



Adrienne Clarkson Connections

68 Queens College Drive,
Richmond Hill, ON. L4B 1X3
905-709-3554
Website: adrienneclarkson.ps.yrdsb.ca
Twitter: @AClarksonPS

Principal: Nadia Russiello

Superintendent: Michael Cohen

Vice-Principal: Ruth Walker-Rosewood

Trustee: Cindy Liang

Administrators' Message

Although the month ahead is one of our shorter months, February is always an exciting time at school. First, we are happy to welcome back Mme Har who is replacing Mme Klein. We wish Mme Klein all the best as she awaits the arrival of her first child! In January we also welcomed M. Convery to our Caretaking Team!

It is hard to believe that the year is now half over! Over the past five months, we have come together to support the academic, social and emotional growth of our students, your children. Exciting learning is happening in every classroom. Students continue to develop strong relationships with their teachers and with each other and parents have supported all of this.

A very important reminder: please help your child be successful by being on time and ready to participate in the learning. If your child is eligible for bussing, we strongly encourage him/her to take the bus in the morning. Supervision begins at 7:50 to 8:05 am. If you are dropping your child off, please aim to be at the school by 8:00 am so your child can enter the school with his/her class and not feel rushed.

We appreciate everything you do at home to support your child's learning at home.

Your partners in education,

Mme Russiello et Mme Walker-Rosewood

Our Vision

We demonstrate respect for each other through our thoughts, actions and words. We accept that everyone is unique, with different abilities, beliefs, needs and strengths. We support and care for each other in the spirit of community. We are responsible for our learning and our behaviour and strive to be positive in our outlook and our interactions with others. We value independent, critical thinking and endeavour to make meaningful contributions to benefit our school and community, for it is through individual and collective efforts that we achieve a vibrant learning environment.

February

Feb 14 ~ Valentine's Day

Feb 14 ~ Red, White & Pink Day

Feb 14 ~ HOZA Presentation

Feb 17 ~ Family Day (No School)

Feb 18 ~ School Council Mtg. (7 pm)

Feb 26 ~ Dufflebag Theatre (Gr. 2&3)

Mar 6 ~ VIP Presentation (Gr. 8)

Mar 11 ~ VIP Presentation (Gr. 7)

Mar 16-20 ~ March Break

Pizza Fridays

If you ordered pizza through School Cash Online, please mark the following dates in your calendars:

February 7, 14, 21 & 28

March 6, 13 & 27

April 3 & 24



POPCORN ANYONE?

Our Grade 8 students are selling popcorn to be delivered every Thursday morning recess. If you missed the order deadline on School Cash Online – a limited quantity will be for sale on Thursday morning. All proceeds will go towards the cost of the Grade 8 Quebec City trip to help reduce the cost to families.



LUNCH ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

Are you able to spare 1 hour of time over our lunch hour? This is a paid position from 11:55 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. Our lunch assistants are invaluable members of our school team as they supervise while students eat, as well as during outdoor recess. Please call the school office if you can help.



EQAO for 2019-20

Our Grade 3 students will be writing the Mathematics portion of the EQAO assessment and our Grade 6 students will be writing the Reading Writing and Mathematics EQAO assessment later this year.

Please do not book appointments or vacations during the period of May 19-June 1, 2020. More information for families will be provided as we approach these dates. Thank you for your cooperation.



Winter Weather & Recess

Students should come dressed appropriately for the weather and for outdoor play. Students can stay warm by wearing layers of loose-fitting clothing, a hat, scarf, jackets, snow pants and mittens or gloves. Students may also want to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet.

If students are well enough to come to school, they are expected to go outside for recess. Our students benefit from spending time outside and being active. We monitor weather conditions throughout the day. If there are extreme weather conditions, we may consider a shortened or indoor recess.

Health Connections

Social-Emotional Learning for Children

What we choose to say, how we say it and even how we play with words and language – create the kind of pleasant and welcoming environment that makes family dinner worthwhile. Here are some tips for choosing and using words for fun and conversation that will make everyone want seconds.

1. Food Poetry – take a bite of food and have your child give the most descriptive words that come to mind – think about texture, taste, smell, etc.
2. Story by Sentence – one family member begins a story and talks for no more than a minute. The story then moves on to the next family member, who continues the story. Some ground rules: Story themes must be about choices people make, everyone participates, no one goes for too long.

Click [here](#) for more Dinner Games.



ARE YOU MOVING??

