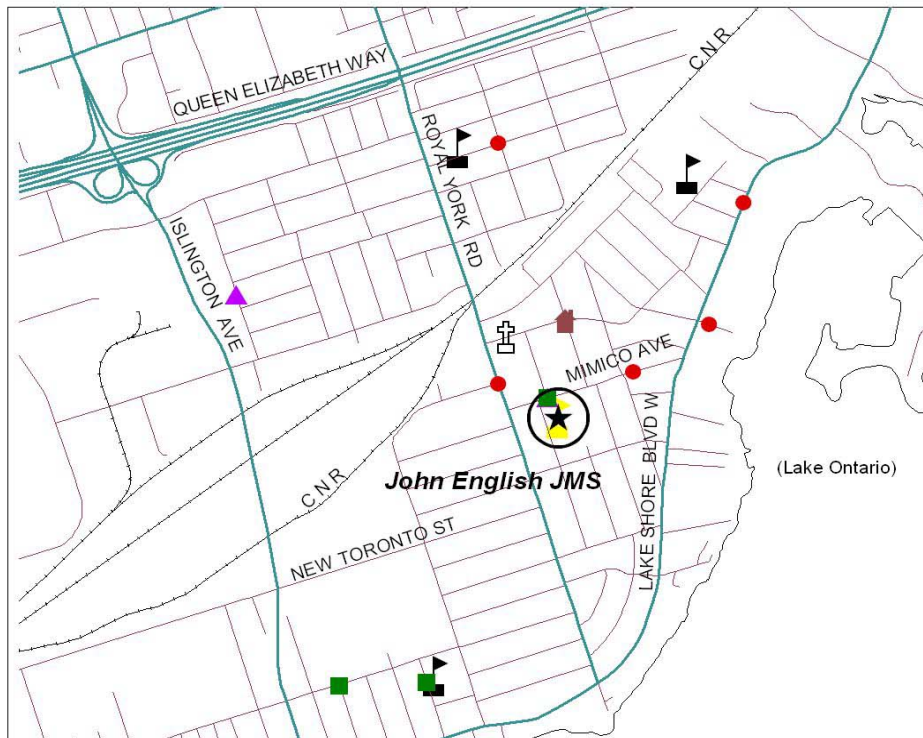
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Advisory Council/French Immersion Parent Association
- ✦ Parent volunteers assisting with classroom programs, excursions, special events and celebrations
- ✦ French Immersion Parent/Guardian information nights
- ✦ Parent Safety Program to ensure safe arrival of students
- ✦ High School Information Evening for Grade 8 Parents/Guardians

Community Links:

- ✦ Community School offering a wide range of classes for students and adults
- ✦ Next Door Family Resources
- ✦ Mimico Library class visits
- ✦ Use of community resources: Lakeshore Area Multi-Purpose Project (LAMP), breakfast program, speech/counselling services, social agencies, COPE (Community Parent Education)
- ✦ TDSB International Languages Elementary Program. This program is designed to give students the opportunity to learn additional languages, other than English and French, and to learn about and appreciate other traditions, customs and cultures.
- ✦ High school co-op students
- ✦ Aspirations Mentoring Program
- ✦ School website

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.