



THE BAKERSFIELD BANNER

June 2014

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Administrators' Message

It would seem there's a pattern emerging. In February, we held a Family Math Night at the school and there was a big snow storm. In March, School Council held a community event at Indigo and it rained. And of course, in May School Council organized a community event at Yogurty's and it was a torrential down-pour. While School Council had hoped for families to walk to the event, enjoying frozen yogurt on a warm spring evening on the outside patio and on the grassy areas surrounding the plaza, it would seem Mother Nature had other plans.

But as apparent as this emerging pattern is, there is an even more remarkable pattern to be found here —*you consistently came out*. Despite the snow, rain and storms, this amazing community came out in droves to support their children at our school. In the midst of a blizzard we had over a hundred families attend our math evening. Rain notwithstanding, Indigo told us that our school event was one of the most successful they'd ever held. And in the midst of a

terrible storm, families packed in Yogurty's, with management sharing that ours was far better attended than other events they'd held that spring, on nice days. For this enthusiasm, we humbly thank you. We are indeed, **Bakersfield Proud!**

But perhaps it's time to break this pattern? We will be holding our end-of-year **Bakersfield Proud Celebration** on Tuesday, June 17th, 2014 starting at 5:30 p.m. The evening's events will include a display of student artwork, performances by the school band and choir, an exciting Talent Show, as well as a BBQ and ice-cream truck. (BBQ pre-order forms have been sent home and can also be found on the school blog.) On this occasion, we'll hope the rain will pass us by ... but we're glad to know that you'll support the school, in all kinds of weather. (And rest assured, we have a contingency plan for rain, too!)

We look forward to celebrating this past year of learning with you and your family.

June 26th Early Release Day

All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to improving student achievement and well-being. On **Thursday, June 26th, 2014** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan as well as year-end and transition activities that support student success.

As has been our practice over the past four years, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 26th, 2014 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at **11:55 a.m.** Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bussed to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

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Dates to remember (... and dates on the horizon!)

PA Day	June 6, 2014
Girls on the Run	June 11, 2014
Bakersfield Proud Celebration	June 17, 2014
Primary Play Day	June 20, 2014
Grade 8 Graduation	June 23, 2014
Early Release Day	June 26, 2014
PA Day	June 27, 2014



For those who like to plan ahead ...

Labour Day	September 1, 2014
First Day of School	September 2, 2014
Thanksgiving	October 13, 2014
PA Day	October 27, 2014
PA Day	November 14, 2014
Winter Holidays	December 22, 2014 to January 2, 2015
PA Day	January 16, 2015
PA Day	February 2, 2015
Family Day	February 16, 2015
March Break	March 16, 2015 to March 20, 2015
Good Friday	April 3, 2015
Easter Monday	April 6, 2015
Victoria Day	May 18, 2015
PA Day	June 5, 2015
PA Day	June 26, 2015



Transportation: Student Bussing Eligibility



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Did you know that students' bussing eligibility changes throughout their school career?

Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

Warm and Sunny Weather



After the long winter, the warm weather is officially here! Expectedly, warm weather brings with it enjoyable outdoor activities, but hot weather can also endanger our health because of heat-related stresses. Please ensure that your child comes to school with appropriate light clothing, a hat for recess, sunscreen and water to ensure appropriate hydration. Please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate footwear, as well. Open toed sandals are discouraged as they can be poorly suited for outdoor play and contribute to possible injury.



Student Agenda Orders

Please remember, we are now collecting school agenda orders for *next* year so that students can receive their agendas immediately when school begins in September. If your child will be attending Bakersfield Public School next year **in grades one through eight**, we would ask that you place your order for an agenda as soon as possible.

School agendas are available to order at a cost of only \$5.00 each, and can be placed through the office. An order form can be found on the school blog.



Girls on the Run

The Girls on the Run program is coming to a close with its culminating 5K run. This year the 5K run will take place on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at Stephen Lewis Secondary School. The run will begin at 4:00 p.m. Family and friends are invited to walk/run with the girls to show their support and encouragement.



Girls on the Run, inspiring girls to be joyful, healthy and confident

Coaches:

Ms. Napoli, Ms. Diodati, Ms. Necsulescu,

Ms. Crichton and Ms. Woolfson

Lost and Found

Our lost and found box is overflowing! We will make a final end-of-year lost and found display beginning June 16th and have classes walk past it, in the hopes of returning clothing items to their rightful owners. You may also come in and have a look to see if you can find your child's 'lost' items before school (from 8:00 to 8:40 a.m.) or after school (from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.) With the building undergoing its most substantial construction over the summer, this may be the last opportunity to claim lost clothing, as these items will all be sent to a charity at the end of the year if they remain unclaimed. We'd like to ensure all clothing is returned to the proper students. Clearly labelling all clothing and personal items supports us in this effort, as well.



