



Herbert H. Carnegie Public School

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From the Office

March 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

February was definitely a month filled with lots of snow and ice, bus cancellations and indoor recesses. We'd like to thank everyone for their caution and cooperation around the school during these wintery days.

Inside the building students had many exciting events to take part in. Students enjoyed our annual Dance-a-thon. They will soon be finding out the winners of the various prizes! Students enjoyed spending time with their classmates playing a wide range of games during Global School Play Day. The new board games purchased by School Council for classrooms definitely added excitement to this day and to our indoor recesses. Many thanks to our parent volunteers for preparing a display for students on Lunar New Year. Students enjoyed exploring the information. Students also enjoyed the Dragon Parade that made it's way through the halls on February 5th. During the month of February students learned about the contributions of many African Canadians with a particular focus on Dr. Herbert H. Carnegie. Students in the Intermediate Division had the opportunity to hear from Bernice Carnegie, Dr. Carnegie's daughter. She reminded us about the importance of loving and respecting ourselves. We appreciate that she took the time to visit and share important messages with the students.

Please find included in this newsletter a letter from our Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair as well as information about some upcoming parent sessions that we think you will find informative.

Your partners in education,

Ms. Gates Principal Mrs. Greaves Vice-Principal (Acting)

**Principal** Ms. Shawna Gates

Vice-Principal (Acting) Mrs. Rebecca Greaves

Superintendent of Schools Mr. Chris Sarellas (905) 764-6830

Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair (289) 221-7416

Save the Date April 15th School Council presents Social

Networking Safety

By Paul Davis

Carnegie is on Twitter! Follow us @CarnegieYRDSB

Herbert H. Carnegie Public School



## School Council Meeting

7:00-9:00 p.m. in the school library. All are welcome to join and participate.

### School Council Meeting Dates

- \* Thursday, April 4, 2019
- \* Thursday, May 2, 2019
- \* Thursday, June 6, 2019



# York Region Skills Challenge

Congratulations to Hari B. in Grade 8 as well as Avin, Noa, Thaneesan and Logan in Grade 5. On Thursday February 28th they travelled to Seneca College to compete in the York Region Skills Challenge. The purpose of the event is for students to showcase their skills and talents while building confidence and experience in a personal area of interest as well as to gain exposure to careers and pathways in the skilled trades. The numerous lunches and recesses preparing for this challenge brought out their dedication and commitment. We would like to recognize their accomplishments for all their hard work. Hari finished 4th in Prepared Speech and the Grade 5 team finished 2nd in Character Animation. Team Carnegie is very proud of you!

## April 5th is French Day!

On Friday April 5th, students in grades 1-8 will be participating in the school's annual French Day event. Our theme this year is "Les Influences Françaises". In teams, students will be visiting stations and cafés that promote and celebrate French language and culture in Canada and the world. We look forward to a day of collaborative learning.



# **Dance a Thon—A Great Success!**



Students had a dancing good time on February 14 and 15 during the Dance-a-Thon. Students received their ballots during the final week of February. Ballots will be drawn prior to the March

Break. Students are very excited to find out if they have won any of the amazing prizes and experiences. We would like to express our thanks to all families for their support of this annual fundraiser. This year we raised just over \$12,000. Funds raised will be used to help us purchase resources, equipment and technology to support our students as they learn, play and explore.

A special thank you to School Council for funding the outdoor equipment for all of our classes. With the warm weather hopefully around the corner, the students should be able to enjoy these soon!



### Message from Our Trustee

I hope everyone has had a great start to the second half of the school year. Over the past few months, I have had an opportunity to connect with families, students, staff members and with our broader community. I have seen a lot of exciting opportunities for students to explore their interests, celebrate their identities, and develop skills and knowledge that will benefit them in the future.

