BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
STUDENT LIFE

2 PROGRAMS FOR ALL STUDENTS
8 MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS
12 SENIOR SCHOOL PROGRAMS
WELCOME TO A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF SELF-DISCOVERY.

Whatever grade you’re in, you can choose from a wide array of co-curricular activities to help build on your academic growth, while developing your interests and skills outside the classroom. And, of course, you’ll have a lot of fun!

Our co-curricular programs are driven by the Signature of a BSS Girl, which encourages students to reach their full potential by developing seven attributes: curiosity, self-awareness, grit, voice, leadership, ethical citizenship and growth mindset.

Getting involved in the co-curricular program at BSS means exploring exciting opportunities and experiences, challenging yourself, following your dreams and achieving your goals. In doing so, you can increase your well-being, and develop strong relationships with peers, faculty and staff, which in turn helps to create and maintain our dynamic community.

HERE’S SOME KEY INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT LIFE @ BSS. JUMP IN! (ALSO CHECK OUT BSS.ON.CA/BEYONDTHECLASSROOM)

For more information about co-curricular programs or applying to BSS, please visit our website or contact studentrecruiting@bss.on.ca
PROGRAMS FOR ALL STUDENTS
COMMUNITY TIME

Community Time runs as part of the eight-day school schedule. In the Middle School (Grades 7 and 8), Community Time encompasses Homeroom, Chapel, co-curricular activities, intramural sports, grade level choir and Study Hall.

In the Senior School (Grades 9–12), House, Chapel, TAG (Teacher Advisory Group) and a variety of other activities such as grade meetings and assemblies take place during Community Time. This dedicated time in the school calendar allows for activities that include all divisions of the school.

HOUSE

Belonging to a House gives students the opportunity to informally interact with students in other grades throughout the year. Each of the 12 Houses at BSS, which are named after significant people in the school’s history, have their own colour and mascot. Every year, the House Heads organize activities designed to create opportunities for students within the House to get to know each other and build school and House spirit, including Crazy Sports Day. Houses compete in several areas, collecting points for their House. The Cadbury-Bell Cup is awarded to the House that accumulates the most points throughout the year.

HOUSE NAMES

Acres | Dupont | Grier | Griffith | Lamont
Langtry | Macnaughtan | Marling | Nation
Pyper | Rosseter | Walsh
**CHAPEL**

The roots of our Chapel service lie within the Anglican tradition and, as our Chaplain says, every faith is welcome and celebrated. The focus of Chapel is to develop the social, spiritual, and ethical growth of students in a forum that emphasizes justice, peace, truth and mercy. Students organize the theme of each Chapel service and deliver homilies on topics for which they have a passion. Chapel services also include speakers, important school announcements, student and ensemble performances, and celebrations of individual and community achievements, as well as a time for reflection.

**HOMEROOM – MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Homeroom brings a small number of students from the same grade together in a group under the guidance of one teacher. Homeroom is a place where teachers establish strong connections to individual Middle School students within an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.

**TAG (TEACHER ADVISORY GROUP) – SENIOR SCHOOL**

TAG groups build community and provide an opportunity for students to develop trusting relationships with faculty and other girls within their grade. Upon beginning their Senior School career at BSS, students are assigned a staff member who will be their advisor. This program fosters important relationships, instilling a sense of pride and connectedness to BSS. The social, emotional and ethical growth of the students is the focus of this nurturing environment.
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The BSS Student Services department is the cornerstone of a planned program encompassing all facets of personal/social development, academic decision making and post-secondary planning. The program includes:

COUNSELLORS
Dedicated Middle School and Senior School counsellors work with students as a group and individually, guiding them through life at BSS and beyond with academic, social and emotional support. In Senior School, students are assigned a counsellor who will assist them with their post-secondary school planning.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST
Our school psychologist is available to support girls in everything from their academic concerns to how to best manage stress.

CHAPLAIN
Our Chaplain works with students within the framework of the student’s belief system to ensure their spiritual growth and development.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE (LRC)
A source of academic support staffed with resource teachers.

PEER TUTORS
Grade 11 and 12 students are trained to provide subject and/or organizational support.

GRADE 9 MENTORS
Grade 11 and 12 students ease the transition of girls from Middle School into Senior School, whether they are new to BSS or have been here since JK.

