

March 2018

Boxwood Public School  
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Principal: Dane Prince  
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Superintendent: Peter Tse (905) 940-7800



## Principal's Message

### Class Placement Process

This is the time of year that school staff begin the collaborative process of class placement meetings. Classroom teachers, in cooperation with support staff, administration, and parental input work diligently to create balanced classes for the upcoming school year. School staff consider the academic, social, and emotional strengths, needs, and interests, and more of each student when preparing class lists. The ultimate goal of class placement is to support and enhance the **learning of all students. We welcome any input you wish to share about your child's strengths, needs, and learning styles. However, requests for specific teachers will not be considered.** The responsibility for final decisions lies with administration. Please send any information you **would like considered about your child's placement, in writing, to Mr. Prince by March 31st.**

### The Importance of Math Word Problems

Problem solving plays an important role in mathematics and should have a prominent role in the mathematics education of K-12 students (*National Council of Teachers of Mathematics*). Word problems are more than just a different type of question to break up the monotony of multiple choice tests.

Solving math word problems teaches your child:

1. How Math Applies in the Real World
2. How to Develop Higher Order Thinking and Critical Thinking Skills
3. How to Apply Different Math Concepts Simultaneously
4. How Math Can Be Creative
5. **How Teachers Evaluate a Student's Understanding**

Here is an example of a junior level (gr. 4-6) math problem that applies different math concepts: *Samantha wants to throw a birthday party. The pizza place she chooses has tables that seats 12 people each. She wants 9 of her friends to sit at each table. The rest of the table will be for adults. If she invites 72 friends, how many guests can fit altogether?*

A good home activity with your child would be to determine the different math concepts in this problem.

### Our Boxwood Touchstone

At Boxwood, we are active participants in our own learning and we persevere to reach our goals. We recognize our own success and the successes of those around us. We are responsible for what we say and how we act. We treat others the way we want to be treated.  
We celebrate the diversity of our community.

## Music Alive!

Music Alive is a York Region wide music festival that involves Public, Catholic, Private Schools and community musicians. This educational festival that offers participants the opportunity to receive a rating based on international standards. The goals of Music Alive are:

- to celebrate the joy of sharing musical experience
- to promote reciprocal learning from peers and colleagues
- and to foster the growth of teachers and students in musicality and self-esteem.

Our students recently participated in this program. They did an amazing job and earned a second place finish! Great Job students. Special thanks to Ms. Joo for her fantastic work with our music program and Ms. Royce for helping to supervise the students at this event. Well done!



## Morning Snack Program

As you know, breakfast is the most important meal of the day. At Boxwood we feel that a healthy breakfast is the step in having a productive day at school. To support this, Ms. York and a dedicated group of students organizes and monitors our breakfast program. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, students from grades 1 to 8 can come into the school before class to get some breakfast snacks. Some of the snacks include oranges, apples, muffins, and carrots. Special thanks goes out to Ms. York and her breakfast team for providing this wonderful service to our school community!



## Own the Podium!

**This past month, Boxwood's Active Team provided various physical activities for students to participate in** to recognize the recent Winter Olympics. Students participated as a class and they charted their progress by moving their class flag up the graph on our World Cup Bulletin Board across from the Library. Classes were assigned a country. Many classes participated, and the classes who participated the most received some extra gym time. Special thanks go out to Ms. Smith for organizing, preparing, and supervising these activities!



## Technology @ Boxwood

Technology can be an effective tool to enhance student learning. Technology is not replacing what students learn, but it can support students to learn and engage in material in different and more engaging ways. Our school council has been amazing in their support of providing our students with technology in our classrooms. On behalf of the staff and students, we would like to thank our school council and all the parents for their fundraising efforts. Through the funds, they have generated from such activities of pizza sales, they have purchased a significant amount of technology items. This includes:

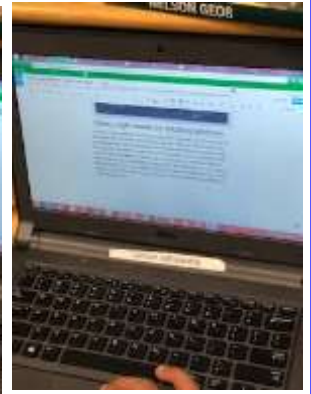
- Laptops
- Chromebooks
- iPads
- LCD projectors
- Speakers

Here are few examples of how we use technology in the classroom:



Students using the computer to analyze and create their own music compositions.

