



Where Boys Belong.



THE STERLING HALL
SCHOOL



Welcome to SHS

THE STERLING HALL SCHOOL

Discover SHS

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Each Boy's Experience

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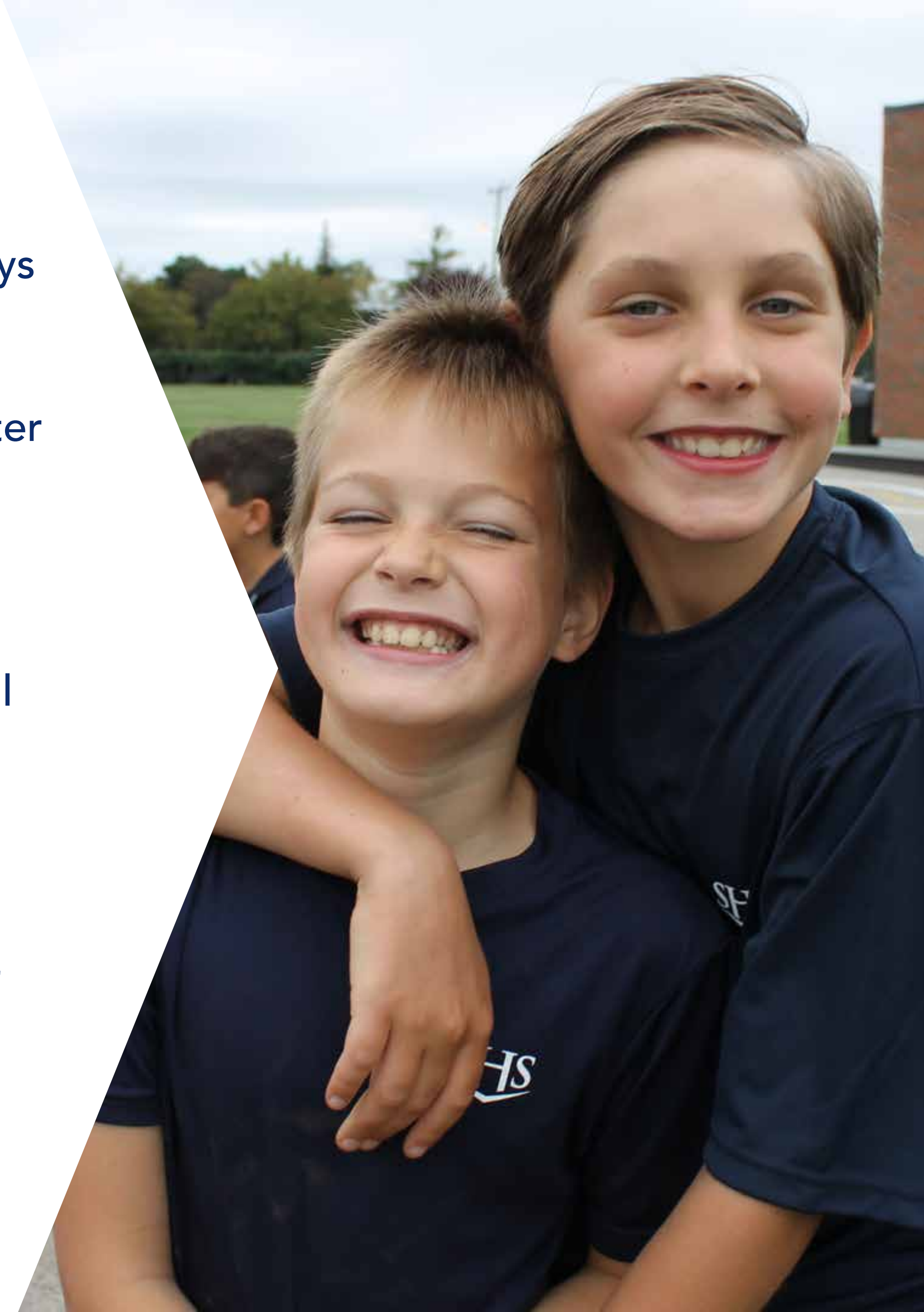
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Why Choose SHS?

