



MUSTANG NEWS

PA Day: Friday, March 13th (no school)

March Break: March 14th to March 22nd

John McCrae Public School
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No Nuts or Nut Products at John McCrae P.S.



MARCH 11, 2015

This is just a brief newsletter to quickly inform you of a few happenings in the school and to remind you to include our website as a favourite. <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/johnmccrae.ps/Pages/default.aspx> Please visit our website daily for the most up to date events taking place in the school. See the highlight reel and click on it and you will find more details about events and important initiatives. See "Classrooms" for details regarding classroom programming. See "Council" for the dates of School Council meeting dates and minutes.



Save the Date!

**John McCrae Public School's
10th Year Anniversary Celebration**

May 21, 2015



Principal: Ms. Lori Hall
Vice Principal: Ms. Lindsey Rhomey
Office: Ms. Allum, Ms. Murphy, Ms. Leung

Superintendent of Schools:

Mr. Daniel Wu : 905-940-7800

School Trustee:

Mr. Billy Pang: 647-461-9965

School Council Co-Chairs:

**Ms. Jackie Harris and
Mr. Roy Pedropillai**



Dear Families,

On February 17th, our Term 1 reports went home. We hope that you reviewed the achievement of your child(ren) in both their academic and learning skills. What are the achievements that are to be celebrated? What are the areas that need improvement? Read the comments carefully. The teachers have suggested ways that you can support your child's learning at home. **Contact your child's teacher** if you are unsure of how to support your child's learning at home.

One area of our **school improvement plan** includes improved **critical thinking** amongst our students. Our teaching staff is learning to make greater use of the Inquiry approach in their teaching and looking specifically at the Big Ideas in Mathematics. Research indicates that rote learning does not lead to permanent learning. Students are naturally curious as early learners; we want to maintain that curiosity so that they will be lifelong learners. We want the learning to be meaningful, authentic and rich.

What a COLD February!!!! We spent many recesses inside. Finally, the weather is warming and we can enjoy the out of doors once again. **Please remember that students should always have extra clothing.** To enjoy the winter conditions – layers of clothes are best! Packing some extra socks and mitts are very helpful. Of course as we head into spring – waterproof clothing will become more and more important.

Sincerely,

Lori Hall



Our next school council meeting will be:
Wednesday, March 25, 2015



Grade 3 EQAO Testing—
May 25th—May 27th

Grade 6 EQAO Testing—
June 1st—June 3rd

Save the Date:
**Arts Night
April 1, 2015**



PREPARING FOR 2015-2016

Our preparations for the 2015-2016 school year are underway, and our success depends on accurate projections of the school population. If you are moving out of our school area, please complete the form below and return it to the school as soon as possible.

My child(ren), _____ (name(s), who is/are in grade (s) _____ current grade), will not be attending John McCrae Public School in September 2014. We will be moving to _____ (please provide name of new school, if known).

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____




**Plan on Attending a One-of-a-Kind Social Media Fitness Event
with Chris Vollum
the evening of Thursday, April 28, 2015**

Social Media plays a critical role in student anxiety, self-worth & wellness.

Bring your mobile device or tablet and go hands-on through Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and more to learn, step-by-step, best practices and online skills to successfully navigate and support our kids' 24/7 connected world. Students, staff and parents are moved from observers to active participants in their **Social Media Fitness Experience** - from the moment they arrive! Participants will go hands-on through today's most popular social apps to learn best practices and skills to successfully navigate their 24/7 connected world.



Kindergarten Registration continues for September 2015 enrolment for all children living in the John McCrae P.S. boundaries and Fred Varley P.S. boundaries . Please advise any neighbours with children who turn four years old during 2015. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact John McCrae at 905-294-9122.

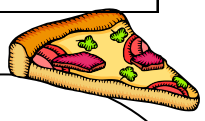
Head Lice (Pediculosis) 
Head lice or pediculosis is common in school-aged children. It is not a communicable disease. All families can help to decrease head lice in our school Community by performing regular head checks of their children and treating the head lice if found. Checking for lice takes patience, diligence and plenty of time. It is recommended that you always be sensitive to the student's feelings around this topic. Head lice can happen to anyone. Additional information about head lice is available through York Region Community and Health Services (www.york.ca). York Region Health Connection information telephone line also provides consultation about the identification, prevention and treatment of head lice. If you have questions about head lice or any other public health-related topic, please contact York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933.

Healthy Schools
Beginning after the March Break , snacks will be available for every student in one central location in a bin on the table in front of the office as well as in a bin in each portable. Just a reminder, the snack program has never been meant to replace the snack that students bring from home . Students should be bringing their own snack every day, but it will always be available in front of the office from now on for those students who need it .

Language Learning and Smoothie Sales in Room 205
On Wednesday, February 11th, 2015, the "Super Six Smoothie Team" of students from Room 205 made and sold smoothies to school staff. This activity was an extension of the procedural writing unit the students were working on. The students planned the event (including the choice of smoothie ingredients), designed and delivered posters, and were all part of the preparation and selling of the smoothies (with additional assistance from Ms. Moore). Together, with help from Mrs. Viero, the "Super Six Smoothie Team" used the *show me* iPad app to record the steps involved in making a smoothie. The group decided that they wanted to donate the money they made to a charity, so all money raised from the sales is being donated to the Markham Food Bank. The students will further their learning by travelling by transit to the Markham Food Bank in order to deliver their donation to them. The students were able to raise just over \$160.00 to support their cause. The "Super Six Smoothie Team" and Mr. Sciberras would like to thank all John McCrae staff who supported this event by purchasing a smoothie or making a donation.
By: The "Super Six Smoothie Team" (Veehaan, Wen-Xi, Emily, Manesh, Marvick and Gore)



If you plan on taking your children on an extended vacation for a period of more than a week please make sure you fill out an Extended Absence Form available from the office. Also, please make sure that you call 905-294-9122 to inform the school when your child is absent. This helps us ensure the safety and whereabouts of each of our students and saves the office staff valuable time.



Next Pizza/Sub Lunches: March 26th and April 9th