



**Principal**  
Nancy Dodds

**Vice Principal**  
Jeff Demacio

**Superintendent**  
Daniel Wu

**Trustee**  
Allan Tam

**Office Administrators**  
Carolyn Lee  
Vicki Hooper



## Character Matters!

Respect    Honesty  
Empathy    Fairness  
Initiative    Courage  
Integrity  
Optimism  
Perseverance  
Responsibility



# Little Rouge P.S.

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ISSUE 4

DECEMBER, 2017

## From the Principal's Desk

### Thank you & Welcome Back!!



We extend our thanks to Ms. Haranas as her LTO has concluded here at Little Rouge. Her hard work, collaboration and dedication during Ms. Pankhurst's absence will be missed. This means that we are pleased to welcome Ms. Pankhurst back from her leave! She has assumed the teaching duties for Room 124 for the remainder of the year. Ms. Pankhurst is looking forward to a fun year in the Little Rouge community.

A big thank you to Mr. Robinson, who supported the Little Rouge community during Ms. Dodds' absence. Students and staff will miss his kind and supportive presence on the playground during morning and lunch recess. Although here only six weeks, Mr. Robinson brought a wealth of leadership, experience and support for students, staff and Mr. Demacio during his time as a Rocket! Thank you from all of us!

We are excited to welcome back Ms. Dodds from her medical leave. As time tends to do, six weeks flew by and she will be back at her post welcoming students and staff to school first thing December 4<sup>th</sup>. Welcome back to the Little Rouge community Ms. Dodds!

### Interviews & Edsby

Thank you to families and staff for your patience, adaptability and engagement in our Progress Report Interviews/Conferences. It is so important for all of us to build on our connections and communicate the successes and challenges of the first few months of learning. As true partners in supporting the success and well-being of our students, we look forward to seeing how Edsby can help us to work together.

## School Council News

Just a reminder that our next School Council meeting will be held on January 15th at 7:00pm. All parents are welcome!



We have a few activities to look forward to in the New Year including the return of our Subway lunch program. Stay tuned for a new message in your inbox coming soon...

One quick reminder about our Investment in Education Fund: Please consider the Little Rouge Community in your holiday giving. All funds raised will go directly toward supporting our outdoor classroom. Donations of \$25 or more will receive a tax deductible receipt. Stay tuned for other opportunities to get involved in the Little Rouge Community in the coming months.

Thank you to our "Christmas elves" for decorating the front foyer! There is a small Christmas tree that was kindly donated to us, right beside the main entrance. This year we encourage families to send in their gently used or new mitts to hang on this tree. All donated mittens will be given to the Yellow Brick House, an organization that supports abused mothers and their children. Thank you for sharing with them during this season of giving.

During this Christmas Season, we wish everyone a very joyful, healthy and safe holiday as you celebrate with friends and family. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you in 2018!

### *Message From Our Trustee*

In November, about 1,000 students, staff members and community partners came together from across the Board to form a [Ring of Peace](#) and stand together against hate, discrimination and intolerance. The student speakers at the event shared meaningful messages about the importance of feeling welcome, valued and respected.

At York Region District School Board, we are committed to listening to the voices of our students and communities. We will continue working with our school communities to ensure our schools provide safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for everyone.

Last month, our annual [Quest conference](#) brought together educators from across Ontario, Canada and around the world to share, learn and discuss how to foster well-being in schools. Some of the themes covered included equity and inclusivity, and safe and caring environments.

It was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about some of the positive things happening in our own schools and other districts. In recent months, we have had several international visitors come to our system and schools to learn more about the work in our system to support student achievement and well-being, including Qatar, the Netherlands, Texas and the United Kingdom.

We are pleased to have these opportunities to continue highlighting and sharing the great things happening in our schools thanks to our outstanding students, staff members, families and community partners. Your engagement makes a difference in our schools and I encourage you to continue getting involved in the life of your child's school.

As we enter the holiday season, I am once again impressed by the generosity of our school communities and our students' commitment to helping others.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful start to 2018.

