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Character Matters!

Respect Honesty
Empathy Fairness
Initiative Courage
Integrity
Optimism
Perseverance
Responsibility



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From the Principal's Desk



I would like to say how proud I am to be the principal of such a wonderful school. Our students continue to be involved in many excellent programs in the classroom. These programs are due to the superb efforts of our dedicated staff, the participation by our students and the continuing support from you, the parents.

I would especially like to compliment the students on their excellent behavior when they are representing our school on field trips, and during school presentations. I have received many compliments on the students' participation, behaviour and cooperation. These are values and traits that our staff and students focus on in class and throughout the school. It is great to see the students demonstrating these traits in all areas of school life.

School Council We hope everyone is keeping warm!



School Council has been involved in a lot of events lately and we are providing hot chocolate and cookies at the upcoming Winter Fair. Lots of fun!

We are organizing a teacher and staff appreciation on Friday, May 22, 2015. If you are able to donate or bring in a lunch dish, please contact Eva Himanen at Himanen@rogers.com.

Our next School Council meeting is April 13, 2015 at 7pm in the staff room. Hope to see you there! (No meeting in March).

Have a great March break!

Be the Change



Thanks to your generous donations, the Be the Change team donated 462 pairs of shoes, which will be sent around the world to people in need. Also, in February, the Be the Change team worked with a group of grade 8 girls to sell gender equality/ Valentine's Day buttons. After expenses, the girls raised \$150, which will be matched by the Be the Change team, for a total of \$300. On top of that, the money is being donated to Plan Canada's "Because I am a Girl" campaign, who has corporate sponsors that match donations by four times the amount donated. This means that the Little Rouge community has provided Plan Canada with a total of \$1200! Great job everyone! For more information, or to donate more money to the "Because I am a Girl" campaign, go to <http://becauseiamagirl.ca>.

The BTC Team

Be the change you wish to see in the world Ghandhi

Curriculum Corner

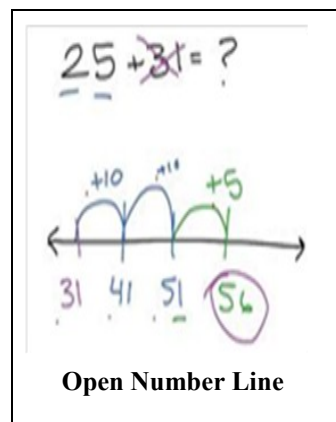
The Power of Manipulatives

In classrooms teachers and students use manipulatives to help learn and explain mathematical concepts. Manipulatives make thinking visible. They are any concrete material or object that allow students to explore an idea using a hands-on approach. Manipulatives provide students with a visual and concrete way to solve a problem. It allows them to manipulate objects and explore their ideas by making connections between concepts and symbols thus promoting their understanding. They can be used as a tool to solve problems and as models to represent students' thinking. Students can manipulate their objects to check the reliability of their answers by testing, revising and confirming their reasoning. In science we use experiments to deepen understanding and to provide a hands-on approach to learning. In real life an engineer or architect may build a model as a prototype to test their thinking.

We want our students to be confident mathematicians to explain their thinking accurately, effectively and efficiently. (A Guide to Effective Instruction in Mathematics-Volume 3)

How might I support my child with manipulatives at home?

- Manipulatives at home can include buttons, macaroni, pop can tabs, rocks, etc. Anything they can sort or count or use to represent their thinking.
- Make a quantity number line using coloured beads
 - e.g. 10 white, then 10 red, then 10 white, then 10 red
 - Kindergarten children up to 10; Grade 1 students up to 20; Grade 2 students up to 50; Grade 3 and up, beads to 100
- Use open number lines (lines where students represent the addition/subtraction/multiplication steps they used to calculate a final answer)
- When your child is working on math homework, ensure that materials are available for your child to use. Ask your child to use manipulatives to help show his/her thinking.



Empty Milk Bags

Room 132 is still collecting empty milk bags. These bags will be transformed into mats for the people in Haiti. Thank you to everyone who has been bringing bags in! Please keep those milk bags coming in! Drop them in the box in front of the office.



Lunch Assistant Positions

If you are interested in working as a Lunch Assistant to do occasional back-up, please contact the school office at 905-202-5960.

This is a paid position over our lunch hour which is from 12:50-1:50 pm.

