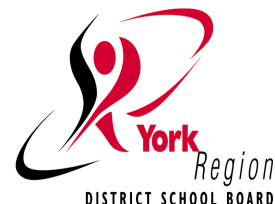


OCTOBER 2018

The Info @ Michaëlle Jean P.S.



Website: <http://www.michaëllejean.ps.yrdsb.ca>

Email: michaëlle.jean.ps@yrdsb.ca

Principal: Nora Mazlounian

Michaëlle Jean P.S.

Superintendent: Michael Cohen

320 Shirley Dr.

905-884-4477

Admin. Support: Karen Gaston

Richmond Hill, Ontario L4S2P1

Trustee: Carol Chan

Karen Cizmar

Phone: 905-770-6507

Fax: 905-770-9336

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 4	School Council 7 p.m.
Oct. 8	Thanksgiving (no school)
Oct. 11	Photo Day
Oct. 15	Lice Crew
Oct. 22	PA Day
Oct. 26	Character Assembly
Nov. 7	Heritage Schoolhouse (Mme Safar)
Nov. 8	Heritage School House (Mme Barr)
Nov. 13	Heritage School House (Mme Messeroux)
Nov. 13-16	Scientists in the School Gr. 2
Nov. 14	Heritage School House (Mme Darvish)
Nov. 15	Heritage Schoolhouse (Mme Afonina) Photo Retakes

Message from your Administrator

Dear MJPS Families,

We can't believe how quickly our first month has gone by. Thank you to all our families, staff and volunteers who contribute to the success of our students.

In September, we had a great deal of excitement throughout the school. Students were thrilled to reunite with their friends, meet their new teachers and classmates. Our Meet the Teacher night was a huge success! Thank you to everyone for taking the time out of your evening to join us on such an important day of the year.

The YRDSB designated September 24th to 28th, 2018 as Safety Week for all schools. During this time, we held a Fire drill as well as a Lockdown Drill.

Everyone was well prepared and both ran very smoothly. Later in the year, our Grade 3 students will have the opportunity to speak with our VIP police liaison to talk about student safety and well-being at school, at home and in the community.

Our first School Council meeting will be held this week. At the Annual General Meeting on October 4th, 2018 at 7 p.m., we will hold the annual election for member positions for the 2018-2019 School Council. Please remember that everyone is welcome to attend our School Council meetings. We look forward to seeing you on October 4th at 7:00 pm!

Nora Mazlounian
Principal

Safety for Students with allergies



Creating a safe and healthy environment that meets the needs of everyone at our school is a challenge at the best of times; however, this challenge is even more difficult when we are dealing with students with severe and/or life threatening allergies. While it is virtually impossible to ensure a completely risk-free environment, there are some key measures that we can put in place to protect everyone.

1. If your child suffers from allergies, please inform the teacher and the office immediately so that key information can be shared and emergency procedures put in place or reviewed.
2. If there is emergency medication that needs to be administered immediately after a reaction, please sign the appropriate release forms at the office, ensure that the office has a current dose of the medication and that your child also carries an easily accessible dose on his/her person.
3. Please read labels carefully when choosing snacks and meals for our child.
4. Remind your child that he is NOT allowed to share food with others.
5. In an effort to keep all of our students and staff safe, birthday cakes, treats etc. cannot be brought to the school for distribution at any point in time during the school year.

We appreciate your support and understanding.

Le caractère compte!

Character matters!

New this year, in consultation with the staff, the focus of our character assemblies will not be on individual student, but rather on an entire class and the character trait that they have demonstrated as a group.

We believe that this builds teamwork and collaboration among students, rather than competition. Classes will be recognized for a variety of traits such as respect, responsibility, honesty, empathy, fairness and many more.

Our first assembly will take place on October 26th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Your child's teacher will inform you if their class will be receiving a certificate during a particular assembly.

We hope to see many of our families on October 26th.

