

# THE BERCZY BANNER

MAY

**William Berczy P.S.**  
120 Carlton Road, Unionville  
905-477-2047

**Principal**

Ms Lindsey Rhamey  
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**Vice-Principal**

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**Administrative Assistants**

Ms Debbie Wong  
Ms Karen Cizmar

**Lead Caretaker**

Mr. Sebastian Dignoti

**Trustee**

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**Superintendent**

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**School Council Co-Chairs**

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## From the Principal's Desk



I have almost hit the three-month mark as the Principal at William Berczy and in this short time I have come to see how amazing the students, staff and parents are! I feel honoured and humbled at landing here at this special place and I continue to learn and grow from my experiences. I intend to make every action count towards our common vision of improving student learning.

I have watched how incredibly busy and devoted the staff at WBPS are: they work tirelessly to deliver rich, positive and engaging learning experiences for our students. The many clubs, programs and initiatives that are currently in place and support our students' achievement and high expectations for their learning is truly admirable. I am very proud of our staff!

In the next two months before we break for the summer, we will continue to work together with all of you to do what's best for the students at William Berczy Public School. Stay tuned for another busy month ahead!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Ms Lindsey Rhamey*

*Principal*



Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
@ 7:00pm - 8:15 pm

## School Council Meetings

Please mark your Calendars!

All parents are welcome, and encouraged to attend; babysitting services will be provided

### Upcoming Dates ... mark your calendars!

May 1 – May 19	<b>YRDSB Parent Survey</b>	Parents / Guardians
Tuesday, May 2	<b>Speeches</b>	Junior / Intermediate
Wednesday, May 3	<b>MS Walkathon</b>	Entire school
Thursday, May 4	<b>Arts Concert</b>	All families @ 6:30pm
May 8 – May 10	<b>Camp Muskoka</b>	Grade 7 Students
Thursday, May 11	<b>Welcome to Kindergarten</b>	All new KG families
Monday, May 15	<b>Immunizations</b>	Grade 7
Monday, May 15	<b>Pump it Up Assembly</b>	All students
May 16 - 19	<b>Quebec Trip</b>	Grade 8 Students
Tuesday, May 23	<b>Track and Field</b>	Junior / Intermediate
May 26 – May 30	<b>EQAO</b>	Grades 3 & 6
Wednesday, May 31	<b>Character Assembly</b>	All Students and Families
Thursday, June 1	<b>Dance-a-Thon Fundraiser</b>	All Students

**Reminder to all families**  
Kindergarten Registration for  
September 2017 is OPEN!!

Thursday, May 11, 2017  
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Welcome to Kindergarten**

If you are **moving** or **not returning**, to William Berczy for September 2017, please email the office:  
william.berczy.ps@yrdsb.ca

### Supporting our Healthy Schools Initiatives



**Walking  
Wednesdays**



Start saving your  
nickels Berczy Bears!

**SPRING  
SCHOLASTIC  
BOOK FAIR**



May 1<sup>st</sup> - May 5<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

## Message from York Region Public Health

### Immunizations

In the 2017/18 school year, York Region Public Health will visit all elementary schools to provide school immunization clinics to Grade 7 students. The clinics offer vaccines for Hepatitis B, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Meningococcal A, C, Y, W-135 at no cost. Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act, meningococcal vaccine is required for school attendance, unless an exemption is filed with public health. Hepatitis B and HPV vaccines are recommended, but not required for school attendance. Parents of students entering Grade 7 in fall 2017 will receive consent forms in the mail in June. Please complete the consent form and return it to York Region Public Health to allow your child to participate in the immunization clinics. Detailed instructions can be found on the forms and accompanying letter. If the consent form is not completed, your child will not be able to receive vaccines at the clinic.

Parents and guardians who do not consent should still complete the forms and return them, indicating that you do not authorize York Region Public Health to immunize your child.

Visit [york.ca/immunizations](http://york.ca/immunizations) and click on School Immunization Clinics for more information.

Did you know? If your child has missed a required vaccination on Ontario's routine immunization schedule, he/she can receive the vaccine at one of York Region Public Health's Community Immunization Clinics. These evening clinics are offered throughout the summer, giving students the opportunity to catch up before returning to school. Visit [york.ca/immunizations](http://york.ca/immunizations) and select Community Immunization Clinics to learn more.

