



Little Rouge P.S.

571 Country Glen Road
Markham, Ontario
L6B 1E8

905-202-5960 fax 905-202-5964
www.littlerouge.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

ISSUE 8

APRIL, 2014

Principal

Nancy Dodds

Superintendent

Daniel Wu

Trustee

Allan Tam

Office Administrators

Carolyn Lee

Vicki Hooper

School Council

Co-Chairs

Gail Auyeung

Ateka Alidina

From the Principal's Desk

It appears that winter might finally be leaving us, although very slowly! I hope everyone had a safe and restful March Break. Many students have been sharing their wonderful experiences and adventures with the staff and their classmates.



I can't believe we're into the final three months of school. Where has the time gone? I know we'll be very busy here at Little Rouge over the next 3 months with Earth Rangers, Pachi's visit, Jump Rope for Heart, Right to Play, EQAO, Arts Night, We Night, Grade 8 Graduation and many more programs and learning experiences. Please be sure to check the school newsletter, school website and our twitter updates for upcoming dates and events!



Scholastic Book Fair - April 7-11



The Scholastic Spring Book Fair is back!

It will begin on Monday, April 7th at morning recess and run until noon on Friday, April 11th. Students will be able to visit the Fair with their classroom teachers as well as during morning and lunch recesses. Only students with money will be able to visit during recess. For every book you purchase, funds go to our school to purchase new books for the library. Our goal is to sell 600 books which would put approximately 250 new books on our library shelves! Watch for the flyers going home soon with more information. See you at the Fair and thank you for helping us build a community of readers!

Character Matters!

- Respect
- Honesty
- Empathy
- Fairness
- Initiative
- Courage
- Integrity
- Optimism
- Perseverance
- Responsibility

Be the Change

Did you know that around the world, there are children whose voices are not heard. They are the child labourers, the children who can't go to school, and those without access to clean water or healthcare. They are even present in our own community. They are the students who are bullied at your school. The children growing up in poverty. And those who are discriminated against.

On April 17, Little Rouge Public School will be participating in Free the Children's annual "We Are Silent" campaign, to raise awareness about people around the world who are being bullied, exploited or denied their rights. Stay tuned for more information.



The BTC Team

Be the change you wish to see in the world Ghandhi



Curriculum Corner

Conversations around Current Events

In classrooms teachers use current events to spark conversations, generate questions, and have discussions and debates. Current events also give teachers the opportunity to make the curriculum relevant in the everyday lives of their students while building on critical literacy, problem solving, and reading comprehension skills. [Education World's](#) article "[Why Teach Current Events?](#)" asserts that teaching through a current events lens helps teachers to cover a wide range of subjects and connect to all areas of the curriculum, developing informed citizens and lifelong news readers.

Conversations around current events do not need stop within the walls of the classroom. These kinds of deep conversations can become a tool for parents to help develop their children's critical thinking and communication skills.

How Can I use Current Events as Conversation Starters at Home?

- Make dinner time conversation time by making an effort to sit together without television
- Talk about what is happening within the community and globally
- Share your thoughts and opinions with your children and encourage them to form their own opinions
- Watch or listen to the news together and discuss what you have seen and heard

Visit: www.thefamilydinnerproject.org for ideas on conversation starters



Save The Dates: May 27—June 5

This is the range of dates set aside to administer the annual EQAO tests to our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students. Parents of students in these grades are asked to please refrain from booking any appointments or vacations during this time as it is very important for all students to participate in this testing.

We are very lucky at Little Rouge to have a visit planned from the Earth Rangers on April 4th for our grades 1 – 6 students!

Earth Rangers is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring children to Bring Back the Wild™. Their focus is to communicate to children a positive science – based message on the importance of protecting biodiversity and adopting more sustainable behaviours. During their visits, children get to see some amazing wild animals. Students will also learn about the unique characteristics of these special animals and what they can do to help protect animals in their community.



To learn more about Earth Rangers and to play some cool games visit their website at www.earthrangers.org

Character Rocket Rally

March's character trait was Perseverance. "We stick to a goal and work hard even in the face of obstacles and challenges. We complete all tasks and assignments."

Congratulations to our **Perseverance** winners!

Ms. Wilder JK/SK :	Rumman, Aaden
Mrs. Smith JK/SK :	Alina, Naveen
Mr. Gafar 1:	James, Cole
Ms. Neprily 1 :	Nicholas, Andrew
Ms. Kung 1/2 :	Ishan, Zahari
Mr. Shubert 2 :	Jessica, Jason
Ms. Cavazzon 2/3 :	Connor, Hashir
Mrs. Cohen 3 :	Moses, Arman
Ms. Ramkissoon 3/4 :	Brendan, Rajith
Ms. Huang 4 :	Kayanan, Ashani
Ms. McHardy 5 :	Izzah, Sharath
Mrs. Chaudhary 6 :	Maria, Mathunesh
Mr. Brown 6/7 :	Anthony, Jeffery
Mr. Yusuf 7/8 :	Sanjay, Jayden
Ms. Jimenez 8 :	Christine, Nisha
Mrs. Foster CC:	Ragul, Justin



In April, our focus is on **Honesty**.

