



Mackenzie Glen Public School

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January 2014

Principal
Mr. B. Taha

Vice Principal
Mrs. O. Soroka

School Council Chairs
Mrs. P. Wood
Mrs. J. Shelton

Superintendent
of Schools
Ms. S. Logue
(905) 764-6830

Trustee
Mrs. A. Debartolo
(905) 898-9653

A message from Administration...

Happy New Year! A new year brings with it the excitement of a new start! We are excited to welcome everyone back after the winter break. We hope that it was restful and enjoyable for all our Mackenzie Glen families.

Many people mark the new year by making new year resolutions because it is a time of renewal. The York Region District School Board has gone through a renewal process as well and introduced a new Mission, Vision and Values statement and slogan.

Our Board's Mission:

To advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community.

Our Board's Vision:

To be a leader in public education by empowering all students to become engaged and caring citizens of the world.

Our Board's Values:

Inclusivity, Relationships, Innovation, Engagement, Responsibility, Optimism.

Our Board's slogan:

Inspire learning!

This renewed and refreshed rebranding of our School Board is a result of consultation with many stakeholders from across the system. Thank you to all who participated. Stay tuned for the official launch of our new Mission, Vision, Values and Slogan later this month! We look forward to continuing to bring these words to life at Mackenzie Glen PS.

Wishing you a fantastic 2014 filled with health, happiness and success!

Sincerely,

Mr. B. Taha
Principal

Mrs. O. Soroka
Vice Principal

PA DAY

There will be
No School
for students on
Friday,
January 17,
2014

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday,
January 22nd

7:00 pm
Library

Thank you for your generosity!

The Student Involvement Team (SIT) contributed a cheque for
\$1 500.00
to CMAT Canadian Medical Assistance Team. The money will be used to provide aid to the people of the Philippines who were recently affected by a devastating typhoon.

IMPORTANT: Locking of the Front Doors

Last December, the Government of Ontario announced funding to support elementary schools to lock their front doors during the school day.

All elementary schools are being equipped with front door cameras, monitors, intercoms and buzzer locking systems.

Beginning **Monday, February 3, 2014**, elementary school doors will be locked at 8:30 am—15 minutes after the school bell rings in the morning and will stay locked for the remainder of the school day. All visitors, including parents/guardians, will be required to use the buzzer at the front door and to sign in at the main office.

Our schools are safe places and safety continues to be our top priority. We have a number of safety measures already in place. Locking doors during the school day is one additional step the Board is taking to support student and staff safety.

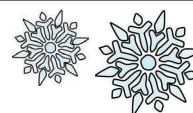
Our schools will continue to be welcoming and inclusive places where parents and community members have an important role to play as a vital part of the school community.

Please ensure that your child arrives on time. Also, anyone dropping off a lunch will have to wait to be buzzed in after 8:30 am. Please plan accordingly to eliminate unnecessary disruptions to your child's instructional day.

A reminder to families whose children attend the before and after school care program, please use the new procedure to drop off and pick up through the back kindergarten doors.

We appreciate your patience during the implementation of this new security measure.

Colder Weather



A reminder to please be sure to dress your child for the cooler temperatures.

All our students will be expected to be outside before, during and after school in all weather conditions. Students need to come to school dressed to play outside during recesses. Boots (for rain or snow), jackets, hats, mitts, scarves and snow pants will help make recess an enjoyable time. It is advisable for children to keep extra pants and socks at school in case they get wet. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found Bin, please be sure to label all articles of clothing.

The York Region District School board advises the following:

- Students with health concerns, such as, but not limited to, heavy colds, coughs and flu, which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until the condition improves.
- Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors after lunch (40 minutes).
- When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 20 degrees Celsius, we will consider an indoor routine for recess/events.
- When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 18-19 degrees Celsius, we will consider a shortened outdoor routine for recess/events.

Kindergarten Registration

Little Children...Big Step

Unique, experimental, capable, creative—eager to learn and make friends. The best you have to send us—your child—deserves the best education program possible. In York Region, that means attending a YRDSB kindergarten program.

Documents required for registration include:

- Proof of child's age—birth certificate or passport
- Proof of residency (both parent and child), TWO documents, one from each of the categories below showing the home address (originals only):

Category A:

Notice of tax assessment, current rental/lease agreement, agreement to purchase including proof of purchase provided before the pupil attends the school, or property tax bill

Category B:

Utility bill, driver's license, bank statement or other official document.

Children born in 2010 are eligible for junior kindergarten in September 2014. Children born in 2009 and not currently attending public school are eligible for senior kindergarten in September 2014. At Mackenzie Glen PS, we are pleased to be offering Full Day Kindergarten.

Registration begins on Friday, January 17, 2014.

Grade 8 Families...

A reminder for all grade 8 parents that there will be an information session for all prospective students and their families on **Thursday, January 9, 2014** at

Maple High School

50 Springside Road, Maple, L6A 2W5

at 7:00 pm

PUNCTUALITY

A reminder that our day begins at 8:15 am.

Supervision begins at 8:00 am.

Late arrivals disrupt learning for all students in the classroom.

