



DR. ROBERTA BONDAR PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Administrators' Message

October has been a month filled with exciting activities at DRBPS. Students have been engaged in a variety of rich learning experiences, and developing their learning skills and reflecting on their achievements. Many of our junior and intermediate students took part in Cross Country events, and Volleyball games.

This past month, we participated in School Bus Safety on October 16th and 17th. We learned about the safety rules while waiting for the bus, while on the bus and while exiting the bus. Please review with your child that when riding the bus, students are required to remain seated at all times and speak in a quiet voice so as not to distract the driver.

On Tuesday, November 20th, Progress Reports for Grades 1 to 8 and Kindergarten reports will be going home. This will give you a chance to learn how your child is progressing at this point in the term. On Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 (P.A. Day), parents of grade 1-8 students will have the opportunity to have a conference with their child's teacher to discuss learning skills, progress at this point and next steps. More information about these reports is available on page 2 of this newsletter. Details regarding how to book a conference online through EDSBY will follow shortly. Be sure to book your interview early, so you are able to select your preferred time. If you still haven't signed up for EDSBY, please do so as soon as possible, so that you are able to book your interview time. If you need assistance in setting up your EDSBY account, please call the office for more information, or access more information through this [link](#).

The month of November will be a busy one with many upcoming events including the Remembrance Day Assembly, the book fair, Volleyball Tournaments, and the Every Student Counts Survey, Thank you for your ongoing support.

Wendy McVicar-Lew
Principal

Kirsten Lee
Vice-Principal

UPCOMING DATES

November 9	Remembrance Day Assembly
November 13	Odd Sock Day
November 12-30	Every Student Counts Survey
November 19-26	Scholastic Book Fair
November 20	Report Cards go home / Dufflebag Theatre <i>Three Little Pigs</i> , FDK
November 22	Parent/Teacher Conferences / Picture Re-take Day
November 23	Parent/Teacher Conferences / P.A. Day
November 26	Character Assemblies / Axes Theatre <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> , Grades 1-4

GROWING SUCCESS: ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION, AND REPORTING

All assessment, evaluation and reporting in Ontario schools are based on the policies and practices described in *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting In Ontario Schools*, First Edition, Covering Grades 1 to 12. There are three formal reporting periods in elementary schools where teachers share student's information regarding their learning and achievement of their learning skills and work habits and the Ontario curriculum expectations:



Elementary Progress Report Card

- Progress Report to be sent home: November 20, 2018
- Parent / Teacher Conferences to be held (Year Two Kindergarten-grade 8): November 22nd (evening) and/or November 23 (morning)
- Year One Kindergarten Class visits will be held during the week of December 3rd to 7th

Communication of Learning (K)/Elementary First Provincial Report Card

- Provincial Report Card to be sent home: February 13, 2019

Communication of Learning (K)/Elementary Final Provincial Report Card

- Provincial Report Card to be sent home: June 25, 2019

Elementary Progress Report Card (Grades 1-8):

The purpose of this report card is to communicate the progress your child has been making since the beginning of the school year in each subject. The progress report also indicates how well your child is demonstrating the various learning skills and work habits and identifies areas where you may be able to support your child in achieving success this year. This report is not an evaluation or a record of achievement levels. It reflects preliminary observations of your child's learning to date. It is our hope that this report will serve as a central part of rich discussions between home and school.

Year One Kindergarten:

Parents will be invited for an in-class Observation Visit during the first week of December. The purpose of this visit is to enable you to observe your child in the classroom setting. In February, you will receive your child's term one Communication of Learning. The term two Communication of Learning will be sent home at the end of June. For both term one and term two reports, the teacher will report on your child's achievement based on curriculum expectations from four frames of Learning (Belonging and Contributing, Self-Regulation and Well-Being, Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviour, and Problem Solving and Innovating).

Year Two Kindergarten:

A Communication of Learning will be sent home on November 20th. It is personalized to highlight your child's unique strengths, needs, interests and next steps based on initial evidence of learning. The comments will be based on the curriculum expectations within and across the four frames in learning. (Belonging and Contributing, Self-Regulation and Well-Being, Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviour, and Problem Solving and Innovating). A term one Communication of Learning will be sent home in February as well as a term 2 Communication of Learning at the end of June.

Below are some board documents which you may find helpful in understanding the report card, assessment and evaluation.

