

April 2017



Michaëlle Jean P.S.

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Principal

Nadia Russiello

Superintendent

Michael Cohen

Vice Principal

Jean Rudman

Trustee

Carol Chan

From the Administrative Team:

With the snow slowly melting and the longer days, we begin to see the signs of spring. Now that the nicer weather is on its way, we need to be aware of the puddles and the mud in our schoolyard as the ground defrosts. Our students love playing outside and enjoy the yard. When students enter their classroom, it is important to change into indoor shoes to avoid tracking mud and grass inside. Please ensure your child has a pair of indoor shoes for this purpose. Also, students should have a change of clothes at school, especially an extra pair of socks, for the days when the field is wet and puddles beckon and accidents occur.



Please continue to work with your child(ren) to reflect upon their academic and learning skills achievement so far and develop goals for what they would like to accomplish for the remainder of this term. An essential element to student success and learning is the home-school connection. Ongoing communication is one way in which parents can help support their child's learning at home. This may take the form of regular agenda checks, reading at home, assistance with homework and staying in touch with your child's teachers.

We continue to deal with challenges in our front bus loop and on the road at morning entry. Arriving a little earlier to beat the rush of 8:00 a.m. or having your child ride the school bus to school are some suggestions to avoid traffic altogether. Also, we would like to remind you that cars should not be parked in the bus loop or bus loading zone at the end of the day. We ask that you follow the rules of the road and of our school parking lot to make this situation safer and more comfortable for everyone.

We are excited to launch a Snack Program at MJPS. Starting Wednesday, April 5, students who have forgotten a snack or are just plain hungry may come to the office to pick up an apple, no questions asked.

With mixed emotion, we inform you that Ms. Hijazi's last day at our school is May 1st. We wish her and her family well as they settle in London, Ontario. You will be missed, Ms. Hijazi.

N. Russiello

J. Rudman

Our Vision

At Michaëlle Jean P.S., we begin to lay the foundation to prepare our students to become lifelong learners as they learn to effectively communicate in French. We promote an environment of cooperation, and encourage problem solving, independence and risk-taking. We demonstrate respect for each other through our thoughts, actions and words. We are responsible for our learning and our behaviour and strive to be positive in our outlook and our interaction with others. It is through our individual and collective efforts that we achieve a vibrant learning community.

EQAO Assessment Dates

May 29, May 30, June 1, and June 2 have been selected for our Grade 3 students to complete the EQAO assessment. Michaëlle Jean PS staff members will be administering the assessment throughout this period.

We ask that parents of these students ensure that the testing period is free of appointments. This will enable us to gather a complete set of data for each child.



THE CANDY DASH

CANDY: EVERYONE LOVES IT!

Saturday June 24, 2017
North Thornhill Woods
Community Centre:
300 Pleasant Ridge Ave
Thornhill, ON, L4J 9B3

5km Walk
2km Toddler Trot

REGISTER TODAY!

Help raise funds to support families dealing with life threatening illnesses!

For More Info: shinethroughtherain.ca/candy-dash-2017

Registration Opens: 7:00am
Walk Begins: 8:30am
Toddler Trot: 9:00am
Event Awards: 10:00am

Early Bird Registration: \$35 (Ends May 3rd)
General Registration: \$40 (May 4th - June 22nd)
Race Day Registration: \$45
No fees for children under 6

Minimum \$50 in pledges to receive a medal and a t-shirt

Shine Through the Rain Foundation

187-16 Bono Park Dr.
Markham, ON L3R 5X1

Phone: 905-477-7743
Toll Free: 1-866-753-0303
Fax: 905-477-4351
Email: events@shinethroughtherain.ca
shinethroughtherain.ca

f t i in

Charity Registration #9118 105 900391

York Region District School Board School Climate Survey for Parents

YRDSB School Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians will be conducted from May 1 to May 19, 2017. The survey will be available online in English. Paper copies MAY be made available in English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Sri Lankan Tamil, Urdu, and Vietnamese by request to Mme Rudman before April 3 through email:

michaëlle.jean.ps@yrdsb.ca.

Character Awards Recipients for March 2017

Teacher	Recipient	Teacher	Recipient
Bernard	Beth, Niki	Afonina	Nematollahi, Darya, Ruan, Wendy
Collin	Kenan, Jasmine	Ryan	Donya, Robbie, Ellie
Karchevskaya	Lucas O., Chloe	Barr	Lorne, Alex
Lee	Rosie, Nicole	Bessette	Adam, Sasha
Manarin	Eastton, Bianca	Darvish	Ike, Kian
Prabakaran	Gabriella, Darian	Griffiths	Rishi, Rehan
Bawab	Evelyn, Emily	Messeroux	Huda, Alvin
Brown	Shayan, Sephora	Mohamed	Isabel, Michael
Kamyab	Nour, Naomi	Safar	Matin, Hilda
Marjanovic	Angus, Katie	Yum	Darya, Hassan
Tajahmady	Iva, Elspeth	Mnknjian	Ellena, Carrie
Yau	Lyncoln, Bradly	Kim	Selina, Ilene

Responsibility will be the focus in April.

Celebrate Canada 150! Free 2017 Discovery Pass admission is here!