Allan Tam



### *From the Volleyball Court....*



The Intermediate Girls Volleyball team finished their season on Monday, November 27th at the Area Tournament held at Ramer Wood Public School placing 4th. The girls had an amazing day getting their serves over and returning the ball. The coaches were really proud of the way they played. Congratulations to everyone for a great season! **Way to go GIRLS!!**

*Your Coaches, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Whitten*

### *Intermediate Boys Volleyball team*



Another volleyball season is over and it's been a fun one! Although we feel a little disappointed that we didn't move on to the finals it's important to remember that we've learnt some valuable lessons. One of the great things about volleyball is that there's always room for improvement, we can all work on doing something just a little better. When everyone does that, the results can be amazing - and if there's one thing we know about each and every player, it's that there isn't anyone who wouldn't give his all for the team.

We also want to say "thanks" to all of our players for giving up their lunch recesses to practice. There's an old saying that "it matters not if you win or lose, but how you play the game" - and it has been an honour and a privilege to be associated with a fine group of boys who play the game with character and poise.

Congratulations Eric, Brendan, Brandon, Oliver, Ryan, Terra, Bryan, Tasneem, Bilal, Matthew, Rajith, and Ali.

*Your Coaches, Ms. Zappitelli and Mrs. Kurtes*

### **\*SAVE THE DATES\***

Our Holiday Concert "December Lights" will be held on Wednesday, December 20th. The daytime performance will be held @ 1:50 pm and the same performance will be held at 6:30 pm in the evening .

The Kindergarten Holiday Concert will take place on Thursday, December 21 @ 2:00 pm.

Stay tuned for more information about tickets.

### **Lost and Found**

We have a number of items in our lost and found box outside the caretakers' office. If your child is missing any items, please take a look in the box - we would like to find homes for everything.

## **Be the Change**

### **WE Scare Hunger**

Be The Change Team would like to send out a huge thank you to all families who donated food items for our WE Scare Hunger campaign, in support of our community food partner, Five with Drive. We surpassed our goal of 600 items and we raised 950 food items! Way to go Rockets!!

### **Holiday Cards and Sick Kids Hospital**

Over the past couple weeks, Be The Change Team have been creating Holiday Cards for patients and their families that may be spending time at Sick Kids Hospital. The beautiful cards will be donated to the hospital beginning of December and will be displayed in the hospital's holiday room. We hope the cards will help inspire and spread positivity during the holiday season at Sick Kids Hospital!

The BTC team

### **Thank you!!!**

Thank you so much to Mrs. Merican, Mrs. Mak, Mrs. Himanen, Ms Rowe and Mrs. Sripathi for doing such a great job decorating the front foyer of the school for the holiday season. The Christmas trees, decorations, ribbons and bows all make our school look very festive. Your time and effort was greatly appreciated. Thank you as well to Mrs. Merican and Mr. Harris and Mr. and Mrs. Noble for your donation of the trees and decorations. It was very thoughtful of you.

And thank you so much to Mrs. Pickthall and some students for preparing a 'Happy Kwanzaa' banner and a 'Happy Hanukkah' banner to hang in the front foyer to add to our holiday decorations. They look great! Much appreciated!

### **Holiday Toy Drive**

Thank you to all of our families and staff who have donated new unwrapped toys to our Holiday Toy Drive. These toys will be donated to children in need in our area! Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated! Members from The Markham Fire Department will be coming to Little Rouge on Dec. 15th to pick up the toys but you are still welcome to bring in a donation until Dec. 8th.



Thank you to our Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes for organizing and participating in this Toy Drive. It has been a great success again this year!

# ROCKET RALLY NOVEMBER 4As RECIPIENTS



## Active Living

| <u>Student</u> | <u>Grade</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| Deborah        | JK           |
| Joseph         | 3            |

## Achievement

| <u>Student</u> | <u>Grade</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| Max            | JK           |
| Ellen          | 1            |
| Judah          | 1            |
| Kathan         | 1            |
| Fiona          | 2            |
| Kaavya         | 3            |
| Timmy          | 3            |
| Emily          | 4            |
| Nidhi          | 4            |
| Teresa         | 4            |
| Onis           | 7            |

