

GLAD PARK NEWS

January and February 2017

***School Priorities: Healthy, Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, Programs and Pathways,
Literacy and Numeracy***

Glad Park PS is a dual track English (JK to 8) and French Immersion (Gr 3 to 8) School.

Principal and Vice Principal: Mme Laurie Finn and Mr. Jason Eygenraam
 Administrative Assistant and Secretaries: Mrs. Erin Raymond; Mrs. Nancy George and Mrs. Joy Rose
 Telephone: 905 642-0224 Fax: 905 642-0471 Email: glad.park.ps@yrdsb.ca Bell Times: 8:15 am – 2:45 pm
 Superintendent: Ms. Camille Logan (tbd) Telephone: 905 895-5155
 School Council Email: glad.park.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca
 Among Friends Child Care: 905 640-2857
 School Website: <http://gladpark.ps.yrdsb.ca>
 Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GladParkPS>
 Trustee and Board Chair: Lorelee Carruthers Telephone: 905 953-0562 Email: loralea.carruthers@yrdsb.ca
 Board Website: www.yrdsb.ca Ministry Website: www.edu.gov.on.ca

January / February 2017

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/gladpark.ps/NewsEvents/Pages/School-Calendar.aspx>

Message From Our Trustee and Board Chair Lorelee Carruthers

As we near the end of 2016, I hope everyone has had a great school year so far and found opportunities to get involved with the life of the school.

It is wonderful to have opportunities to see not only what our students are learning, but to see how they are learning – collaborating and problem solving, using technology in exciting new ways, and engaged in hands-on activities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff members, students, families and community members across our Board. Thanks to all of the great people we have in our system, we continue to advance student achievement and well-being.

Modern Learning

Lunch Assistants Needed: Glad Park PS is in need of school assistants and supply school assistants for the lunch hour from 12:05 to 1:05 either daily or as needed. This is a paid position. If interested and available, please contact Secretary Joy Rose.

Grade 8 High School Registration and Course Selection: By mid-January, Glad Park Grade 8s will have received a visit from the staff of both PETHS and SDHS at Glad Park PS to review course selection and registration. In addition, the Grade 8s visited either PETHS or SDHS on Wed Nov 2. Visits to the Grade 9 Community Classes will occur in January. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available regarding deadlines and procedures for registration and course selection through Career Cruising.

Grade One French Immersion News for September 2017: An Open House for SK parents who are considering registering their child in Grade One French Immersion will be held on Thurs., Jan. 19 (time to be announced at a later date) at **Harry Bowes PS**. Registration opens on **Fri., Jan 20 at Harry Bowes PS** and closes on **Fri., Feb. 10** and involves taking the child's short version Glad Park PS Office Index Card (obtained from Glad Park PS by visiting, calling or e-mailing the school and signed by the GPPS Principal) to Harry Bowes PS along with one piece of identification showing the address to register sometime between Jan 20 and Feb 10. The Grade 1 and 2 French Immersion program will be moving in its entirety to Harry Bowes PS for September 2017. Glad Park PS will continue to house Grade 3 to 8 French Immersion in 2017-18 and will house Grade 4 to 8 French Immersion starting September 2018.

Year	Schools	French Immersion Grades
2017-18	Harry Bowes	1 – 2
	Glad Park	3 – 8
2018-19	Harry Bowes	1 - 3
	Glad Park	4 – 8

A bell time change at Harry Bowes PS will be in effect for Sept 2017. The a.m. bell will change from 9:10 a.m. to 8:25 and the p.m. will change from 3:40 to 3:00 p.m.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enroll. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

Guide for Parents of Children in French Immersion: Here is the link to a guide from the Ministry of Education for parents of children in French Immersion called A Parent's Guide to Supporting Your Child in French Immersion: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideFrench.pdf>

GPPS STEM and LEGO Club: Coming in 2017 is the GPPS STEM and LEGO Club for Junior (Gr 4 – 6) students! If you have new or unused Lego or wish to make a donation for the purchase of LEGO, and/or are able to contribute items that could be used for construction such as plastic cups, popsicle sticks, cottonballs, small pompoms, toothpicks, tennis balls, rulers, or paper plates, please forward these items to the office to the attention of Mme Gignac! Thank you!