FREE PARKS CANADA DISCOVERY PASS The 2017 Discovery Pass will provide free admission for the entire year to Parks Canada places from coast to coast to coast. Expires December 31st, 2017. Please feel free to share with your community.

Haiti Fundraiser



At MJPS we are proud of our continued involvement and support of the Schools for Children of the World Canada (SCW). MJPS started this tradition to support the impoverished infrastructure in Haiti (the country of origin of our former Governor General, Michaëlle Jean) which made it very difficult for the victims of the earthquake in January 2010 to recover.

Over the years, MJPS has raised money that was donated to support projects in Haiti, Honduras and Ecuador. We will be continuing this tradition and the money we raise from our Dance-a-thon on April 28th will be donated to the Schools for Children of the World Canada, and will go a long way toward helping those in need. Another fundraising effort will be cookie sales the month of April. This year we will once again support a project in Honduras. More information will be forthcoming.

Thank you for your support.

Are you moving before next September?

If so, please let us know as soon as possible.

We are currently projecting our student enrolment for September 2017.

These numbers help us hire sufficient staff and support personnel. It is important that we know as soon as possible whether you may be leaving the Michaëlle Jean community before September.

Thanks for your assistance in preparing for the next school year.

Please call our office with any information: 905-770-6507.



April 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Sports Sampler at Lunch Wear Blue day (Autism Awareness Day)	4 Yoga at Lunch	5 Bricks 4 Kidz at Lunch School Council meeting postponed (further info will	6 Karate Kids at Lunch	7 Pizza Lunch	8
9	10 Sports Sampler at Lunch Directors' Cut	11 PESACH	12 Bricks 4 Kidz at Lunch Haiti Fundraiser Kick off	13 Karate Kids at Lunch VAISAKHI	14 GOOD FRIDAY HOLY FRIDAY	15
16	17 EASTER MONDAY	18 Directors' Cut	19 Bricks 4 Kidz at Lunch Directors' Cut	20 Karate Kids at Lunch RIDVAN	21 Pizza Lunch Book Fair Directors' Cut	22
23	24 Book Fair Directors' Cut	25 Book Fair Directors' Cut	26 Book Fair Crazy hat Day	27 Book Fair Karate Kids at Lunch Velveteen Rabbit performance	28 Book Fair Haiti Fundraiser Dance-A-Thon Character Matters	29
30						

HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

BAHA'I FAITH

April 20 ♦: **Ridvan** Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith, declared his mission as the most recent messenger of God. Baha'is observe the first, ninth and twelfth days of this period. The actual event occurred in a garden, called Ridvan (Paradise) in Baghdad, Iraq in 1863 C.E. Work and academic studies are suspended on this day.

BUDDHISM

April 13/14: **Saka** (New Year's Day). This is New Year's Day according to the Saka calendar. This day is both a religious and cultural celebration.

CHRISTIANITY

April 9: **Palm Sunday**, the Sunday before Easter, the beginning of the Holy Week celebrating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. (Western Calendar)

April 9: **Palm Sunday**, the Sunday before Easter (Eastern Calendar).

April 13: **Maundy Thursday**

(Holy Thursday) is the commemoration of the institution of the Lord's Supper (Western Calendar).

April 14♦: **Good Friday** commemorates Jesus' death by crucifixion (Western Calendar).

April 14♦: **Holy Friday** (Eastern) commemorates the passion of Jesus Christ, i.e. his submission to death by crucifixion. The Eastern churches focus on his burial.

April 16: **Easter Sunday** celebrates the resurrection of Christ. It is the most important festival in the Christian year (Western Calendar).

April 16: **Easter Sunday** in the Orthodox churches. The church calendar year begins with Pascha (Eastern Calendar).

HINDUISM

April 5: **Ramanavami** On this day Lord Rama the 7th incarnation of Lord Vishnu is said to have been born.

April 13: **Chaitra/Chithirai New Year** The first day of the Solar year is an agricultural festival celebrating the harvest. This day is also celebrated as the Tamil New Year, Varusha Pirappu, Vishu, Ugadi, Rongali Bihu and Naba Barsha.

ISLAM

April 24: **Miraj-un-Nabi** commemorates Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) famous night journey (al-Isra) from Mecca to Jerusalem and his subsequent ascension (al-Miraj) to paradise.

JAINISM

April 8: **Mahavir Jayanti** is the celebration of the birthday of Lord Mahavira (meaning the Great Hero) of Jina (the Conqueror).

JUDAISM

April 11 – 18 (April 11)♦: **Pesach** (Passover) is a "Festival of Freedom" that commemorates the exodus of the Jews from slavery in Egypt. Symbolic foods, such as matzo, are eaten and leavened products are prohibited. First Seder is on the evening of

April 10th. The second and last two days of Pesach are also observed as full holy days by Jews.

SIKHISM

April 13♦: **Vaisakhi**. This day celebrates the founding of the Khalsa order (Sikh religion) in 1699 C.E. by Guru Gobind Singh Ji. Many Sikhs choose to be baptized into the Khalsa Panth (Brotherhood of the Pure) on this day. Also on this day, male Khalsa Sikhs are named Singh (lion), female Khalsa Sikhs are named Kaur (princess). It is the most important holy day of the year for Sikhs.

♦ Conferences, meetings, workshops, exams, field trips, etc. are not to be scheduled on these dates.