## Attitude



| <u>Student</u> | <u>Grade</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| Jonathan       | JK           |
| Emily          | SK           |
| Jala           | SK           |
| Michael        | SK           |
| Sebastian      | SK           |
| Campbell       | 1            |
| Elnaz          | 1            |
| Evan           | 2            |
| Nirushan       | 2            |
| Salma          | 2            |
| Xavier         | 2            |
| Winnie         | 3            |
| Melanie        | 4            |
| Zayna          | 4            |
| Anika          | 5            |
| Dev            | 5            |
| Aisha          | 7            |
| Camryn         | 7            |
| Jacob          | 7            |
| Kira           | 8            |
| Salwa          | 8            |

## Arts

| <u>Student</u> | <u>Grade</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| Elizabeth      | SK           |
| Rayyan         | SK           |





## SCHOOL BUS CANCELLATION NOTICE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

School bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. Since busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m. or earlier, all cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to ensure the safety of our students. Cancellation decisions are made by the Board and will only be made after thorough consultation with school bus companies servicing York Region.

**Please note: If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents in the morning will need to be picked up by parents at the end of the school day.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

**RADIO** AM Stations - 590, 640, 680, 860, 1010, 1050, 102.1, 1540, 1580,

FM Stations - 88.5, 89.9, 92.5, 93.1, 94.1, 94.9, 95.9, 97.3, 98.1, 99.1, 99.9, 101.1, 104.5, 100.7, 107.1

**TELEVISION** CITY TV, THE A-CHANNEL, CFTO TV, THE WEATHER NETWORK, GLOBAL

A bus cancellation message will also be available at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001.



## Empty Milk Bags

*Room 132 would like to thank all of our families for all of their support and kindness. Please continue to drop off your milk bags in front of the office so that we can help the people in need.*



We have exciting news for you and your child(ren)! Little Rouge Public School is planning for the addition of an outdoor classroom to be constructed for our students!

Outdoor classrooms provide a multitude of real benefits for children. They are a place where students can connect with nature, and not only for curriculum learning, but for fun too! Outdoor classrooms also provide a much-needed meeting place and play area for students during their recess/free time. The physical and mental health gains, along with the enhancement to learning in an outdoor setting, are invaluable.

There is a committee of school staff that are coordinating the planning, and construction of the Outdoor Classroom, as well as writing grant applications with the hope that we can secure additional funding from school greening support organizations. The School Council would like to support this initiative with a targeted fundraising program. For us to turn this outdoor classroom project into a reality, we will need to raise a significant amount of money. Based on the YRDSB's design plan and contractor quotes, the total cost of the outdoor classroom will be approximately \$19 000.

We are asking that you consider making an investment in your children's education by donating to the construction of the outdoor classroom. All donations will go directly to this project. The Investment in Education Program is a common program in York Region which involves parents making an optional donation to the school through the School Council. In the past, the School Council has used these generous donations to purchase technology, enhance the playground equipment, and support field trips and presentations. *\*\*The Investment in Education Program is in accordance with the Student Fees Policy #671 and the School Fundraising Administration of School Generated Funds Policy #676. Schools may raise funds for school yard improvement projects, such as, but not limited to, playground equipment, shade structures and gardens, with prior approval from Plant Services.*

### **Here's how you can participate:**

Click on the link below, where you will find donation options in several different amounts on the YRDSB's School Cash online webpage.

## **YRDSB School Cash Online**

### **Instructions – How to make a donation through School Cash Online**

In order to track our progress, a mural will be set up in the school foyer. As more money is raised, more sections of the mural will be coloured in. We are hoping to meet our goal with your donations, so that this exciting initiative can become a reality!

Official receipts for tax purposes will be provided via School Cash Online. If you have any further questions, please feel free to direct the Little Rouge School Council directly at [little.rouge.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca](mailto:little.rouge.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca). If you would like to donate by cheque, please contact the school office.

We sincerely thank you in advance for your generous support on this exciting project.

