



MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal
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Michael Cohen
Carol Chan

Superintendent
Trustee

A Message from the Administrative Team

February was certainly a very busy month for us all! Carnival was an absolutely memorable fun filled week. Students enjoyed making crafts, watching an interactive French concert, skating, meeting "Bonhomme Carnaval", playing Carnival Bingo, participating in a door decorating contest and carnival winter games. Needless to say, this fun could not be possible without the amazing support of our School Council who paid for these activities and the numerous volunteers who spent many days helping with the organization of the activities.

The past couple of months have been challenging with the cold weather. We have spent many days inside due to cold and icy conditions. We're looking forward to the spring which we hope is soon to come. Please keep in mind that inclement weather and cold temperatures are very common in March and April. To assist in keeping your child safe and comfortable at school, we are encouraging parents to send their children to school dressed appropriately for the weather, and to remind children to continue to wear appropriate outdoor clothing during recess times. March is also the month where we start to see a change in the weather. The snow begins to melt and the schoolyard becomes wet and muddy. As a result, we want to remind parents that it is important that students have a change of clothes in case they get wet and they also need a pair of indoor and outdoor footwear.

Please help your child be successful in school by being on time and ready to participate in the learning. Supervision begins at 7:45 am to 8:00 am and we encourage you to drop off your child during this time. Advantages to dropping them off before 8:00 am are: less traffic congestion in front of the school, your child will have a chance to socialize with friends in the morning before going to class, play and expend some energy so they are alert and more ready to focus once they are in class, continue learning independence and most importantly be on time for class so that they do not miss valuable instructional time. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Teachers are working with students towards meeting curriculum expectations for the second term. We encourage parents to continue to keep in contact with their child's classroom teacher as we work in partnership to support student learning.

N. Russiello

Principal

J. Rudman

Vice-Principal

March	Events
2-20	19 Day Fast
3	Karate Kids for Grade 1's
4	Pizza Lunch
7	Sub Lunch Swim to Survive for groups 5 and 6
8	Mahashivaratri International Women's Day
10	Karate Kids for Grade 1's
11	Pizza Lunch Pyjama Day
13	Daylight Savings Time Begins
14	Sikh New Year's Day First Day of Lent
17	Ghamber Hamaspathmaedem
14-18	March Break
20	Spring Ohigon Palm Sunday
21	Naw Ruz
21	Sub Lunch
23	Holi
24	Maundy Thursday Purim
24	Karate Kids for Grade 1's
25	◇Good Friday
27	Easter Sunday
28	Birthday of Prophet Zarathustra Easter Monday
30	Director's Cut for grade 3's
31	Director's Cut for grade 3's Karate Kids for Grade 1's Spring concert

Punctuality

We have noticed a rise in the number of students who enter the school late in the mornings. It is important to teach our children early about punctuality.

It is the responsibility of every parent to ensure that their children are in school on time. The entry bell rings at 7:58 a.m. and classes begin at 8:00 a.m.

When students arrive late they must come to the office for an admit slip, as attendance has already been taken in the classroom. Consequently, they lose precious time in the hallways as they are getting ready to enter the classroom. The class is already in progress when the child enters and he/she has missed valuable learning time. As well, the instruction has to stop because the teacher will have to repeat directions and instructions which have already been relayed to the other students.

Please be respectful of your child's classmates, teacher and the instructional time.

Please also remember that students who come to school on the bus will never be marked late—even if the buses are running late.



Additional Elementary and Secondary P.A. Days

As a result of provincial labour negotiations, a **P.A. Day** has been added for all York Region District School Board elementary schools on **Friday, May 6, 2016** and secondary schools on **Friday, June 3, 2016**. You can see the full updated school year calendars on YRDSB's [website](#).

These additional P.A. Days are mandated by the Ministry of Education. On these dates, teachers will be taking part in professional development on provincial education priorities identified by the Ministry of Education.



Playing it **safe** this winter

Injury prevention plays a key role in keeping children safe



Check the weather forecast before heading out into the cold*

Limit outdoor activity when the temperature or wind chill factor falls below -25°C (-13°F)



Play in safe areas, as a family

Children should always be supervised by a responsible adult



Sports equipment should be free from damage, fit properly and provide good support



When playing on ice or snow, always wear a properly-fitted certified helmet for your winter activity



Dress in layers of warm, dry, reflective, windproof and waterproof clothing



Make sure winter play surfaces are free of hazards – cracks, trees, rocks, bumps and bare spots and far from roads

95% of all injuries are both predictable and preventable

Ice on frozen ponds, rivers, lakes or canals should be at least 10 cm thick before you walk on it

Avoid areas where there is visibly open water



Although all individuals are at risk of injury, children and youth are especially vulnerable



In York Region, unintentional injury in children under 20 years of age accounts for 10 deaths, 451 hospitalizations and 24,166 emergency room visits per year



Predictable and preventable injuries are the leading killer of Canadian children and youth under 20 years of age



The economic burden and cost of preventable injuries now stands at a staggering \$8.8 billion in Ontario and \$26.8 billion per year across Canada



In 2012, falls were the leading external cause of unintentional injury resulting in an ER visit among York Region children and youth under 20 years of age



Take obvious steps to eliminate safety hazards and prevent injuries by recognizing, changing and controlling unsafe environments, conditions and behaviours

Help raise **awareness** of the impact of **predictable** and **preventable** injuries



Community and Health Services
Public Health

york.ca

Health and Wellbeing

Let's Reduce Cold and Flu Transfer to Others

Student absences have increased recently within several schools in York Region, related to illnesses with respiratory and enteric symptoms.