- ▶ We understand and celebrate boys
- ▶ We specialize in teaching JK–8
- ▶ We focus on and develop character strengths within each boy
- ▶ We provide leadership and mentorship opportunities
- ▶ We help develop social-emotional knowledge and learning skills to build and sustain healthy relationships
- ▶ We are small-by-design, where every boy is known and cared for



325
STUDENTS 


EXCLUSIVELY
FOCUSED
JK-GR8

31 SPECIALIST
TEACHERS 



**COMMUNITY
CIRCLES**
TO BUILD EMPATHY & UNDERSTANDING
IN THE CLASSROOM

MENTORSHIP
BIG BOYS MENTOR
YOUNGER BOYS 

35 SPORTS
TEAMS 

7:1 STUDENT-TO-
TEACHER
RATIO 

 **7±**
ACRES OF
GREEN SPACE

 **55±**
CO-CURRICULAR
CLUBS



Where Boys Belong

“I like my reading. I can read in Russian and English. I sound it out like the animal strategy cards... I showed teamwork when I was playing three in a row and didn't get upset when I lost.”

Maximilian
SK Student

At SHS, we understand boys. Our practice is based on extensive research in boy-specific learning and development.

Through our active participation in International Boys' Schools Coalition (IBSC), we have gathered meaningful research on how boys learn best, including best practices on:

- how to foster academic and personal growth in boys
- how to address individual boys' needs
- how to improve student outcomes





Where Families Belong

Our school culture is warm and welcoming—with a strong community made up of current families, Alumni, faculty and staff. They enrich the experience of every SHS boy by creating a sense of belonging.



OVER **70%**
OF PARENTS VOLUNTEER
AT SHS

Parents join our Parents Association, get involved as Parent Ambassadors and volunteer at our many events.



40+

GRADE REP PARENTS

Four parent representatives for each grade graciously volunteer their time to communicate with other SHS families and build strong class connections.





Where Families Belong

“SHS transformed my son’s perspective on school into a place of belonging, a safe place to take risks and a place to embrace the power and possibility of ‘I can.’ There’s no place like it.”

Nancy Collette
Grade 5 Parent

SHS parents and families are welcomed into the school during community events, and participate as parent ambassadors and parent-buddy program leaders.

We have many community-based events throughout the year to connect our families and create an environment Where Families Belong, like Dads & Lads and Family Ties, Founders’ Day Terry Fox Run, SHS Olympics and Grandpal’s Day.





Our Core Values

Our three core values of Learning, Character and Community foster a sense of belonging to propel each boy's academic, social and emotional development.



Learning

We value innovative academic practices and boy-focused programming that inspire individual growth, curiosity and passion for learning.



Character

We value and develop confidence and resilience, kindness and respect, with the courage to advocate for oneself and for others.



Community

We value an engaged, supportive community that nurtures a sense of belonging and fosters lifelong relationships.





How Boys Learn

Research suggests that instruction for boys "be brief and involve them actively." Learning "should be kinesthetic and experiential."

Source: Gender Matters in Elementary Education Research-based Strategies to Meet the Distinctive Learning Needs of Boys and Girls by Virginia Bonomo

At SHS, boys explore their own definitions of who they are and who they want to become. They learn to build healthy relationships, step out of their comfort zones and explore their full potential.

As learners, boys require novelty, movement, hands-on learning and play. They require teamwork and some healthy competition.

Boys are collaborative and social learners, so teachers include student-directed activities and weave problem-solving and real-world projects throughout classroom lessons to keep them curious and engaged.





Campus Overview & Highlights

Our boy-friendly campus is enhanced with learning spaces that are specifically tailored to boys' learning within each of the Primary, Junior and Intermediate divisions.



