



The Black River Bear Weekly



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Thinking About Black History/African Heritage Month...

When schools are at their best they are places that help students to think creatively and differently about the world in which they live, ask questions and challenge assumptions. During January we invited our colleagues from the Royal Ontario Museum to come up and present an immersive learning experience focused on our solar system, galaxy and universe and hosted a presentation from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre that allowed our grade 6-8 students to learn about the events, causes and impact of the Holocaust. Both events were offered with the generous financial support of our School Council and were designed to open our students up to the realities of our world, help them make greater sense of their place in this world and grow their perspectives on the past, present and future.

This month we are taking some time to observe the celebration of Black History/African Heritage Month. Black History/African Heritage Month has been a part of Canadian society since the 1950's. Lieutenant Governor Hal Jackman declared February as Black History month in Ontario in 1993, and it was in 1995 that the Honorable Jean Augustine made the same declaration in the House of Commons in Ottawa. These declarations set the stage for acknowledgement of the contributions of peoples of African Heritage to the cultural, economic, political and social fabric of Canada dating back to the early 1600's. They also increased our awareness that people of African Heritage are an integral part of our history.

During the month of February we deliberately reflect upon the legacy of African history in all its various forms, and we join all Canadians in celebrating Black History/African Heritage month. By contemplating on persons of African heritage, famous and not so famous, who have been of significant influence through their ideas, words and actions, we appreciate the place of African history in the history of the world.

Brian Harrison & Christine Smith

The Week Ahead...

Mon. Feb. 10th	Day 4	Pita Lunch
Tues. Feb. 11th	Day 5	Scientists in School- <i>will be rescheduled if school is closed for any reason</i>
Wed. Feb. 12th	Day 1	
Thurs. Feb. 13th	Day 2	Pizza Lunch- <i>will be rescheduled for a later date if school is closed for any reason.</i> GR. 7-8 MADD Presentation- <i>will be rescheduled for a later date if school is closed for any reason.</i>
Fri. Feb. 14th	Day 3	Grade 8 to 9 IPRC Meetings

Quick Hits...

Monday Lunch & Booster Juice Orders...Families are reminded that Lunch Box and Booster Juice orders will continue throughout the school year. Orders alternate between Mr. Sub and Pita Pit take place on Mondays; Booster Juice orders take place every other Wednesday. Orders need to be placed by noon Sunday for the following day. Please go to www.lunchboxorders.com. Thank you for your support in Black River Public School's fundraising initiatives. *Orders impacted by any school closures or inclement weather days will be rescheduled.*

Moving?...We are in the early stages of planning for the 2020-21 school year. Please let us know if you are planning on moving out of our area. If you know of a family that will be moving into our area please encourage them to stop by or give us a call so we can account for them in our planning.

Council Corner...

Council Updates and information...Our next school council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 2nd @ 5:30** in the staff room, parents and new members are always welcome and child minding is provided. Please follow our [Black River School Council Facebook Page](#) for current information on what we are planning and what is happening in the school or; contact us at blackriverschoolcouncil@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to get involved!

February @ Black River Public School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 26	January 27	January 28	January 29	January 30	January 31 PA Day	1
2 Lunch Orders due	3 Day 4 Mr. Sub Lunch School Council @ 5:30	4 Day 5	5 Day 1 Booster Juice	6 Day 2 Pizza Lunch	7 Day 3	8
9 Lunch Orders due	10 Day 4 Pita Lunch	11 Day 5	12 Day 1	13 Day 2 Gr. 7-8 MADD Presentation Pizza Lunch	14 Day 3 Transition IPRC	15
16 Lunch Orders due	17 Day 4 Mr. Sub Lunch	18 Day 5	19 Day 1 Booster Juice	20 Day 2 Pizza Lunch	21 Day 3	22
23 Lunch Orders due	24 Day 4 Pita Lunch	25 Day 5	26 Day 1	27 Day 2 Pizza Lunch	28 Day 3	29

Please remember to check our school [website](#) calendar for current updates and details on school events.