



Welcome to Byron Woods and North Woods Montessori Schools!

Welcome to the beginning of a new school year! We are looking forward to working with returning students and getting to know all of our new students and families. The first weeks of school can be both exciting and overwhelming. Here are a few strategies to help establish a daily routine for your child:

- Maintain regular times for bed and getting up in the morning.
- Fuel up your child's body and brain for the day's activities by having them eat a healthy breakfast.
- Help your child value the life-long courtesy of punctuality by ensuring that your child arrives before classes start. By not arriving on time your child misses information and lessons as well as disrupting the class.

Absences/Lates

If your child will be absent or late, please call the school or send an email. The answering machine at both schools is always on. If we don't receive notification of your child's absence, your contact numbers will be called. The doors at Byron Woods are locked at 9:15 except for the office door. If your child will be arriving after 9:15, they will need to enter through the office. At North Woods, if you arrive after 9:15 please use the buzzer at the front door to be admitted. All doors are always able to be opened from the inside.

Water Bottles

Please send a filled, labelled water bottle each day with your child.

Website for Byron Woods and North Woods

Our website www.bwms.ca is always available. You can access previous newsletters, menus and the interactive calendar, any time – day or night.

Sunscreen Alert

When purchasing sunscreen to send to school with your child, please check the ingredient list. Many sunscreens contain nut oils. We have children with severe, life-threatening peanut/nut allergies. No sprays please. Thank you for your cooperation.

Calendar

September 25

Terry Fox School Run Day, wear your school t-shirt (Byron Woods); due to location, North Woods will not have a Terry Fox school run but donations are welcome.

September 30

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – please wear something orange

October 12

School closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

October 30

Class Halloween parties in the morning

Wear a costume or orange/black

December

Winter Break: Dec. 21- Jan. 1 inclusive

January 4

First day of classes after Winter Break

February 15

School closed for Family Day Holiday

March 15-19

March Break

March 26

School closed for Good Friday

March 29

School closed for Easter Monday

Early May

School photos for both schools

May 24

School closed for Victoria Day Holiday

June 25

Last day of school for Casa students

July 1

Last day for Toddlers not registered for July and August

July 2

School closed for Canada Day

North Woods contact information

If you need to contact **North Woods**, please call the school at **519-601-8098**. If necessary, please leave a phone message and a staff will return your call as soon as possible or send an email to info@nwms.ca for a prompt response.

Terry Fox National School Run Day

Byron Woods' students will be participating again in this annual event on **Friday, September 25**. Toddler classes will be walking in their play yard and the Casa classes will be running/walking around on our Casa school yard. North Woods' students are welcome to send in on-line donations but will not be having a school run due to its location. Details will be sent home soon.

All fund-raising for both schools is done online at <https://schools.terryfox.ca/ByronWoodsMontessoriLondon>

The Terry Fox Foundation is not accepting cash or cheques, only on-line donations.

Treats/Snacks from Home

Some of our students are unable to accept any outside food due to severe, life-threatening food allergies and medical conditions. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation by not sending or offering any food or snacks to our students.

Newsletters

September's newsletter will be handed out in paper and also sent by email. Starting in October, newsletters will only be sent by email. **If you haven't received your September newsletter by email, please inform Byron Woods's office for both Byron Woods and North Woods families, as we may have out-of-date email information.**

Scholastic Book Orders

Please check out the Scholastic parent guide at scholastic.ca/rc/parentsguide. Books can be ordered at any time for both Byron Woods and North Woods using the class code of "RC203842". Scholastic also offers the choice of delivering them to your home or to Byron Woods.

Bags, Bags and More Bags

Do you have a secret place in your home where all the plastic bags from grocery and other stores go to hide? Our schools would like to help you with your overflow of bags. All the classrooms use these bags especially the Toddler rooms. Please send in your extra bags to your child's classroom or the office.

