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Dennis Rossi

Vice-Principal  
Orlie Soroka

Head Secretary  
Anne Kaufmann

Secretary A  
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## FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear Families,

Over the past few months, we have set the ball rolling in the right direction! Students and staff have been extremely engaged in the learning process, as evident by the enthusiasm and participation of our students in all curricular areas. Through inquiry and higher-order problem-solving opportunities, students have been engaged in authentic, real-world tasks that engage their background knowledge and thinking in new and innovative ways. In addition to a strong academic focus here at Michael Cranny, students have had the opportunity to participate in athletics, the arts and technology in a variety of ways. Students are becoming proficient in planning and collaborating using shared, collaborative online spaces, allowing them to develop their questioning and reflective skills alongside their peers, while receiving ongoing support feedback from their teachers. Developing a growth mindset towards persevering and achieving goals has been a school focus as we learn more about the capacity of our brains to continue to grow and get stronger, like every other muscle in our body!

In the month of November, we paid tribute to our heroes on Remembrance Day, we learned about friendship and supporting our peers during Bullying Awareness month, and we began thinking about our local impact, by planning our upcoming Holiday Heroes food drive and Mental Health Awareness Week to support Covenant House. As well, students had an opportunity to visit our Book Fair and peruse new and exciting titles.

In the new year, we look forward to continuing our positive climates focus by continuing to build our students' awareness around inclusivity and equity. We are especially excited to launch our Best Buddies program, to promote peer-ship and friendship amongst all of our students.

As we begin a new year, and reflect upon the year passing by, we want you to know how proud we are of our students and the individual gains each has made. We look forward to continuing to work together with the Michael Cranny community towards achieving our school goals and wish all of our families and community members a safe and happy holiday!

Dennis Rossi  
Principal

Orlie Soroka  
Vice-Principal

## Parent Information

### Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 15, 2016

Kindergarten registration will begin at our school on January 15, 2016 for the 2016-17 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Or, you can attain a copy at the school once registration begins.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2016, 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 who have registered a student is being planned for May 2016. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact our school office.

### French Immersion Information Sessions and Registration for students who are currently in Senior Kindergarten

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on **January 14, 2016 at 7 p.m.**

Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2016 (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/Pages/Program-Locations.aspx>) to find the FI program location for your elementary school location. FI registration will begin January 15, 2016.

Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2016, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, should:

- 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.
- take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to the designated FI program location to register between January 15 and February 12, 2016. 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. 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.

### School Council

Join us for school council next month on  
**Wednesday, January 13th at 7:15pm**  
in the library.



## Parent Information



Student Transportation Services of York Region

320 Bloomington Road West

Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1

905-713-2535

FAX: 905-713-2533

Web site: [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

### School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

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

590 AM 640 AM 680 AM 860 AM 1010 AM 1050 AM

1540 AM 1580 AM 88.5 FM 89.9 FM 92.5 FM 93.1 FM

94.9 FM 95.9 FM 97.3 FM 98.1 FM 99.1 FM 99.9 FM

101.1 FM 102.1 FM 104.5 FM 100.7 FM 107.1 FM

#### TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

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

## Parent Information

### School Cash Online Payments are Here!

Our school will be accepting online payments through School Cash Online. School related expenses such as hot lunches, field trips and fundraisers will be online for you to make payments. Please review the instruction page that will be coming home with your child this week, and register for this service on our school's website.



**FREE**

Mackenzie Glen School Council  
INVITES YOU TO A

## **PRESENTATION for PARENTS**

### *Talking Math with your Kids*



**December 10, 2015**

**7:00-8:30 pm**

**Mackenzie Glen P.S.**

**575 Melville Ave. Maple, ON**

- *FREE Child Care available*
- *Light Refreshments*



#### **AMY LIN**

This presentation will help parents see how mathematics teaching has and has not changed – and why and what has changed. Ideas and strategies will be provided to use with your children at home that will encourage math talks, promote thinking skills and help develop positive attitudes towards mathematics.



***This FREE presentation has been funded through the Ontario Ministry of Education's Parents Reaching Out Grant.***



## Positive Climates for Learning

### Inclusion and Acceptance at Michael Cranny

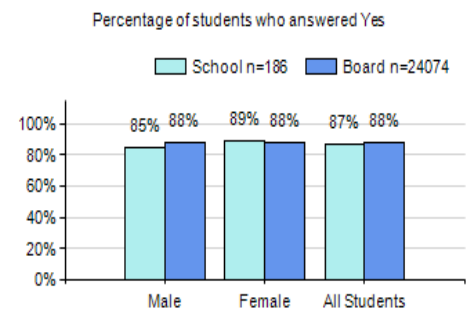
#### Bullying Awareness

During the month of December, students were involved in Anti-Bullying activities to help promote awareness around the roles we can take to help support our peers in positive ways. Along with the Grade 3, 6 and 7 ongoing Values, Influences and Peers (VIP) program held annually with our York Region Police partners, students had the opportunity to hear daily announcements about the types of bullying, and ways to “be a friend” when someone is feeling alone or left out.

Coby the magician came to our school to do two performances related to bullying. While “wowing” the students with his magic and illusions, Coby sent the message that we are all different, but the same inside, and that saying sorry doesn’t always fix things right away. Ensuring we are kind and respectful to others is the “magic” that will help stop bullying.

Our grade 6-8 students also participated in an electronic, anonymous Bully Survey, to help us capture information about the types of bullying and the location and occurrences of bullying, that might be happening at our school. As well, a student focus group helped to analyze the results of our student school climate survey that was initiated by the Board in the Spring of 2015. Student input is so crucial as it provides their perspectives around our school climate. Our Positive Climates for Learning Team will look closely at this data and set goals for ensuring an even safer and welcoming environment here at Michael Cranny. Here is one example of the data found at Michael Cranny.