"We behave in a sincere, trustworthy and truthful manner."

Are You Moving?

Our preparations for the 2014-2015 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/s), will not be attending Little Rouge Public School in
September 2014.

We will be moving to : _____
(please provide name of new school, if known).

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

School Council News



Spring is here.... why not try something new?. Come to the next Parent Council meeting scheduled for April 7th from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Staffroom. and hear what is going on.

The Parent Council was excited to provide the school with the requested new games for indoor recess. We were able to purchase lots of games with the \$238.00 raised from the hot chocolate and pancake station at the Little Rouge Winter Games.



Kindergarten Registration for September 2014

Kindergarten registration commenced on January 17, 2014 for the 2014-2015 school year.



Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2014, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. **A kindergarten information session for parents and their JK student only will be held on Thursday, May 29th in the evening.**

For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

Little Rouge School Website

Don't forget to check out our newly upgraded Little Rouge School website. It is full of great information; necessary documents and forms, links to useful websites, news from the York Region School Board and more. It is our goal to keep our website current as your one stop source of information. Please have a look and your feedback is welcome.

<http://www.littlerouge.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>

In addition, check out our Twitter account. Please follow us @littlerouge2014

Natural decomposition of grass and plant materials during freeze/thaw cycles.

Each spring and late winter the Health & Safety department receives a number of complaints or inquiries concerning the "bad smell" coming from the surface water in school yards. Sometimes the water has a yellow or green-brown color. This natural process also occurs on wet grassed surfaces when the top layer (1" or less) thaws while the materials below this point are still frozen. Some parents or staff may be concerned that there are unknown contaminants leaching up through the ground causing the odor.

Generally speaking, the odor and discoloration that sometimes occurs in spring ground water and mud is usually a result of the freeze/thaw cycle. A wet ground that suddenly freezes under snow or ice followed by periods of thaws and then freezing over the grass and plant material sets up a decomposition cycle similar to that in a bog or swamp. Normal decomposition such as in a composter, breaks down matter using oxygen dependant bacteria. When oxygen is reduced or eliminated, such as happens in the spring thaw/freeze cycle, the process becomes anaerobic. This process is not dependent on oxygen and produces sour methane gases and the resulting production of foul odors. Depending on the type of plant material and length of decomposition, the odor can be mild, smell like rotting manure, sewage or even have a chemical smell. While this is not a pleasant experience for those who have to deal with the wet and dirty clothes or remain in proximity to the odor, it is not harmful. It is however, wise to advise children to avoid puddles and muddy areas as there could be other things unseen in the water or mud such as pet feces and garbage. Keeping students off of grassed areas will reduce the tracking in of these materials on clothes and boots.

Earth Hour 2014

On Friday March 28th, our whole school participated in a celebration of Earth Hour. We turned off the lights from 2:00 to 3:00 pm and the students were able to engage in activities using a minimal amount of energy.

On March 29th at 8:30 pm, hundreds of millions of people around the world turned off their lights for an hour to demand action on climate change. However, the students are learning that we do not need an event like this to lessen our impact on the environment! Here at Little Rouge we continue to live every hour as an Earth Hour and take pride in our actions to protect our world! - For more information on WWF- Earth Hour please visit <http://www.earthhourcanada.org/earthhour/>



Environmental Corner

How can you celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd?

- Clean up around your neighbourhood
- Plant a tree, flowers or shrubs.
- Get outside and enjoy nature
- Build a bird house or bird feeder
- Have a picnic outside
- Make some art out of recycled materials
- Listen for activities happening in your community

Thank you for your support.



Forks & Spoons

If your child stays for lunch and brings an item that requires a spoon or fork, please remember to send one with him/her. We have many students who come to the office to get an utensil from us and unfortunately, we have limited available. We suggest that you keep a plastic spoon or fork in your child's lunch bag each day so that he/she has one if needed.



UPCOMING DATES
Little Rouge PS

- April 1 Grade 7 VIP
- April 2 Grade 7 and 8 - GUSH water program
- April 3 9:15 - Grade 8 Grad photos
- April 3 Grade 1's and Community Classes to Markham Theatre - "Pinocchio"
- April 4 Grade 1 - 6 - Earth Rangers
- April 7 Grade 8 VIP
- April 7 7:00 pm - School Council Meeting
- April 9 Anti-bullying day of pink (students are encouraged to wear pink this day)
- April 11 Blue and Green Day for organ donation awareness
(students are encouraged to wear blue and green this day)
- April 14 Pachi (Pan Am mascot) to visit Little Rouge
- April 18 Good Friday (NO SCHOOL)
- April 21 Easter Monday (NO SCHOOL)
- April 22 Grade 3 Fire Safety visit
- April 25 Rocket Rally & Community Clean Up
- April 28 Grade 5 - 8 classes to Science Centre
- May 2 Jump Rope for Heart kick off