To protect staff, students and families from getting ill, remember to:

Stay at home when you are sick, and keep your child home if they are sick

Keep healthy by eating healthy foods, being physically active and ensuring your immunizations are up-to-date, including the seasonal flu shot

Avoid close contact with people who are sick

Wash your hands often with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available

Cough and sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue, not your hand, and throw away used tissues immediately

Avoid touching your face

Clean and disinfect common surfaces

Symptoms of respiratory and/or enteric illness can include:

Headache

Chills

Fever (over 38 degrees Celsius or 100 degrees Fahrenheit)

Muscle aches and fatigue

Runny nose

Sneezing

Sore throat

Watery eyes

Loss of appetite

Nausea and vomiting

Diarrhea



If you or your child are sick and do not improve, contact your health care provider.

Many viruses are commonly active at this time of year, for example norovirus and influenza (flu). Both viruses are very contagious and can be spread by contact with contaminated surfaces, such as door knobs or eating utensils.

Congratulations to the Carnival Door Decorating Contest Winners!

A Pizza Party is in order!!!!



Mme. Lee's Grade 1 class



Mme. Marjanovic's Grade 2 class



Mme. German's grade 3 class

Library News

Our French Book Fair was a great success, despite our snow day last week! Students were very excited about purchasing new books to read. Many students and parents also purchased dictionaries for their home collections. Thank you to all of the parents who generously volunteered their time to help out.



Our school is a Healthy School

Among many initiatives to promote positive and healthy lifestyles was a BIG Crunch event in February.

Students were encouraged to participate in the

BIG crunch

Along with many other classes, Mme Kamyab's class celebrated the event by choosing a fruit or vegetable for snack time.





March Holidays & Observances

<p>BAHA’I FAITH</p> <p>March 2-20: The 19 Day Fast is observed every year. During this time those who are physically able, abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sunset each day.</p> <p>March 21: Naw Ruz (Baha’i New Year). Baha’is celebrate New Year on the first day of spring. Work and academic studies are suspended on this day.</p>	<p>BUDDHISM</p> <p>March 20: Spring Ohigon is a special time to listen to the teaching of Buddha and to meditate on the perfection of enlightenment. This day is of particular importance to Jodo Shinshu Buddhists.</p>
<p>CHRISTIANITY</p> <p>March 14: First day of Lent (Eastern Calendar), which is the great fast, is the last six weeks of a ten week period before Easter. This day is also known as Clean Monday. Some Eastern Churches may start Lent a week before (March 7)</p> <p>March 20: Palm Sunday is the Sunday before Easter, the beginning of Holy Week celebrating Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem (Western Calendar).</p> <p>March 24: Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday) is the commemoration of the institution of the Lord’s Supper (Western Calendar).</p> <p>March 25: ♦ Good Friday commemorates Jesus’ death by crucifixion (Western Calendar).</p> <p>March 27: Easter Sunday celebrates the resurrection of Christ. It is the most important festival in the Christian year (Western Calendar).</p>	<p>HINDUISM</p> <p>March 8: Mahashivaratri (or Shivaratri, “Great Shiva Night”) is a special night of prayer. Devotees sing the praises of Shiva, one of the major Hindu deities.</p> <p>March 23: Holi is a colorful spring festival observed widely in Hindu communities around the world. The myths, customs and rituals associated with Holi vary considerably from place to place.</p>
<p>JUDAISM</p> <p>March 24: Purim celebrates the victory over an oppressive ruler by Queen Esther and her Uncle Mordecai.</p>	<p>SIKHISM</p> <p>March 14: Sikh New Year’s Day is the first day of the new Nanakshahi solar calendar. This is year 548 of the new era.</p>
<p>ZOROASTRIANISM</p>	
<p>March 17: Ghamber Hamaspathmaedem celebrates the creation of human beings.</p> <p>March 21: Naw Ruz (New Year’s Day) in Fasli calendars. This is the first day of the Zoroastrian and Persian year. It is time of religious observance preceded by ten days of remembrance of the dead. It symbolizes the renewal of the world after winter. Irrespective of their religion, many Iranians celebrate this day. This celebration may also fall on March 20.)</p> <p>March 28: Birthday of Prophet Zarathustra, the founder of Zoroastrian faith.</p>	