



The Black River Bear Weekly



Vol. 3.3 November 16th - 20th, 2020

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Bullying Awareness Week...

Bitterness keeps you from flyin'; Always stay humble and kind Tim McGraw

The Government of Ontario has designated the third week of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week. Though this topic is specifically highlighted during this week, schools actually focus on raising awareness in this area throughout the year. The YRDSB has worked collaboratively with the York Catholic District School Board and the York Regional Police to develop resources to support school-wide cyberbullying awareness initiatives and we are exploring and addressing these areas as part of our focus on modern learning and mental health.

Since so many of our students connect and communicate online, it's important that we provide them with the strategies and thinking skills to navigate these online spaces safely and respectfully. It's also important for parents to model appropriate and respectful communication when they are online. Cyberbullying is the use of electronic devices and or the internet to threaten, embarrass, socially exclude and harass. Cyberbullying can occur through various forms of social media, including: texting, email, chats, websites, instant messaging, smartphones and through pictures/video clips. Cyberbullying is often aggressive behaviour that can be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect. It may include: mocking, insults, threats, racist, homophobic comments, gossiping, spreading of rumours, excluding, humiliation and shunning.

Parents can help by monitoring their children when online, noting any changes in behaviour and probing if there is a sudden change, talking about the impact of cyberbullying; including the possible legal consequences and reporting to us; at the school or via our online [Report it](#) tool. As a school, we will address bullying situations when we are made aware and respond appropriately; supporting those who have been targeted as well as working with those who have engaged in the acts of bullying. Bullying is something we can all work together on to reduce.

Brian Harrison

The Week Ahead...

| Monday, November 16th Day 3 | Tuesday, November 17th Day 4 | Wednesday, November 18th Day 5 | Thursday, November 19th Day 1 | Friday, November 20th Day 2 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| BRPS Class of 2020 Virtual Graduation | | | Progress Reports shared electronically | Progress Reports shared electronically |

Quick Hits...

Progress Reports...Progress Reports will be shared with families *after parent teacher conferences* on **November 19th and 20th**. As was the case last June, the reports will be shared with families using our secure, electronic document sharing system. Please make sure you (or your child) is aware of how to access their YRDSB GAPPs email account- your child's teacher will be able to help with this information if required.

Transportation & Inclement Weather...with the arrival of winter weather on the horizon, families are reminded to monitor local media outlets, [School Bus City](#) and/or the board's Twitter feed, [@YRDSB](#), for up to date information on inclement weather and the impact it may have on bus transportation. Please note, when buses are cancelled in the morning, they are also cancelled for the afternoon.

Staffing News...circumstances have required that we make a few changes to our school staff effective next week. Our **grade 2/3 teacher, Sonia Eusebio**, welcomed a beautiful baby boy yesterday afternoon and will be off enjoying the delights of parenting for the remainder of the school year. Congrats to Sonia and her family! **Colleen Charpentier** will be assuming teaching responsibilities as Sonia begins her parental leave. We also welcomed **Ms Jill Tyers** to our staff this week. Jill will be taking over teaching responsibilities in our grade 6/7 class as **Ms Nicolette Oldfield's** time in this assignment has come to an end.

Virtual Graduation...our grade 8 teacher, **Andrew Halstead**, has created a virtual graduation celebration to acknowledge the accomplishments of our Black River PS Class of 2020. Students who were part of our graduating class last year are asked to check their **YRDSB GAPPs** email account on **Monday, November 16th** to access the link to this celebration.

November @ Black River Public School

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--|--------------|---|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | 2 Day 4 | 3 Day 5 | 4 Day 1 | 5 Day 2 | 6 Day 3 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Day 4 | 10 Day 5 | 11 Day 1 Remembrance Day- Students are encouraged to wear red and black | 12 Day 2 Parent/Teacher Conferences- 4:00-7:30 | 13 PA Day Parent/Teacher Conferences- 9:00-12:00 | 14 Diwali |
| 15 | 16 Day 3 BRPS Class of 2020 Virtual Graduation | 17 Day 4 | 18 Day 5 | 19 Day 1 Progress Reports shared electronically | 20 Day 2 Progress Reports shared electronically | 21 |
| 22 | 23 Day 3 | 24 Day 4 | 25 Day 5 | 26 Day 1 | 27 Day 2 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Day 3 | Dec. 1 Day 4 | Dec. 2 Day 5 | Dec. 3 Day 1 | Dec. 4 Day 2 | Dec. 5 |

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