



# 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:*

Happy New Year! On behalf of all Michaëlle Jean staff we would like to welcome you all back to an exciting start to 2017!

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 and encouraged to set both 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, snow 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.

Sincerely,

*N. Russiello*

*J. Rudman*

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.

## Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 20, 2017

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 20, 2017 for the 2017-18 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Children who turn four or five years old during 2017, 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. Please note: Michaëlle Jean does not have a Kindergarten Program.

## French Immersion Information Sessions and Registration

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.

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on January 19, 2017 at 7 p.m. Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2017 (<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 20, 2017. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2017, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call their **home 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 the designated FI program location to register between January 20 and February 10, 2017. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your **HOME SCHOOL** is the school where your child currently attends Senior Kindergarten.

## Are your children's Immunization records up to date?

If parents/guardians or students receive a letter from York Region Public Health requesting immunization information, here's what to do:

Update York Region Public Health on your child's immunization status in one of the following ways:

Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>

- Fax documents to 905-895-6066 or 1-866-258-2026
- Mail immunization information to Immunization Services, Box 147, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

## Character Awards Recipients for December

Teacher	Recipient	Teacher	Recipient
<b>Bernard</b>	Benjamin, Nadia	<b>Gray</b>	Salsabili,, Kayla
<b>Collin</b>	Roneika, Sepehr	<b>Ryan</b>	Jasmine, Karina
<b>Karchevskaya</b>	William , Amelia	<b>Barr</b>	Olivia, Viona
<b>Lee</b>	Laura , Noah W.	<b>Bessette</b>	George , Nicolas
<b>Manarin</b>	Ernest, Felicia	<b>Darvish</b>	Taya , Jackson
<b>Prabakaran</b>	Devon, Ania	<b>Griffiths</b>	Treasure, Tania
<b>Bawab</b>	Shayan T, Zahra E.	<b>Messeroux</b>	Thomas, Kallie
<b>Brown</b>	Kiyomi , Rihana	<b>Mohamed</b>	Stefen , Abigail
<b>Kamyab</b>	Benjamin, Ayaana	<b>Safar</b>	Hannah S, Victoria
<b>Marjanovic</b>	Aylin, Valerie	<b>Yum</b>	Chloe, Lucas
<b>Tajahmady</b>	Cailyn, Rebecca	<b>Mnknjian</b>	Olivia L, Tomi
<b>Yau</b>	Maayan, Isla	<b>Kim</b>	Serena , Audrey

**Honesty will be the focus for January.**

### Keeping Healthy

Winter can be a mentally and physically exhausting time of year. The days are darker, colder and shorter and our bodies become more susceptible to all illnesses like the common cold and flu.

Here are some tips to help you be proactive about your health and wellbeing and will help fight these winter blues:

- Wash hands regularly with soap and water
- Eat well-balanced meals (Look for dark, leafy greens and red and yellow vegetables, which are all high in antioxidants)
- Keep active (even 15 minutes a day can help clear your mind, improve your mood, and boost your energy level)
- Keep hydrated (aim for 8 cups of water a day)
- Sleep regularly (It is vital for staying healthy. A run down body=A higher chance of getting sick.)
- Load up on vitamins and minerals (iron, zinc, vitamin C and vitamin D are also key to a healthy immune system.

Don't let the winter blues bring you down, be proactive and feed your bodies!

## 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.



## Family Vacations – Extended Absences

If you are taking your child(ren) on a vacation please be sure to inform the office of the dates. Please send a letter to your child's teacher or directly to the office indicating your child(ren)'s name(s), the date(s) of the absence and the reason for the absence. If your child will be absent from school for 15 consecutive school days or more due to a vacation, you are required to complete a "Notification of Expected Return to School" form in order to keep your child on the school's register.

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.

## CARNAVAL NEWS!

Mark your calendars!

MJPS' annual Carnival will be taking place the week of  
February 6th.

Our Button Design Contest will be taking place in January.

More information about Carnival week will be coming home soon.





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.

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.
- **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.
- 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.

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	105.9	107.1 FM

### TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

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

# January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Temple Day (Buddhism)	2	3	4	5 Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji. (Sikhism)	6 Epiphany (Christian)	7 Christmas (Eastern Christianity)
8	9	10 Lice Check	11 Swim to Survive for Grade 3's	12 Karate Kids for grades 2 & 3	13 Pizza Lunch Maghi (Hinduism)	14 Makar Sankranti (Hinduism)
15	16 Swim to Survive for Grade 3's	17 Hands up For Health (gr. 1's)	18 Swim to Survive for Grade 3's	19 Karate Kids for Gr. 2 & 3 Hands up For Health (gr. 1's) Swim to Survive for Gr. 3's French Immersion Information session for parents (7 pm) Epiphany (Eastern Christi-	20 PA Day FI registration begins (8:30 am)	21
22	23 Swim to Survive for Grade 3's	24 Crazy Hair Day Hands up For Health (gr. 1's)	25 Swim to Survive for Gr. 3's Bricks 4Kidz (Gr. 3)	26 Hands up For Health (gr. 1's)	27 Pizza Lunch Character Matters Assembly	28 Lunar New Year (Buddhism)
29	30 Swim to Survive for Gr. 3's	31 Drumming session at MJPS for all classes				

# HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

## BUDDHISM

January 1: **Temple Day** has become a day for Canadian Buddhists to attend a special service in the local temple.

◆ January 28: **Lunar New Year**, the day after the new moon, marks the beginning of the new lunar year. It is the year of the Rooster. Irrespective of their religion or country, all Chinese, Vietnamese and many Koreans celebrate the cultural aspect of this day. This is the beginning of year 4715 in the Chinese calendar. It is a time for renewal and personal relationships, and pledges of prosperity.

## CHRISTIANITY

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.

◆ January 7: **Christmas** (Eastern Calendar). In York Region, this is often referred to as “Ukrainian Christmas”. Some Orthodox churches celebrate the birth of Jesus on this day. The Julian (Eastern) calendar is currently 13 days behind the Gregorian (Western) calendar.

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.

## HINDUISM

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.

## SIKHISM

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.

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 Mae Bhaago.

**Meet Carol Chan**  
YONGE Trustee Richmond Hill Wards 3, 5, 6  
**in a Town Hall Meeting**  
for school parents

**You're  
Invited!**

**Date: January 14, 2017 (Saturday)**

**Time 10:00-12:30pm**

**Venue: Richmond Green SS**



Let's discuss:

1. The roles and responsibilities of Trustee
2. Review of Board Foci
3. Current main themes of education
  - Students Achievement and Wellbeing
  - Modern Learning
  - Mental Health
  - Math
4. Collect Parents' feedback and Questions



Remarks: Refreshments and Babysitting will be available