

# Boxwood Broncos



November, 2016

Boxwood Public School  
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<http://boxwoodbroncos.blogspot.ca/>



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Trustee: Juanita Nathan (416) 885-3479  
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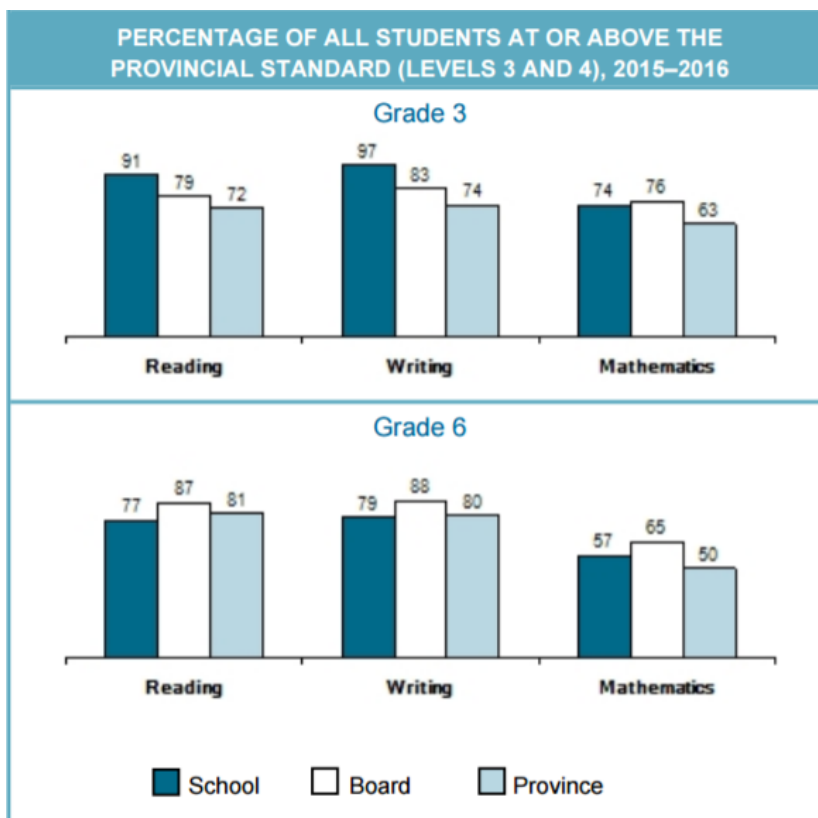
## Principal's Message

### Our EQAO Results

Our recent EQAO results show that we have some strengths and areas of growth. We have shown a strength in the areas of reading and writing. In these areas, we have either exceeded or are comparable to the results of the province. Our scores in math, while they exceed the results of the province, show that there is room to improve. The percentages that you see reflect the amount of students that achieved (level 3) or exceeded (level 4) the provincial standard.

On our recent P.A. Day, we began to analyze our EQAO and report card data. The purpose of this activity is to determine areas of strength and areas in need of growth. Our next task is to determine what actions we will engage in to address our needs. This will be informed by our Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA). This plan outlines different actions that the system (i.e., board), schools, and classroom can employ to support greater student achievement.

One of these important actions is to Implement a Comprehensive Math Program reflective of the interconnectedness of the Environment, the Learners and the Learning. The "Environment" refers to efforts to create a safe and collaborative classroom environment. "Learners" refers to our goal of students to be confident **problem solvers** who use mathematical knowledge, skills and processes. Finally, "Learning" refers to our work to actively engage students in mathematics in order to support them to construct understanding. This learning should be linked to curriculum expectations, develop communication skills, build confidence and a positive attitude towards math, and offer students the opportunity to learn math independently, in small groups, or whole groups. We will keep you updated in our work to support our students in mathematics.



### 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. At Boxwood, every voice is heard.



## Halloween @ Boxwood



Each year, many of our students participate in the long-standing tradition of Halloween. Our Student Council planned some events for Halloween. Last Monday, October 31st, we had our **October Spirit Day** and many of our students participated in our annual Halloween Parade throughout the school's hallways. After the parade completed, students assembled in the gym and the entire school engaged in a whole school Daily Physical Activity session to *Just Dance's* "Monster Mash". We also got to see some amazing, creative costumes as you can see below!



## Progress Report Cards & Parent Teacher Interviews

For Grades 1 to 8, in the fall, teachers will use the Elementary Progress Report Card (Grades 1 to 6 or Grades 7 and 8) to inform parents of the progress students are making towards achievement of the curriculum expectations for each subject/strand. Teachers will check one of the following to indicate progress:

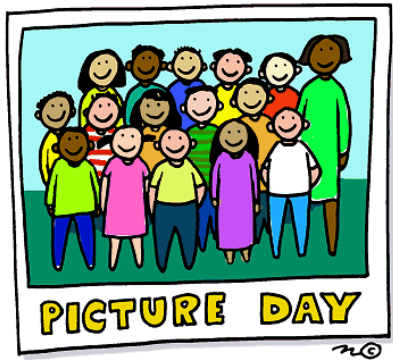
- ✓ Progressing With Difficulty
- ✓ Progressing Well
- ✓ Progressing Very Well

Families will receive progress reports on **Wednesday November 23rd**. We will have our parent teacher interviews on the evening of **Thursday, November 24th**, and **Friday, November 25th**. You will receive a communication in the coming weeks in which you can request a time for an interview. We look forward to discussing your child's progress with you.