### Chapter's Book Buying Extravaganza



On April 11th I had the privilege of joining Ms. Taylor, Ms. Rhamey and three other students on a wild book buying extravaganza at Chapter's. Together with my peers, we selected over 30 new books to be added to our Learning Commons. Thank you to our School Council who ran our school's Chapter's evening in the Fall. They helped to raise the money we so happily spent. I am looking forward to signing out my favourites in the weeks to come!

Written by: Grace

### YRDSB Survey for Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians are invited to participate in a survey before May 19. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent voices. Results will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being.

The English version of the survey is available online. Paper surveys are available in English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Sri Lankan Tamil, Urdu and Vietnamese. Contact the school to request a paper copy.

We value your input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information you provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Contact the school if you have any questions.

# Robots At Berczy



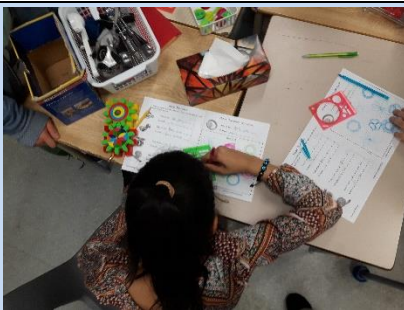
Have you ever wanted to join a robotics club? Well our school has taken the first step in creating one. On April 19th a group of students from Mr. Cordick's grade 6 class visited Oscar Peterson PS in Stouffville to participate in an *Introduction to Robotics* session. They learned to build a basic robot and programed it to conduct simple tasks. Students have returned to Berczy with a challenge and will be competing in June with other YRDSB schools.



## Equity Symposium

## A day of professional learning

Ms. Rhomey and I had the opportunity to attend The Seventh Annual Equity Symposium focusing on Building Equitable and Inclusive Schools and Workplaces hosted by YRDSB. Our morning started with listening to a keynote speaker, Mr. Lawrence Hill. He is Commonwealth Writers' Prize winner and best-selling author of *The Book of Negroes*. He shared his life journey, his struggles and ups and downs with the audience. He talked about his recent book, *The Illegals*. This book was long listed for the 2017 International DUBLIN Literary Award. After that all participants went to attend different workshops on various topics. I attended one on Community Circle. All the participants were asked to sit in a circle and have a discussion on best practices and respond to any questions/wonderings that we may have after learning about the Teachings of Seven Grandfathers. Here we were introduced to different sacred objects used by First Nations groups during their ceremonies and their importance. My next workshop was on Using your Voice in Support of Racialized Learners. This workshop was designed to discuss and address strategies to interrupt Anti-Black racism. Here participants had an open dialogue to share our understanding about this topic and to investigate some of the ways that Anti-Black racism manifests itself in our schools and classrooms. We were allowed to discuss and explore roles and possibilities in interrupting this systemic reality. The whole day was very productive in learning, listening and sharing how YRDSB is integrating the foundational practice of equity into the work we do. There were many other topics covered during the workshops: such as, Mental Health, classism, faith-based accommodations, Islamophobia, Re-thinking White privilege. It was a great day of learning; challenging and expanding my own belief system. *Ms. Bablani*



## Scientists in the School

Team 213 (Ms. Speed's grade 4 class) had a wonderful learning opportunity in April with "Scientist Hina", who delivered a hands-on workshop. This was an excellent complement to our science unit on Pulleys and Gears.

Check out the  
newest additions to  
our Berczy  
MakerSpace



The school's participation in the MS Read-A-Thon is fast approaching! On April 28th we had a special guest speaker, Ms. Mangas from our Primary Division, share some information about her personal journey with multiple sclerosis. In addition, she highlighted the importance of fundraising to help people like herself living with this life changing disease.



Students will soon be bringing home a Pledge Kit which should be used to track their reading each day, and to track donations. Kits are due back at the school on May 10th. Until then, we encourage students to read EVERY DAY and to ask friends and family to support this important cause. Canada has one of the highest rates of MS in the world, with three new Canadians diagnosed every day. Proceeds from the MS Read-A-thon help fund vital services and programs for people with MS as well as research into the cause, treatment and cure. Through reading, your child will be helping those living with MS. Thank you in advance for your support with this valuable program! Ms. Taylor

This month, the Grade 7 Band and the Grade 8 Band both had amazing performances at the **Music Alive Festival**. The Grade 7 Band traveled to Newmarket Theatre where they performed *Brother James' Air* (James Leith Macbeth Bain) and *Ancient Moon* (Elliot Del Borgo) achieving a **Silver Standard**. The Grade 8 Band travelled to the Unionville Montessori School where they performed *In the Wake of Spring* (James Swearingen) and *Ash Lawn Echoes* (Robert Winston Smith) achieving a **Platinum Standard** and an invitation to MusicFest Nationals. Both bands have been practising with commitment every week since September. We would like to give large congratulations and thanks to all members of both bands for their hard work.



