



George Street News

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Upcoming Dates

Jan. 6 Classes begin
Jan. 14 School Council
meeting 7:00 p.m. at ASPS
Jan. 16 Gr. 1-3 attend per-
formance at the Richmond
Hill Centre for the Per-
forming Arts 10:00 a.m.
Jan. 16 French Immersion
Information night at Devins
Dr. P.S.
Jan. 17 P.A. Day no school
for students
Jan. 17 French Immersion
registration begins
Jan. 17 Kindergarten Regis-
tration 9:00 a.m.
Jan. 31 Touchstone Assem-
bly 1:30 p.m.

January 2014

www.georgestreet.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Administrators' Message

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday with your families and we wish you all the best for a very happy 2014!

In December, and in the holiday spirit of thinking of others, we had a Hat/Mitten and Food Drive, Holiday Open House, Bake Sales and Spirit Toonie Days in order to support families in need in our community. We would like to thank all of our families for their support during these events.

This month, we do have a PA Day on January 17th, and although the students are not in the building on PA days, these days are incredibly industrious for our staff and focus on student achievement. Also happening this month, our grade 8 students and their parents will be attending Secondary School Information Evenings which will be followed by grade 9 course selection and information regarding Kindergarten registration, French Immersion and the Arts programs are found in this newsletter with more information to follow in the upcoming weeks.

Many things have already taken place this term, and it has been wonderful to watch our students learn and grow. To our families, thank you for your continued support as we plan to meet your child's social, emotional, and academic needs. We appreciated your tremendous support throughout 2013 and look forward to continuing to work together in 2014!

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George Street Public School will accept Kindergarten registrations for the 2014-2015 school year commencing January 17, 2014.

If parents know of any families in the neighbourhood with pre-school children, who will begin JK or SK next year, please make these families aware of the registration dates. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2014, 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.

The following original documents: birth certificate or immigration status and proof of residency are required at the time of registration for child and parent/guardian. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

CAYRE offers several brochures which are available online at www.care.ca the Early Learning pamphlets are full of good ideas for parents of pre-schooler's !



Winter Play

Now that snow will soon be on the ground, students are reminded that snow balls are not permitted on school property. Snow balls, ice balls, stones, etc. are dangerous. This rule applies during any time on school property. We are urging parents to remind their child(ren) of the no snowball rule. Our mutual goal is to keep every child safe. Thanks for your support.

Some of our students are not coming to school dressed appropriately for the winter. Please remind your child that winter coats must be worn to school! Mittens, hats and boots will help to ensure your child enjoys the winter weather and stays healthy! Except in extreme weather, students are expected to be outside for the entire recess time.



Are You moving?

If you know that your child will not be returning to GSPS in September, please contact the school office at 905 727 4921.

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Devins Drive Public School on January 16, 2014 at 7 p.m. FI registration will begin January 17, 2014. In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2014, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Devins Drive P.S. to register between January 17 and February 14, 2014. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.



Locked School Doors

Beginning February 3, all school doors, including the front doors and doors to portables, will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell. The doors will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone arriving at the school after that time must buzz in and sign in at the main office.

Measures will also be put in place for parents/guardians to buzz in and pick up students participating in before and after school programs. More detailed information will be available in January. Measures will also be put in place to lock port-a-pack doors.

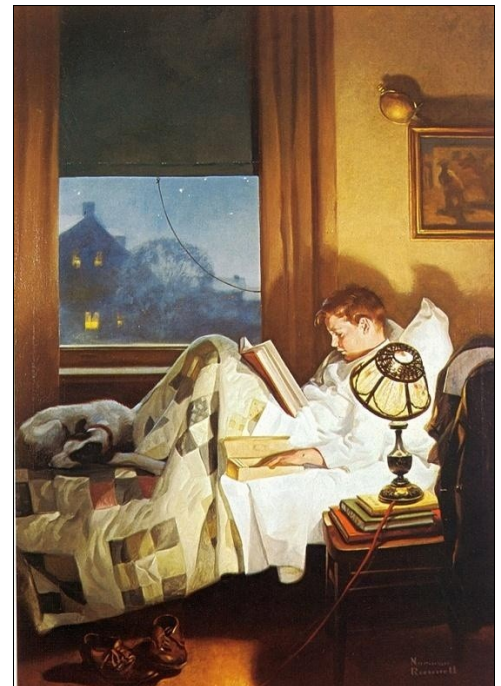
Our school continues to be a safe place where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.

Grades 1, 2 and 3 will be visiting the Richmond Hill Performing Arts Centre on Thursday, January 16 to view a performance of Alexander and the Terrible Horrible, no Good Very Bad Day.