## Remember Your Forks and Spoons!



Please remember to pack forks and/or spoons for your children's lunch. We have noticed that many students are coming to the office for one because they forgot one. Thank you!



## Picture Day @ Boxwood

Our picture day this year is this **Friday, November 4th**. As usual, we will be taking a class photo and individual photos of students. Families will receive proofs of the pictures soon after. Then you can decide if you are going to purchase a package of the pictures. Remember to look and dress your best on **Friday!**



## Internet Safety



As young people embrace the Internet and other mobile communication technologies, bullying has manifested itself in a new and potentially more dangerous way –through cyber bullying. Cyber bullying can generally be defined as sending or posting harmful or malicious messages or images through e-mail, instant messages, cell phones and websites. It is emerging as one of the more challenging issues facing educators, since it has a direct impact on students but often occurs away from school property.

### Suggestions for Parents

- Make sure your children understand how vast and public the Internet is. Remind them that anything they post or send in a message is virtually available to be seen or read by anyone in the world.
- Talk to your children about cyber bullying. Make sure they understand what it is. Let them know that cyber bullying is no less serious and unacceptable than other forms of bullying.
- Set up the family computer in an open, common area so that you can monitor what your child is sending and receiving.
- Inform your Internet Service Provider (ISP) or cell phone service provider of any abuse. Although it can take a lot of time and effort to get Providers to respond and deal with your complaints about cyber bullying, it is necessary in order to try to stop it from re-occurring.
- Purchase software that can help track activity. There are parental controls that filter both Instant Messaging and chat rooms.



## Warm Clothes

Although our weather isn't too cold right now, we know that the cold weather is fast approaching. That being said, it is important that children dress warmly to maintain their comfort when the weather is cold. The graphic shows some appropriate clothing for the cold, winter months. Let us bundle up to keep warm!





# CHARACTER MATTERS



“Character education involves the preparation of learners to be responsible, caring and contributing citizens. Good character is a cornerstone of a civil, just and democratic society. Character education can be both taught and learned. It contributes to the development of safe, supportive schools, develops the emotional and social learning and enhances academic achievement. It contributes to the individual’s personal well being.” YRDSB.

Every month at Boxwood, students from each class are recognized for demonstrating positive character traits, academics and learning skills at our Recognition Assemblies.

October's character trait was **Responsibility**. This month's recipients showed responsibility for themselves, others and their belongings. The subject focus for October was on **Mathematics**. In math, we are looking for students to understand mathematical concepts (e.g., multiplication) and use effective and efficient strategies to solve problems. Congratulations to the following people:

Responsibility		Math	
Merlinda Asimi	Lavinia Sarvananthan	Melody Chu	Adeeba Qureshi
Arsalan Gauhar	Aaminah Memon	Alyssa Wang	Ethan Wong,
Richard Lin	Maanik Gogna	Aahan Dhatt	Aadishesan Jegatheesvaran
Divyana Dinesh	Ariba Javed	Jayden Lu	Deepikaa Jeevananthan
Derek Wong	Anusha Gauhar	Matthew Lu	Danish Mohammed
Christina Ye	Nicole Yan	Jason Li	Murtaza Pirani
Ishita Jain		Haadiyah Rubbani	Luxsan Sathiyandra
Raya Ahmad		Timothy Li	
Shiloh Srindran		Ara Komolafe	

## Remembrance Day

Our Remembrance Day assembly will take place on **Friday November 11th at 9:20 a.m.** in the gym. At that time we will recognize the people who have fought for peace. Presently, our students and teachers are organizing a ceremony to remember the sacrifices that those before us have made to our country and the sacrifices that continue to be made. Staff have also been hard at work creating a display to commemorate this event. Our students will take part in a variety of performances and ways of recognizing the quest for peace in the world.

Parents are welcome to attend the assembly. Please sign in at the office when you arrive .





# School Council News

It is hard to believe this new 2016-17 school year has been underway for two months already. The Parent School Council reformed near the end of September, and we have been busy getting organized and putting together our fund-raising and funding plan to benefit the students. This plan is generated each year and is driven by input directly from the teachers of your children.

It is no surprise that again this year, technology is the top priority, need and ask. In order to help Boxwood meet their 2:1 ratio of students to each piece of technology (i.e. laptop/Chromebook/tablet), there is work to do and we'll need the support of the School Board, the school AND all parents/guardians of the students at Boxwood.

Details of this school year's funding plan and how parents/guardians can help will be shared soon. We look forward to a productive year!

Come join us at our **next meeting on Tuesday, November 22**. We are always looking for fresh faces and ideas and everyone is welcome to share their voice.