BSS WELLNESS CENTRE
The BSS Wellness Centre is staffed with school nurses and responds to student, parental and staff concerns, and proactively develops and implements health and wellness initiatives.
SCHOOL LIFE
BSS creates a welcoming community for all students by connecting and supporting the life of the school.

SERVICE LEADERSHIP
BSS explores making a tangible difference by working to understand groups and organizations at the local, national and international level, their needs and how best we can work together.

COMMUNITY VOICES AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Social Action and Exploration: BSS inspires and educates student in the school and local community.

FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS – LEADERSHIP @ BSS

Three pillars provide opportunities for girls to inspire change and take action: School Life, Community Voices, and Service Leadership. Through JK to Grade 12, students learn through experience about the leadership attributes that will prepare them to exercise their developing skills through these pillars.

LEADERSHIP
The school’s vision is that BSS will be an inspirational force for women to reach their full potential as transformative leaders. At BSS, a leader is a person who is aware of the world around her, perceives a need for change and, by acting upon it herself, she inspires others. Does that mean a BSS student can transform the world? Perhaps, but first she has to truly understand who she is, what she stands for and how she can have an impact. That is the essence of leadership.

More information about leadership positions offered in Middle and Senior School can be found under Middle and Senior School sections on pages 10 and 14.
ATHLETICS
Athletics is a vital part of the BSS student experience, providing opportunities for girls to pursue athletic excellence and a lifelong passion for sports, while developing teamwork, respect, sportsmanship, and pride in self and BSS. Our program develops the entire athlete physically, mentally, socially and emotionally, and prepares students for competition in real life. This goal is achieved through practices and games as the girls learn the values of sportsmanship, teamwork, respect for self and others, commitment and integrity. School sports provide lots of opportunities to build character and education gained through sport will continue to serve girls throughout their lives. Student also have access to a fitness studio, fitness centre and dance studio.

FALL TEAMS
Basketball
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Soccer
Swimming
Golf (Sr. School)

WINTER TEAMS
Alpine Skiing
Badminton
Hockey
Volleyball
Archery
Swimming

SPRING TEAMS
Golf
Softball
Tennis
Track and Field
Ultimate Frisbee (co-ed)*
Triathlon*
Rugby*
Soccer*

*Senior School only

Opportunities also exist for intramural sports and student coaching roles.
ARTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAYS
All Middle School students participate in plays. This is an opportunity to perform on stage or behind the scenes using the skills that students have gained as part of the Middle School drama curriculum. Grade 7 students are also invited to audition to be a part of the UCC annual Grade 7 play.

ART CLUB
MIDDLE SCHOOL STRINGS

CLUBS AND TEAMS

As part of Community Time, students will select an option from a menu of activities that promote engagement in projects that could be extensions of concepts or skills developed in their subjects, or experiences that stand outside them. Activities are chosen by students and may include such clubs as mindfulness, sewing, makerspace, yoga, service, robotics.

CODING CLUB
The Middle School Coding club exposes students to the basics of computer programming in various languages and environments. Students see connections within the fields of science, math, engineering and technology (STEM), and become more engaged in their learning and school community.

MODEL UN
An excellent way to learn about the workings of the actual United Nations, Model UN gives students the opportunity to represent the points of view of various countries through research and preparation learn about world issues. Student attend weekly conferences in the GTA and may travel to the annual conference in NYC.

MATHBUSTERS
JUNIOR SPEAKER’S UNION
PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Students are always encouraged to initiate clubs they are interested in and new activities may emerge throughout the year.
LEADERSHIP IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Throughout the year, leadership opportunities will emerge in the classroom, via Chapel, in co-curriculars, on the court or field, as well as being on councils, planning events or attending workshops.

Formal leadership opportunities in Middle School include:

SERVICE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
An opportunity for Middle School students to engage in projects that allow them to learn about issues that face our diverse communities and forge meaningful relationships. Current projects underway include Holiday Love Drive, Russell Hill Retirement Residence, Women’s Running Series and Foster Child.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

MIDDLE SCHOOL AMBASSADORS

STATTEN-NORTHWAY AWARD
This is a two-year program for Middle School students interested in taking an active role in school life, community participation, outdoor pursuits and engagement with the natural environment.
MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR TRIPS

The fall trip is a cornerstone of the Middle School integration week. Students travel to camp and engage in team and community building events, and experiential outdoor education.