Modern breakout spaces to gather, chat and work

7+ acres of outdoor space with sport courts, and Eco Garden

Art studio, science lab, drama studio and music centre

Fitness centre with climbing wall for all grades

SHS



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Day in the Life of a SHS Boy

Everyday at SHS is exciting. While we can't show it all, these timelines tell the story of students in different divisions and what their days might look like. At SHS, we offer structure and routine for consistency each day, enabling our boys to thrive.

Primary (JK–Gr. 2)

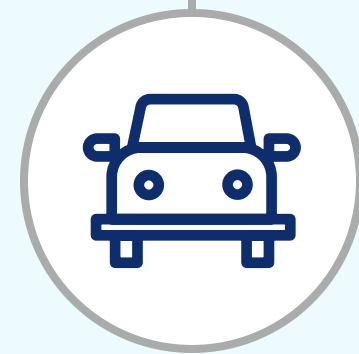
Junior (Gr. 3–5)

Intermediate (Gr. 6–8)

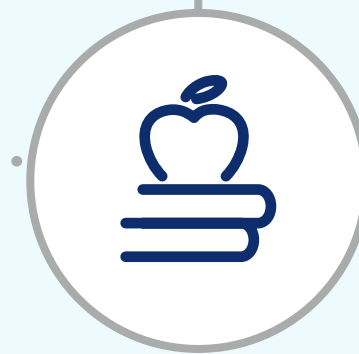
[Click to see more!](#)



7:30AM
Primary boys enrolled in Early Morning Program arrive.



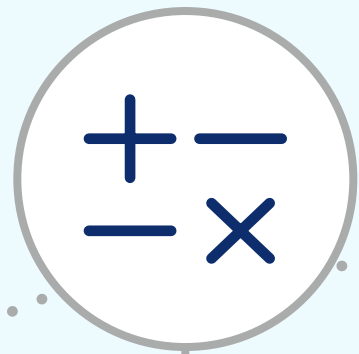
8:00AM
Grade 1 boys arrive to practice reading with an Academic Success Teacher



8:30AM
SK boys begin their school day in a Community Circle



9:00AM
Levelled literacy groups in Grade 1



12:30PM
JK Singapore Math



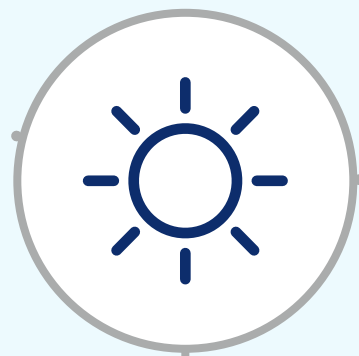
12:00PM
Grade 1 Physical Education



11:00AM
Grade 2 pottery making in Art class



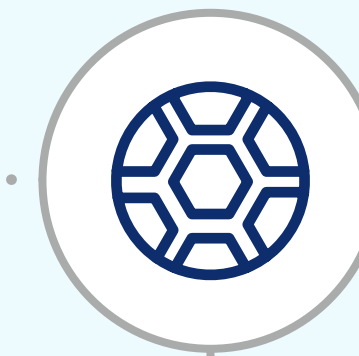
10:30AM
Writing workshop in SK



1:30PM
Grade 2 Outdoor Education



2:00PM
SK Buddies with Grade 8 Mentors



3:00PM
Primary soccer intramurals



3:40PM
Clubs and Athletics

Primary



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Primary (JK–Gr. 2)

Junior (Gr. 3–5)

Intermediate (Gr. 6–8)

[Click to see more!](#)



Junior



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Primary (JK–Gr. 2)

Junior (Gr. 3–5)

Intermediate (Gr. 6–8) ←

[Click to see more!](#)



Intermediate



Relational Learning



The best, most empathetic faculty skilled in relational learning are hired.



We model positive relationships and view parents as partners in our mission to help our boys grow and succeed.



Many Alumni maintain contact with teachers, visiting and volunteering at SHS long after graduation.