Primary Class Size Reduction: The Board continues to respond to the Ministry of Education's mandated requirements related to primary class size. In doing so, this has allowed us to make great gains in creating primary classes that maximize teacher time with students in support of their learning. As principal, I am working with my superintendent and Board staff to plan for the upcoming school year. Each school board in the province will have to meet Ministry expectations. In general, on a board-wide basis, 90% of primary classes must have 20 or fewer students, and only 10% may have up to 23. In addition, while classes in grades 4-8 will not have a hard cap, each school board will be required to demonstrate a regional average of approximately 26 students to one teacher. Grade One French Immersion may have up to 23 students. As we proceed through the planning process, we will be sure to keep you informed as to how our school will be meeting Ministry requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

School Improvement Plan: Mental Health

Winter Electives Day: On Wed., Feb 15, Grade 4 to 8 students will have the opportunity to participate in Winter Electives Day, a Wellness Event to support student well-being that is part of the school's Mental Health focus. Sign up forms (limited space is available for some electives) were sent home early the week of Dec 5 with waiver forms sent home in early January. Indication of interest and payment are made through Cash Online. Similarly, students in the Primary Division will participate in skating activities in January with dates communicated to parents by teachers and posted on the school website calendar.

Thank you, GPPS School Community: At the Nov 28 School Council Meeting, the following areas of the School Improvement Plan were supported through the allocation of fundraised money: Instrumental Music (\$3500) and Grade 8 Graduation (\$500). In addition, \$330 was allocated for Families Helping Families.

Spread the Net: Thank you to the GPPS School Community for its generous donation of \$1400 to the Student Leadership Council Spread the Net initiative. 14 mosquito nets will be purchased to reduce the spread of malaria across the globe.

Re: Student Busing Eligibility: Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

Inclement Weather: 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 begins at 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 services 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 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

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB and YCDSB on twitter.

Safe School Update:

Anaphylactic Reactions:

Parents who have an anaphylactic child are encouraged to have their child wear an epi-pen in a waist pouch at all times at school.

In the Community:

Parents greeting their children after school at the bus stop are asked to watch out for all children as they disembark. If a youngster appears alone, locked out of his/her house, is experiencing difficulty, or something appears unusual, please offer support and contact the school office immediately. Together we can make the school and community a safe place for students.

Snow Safety:

As the weather dictates, teachers discuss snow safety with students. Children may enjoy the snow or ice by playing in it and making snow angels. Students have been told that throwing and kicking snow or ice can result in serious injury or discomfort to others, resulting in a school expectation of neither throwing nor kicking snow. We ask that you reinforce with your children how to play safely in the snow. Please be advised that there will be consequences if your child throws or kicks snow (or any other objects). Our students' safety is a prime concern.

Locker Checks:

The following is an excerpt from the York Region Police protocol (September, 2011):

Administration has the right to search school property, such as lockers and desks, without notice or permission of any person. In addition, police may from time to time be invited onto school property to conduct their own searches. These searches may be conducted without notice or permission from any member of the school community.

Teachers have reviewed the appropriate care of lockers with students expected for this Board property.

Cameras: Students are not to bring cameras to school for the purpose of taking pictures.

Cell Phones: Students are not to use cell phones outside of the school office between 8:15 and 2:45. Contact with parents is to be made through the office.

Internet Safety: Here is information on a new service for a Family and Kid Safe email system.

<https://fss.live.com/Default.aspx>

Vehicle Entrance onto School Property: This is a reminder that the only access for cars is by means of the Kiss and Ride. Please follow the signs.

Perfumes and Colognes: Are not allowed on school property due to high incidences of allergies and asthma.