If you will be moving by September 2020, please let us know as soon as possible. We are currently projecting our student enrolment for September 2020. These numbers help us hire sufficient staff and support personnel. It is important that we know as soon as possible if your child will not be attending Adrienne Clarkson PS in September. This does not apply to our Grade 8 students. Thanks for your assistance in preparing for the next school year. Please call our office with any information: 905-709-3554.



Kindergarten and French Immersion Registration continue

French Immersion Registration continues. Please note that only complete registration packages that are submitted prior to February 7th will be guaranteed a spot at Doncrest PS for Grade 1. After February 7th, they will continue to accept registrations but students may be accommodated in a French Immersion program at another school for Grade 1.

If you have a child entering Kindergarten in September (turn 4 or 5 in 2020), please go to your local elementary school to register your child.

FEBRUARY'S HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

Baha'i Faith	Christianity
Feb. 26 – 29 Intercalary Days are four days (five in a leap year) that do not belong to any month. They are days of celebration, gift-giving, hospitality and charitable works.	February 26 Ash Wednesday (Western Calendar) is the beginning of Lent, the forty day period (excluding Sundays) of prayer, repentance and self-denial that precedes Easter. It is a reminder of the days Jesus spent alone in the wilderness.
Hinduism	Wicca
February 21 Mahashivaratri (Shivaratri) ("Great Shiva Night") is a special night of prayer. Devotees sing the praises of Shiva, one of the major Hindu deities	February 1 Imbolc also called Brigid's Day , is a Gaelic traditional festival marking the beginning of spring. It is held on 1 February, or about halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox.

Message from Our Trustee

As we enter another month of winter, this is a good time to be thinking about our health, well-being and the importance of self-care. We know that, like all of us, our students can focus better when they feel better. Our schools play an important role in health and mental health promotion and education, and fostering well-being and mental health is one of our [priorities as a school board](#).

There is a lot of work taking place in our schools and board to create [healthy schools](#) and promote [mental health](#) and well-being, including:

- Providing training and resources for educators on strategies to support mentally healthy classrooms for all students, including holding a mental health conference.
- Hiring identity specific mental health workers and developing partnerships with [community partners](#) to serve the diverse needs of our students.
- Developing a [Student Suicide Intervention Protocol](#) to help keep students safe in the event of suicidal thoughts or actions.
- Educating students about the risks of [substance use and misuse](#), including [vaping](#) and [cannabis](#).
- Providing strategies and supports for students in [preparing for exams](#) and [managing stress](#).

This commitment is also reflected in Board policy like the [Healthy Schools and Workplaces](#) policy and procedures. Setting policy, which governs the operation of the Board, is one of the [roles of trustees](#), and we greatly value the input provided by students, staff members, family and community members. I encourage you to look at the [policies under review](#) and share your feedback.

We have a lot to look forward to in 2020. At the Board meeting in December, trustees unanimously approved the addition of [new permanent Indigenous Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee positions](#). We are committed to Indigenous Education in our Board and it is important that these voices are represented at the table. We hope to fill the positions as soon as possible and will share more information as it becomes available.

A [message from the Chair of the Board of Trustees](#) is also available on the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca.

Cindy Liang
Trustee, Richmond Hill, Wards 3, 5 and 6

BUS AND SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

You must **notify** the **school** if your child will be **absent** due to **bus cancellations**.
PLEASE REPORT YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE ON EDSBY OR CALL THE SCHOOL

BUSES

If buses have been cancelled in the morning, there **will not** be afternoon bussing. Please see below for bussing information.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Students who come to school when busses are cancelled may be dropped off through the parking lot loop in the morning.

Pick up will begin at 2:00 pm. **You must come into the school to pick up your child.** Please pick up your child by 2:35 pm.

When an extreme cold or inclement weather day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) is cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. Please notify the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when emergency weather events occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure. Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, [Board](#) and school website and on [twitter @YRDSB](#).

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days are outlined in the Board's [Severe Weather policy](#), which has been recently updated and is available for public comment. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process. All [policies available for comment](#) are sent to school council chairs and are posted on the Board website, along with information about how to provide feedback.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus and/or school cancellation information:

RADIO

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM	1540 AM	1580 AM
88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM	95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1
FM99.1 FM	99.9 FM	101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	105.9	107.1 FM

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

**Please note that school bus charters (trips) will not operate
when home to school bus service is cancelled.**



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Council Communication ❖ February 2020

Opening Message from the Chairs

Dear A.C.P.S. community,

It is with heavy hearts that we begin our council updates for 2020. There are no words to express the pain we have had to endure in losing our beautiful Reera. As we continue into this New Year, Reera's presence is missed amongst the students and teachers. The A.C.P.S parent community raised \$2,203.00 in Reera's name for the hospital for SickKids.