Please be on time for school.

Spirit Day Team/Jersey Day

Wednesday, January 29th



Students are encouraged to wear clothing/colours related to their favourite team.

Parent Presentation

Child and Youth

Health and Well-Being

What? FREE Informative Workshop for Parents and Caregivers

Why? Parents will increase their knowledge and understanding about:

- The early signs and symptoms of mental health
- The causes, impact and risk factors
- How to respond effectively to support your child

When? Wednesday January 15, 2014
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Where? Ventura Park Public School
121 Worth Blvd., Thorn hill, L4J 7V5

To Register: Oksana Majaski, Community Resource Facilitator
@ 905-738-5497 ext. 213 or Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Childcare available upon request

This presentation is brought to you in partnership with Blue Hills Child and Family Centre and Ventura Park Public School.

Through learning and sharing parents will become active partners in our schools.

blue hills
CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE



Character Corner: Fairness

The Character Matters trait for the month of January is Fairness. Fairness is an important trait that is quickly learned by our students.

It's not fair! We've all said it at one time or another and some children say it a lot. Fairness is treating people the way you would like to be treated.

What is Fairness?

- Equal treatment of the behaviour and viewpoints of others
- Practising justice, equity, and equality
- Recognizing the uniqueness and value of each individual within our diverse society
- Playing by the rules
- Taking turns
- Treating people without favouritism
- Being open-minded
- Listening to others

What does fairness look like/sound like?

- Recognizing the uniqueness and value of each person within our diverse society
- Playing by the rules and not changing the rules to benefit ourselves
- Taking turns when playing a game or a sport and giving each person a chance to play
- Sharing our resources so that everyone has access to them
- Treating each person with respect and dignity
- Recognizing our personal biases and prejudices and not letting them influence how we treat other people
- Considering all points of view before making a decision
- Listening to others without judgment
- Making efforts to compromise when there is a disagreement
- Giving someone a second chance when he or she makes a mistake and that person learn from his or her mistakes

"This is the sum of duty: Do not do to other's what would cause pain if done to you."

Mahabharata 5:1517

French Immersion

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at

J. A. Gibson PS

50 Naylor Street, Maple, Ontario, L6A 1R8

on **January 16, 2014 at 7 p.m.**

FI registration will begin January 17, 2014. In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2014, and wishing to enroll 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 JA Gibson PS to register between January 17 and February 14, 2014. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

Please note that French Immersion is only open to students currently in senior kindergarten.

Volunteers Needed for our Breakfast Program

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday mornings from 7:30—8:00 am.

Please contact the office if you are interested.



Giving Assembly: "Giving a Little Bit"

This December, Mackenzie Glen had an amazing assembly focused on giving. We highlighted our accomplishments like "Fill It For The Philippines", in response to the typhoon in the Philippines. Mackenzie Glen also participated in the York Region Police campaign called The Holiday Heroes, where the Grade 2 classes started a food, clothing and toiletries drive to give to people in need. We had a beautiful performance of "We Are the World" lead by the Grade 3's and 4's, to really show the idea of giving to one another. In addition, students and staff were asked what giving means to them in a short video. This video showcased the different points of view of our community and what giving is truly about.

This assembly was a huge success and it was a learning experience for students and staff because everyone got to see the true spirit of giving. We are inspired to continue to give not just at the holiday season, but throughout our lives.

Written by Tiffany T.
Student Involvement Team



Literacy Night

On Thursday, December 5th, students and their families were invited to a drop-in style literacy night. Families of students in the primary grades were shown how to effectively engage their child in reading a book. Our junior families were shown how to access effective resources online, use flipbook, incorporate a wide variety of non-conventional texts. Thank you to all the families who supported this event!



Mr. Aulakh and Ms. Knez show families how to access news online.



Primary students and their families snuggle up and read.

JANUARY 2014

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| <div style="position: relative; height: 100px;"> Winter Break Winter Break </div> | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>Birth of Guru Gobind Singh Ji</i> |
| 5 | 6 <i>School Resumes Epiphany</i> | 7 ♦ <i>Christmas (Eastern)</i> | 8 | 9 <i>Maple HS Information Night</i> | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 <i>Gr. 6 Scientists in the School Mawlid-un-Nabi Maghi</i> | 14 <i>Makar Sankranti</i> | 15 <i>Grade 8 course selection</i> | 16 <i>French Immersion Information Night</i> | 17 <i>JK Registration begins PA Day—No School</i> | 18 <i>Epiphany (Eastern)</i> |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 <i>School Council Meeting 7:00 pm</i> | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 <i>Team/Jersey Day</i> | 30 | 31 ♦ <i>Lunar New Year</i> | |

Upcoming Dates

| February | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 3 | Front Door Buzzer System Begins |
| 12 | Term 1 Report Cards Sent Home |
| 17 | Family Day— <i>No School</i> |
| March | |
| 7 | PA Day— <i>No School</i> |
| 10-14 | March Break |

To report your child's absence, please call our attendance line

(905) 417-9771

Leave a message at any time!



Follow us on Twitter:

@MackenzieGlenPS

