



MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nadia Russiello
 Jean Rudman

Principal
 Vice-Principal

Michael Cohen
 Carol Chan

Superintendent
 Trustee



| Dates and Events | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sep 28 - Oct 2 | Safety Awareness Week |
| 1 | Karate Kids (Gr. 2 & 3) |
| 2 | Pizza and Sub Lunch Orders due |
| 4 | World Communion Sunday (Christianity) |
| 5 | Shemini Atzeret (Judaism) |
| 6 | Simchat Torah (Judaism) |
| 8 | Karate Kids (Gr. 2 & 3) |
| 12 | Thanksgiving (No School) |
| 13 | Navaratri begins (Hinduism) |
| 14 | First Day of Muhurram (Islam) |
| 14 | School Picture Day |
| 15 & 16 | Lice Check |
| 15 | Karate Kids (Grade 2 & 3) |
| 16 | Pizza Lunch begins |
| 19 | Sub Lunch begins |
| 19 | Lice Check |
| 20 | The Birth of the Bab (Baha'i Faith) |
| 20 | Anti-Bullying Magic Show |
| 22 | Karate Kids (Gr. 2 & 3) |
| 29 | Karate Kids (Gr. 2 & 3) |
| 30 | Halloween Parade |
| 31 | Samhain (Wicca) |
| 31 | Halloween |

Message from the Principal and Vice Principal

It has been another busy start to the school year with students and staff working diligently to get into the swing of classroom and school routines. Students have quickly made new friends, reconnected with old friends and adapted to new routines and teachers. We have been working hard to ensure that our grade 1 students have adjusted well to their new school and have mastered the two bus shifts. We are very proud of our grade 1 students and how they have adapted to a new school community, are learning a new language and have experienced recess for the first time. Bravo to our grade 1's!

We also want to thank parents/guardians for your patience as you sifted through large amounts of paper- from school and board forms, to pizza and sub orders. We can assure you that this will slow down now that the September rush is over.

Thank you to parents who have shown interest in the School Council and volunteering for School Lunches. An update from the School Council will be provided to you with the names of its members.

We look forward to our next month together!

Sincerely,

N. Russiello
 N. Russiello

J. Rudman
 J. Rudman



SCHOOL VISITORS

Reminder! For the safety of all our students and in accordance with the School Board's Safe Schools Policy, all parents must check in at the office. This includes when volunteering for the lunch programs.

Picture Day

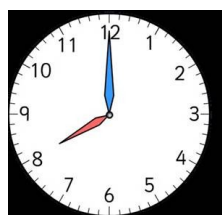
Picture Day will be October 14.

Please remember not to wear **green**.



Points of Interest

- Administrators' Message
- School Visitors
- Punctuality
- Picture Day
- Allergies
- Halloween Safety
- Bus Information
- YRDSB App
- Pick up and Drop Off
- Recess Breaks
- Clothing & Footwear
- Public Health Message



Punctuality

As we move into October and the routines are set, we continue to thank you for getting your child(ren) to school on time. We strongly urge our students to arrive at the school prior to the 8:00 am bell. Our opening activities are important as we review routines, events and information students need to know to begin their day.

ALLERGIES

In recent years the number of people suffering from environmental and food allergies has dramatically increased. We at Michaëlle Jean P.S. are very sensitive to this situation as we have a number of students and staff members who suffer from these kinds of allergies. In some severe cases, life threatening allergic reactions can be triggered simply by entering a room in which a peanut product or perfume is present.

For this reason, we ask you

to refrain from sending
peanut products to school
with your child and we ask
that anyone entering the



building refrain from wearing a scent.

We recognize that trying to maintain an allergen safe environment is very difficult and, to some, an inconvenience. For this we apologize but we are prepared to experience a slight inconvenience to protect the life of another.



HALLOWE'EN COSTUMES AND SCHOOL SAFETY

Halloween is a time of great excitement for all of our students. We ask that students do not arrive at school in costume, but rather change in the afternoon. We would like to remind all of our parents that Halloween treats are NOT to be brought to school as the risk to students with allergies is too great.

In keeping with the theme of Safe Schools we would like you to be aware that it is the policy of the York Region District School Board to prohibit weapons and replicas from being brought to school at any time. With Halloween approaching we remind parents that this policy includes costumes.

Weapons or replicas of any kind, including swords, guns, knives and axes are not to be brought to school.

BUS INFORMATION

Most of our students travel to and from school by bus on a daily basis. Others will likely ride the school bus sometime throughout the year. It is important for students and parents to understand that bussing is a privilege and all school rules apply while the students are on a bus. Students must also respect the driver's bus rules.