Relational Learning

120+

MINUTES SPENT ON SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL AND CHARACTER EDUCATION EACH WEEK

STERLING STARS

TO HIGHLIGHT ACTS OF KINDNESS IN TEACHABLE MOMENTS FOR JK-GRADE 2

A strong student-teacher relationship is the foundation of all we do at SHS. Teachers are responsible for building and maintaining strong relationships with boys to encourage positive risk-taking and commitment to learning and personal growth.

“I am grateful for weekly dedicated time with my Grade 8 mentee. We chat openly about school life and beyond—it’s amazing to nurture such growth in boys, physically, emotionally and socially as the years go by.”

Sean Mitchell
HPE Teacher





Faculty Who Educate and Inspire

“The impact of a strong student-teacher relationship was a defining moment for my son. The empathetic approach established security and motivated my son to shine in an area of opportunity.”

Michelle Goldman
Grade 8 Parent

SHS faculty use innovative instructional strategies, academic practices and boy-focused programming that inspire individual growth, curiosity and passion for learning. They empower and inspire student agency, collaboration and critical thinking in developmentally appropriate ways.





Mentorship & Leadership

Our passionate faculty and staff are known for seeing not just the student, but the whole boy. We aim to build relationships where boys feel inspired and empowered to develop their interests and emotions, as well as their intellectual gifts, and leadership qualities.

“Recent research suggests that the highest performing boys consistently cite two aspects as drivers of boys’ personal achievement: a sense of belonging within a positive school culture and explicit understanding of character expectations. At SHS, we strive to incorporate both of these aspects into our daily practice.”

Rick Parsons
Principal



Mentorship & Leadership

Our mentorship programs strengthen our Sterling Community value; teachers support boys through our Community Circles, advisory groups, co-curriculars and the Grade 8 Mentor program. In turn, older boys in Grades 4–8 use their leadership and compassion to mentor younger boys in JK–Grade 3.



THE STERLING HALL SCHOOL



STUDENT-LED

WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES TO DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP

#1 FUNDRAISER
FOR TERRY FOX FOUNDATION
FOR CANCER RESEARCH



Co-curriculars

Faculty and staff nurture personal growth and the development of a variety of athletics, clubs and service learning initiatives. Boys are encouraged to risk-take and explore in all aspects of the SHS community in order to challenge and grow their moral, civic and performance character.



Clubs

- Climbing
- Lego Robotics
- Chess
- Jazzology & Band
- Coding
- Photography
- And more, with 19+ STEAM clubs!



Athletics

- Badminton
- Soccer
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Hockey
- Swimming
- Baseball
- And more, with 35 sports teams!





Experiential Education & Environmental Sustainability

At The Sterling Hall School, we embrace experiential learning and look for ways to expand our students' perspectives with trips that take them beyond the classroom. This helps boys connect their learning to the real world and find opportunities for action, agency and growth.

THE STERLING HALL SCHOOL | Each Boy's Experience





Experiential Education & Environmental Sustainability

“Participating in the Climate Action Club gives students who want to make a difference an opportunity to channel their passion for sustainability into meaningful community action.”

Drew Gulyas

Director of Faculty Development, Experiential Learning Coordinator



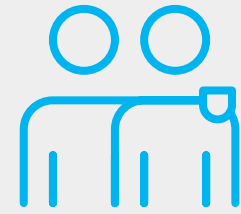
9 overnight excursions



Active, outdoor, inquiry-based student-led experiences and engagements



Experiential trips in the outdoors



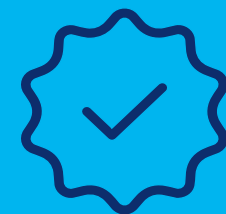
Fostering positive relationships with teachers and peers



Developing teamwork and problem-solving



Building leadership skills and character strengths



Certified Platinum EcoSchool



Teaching environmental responsibility





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“What makes SHS so unique is its integration of emotional intelligence and character development into all aspects of the curriculum and extracurriculars. Kindness and empathy are prioritized in all interactions, and they are consistently role modelled by all faculty and staff.”

Alyssa Catzman
Grade 7 Parent





Ways to Get in Touch



99 Cartwright Ave
Toronto, ON M6A 1V4