

November 2019

The Info @ Michaëlle Jean P.S.



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Michaëlle Jean P.S.

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Upcoming Dates

Nov. 7	Scientist in the School (Mme Bawab, Mme Kim & Mme Marjanovic)
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day Assembly 10:40 a.m.
Nov. 13	Photo Retakes Progress Reports go home
Nov. 14	Parent/Teacher Interviews in the evening
Nov. 15	P.A. Day – No school
Nov. 19	Gr. 2 VORC (Mme Bawab & Mme Bourrie)
Nov. 21	Gr. 2 VORC (Mme Kamyab & Mme Kesisyan)
Nov. 22	Gr. 2 VORC (Mme C. Lee & Mme Kim)
Nov. 28	Character Assembly
Nov. 29	Gr. 2 VORC (Mme Marjanovic & Mme Yau)

Message from your Administrator

Dear MJPS Families,

October was a very exciting month filled with many activities planned for everyone. All our students enjoyed a week of activities led by X-Movement, followed by an evening community event where families joined their children to experience the energizing and calming activities. The program uses emotional, social and environmental literacy fused with movement, to help build positive, healthy and energized school communities. Thank you to our School Council for making this experience possible for our students and families.

As you may be aware, we have started our snack program where students are provided with a healthy snack at morning recess. These include but are not limited to apples, baby carrots, cheese strings and/or grains such as granola bars or crackers. Students are encouraged to eat the snack that they have brought from home and can add to it by choosing a snack offered at school if they are still hungry.

Let us not forget our I-Walk program run by Mr. Segbor, Mme Yau and Mme Kesisyan. On a rotating basis, students have the opportunity to go for a walk in the community during our recess break. What a great way to get some exercise!

As we approach the halfway mark of the first term, we encourage students to continue to put forth a consistent effort and we look forward to seeing everyone during our Parent/Teacher interviews. More information regarding booking interviews will be sent home shortly.

Nora Mazlounian
Principal

Follow us on our Twitter Account : @MJPSyrdsb

Triple P Tip of the Month

~ NOVEMBER ~ Self-Esteem

Children form views of themselves as a person; their value as an individual and how good they are at doing certain things form as they grow up. It is important for parents to encourage children to be confident to develop healthy self-esteem. This means, children having a true sense of their strengths and weaknesses.

KEY STEPS:

Praise your child's efforts and achievements

Tell your child you care

Help your child make friends

Encourage your child to set goals, do things for themselves and assess their achievement

Encourage your child to express their ideas and make decisions

Help your child manage their feelings, think realistically and be optimistic

Teach your child to solve problems for themselves

Don't forget to check out the new Triple P Ontario website for online resources and podcasts for parents of children from birth to teens. www.triplepontario.ca



November Eco Theme:

What's in/What's out

Students are encouraged to rethink their actions before they dispose of an item. That is, stop and consider the impact the disposal of every item will have on the environment and the world around us. It is important to be well-informed about what goes in the blue box for recycling and what goes in the garbage bin for landfill. Putting items in the blue box that shouldn't be there can ruin an entire batch of recyclable material. The Earth needs your help!!



School Assistants Needed for Lunch Supervision!!!

We are looking for individuals who are willing to work as SCHOOL ASSISTANTS, supervising the students indoors while they eat lunch and then outdoors while students are on the school yard. We require helpers who are available from **11:40-12:40** at Michaëlle Jean P.S. If you are interested, please call Mme Cizmar as soon as possible. Please note that these are paid positions and that you do not have to commit to working every day. If you can provide some time, even one hour a week, we would be pleased to have you join our team.

PLEASE REPORT TO THE OFFICE

The Board has a Visitor's Policy that requires ALL visitors to report to the office upon entering a school. Parents must also report to the office before meeting or their order to picking up children in sign them out. We request that parents not go directly to the classroom. Please meet your child/ren in the front foyer or at the main office.

**Visitors
Welcome!!**

EQAO Provincial Assessment

The EQAO (Education, Quality and Accountability Office) is an annual assessment which takes place each May. While this assessment measures each student's knowledge and skills in reading, writing and mathematics at both the grade 3 and 6 levels, grade 3 French Immersion students across the Board write only the math portion of EQAO and the assessment is in French. The EQAO assessment of reading, writing and mathematics for grade 6 French Immersion students is conducted in English across the Board. Students are required to do much more than memorize and recite facts; they solve mathematical problems and explain their answers, and they apply their knowledge and skill to real-world problems and tasks.

