

THE BERCZY BANNER



William Berczy P.S.
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School Website
William.berczy.ps@yrdsb.ca

 Follow @WilliamBerczyPS

A Message from Administration –



A few interesting facts about William Berczy – the man!

- William Moll Berczy was born Johann Albrecht Ulrich Moll in 1774 in Wallerstein, Germany
- William Moll Berczy conceived the plan to lay the foundations for a better society in the new world
- William Moll Berczy was equally gifted as a scholar and as an artist
- John Graves Simcoe, First Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, persuaded Moll Berczy to settle his Germans in the Town of York – and part of the agreement was the construction of a road from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe by the Germans (Yonge Street!)
- The winter of 1794/95 saw the first white inhabitants of Markham Township, approximately 200 men, women and children.
- Berczy left York in 1804, and went to Montreal where he established himself as a portrait painter.
- In 1813, Berczy disappeared in New York under mysterious circumstances – and was found dead at the age of 67. If you are ever travelling to NYC, Berczy is buried in Manhattan in the Trinity Cemetery.

....and next school year – we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our school! Help spread the word – and use #BERCZY50

*Partners in Education,
Ms. Lott & Ms. Osman*

Please follow us on TWITTER @WilliamBerczyPS



Our school TWITTER account is a place where we celebrate teaching and learning and highlight important school news!

As well, please do bookmark our school website - <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/williamberczy.ps/> ~ where you can follow school and board news – and as well you can see our Twitter feed on the bottom left of our school home page (for those without Twitter accounts...yet).

Did you know that WBPS will be celebrating our 50th year next school year?! Please help spread the word and use the hashtag #BERCZY50 in your tweets.

Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 20, 2017

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 20, 2017 for the 2017-18 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2017, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring.

YRDSB School Climate Surveys ~ for Staff, Students and Parents

- ✓ School Staff Survey February/March 2017
- ✓ Student Survey March/April 2017
- ✓ Parent Survey May 2017



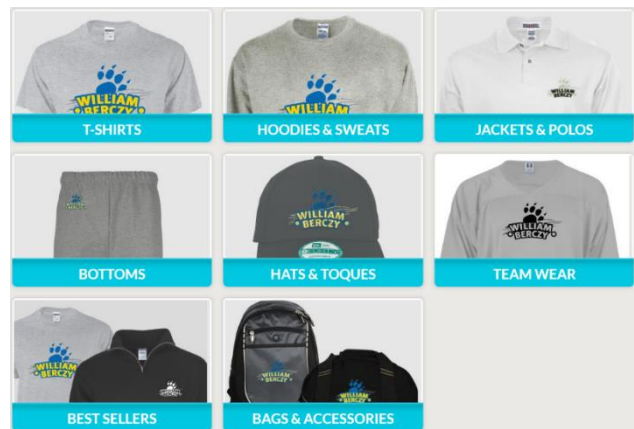
Berczy Spirit Wear –

Please visit our WBPS School Spirit online store at

<http://williamberczy.entripyshops.com>

10% discount for all first-time orders.

Code: ENTRIPYSHOPS10





Intermediate boys volleyball team

The intermediate boys volleyball team represented our school very well at the area tournament. They advanced to the quarterfinals where they lost to Parkview who were the eventual runners up. Great job to all who participated, including Mikayla who was a valuable team leader throughout the season.

~Thanks Coach Kitching!

Junior Ski and Snowboard days at Dagmar - Despite being in the new year and after the break, our junior winter lifestyles days are only 3 school days away! We are looking forward to seeing all of the junior skiers and snowboarders on the slopes January 11th & 25th. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered. Once the final registration numbers are in you will receive an email with further instructions.



Students in grades 7 & 8 have the opportunity to participate in a field trip to Horseshoe Valley Resort on February 23rd.

Intermediate Basketball: Tryouts have started for the intermediate boys and girls basketball teams. There will be a few practices each week starting in January. The area tournament will be in mid-February.

