

# THE BERNARD BULLETIN

APRIL 2015

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Principal: Stephen Hopkins  
Vice Principal: Megan Roberts  
Superintendent: Rita Russo  
Trustee: Corrie McBain

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Spring is Here!

We have a very busy time coming to Bernard. The warm weather always brings changes with it. This year is no exception. Our Eco-Team has many plans around Earth Day and responding to our environment. In Athletics, Badminton and Track and Field are starting up. Student Council organized a Junior 'Dance' and has another Movie Night in the works. School (Parent) Council is supporting our Student Council and Open Gym Nights (coming soon).

School-wide we have Jump Rope for Heart, which supports our continued work on Kindness, with an additional focus on Curiosity and Zest. Please take the time to recognize and celebrate every time you see acts of Kindness. The more we recognize them, the more often they happen!

You may have also seen many people around our parking lot, making measurements and putting markings on the pavement. We will be having major construction over the summer. We are looking forward to a redesign of the drop-off and parking areas, and more play space for the students. We will send more details home throughout the spring.

Starting as early as this month, the Board will also be fixing the grading on our field. Unfortunately, that means the field will be closed until September (at least). However, when complete, the field will have much better drainage and be more usable throughout the year.

As always, please let us know if you have any comments, questions or suggestions.

Working together, for *our* kids,

Stephen Hopkins  
Principal

Megan Roberts  
Vice-Principal

## Junior Kindergarten Registration

We are still accepting Junior Kindergarten registrations for children born in 2011.

Registration forms are available at the office.

Documents required for registration include: -

- ◆Proof of child's age (birth certificate/passport)
- ◆Proof of residency (for child and parent/guardian)
- ◆Citizenship and immigration status (for child and parent/guardian where applicable)
- ◆Direction of school support form



## SEPTEMBER SCHOOL PLANNING



Our school organization and planning for the 2015-2016 school year has started! If you are moving out of the H.G. Bernard Public School area and will not be attending our school in September, please let the office know as we are preparing our classes for next year.

## DROP-OFF REMINDERS

We would like to thank our parents who drive their children to school for following proper drop-off procedures.

There continues to be a few items that require some additional attention:

- ◆ Vehicles should not be left unattended or parked in the Kiss N Ride drop-off loop during the morning entry, at lunch and during after school dismissal.
- ◆ At all times, please be extra cautious of students who are walking to school.

## KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Kindergarten! ... here I come!



For parents of students newly registered for Junior Kindergarten or new to H.G. Bernard Public School for Senior Kindergarten in September, we will be hosting a Kindergarten Orientation evening to acquaint them with kindergarten program on May 13th, from 6:00 to 7:30pm.

## GRADUATION

On Tuesday, June 16th a graduation ceremony recognizing the achievements of our departing Grade 8 students will be held at the Oakview Terrace. Our graduates are looking forward to a very special evening that will mark the end of elementary school and the beginning of the next phase in their education and in their lives. Further details will be shared with students and families as they become available.



## EQAO for Grades 3 and 6

All students in Grade 3 and 6 will be participating in the 2015 Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics this Spring. Please avoid withdrawing your child for holidays or making out of school appointments for your child between May 25th and June 4th 2015. We will communicate further information regarding the assessments in the near future.



## REMINDER

Spring is here! We remind parents to ensure their children are dressed appropriately for the wet spring weather. Extra socks in your child's school bag is always a good idea as well as splash pants or rain pants.



## York Region District School Board Student Surveys

In order to provide information for Board and School planning, York Region District School Board students in Grades 5 to 12 will be invited to participate in a school survey. The survey, which is anonymous and confidential, will be conducted from **April 7 to May 15, 2015** and will take place at school. The information from this survey will be used to identify areas to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. Aligned with Board priorities, the survey will address topics including equity and inclusion, school safety, learning environment, student well-being and other priorities. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

## BUS INFORMATION:

Did you know that students' bussing 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](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca).

For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)



## French Practice On-line

Madame Bernardo and Mme Los would like to remind you that the website of the York Region District School Board has a section for French as a Second Language. Please follow the following steps to access it.

