



MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

320 Shirley Drive, Richmond Hill, L4S 2P1
 Telephone: (905) 770-6507
 E-mail: michaillejeanps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca
 Website: <http://michaillejean.ps.yrdsb.ca>



Superintendent: Karen Friedman
 Trustee: Carol Chan



Principal: Clelia Della-Rovere
 Vice-Principal: Jennifer Anderson

Message from the Principal

As we look forward to the month of May, we will once again be very busy with many activities, events and programs which support our students' achievement and well being. We continue to thank the multitude of parent volunteers who support our programs daily. So many parents help on an ongoing basis in a variety of capacities: Parent Council, Carnival, Haiti Fundraiser, EcoSchools, coordinating guest speakers and special presentations, delivering pizza and sub lunches, supervising on trips, assisting with Parent Engagement Workshops, Grade 3 Transition Ceremony, coordinating community events such as Fun Fair, volunteering in the classrooms, running the Book Fairs, helping out with the first day of school or Grade 1 orientation, raising money for the school by organizing fundraising initiatives, assisting with community outreach programs, etc... Parent volunteers touch our lives in many different ways. Our staff would like to honour your time and dedication so as a small token of our appreciation, we would like to invite you for a continental breakfast on May 23rd from 9:15 to 10:00 am. Please mark your calendars! An invitation will be sent home. Please also RSVP on the invitation if you are able to attend.

In order to further protect our literacy and instructional time, we will commence classes at 8:00 am sharp. Announcements will take place at 9:30 am every morning while students are eating their snacks. Please bring your children to school on time as habitual lates will impact on their academic success. Additionally, if your child qualifies for bussing, please have them take the bus which will ensure they will arrive to school on time. For safety reasons, please do not park in our fire route in front of the school if you are dropping your child off late for school. Use the parking lot or bus loop or park on the street. We hope that all students will arrive to school ready to start learning at 8:00 am sharp.

Special Points of Interest

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Principal's Message Con't...

Our last Parent Engagement Session was a huge success. We thank all the parents who came out to learn more about critical thinking and explore fun math games that can be played at home. As a staff, over the past few months, we continue to engage in professional learning around critical thinking. We continue to use a variety of strategies and resources to further develop the critical thinking skills of our students.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and keep up to date about what is happening in our school community. Please visit our website for more updates and information: <http://michaëllejean.ps.yrdsb.ca>

Board Information

Hours of Instruction for French Immersion

YRDSB offers a French Immersion program that is highly sought after. As we continue to implement recommendations from our recent French as a Second Language (FSL) review, we are making a slight adjustment, based on our research, that will provide better consistency within our schools while also better meeting student needs. Research shows the importance of time spent learning in French at the beginning of a program. In Grades 1 to 3, YRDSB students receive 100 per cent of their instruction in French. Beginning in Grade 4, English instruction is introduced for a number of subjects. Starting in the 2014-15 school year, weekly instructional time in Grades 4-8 will be shared equally between French and English language of instruction. Students will accumulate at least 5,000 hours of French language instruction by the end of Grade 8, which far exceeds the 3,800 hours mandated by the Ontario Ministry of Education. YRDSB remains deeply committed to providing high quality and sustainable French as a Second Language (FSL) instruction.



School Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians

Between May 20 and June 2, we will be inviting parents/guardians to participate in a school climate survey. The surveys provide the Board and our school with valuable information about how you feel about the school environment and your child's education. The results will be used to identify areas that need to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. We value parent input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information parents provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Information about how to access the survey will be sent home with students later in May. Please contact the school if you have any questions.



School Information and Procedures

EQAO

Our grade three students will be writing the EQAO assessment from May 26th to June 6th. Wherever possible, we ask that parents do not schedule appointments during the testing period. It is very important for your child to be in school during EQAO testing. Please ensure that your child is well rested during this period and attends punctually. Thank you.



Class Placement for September 2014

The process for determining class placements for September will begin soon. After we determine class organization and teacher assignments, each student is individually discussed and placed according to a number of criteria.

Our goal is to establish balanced classes, providing effective groups which will benefit all children. Teachers in receiving and sending grades meet to carefully consider: learning styles, academic skills, social groupings, special education and behaviour needs, etc. You can surely appreciate that creating the best and most effective groupings is a task requiring careful thought and planning.

The teachers who have worked with the children this year know them and will make determinations based on each child's best interests. If you feel strongly that there are extenuating circumstances **not listed above**, please submit your request in writing, including the rationale for any request, to Mme Della Rovere prior to **May 16th**. **Any written requests will be shared with the team of teachers generating class lists, and we will do our best to honour them.** Accepting parental requests for specific teachers can be restrictive in forming ideal groupings. Requesting placement with an individual teacher, therefore, is not encouraged. At this time, we are uncertain as to which teachers will teach a specific grade. Staffing decisions will not be finalized until late summer; therefore, final class lists will be posted on the first day of school in September.

Snacks on Pizza/Sub Days

If you have ordered Pizza/Sub Lunch for your child, please remember to pack a healthy snack for them on those days.



Happy Mother's Day and/or Special Person Day



Spoons and Forks

Parents, please remember to pack a spoon or a fork in your child's lunch as we do not provide cutlery.



School Information and Procedures Con't...

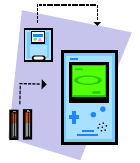
Are You Moving?

If you are planning to move and your child will not be returning to M.J.P.S. in September 2013, please let the school know as soon as possible as this will assist us greatly with staffing, determining numbers and class placement.



Personal Property

Students who bring valuable personal property to school do so at their own risk. The school has no storage facilities for valuable items and we cannot take care of these items for students. This includes toys/cards that are precious to our students. The School Board or school will not assume any responsibility for lost or stolen items. We ask that all valuable items be left at home.



School Events

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

On Friday, May 23, we will celebrate, appreciate and thank all our dedicated volunteers with a breakfast in our library...

These volunteers :

- Are School Council Members
- Help with the special lunches
- Help our teachers in the classroom
- Support us in the library
- Come with us on field trips
- Take work home to cut and paste
- Help with special events



We sincerely appreciate and value your support!

9:30 am to 10:30 am Hope to see you there!!!

Summer Concert - May 8th, 2014

We are once again pleased to bring you our last concert this year so that each student at our school will be able to participate in a performance. We are thankful to our staff who will be preparing our students closer to this date. Performances will begin at 6:30 pm and due to space limitations and fire code regulations, each child will be able to bring only two guests. The following classes will be performing:



Mme A. Lee Mme C. Lee Mme
Gray Mme Kim Mme Bessette
Mme Bawab Mme Ryan Mme Kamyab

Fun Fair

Fun for the Whole Family! Don't miss out on our 6th Annual BBQ Fun Fair.



The Annual Fun Fair is coming on Thursday May 29, 2014, 5:00-7:30 pm. This is a FUN event for the entire family and includes many free activities for the kids such as bouncy castle, giant slide, obstacle course, games, photo booth, tattoos, awesome music & dancing and more! Look for your food and raffle order forms which will be sent home soon.