Get set for the worst day ever! Or is it?

The Experience:

Everyone has had a really rotten day at one time or another... Alexander definitely has!



Lunch Drop Off

Routine

If you need to drop a lunch off for your child, please bring it to the table outside the main office and be sure to clearly label it with your child's name and teacher's name.



STAFF PARKING LOT

A friendly reminder to parents that we only have a limited amount of parking spaces and they are reserved for staff. An additional parking lane on the east side of George Street for north bound traffic was created to allow parents who must drive their children to and from school to park and escort their children to the playground area. Thank you for your co-operation

School Day Organization

Office Hours:

8:00am-4:00pm

Before School Supervision

8:20-8:35 am

Per. 1 8:35-9:15

Per. 2 9:15-9:45

Per. 3 9:45-10:15

RECESS 10:15-10:45

Per. 4 10:45-11:35

Per. 5 11:35-12:25

LUNCH 12:25-1:25

Per. 6 1:25-2:05

Per. 7 2:05-2:35

Per. 8 2:35-3:05

After School Supervision:

3:05-3:20pm

BOARD VISION

We unite in our purpose to inspire and prepare learners for life in our changing world community



Character Matters!

For January we will be highlighting **Honesty** in our school agenda's, I will be sincere, trustworthy and truthful. Please take the time to review this character trait

School Council News

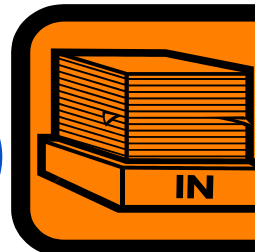
School Council Meeting:

January 14, 2014
at 7:00 p.m. at
Aurora Sr. P.S.



ECO-LITTERLESS SCHOOLS

George Street Public School has a GOOS box. (**Good On One Side Only**). A GOOS box helps encourage staff and students to **Reuse** paper first, before recycling. Reusing paper contributes significantly to reducing the amount of paper used in our school. To ensure a successful system: GOOS boxes are in place in classrooms and near recycling bins, printers and photocopiers. Volunteers of our school ECO team monitor the boxes to ensure they are neat and being used properly and encouraging staff and students to turn fax cover sheets, misprints and draft copy paper that has been printed on only one side into doodle paper and note paper etc.



G.O.O.S. BIN!!

(GOOD ON ONE SIDE 



YRDSB Safe Arrival Policy



Ensuring the safety of our students is our priority. The Safe Arrival Program is in place so that we can account for the whereabouts of absent students. It is for this reason that we ask all parents to inform the school of their child's absence. When it is possible, we ask that this be done in advance. Please call the school and leave a message on the answering machine or with the school secretary.

If you have not informed the school of your child's absence in advance, we will call your home and then the emergency numbers on your child's Index Card. In addition, we will speak to siblings. Should we still not be able to obtain information on your child's whereabouts, we will consider your child **MISSING** and we will contact York Regional Police.

Parents are asked to sign their children in at the office and pick up an admit slip, if they arrive after the bell has gone. If you will be taking your child out of school early, please sign them out in the books that are located in the main office. This system will assist us with accurate attendance of our students.

Recess in the Cold Weather



As a general principle, children go outside for fresh air, exercise and a break from their instruction. Parents are expected to ensure that their children are dressed appropriately for the weather conditions, understanding that they will be required to go outside at recess and at lunch. In very cold weather so typical of this time of year, "dressed appropriately" means warm coat, winter boots, snow pants or "long johns", hat, scarf, mittens or gloves. Public Health authorities assure us that children who are appropriately dressed are not at risk to their health in very cold weather.

arts@baythorn

Would your child enjoy 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. Students currently in grades four and five may apply for the arts@baythorn program, where they will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music while meeting the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum for grades five, six, seven, and eight.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, students and their families are invited to attend an information evening at **Baythorn Public School on Thursday, January 16, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Applications will be on line via the school website and available after January 16, 2014. www.baythorn.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

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

Attention Parents/Guardians!!

Our library currently has many audio books, some on CD's and many that are recorded on tape cassettes. We use these books as part of our classroom listening centers but the stories that are on tape cassettes are outdated and no longer have a viable way of being used. We are looking for any parents who would be interested in reading one of these books that are currently on tape cassette and recording /burning that book onto a CD so that our students can use these stories at their reading centers in the classroom. If you love to read, can make a book sound exciting, are able to record and burn a CD, and would like to help us update and expand our listening centers please contact the school with your name and number and we will get back to you. Just think, your child could be listening to you read a story while they are at school.





School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology. Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus 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 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM	
101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	107.1 FM	

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB on twitter.

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