Sincerely,

**Elsa Chan - Co-Chair**  
**Bina Khadakia - Co-Chair**

**Sancha Mahalingam - Secretary**  
**Pranab Mitra - Treasurer**



## Recent Celebrations



Recently, a number of our families had important celebrations. These include, Rosh Hashanah and Diwali. We wish families well in all of their important cultural celebrations and recognize the importance of these events and beliefs to you. A focus in YRDSB is Equity. *"Striving for equity and inclusivity requires that we work to meet individual needs, identify and eliminate barriers to success and promote a sense of belonging in all of our students."* While recognition of cultural celebrations and beliefs is one way to address this, our goal is for students needs to be met in our school and for students and parents to feel they are valued members in our community.



## Boxwood Broncos Blog



If you haven't had a chance, check out our **Boxwood Blog**. This blog is designed to provide parents with a picture into the different events and learning that happen within our school. Please visit our blog from time to time to keep updated with life at Boxwood. A great feature of this blog is that you can translate the page into another language if your first language is not English. Please access the blog at the internet address below:

<http://boxwoodbroncos.blogspot.ca/>



# School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled 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.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- **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   CTV Toronto   CP24   GLOBAL NEWS



# Breakfast Club

Breakfast provides children with energy and essential nutrients, including iron, calcium and vitamins B and C, which are necessary for growth, development and good health. Children who have eaten breakfast can concentrate better and have a longer attention span, helping them to learn and study better. They can also perform better physically after eating breakfast as there is more energy available to their muscles. Breakfast can improve behaviour and mood, as children have better concentration and aren't tired or hungry.

As a healthy school, we support our children's health by providing a grab and go breakfast program. This includes a variety of healthy items (e.g., muffins, tangerine, carrots, cucumber...). I would like to **thank** our breakfast club team for their work in organizing, giving out, and monitoring this initiative!

# Absences

Please call the office for every student absence and/or late. This may include illness, appointments, personal reasons, etc. Please call (905) 294-5563 and leave a message. **As explained in the next message below, this process will be changing shortly!**

It is important to note that research indicates that significant absence from school has a detrimental affect on student performances. It is for this reason that we discourage extended holidays. If your child is away from school for an extended period of time this will undoubtedly create gaps in their learning. It is not expected that teachers provide work for students for extended periods of absence from school. As a result we would ask you to consider carefully when withdrawing your children from school. If your child will be absent for an extended period of time, please inform the office and fill out an Extended Absence Form located in our main office. Thank you!



## Safe Arrival Program



At Boxwood Public School, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each and every day. As a part of our safe arrival process, a daily absence check is conducted by office staff and often involves:

- Checking phone messages left by parents regarding sick calls for students
- Phoning parents whose child is absent but no notification has been made to the school
- Recording all absences in the attendance system

This process can be inefficient and time consuming for schools and for parents.

To enhance our existing absence check procedure, Boxwood Public School is one of a number of schools introducing **a new, more efficient** student absence or late arrival reporting system. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance making it easier for you to report your child's absence and easier for staff to respond to unaccounted student absences.

We will be introducing a new absence reporting system to our parent community, called *Safe Arrival*. It will allow parents to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently in one of three ways:

- **Parents can call into an automated interactive telephone system via a toll free number through which absences can be reported.**
- **Parents can log into a website to authenticate their Portal account to report absences and update contact information.**
- **Parents who have authenticated their accounts and have either an iOS or Android device can download an app that can be used to report absences.**

The system will be available **24 hours/day, 7 days a week**. Future absences can be reported at any time. You will be receiving more instructions on how to register at the end of the month.

# SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS

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 **November 28th to 30th** 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 both for the evening as well as the morning of Parent/Teacher interviews. **Thursday November 24th** the Book Fair will be open from 4:00-8:00pm. **Friday November 25th** the Book Fair will be open from 9:30am-12:00pm.

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's website at [www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs](http://www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs) to get more detailed information about these books. **You can also watch book trailers and author videos with your child on the BookTube page.**

We are also looking for parent volunteers to help us with the **Scholastic Book Fair**. *If you are available and would like to volunteer either through the day or during our community event, please leave your contact information at the main office with attention to Mrs. Calverley.*

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





# November



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>1</b> Grade 8 Band Practice (3:40-4:45pm)  	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  	<b>4</b> -Picture Day -Pizza Day  
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Boys' V-Ball Tournament @ Boxwood (3:30- 8:00pm)  	<b>11</b> -Remembrance Day -Pizza Day 
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  	<b>18</b> Pizza Day 
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> School Council Meeting (7:00pm in the library)  	<b>23</b> -Report Cards sent home	<b>24</b> -Primary Math Jam Performance -Pizza Day -Parent-Teacher Interviews (4:00-8:30)  	<b>25</b> Parent –Teacher Interviews
<b>Community Scholastic Book Fair</b>				
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> School Photo Retakes  	<b>30</b> Character Matters Assembly Safe Arrival Program Begins 	<b>1</b>  	<b>2</b>
<b>Classroom Scholastic Book Fair</b>				

## Upcoming Dates:

December 13th-School Council Meeting  
December 22-Whole School Character Assembly  
December 26-Winter Break Begins  
January 9-Back to School