Library Update

On May 14 and 15 the *Forest of Reading* award winners were announced at Harbourfront Centre in Toronto. The winners of the 2014 *Forest of Reading* program are:

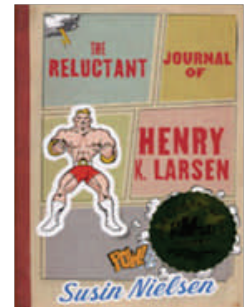
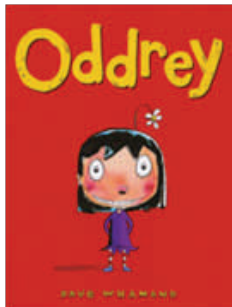
Blue Spruce Award Winner went to Dave Whamond for *Oddrey* (Owlkids Books)

Silver Birch Express Award Winner went to Rebecca Upjohn and Renne Benoit for *Secret of the Village Fool* (Second Story Press)

Silver Birch Fiction Award Winner went to Robin Stevenson for *Record Breaker* (Orca Book Publishers)

Silver Birch Non-Fiction Award Winner went to Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch for *One Step at a Time: A Vietnamese Child Finds Her Way* (Pajama Press)

Red Maple Fiction Award Winner went to Susin Nielsen for *The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen* (Tundra Books)



Congratulations to all the participants in grades 3 - 8 who took on the challenge and read this year's list of nominated books! You are a dedicated group of readers. It was a pleasure reading along with all of you.

I would like to personally take this opportunity to thank all the amazing student volunteers who helped support the library on a regular basis by shelving and organizing books, stacking chairs, assisting students, and helping during the book fair. I would also like to thank our wonderful parent volunteers: Mrs. Weber, Mrs. Greene and Mrs. Cutler. Thank you for checking in/out books, shelving and organizing books, preparing new books and assisting with the book fair. On behalf of all the students and staff at Bakersfield, I would like to say THANK YOU!

During the last few weeks, access to the temporary library location on the stage has been reduced for students and staff given construction. At this time, the library will remain closed. Any outstanding library books need to be returned beginning **Monday, June 9th**. If you have any questions regarding the cost of replacing a lost and/or damaged book, please speak with Mrs. Woolfson.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the students and their families the very best for a wonderful and relaxing summer vacation. Happy Reading!

Mrs. Woolfson

Teacher-Librarian



Literacy Corner

“You’re off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, so... get on your way!”

Dr. Seuss, *Oh, the Places You’ll Go*

It is hard to believe that another school year is coming to a close but that shouldn’t mean taking a break from learning, especially *reading*. Research shows that children who never open a book during their summer break fall behind in reading while children who do read during the summer maintain their reading skills and often excel. “Regardless of ethnicity, socioeconomic level, or previous achievement, children who read four or more books over the summer fare better on reading comprehension tests in the fall than their peers who read one or no books over the summer.” (Kim, Jimmy. 2004. “Summer Reading and the Ethnic Achievement Gap,” *The Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk*).

Why encourage summer reading?

Reading during the summer months:

- Maintains and/or increases your child’s reading level
- Helps your child expand their language and critical thinking skills
- Expands your child’s vocabulary
- Develops life-long reading habits
- Encourages your child to read for enjoyment

Some tips for summer reading:

Help your child obtain their own library card. We have library card applications at our school, which can be found in the office. Library cards are free to all residents living in Vaughan. Don’t forget to check out the Summer Reading Book Club at the Vaughan Public Libraries.

Have plenty of books, books on CD’s, magazines, newspapers, and other reading materials around for your children to read. Keep books in the car, tucked into sports bags and camper backpacks.

Help your child select books on topics he/she is interested in and at his/her reading level. A simple rule of thumb for helping your child select books at his/her reading level is to have them open the book to any page and read it. If they don’t know or understand five or more of the words, then the book is too hard for pleasure reading.

Connect reading with summer activities. Read books about places you plan to visit or things you will be doing on summer vacation.

Check out some reading bargains. During summer months, many retail stores and book clubs offer summer reading discounts. Check out your neighbourhood book store (e.g., Indigo, Scholars Choice), Scholastic book clubs and Value Village for some great book finds. Also start a book swap with neighbourhood families. It’s a great way to read new books and meet your neighbours.

Websites to encourage summer reading:

- <http://www.tdsommerreadingclub.ca/>
- www.starfall.com
- www.storyplace.org
- www.kidsreads.com
- www.funbrain.com

Some Book Recommendations for summer reading:

- Pete the Cat – A Pet for Pete* by James Dean (Picture Book)
- If You Happen to Have a Dinosaur* by Linda Bailey (Picture Book)
- Oddrey* by Dave Whamond (Picture Book)
- Dork Diaries 7: Tales from a Not-So-Glam TV Star* by Rachel Renee Russell (Fiction)
- The Land of Stories: A Grimm Warning* by Chris Colfer (Fiction)
- Whatever After #5: Bad Hair Day* by Sarah Mlynowski (Fiction)
- Anne: The Green Gables Complete Collection* by Lucy Maud Montgomery (Fiction)
- Who Were the Wright Brothers?* James Buckley Jr. (Biography)
- Loki’s Wolves: The Blackwell Pages* by K.L. Armstong (Young Adult)
- The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen* by Susin Nielsen (Young Adult)
- Such Wicked Intent* by Kenneth Oppel (Young Adult)

Drowning prevention: Splash into safety



Swimming is a popular and fun activity, however, drowning is the second leading cause of injury-related death of children under the age of 14. Minimize your child's risk in and around water:

- Actively supervise. Stay in sight and reach of children at all times and avoid talking on the phone or reading a book. Even children who can swim need adult supervision
- Get trained. An experienced adult who knows how to react in an emergency situation should provide supervision. Caregivers who are weak swimmers should take swimming lessons and learn First Aid and CPR
- Use lifejackets. Put young children and weak swimmers in a lifejacket or Personal Floatation Device (PFD)

Teach kids how to swim. Children under five years of age do not have the physical skills to perform swimming strokes on their own. Children five years of age and older can begin to learn swimming strokes and water skills by enrolling in swimming lessons.

Adapted from Safe Kids Canada, 2010

For health-related information call York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca/healthyschools

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