[YRDSB Elementary Report Card Brochure](#)

[YRDSB Parent Brochure on the Achievement Chart](#)

[YRDSB Parent Brochure Assessment in Schools Today](#)

[YRDSB Parent Brochure Learning Skills and Work Habits](#)

[Academic Honesty and Timely Completion and Submission of Assignments for Evaluation](#)

A MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL

Happy Autumn!

We have elected our new executive committee and members have already started planning some fun events! Like previous years our goal is to engage families to be part of the Bondar community as well as enhance the experience for our kids.

Please note the following school council initiatives that have started and are coming up:

- **NEW!** Lunchbox orders are up and running this month. Lunchbox is available to order via www.lunchboxorders.com. All orders, updates, and cancellations must be submitted by Sunday at Noon (12pm) for the following week.
- Pizza Lunch Thursdays from Little Caesars- Please check "School Cash Online" for how to order. New orders are available from the 1st to the 10th of each month for the next month. Please note this is only available by pre-order only.
- **Save the date for our first community event!** - Fall Dance-November 1st, 2018-6:00pm to 7:30pm-Families are encouraged to show school spirit by wearing fall or Bondar colours. Halloween costumes are welcomed, however, they must adhere to the YRDSB Policy (No weapons, masks, etc.). Students from JK to Grade 6 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Sign up to attend on "School Cash Online".

With every meal purchased, a contribution will be made to the schools fundraising program. We thank all the parent volunteers that come in and assist with the distribution of lunches each week.

School Council and School Administration met with York Regional Police and City of Vaughan earlier this month to address the traffic concerns that we face each morning at drop-off for our school. We urge parents to make sure they are following all traffic laws and to drop children off by the curb by the school to prevent any jay-walking and endangerment of children crossing the street. We need to make sure we are not blocking buses or other vehicles. If possible, please have your children bundle up and walk to school. We need to work together as a community to ensure the safety of our children.

Our next student council meeting will be Monday, December 3rd, 2018 at 6:30pm in the school library. All parents are welcome to come and share their ideas on upcoming school council events, fundraising ideas, and ideas on how to support the school with those funds.

Thank you,
The School Council
bondarrocketsschoolcouncil@gmail.com

COLD WEATHER

As the cooler weather approaches, we ask that you ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately. All students are expected to go outside during morning and lunch recesses. Dressing in layers helps students to regulate their temperature. Be sure to send a hat, gloves, warm sweater and waterproof boots. We recommend that indoor shoes be kept at school during the cold, wet months. When severe weather conditions threaten the safety of our students, the School Board informs radio stations about bus cancellations by about 6:00 a.m. Please listen to the radio or follow @DRBPS or @YRDSB on Twitter/check the YRDSB website for inclement weather information. Cancellation of bus service does not mean that schools are closed. Buses cancelled in the morning will not be running in the afternoon. Parents who drive their children to school in the morning must also pick them up at 2:35 p.m. On days when school buses have been cancelled, it is up to the parents' discretion whether or not to send their children to school.



ATHLETIC NEWS

Cross Country

On October 10th, the Cross Country team attended the Area Event at Concord Thornhill Park. The team has been training 2-3 times a week to improve their running times and stamina. All members of the team worked hard and ran a great race showing determination and good sportsmanship. A special mention goes to the following students who earned a ribbon and a chance to compete at the Regional Cross Country event.

Stewart -2nd place
Ivan - 2nd place
Daniel - 3rd place
Thomas - 5th place
Victoria - 6th place
Krish - 15th place

On October 16th, Stewart, Ivan, Daniel, Thomas, Victoria and Krish traveled to the Regional Cross Country event. Each race had up to 200 students running. Each student achieved a personal best in their races. A special mention goes to Stewart who placed 6th in his age group. This is the **second time** in Bondar history that a student has been awarded a ribbon at a Cross Country Regional event! Congratulations to all Cross Country team members! Thank you to the coaches: Ms. Belanger, Ms. DiGregorio, Ms. Nasir, Ms. Balche and Ms. Murdoch. A special mention goes to Ms. Belanger who convened the entire Cross Country event. Go Rockets!

Intermediate Girls Volleyball

Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Volleyball team. On October 17, the girls traveled to Vellore Woods Public School to play in an exhibition tournament and won two out of four games. They fought hard and persevered with good sportsmanship and a positive attitude. Good luck to Mehka, Milah, Debbie, Lanya, Victoria, Hooria, Morsal, Sophie, Brynathy, and Sudarsha in the Intermediate Girls Volleyball Tournament on November 7.

