



The Mabin School

# Making Magic

A Guide to Giving and Getting Involved



## Hey, Mabin!

Ever since 1980, The Mabin School has been a magical “home away from home” for our students and their families. We are grateful to the many families, alumni, and friends of Mabin who believed in Gerry Mabin’s initial vision to create a space for children to become original thinkers, adaptive leaders and caring citizens.

While our little house on Poplar Plains Road provides the physical rooms in which to learn, and our Community Learning Lab provides the additional space to explore, collaborate, and expand our impact, it is the people - our students, families, teachers, staff, alumni, and supporters like you - who truly make Mabin “magic.”

The Mabin School could not be what it is today without the engagement, involvement, and investment of the families that came before you. As you and your children benefit from the generosity of decades of Mabin community support, we ask you to consider what you can do to continue this legacy of impact for Mabin students today and tomorrow.

Your participation, whether big or small, creates a collaborative and supportive environment that enriches the learning journey for every Mabin student as they grow during their 8-year journey with us. This guide will help you explore the various ways you can get involved.

Together, we are magic. Imagine what we can do from here.

Sincerely,



Erika Bolliger  
Director of Advancement & Alumni Relations





## The Mabin School

"The Mabin School is unapologetically small and learning is rooted in relationships. At Mabin, everyone is connected and valued for who they are.

You have something unique to offer that can make each child's experience even more magical. Your involvement is your legacy.

Thank you for being part of The Mabin School family."

- Nancy Steinhauer, Principal







**Tip!**  
Check our school calendar  
at [mabin.com/school-  
calendar](https://mabin.com/school-calendar) to see what's  
happening!

## The Magic of Engaged Parents

Educating your child is an essential partnership between home and school, and we encourage you to be involved in your child's experience right from the start. Research shows that parental involvement has a direct impact on a child's academic achievement and overall well-being.

Here are a few ways you can be an engaged parent:

- **Stay informed** by asking your child about their day, communicating with their teachers, and carefully reading messages from school (like our teacher updates and our weekly "Choosing Times" newsletter).
- **Attend school events** such as goal-setting and student-led conferences to stay informed about your child's progress and growth.
- **Connect with your peers** at Mabin community events like the Welcome Back BBQ in September and Mabin Day in May, as well as other community events throughout the year.



# Use the Habits of Mind

Born out of the work of A. Costa and B. Kallick, the Habits of Mind is the common language and framework used at The Mabin School to help children develop social-emotional skills that serve as tools in the classroom and beyond.

Reinforcing these habits at home is powerful for kids and adults alike! One easy way to do this is "**Notice and Name.**" Point out when you see your child applying one of the 10 habits we focus on, or use the language yourself when suggesting an alternative strategy or behaviour.

Using  
Empathy

Taking  
Responsible  
Risks

Persisting

Managing  
Impulsivity

Taking  
Ownership

Paying  
Attention  
to Detail

Collaborating

Questioning  
& Creating  
Solutions

Applying past  
knowledge to  
new situations

Thinking about  
Thinking  
(Metacognition)

## Be a Changemaker

As Canada's first independent Ashoka Changemaker School, Mabin empowers students to generate ideas and take initiative to effectively solve problems and drive positive change.

Help us build the confidence of our students by modelling and supporting changemaking at home.

This may look like:

- Philanthropy
- Volunteering
- Community service
- Caring about others
- Brainstorming solutions
- Taking action

To name a few!







### Parents' Association (PA)

The PA helps organize and coordinate events for the benefit and enrichment of our school community.

## The Magic of Volunteers

Volunteers play a huge role in everything we do. We welcome your active participation to help our community thrive. There are many opportunities for you to get involved, follow your interests, and make a positive impact on school life. Big or small, once or all-year-long, every effort is valued. Thank you for sharing your generous gift of time and expertise with our community.

The Mabin School also welcomes support from volunteers in the areas of mentorship, knowledge-sharing, alumni engagement, sport clinics and coaching, intergenerational art programming and more!



### Board of Directors & Committees

We rely on the advice, expertise, and guidance of our volunteer Board and its committees.





Scan here:



# Get Involved!

Interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities? Do you have an idea for a volunteer role or project? Fill out [this form](#) or scan the QR Code today!

We are grateful for every effort to enhance our community and the experience of Mabin students and families.