## Shoebox Project



Hello there Berczy families! Thank you so very much for supporting our Shoebox Project drive, which supports women's shelters all over North America. We have collected so many amazing and useful items from you and are currently in the process of putting together boxes for a local shelter in York Region. Mme de Parra will be inspecting and dropping off these boxes just in time for Mother's Day. Your gestures of kindness will have an immediate and positive impact of the women who receive them. Thanks for working with us to build a stronger community. *Mme deParra*

## Kindergarten Art



The Kindergarten classes were having a wonderful time creating art work inspired by the artist, Claude Monet. Students learned about the elements of art (i.e., colour, texture) and expressed their creativity through this lovely painting.

## Monet's Paintings & Caperpillar Line Art



Enjoy the art work created by the Kindergarten students as they learned about the elements of art (e.g., colour, line). The students had a great time designing their caterpillars with different lines and experimented with water colours.

*Ms. Chau*



## Is French difficult to learn?



Look at these French words: orange, train, broccoli, couple, date, film, grain, rat, surprise, vote, zoo. You may say, "These are English words!" You are right, but they are also French vocabulary. What about these: musique, septembre, comédie, centre? The words in the first list are called identical cognates and those in the second list, similar cognates. Cognate is a word that is related to one in another language because the two words have a common source. Thanks to these cognates, English speakers who have never studied French already know about 15,000 French words. How? Here are some of the reasons: first, English and French belong to the same Indo-European language group. Second, throughout its history, the English language has constantly been enriched by borrowings from Latin (French was developed from Latin) at various periods. After the Norman Conquest of 1066 (William the Conqueror became king of England), for 300 years about 15,000 French words of law, art, food and literature were incorporated into English and about three-fourths of which are still in use today. Later, many French terms in every domain, including science, fashion and literature have continued to make their way into English. About one-third of all English words are derived directly or indirectly from French.

<< Regarde le film à la télévision ce week-end. >> Isn't it easy to understand this French sentence? So, with English speakers having great advantages in learning French, French truly is not a foreign language. *Mme Sung*

## WILLIAM BERCZY DANCE-A-THON FUNDRAISER

**Dance-a-Thon Fundraiser** – Hold on everyone and get your dancing shoes on! Our staff champions, Ms Hatzis, Ms Talwar, Mr. Yuen, Ms Hancox and Ms Taylor are busy organizing a Dance-A-Thon fundraiser in support of music, arts, makerspace, robotics, indoor and outdoor recess games and activities: things that will benefit all our students. This is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>. More information and Dance-a-Thon envelopes will follow soon. On May 15<sup>th</sup> every child will be given a fundraiser envelope to take home and record the names and addresses of sponsors. Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$25 or more, if requested. As always, we appreciate your support and participation.

- An assembly for all students will take place on **Monday, May 15, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.** At the assembly, we aim to build excitement and 'pump it up' to learn more about our Dance-a-Thon fundraiser and the exciting prizes that can be won.
- The Dance-a-Thon will take place for Kindergarten to Grade 8 classes and will be scheduled to take place throughout **the whole day on Thursday, June 1, 2017.**





## On Track to Wellness: Health and Wellness Expo



The On Track to Wellness: Health and Wellness Expo took place on Thursday April 27th. The event was very hands-on and left people of all ages in a joyful mood. There were 20 different booths ranging from child and mental health specialists, YR health and YR Police to football, tennis, yoga and Taekwondo experts. There were a lot of physical and movement activities which got everyone's heart pumping. The hands-on activities included: stress ball making, playing instruments, colouring, even petting a dog, and continuous fitness games around the gym. The Health and Wellness Expo encouraged people of all ages to take initiative around our community and their learning skills as well! *Text and Photos by: Sam, Stella, Stephanie*



## School Council Movie Night Fundraiser



Our School Council Fundraising Committee was busy last month organizing our recent Movie Night. Thank you to all who attended our event and helped support our music and arts' programs. We appreciated our families who participated and our volunteers who organized this wonderful night. After paying for the movie license, we made a profit of almost \$1000! THANK YOU BERCZY!!!!!!

