



THE GIBSON GAZETTE

FEBRUARY 2018

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Administrator Message

It is hard to believe that we have moved into the second half of this school year! The time has been well spent with a great deal of academic success and growth demonstrated by each child throughout the school. It is also a very busy time in our school office with the planning for the 2018/19 school year underway. In order for us to have an accurate picture of our student body, it is important that we account for all students expected to be with us next year. If your child(ren) will NOT be returning to Joseph A. Gibson Public School this coming September, please notify the office with a note, phone call or email. On the other hand, if you know of anyone who lives in our area and is planning on attending Gibson, please let them know registration has begun and they can come in to register their child for September, 2018.

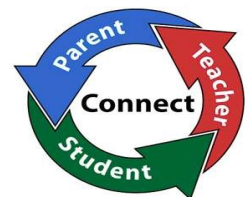
This month, your child will receive their **Term 1 Report Card**. It will be sent home on **Tuesday, February 13th, 2018**. These report cards are based on work completed during the first term and will be written to meet the guidelines of the Ministry of Education's Growing Success policy. Our teachers work hard to provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate their learning and are always seeking ways to engage students and meet the diverse needs of the learners in their classrooms. Although no formal interview day is set for these reports cards, please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or would like more information.

This month we will also be hosting our **Family Potluck evening on Thursday, February 15, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 pm at Maple High School**. More information is located on page 3 of this newsletter. We will also be hosting a Cultural Fair in the afternoon on that same day. Letters went home earlier in January looking for parent Volunteer Ambassadors to do a short presentation (20 -25 minutes) on their culture. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Fischer or Mr. Cipollone.

And, with Family Day on Monday, Feb. 19th, I hope that you take that day to enjoy time well-spent with your family!

Claudia Fischer
Principal
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 @JosephAGibsonPS



Friday, February 2, 2018
PA DAY—no school for students

Important Dates

Feb. 1	High School Registrations/ Transfers Due
Feb. 2	PA Day—no school
Feb. 5	Term 2 Begins
Feb. 6	Gr. 8 Graduation Photo Day (in AM)
Feb. 7	Spirit Day—Games Day
Feb. 8-9	Scientists in School - Gr. 1 French Immersion
Feb. 12	Scientists in School - Gr. 1 French Immersion
Feb. 13	Term 1 Report Cards go home
Feb. 15	Cultural Fair Afternoon 1:20 pm
Feb. 15	Family Potluck Evening @ Maple High School 6—9 pm
Feb. 19	Family Day Holiday—no school for students
Feb. 23	French Carnaval—whole school
Feb. 23	Spirit Day—Wear PINK for Bully Awareness Day
Feb. 26	School Council Meeting at 7 pm in library

Grade 8 Graduation—Save the Date!

Well, the Graduation committee has begun its planning of the Grade 8 graduation ceremony, reception, dinner and dance. This year, we will be having the ceremony at Joseph A. Gibson; and the reception, dinner and dance will be at the Paradise Banquet Hall.

Make sure to mark the following date in your calendar:

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018

More information will be forwarded to students and parents in the upcoming months.

Weather Conditions and Busses

If the condition of the roads necessitates the cancellation of bus service, local radio stations will be informed as early as possible and will broadcast this information to the community. Please be advised that if buses are cancelled in the morning they will not run after school—regardless of the weather. Review your plans as to what your children will do in the event of late buses or cancellations. The following radio stations announce cancellations:



AM 640	AM 680	FM 88.5
FM 90.3	AM 1010	AM 1540
FM 92.5	FM 93.1	AM 1050
FM 99.9	FM 97.3	FM 98.1
AM 1530	FM 100.7	FM 104.5
FM 107.1	AM 590	

Students in Action



Intermediate Basketball—Thanks for Ms. Au, Ms. Pilato, M. Loukili and Mr. Mahoney for coaching our intermediate boys and girls basketball teams this year. We are looking forward to a successful season.



Dance with Justin Program—The Dance with Justin program this year, was another huge success engaging students in being active and creative. Students and even teachers, were having a great time learning the dances and performing.

Registration for Sept. 2018

If your child is born in 2014, they are eligible to register for **Junior Kindergarten**.

Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2018, and wishing to enroll in the **French Immersion Program**, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school in order to register your child at the French Immersion school. Registration for French Immersion continues until Feb. 9, 2018.

Cookies and Pizza Lunches



School Council sells cookies every **Wednesday at lunch time** for \$1.50.

The next round of **pizza lunches** is beginning March 19 and the order forms have already been distributed and are online. Also, students are reminded that they need to bring a lunch if they HAVE NOT ordered pizza as there is no guarantee that slices will be available for purchase on those days.



Volunteer Drivers

A special thank you to all our volunteer drivers who have been assisting with transportation to and from various athletic events.

These opportunities to play at different schools increase our students' confidence and further develops their skills prior to Area tournaments.



Pop Tab Collection

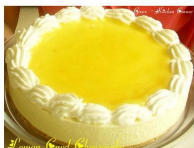


In partnership with the Lions' Club, we are continuing to collect pop can tabs to support the purchase, maintenance and repairs of mobility and assistive equipment. A jar has been placed in the office to collect these tabs. Thanks for your support!

Family Potluck Evening –Thursday, February 15, 2018

One of the big events for Joseph A. Gibson is our annual Potluck. It has been a tremendously successful event in the past and we are looking forward to this opportunity for the school, parents and community to come together and enjoy some home-cooked treats and each other's company. This year, the Potluck will again take place at 6:30 pm in the cafetorium at Maple High School.

Information will be sent home via email; and with students later this month. Information will also be posted on the Gibson Blog. Looking forward to seeing everyone come out on **Thursday, February 15, 2018** at Maple High School.