We want to celebrate our amazing teachers and staff for all the hard work that they do daily teaching our children. The council is organizing the annual staff appreciation lunch on April 2nd. Please see below spotlight and be on the lookout for flyers coming your way to see how you can get involved.

Safe Pickup and Drop Off

Dropping off and picking up your child is not recommended but we understand when it is needed. We encourage you to have your child ride the school bus to school if he/she is eligible. When you do drop off/pick up, we would like to remind you about being courteous, respectful and safe to everyone. There are many children and their caregivers walking the sidewalks and for their safety, as a common rule, you need to give the right of way to pedestrians. They come first. If you are in a rush and need to get someplace, we suggest you leave earlier so you are not late. To prevent accidents, we recommend you also not stop on Queens College Drive as this is a no stopping area during school times. You will get ticketed by the police.

We are all role models, everything we do and say, our children are watching. Please be patient when in the parking lot. There are other people who need to get to places too, but safety must be everyone's top priority!

Thank you for helping to keep our children safe

Stay warm, spring is coming!

Myra and Nika

Email: Adrienne.clarkson.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Call for Volunteers



Cyber Security Awareness

The council is seeking the help of a parent (or multiple parents) to help educate our A.C.P.S. parent community about cyber security.

If you or anyone you know is interested please contact us at:
adrienne.clarkson.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca



We always welcome parent volunteers to help in the school. Current opportunities are helping with pizza lunch on Fridays at 11:50 a.m. Please contact our Council Co-Chairs by email if you are interested, and they can direct your information to our Pizza Coordinator.



Our next Council meeting will be held in the School library on Tuesday, **February 18th at 7:00 p.m.** We welcome all parents, at all levels of engagement to attend. This is a great opportunity to meet the Council members and connect with some of the great things we are doing in the school to enrich your child's experience. No commitment is required.
We would love to see you!

Lunches Made Easy

Our **LunchBox** Orders program has ended, but we still have great, healthy options for your children's lunches!

Kids Kitchen operates Monday to Thursday and offers a monthly special. Check out <https://www.kidskitchen.ca> to see the menu and to order from a variety of options.

Pizza Fridays: Your SchoolCash Online cart is still open for the second term (Feb 21 – June 19) of our Pizza program until Feb 7. These funds help support programs in our school and help enhance the student experience at A.C.P.S.

We are in the process of planning new programs with more info to follow in the near future.



SPOTLIGHT

This Month's Spotlight Role: *Programs Chair*

Get to Know the Chair: "My name is Mehry, I have a son in grade 5, and my daughter graduated from ACPS in 2016. I realize how important the role that the School Council plays in advancing and molding our children. I know how much my daughter and son, and the overall school community enjoyed and benefited from the School Council. I am honoured to be part of this excellent team and help the school community to achieve its goal, a prosperous future for our students."

The programs chair facilitates programs that enhance the school experience, and supports parents and the whole community. The School Administration meets with the Programs chair and together they coordinate a list of programs that will be funded by the School Council. These programs are fundamental to advancing student achievement, well-being, and creating an inclusive environment for all students.

Some programs that have been chosen for this school year are:

- "I am Compelled"- Inspires students to become change makers in their communities
- "HOZA"- Presentation for Black History Month
- "Drumming and Dance"- Presentation

The program committee is also responsible for organizing and coordinating the "Staff Appreciation Lunch" event hosted by the school council each year.



STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCH 2020 HOSTED BY ACPS SCHOOL COUNCIL

This year's Staff Appreciation Lunch will be on Thursday April 2nd, 2020. Please assist us in recognizing all the wonderful staff who work at ACPS by hosting a great lunch in their honour!



We are asking for your assistance with food (appetizers, mains dishes, side dishes, desserts, drinks) and gift cards in \$5 or \$10 increments only (to keep the appreciations equal in value).

Please make or purchase your favourite dish for 20 - 25 servings. If you prefer not to cook, please assist us by donating \$5 or \$10 gift cards as a gift of appreciation for each staff member.

Please label your dish with your name, include the ingredients and the name of your dish. Cooking/warming up details could also be provided. All food and drinks should be labeled and can be dropped off at the school on the morning of April 2nd, in front of the office. Your washed dish will be ready for pick at the end of the school day.

Please use this Google form link to let us know what you will kindly be contributing: <https://forms.gle/sK3JsYMnTL7rHZN>

If you have any questions, please contact Mehry at queencollege68@gmail.com or (416) 985-0216.