



# THE GIBSON GAZETTE

## MARCH 2018

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## Administrator Message

Looks like the Winter and Spring seasons are blending together as we continue to deal with snow and rain; and because of these ever-changing temperatures and weather conditions, I want to remind parents that students should always be dressed appropriately for the weather as they are expected to be outside for the entire recess time. We monitor the weather and when weather conditions are extreme inside recesses or shortened recesses are an option. Please remember that we are unable to supervise students indoors during recesses, so if your child is well enough to come to school, they are well enough to go outside.


This is the time of year when we are once again in the process of creating school organization for the 2018-2019 school year. As most of you are aware, the Ontario Ministry of Education implemented a hard cap of students in each primary classroom. Although limiting class sizes is certainly a positive move, it does introduce a number of challenges. Flexibility is limited and consequently combined classes are continuing to be more prevalent in school organizations.

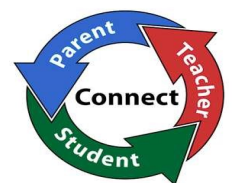
I recognize that parents/guardians may have new and/or important information to share about their child (e.g., a recent medical diagnosis, positive/negative peer relationships which exist outside of school, learning style, individual and family issues, etc.) which may impact upon class placement decisions. **If you wish to express, IN WRITING any information that should be considered as we begin to tentatively place students in classes, I ask that you do so before May 15th. Please be aware that any information you provide will not be shared and kept in confidence as part of the class placement process.**

Our primary goal is to develop balanced classes that reflect the diversity of our community and allow for a variety of abilities, interest and talents. Teachers work diligently to balance the classrooms in terms of gender, academic ability and social and emotional concerns. Class placement is an important and complex process that takes many hours of thought and discussion, so **it is imperative that families adhere to the May 15th deadline. Please note that your written submissions are not considered confirmation of your request. Because of changing enrolment patterns in the spring and summer months, final class placement will be shared on the first day of school.**

As we head into March, I wish you and your family a restful and relaxing March Break!

*Claudia Fischer*  
Principal  
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 @JosephAGibsonPS



**March Break**  
**March 12-16, 2018**

## Important Dates

Mar. 1-8	Scholastic Book Fair in Library (see page 5)
Mar. 1	Scientists in School (Gr. 5/6)
Mar. 6	Scientists in School (Gr. 4 )
Mar. 6	Term 2 IEPs go home
Mar. 9	French Carnaval (for all students) <b>**DATE CHANGE</b>
Mar. 9	Kindergarten—Pizza presentation in the morning
Mar. 12-16	<b>MARCH BREAK</b>
Mar. 23	Crazy Hair or Hat Day Spirit Day
Mar. 29	Jump 2 Math Program Kdgn to Grade 3 7 pm in gym and library
Mar. 30	<b>Good Friday Holiday</b> —no School
Apr. 2	<b>Easter Monday Holiday</b> —no school



## Registration for September 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.

## Inclement Weather 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	

## Jump 2 Math Program—Family Math Night—Kdgn to Gr. 3 Thurs. March 29, 2018

Sponsored by our School Council and the Parent Reaching Out Grant, Gibson is happy to offer a Family Math Night for students and their parents from Kindergarten to Grade 3 on **Thursday, March 29th**. Join us for life-size games and giant interactive mats the whole family can play! Students will hop, skip and jump to better math skills and experience numeracy in a whole new physical way. Families are invited to drop by and try these fun activities **anytime between 6:00 to 8:00 pm.**

Parents who attend will also receive e-books to continue the learning with supports to tutor their kids at home.

***It's all fun and games and then they learn MATH!***

### Lost and Found

All lost and found items will be on display in the main hallway starting **Tuesday, March 6th**.

Please encourage your children, or stop by yourself, to claim any items that belong to them. All unclaimed items by end of day on Friday, March 9th will be donated to those in need.

Thank you!

### Cookie Sales Continue



School Council continues to sell cookies every **Wednesday at lunch time** for \$1.50. Don't forget to bring in your money on these days to enjoy a tasty cookie.

Thank you to our parent volunteer, **Mrs. Gulyasik**, for organizing this very successful fundraiser every week!

### Cultural Fair Afternoon

Students had their passports in hand and travelled to three different countries during our Cultural Fair on Feb. 15th. Thank you to our parent presenters who volunteered their time to share cultural presentations with our students.

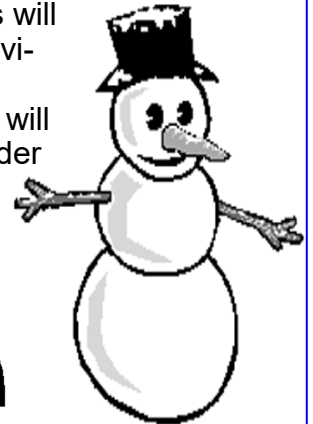
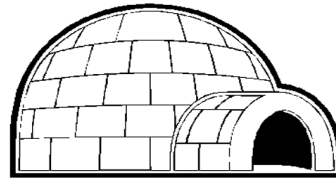
**Mrs. Gu  
Mrs. Recchia  
Mrs. Shah  
and  
Our student presenters**



What an incredible afternoon of learning about our diverse school community!

### French Carnaval d'Hiver —Mar. 9

Our annual French Carnaval d'hiver is scheduled to take place on Friday, March 9th for all students from kindergarten to Grade 8. Our kindergarten students will participate in fun outdoor activities first thing in the morning; while the rest of the students will participate during the remainder of the day.



