

Dec. 2018/Jan. 2019

The Info @ Michaëlle Jean P.S.



Website: <http://www.michaëllejean.ps.yrdsb.ca>

Email: michaëlle.jean.ps@yrdsb.ca

Principal: Nora Mazlounian

Michaëlle Jean P.S.

Superintendent: Michael Cohen

320 Shirley Dr.

905-884-4477

Admin. Support: Karen Gaston

Richmond Hill, Ontario L4S2P1

Karen Cizmar

Phone: 905-770-6507

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Upcoming Dates

Dec. 6	School Council 7 p.m.
Dec.10-13	Book Fair
Dec. 13	MJPS Winter Concert 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 14	BAPS concert at MJPS
Dec. 19	Character Assembly
Dec.24-Jan.4	Winter Break
Jan. 7	First Day Back to School
Jan. 17	Grade 1 FI Info Night @ MJPS 7 p.m.
Jan. 18	Gr 1 FI Registrations begin
Jan. 18	PA Day - No school



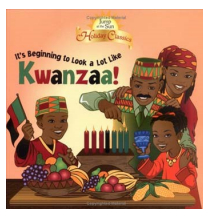
Message from your Administrator

It is hard to believe that the cold weather is here and with it comes the Winter Break! Many exciting things happened in November at Michaëlle Jean P.S.!

Our Grade 3 classes visited the Heritage School house, and our Grade 2 students participated in Scientists in the School. In January, our Grade 1 students will have the opportunity to register for Karate Kids. At the school, our classes are working on preparing their presentations for our winter concert.

December is a time of giving and celebration. This year, we have decided to support 360 Kids, a charity in our own community. We are collecting food donations as well as new and gently used clothing for York Region Youth. Thank you to all our families who are able to donate at this time. We are also very fortunate to have a wonderful staff and volunteers who are very generous with their time, caretakers, office staff and a School Council who give so much of themselves each and every day. Un grand MERCI to everyone for being a part of our MJPS family and helping to make it a wonderful school for our students.

As we reflect upon the learning so far this year, and as we look forward to a New Year full of hope, we would like to wish all of you much joy and peace as you spend time with family and friends during the holiday season. See you on January 7th, 2019!



Triple P Tip of the Month

~ DECEMBER ~ Fears

Fears are common in childhood and a normal part of growing up. Most of children's fears are mild, however some children have fears that are so strong it stops them from doing things. Children can learn to cope with fears with help from parents.

KEY STEPS:

- Talk with your child and tell them how you cope with your own fears
- Try not to show fearful reactions
- Teach your child coping strategies
- Help your child to gradually face their fears
- Remain calm when your child is scared or anxious
- Praise your child for facing their fears
- Encourage your child to try new things and do not let them avoid things they must do



Don't forget to check out the new Triple P Ontario website for online resources and podcasts for parents of children from birth to teens. www.triplepontario.ca

December Eco Theme: Reduce your Footprint

With the onset of winter we need to be aware of our carbon footprint.

- 1. Keep heat in the building by ensuring that windows and doors are kept closed.**
- 2. Wear fall/winter appropriate clothing to work in layers to keep warm and comfortable.**



School Assistants Needed for Lunch Supervision!!!

We are looking for individuals who are willing to work as SCHOOL ASSISTANTS, supervising the students indoors while they eat lunch and then outdoors while students are on the school yard. We require helpers who are available from **11:40-12:40** at Michaëlle Jean P.S. If you are interested, please call Mme Cizmar as soon as possible. Please note that these are paid positions and that you do not have to commit to working every day. If you can provide some time, even one hour a week, we would be pleased to have you join our team.

PLEASE REPORT TO THE OFFICE

The Board has a Visitor's Policy that requires ALL visitors to report to the office upon entering a school. Parents must also report to the office before meeting or their order to picking up children in sign them out. We request that parents not go directly to the classroom. Please meet your child/ren in the front foyer or at the main office.

**Visitors
Welcome!!**

HRCO

York Region District School Board is committed to creating safe, equitable and inclusive learning and working environments. As part of this commitment, the Board established a Human Rights Commissioner's Office (HRCO).

The HRCO was created in response to a growing awareness that a space was needed within the school board environment to effectively address issues of discrimination and harassment specific to the Human Rights Code.

The HRCO is an arms-length office for Human Rights Code compliance under the Board's Human Rights Policy.

The HRCO website provides the YRDSB community access to important information related to human rights, a confidential complaint reporting process and contact information for the office.

The website can be found at www.yrdsb.ca/hrco.

