



MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nadia Russiello
Jean Rudman

Principal
Vice-Principal

Michael Cohen
Carol Chan

Superintendent
Trustee



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Message from the Principal and Vice Principal

Happy New Year! On behalf of all Michaëlle Jean staff we would like to welcome you all back to an exciting start to 2016!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our giving tree before the holidays! Your contributions were most appreciated and needed to help families through the holiday season.

With the New Year comes a new beginning for us all. 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 as we move forward. As a staff, we also continue to reflect on our practice and set goals for improvement. In the next several months, we will be reviewing our school data and school improvement plan and we will continue our professional learning journey. We are excited about consolidating our own professional learning to better meet the needs of our students.

We wish to remind students and parents at Michaëlle Jean that we believe that children learn better when they receive regular intervals of exercise and fresh air. We send the children out for either a full or a shortened recess in everything but the most inclement weather. We keep a close eye on all weather conditions, including wind chill before making our decisions. When conditions necessitate, we may decide that students remain inside for recess. *We ask that children are appropriately dressed for the weather:* warm hat, gloves, scarf, coat, pants and boots at this time of year. Generally, if students are well enough to attend school, then they will be expected to go outside for recess.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your ongoing commitment in helping prepare your child for learning in a safe, comfortable and enjoyable manner.

N. Russiello

N. Russiello

Principal

J. Rudman

J. Rudman

Vice-Principal

Safety Is Our First Priority

In the event of busses being cancelled.....

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 and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB and YCDSB on twitter.



Thank you to all who donated to Michaëlle Jean's Giving Tree

Our tree could hardly be seen under the many **new** mittens, gloves, hats or scarves.

These items have been given to grateful community members in need through the Yellow Brick House.

Gingerbread House winners!



Our staff created some beautiful gingerbread houses that were on display in the front foyer cabinet in December.

Through a raffle, here are the ten lucky winners!

The draw raised \$ 982.00 and was donated to the United Way.

Julia K (Mme. Yau's class)
Faranmi (Mme Barr's class)
Selina (Mme Safar's class)
Avia (Mme. Manarin's class)
Sarina (M. Mohamed's class)
Justin (Mme Kim's class)
Maya (Mme Karchevskaya's class)
Aylin (Mme Lee's class)
Tania (Mme Bourrie's class)
Corbin (Mme. Collin's class)

Would you enjoy **Collaboratively** learning the Ontario curriculum through **the Arts?**

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an **Elementary Integrated Arts Program** at Baythorn Public School. If you are currently in grades **four or five** you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Applications will be available at **bit.ly/**

arts_application2016

online after January 13th, 2016.

If you require further information, please call us at
Baythorn Public School
(905) 889-7992.

Kate Kurek Meytal Daniels
Principal The Arts Team Vice Principal



Celebrating Our Diversity

Sikhism	Christianity
<p>January 5: Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji. The tenth guru was the final master who created the Sikh Brotherhood.</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 Maee Bhaago.</p>	<p>January 6: Epiphany (Western Calendar) is the 12th day of the Christmas season. The Armenian Orthodox Church celebrates the nativity of Jesus on this day.</p> <p>January 7: Christmas (Eastern Calendar) often referred to as "Ukrainian Christmas". Some Orthodox churches celebrate the birth of Jesus on this day.</p> <p>January 19: Epiphany (Eastern Calendar) is the date associated with the baptism of Jesus by John and the miracle of Cana in which Jesus turned water into wine.</p>
Buddhism	Hinduism
<p>January 1: Temple Day has become a day for Canadian Buddhists to attend a special service in the local temple.</p>	<p>January 14: Makar Sankranti, is also known as Lohri, Thai Pongal and Til Sankriti. It marks the winter solstice and is primarily a rice harvest festival.</p>



Carnaval News

Mark Your Calendars

February 9-12

More information will be coming home soon!!

French Immersion Information Sessions

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on January 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. Your designated FI school is Michaëlle Jean Public School, 320 Shirley Drive, Richmond Hill. Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2016 for any additional information (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/Pages/Program-Locations.aspx>).

French Immersion Registration at MJPS

French Immersion registration will begin January 15, 2016, after 8:30 am. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in September 2016, and 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 where your child attends Senior Kindergarten. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Michaëlle Jean Public School to register between January 15 and February 12, 2016. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

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 2016.