Character Rocket Rally

February's character trait was Fairness. "We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights."

Congratulations to our Fairness winners!

Ms. Robinson	JK/SK:	Kaavya, Samana
Mrs. Smith	JK/SK:	Winnie, Isabelle
Mrs. Wilder	JK/SK:	Sarah, E.J.
Ms. West	JK/SK:	Eshal, Ivy
Mrs. Whitten	SK/1:	Harman, Yaser
Miss Nepriy	1:	Abdullah, Affaan
Ms. Murley	1:	Betty, Serene
Mr. Gafar	2:	Taryn, Ryan
Mr. Shubert	2:	Darren, Adi
Miss Tse	2/3:	Akshitha, Claudia
Mrs. Cohen	3:	Vnusha, Aryana
Ms. Ramkissoon	4:	Onis, Mona
Ms. Buczkowski	4/5:	Harleen, Ethan
Ms. McHardy	5:	Kayanan, Denis
Mrs. Pickthall	5/6:	Zayn, Kishani
Mr. Brown	6/7:	Sahana, Carlton
Mr. Yusuf	7:	Gopa, Anson
Ms. Zappitelli	8:	Ben, Jeff



In March, our focus is on Perseverance.

"We stick to a goal and work hard even in the face of obstacles and challenges. We complete all tasks and assignments."

From the Basketball Court....

The intermediate boys basketball team finished their season on February 18th at the Area Tournament, after practicing and playing in exhibition games since December. As the season went on, the boys improved on their basketball skills, communication on the court, and teamwork. Although they didn't win the Area Tournament, the boys showed a lot of heart and hustle throughout the tournament and finished on a winning note, beating Cornell Village Public School. The boys had fun throughout the season and represented the school well everywhere they went. Great job boys! Thanks to the parent volunteers for helping drive the team to and from the games.



Your Coach,
Mr. Brown

ECO NEWS!

As we head into March the Eco Team would like to remind all staff and students to please turn off your computer monitors when you are not using them! One easy push of a button can help us minimize our energy consumption. Try this at home too!



Members of the Eco Team have been busy making posters to hang around the school to remind all staff and students about our ongoing LOL initiative, and no that's not "Laugh Out Loud". Every Friday all classroom lights are turned off for "Lights Out Lunch" in an effort to conserve energy.

Congratulations to Ms. Murley's class, Mr. Shubert's class, and Ms. Valkanis's class. These are our three winners of the "Cleanest Classroom Award" so far. Winners of the award are chosen each week by the Eco Team based on how well garbage, recycling, and green bin items are sorted. Priority is given to those classes with the least amount of waste. Each weekly winner earns a ballot in the draw for a movie and popcorn at the end of the year!



Do you have any old electronics lying around the house?

Don't put them in the trash!

There is a box set up in the front hall to collect ink cartridges, cell phones and batteries to recycle. These items will be sent to the York Region Household Hazardous Waste Depot to be properly recycled. They will also accept:

- Televisions (limit of 2), Radios and Stereos (without speakers), Video Game Consoles, VCR's
- Computers and computer accessories (limit of 4), Electronic Games
- Scanners, Printers, Modems, Digital Cameras
- Telephones (mobile/cellular & "Hardwire"), Electronic Pagers, Fax Machines
- CDs & DVDs

Earth Hour



Earth Hour started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia when 2.2 million homes and businesses turned their lights off for one hour to make their stand against climate change. Only a year later and Earth Hour had become a global sustainability movement with more than 50 million people across 35 countries participating. Global landmarks such as the Sydney Harbour Bridge, The CN Tower in Toronto, The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, and

Rome's Coliseum, all stood in darkness, as symbols of hope for a cause that grows more urgent by the hour.

Earth Hour 2015 takes place on Saturday, March 28th at 8:30pm (local time) and is a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community throughout the world. It is a call to stand up, to take responsibility, to get involved and lead the way towards a sustainable future. Iconic buildings and landmarks from Europe to Asia to the Americas will stand in darkness.

Little Rouge will be powering down on Friday, March 27th from 2-3pm to do our part and reduce our Eco footprint.