The winter trip runs as an opportunity to ‘make peace’ with winter. Students learn and embrace Canada’s winter activities. The trip is also an opportunity to build on curricular learning on sustainability and thermal energy.
THE ARTS

PUBLICATIONS

PRISM
Production of the school yearbook runs as an academic course and there are opportunities for students to get involved in the co-curricular aspects of photography, writing and advertising.

SPECTRUM
The student newspaper reflects the interests of all Senior School students and staff in a forum for event coverage, opinion writing, feature articles and general interest writing.

MUSIC
Students with an interest in music can choose from a wide range of musical activities including band, strings and vocal ensembles. Musical ensembles run throughout the school year and give performances at various community gatherings, including our annual Festival of Carols and Spring Concert.

STAGE BAND
The Stage Band is made up saxophones, trombones, trumpets and a rhythm section made up of piano, bass guitar and drums. The band meets to perform Latin, rhythm and blues, swing and rock style charts.

CHAMBER CHOIR
The Chamber Choir is a selected group of dedicated students who perform in concerts that take place throughout the year. This group will also be the featured choir in the annual BSS Nativity.

FOLK GROUP

SENIOR BAND

SENIOR CHOIR

SENIOR STRINGS
THEATRE AND DANCE

There are many opportunities to get involved with theatre during the year, both on and off-stage. Productions prominently feature students in Grades 7 to 12 and also involve male actors from neighbouring schools. There are countless ways to get involved for those who love design or just want to help out behind the scenes, as all productions and marketing are created by students. There are also unique chances to apply for leadership roles on major productions in roles such as: director, choreographer, producer, technical director and others.

THE NATIVITY
The Nativity (December) is a retelling of the Christmas story in the form of a Medieval Pageant Play, is an annual BSS tradition that helps to usher in the holiday season.

THE CLASSICAL PLAY
Grade 10–12 performed at UCC

THE FALL PLAY
Grade 9–12 performed at BSS or UCC

GRADE 9/10 PLAY
Performed at BSS

THE SENIOR MUSICAL
Grade 9–12 performed at BSS

STUDENT-DIRECTED ONE-ACT PLAYS
Directed by Grade 12 drama class students
CLUBS AND TEAMS

DECA
DECA gives students the opportunity to have hands-on experience in marketing, business and entrepreneurship activities.

GENDER COALITION
A group of young leaders from COSSOT (Coalition of Single Sex Schools of Toronto) and co-ed schools with the goal of fostering collaboration among genders and shedding light on the prevalence of issues pertaining to gender. The Gender Coalition is a BSS-led and BSS-sponsored initiative.

THE HONOUR SOCIETY
The Honour Society is committed to creating a school culture where trust, respect and integrity are paramount. This club is made up of students who are writing an honour code for BSS.

HORIZONS
BSS girls participating in the Horizons program tutor students at inner city elementary schools.

MODEL UN
Students will play the role of delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. Commitments include research, preparing for and participating in Model UN symposiums sponsored by universities such as McGill University, Boston University and the University of Toronto. During the 2017–18 school year, the Model UN club will be working on hosting a conference at BSS in the spring.

THE MORAL COURAGE PROJECT
The Moral Courage Project provides a unique opportunity for students to connect using a framework for difficult conversations. With the support of peers and faculty, students initiate timely, relevant and difficult conversations that need to happen and that may not be easy to begin. Students will learn how to ask the questions that need to be asked without the fear of voicing their own opinion. Students determine the topic(s) of their conversations, and there are exciting opportunities throughout the year to take their learning to their communities.

ROBOTICS
Students in Grades 9 to 12 compete in the VEX Robotics Competition which was developed and engineered with co-curricular robotics teams in mind. Each year, a robotic engineering challenge is presented in the form of a game and teams build innovate robots designed to score points.

SPEAKER’S UNION
Public speaking and debating skills build confidence and poise, provide practice for all those oral presentations and discussions in academic courses, and give students great opportunities to visit other schools, other Canadian cities, and maybe even other countries.

GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE (COSSOT)

HOSA – FUTURE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

MATH SOCIETY

JACK PROJECT

JEWISH HERITAGE CLUB

SPOTLIGHT

Each club is led by a student leader. Club Heads are Grade 9–12 students who take on the responsibilities of running club meetings and planning activities.
LEADERSHIP IN SENIOR SCHOOL

Students in these elected positions provide leadership for the entire student body by working with faculty and with younger students, organizing spirit-building activities and taking on issues of concern. The Head Girl, together with the Prefect Team, has the responsibility of developing their vision for the school year ahead within the three pillars of leadership.

FORMAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS
Head Girl & Head Boarder
Grad Prefect
House Prefect
School Life Prefects
Community Voices Prefects
Service Leadership Prefects
Initiative and Innovation Prefect
House Heads
Council Heads
Head Ambassador

FORMAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS FOR BOARDING STUDENTS
Boarding House Heads
Family Dons
Head Boarding Mentor
Boarding Mentors
Communications Don
Community Representatives

OTHER LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:
Arts Heads are students in Grade 9 through 12 who take on the leadership of a specific co-curricular activity. These roles include the heads of music ensembles and directors/producers/managers of theatre productions.

Ambassadors guide prospective families on their school tour and offer friendly advice and information. Ambassadors are a positive influence and model inclusiveness for both current and prospective families. They offer an introduction to the school through sharing information about their experience at BSS and the amazing learning facilities.

COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

There are a number of interesting opportunities for students to serve on councils and committees at BSS. Any student in Grade 9 to 12 who feels comfortable contributing to a group discussion and likes exploring new ideas should consider applying to serve on a council.

COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES AT BSS
Arts Co-ordinators
Academic Council
Boarding Council
Business Council
Chapel Council
Communications Council
Environmental Council
Events Council
Global Awareness Council
Grad Committee
Junior School Council
Mental Health Council
Senior School Council
Service Leadership Co-ordinators
Sports Co-ordinators
Wellness Council
GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

BSS is committed to ensuring that students learn how to be ethical, knowledgeable and caring citizens. This happens through curricular explorations in all grades, access to language and cultural learning, and through local, national and international experiences.

Student trips have included Arizona, Vimy Ridge, Jamaica, Ottawa Music Performance Trip and a Service and Canoe Trip.

Trips planned for the 2017–18 school year include:

- **CUBA: MUSIC PERFORMANCE AND CULTURE**
  February 2018 – Grades 9 to 12
- **AMAZON: WOMEN, SERVICE AND ECOLOGY**
  March 2018 – Grades 9 to 12

EXCHANGE PROGRAM

BSS, in conjunction with a third party provider, plans to provide students in Grades 10 and 11 with the opportunity to participate in an exchange program during the 2018–19 school year. The exchange will be to either a French or Spanish speaking country for six weeks during the school year.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH/BSS NORTH**

The objective of the Duke of Edinburgh Program is to ‘challenge young people between the ages of 14 and 25 to reach for their best’. Wide varieties of interests are embraced and provide for training, achievement, and recognition in physical activities, skills, outdoor expeditions, and service to the community. The award program is designed to advance the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual welfare of young people.

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

**ALL GRADES/LEVELS**

June Canoe Trip

**BRONZE LEVEL**

- Fall – Rock Climbing with Adventureworks
- Winter – Dog Sledding with Chocpaw

**SILVER AND GOLD LEVELS**

- Fall – Mew Lake Hiking BSS
- Winter – Dog sledding with Chocpaw

**BSS NORTH TRIPS 2017–18**

**GRADUATE TRIPS**

- **JUNE CANOE TRIP**

**BRONZE LEVEL**

- **FALL – ROCK CLIMBING WITH ADVENTUREWORKS**
- **WINTER – DOG SLEDDING WITH CHOCPAW**

**SILVER AND GOLD LEVELS**

- **FALL – MEW LAKE HIking BSS**
- **WINTER – DOGSLEDDING WITH CHOCPAW**
JUMP IN!

There are so many ways you can get involved in student life at BSS. For more information on our co-curricular programs or applying to BSS, please contact studentrecruiting@bss.on.ca or 416-483-4325, ext. 1220.