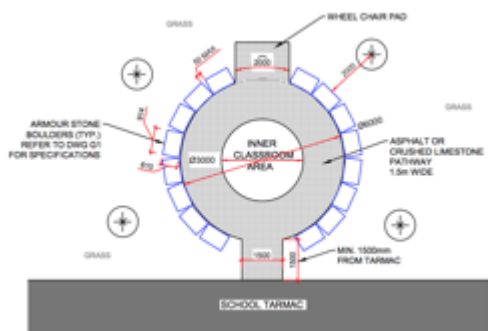
Regards,

**Little Rouge Public School Council**

**Nancy Dodds, Principal**

**Jeff Demacio, Vice Principal**

*P.S. Your support in the form of a donation is very important to the success of this project. The sooner you donate, the sooner we meet our target! Thank you!*



### **Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 19, 2018**

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 19, 2018 for the 2018-19 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB 's website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Children who turn four or five years old during 2018, 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 is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

### **French Immersion Information Session and Registration**

Information session for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Fred Varley Public School on January 18, 2018 at 7 p.m. FI registration will begin January 19, 2018. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2018, and wishing to enrol in the FI 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. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to the designated FI program location to register between January 19 and February 9, 2018. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB 's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. Space requirements at some schools may mean that siblings are in different schools for primary dual track French Immersion programs due to differing grade structures. Like any of our schools across the Board, changes to school boundaries, and/or the accommodation model for the French Immersion program may need to be considered when new schools open, a school experiences enrolment growth, and program changes occur. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools.

More information is available on the Board 's website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

### **The 'Golden Garbage Can' Award**

Each month the Caretakers present this award to the class who keeps their classroom tidy and clean and shows proper waste management through the sorting of organics, recycling and garbage on a daily basis during the month. They present the 'Golden Garbage Can' award at the monthly Rocket Rally. The name of the class who wins each month is written on the can.

For the **month of November**, the 'Golden Garbage Can' award was presented to Ms. Chung's Grade 2/3 class.

**Congratulations!**





## Would you enjoy **Collaboratively** learning the Ontario curriculum through **the Arts?**

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an **Elementary Integrated Arts Program** at **Baythorn Public School**. If you are currently in grades **four or five** you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the **arts@baythorn** program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

**Thursday, January 18, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Applications will be available at **bit.ly/arts\_application2018**  
online after the January 18th, 2018 info night.

If you require further information, please call us at  
**Baythorn Public School**  
**(905) 889-7992**

Kate Kurek  
Principal

The Arts Team

Meytal Daniels  
Vice Principal

### **Winter Weather**

During the cold winter months, it is important that students come to school dressed for the weather conditions. This includes: boots, hats, scarves, snow pants, warm coats and mittens or gloves. We also encourage packing an extra pair of socks and pants in case they get wet. All students are expected to go out for every recess and lunch hour, weather permitting. We monitor the weather throughout the day, including temperature, wind chill, sun/cloud conditions and wind velocity. In extreme weather conditions, such as ice pellets or extremely high wind chill factors, we may decide to shorten recess breaks or keep students indoors.

Students with illnesses serious enough to prevent them from participating in recess or other outdoor activities should stay at home until their condition improves. This will also prevent the spread of illness to others.

### **Safety Awareness and Preparedness**

The York Region District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students. Throughout the course of the year, all schools in the York Region District School Board conduct emergency preparedness exercises. To date, we have already conducted three of six fire drills and one of our two practice Lockdown Drills. In advance of our first drill, we reviewed protocols during an emergency with all students so that they understand the purpose and know what to expect.





### UPCOMING DATES:

|                |                                                                                                                        |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dec. 13        | Grade 8 Day at Bill Hogarth S.S.                                                                                       |
| Dec. 20        | Holiday Concert—Gr. 1-8)<br>Daytime Performance 1:50 pm<br>Evening Performance 6:30 pm (repeat of Daytime Performance) |
| Dec. 21        | Kindergarten Holiday Concert—2:00 pm                                                                                   |
| Dec. 22        | Rocket Rally / Sing-Along                                                                                              |
| Dec. 25-Jan. 5 | Winter Break (No School)                                                                                               |
| Jan. 8         | Welcome Back to School for 2018                                                                                        |
| Jan. 15        | School Council Meeting, 7:00 pm                                                                                        |
| Jan. 18        | French Immersion Information Night, 7:00 pm (at Fred Varley P.S.)                                                      |
| Jan. 19        | PA Day (No School)                                                                                                     |
| Jan. 19        | JK Registration begins for the 2018/2019 School Year                                                                   |

**Have a safe and happy holiday season!**