



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:

February was certainly a very busy month for us all! Carnaval was an absolutely memorable fun-filled week. Students enjoyed making crafts, participating in an interactive French concert, skating, meeting "Bonhomme Carnaval", playing Carnaval Bingo, participating in a door decorating contest and outdoor carnival winter games. Needless to say, this fun could not be possible without the amazing support of our School Council who funded 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 recesses 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. We continue to see a large number of students arrive to school late in the morning.

Supervision begins at 7:45 am to 8:00 am and we encourage you to drop off your child during this time. Some advantages to dropping them off before 8:00 am include: less traffic congestion in front of the school, your child will have time to socialize with friends, play and expend some energy in the morning before going to class 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

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

The Education Quality Accountability Office has set the dates from **May 23 through to June 5** as the period in which our Grade 3 students are 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.

Lost and Found

We have a collection of clothes, shoes, boots, lunch bags and coats in our Lost and Found. Please check, or encourage your children to check for lost items.

Just prior to the March Break, unclaimed items will be bagged and donated to those in need.



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

York Region District School Board School Climate Survey for Students

Students in Grades 5 to 12 at the York Region District School Board will be invited to participate in a survey between **March 20 and April 28, 2017**. **The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential**, and will take place at school.

The YRDSB survey fulfills the Ontario Ministry of Education's requirement for schools to conduct student surveys and is aligned with the YRDSB's Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being. Survey questions will address topics related to Math, Modern Learning, Mental Health and Well-Being, Equity and School Safety.

This survey provides an opportunity to hear directly from students and the results will be used to identify student needs and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being.

Character Awards Recipients for February 2017

Teacher	Recipient	Teacher	Recipient
Bernard	Alex, Arsham	Afonina	Josh
Collin	Sabeekah, Gabriel	Ryan	Arwa
Karchevskaya	Zain, Lila	Barr	Tess, Yalda
Lee	Ryan, Artemis	Bessette	Anahita
Manarin	Hanna, Felix	Darvish	Emily, Iris
Prabakaran	Charles, Ameer	Griffiths	Kylie, Aron
Bawab	Ariel, Jerry	Messeroux	Sarah, Brigitte
Brown	Elora, Kayla	Mohamed	Eileen, Stefan
Kamyab	Victoria, Jonathan	Safar	Easton, Mikayla, Andrew
Marjanovic	Evan, Mathias	Yum	Talia, Cynthia
Tajahmady	Maya, Avril	Mnknjian	Ethan, Aliyana
Yau	Carol, Sophia	Kim	Yonathan, George

Integrity will be the focus for March.

Carnaval 2017 Door Decorating Winners!

Congratulations to the students of Mme. Bessette's and Mme. Brown's classes for winning this year's Door Decorating Contest.



Trustee's Message



With spring approaching and the hours of daylight increasing, now is a good time to enjoy the outdoors and our natural environment. Did you know that our Board has five outdoor education centres, and students have opportunities to visit them and other outdoor learning spaces throughout their schooling? This is part of our commitment to giving students an opportunity to learn in and about the natural world. This learning supports students in gaining a deeper appreciation for nature and the importance of environmental sustainability.

“Modelling continuous environmental sustainability” is one of the goals outlined in our Board of Trustees’ Multi-Year Plan. We believe that we all have a role to play in reducing waste and protecting our environment. Our students, staff members and families continue to show leadership when it comes to supporting student learning and initiatives to reduce our ecological footprint.

Spending time outside as a family also provides a great opportunity to support and enhance your child’s learning outside of school. Whether visiting a park or museum, reading with your child in your home language or asking questions about their day at school - know that there are many ways you can support their education and that you are making a difference.

I hope you all have a happy and safe March Break and enjoy the warmer weather ahead.

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.

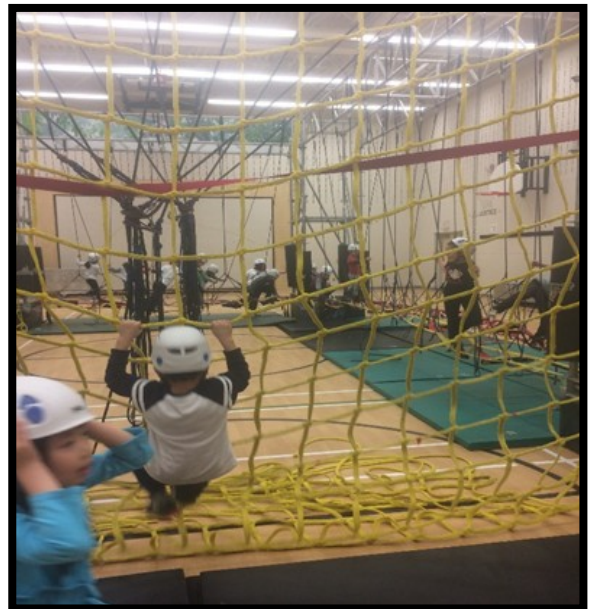
These numbers help us hire sufficient staff and support personnel. It is important that we know as soon as possible whether you may be leaving the Michaëlle Jean community before September.