MICHAELLE JEAN P.S. BELIEVES IN

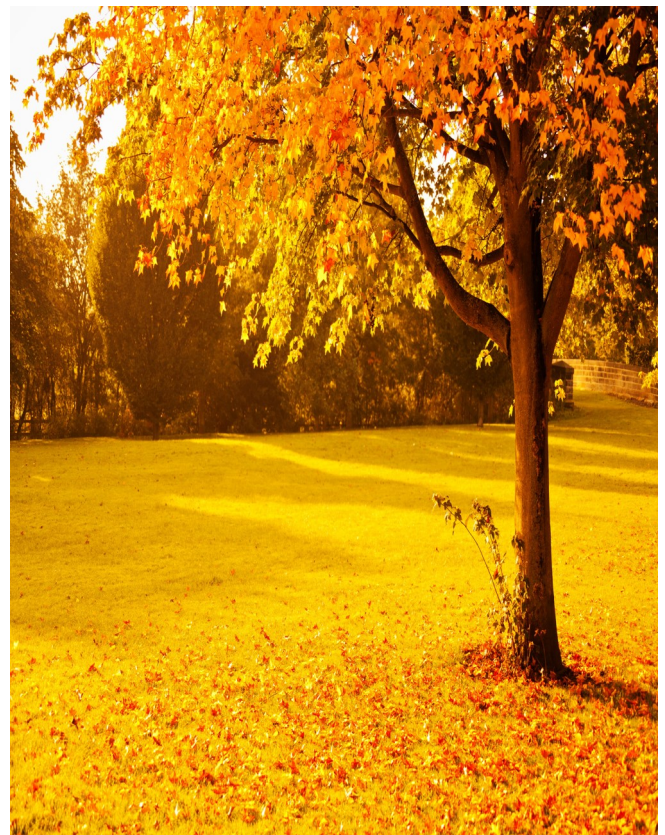
Respect Responsibility Honesty

Empathy Fairness Initiative

Courage Integrity Perseverance

Emergency Forms

In the event of an emergency, we rely on the information you have provided us on the emergency forms. Please take a moment to go over the student verification registration form that will be sent home shortly and ensure that all your information is updated. You can make any necessary changes directly on the form and return it to us as soon as possible so that we may update our files.



Online Payments at MJPS

School Cash Online provides the following benefits:

- * A convenient fee payment option that saves time
- * Reduces paper
- * No more need to send cash or cheques to school
- * A quick way to register. You can register in less than 5 minutes.

Parents who opt to participate will receive email notifications of school programs. Parents can make online payments via Interac or credit card and receive a receipt.

You will need to know your child's student number to register. Many students know their number already (the number that they use to log onto the computer at school) and it is conveniently located on the top left of the "student registration verification form". Should you still require the number, please contact the office.

To register please click on the School Cash Online link on our school's website at:

<http://www.michaellejean.ps.yrdsb.ca>

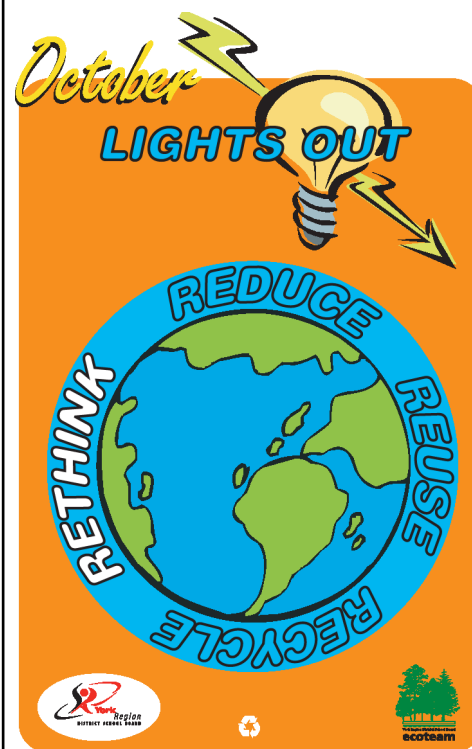
and select the "get started today" button.

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.

October Eco Theme: Lights Out

This month we are challenged to "Rethink" our use of lighting in our schools and administrative centres. Simply turning lights off when not in use is one very effective way to reduce energy consumption and help the environment. A significant savings in energy is achieved when lights are turned off in classrooms during the lunch period. This can easily be achieved in the workplace as well. Also, if you know of a light that everyone forgets to turn off, make a sticker or a sign to hang next to the switch that says "Lights Out!". Try it at home and notice the difference it makes.



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!!**

Terrific Organization Tips

Helping your child get organized can help to decrease stress for everyone.

Here is a top 10 list of Tips for Organization

1. Break Tasks into Chunks

Help your child break up chores or homework into smaller more manageable parts. This will prevent the task from feeling overwhelming.

2. Use Lists with Pictures

Make a visual list with a picture next to it of all the things that should be in their backpack and post on the front door.

Do I have
glasses



agenda



lunch



binder



3. Teach Time Management Skills

Ask your child how long they think they will need to complete a task. Discuss whether the time estimate was accurate or not when the task has been completed.

4. Establish Daily Routines

Creating a regular schedule can help children to expect what comes next. Parenting Coach is a website that offers many tools and tips to support you with this.

5. Use Colour-Coding

Colour-coding helps children organize their resources. For example green folders, duo-tangs and notebooks are for Math. On a family calendar, the same extra-curricular activity could be highlighted in the same colour. For example yellow highlighter for piano and orange highlighter for soccer.

Stay tuned next month for some more organization tips.

Students' health and medical info



This is just a reminder that we have received **NEW Medical Forms for 2018** from the Board. If you have not filled out the **NEW 2108** medical forms for a child suffering from anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy or diabetes, we ask that you do so as soon as possible. New forms were recently sent home with students identified with these needs. If you have misplaced the forms, please contact the office and we will gladly provide you with a new copy. Thank you for your cooperation.