Our Montessori Program

In Montessori education, children are active participants in their learning. They choose their activities and work at their own pace. This fosters a sense of independence and self-confidence. It also encourages children to take responsibility for their learning. Montessori encourages children to learn from each other in a mixed age group setting. The main areas in the prepared Montessori classroom that your child will acquire knowledge from include Practical Life, Sensorial, Language, Culture, Mathematics, and Cultural Studies (a wide range of subjects inclusive of history, geography, science, arts, and music). The Casa program incorporates basic French vocabulary into their weekly programming as well.

Child Safety

Please remember to keep the **black gate closed**. We also ask that you **do not let your child swing on the black gate**.

Parking for Byron Woods

We appreciate your courtesy and cooperation in being on time when arriving and departing from our busy parking lot. To alleviate congestion in the school parking lot, we ask that:

- Out of consideration for other families, we ask that you leave as soon as you have dropped off and picked up your child.
- Please turn off your vehicle when you are not in it.
- **Please make sure to drop off and pick up during the times allotted for your class. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask the teacher or office.**
- Due to Ministry regulations we ask that parents/care givers **do not park along the black gate. This is reserved for staff parking** until the ministry of education informs us on the next steps.

Extra Clothing for your Child

We ask that all children have two complete changes of clothing in their backpack at school. Accidents happen and this will help. Please remember to label everything and ensure your child has indoor and outdoor shoes. Backpacks and indoor shoes should stay at school. Please no crocs or slip on shoes for outdoors.

Staffing Changes Byron Woods

With the new school year, there have been some changes in staffing at Byron Woods:

Casa 1:	Mrs. Liz Winters, Head Teacher Ms. Andrea Onderwater, co-Montessori Teacher Mrs. Karishma Samnani, co-Montessori Teacher	Toddler 1:	Mrs. Bobbi Clarke, Head Teacher Mrs. Kendra Ryan, co-Montessori Teacher Miss. Juliet Serem Miss. Morton
Casa 2:	Mrs. Darla McKay, Head Teacher Mrs. Charlene Bradley, co-Montessori Teacher Mrs. Jennifer Halliwell Mrs. Samantha Romero	Toddler 2:	Mrs. Kate Hallock, Head Teacher Miss. Nadeen Bounassif, co-Montessori Mrs. Lovedeep Kaur
Casa 3:	Mrs. Luciane Passos, Head Teacher Mrs. Marcy Dawson Mrs. Suelen Martins		

Water Does Wonders!

Our bodies are made up of 55-65% water. Water helps everything work in the body. It regulates the temperature of the human body, carries nutrients and oxygen to cells, cushions joints, protects organs and tissues, and removes wastes. Our body loses water throughout the day.

The amount of water you need each day depends on your age, amount of muscle, physical activity and the weather. You will need more water when you are active and during hot weather. Water is always a great choice when you are thirsty. Have a refillable water bottle or glass with you during the day to make it easier to drink small amounts throughout the day. Remember, water bottles should be washed daily in warm, soapy water, rinsed and left to air-dry upside down. The nozzle of a sports cap should be opened and flushed through.

Choose water first to quench your thirst!

Do you enjoy drinking water each day? Would you occasionally like to jazz it up for special occasions, celebrations or even just to try something new? If that is the case, fruit-infused, flavoured water may be an option for you to try. For more recipes, visit <http://brightbites.ca/wp-content/uploads/Flavoured-Water-Recipe-Cards.pdf>.



Vegetables and fruit you might want to try alone or in combinations:

- Berries, either single berry or mixed berries
- Cantaloupe
- Cucumber
- Lemon
- Lime
- Mango
- Orange
- Pineapple
- Watermelon

Food Safety Reminder: Be sure to wash all vegetables, fruits, and herbs before cutting, eating, or using them as a garnish.

Strawberry WATER

- 4 sliced strawberries
- 8 cucumber slices
- 2 liters of water

In a large pitcher, add 4 sliced strawberries and 8 cucumber slices. Fill with water and refrigerate two to four hours. Serve in glasses over ice.