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

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



Jungle Sports 2017



For the week of February 27th -March 3rd , our students had the opportunity to enjoy an obstacle course that promoted fundamental movement skills, coordination and cooperation.

MJPS students got to climb, crawl, swing, leap, and balance.....all with huge smiles on their faces.

March 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> <i>Jungle Sport</i>	2 ^{19 Day Fast} <i>Jungle Sport</i> <i>Grade 1 Trip to Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts</i>	3 <i>Jungle Sport</i> <i>Art Attack Lunch Program</i>	4
5	6 ^{SIS- Barr / Messeroux} <i>Swim to Survive (Mme Darvish)</i> <i>Chess and Sport Sampler at Lunch</i>	7 ^{SIS-Darvish / Safar} <i>Yoga and Drawing at Lunch</i>	8 <i>Bricks 4Kidz at Lunch</i>	9 ^{Karate Kids} <i>at Lunch</i>	10 ^{Pizza} <i>Lunch</i> <i>Art Attack and Basketball at Lunch</i>	11
12 <i>Purim</i>	13 ^{Mid-} <i>Winter Break</i> <i>Holi</i>	14 ^{Mid-} <i>Winter Break</i> <i>Sikh New Year's day</i>	15 ^{Mid-} <i>Winter Break</i>	16 ^{Mid-} <i>Winter Break</i>	17 ^{Mid-} <i>Winter Break</i> <i>Ghambar Hamaspath-mardem</i>	18
19	20 ^{Chess and Sport Sampler at Lunch} <i>Naw Ruz</i>	21 ^{Lice Check} <i>Drawing and Yoga at Lunch</i> <i>Naw Ruz</i>	22 ^{SIS-} <i>Griffiths / Mohamed</i>	23 ^{Karate Kids at Lunch}	24 ^{Pizza} <i>Lunch</i> <i>SIS-Bessette</i> <i>Art Attack and Basketball at Lunch</i>	25
26	27 ^{Chess at Lunch}	28 ^{Navarati} <i>Birthday of Prophet Zarthus-tra</i>	29 ^{Twin Day}	30 ^{Spring} <i>Concert</i>	31 ^{Character Matters} <i>Assembly</i> <i>Basketball at Lunch</i>	

HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

.BAHA'I FAITH

March 2 – 20: The 19-Day Fast

is observed every year from March 2 until March 20. During this time those who are physically able, abstain from food and drink from sunrise until sunset each day.

March 20: **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. This date is also celebrated as a cultural event or faith day by many faith groups throughout the world.

BUDDHISM

March 20: **Spring Ohigon** is a special time to listen to the teaching of the Buddha and to meditate on the perfection of enlightenment. This day is of particular importance for Jodo Shinshu Buddhists.

CHRISTIANITY

March 1: **Ash Wednesday** (Western Calendar) is the beginning of Lent, the forty day period (excluding Sundays) of prayer, repentance and self-denial that precedes Easter. It is a reminder of the days Jesus spent alone in the wilderness.

HINDUISM

March 13: **Holi** is a colourful spring festival observed widely in Hindu communities around the world. The myths, customs and rituals associated with Holi vary considerably from place to place.

Mar. 28 - Apr. 5: **Navaratri** (Spring) is a nine-day celebration of the Divine Goddess for good health, happiness and knowledge.

JUDAISM

March 12: **Purim** celebrates the victory over an oppressive ruler by Queen Esther and her Uncle Mordecai.

SIKHISM

March 14: **Sikh New Year's Day** is the first day of the new Nanakshahi solar calendar. This is year 549 of the new era.

ZOROASTRIANISM

March 17: **Ghambar Hamaspathmaedem** celebrates the creation of human beings.

March 21: **Naw Ruz** (New Year's Day) in Fasli calendars. This is the first day of the Zoroastrian and Persian year. It is a 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 based on the time of sunrise.

March 28: **Birthday of Prophet Zarathustra**, the founder of the Zoroastrian faith.