Student Transportation

The majority of students at Michaëlle Jean P.S. arrive to school via school bus. It is our priority to ensure the safe arrival of all students. You can support them by

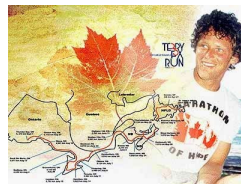
1. Ensuring that your child knows his/her bus route number and the name of the stop where he/she boards and gets off the bus
2. Ensuring that your child arrives at the bus stop on time in the morning
3. Talking to your child about safety on the bus, including staying seated, no throwing objects out of the window or in the bus, no loud conversations.
4. Ensuring that if your child will not be riding the bus on a particular day or if your plans for pick-up change, your child's teacher is informed in writing that day and the office is informed

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com

Terry Fox Walk



On September 27th, all students participated in our school's walk for the Terry Fox Foundation. So many lives have been touched by cancer and so, we all benefit from the research made possible through the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you to all families who made a donation for this worthy cause.

Photo Day

This year, photo day will take place on

Thursday, October 11th, 2018

Please note that we will continue to use Edge Imaging as our photographer. You may place your orders online or fill out the envelope sent home. Discounts apply for families with multiple children as well as family members that are attending different schools also using Edge Imaging.



Scent Sensitivities

Some children and adults also suffer from allergies to scents and perfumes. When exposed to such scents, it can become difficult for these people to breathe easily. We ask that all children and adults entering the school refrain from wearing or using scented products (e.g., hand sanitizers, body sprays and perfumes, etc.) when coming to the school. Although the scent may not be strong for you, it can be very strong to those with sensitivities.

We appreciate your understanding.



Electronic Transmission of School Materials:

As we are an Eco-Friendly school, once again this year we will be sending as much correspondence home electronically as we possibly can. If you have not already provided us with your email address(es), or if you wish to remove/update your existing email address(es), please forward a reply via email to Karen Cizmar at karen.cizmar@yrdsb.ca indicating your child/ren's name as well as the new email addresses you would like us to keep on file.



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.

Thank you.

Halloween costume reminder



Halloween is just around the corner! We would like to ask for your cooperation in ensuring our students' safety by refraining from sending your child with a mask. Makeup is a good alternative and allows students to move around safely without tripping or stumbling when walking around the school. A reminder as well, to all students and their families that the school Board policy is that replica weapons are **strictly prohibited** on school property. Replica weapons include, but are not limited to guns, clubs, knives, swords, axes, scythes etc. Please help us maintain a safe school environment and ensure your child's costume remains "replica weapon" free.

Candy & Hallowe'en Treats:

- ◆ Remember that HEALTHY SNACKS are always preferred at school.
- ◆ Students should refrain from sharing Hallowe'en treats with friends / classmates at school.
- ◆ Please do not send your child with treats to share with his/her class due to the different allergies students have.



EDSBY Reporting



YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



How to report absences online using Edsby – **Step by step document:**

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/boarddocs/Pages/Reporting-Absences-.aspx>

How to report absences online using Edsby – **Step by step video:**

<https://vimeo.com/165483080>

How to report absences via the mobile app – **Step by step document:**

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/boarddocs/Pages/PlanningScheduling-an-Absence.aspx>

A B C's Of Student Success



is for ATTENDANCE.

Attendance is a critical factor in any child's school success. Children should attend school every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. It is impossible to replace the learning that happens on any school day with make-up work. Regular attendance and promptness are good habits that are expected and appreciated at all levels of schooling *and* in the workplace. This year, make school a priority in your household. Commit to excellence in attendance. Your child's future depends on it!

©Copyright EducationWorld.com

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	86%	71%	61%

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/>

Celebrating our Diversity

October's Holidays and Observances

BUDDHISM	CHRISTIANITY
<p>October 24 – Pavarana signals the completion of the Rains of Retreat.</p> <p>October 25 – Kathina marks Buddha's "descent from heaven". The day is dedicated to remembering the dead and respecting elders.</p>	<p>October 7 – World Communion Sunday is observed worldwide. Communion is the most fundamental of all Christian rituals. (Christianity)</p>
HINDUISM	WICCA
<p>October 9-17– Navaratri-(Fall is a nine-day celebration of the Divine Goddess for good health, happiness and knowledge.</p>	<p>October 31 – Samhain. The third harvest, meaning "summer's end", when the ancestors are honoured. It is a magical interval when the mundane laws of time and space are temporarily suspended, and the thin veil between the worlds is lifted, symbolized by the Crone and her aged Consort.</p>
JUDAISM	
<p>October 1 – Shemini Atzeret is a festival marking the end of the holiday of Sukkot on which a special prayer for rain is recited.</p>	<p>October 2 – Simchat Torah is marked by singing and dancing which celebrates the end of public reading of the Torah in the synagogue and the beginning of its reading anew.</p>