Crayola ColorCycle

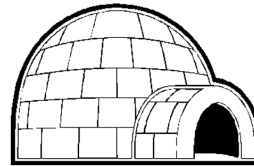
Just a reminder that Gibson continues to participate in the ColorCycle program. It is a great opportunity for teachers, parents and students to explore eco-friendly practices. A collection bin is located in the front hallway under the lunch counter to collect and re-purpose used markers. Thank you for your on-going support!



French Carnaval—Feb. 23rd

Planning is in progress for this year's French Carnaval celebration for all of our students.

More detailed information regarding the format of this event will be forwarded later this month.



School Cash Online

All YRDSB schools are now using School Cash Online as an online payment system. School Cash Online is an easy, safe and convenient way for families to pay online for extracurricular items or events, including yearbooks and field trips. It helps to reduce paper and the amount of cash/cheques handled by parents and students.

Families may make payments using School Cash Online, or by cash or cheque.

A Message from our Trustee

With report cards coming home, this is a good time of year to review your child's progress and to set goals for the rest of the school year. As trustees, our goals are set out in the Board [Multi-Year Plan](#). In the coming months, trustees will be reviewing and updating this plan. This process will include opportunities for public input, and trustees will be out in the communities talking about this. More information will be shared about this in the spring.

Developing and reviewing the Multi-Year Plan is just one of our responsibilities as publicly elected officials. Trustee responsibilities also include hiring the Director of Education, setting [Board policies](#) and the [annual budget](#), and communicating with the public.

This is a good time to learn more about the [role of trustees](#) with the next [municipal election](#) taking place later this year on October 22, 2018. York Region District School Board has [12 trustees](#), elected by ratepayers. As a trustee, listening and communicating with families is an important part of my role. Students, families and members of the public are welcome to attend and observe any public Board, Advisory or Board Committee meetings and to share their views with us on policy and Board governance. As we move into the second half of the year, I hope that you are seeing evidence of your child's learning and progress, and finding opportunities to get involved in their learning and the life of the school. I wish you all the best for a successful second term.



NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:

Monday, February 26, 2018

7:00 pm in the library

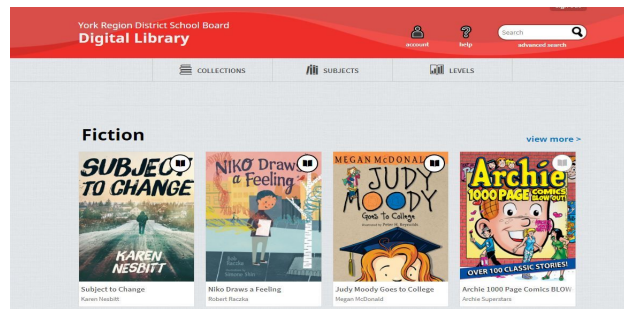
Access eBooks From Home

Joseph A.Gibson families can now read and listen to books on their home computers, mobile devices and eReaders. All you need to get started is an internet connection and your child's username or student number. The York Region District School Board's digital library lets students borrow ebooks and audiobooks anytime, anywhere.

To access the Y.R.D.S.B. digital library on a Windows or Mac computer you must login through the website at yrdsb.lib.overdrive.com. On Android, Chromebook, iPad (overdrive loaded-must sign-out after use), Kindle Fire, or Windows 8/10 devices you will access the website through OverDrive app which you will need to download. How to guides and videos are available to support you on the digital library website.

Here are the steps to access the Y.R.D.S.B. Digital Library.

1. Go to <http://yrdsb.lib.overdrive.com>
2. Sign in with "0(student username)"
3. Borrow a book
4. Go to your Checkouts page (under your Account). From there click the Read or Listen button to open the book in your browser.



One ebook book and three book holds can be placed at one time. Borrowed books will automatically be return at the end of the lending period (7, 14 or 21 days). You can also return titles early to get access to a new title. The digital library collection can be searched in a variety of ways such as by title or author. You can also use the "Collections" tab option to browse french books or the "Dual Track" tab option to browse books in other languages. The "Subjects" tab gives you access to book titles organized by popular subjects such as beginning readers, mathematics, young adult fiction. The "Levels" tab lists book titles by text difficulty and interest level.

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Stay WELL During Cold Season

Amy Skeoch MHSc, RD

If you're one of the lucky ones who has yet to be impacted by this year's round of the cold virus, give yourself a pat on the back! Aside from general good habits such as proper handwashing, getting enough sleep and coughing into your elbow, there are a few things that you can do (backed by science) regarding your diet, to help bump up your immune system, or reduce how long your body is invaded by the circulating virus!

1. **Vitamin C** – Getting a least 200mg a day of this virus-scavenging vitamin may help reduce the length of cold symptoms. Foods that have high amounts of vitamin C are: oranges, berries, kiwi, strawberries, broccoli and bell peppers
2. **Zinc** – Although we don't know the exact amount needed to help with immunity to colds, we do know that consuming zinc in the early stages of a cold may help lessen symptoms and shorten the duration. We also know however, that taking more than 40mg/day is NOT a good for us, so stay clear of overloading on supplements. Good sources of zinc: beef, poultry, fish, oysters, baked beans, nuts and whole grains
3. **Probiotics** – There is some evidence that regularly taking probiotics (10 billion cultures or more) for at least 3 months before cold and flu season may improve your immune system, thus reducing your chance of getting a cold.
4. **Variety** – Variety in your diet (think eating from all four food groups) ensures that your body is getting all the various vitamins and minerals it needs to maintain good health

Sources:

Tips for staying well during cold and flu season, Dietitians of Canada; Penn – Handout, 2011
<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/common-cold/in-depth/cold-remedies/art-20046403>