Intermediate Boys Volleyball

On October 25th the Intermediate Boys travelled to Pierre Berton to participate in an exhibition tournament. In pool play the boys had two wins and two losses. During each game they fought hard. Each game was close but, unfortunately, they did not move on to the finals. We are looking forward to continuing to work hard and improve as we get ready for the Area tournament on November 16th at Westmount Collegiate. Excellent work to all team members! Thank you to our grade 6 setters: Nick and Jalal. Thank you to our amazing passers and attackers: Liam, Alex, Ron, Krish, Keian, Anthony, Dorian, Jordan and Tyler. Go Rockets!



Important Information

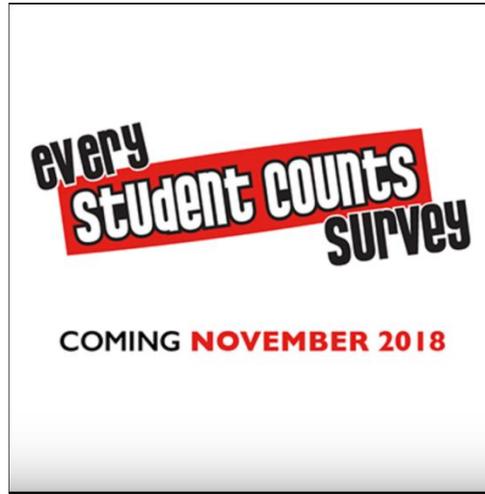
VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Visitors, including parents and volunteers, are welcome at Dr. Roberta Bondar. For safety reasons, all visitors and volunteers are asked to sign in at the office and wear a 'visitor' or 'volunteer' tag (available in the office). This helps us to know who is in the building for security reasons.

Parents / guardians / visitors are not to be in the school hallways without checking in at the office first. If you do not have a visitor or volunteer tag on, staff members are required to redirect you to the office. When you leave the school, please return the tag to the office and sign out.

Volunteers assume an important role within a school. A requirement of the YRDSB to assist in ensuring a safe environment for students and staff is the completion of a *Police Vulnerable Sector Check (PVSC)* and the signing of a confidentiality agreement. If you wish to volunteer in the school or on a field trip, please ensure you have a vulnerable sector check completed with York Regional Police. A letter to share with your application is available in the office.

If you have completed a PVSC and submitted it to the school in a previous school year, an *Annual Offence Declaration Form* and confidentiality agreement will be sent home with your child. Please complete these forms and return them to the school.



From November 12 to 30, 2018, the York Region District School Board will invite all students to participate in the Every Student Counts Survey (ESCS). The purpose of this census survey is to better understand YRDSB's diverse student population as well as students' experiences in school and outside of school. Families with a child in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will be invited to complete the survey online with their child at home. Students in Grades 7-12 will be invited to complete the survey online during class time.

The surveys are voluntary and confidential. Information about the surveys and the process is available at www.yrdsb.ca/escs. This important initiative will help us work together to create equitable and inclusive school environments.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS MESSAGE

A Message from the Healthy Schools Team:

Did you know that listening to relaxing music, and focusing on your breathing can significantly reduce how much stress you feel? For the month of November, the Healthy Schools team is encouraging teachers and students to spend three minutes every Monday to pause and take a mental health mindfulness break. Teachers will choose a time that works best for the class schedule. Type in "relaxing music" into Youtube, and you will find lots of great options.

LUNCH LADY UPDATE

Dear Parents,

It is that time of year again! One day we are still in shorts and thinking winter will never come, and then all of a sudden it's here!



IF THE BUSES ARE CANCELLED ON A LUNCH LADY SERVICE DAY - THERE IS **NO** LUNCH LADY DELIVERY! You will need to pack a lunch from home for your child. All Lunch Orders will be **CANCELLED** and credited to your Lunch Lady Account. Please Email lavinia@thelunchlady.ca or CALL [905-482-2851](tel:905-482-2851) if you have any questions. Thanks for being our Customer.