Professional Activity Day: Friday, January 20, 2017 and Friday, February 3, 2017 are Professional Activity Days for all staff, where **students do not attend school.**

School Council: Our fourth School Council Meeting will be held on Monday, January 30, 2017. Thanks in advance to those parents who will be attending the meeting. The remaining four meetings will be held on February 21st, 2017, April 24th, 2017, May 29th, 2017, June 12th 2017. To assist with School Council events such as the Fun Fair on Thurs., June 1 (raindate Thurs, June 8), contact the School Council Co-Chairs: glad.park.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca

Celebrating Multiculturalism

Some Glad Park P.S.. students may be celebrating the following in January and February:

BAHA'I FAITH: February 26 to March 1. **Intercalary Days** are four days that do not belong to any month. They are days of celebration, gift giving, hospitality, and charitable works.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: Black History Month originated in America and can be traced back to 1926. The Americans celebrated the contributions, culture and history of African Americans during the second week of February. However, in Canada, it was in the 1950s that the Toronto City Council gave Black History Month official recognition. In the UK, Black History Month is celebrated in October. During this month, we recognize the contributions of people of African heritage through classroom discussions in some classrooms and through P.A. announcements.

BUDDHISM: January 1: **Temple Day** has become a day for Canadian Buddhists to attend a special service in the local temple.

January 28: **Lunar New Year**, the day after the new moon, marks the beginning of the new lunar year. It is the year of the Rooster. Irrespective of their religion or country, all Chinese, Vietnamese and many Koreans celebrate the cultural aspect of this day. This is the beginning of year 4715 in the Chinese calendar. It is a time for renewal and personal relationships, and pledges of prosperity.

CHRISTIANITY: January 6: **Epiphany** (Western Calendar) is the 12th day of Christmas and the end of the Christmas season. It comes from a Greek word referring to the baptism of Jesus and the arrival in Bethlehem of the Three Wise Men who came to worship Jesus. The Armenian Orthodox Church celebrates the nativity of Jesus on this day.

January 7: **Christmas for the Eastern Calendar** is often referred to as the "Ukrainian Christmas". Some Orthodox churches celebrate the birth of Jesus on this day.

January 19: **Epiphany** (Eastern Calendar): The Eastern Church associates the date with the baptism of Jesus by John and the miracle of Cana in which Jesus turned water into wine. This day is also known as Theophany in Orthodox churches.

February 27: **First Day of Lent**, (Eastern Calendar), which is the great fast, is the last six weeks of a ten week period before Easter. This day is also known as Clean Monday. Some Eastern Churches may start Lent a week before on February 16.

HINDUISM: January 14: **Makar Sankranti** is known as Lobri, Pongal and Til Sankranti. It marks the winter solstice and is primarily a rice harvest festival.

February 1: **Vasant Panchami** is particularly celebrated in Northern India. This festival marks the advent of spring. Also known as Shri Panchami, it is a celebration commonly associated with Shri or Lakshmi (Goddess of Wealth). It is also commonly linked with the Goddess of Learning, Saraswati.

February 25: **Mahashivaratri** (or Shivaratri, "Great Shiva Night") is a special night of prayer. Devotees sing the praises of Shiva, one of the major Hindu deities.

SIKHISM: January 5: **Birth of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.** The tenth guru (1666-1708 C.E.) was the final master who created the Sikh Brotherhood, the Khalsa.

January 13: **Maghi** commemorates the forgiveness shown by Guru Gobind Singh to forty deserters who returned to fight the Mughal army and *sacrificed their lives under the leadership of a brave Khalsa woman names Mae Bhaago.*

Public Health Student Immunization Suspension Plan: If parents/guardians or students receive a letter from York Region Public Health requesting immunization information, here's what to do:

Update York Region Public Health on your child's immunization status in one of the following ways:

- Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>
- Fax documents to 905-895-6066 or 1-866-258-2026
- Mail immunization information to Immunization Services, Box 147, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
- Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

Holiday and Observances Calendar

The Board's Holidays and Observances Calendar is presently being drafted for the 2017-18 school year. Included again this year will be student artwork from Elementary and Secondary schools for the calendar cover and for each month. Artwork includes photographs, original works and student digitally generated images. It is requested that submitted artwork reflect the faith/religious/cultural diversity of the York Region Community. Students may wish to consult the calendar and consider different types of celebrations (eg. Chanukah, Christmas, Diwali, Eid, Kwanza, Yom Kippur, etc.) and the different manner in which they could be celebrated (eg. Sharing in celebration with family, going to church, Mosque, Temple, etc.). For more information about the format of submissions, please contact Mme Finn in the office. The deadline for submissions is March 3, 2017.