The chart below shows Michaelle Jean P.S.'s results from the grade 3 mathematics assessment which was conducted last May. *The percentage indicates the percentage of participating students who achieved at or above the provincial standard:*

	Michaelle Jean P.S.	YRDSB	Province
Grade 3 EQAO Mathematics	90%	69%	58%

We are very proud of our school results and of our teachers' attention to math and literacy instruction. We are well above the Board and Provincial levels. As a staff, we are using this EQAO data, together with the data collected by the classroom teachers, to inform professional practice and to help us focus our instruction, build in interventions, and expand resources to further enhance our students' knowledge and skills. Our collective goal is to continue to strive to achieve an upward trend of improvement in student achievement over the long term.

We regard parents as "partners" in the education of the children we share, and value the positive relationships which are fostered when parents, students and teachers work together towards the common goals of student learning and student achievement. We will continue to focus our school plan and priorities on the literacy and math skills of our students. Our professional development will continue to focus on effective literacy and math instruction for all our students. This year our grade 3 students will take part in EQAO testing.

For further information about EQAO results, please visit the Ministry of Education EQAO website <http://eqao.com/>

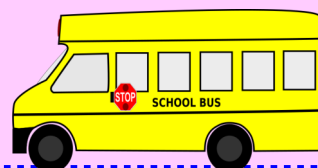
BUS LOOP is restricted

DO NOT ENTER BUS LOOP OR THE PARKING LOT



Parents are reminded that the bus loop which winds in front of the school as well as the parking lot are restricted to BUSES between 7:45-8:05 a.m. and 2:20-2:40 p.m.

As well, we would like to stress the importance of ensuring everyone's **safety** by reminding all parents that you should not pass a bus when it is stopped in front of the school or trying to enter the bus loop. We thank you for your cooperation!



Remembrance Day Assembly Nov. 11

Please feel free to join us to pay tribute to those men and women around the world who fought and worked for the peace and freedom that we enjoy in Canada today. Our Remembrance Day Assembly begins at 10:40 am on Monday, November 11th. This is a solemn and serious assembly of remembrance.



Safe Arrival Program

It is the policy of the York Region School Board to report on the safe arrival of our students. If you know that your child will be absent, please send a note with your child, indicate the absence on Edsby (please see steps below) or call the school at (905) 770-6507 and press 1 to leave a message. If we do not know why your child is absent, we will under policy #665 do the following:

1. Call the home and business numbers provided
2. Call the emergency numbers provided
3. If the above are unsuccessful, **we will call the York Region Police to report you child as missing.**



Your support in following the procedure above is important and greatly appreciated in ensuring the safe arrival of our students.



FLU SEASON IS HERE

Get the flu shot as early as possible



The first and best step to preventing the flu (or influenza), is to **get the flu shot every year**.

The flu spreads quickly and easily from an infected person to others and anyone can get it. Getting the flu shot can protect you, your family and those around you.

Students may be at higher risk of getting the flu as they come together in close public spaces including the classroom, gymnasium, lunch room and library.

The flu shot is especially important for students who have a chronic condition (e.g. asthma, diabetes) or those who live with or have close contact with a pregnant woman, kids less than five years old, or a resident of a nursing home or other chronic care facility since these groups are at higher risk of getting very sick or being hospitalized because of the flu.

Flu shots are **free** and are readily available at:

Health care provider's offices for people six months of age and older

Participating pharmacies, for people five years of age and older

In addition to getting the flu shot annually, here are some other health tips that can help prevent the spread of the flu:

Wash your hands well and often with either soap and water or alcohol based hand rub

Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze (if you do not have a tissue, cough into your upper sleeve)

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth

Stay home when you're sick

Clean and disinfect surfaces and shared items

It's important to get the flu shot as early as possible as it can take nearly **two weeks** for the influenza vaccine to take full effect.

To learn more about flu and flu vaccine, visit york.ca/flu.

PUBLIC HEALTH 1-

877-464-9675 TTY 1-

866-512-6228 york.ca/flu

Math at Home

Talking about numbers is important for children's math learning. Number talks during daily activities and play has a positive effect on children's math knowledge in future years.

Activities:

Primary/Junior/Intermediate

Estimation is an important part of our everyday lives, and in school, it helps students judge the reasonableness of their solutions.