Students viewing an art piece on the computer and providing their analysis of this work in Google Classroom.



Grade 2 students doing research on a Winter Olympic Event using a graphic organizer. The end Goal of this work is for The students to create their Own poster to advertise the Event.



Grade 4 class using the LCD Projector to display Greek art to support them to recreate an art piece using this style.

## *March Character Traits*

This month we are focusing on students having courage. Some ways students can demonstrate courage is by facing challenges directly, seek help from others when necessary, do the **right thing even when it is unpopular, and don't take unwise risks to gain the approval of others.**

Our subject focus is on Science and Technology. A good scientist observes his/her environment, seeks to understand by questioning, connects science to everyday life, shares ideas, thoughts and opinions, and applies skills and concepts in appropriate and unique ways.



## *Kindergarten Registration Continues...*

Kindergarten registration will continue throughout the rest of the school year. **Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website:** [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Children who turn four or five years old during 2018, 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.

For more information, please visit the YRDSB website or contact our office. Please register as soon as possible.

Thank you!

**K**indergarten  
Registration

## ***Intermediate Boys' & Girls' Basketball***

**Our Intermediate Boys' and Girls' basketball teams have been working hard over the last couple of months.** They have been training to improve their skills and teamwork. They have also had much success this year in the various exhibition games they have played. Recently, both teams participated in the Area East Tournaments against other schools in our area. Both teams played well and made it to the quarter-finals. Well done! Special thanks go out to the coaches: Ms. Caceres-Jafri, Ms. Soares, and Ms. Jankovski.





# Reminders from the Office



## Morning Supervision

Just a reminder that morning supervision begins at 8:40am. Students are not supervised before that time. Students are not to enter the building until the bell rings at 8:50am.

## Attendance

Thank you for using our Safe Arrival Attendance system. This is a convenient system that allows you to put **in your child's absence at your convenience. You don't have to wait to put in an absence. This includes if you are going on vacation, or if you know your child will be absent in the future for an appointment. This also includes if you know your child will be late. Please call in your child's absence before 8:55am.** This will avoid the system calling you and interrupting your day. For your convenience here is the information for our Safe Arrival system:

- Call 1-855-203-2994 (toll-free)
- Visit [yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com](http://yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com)
- There is also a Safe Arrival App that you can download on your smartphone (Android, iPhone)



## Picking up Students

Just a friendly reminder to pick up your child at their designated door. I have told older siblings to meet their younger sibling(s) at their door (e.g., older students going to their siblings kindergarten class to get picked up by their parents). Please refrain from travelling the hallways to get your child. Thank you.

## Thank You

We just wanted to thank parents for their support, and for a great group of mothers who help us to start our day in a very positive way in the morning! We also wanted to thank our School Council for supporting our bussing needs for some school trips (e.g., school band)

## **Thank You for Using the Kiss N' Ride**

A big thank you to all our parents for safely dropping off their children at the Kiss N' Ride. For our children's safety we are asking parents to use the parking lot only if they are parking their vehicle and are planning to walk their child/ren into the school. Also, please remember to wait until your car door closes before you drive off. Thank you for contributing to the smooth running of our safe and efficient *Kiss N Ride* Program!



**"March Break"  
HOLIDAY**

**March 12 - 16, inclusive  
(No school)**



**Easter Holiday  
Good Friday– March 30th  
Easter Monday – April 1st  
(No School)**



# Boxwood Public School's Library is happy to Host Author Susan Aguilo

On **April 4th** Boxwood students will meet a Canadian Author. Susan Aguilo will share her stories with the students, discuss how books are made, how illustrations get put into a book, and explain the research that goes into writing a book.