BUS LOOP is restricted

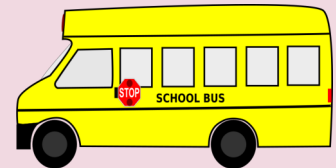
DO NOT ENTER BUS LOOP OR THE PARKING LOT

Parents are reminded that the bus loop which winds in front of the school as well as the parking lot are restricted to BUS use only between 7:45-8:05 a.m. and 2:20-2:40 p.m.

As well, we would like to stress the importance of ensuring everyone's **safety** by reminding all parents that you should not pass a bus when it is stopped in front of the school or trying to enter the bus loop. We thank you for your cooperation!



PLEASE FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD!



Grade 1 French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information Sessions

Information sessions for Grade 1 entry into the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools that have a Grade 1 program on January 17, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2019 <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/Pages/Program-Locations.aspx> to find the FI program location for your elementary school location.

Registration

FI registration will begin on January 18, 2019. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2019, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call their home school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. This 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 the designated FI program location to register, between January 18 and February 8, 2019. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

Late Registrations

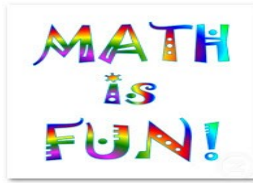
Late registrations are those submitted after February 8, 2019. Late registrations will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period should overflow be necessary.

Accommodation Plan

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. Space requirements at some schools may mean that siblings are in different schools for primary dual track French Immersion programs due to differing grade structures. Like any of our schools across the Board, changes to school boundaries, and/or the accommodation model for the French Immersion program may need to be considered when new schools open, a school experiences enrolment growth, and program changes occur. 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. 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.

The Comprehensive Math Program



The comprehensive Math program consists of several components that are designed to help students understand mathematics, apply their knowledge, think critically and communicate their thinking. The main components are:

1. The three-part lesson framework
2. Math games and puzzles
3. The mini-lesson
4. Independent work

As a focus in our school improvement plan, we are working towards implementing the three-part framework to explore mathematical concepts through problem solving and inquiry. The bulk of the math time is actively spent with students engaging in mathematics. Students are “doing” the math.

Throughout each of the parts, students are encouraged to talk to peers, ask questions, make connections, share ideas and think critically. Stay tuned next month for more math ideas.

Adapted from The Guide to Effective Instruction In Mathematics K-6 Volume 2

Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 18, 2019

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 18, 2019 for the 2019-20 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2019, 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 is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

Central Cares



Central Cares is a program whereby schools in the Central area of our Board are supporting each other by collecting and distributing gift cards, new clothes, new or gently used toys and other items. If you and your family are experiencing difficulty during the winter months and could use some support, please don't hesitate to reach out to Yvonne Kelly at 905-884-4477 at extension 345 or by email at

yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca.

Safe Arrival Program



It is the policy of the York Region School Board to report on the safe arrival of our students. If you know that your child will be absent, please send a note with your child, indicate the absence on Eds-by (please see steps below) or call the school at (905) 770-6507 and press 1 to leave a message. If we do not know why your child is absent, we will under policy #665 do the following:

1. Call the home and business numbers provided
2. Call the emergency numbers provided
3. If the above are unsuccessful, **we will call the York Region Police to report you child as missing.**

Your support in following the procedure above is important and greatly appreciated in ensuring the safe arrival of our students.

Thank you.

December is an Exciting Time of Year!

The first day of winter falls in December!

Start of School Winter holidays!

Spending time with Family and Friends!

December is also a great time to get outside, have fun in the snow and discover the great outdoors! .

When the temperature drops, it is common for many parents to want their kids to spend time indoors. However, there are many benefits for kids to be active outside in the winter, including:

Building different muscle groups and improving physical health

Engaging in creative play

Being messy and having fun

Fresh air and sunlight

Learning first-hand about nature, the weather and the seasons

When children are outside they move more, sit less, play longer and sleep more soundly at night. Being active also helps to improve your self-esteem, social skills and mental health.

Here are some December challenges we invite your children to try leading up to the holidays (December 3rd to 21st):

1. Walk to and from school or the bus stop everyday
2. Wish the crossing guard or a classmate on your walk to school a great day
3. On your walk to school make a snow angel
4. On your walk to school complete 10 star jumps and 10 jumping jacks
5. Make someone laugh today
6. Check your local recreation center for fun activities that you and your family can do over the holidays
7. Say something positive to one of your classmates

Active School Travel is a simple way to fit physical activity into your daily routine!

If you live far, consider parking a block away and walking. If active school travel every day is a challenge, choose one, two or three times a week to make a change.