- Internet Explorer (or another search engine)  
[www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)
- Choose “**Students**”.
- Click on “**Online Tools & Resources**” at the bottom of the screen on the left.
- Select “**French as a Second Language Homework Toolbox**”. (It’s the one with the green FSL icon.)
- Click on the purple bar “**Toolbox**”. Click on one of items in the index on the left. For **vo-cabulary** building and vocabulary review, select “**Everyday Language**” to see and hear French vocabulary. It is recommended that all students look, listen, and **repeat aloud**.
- For rules and examples of French grammar, click on one of the other sections in the tool-box such as “Verbs” or “Pronouns”.
- [Repeat daily for best results.](#)

## Anansi à l’école H. G. Bernard

Bonjour à tout le monde! Le 2 mars 2015, nous avons regardé une pièce de théâtre présentée par « The Little Red Theatre Company ». Toutes les classes juniors ont assisté au spectacle d’Anansi, l’araignée. Les élèves de 4<sup>e</sup> année, de 5<sup>e</sup> année et de 6<sup>e</sup> année ont beaucoup aimé cette présentation!

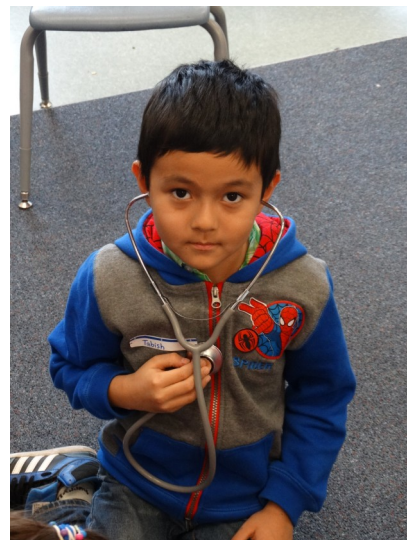
Les trois acteurs ont très bien joué leurs rôles. Ils ont présenté quatre contes : Anansi et le marmite de sagesse, Le festin d’Anansi, La soupe du Tigre et Anansi et la roche couverte de mousse. Ce sont des légendes africaines qui proviennent du folklore Bantu. Les histoires courtes d’Anansi ont leur origine chez le peuple Ashanti du Ghana. Elles sont aussi très populaires dans la culture des Caraïbes. Dans chaque conte, il y a une morale importante à apprendre.

Ce jour-là, nous avons beaucoup appris! Nous avons pratiqué beaucoup de français. En plus, nous nous sommes beaucoup amusés!

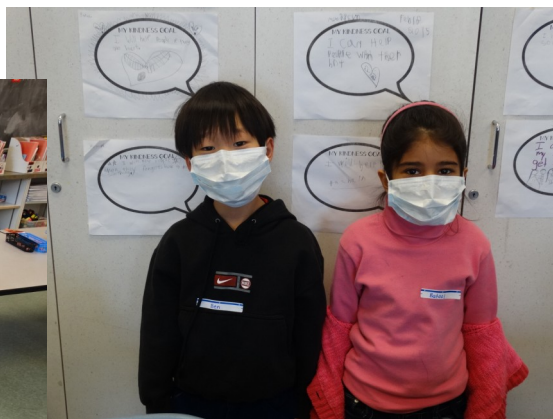
Marcus & Queenie, 5/6S  
(avec l’aide de Mme Bernardo et Mme Los)



# GRADE ONE



On Thursday, March 5, 2015, the Grade Ones had a visit from volunteers at the Mackenzie Health program, in order to learn about hospital visits, and how to be less anxious about them. The children were very engaged at the three different stations in which they took part. With one volunteer, they learned all about their bones, and what happens if you break one. At another station, they learned about proper hand washing procedures, how to wear a mask, and other important facts about germs. In their last activity, the children learned about different hospital staff, and how to listen to one's heartbeat with a stethoscope. We really appreciated all the efforts of the Mackenzie



# GRADE ONE



As part of the Social Studies Unit on Community helpers, the Grade One classes had a visit from the Richmond Hill Fire Department! The students learned important fire prevention and safety tips. The firefighters demonstrated how they put on their gear and even took the students for a tour of their fire truck.