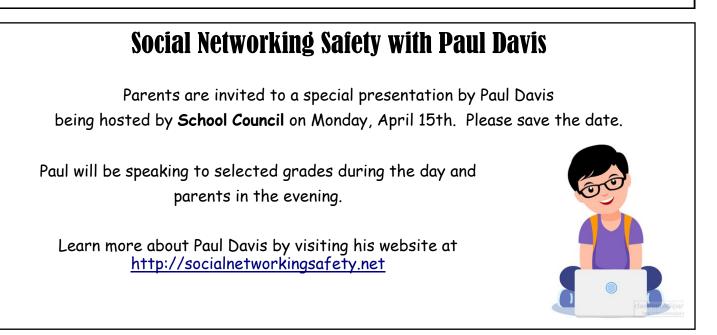
At the Board level, I was given the honour to recognize and acknowledge February as Black History Month, and to showcase some of the resource materials available to schools. February is now over but it was a very busy month for many of the schools in the family who took the time to honour and celebrate the many contributions the African Heritage community made to our Canadian mosaic. The activities included displays, presentations of the spoken word, and classroom activities. Across Canada, Black History Month is celebrated, and this was made possible by the Honourable Jean Augustine, the first African Canadian woman to be elected to the House of Commons. A strong advocate for equity and social justice, she was able to convince the Government to declare February as Black History Month across Canada.

Many students are participating in <u>skills competitions</u> or other events where they problem-solve, innovate, collaborate and further develop their technical skills. Students compete in robotics, construction, hairdressing, transportation, 3D animation and much more. These events are among the many options available to help students explore different careers and <u>pathways</u>, and gain valuable experience. We are grateful for the support of community partners in helping to provide these great learning opportunities to our students.

I also want to express my appreciation to our broader school community. One of the priorities in our <u>Multi-Year Strate-gic Plan</u> is to build collaborative relationships. The relationships that our schools have with families is so important. There are many different ways you can be involved - talking to your child's teacher, asking your child about homework, or volunteering on a field trip or the school council. Your contributions make a difference to your child's success and to the success of our schools.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable March Break.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair



### Spring Math - Math is Outside Too!

Spring and nice weather make for a great time to get outdoors and connect with math. Whether you are taking a walk, filling compost bags with leaves or starting to build that garden shed, there are many opportunities to engage in rich mathematical discussions with your child.

Here are some questions you can pose to your child as you engage with nature:

- How tall do you think that tree is?
- What shapes do you see in that house?
- How far do you think we walked today?
- How many piles of leaves do you think will fit into this bag?
- How many \_\_\_\_ did you see on our walk?
- How many windows do you think are in that building?
- How long do you think it will take us to walk one kilometer?
- If we double our pace how long do you think it will take us to get home?

So the next time you spend some time outdoors with your child, take some time to engage in some math talk!

You may also be interested in reading a new article for parents written by Jo Boaler, Professor of Mathematics Education at Stanford University.

Developing Mathematical Mindsets, The Need to Interact with Numbers Flexibly and Conceptually

To find out what your child will learn in math this year or to find other fun activities that you can do together as a family, please visit <u>http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Math/Pages/default.aspx</u>. Be sure to also try our <u>Problem of the Month</u>



Parents for Children's Mental Health

### Monday, March 18th

#### PARENTS' Support Group

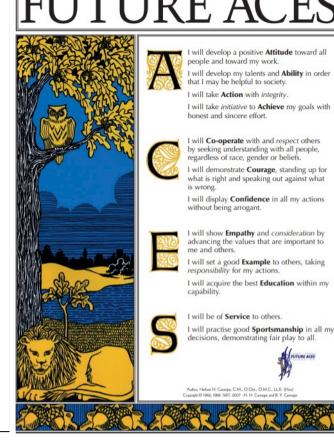
Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?

Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
  find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
  learn how to access resources in the community

Future Meetings 3rd Monday of each month NOTE some dates change due to statutory holiday conflict.	Monday, April 15 <sup>th</sup> <u>Guest Speaker</u> P. Marra-Stapleton Mental Health Lead York Region District School Board <mark>Topic: Four Pillars of Mental Health</mark> Monday, May 13 <sup>th</sup> topic TBA (note special date due to the next week stat holiday) Monday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> topic TBA No meetings July and August
	6:30-8:00 pm No pre-registration is needed Sorry no child minding available. Young children cannot safely be left unattended.
Where	*NEW*Aurora Kinark Office 218 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 7, Aurora, ON L4G 6V7. One block south of St. John's Sideroad. One block west of Bayview Ave.

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit <u>www.pcmh.ca</u>.





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