CANNABIS LEGALIZATION

As of October 17, 2018, it will be legal for individuals 19 and older to buy, use, possess and grow recreational cannabis. It remains illegal for anyone under the age of 19. This is the same as the minimum age for the sale of tobacco and alcohol in Ontario. Regardless of age, cannabis is not allowed on school property or at school-related events at any time. It is illegal for anyone regardless of age to smoke or vape any substance, including cannabis:

- at school, on school grounds, and all public areas within 20m of these grounds
- on children's playgrounds and public areas within 20m of playgrounds
- in child care centres, or where an early years program is provided
- in places where home child care is provided – even if children aren't present*

*Please note that these are the provincial regulations and by-laws could be different at a municipal level

There will be consequences for students if they are believed to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs or cannabis. Suspension will be considered. There are exceptions if the medicinal use of cannabis is outlined in the student's Health Care Plan. If a student gives alcohol or cannabis to anyone under the age of 19, the school will contact police, suspend the student and consider expulsion. In YRDSB, we want families and students to be informed about the facts of cannabis legalization. To support this learning, you may find the following resources helpful. You can also request a hard copy through the school office.

Cannabis: What Parents/Guardians and Caregivers Need to Know

Cannabis Talk Kit: Know How to Talk With Your Teen

We will continue to provide students with information and support to make positive and healthy decisions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school's administration.

Tumblebooks

We have purchased a subscription for Tumble Books for the school. Books are available in both French and English. Here is a direct link to our [tumblebooks account](#):



Edsby

As a school, we are transitioning to using Edsby for attendance, communication and booking parent/teacher conferences. If you have not set up an Edsby account yet, please ensure that you do so. If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

We have begun to post information in the 'river' on Edsby. In order to ensure you are alerted when information is shared, please take the time to set up notifications. Information has been sent out by email to assist you with setting up your notifications. It appears to be easiest to set up on a computer, however it can be done on your mobile device (by selecting 'more' on the bottom right hand of your screen and then selecting 'account settings').

This year, parent/teacher conferences will take place on Thursday, November 22nd and Friday, November 23rd. Signing up for conferences will take place online using Edsby. The parent/teacher conference schedule for students in Year 2 Kindergarten (SK) – Grade Eight will open on Monday, November 12th at 9:00 am. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby inbox with a notification to your email. The conference schedule will close online at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, November 21st.

Are you interested in becoming a School Assistant?

School assistants provide supervision inside while the students are eating their lunch in the classrooms, and outside on the playground while the children are at play.

This is a paid position (\$14 per hour + 4% vacation pay), requiring one hour of work per day. Our lunch hour is 11:55 am – 12:55 pm daily.

Requirements include a Vulnerable Sector Screening by the York Region Police and a statement of good health from your family doctor. If you are interested in this position, or know someone who would be interested, please contact the school office at (905) 417-8046 or via e-mail at dr.roberta.bondar.ps@yrdsb.ca.



A Note from the Dr. Roberta Bondar Library...

THE ENCHANTED BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

Mark your calendars! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming in November! The book fair will be here the week of November 19th to November 26th. The Book Fair will be open during Parent-Teacher conferences (Thursday, November 22) and the PA Day (Friday, November 23). The book fair will be open afterschool on Thursday, November 22nd for families to visit.

Classes will have an opportunity to visit the book fair for 20-minute periods during the week. Notices will be sent home in November as to your child's day. During class visits for Junior and Intermediate classes, we will hold a "I wish I could win" contest. Students filled out a ballot and write a book title worth \$10.00 that they would like to win. Winners will be selected announced during the book fair.

The book fair will be open at morning recess ONLY. Students should listen to announcements as to when their division (Primary, Junior or Intermediate) can come to the book fair during recess.

During the parent teacher conferences we will be hosting a Family Event draw. Your child could win \$25.00 in books and your classroom teacher could win \$25.00 in books.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Enchanted Book Fair!

PROLOGUE PERFORMANCES

Last year, the School Council committed fundraising funds to support the arts at Dr. Roberta Bondar Public School. The following Arts Performances have been booked for students this year:

DuffleBag's 3 Little Pigs - November 20th, 1:00pm, FDK

Axis Theatre's Robinson Crusoe and Friday - November 26th, 1:00pm, Grades 1-4

Tribal Vision Dance's Visions of Turtle Island - January 21st, 1:00pm, Grades 3-8

All-Star Poet's SLAM - April 1, 1:00pm, Grades 5-8

Tara Luz Danse's Les Batons - (French and English), May 14, 1:00pm, Grade 1-2

Thank you to the Dr. Roberta Bondar School Council for supporting these learning opportunities.