Show your child this picture or give them a single sheet of toilet paper and full roll:



Ask them, “How many sheets are on the roll of toilet paper? What is an estimate is too low? What is an estimate that is too high? What is an estimate that is just right? Why?”

For additional images, check out: <http://www.esteemation180.com/>

Some tips to help your child understand the meaning of numbers:

- Count and discuss how many objects you see instead of just reciting the counting sequence (primary)
- Count *and label the number of objects* (e.g., “There are three books. One, two, three!”) (primary)
- Watch your child's number gestures. Sometimes their gestures show they understand the quantity, but they say the wrong number (e.g., for a set of two books the child holds up two fingers but says “three books”) (primary)
- As your child counts objects, point to each object and model holding up your fingers to show the quantity counted (primary)
- Use numbers that are larger than the numbers your child already understands or uses (primary/junior/intermediate)
- Use numbers that you find in your everyday lives. Compare quantities of items and prices to determine which is the better buy when shopping (primary/junior/intermediate)
- Talk to your child about how *you are using numbers in your daily life. This will show them why numbers are important and how useful math is* (primary/junior/intermediate)

Making number talk a regular part of daily life helps your child build a strong knowledge of number, which is foundational for future math learning!

Progress Reports



Progress reports will be sent home on **Wednesday, November 13th, 2019**. The progress report is designed to help you provide your child with some feedback about his/her performance thus far. It is important to note that the progress of your child (very well, well, with difficulty) does not correspond to a letter grade. It is feedback provided to parents to let you know if your child is on the right track towards achieving the curriculum expectations and goals set for the first term. Formative, descriptive feedback is the basis for continuous academic improvement. More importantly, **learning skills and work habits are the focus of the progress report**. Students will be identified as **Progressing Very Well, Progressing Well** or **Progressing with Difficulty** in their progress in all subject areas. Parent-teacher interviews are being held on the evening of Thursday, November 14th, and during the morning of Friday, November 15th. More detailed information will soon be sent home.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher interviews are opportunities for parents, their children and teachers to talk together about how to help each child succeed in school. Interviews and conferences are often scheduled on a tight timeline, so it's important to prepare beforehand to make the best use of that time.

Prepare:

Read your child's Progress Report. Make notes about your questions and concerns. Talk to your child about the report. What do you want to ask the teacher? Make a list.

Ask Questions:

Arrive on time. Bring your list of questions. The teacher will review your child's Progress Report or show you samples of your child's work. Tell the teacher what your child likes and dislikes about school. Parent-teacher interviews are strictly confidential. Share personal information that might be affecting your child's progress or behaviour at school (e.g., family illness, job search). This information will help the teacher better understand your child.

What does my child do well?

What skills does she or he still need to develop?

Is my child receiving extra help? In what subjects?

What is your homework policy? How much time should my child be spending on homework?

How does my child get along with the other students?

How can I help my child at home?

What is the best way to contact you if I have more questions?

Take notes so that you can share the comments with your child.

Follow Up:

Talk to your child. Celebrate the positive things that you have heard. Talk about how you and the teacher are going to help with the things that need to be improved. The more your child sees home and school working in partnership, the more effective this partnership will be!

Celebrating our Diversity

November's Holidays and Observances

BAHA'I FAITH	CHRISTIANITY
<p>November 26— The Day of the Covenant. The eldest son and appointed successor of Baha'u'llah Abdu'l-Baha's referred to as the "Centre of the Covenant". The covenant was established by Baha'u'llah to safeguard the unity of the Baha'I community. It was Abdu'l-Baha's wish that the Covenant be celebrated rather than his own birthdate.</p> <p>November 28— Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha'. After years of serving both his father and the growing community, Abdu'l-Baha' passed away in Haifa Israel in 1921 CE.</p>	<p>November 1— All Saint's Day. Is observed as a special day in many Christian churches.</p>
ISLAM	JAINISM
<p>November 9— Mawlid-un-Nabi celebrates the birth of the prophet Muhammad (pbuh)</p>	<p>November 1- Gyan Panchami, the day of knowledge, observed with Pooja (ritualistic offering) to pay homage to Saraswati Devi, the deity of knowledge and learning</p>
SIKHISM	
<p>November 12- Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. The founder of the Sikh faith was born in 1469 C.E.</p> <p>November 24- Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadar Ji. The Guru was executed in 1675 C.E. by a Mughal emperor. Sikhs believe that he gave his life to save the Hindu faith and religious liberty.</p>	