During their visit with Susan Aguilo, students can purchase signed copies of her books. An order form will come home with your child before the event on April 4th. Order forms can be handed in before or on the day of Susan's visit with our students.

Copies of Susan's books will also be available for students to read in our library.

**MEET CANADIAN CHILDREN'S AUTHOR**  
**Susan Aguilo**

*Adventure in Antarctica*  
*Mummy and the Nile*  
*Island Secret*  
*Earth's Fair*  
*Adventure in the Amazon*  
*Spear of Destiny*

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS AGES 5-8

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 10TH, 2017**  
**PINEGROVE P.S.**

[www.abedtimeadventure.com](http://www.abedtimeadventure.com)



The **Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to our school soon!

We invite all Boxwood families to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Your support of this vital literary event is a key part of helping us obtain new books and resources for our library and classrooms.

You'll find hundreds of quality books at our Book Fair with a wide assortment for all reading levels. Students are welcome to make purchases at the book fair the week of **April 16th-20th** with their classes throughout the day. Your child will soon bring home a flyer with more specific information, but we would like to welcome the community to visit the Book Fair as well. For your convenience, the Book Fair will be open right after school for about an hour on **Tuesday April 17th** as well as the evening of: **Thursday April 19th**.

Keep an eye out for the Book Fair flyer coming home soon for a sneak peek of some titles we will have for sale. The flyer also contains a special **Family Draw Ballot** that parents can deposit during our Community Night.

**You could win \$50 in books – \$25 for your family PLUS \$25 for your child's classroom!**

Are you interested in which titles we may have for sale at the Book Fair? Visit the Scholastic Book Fair website to get more detailed information about these books. **You can also watch book trailers and author videos with your child on the BookTube page.**

<http://www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs/featuredbooks2.php>

*We are also looking for parent volunteers to help us with the **Scholastic Book Fair**. If you are available and would like to volunteer during our 2 after school community events, please leave your contact information at the main office with attention to Mrs. Calverley. Thank you!*

Let's make this **Scholastic Book Fair** the best Book Fair yet!

**SCHOLASTIC**  
**BOOK FAIRS**



## Summer Institute



Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? [Summer Institute](#) offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for six weeks during July and August. It is offered at 11 school sites around York Region.

For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the [Summer Institute](#) page on [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Registration opens March 7. Families can now register online, as well as in person or by mail.

### **Base Registration Weekly Fees:**

**York Region District School Board students:**  
**\$105 (4 day weeks) \$120 (5 day weeks)**

**Non- York Region District School Board students:**  
**\$130 (4 day weeks) \$155 (5 day weeks)**







## Dates to Remember

# March 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	6 1:05pm- J/I Choir	7 1:05pm- Knitting Club	8 1:05pm- Concert Band	9 1:05pm- Badminton Team Practice
12	13	14	15	16
<b>March Break</b>				
19	20 1:05pm- J/I Choir <b>7:00pm- School Council Meeting</b>	21 1:05pm- Knitting Club	22 <i>Primary Teachers Math Professional Learning</i> 1:05pm- Concert Band	23 1:05pm- Badminton Team Practice
26	27 1:05pm- J/I Choir	28 1:05pm- Knitting Club	29 <i>Junior/Intermediate Teachers Math Professional learning</i> 1:05pm- Concert Band	30 Good Friday (Holiday) No School
2 Easter Monday (Holiday) No School	3 <b>Light it Up Blue Day</b> (Autism Awareness)	4 <b>Gr. 8 Grad Photos</b> Author Visit: Susan Aguilo	5 Button Making for Autism Awareness	6

### Upcoming Dates:

April 16-20 Scholastic Book Fair  
April 17 - School Council Meeting  
April 19—Arts Carousel