Junior Coed Volleyball is back! Mr Cordick has invited junior girls and boys to tryout for the coed volleyball team. The area tournament will be at Markville SS on January 24th.



Grade 8 Trip to Quebec: Temple & Temple is coming on Thursday January 26th to offer a presentation to our parents. Grade 8 parents – please join us to learn more about this great opportunity for our students. *(Thanks to our Grade 8 trip organizers – Ms. Terzian and Mr. Kitching).*

Enjoying a gorgeous winter day!



Gingerbread houses with cultural significance in mind -

Written by Neel and Lena

Photo credit by Derek

This month, the art club made gingerbread houses with cultural significance in mind. They made a variety of different houses with many different appearances. In addition to making gingerbread houses, they also made fashionable gingerbread men and women with a variety of candies and coloured frosting. They had a competition judged by special guest Mme. de Parra. The entries were judged based on physical appearance, effort and creativity. The students thoroughly enjoyed the process and are hoping Mrs. Talwar will direct this activity again next year. This was one of the most successful events this school year, and we hope this success will continue for the Berczy Doodlers (WBPS Art Club) in the future.



How can I help my child with French?

This is a question that is most commonly asked by parents who have a limited knowledge of the French language themselves. Often, students are not able to rely on their families to help them when they are out of the French class, and this can be frustrating for all parties involved. And as with any language, French can be a very “needy” subject, in that, it needs to be practiced as often as possible, and for many, this can be a challenge.



For many families who don't speak French, French homework can be a way to allow your child to have some autonomy over their own learning. This can be a very positive change for many students, especially for those in the younger grades; to begin learning how to take charge and be responsible for their own learning while having your support.

TOP 10 TIPS ~ on how you can help your child be successful learning French (and other subject areas too)!

1. **Be enthusiastic.** Learning a new language can be scary for many students, so as parents if you show a positive attitude, your child will also feel at ease.
2. **Be patient.** Learning a new language is not easy. It takes time and practice. Encouraging your child along the way and understanding their learning pace can make a big difference in their attitude towards French.
3. **Celebrate success.** Not every child will be an ‘A’ student in the beginning. It is important to remember that (especially in grade 4, but also in grade 5-8) your child is learning something new which, at times, can be daunting and sometimes leaving students to feel discouraged. Rather than frustrating your child by having high expectations, celebrate the things that they have already achieved in such a short time.
4. **Don't compare.** At William Berczy, we understand that each student learns at a different pace and in different ways. Just because the kid next door is excelling in French, that doesn't mean that your child is behind. With a little time, patience, and encouragement, every student has the potential to learn.
5. **Reverse the roles.** Have your child read in French or speak to you in French and then translate what he or she said or read. This will greatly empower your child by letting them teach you something new!
6. **Make screen time French time.** Allow your child to explore French television and apps. By watching familiar shows in French, your child will “build an ear” for the French language, and will also be able to connect French with English words.
7. **Encourage the use of dictionaries.** If your child is struggling with finding the right word, encourage them to use a dictionary and not a translator. The problem with translators is that they will often use sentence structures that are inaccurate or, quite the opposite, too advanced for your child's level. By using a translator, your child will not learn how to structure sentences on his or her own, which becomes counter-productive in the learning process.
8. **Communicate with the teacher.** Don't wait until it's too late. If you notice that your child is struggling with French, contact his or her French teacher as soon as possible. Better yet, have your child speak to his or her teacher. Catching up in French can be difficult but always possible.
9. **Consider extra help.** If you and your child's teacher feels that he or she would benefit by having more practice, consider hiring a French tutor for your child or sending them to reputable after-school French classes.
10. **The key to helping your child is to remain consistent.** Your consistent effort and support, combined with their desire to succeed, will give them the encouragement to stay positive and always put in their best effort.