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### Engineer-in-Residence Visit

At the end of February, Ms. Dawson's Grade Ones were fortunate to have another exciting visit from their Engineer-in-Residence, Fabio Saposnik. During this visit, the students continued to learn about their science unit, "Materials, Objects, and Everyday Structures," by examining materials closely, and describing the purpose of the objects they explored. The "Big Idea" for the morning was that **the materials and structure of an object determine its purpose**. For example, an egg carton is made out of plastic or cardboard to protect eggs. It would not be made out of metal or glass in the shape of a box, or the eggs would break! The Grade Ones look forward to another visit from Fabio in April. For more information about the Engineer-in-Residence program, please visit <http://eir.ca>.

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# GRADE TWO

This month the grade two's were able to participate in an amazing educational experience at Vivian Outdoor Resource Center. The students spent the day exploring the outdoors and participating in various activities. There were able to build a bear's den, explore the various different states of water, go on a nature hike and discover how the aboriginals lived and survived in our cold climate. It was a fantastic hands on experience connecting to both our science and social studies curriculum. Thank you to the wonderful staff at VORC for all their hard work and for our amazing parent volunteers.



# ATHLETIC CORNER

The 2015 Intermediate Boys Basketball Team was made up of Yusef (Captain), Matthew (Assistant Captain), Sunny, Aiden, Jelani, Abbas, Dylan, Luke, Shehreyar, Mikael, Chadwin and Mark. The boys finished in fifth place overall. Their teamwork improved with each and every game. They consistently demonstrated great skills and excellent sportsmanship and their love of the game was always evident. Congratulations on a wonderful season!



The Intermediate Girls Basketball Team had a wonderful season. They consistently played with heart and enthusiasm, finishing 4th overall in the Area Tournament. The team consisted of Jessica (Captain), Anne (Assistant Captain), Donia, Tahini, Roya, Kailey, Zhina, Aria, Arizo, Elia, Daniela, Rufaidah and Kiyosha. The girls' skills improved throughout the season and their sportsmanship was always evident. Congratulations Girls!



# I CAN Walk to School Pledge (Spring 2015)



Greetings, everyone! Spring has finally arrived so it's time to ... spring into spring! Renew your pledge to healthy, environmentally-friendly living by retaking your pledge to walk to school as often as possible. Special activities are planned for later this month, but don't wait until then. Start walking NOW!

All members of the community are welcome to complete the pledge. You don't have to be a student at H. G. Bernard to make a promise to yourself to choose a more active mode of transportation. Put on your walking shoes and join us on the path to a happier, healthier life!

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name), **promise to:**

\_\_\_ **walk** to or from school every day; *or*

\_\_\_ **walk** to or from school a few days each week; *or*

\_\_\_ **walk** to or from school one day/week and from the tennis courts on the other days; *or*

\_\_\_ **walk** at least one block (e.g., from the tennis courts) every day; *or*

\_\_\_ **walk** to and from the bus stop every day...

in order to **improve my learning**, **reduce pollution**, **conserve energy**, **improve (or maintain) my health**, and to show **my commitment to healthy living and environmental stewardship**.

Name/Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: April \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

Many thanks from the HGB Eco Team and the HGB Healthy Schools, Healthy Kids Committee!



# Looking Forward to .....

**April 1—Grad Photo Retakes**



**April 3 — Good Friday**

**April 6 — Easter Monday**

**April 8 — School Council Meeting 6:30**

**8:00 pm**

**Gym Night 6:30 –8:30 pm**

**Day of Pink**



**April 9 — Engineer In Residence**

**Ms. Dawson's Class**



**April 10 — Jump Rope for Heart**

**Kick Off Assembly**

**April 14 — Grit Assembly (am)**

**April 15—17 Ottawa Trip For Grade 8's**