Lost and Found: Please encourage your child to check the Lost and Found. Unclaimed items are donated at the end of each month to a local charitable organization as a partnership activity with announcements made prior for students to come check.

Character Matters: To date, our students and staff have discussed and practised the Character Matters attributes of **Respect, Responsibility, Honesty** and **Empathy**. In January we will be concentrating on the attribute of **Fairness**. At Glad Park Public School, fairness means we all strive to sense and appreciate the emotions of others, and to 'walk in their shoes'.

Staff will be encouraging students to:

- Demonstrate appreciation of another's feelings
- Demonstrate concern for another's feelings and
- Try to understand issues from another's perspective even though one may not agree with him/her.

Please reinforce with students at home.

In February, we will be concentrating on the attribute of **Courage**. At Glad Park Public School, courage means that we all will strive to behave in a sincere, trustworthy, and truthful manner.

Staff will be encouraging students to:

- Tell the truth
- Keep promises and
- Admit to one's mistakes

Charitable Support: The Glad Park parents, staff and students help others by supporting many charitable organizations and their causes. This year we have supported/will support the following organizations: Terry Fox Run; Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund; Stouffville Food Bank, Spread the Net, Matthew House, Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart, Families Helping Families and the Hats and Mitts Campaign. Thank you for your ongoing support as we reinforce with students that we get by giving to others.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Council Meeting re: notification of No Parking Restrictions on West Lawn Crescent

Here is information on restricted parking on West Lawn Crescent, passed at the Dec 6 2016 Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Council Meeting:

RE: Report No. PW-011-16, No Parking Restrictions - West Lawn Crescent (T02)

Please be advised that the above-mentioned bylaw was brought to Council at its meeting on December 6, 2016, and the following resolution was passed:

Moved by Councillor Upton

Seconded by Councillor Kroon

- 1) That Council implement a No Parking Restriction, Monday to Friday 7:30 am – 8:30 am and 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm, on both sides of West Lawn Crescent from 50m north of Elm Road to 125m north of Elm Road; and
- 2) That Council enact By-law 2016-155-PR to amend Schedule IV of Parking Control By-law 2008-114-PR; and
- 3) That Council direct Staff to send a copy of this report and By-law to the York Region District School Board and the York Region Catholic School Board.

Carried

Samantha Kong | Council Coordinator | Corporate Services

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, 111 Sandiford Drive, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 0Z8

905-640-1910 or 1-855-642-8697 (TOWS) Ext. 2222

www.townofws.ca

Reminders for Parents:

When parents and visitors are entering the school, they are reminded to please:

- Do not park in the staff parking lot before and after school
- Do not park in the posted fire route or bus lane to drop off and pick up your child
- Use the Kiss and Ride as this is for child drop off.
- Enter the office when picking up your child during instructional time so we can call your child from class.
- Refrain from picking up your child during instructional time so as to not disturb the learning of the class;
- Enter the office to sign in and get Visitor or Volunteer identification.
- Check into the office first.
- Check in at the office if planning to pick up your child from the playground at recess time.

Parking at St. Mark's Church:

Parking will no longer be available for Glad Park PS vehicles at St. Mark's Church for daytime events. The Stouffville Community on the east side on Ninth Line has lots of parking.

And finally... GLAD TIDINGS TO YOU AND YOUR KIN

Mr Eygenraam and Mme Finn extend their thanks to parents who continuously support their children, their teachers and administration. We appreciate your positive comments and look forward to working together in the New Year. Happy holidays to all. Classes resume on Monday, January 9, 2017.

Watch for the March/April issue of the Glad Park News posted on the school website on Monday, February 27, 2017. Hard copies are available in the wall stand in the front foyer of the school. Weekly e-newsletters are sent out by e-mail to the community at the end of the week in preparation for the following week so families are aware of what is happening in the school on a weekly basis.

Regards,

Mr. Eygenraam and Mme Finn
Vice Principal and Principal