Amusez-vous! Madame S. Terzian

School Council ~ Next Meeting – Tuesday, January 24th, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

A few of our upcoming Agenda items include:

- Allocating the funds from our Education Enrichment donations (approx. \$13,000.00)
- Updates from our subcommittee interest groups (Fund Raising and Parent Engagement)
- Planning for our PRO Grant this year (Deepening our understanding of Mathematics, Modern Learning and Mental Health)



Healthy, Active Schools Reminder to parents –

At WBPS we work hard to ensure that students' minds and bodies are ready for learning each day. In addition to the hard work our teachers and staff do every day to prepare students for success in the classroom, we can also work to encourage healthy eating and physical activity, leading them to lifelong success. By helping children start healthy habits early in life, we can help reduce health risks and increase their chances for longer, more productive lives.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to ~

- Honor their child's birthday by sending non-food treats such as stickers or pencils
- Ensure all food sent to school for birthday celebrations promote healthy food choices (see the list of healthy snack ideas attached to this letter).
- Participate in brainstorming ideas for healthy, non-food focused fundraisers for the school

As educators, caregivers and loved ones we all want the best for our students. Thank you for joining us in giving students healthy opportunities to celebrate important events and achievements.

We are looking forward to making our school the healthiest it can be so our students can do their best work.

Have a healthy day!



Celebrate the **HEALTHY WAY**

Benefits of Healthy Celebrations

Healthy Kids Learn Better – Research clearly demonstrates that good nutrition is linked to better behavior and academic performance.

Provides Consistent Messages – Providing healthy classroom celebrations demonstrates a school commitment to promoting healthy behaviors.

Promotes a Healthy School Environment – In order to positively change eating behaviors, students need to receive consistent, reliable health information and ample opportunity to use it. Healthy parties are a great way of doing that.

Creates Excitement About Nutrition – Children are excited about new and different things, including fun party activities and healthy snacks.

Protects Children with Food Allergies – When parents send in food, it is difficult to ensure the safety of children with food allergies.

Healthy Food Ideas

- Fresh fruit kabobs.
- Dried fruit (with little or no added sugar).
- Vegetable trays with hummus or low-fat dip.
- Sunflower seeds.
- Fruit smoothies.
- Low-fat granola bars.
- Pretzels.
- Graham crackers.
- Low-fat cheeses.
- Whole grain crackers.
- Baked tortilla chips and salsa.
- String cheese.
- Low-sugar yogurt parfaits.
- Light or low-fat popcorn.
- Applesauce.

Instead of serving sweets, offer healthy, nutritious snacks in appropriate portion sizes.

DRINK TO YOUR HEALTH

Remember to offer non-sugar sweetened beverages

1st Choice: Water – flavor with an orange or lemon slice for fun.

2nd Choice: Milk (low-fat or non-fat)

3rd Choice: 100% fruit juice (limit to 1 cup)

Fizz it up. Mix 100% fruit juice with plain sparkling water.



Did you receive a letter from from York Region Public Health requesting immunization info?

If so – here is what to do...

Update York Region Public Health on your child's immunization status in one of the following ways:

- Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>
- Fax documents to 905-895-6066 or 1-866-258-2026
- Mail immunization information to Immunization Services, Box 147, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
- Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

WOULD YOU ENJOY COLLABORATIVELY LEARNING THE ONTARIO CURRICULUM THROUGH THE ARTS?

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an **Elementary Integrated Arts Program** at Baythorn Public School. If you are currently in grades **four or five** you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the **arts@baythorn** program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

Thursday, January 19, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

Applications will be available at bit.ly/arts_application2017
online after the January 19th, 2016 info night.

If you require further information, please call us at
Baythorn Public School
(905) 889-7992.

Kate Kurek
Principal

The Arts Team

Meytal Daniels
Vice Principal



Thank you for your commitment to our William Berczy PS community Ms. Shields! We'll miss you!



.... all the best to Ms. Shields on her retirement! (6/7 Ms. Shields Homeroom class pictured above)