Sincerely,

YRDSB Active Travel Team and York Region Public Health



Triple P Parenting Group in Farsi

For Farsi Speaking Parents of Children up to 12 years

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Reasons for children's behavioral problems
- How to have realistic expectations of children
- How to use assertive discipline
- How to foster self-confidence in children
- How to create a safe and positive learning environment for children
- Methods for encouraging good behavior in children

Date: January 16 - March 6, 2019 (8 sessions)

Time: Every Wednesday, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Location: Sixteenth Avenue Public School
400 Sixteenth Avenue, Richmond Hill ON L4C 7A9

For Registration, please contact: Roya Farhadipour:
(905)883-6572, ext. 256

Participation in this group is free.

Registration is mandatory.

Snacks and child care will be provided.

This event is provided by FSyr with the support of YRDSB and SEPyr



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.

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. Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries which prevents the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- 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.

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.**

A bus cancellation message will be available at www.schoolbuscity.com, by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following @YRDSB and @YCDSB on Twitter.

Parents, students and school staff may also 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	105.9	107.1 FM

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

Celebrating our Diversity

December's Holidays and Observances

CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
<p>December 2- First Sunday of Advent begins the period of preparation for Christmas. In homes and churches, Christians set out special candle holders or Advent wreaths (Western).</p> <p>December 25 – Christmas (Western Calendar) celebrates the birth of Jesus about 2000 years ago in Bethlehem. Christians believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the son of God, and accept him as their Saviour and Lord. In many families, Christmas Eve is celebrated with big dinners, visiting and carol-singing, often followed by midnight church services.</p>	<p>December 13 – Aga Khan (Ismaili) December 13 marks the birthday of His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan, the 49th hereditary Imam-of-the-Time descended from the progeny of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). It is referred to as Salgirah Khushiali and is a celebratory occasion for Ismaili Muslims to express love, loyalty and devotion to their Imam.</p>
JAINISM	JUDAISM
<p>December 19– Maun-agiyaras is a day of fasting, silence and meditation.</p>	<p>December 3-10– Chanukah (Festival of Lights) celebrates religious freedom by commemorating the victory of the Jews over Antiochus who tried to outlaw the practice of Judaism. Starting on the evening of December 3, candles are lit in increasing numbers for eight nights in a “Chanukiah” which is a special candelabrum containing nine candles.</p>
KWANZAA	ZOROASTRIANISM
<p>December 26 – Kwanzaa named after the Swahili word for “first fruits” is a seven-day cultural celebration initiated by African Americans starting on December 26th. Each day a candle is lit and placed in a seven-cup candelabrum called a kinara that sits on a straw mat adorned with fruit and vegetables. The participants discuss the principles or Nguzo Saba of Kwanzaa: unity, self-determination, collective responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. On the final night of the celebration, friends and relatives gather for a fest known as Karamu.</p>	<p>December 26 – Death of Prophet Zarathustra who was the founder of the Zoroastrian faith. His dates are uncertain but Westerners believe he lived in the first of second millennium B.C.E.</p>

Celebrating our Diversity

January's Holidays and Observances

BUDDHISM	CHRISTIANITY
<p>January 1 – Temple Day has become a day for Canadian Buddhists to attend a special service in the local temple.</p>	<p>January 6 – Epiphany (Western Calendar) is the 12th day of Christmas and the end of the Christmas season. It comes from a Greek word referring to the baptism of Jesus and the arrival in Bethlehem of the Three Wise Men who came to worship Jesus. The Armenian Orthodox Church celebrates the nativity of Jesus on this day.</p> <p>January 7 – Christmas (Eastern Calendar) Some Orthodox churches celebrate the birth of Jesus on this day. The Julian (Eastern) calendar is currently 13 days behind the Gregorian (Western) calendar. In York Region, this is often referred to as “Ukrainian Christmas”.</p> <p>January 19 – Epiphany (Eastern Calendar) The Eastern Church associates the date with the baptism of Jesus by John and the miracle of Cana in which Jesus turned water into wine. This day is also known as Theophany in Orthodox churches.</p>
HINDUISM	SIKHISM
<p>January 14 – Makar Sankranti, is also known as Lohri, Thai Pongal and Til Sankranti. It marks the winter solstice and is primarily a rice harvest festival.</p>	<p>January 5 – Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji. The tenth guru (1666-1708 C.E.) was the final master who created the Sikh Brotherhood, the Khalsa.</p> <p>January 13 – Maghi commemorates the forgiveness shown by Guru Gobind Singh to forty deserters who returned to fight the Mughal army and sacrificed their lives under the leadership of a brave Khalsa woman named Mace Bhaago.</p>