### Family Potluck Evening—Thank you!

*Thank you to all our families that attended this year's annual Family Potluck evening on February 15th at Maple High School. It was another huge success!*

*A very special thank you to **Ms. Kokotsis and Mrs. Defulviis** who organized the event and to all **staff** who supported this wonderful parent engagement evening!*



## Summer Institute—2018

Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for six weeks during July and August and is offered at 11 school sites around York Region. For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the Summer Institute page on [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). The base weekly registration fees are:

**York Region District School Board students:**      *\$105 (4 day weeks) \$120 (5 day weeks)*

**Non- York Region District School Board students:** *\$130 (4 day weeks) \$155 (5 day weeks)*

**Registration opens March 7.** Families can register online, as well as in person or by mail.

## Eco-Council News—Winter 2018

The Gibson Eco-Council has been hard at work this year investigating waste, energy and environmental stewardship activities for this year!

### **Waste Reduction Activities: Waste and Energy walkabout Report**

Our team investigated how students use the garbage and recycling bins in classrooms, and the school uses of energy, water and electricity. We found out that we can all do more to reduce the amounts of paper we use by using both sides of the paper and having a GOOS (good on one side) bin. We can also reduce the plastic wrap, foil and single-use plastic bags we bring to school. We can do this by using reusable lunch containers and water bottles. We can all try harder to eat what we bring to school and make sure that food, napkins and Kleenex go in the green bin. As the year progresses, we can all save on energy by turning out classroom lights when the room is empty and keeping computer monitors off when not in use.

### **Take Home Tuesdays: Waste Free Snacks and Lunch**

As an Eco-school, our team is once again promoting a *Boomerang Lunch Program every Tuesday. On Take-Home Tuesdays, our goal is for everyone to bring all snack and lunch waste back home as a way of recognizing the amount of waste we all bring to school each day. On Take-Home Tuesdays, we can do our best to have a Waste-Free snack and lunch by minimizing waste.*

**Upcoming Events:** Stay Tuned! Spring is a busy time for the council. We will be celebrating:

**World Water Day on March 22,**

**Earth Hour on March 24 and**

**Earth Day on April 22.** This year we want to present an assembly at school.

**Great Plastic Shopping Bag Roundup during Earth Week.** Gibson Families are encouraged to collect all those shopping bags sitting around the house and bring them in to be counted.

**Bike to school day in May**

**Garden Club and Eco-council Operation Pollination plant sale.**



***NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:***

**Monday, April 16 , 2018**

**7:00 pm in the library**

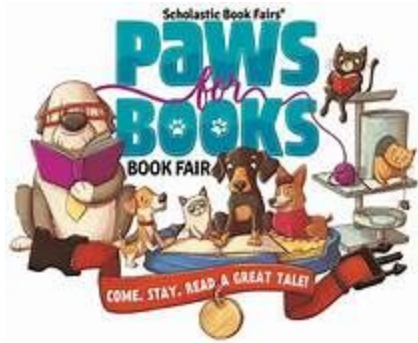
## Contribute to Strategic Planning at YRDSB - Upcoming Town Halls

York Region District School Board is revising its Multi-Year Plan (MYP) and Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting the strategic direction of public education in York Region public schools. The MYP incorporates the direction established by the Trustees with feedback received from all stakeholders, and will inform decision making at the Board in the years to come. Town halls will be taking place across the region and feedback collected from families and community members will inform the creation of a new MYP.

Your voice is important and your input and feedback will help York Region District School Board support student achievement and well-being. There will also be other opportunities, including a survey available in April, to share your thoughts if you are unable to attend a town hall.

### SAVE the DATE!

TOWN HALL DATES AND TIMES	LOCATIONS
Monday, April 16, 2018 7 - 9 p.m.	Keswick High School 100 Biscayne Blvd., Keswick
Wednesday, April 18, 2018 6 - 9 p.m.	Markville Secondary School 1000 Carlton Rd., Markham
Sunday, April 22, 2018 2 - 4 p.m.	Sir William Mulock Secondary School 705 Columbus Way, Newmarket
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Maple High School 50 Springside Rd., Maple
Saturday, April 28, 2018 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Bayview Secondary School 10077 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill



## Scholastic Book Fair

Thurs. March 1 - Thurs. March 8, 2018

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event.

We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Your support of this vital literary event is a key part of helping us obtain new books and resources for our library and classrooms.

You'll find hundreds of quality books at our Book Fair with a wide assortment for all reading levels. Visit the Scholastic Book Fairs website at [www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs](http://www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs) to get more detailed information about these books. You can also watch book trailers and author videos with your child on the BookTube page.

Your son/daughter will browse the book fair and bring home a flyer this week. Please review their wishlist and have them bring it back to school to verify you approve the purchase. Cheques should be endorsed to *Joseph A. Gibson Public School*. The date your child will visit the fair to make their purchase will be stamped on the *Books I Want to Read* wishlist. The flyer also contains a special Family Event Draw ballot that students can deposit during the fair.. They could win \$50 in books – \$25 for their personal library PLUS \$25 for your classroom library!

Parents are invited to make purchases on Tues. March 6th during lunch from 12:20-1:20 pm and afterschool from 3:00-4:00 p.m. We look forward to our second Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great literary event.

Thank you for believing in books and the impact of reading on your child's future.