## Share your Professional Experience

- Grade 5/6 Entrepreneurship Project Mentor
- Mabin Alumni Mentor
- Guest Speaker
- Workshop Leader

## Parents' Association (PA)

- PA Executive Roles
- Event Support
- Hot Lunch Volunteers
- Class Reps

## Support our Community

- Mentor a New Family
- Library Helper
- Birthday Book Program
- Giving & Gratitude Ambassador
- Sport Coach or Clinic Lead
- Archives Team

## Nominate yourself for a Board Committee

- Facilities
- Finance
- Strategy & Equity
- Advancement & Alumni
- Marketing





**Thank You!**  
Every donor enriches the  
experience of every Mabin  
student.

## The Magic of Donors

An integral part of The Mabin School is our culture of philanthropy, dedication to giving back, investment in our students, and improving access to opportunities. The Mabin Fund (our annual fund), allows us to look beyond our standard operating costs and invest in experiences, resources, tuition support, and professional development that help create the “magic” our school is so well-known for.

Mabin families, alumni, and friends may also contribute to programs, capital needs, scholarships, and bursaries or leave their legacy through endowments and bequests. All gifts to The Mabin School are investments in our students - today and tomorrow.

# The Mabin Fund

The Mabin Fund is our annual fundraising initiative. It provides families with a flexible, tax-efficient way to support high-quality educational programs and enriching student experiences. This vital endeavour also helps to keep tuition lower and minimizes year-over-year increases.

Unrestricted in nature, your donation allows funds to be allocated where they are needed most. As an inquiry-based institution, this ensures we have flexibility to support the endless possibilities that may emerge while creating the greatest impact for our students.

Your participation sends a powerful message to our community, and we hope to have 100% participation from all families. Every donor, whether your gift is \$25 or \$10,000, enhances the experience of every student.

## Past Mabin Funds Supported:

Scholarships | Field Trips | Science Projects | Professional Development | Tuition Assistance  
School Musical Venue | Athletic Equipment | Robotics | Visiting Artists, Storytellers, Musicians, & Speakers  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Training | Athletic Equipment | Track & Field Stadium Rental | Foam Blocks  
Inter-School Collaborations | Furniture Upgrades | PPE Equipment | Laptops & iPads | Team Uniforms

### With Gratitude

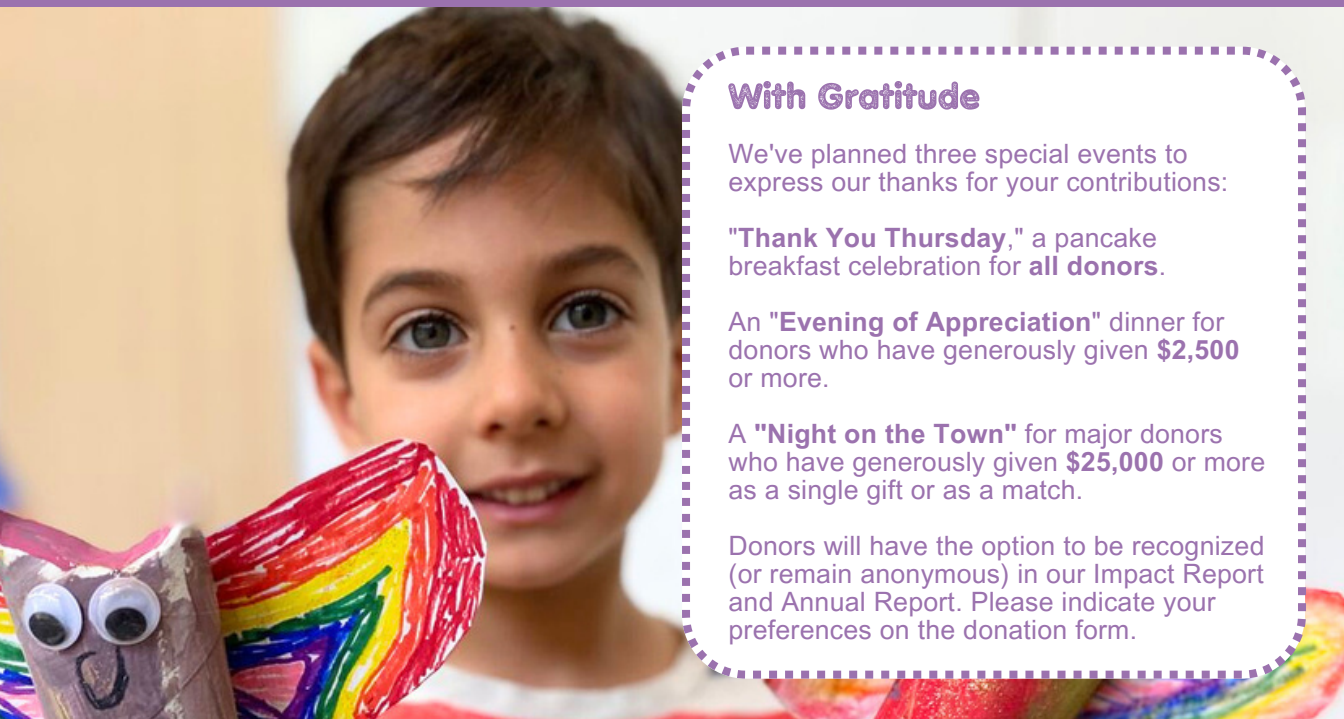
We've planned three special events to express our thanks for your contributions:

**"Thank You Thursday,"** a pancake breakfast celebration for **all donors**.

An **"Evening of Appreciation"** dinner for donors who have generously given **\$2,500** or more.

A **"Night on the Town"** for major donors who have generously given **\$25,000** or more as a single gift or as a match.

Donors will have the option to be recognized (or remain anonymous) in our Impact Report and Annual Report. Please indicate your preferences on the donation form.





# Transformational Gifts

You can make a transformative impact for generations of students at The Mabin School. Through significant contributions, you can ensure students have access to life-changing opportunities and magical Mabin experiences.

## Room Naming & Commemorative Gifts

As a major donor, you can name a facility, tree, or program, in honour of your family, a loved one, or a notable figure. This legacy will inspire everyone who uses the space or benefits from the program.

## Matching Donors for The Mabin Fund

Your major gift to the annual Mabin Fund can initiate a matching challenge, doubling or tripling its impact and inspiring others to give. This helps ensure we can support the wonderfully unexpected opportunities that arise each year.

## Endowments for Programs, Scholarships, & Tuition Bursaries

When you give to an endowment, you create a perpetual funding source that ensures the programs, scholarships, or tuition assistance are able to continue uninterrupted for generations of students.

## Bequests & Legacy Gifts

By including a gift to The Mabin School in your will or estate plan, you secure your legacy in progressive elementary education and ensure your generosity will continue to positively impact students and create enriching experiences.

## Examples of Transformational Gifts Made by Mabin Families, Alumni, & Friends



Saturday Morning  
Choosing Times  
Community Program



\$75,000  
Matching Donation  
to the 2022-2023  
Annual Fund



STEM Scholarship  
for Girls



The Martin Atkins  
Memorial Sport  
Court



### Tax Benefits

Typically, you'll receive 40% tax savings on eligible gifts. For example, a \$10,000 donation will only cost \$6,000 after a tax credit of approx. \$4,000.

## Your Gift, Your Choice

We understand that everyone's financial situation is unique. You have flexibility in terms of contribution levels and options:

### One-Time Gift

Make a one-time donation of an amount that is meaningful to you and fits within your budget.

### Monthly Gifts

Spread your contribution over the course of the year by making regular monthly donations.

### Company Matching

Many companies offer matching gift programs, where they will match their employees' charitable contributions, doubling the impact!

## Ways to Give

- **Credit or debit card:** Donate securely online at [mabin.com/support-mabin/](https://mabin.com/support-mabin/).
- **Cash or Cheque:** Please make cheques payable to "The Mabin School" at 50 Poplar Plains Road, Toronto, ON M4V 2M8
- **Gift of Securities:** Contribute the fair market value of appreciated stocks or securities and avoid capital gains tax on the appreciated value.
- **Grants:** You can designate The Mabin School as a recipient of a grant from a family foundation or donor-advised gift fund.



# Thank You

By embracing opportunities to engage, volunteer, and donate, you create a lasting impact that will echo in the hallways of our school, the dreams of our students, and the achievements of our graduates.

From all of us at The Mabin School, thank you.

## Additional Resources

**Mabin Calendar:** [mabin.com/school-calendar/](http://mabin.com/school-calendar/)

**Habits of Mind:** [habitsofmindinstitute.org/](http://habitsofmindinstitute.org/)

**Ashoka Canada:** [ashoka.org/en-ca](http://ashoka.org/en-ca)

## Volunteer Opportunities

**Sign up or learn more:**

[tinyurl.com/mabin-involved](http://tinyurl.com/mabin-involved)

## The Mabin Fund & Transformational Gifts

**Make a Gift:**

[mabin.com/support-mabin/](http://mabin.com/support-mabin/)

**Transformational Gifts & Inquiries:**

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**The Mabin School**