



# MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Superintendent: Karen Friedman  
 Trustee: Carol Chan



Principal: Clelia Della-Rovere  
 Vice-Principal: Jennifer Anderson

## Message from the Principal

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We would like to extend our best wishes to everyone in the MJPS community for a wonderful, prosperous and healthy 2014. With the New Year comes a new beginning for us all. As we look back on 2013, it is a good time to reflect on our goals to celebrate our successes and to review our commitment to excellence. New hope, new goals and new expectations are always a part of a resolution that many of us make. Students should be included – encouraged – to set academic and social goals for themselves. Setting high expectations is part of this process, but the expectations must be achievable. We can also take the time to reflect on the past to help us to move forward. We would like to wish each and every one of you the very best for 2014.

## Fifth Annual Haiti Fundraiser

This is a time of great excitement for all of our students. This year, we will be organizing a Red and White themed Dance-a-thon on February 13 as part of our annual fundraising for Haiti. Michèle Jean P.S. is proud of their continued involvement in supporting the people of Haiti. The impoverished infrastructure in Haiti has made it very difficult for the victims of the earthquake in January 2010 to recover. The families and students of Michèle Jean P.S. are proud to continue supporting the country of origin of our former Governor General, Michèle Jean. The money we raise from our Dance-a-thon will be donated to the **Schools for Children of the World Canada (SCW)**, and will go a long way toward helping those in need in Haiti and in building schools for the children. To date we have supported the building of elementary and secondary schools in Haiti. We have been so successful in the past years raising funds to build schools in Haiti. We are pleased to announce that our school is the only school, among many businesses and organizations, to receive the **Patron of Schools for the Children of the World Recognition**. This is possible as a result of all the help we receive from our families who continue supporting this worthy cause. We are very proud of this accomplishment.



On January 24, we will have our kick off assembly where representatives of **SCW** will come to present to our students. Each student will receive a pledge form to collect pledges for the dance-a-thon which will take place on February 13. All money raised will be donated to SCW. There will be prizes and give-aways during the dance. Each child will receive a free cookie and juice to thank them for their participation in the fundraiser. More information and times for Dance-a-thon will be forthcoming.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

During the month of December, our school community was involved in several community outreach initiatives to support both local and global needs. For our food and toiletries drive, we collected over 64 boxes to give to local food banks. Our boxes filled an entire school bus! To support the victims and families of the typhoon in the Philippines, our school raised over \$1700.00 which was donated to the Canadian Medical Assistance Teams. Those of you who made donations of over \$20.00 will receive a tax receipt from CMAT. Finally, we raised over \$900.00 for the United Way which supports families in York Region. Many thanks to our staff who came together to create 16 wonderful gingerbread houses which were raffled off for this fundraiser. Once again, we appreciate how our school community rallies together to help those in times of need.

**Report Cards**

On February 12, your child will be bringing home their Report Card. This report will communicate how well students have achieved the overall curriculum expectations for each subject and how they have developed the learning skills and work habits. Although there are no formal interviews scheduled as these took place in November, you can always contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

**French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations**

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Michaëlle Jean P.S. 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 currently attending a YRDSB school and entering Grade 1 in September 2014, who are wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call the current 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 Michaëlle Jean P.S. to register between January 17 and February 14, 2014. 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.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.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.

**Locked School Doors**

Beginning February 3, all school doors, including the front doors and doors to portables, will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell. The doors will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone arriving at the school after that time must buzz in and sign in at the main office.

Measures will also be put in place for parents/guardians to buzz in and pick up students participating in before and after school programs. More detailed information will be available in January. Measures will also be put in place to lock port-a-pack doors.

Our school continues to be a safe place where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.

**Spoons and Forks**

Parents, please remember to pack a spoon or a fork in your child's lunch as we do not provide cutlery.

Thank you



**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

**Visitors Must Sign In**



For the safety of all our students and in accordance with the School Board's Safe Schools Policy, all parents must check in at the office. This includes when volunteering for the lunch programs.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

**P.A. DAY**

January 17, 2014



**Carnaval News**

Mark Your Calendars

February 10—14



**IMPORTANT BUS CANCELLATION INFORMATION**

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 bussing 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 will only be made after thorough consultation with school bus companies servicing York Region.

Please access local media outlets after 6:00 a.m. to receive cancellation information.. A bus cancellation message will also be available at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001.

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

# A Picture Says A Thousand Words !!

## MJPS Winter Concert



## BAPS musicians visit MJPS

## United Way and Food Drive