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.

Family Vacations - Extended Absences

If you are taking your child(ren) on a vacation of 5 or more days, there is a form available from the office that must be completed. You may also wish to send a letter to your child's teacher or directly to the office indicating your child's name(s), the date(s) of the absence and the reason for the absence.

We all enjoy family vacations: relaxing down-time opportunities to spend quality time with family and friends. Many children especially enjoy vacations if they miss school while they are away. Parents often ask: "Is it okay for us to take our child out of school for a week? We are going on vacation." The Education Act (the laws which govern education in Ontario) states that *"...every child...shall attend an elementary or secondary school on every school day from the first school day in September...until the last school day in June."* There are some approved reasons for student absences such as illness, cancelled busses, religious holidays but vacations during school time are not government approved. While family vacations can provide a myriad of wonderful alternative learning experiences, a day of missed school is a day of missed studies.

Often parents ask to be provided with work that will be missed. Generally speaking, this usually proves to be unsatisfactory. The work package created by the teacher is often incomplete when the child returns and may inadequately mirror the activities the class engaged in during the vacation period. Teachers' plans change in response to student progress so predicting the nature of future lessons is difficult. What takes place in the classroom can rarely be replicated with a paper and pencil task. Please understand that teachers are not responsible for re-teaching or assessing students on learning missed during family vacations. Thank you for your understanding.

Welcome Back

Happy New Year

School Council Newsletter



<http://www.michaëllejean.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/>

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"The Michaëlle Jean Public School Council is a partnership of parents, staff, community and students. Its goal is to actively promote a positive learning environment in French, which will enhance the quality of the students' education and corroborates the goals as set out in the School Improvement Plan".

Upcoming Events

School Council Meeting

February 10, 2016
@ 7:00 p.m.



Message from School Council Chair

Sevda Kulieva and Merav Sharon

Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year! Hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing holiday. We are looking forward to an exciting 2016 at Michaelle Jean, with many events in store for the children. In February, we will be having Carnival, which is a week of fun filled activities for students celebrating French Canadian Heritage. Stay tuned for more information!

If you are interested in getting involved, please join us at the council meetings. All Parents/Caregivers are welcome to attend. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions for School Council, please feel free to send a message at MJPSCouncil@gmail.com.

We look forward to a fun filled New Year with many more great activities.

On behalf of the School Council, we would like to wish everyone a wonderful year ahead!

Student Success

The Town Of Richmond Hill Fall Lunch time programs were very successful. The kids enjoyed the programs.

For Winter session, a flyer will be going home early January. The best way to register is through the Town of Richmond Hill's website. Details are on the flyer.

School Climate

Programs continue to run smoothly. Thank you to each and every one of our amazing volunteers. Thank you for your continued support with this fundraiser.

We are looking for someone to organize the sandwich lunch program and someone else to organize the pizza program. Please email Tracey for more information at tcunningham27@rogers.com.

2015/2016**Parent Council Members****Chair***Sevda G. & Merav S.***Treasurer***Tara S. & Liliane A.***Secretary***Andrea P. & Randi M.***Communications***Miriam W. & Sepideh N.***Student Success
Committee Chairs***Silvia M.***Parental, Family &
Community Involvement
Committee Chairs***Sally W.**Shelley B.***School Climate
Committee Chairs***Tracey C.***Volunteer Coordinator***Li G. & Liang T.***Members-at-Large***Nikki M.**Marisa M.**Yannan Z.**Sabrina J.**Sophia T.**Chang I.**Zenobia S.***Administration***Mme Russiello**Mme Rudman*

QSP Fundraiser

Please remember you can still place your QSP orders! This year, magazines, including digital titles & custom photo products will be available for *online ordering only*. If you or other friends & family would like to place an order and support our school, please go to www.qsp.ca.

Please ensure to use our group ID #: **3741493**. You will also be asked to enter your student's name & teacher name for the order. Any money raised will go directly towards activities and resources to enhance student educational experiences at MJPS. Thank you for your continued support!

School Council Meeting Dates

Please mark your calendars, come, and join us for the upcoming School Council Meetings. We welcome and encourage all parents to attend. It is a great way to know what is happening at the school, meet other parents and get involved.

- February 10, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.
- April 7, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.
- June 6, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.



RÉCIT préscolaire