106. If you were bullied/harassed or saw someone being bullied/harassed, would you know how to report it at your school?



#### Celebrating our Diversity



The students from Ms. Evangelho’s class learned about Diwali, Channukah and Christmas this past month and are continuing to learn about different celebrations. Look closely to see the beautiful Henna Hands captured in the picture. Each one of us is unique in our skills, personality and background. Celebrating that diversity is what makes the Michael Cranny community so special!

*We Are United in our goal to build an environment that is equitable, inclusive, safe, supportive, respectful and caring!*

## Positive Climates for Learning

### Outstanding Office Staff!

We are so fortunate to have the most amazing “A” team at Michael Cranny. We would like to thank **Anne Kaufmann** and **Anna Cristinziano** for their ongoing dedication and support. Each day, Ms. Kaufmann and Ms. Cristinziano greet our students and families with a smile; answering questions, confirming information and ensuring that everything runs smoothly on an administrative level. Each day, they ensure that all students have arrived safely and care for our students throughout the day with bandaids, ice and smiles! As well, Ms. Kaufmann and Ms. Cristinziano, along with Ms. Lennox, organize and support our Healthy Schools initiative by providing snacks for every student in the school twice a week! Thank you “A” team, for all that you do!



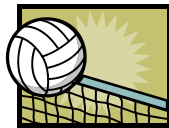
### Halloween Hunger Help

Our Halloween food drive was a huge success! A big thank you goes to our students and parents for doing your share to help our local Vaughan food bank. We collected many bags full of non-perishable food items to help support families in our local community. Way to go Cranny!

### Cranny Cobras Volleyball Season

Volleyball season has been going strong with practices taking place over the month of November. Both teams have demonstrated hard work and dedication to the sport and are looking forward to the Area tournaments scheduled during the first week of December. If successful, teams will move to the areas and possibly the regionals mid-December.

Junior mixed volleyball for students in grades 4 to 6 have launched their season with tryouts over the last week of November and beginning of December. This is an exciting opportunity for students to be involved in an extra-curricular team at the Junior age level. Good luck!



### December’s Eco-Theme: Reduce your footprint!

Look around the school and your home for opportunities to adopt new energy and water saving habits. As well, recycle, travel sustainably and be conscious of what you purchase. Avoiding waste will help us to reduce our environmental footprint for generations to come!



**Let’s do our part Cranny!**

### “Velkommen” International Visitors

On November 17th, we opened our doors to a group of administrators from Denmark! Our visitors had the opportunity to meet with some of the staff and to visit all of our classrooms to learn about schools in York Region and Ontario. The visitors spoke with some of our students and asked them about their learning. The group was so impressed with the caring and welcoming environment, and with the students’ excitement as they demonstrated their learning. Our Superintendent of Schools, Paul Valle, also participated in the visit and provided input around our school board. Thank you to our students and staff for demonstrating Cranny hospitality!



## Positive Climates for Learning

### Michael Cranny Reaches Out to our Local Community

#### Be a Holiday Hero!

December 7th - 10th, 2015

#### We will be collecting: Non-Perishable Food items: (cans, jars, dry, boxed...)

The 2015 holiday season is just around the corner and we look forward to your participation in this year's Holiday Heroes campaign.

Since the launch of the campaign in 2008, York Regional Police has raised more than \$1 million in monetary donations, new toys, new children's clothing and food. As always, all donations raised in York Region, stay in York Region! 100% of donations directly support the children from our community who are in need. These goals have been reached with the help of our school community here at Michael Cranny ES.



#### Mental Health Awareness Week

In support of Covenant House

Monday, November 30th to Friday, December 4, 2015

Every year Michael Cranny extends a helping hand to various organizations around the GTA. This year, we are celebrating and supporting the amazing work done by **Covenant House**. Covenant House is Canada's largest homeless youth agency that provides youth with a place to stay and provides counselling, health care, employment assistance, job training and crisis intervention to youth between the ages of 16 to 24. In order to support this organization, we are holding a "**Get Rid of your Loose Change**". From November 30th to December 4th, we will be asking students to bring in their loose change. We will be accepting nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies.

#### SPIRIT WEEK EVENTS

Monday Nov 30	Tuesday Dec 1	Wednesday Dec 2	Thursday Dec 3	Friday Dec 4
Fandom Day	Crazy Sock & Hat Day	Pajama Day	Plaid & Stripes Day	Toronto/Canada Day
Bring your Nickles	Bring your Dimes	Bring your Quarters	Bring your Loonies	Bring your Toonies

In addition we will be hosting 2 popcorn days, **Dec 11** and **Dec 18**, where a portion of the sales will go to support this charity.

Thank you Michael Cranny for demonstrating your school spirit and supporting this great cause!



# December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Mental Health Awareness Spirit Week (see page 7) Int. Boys Volleyball Areas	2 Int. Girls Volleyball Areas 	3 Grade 7&8's to Maple High Band Presentation	4	5	
6	7 Holiday Heroes Food Drive (see page 7)	8 	9	10 Maple High Info Night 7pm	11 	12
13	14	15 	16 Covenant House Presentation Gr 7-8	17 Covenant House Presentation Gr 7-8	18 	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Winter Holidays						
27	28	29	30	31		
Winter Holidays						

## Coming in January...

Jan 4 - School Resumes

Jan 13 - School Council

Jan 15 - PA Day

## Will your child be late or absent?

Be sure to call the school before 8:10 a.m. to let us know.

You can also leave a message anytime at  
(905) 832-4922



in the attendance mailbox.

Follow Us @michaelcrannys