The following is a list of safety measures to review with your child:

- Students should wait for the bus in an orderly fashion on the curb. Students should not move from the curb until the bus has stopped.
- Students should stay seated at all times and be facing the front of the bus. If the bus turns or has to stop quickly, students seated in this manner should be able to avoid bumps or falls.
- To avoid falls, keep the aisles free from feet, backpacks, books or school projects.
- On the bus, students should use a quiet voice and refrain from horseplay - this helps the driver avoid distractions. It is important for everyone's safety that the driver is able to keep his/her eyes on the road.
- Students should always keep heads and arms inside the bus windows. Items should never be thrown out of the windows.
- Cross only in front of the bus where your driver can see you. If you drop something, do not run back to pick up the lost items. The bus driver may not be able to see you running back to the bus.

SPOONS AND FORKS

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

Thank you



DOWNLOAD THE YRDSB APP!

Did you know that you can download the York Region District School Board app, *YRDSB Mobile*, using your iPhone, Android or Blackberry 10 device?

YRDSB Mobile provides parents and students with up-to-date news, access to student resources, school maps and contact information. Users are able to access the *Report It* tool, school year calendars, transportation information and much more.

To download the free app, search for "YRDSB" in your app store.

PICK UP AND DROP OFF

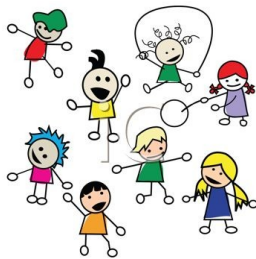
Please remember that only buses are allowed in the bus loop between 7:45 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. and between 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. This is imperative for your children’s safety! Also please remember that students may only enter the school from the school yard; only this entry area is supervised. The pathway on the south side of the building is out of bounds. **Also, if you plan to pick up your child early from school, you must send your child’s teacher a note and come to the office to sign out your child as well.** If you call the office, we may not get this message until much later so a note to the teacher is preferable.



If your child’s pick up arrangements change, please send a note in the agenda AND contact the office with the information by 12:00 p.m. that day.

RECESS BREAKS

Students are expected to be prepared for outdoor recess. If the weather is very cold, stormy or rainy, an indoor routine is followed. Generally speaking, if your child is too sick to go out at recess, then your child is too sick to attend school. Requests to stay in at recess or lunch cannot be accommodated as we do not have staff to supervise indoors.



CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Please make sure your child has a pair of **indoor shoes** for school with non-marking soles. Outdoor shoes track in mud and dirt and it can be very uncomfortable for the children to wear wet shoes and socks all day. Every student **must** have a clean pair of sneakers for their physical education classes, which they can also wear as indoor shoes. Please help your child achieve success in physical education and help us keep the school clean.

Please also send in a change of clothing for your child. Children often need to change into clean/dry clothes during the day. Please label all items.



Halloween candy... a sticky topic for parents!

Parents are often left wondering how to help their children manage their Halloween treats as part of a healthy diet. The key is to provide structure. Here are some guidelines:

1. After trick or treating, let your children empty their candy bag, sort it and eat as much of it as they want. Let them do the same the next day.
2. On the third day, have them put the candy away and only allow a couple of pieces to be eaten during meals and/or snacks.
3. Schedule meals and snacks at regular times. Keep the routine of letting your child have Halloween candy only at these times. This way, the candy will not spoil your child’s diet.
4. Offer milk, fruit or vegetables with the candy to offer some nutrition.



Adapted from Your Child’s Weight Helping without Harming Birth through Adolescence. Elyn Satter, 2005

For more information about how you can help your child’s school create a healthy school nutrition environment, visit www.nutritiontoolsforschools.ca



1-800-361-5653
TTY: 1-866-252-9933
York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services
Public Health

www.york.ca





Celebrating Our Diversity

October's Holidays & Observances

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Baha'i Faith</p> <p>October 20: <i>The Birth of the Bab.</i> The Bab was born Siyyid' Ali Muhammad in Shiraz in southwestern Iran in 1819 C.E. His title, in Arabic, means "The Gate". Work and academic studies are suspended on this day.</p> | <p>Hinduism</p> <p>October 13-21: Navaratri (Fall) is a nine-day celebration of the Divine Goddess for good health, happiness and knowledge.</p> |
| <p>Christianity</p> <p>October 4: <i>World Communion Sunday</i> is observed worldwide. Communion is the most fundamental of all Christian rituals.</p> | <p>Judaism</p> <p>October 5: <i>Shemini Atzeret</i> is a festival marking the end of the holiday of Sukkot on which a special prayer for rain is recited.</p> |
| <p>Islam</p> <p>October 14: Muharram (New Year's Day) beings the new Islamic year. This is the year 1437.</p> <p>October 23: Ashura falls on the 10th day of Muharram. The 10th day commemorates the martyrdom of Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).</p> | <p>October 6: <i>Simchat Torah</i> 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> |
| <p>Wicca</p> <p>October 31: <i>Samhain.</i> 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> | |