Dress Warmly for Outdoor Play

As you know, our students are provided with nutrition breaks from 10:40-11:10 a.m. (recess) and 12:50-1:50 p.m. (lunch). Part of this break time is allocated for fresh air/exercise. It is important to the health and well-being of each student that they be able to release their energy through outdoor activity. Students need to come to school dressed to play outside during recesses (hat, scarf, gloves/mittens, boots, etc.).



It is advisable for children to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet. Being physically active during winter is an essential part of a healthy lifestyle. The school administration keeps a close eye on weather conditions, including wind chill. When conditions necessitate, students will remain inside for recess. When conditions allow, reduced outdoor recesses may take place. If a student is well enough to attend school, then he/she will be expected to go outside for recess.

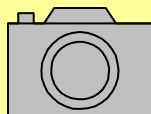
Kindergarten Registration for September 2015

Kindergarten Registration Commenced on January 16, 2015

Kindergarten registration commenced on January 16, 2015 for the 2015-16 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2015, 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 JK's and their parents will be held on Thursday, May 21st in the evening.** For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.



Grade 8 Graduation Photos are being taken on Wednesday, March 4th first thing in the morning. Girls are asked to wear white blouses and boys are asked to wear white shirts and a tie.



Backpack Alert

Parents, please take a few minutes to lift your child's backpack and check that it is not too heavy for him/her. Recently, there have been articles in magazines and newspapers about the injuries caused by young children carrying heavy backpacks to school each day. Prevent unnecessary back injuries – don't let them carry everything they own to school each day!



Attendance—Safe Arrival

Ensuring the safety of your children is our priority.
PLEASE REPORT ABSENCES DAILY.

Attendance is taken both in the morning and the afternoon each day. If you know your child will be absent, please call the office as soon as possible. You can leave a message after hours at: **905-202-5960.**

In the case where we do not hear from a parent and we have been unable to reach a parent to verify an absence, it is the policy of York District School Board to contact the Police and report the child as missing.

PETS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

A reminder to parents/guardians who walk their pets to school:

- All dogs must be on a leash and kept outside the school.
- Consider leaving your pets at home. Larger animals sometimes intimidate smaller children.
- Fenced in Kindergarten play areas are off limits to pets.
- All excrement must be removed by pet owners. Please help keep our property clean and healthy.

This does not apply to service animals.

(This information is from the YRDSB's Guide to the School Year.)

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.

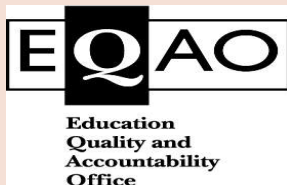
Please note: If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents in the morning will need to be picked up by parents at the end of the school day.

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 and by calling 1-877-330-3001.



Save The Dates: May 27—June 4

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 March 10th for our grades K – 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



Are You Moving?

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/s), will not be attending Little Rouge Public School
in September 2015.

We will be moving to : _____

(please provide name of new school, if known).

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

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' at the monthly Rocket Rally.

*For the month of February, the 'Golden Garbage Can' award was presented to **Mrs. Smith's JK/SK class!** Congratulations!*



Scholastic Book Fair - April 13-17

The Scholastic Spring Book Fair is back!



It will begin on Monday, April 13th and run until noon on Friday, April 17th. Students will be able to preview the Fair and make purchases with their classroom teachers during class time. Only students with money will be able to shop during recesses. For every book you purchase, funds go to our school to purchase new books for our library. Our goal is to sell 500 books which would put approximately 200 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!

**Student Council
is having a Spirit Day!**

Thurs. March 12th

PAJAMA DAY!

**Don't forget to wear
your pajamas!**

UPCOMING DATES:

Wed. Mar. 4	Grade 8 Graduation Photos
Thurs. Mar. 5	Clarkson Cup (grades 4 – 8), 10:00-2:30
Fri. Mar. 6	Winter Fair (grades K-8)
Tues. Mar. 10	Earth Rangers (grades K-6), 2 pm
Thurs. Mar. 12	Pajama Day!
Fri. Mar. 13	P.A. Day (NO SCHOOL)
Mon. Mar. 16 – Fri. Mar. 20	March Break (NO SCHOOL) - enjoy time with your family
Tues. Mar. 24	Fire Safety Visit (grade 2's)
Thurs. Apr. 2	March Rocket Rally—Perseverance, 2pm
Fri. Apr. 3 & Mon. Apr. 6	Good Friday and Easter Monday (NO SCHOOL)

**Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!**