



MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

320 Shirley Drive, Richmond Hill, L4S 2P1
 Telephone: (905) 770-6507
 E-mail: michaellejeans@yrdsb.edu.on.ca
 Website: www.michaellejean.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca



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

Superintendent: Karen Friedman

Trustee: Carol Chan

Message from the Principal and Vice Principal

Welcome to a new school year! Hopefully, everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer break filled with fun and excitement. Another busy and productive year lies ahead, which will provide numerous opportunities for us to collectively serve and nurture our children. A warm welcome is extended to all new members of the MJPS Community, especially to our grade 1 students who are new to our school.

We would like to welcome back all of our returning students now in grades 2 and 3. It is remarkable how we have grown in such a short time! We continue to be blessed with a community that is committed to our school. Please join us in welcoming back our returning staff and new staff, Mme Mandlsohn, Mme Zealey, and Mme Tajahmady. We updated everyone in June regarding staff changes. We would also like to welcome back Mme Bourrie and wish Mme Bawab and Mme D'Agostino a wonderful year off during their leave of absence. We would also like to thank our custodial staff, M. Marino, M. Battaglini, and M. O'Leary as well as our office staff, Mme DiLucia and Mme Hijazi for working so hard to get our school ready for this school year. Our teachers, support staff, secretarial staff and custodians have done an excellent job of getting the school ready for another positive and successful year.

The beginning of a new school year means many things for our students and parents. For some, this is a new adventure-their first year in French Immersion. For others, it is their turn to be in the older grades and have a classroom upstairs. All of us will be working together to make this beginning a successful one.

Important Information and Important Forms

During the first week of school, there will be classroom newsletters and important information coming home with your child. Please take the time to review this information and complete and return the appropriate forms. The following documents contain important information regarding school and board routines and procedures. Please review and keep them for future reference:

Student Agenda Parent Insert

The School Start Up Package

The Guide to the New School Year

Thank you again for taking the time to review this information.

Inside this Issue

P/VP Message
 Agendas
 Student Registration
 Verification Emergency Form
 School Organization
 Safe Arrival
 School Hours
 Pick Up and Drop Off
 No Parking Zone
 Visitors Sign-in
 Front Doors
 Lunches/Allergies
 Clothing and footwear
 Personal Property
 Physical Education
 Bussing Eligibility
 Curriculum Night
 P.A. Day
 Picture Day
 September events
 Staff List
 June 25 Early Dismissal
 P.A. Days
 School Year Calendar
 School Council News
 Safety Awareness Week



SCHOOL INFORMATION

AGENDAS AND GUIDE TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The agenda/planner is an excellent communication tool between home and school which also promotes excellent organizational skills. It has been well received and successfully implemented in many schools across the Board. We will continue to implement the use of the agenda/planner in all grades. The MJPS parent handbook is also included in the agenda. This year, all students will receive an agenda free of charge thanks to funding from our school and School Council.

An additional handbooks: "**School Start Up Package**" and "**Guide to the New School Year**" will also be sent home. Please keep this document, which has lots of information about the school and board procedures, for future reference.

STUDENT REGISTRATION VERIFICATION EMERGENCY FORMS !!!!

These forms will be sent home with your child during the first week of school. Please verify these forms for accuracy and to ensure we have accurate contact information. Please sign and date these forms and return them asap. Please remember to update the office throughout the year if there are any future changes to addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, medical conditions, etc...

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Our school organization for this year remains **tentative**. As you are aware, the Ministry of Education has mandated a hard cap of 20 students in each of the primary (1-3) classes. Since this is a hard cap, there is little flexibility to increase the limit above 20.

In French Immersion we have the additional challenge of children who are registered but do not arrive as well as all the late registrations that arrive the first week. Class size will be closely monitored by our administration over the next 3 weeks and is it very probable that we will need to reorganize. We will update the community of any changes to our organization at a later date which will occur on the PA day September 22nd.

DAILY SCHEDULE

7:45 a.m.-7:55 a.m.	Busses unload
7:57 a.m.	Students enter the school
8:00 a.m.	Classes begin
9:40 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Morning recess
11:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m.	Lunch Hour
2:20 p.m.	Dismissal bell
2:20 p.m. -2:40p.m.	Bus boarding



SAFE ARRIVAL

Please notify the school as soon as possible if your child is going to be away from school or late for school. You may phone or send a note in the agenda. A message can be left on our answering machines 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

(905-770-6507)



SCHOOL PROCEDURES

PICK UP AND DROP OFF ROUTINES

We ask all parents to support us in ensuring the safe arrival and departure of all our children. WE ENCOURAGE ALL PARENTS TO PUT THEIR CHILDREN ON THE SCHOOL BUS IF THEY ARE ENTITLED TO IT.

We would like to remind parents that **buses have priority to enter the school for the safety of all our students and because the buses have to make two stops, one at our school and one at Beverley Acres every morning and every afternoon.** The entrance to the school will be closed to all vehicles except for buses **between 7:45 a.m. and 8:10 a.m. and between 2:00 p.m. and 2:45 p.m.** This procedure is necessary to allow for the busses to safely enter and exit the school.

Parking continues to be a concern. We have a large staff and therefore we need most of the parking spots on the school lot for our teachers, office staff and caretaking. It is for this reason that we encourage you to park on Shirley Drive and walk to the school with your child.

We appreciate your support as we continue to refine parking at our school. **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.

*****bus passes or bus switches are not issued at our school due to safety reasons*****

No Parking in the loop at the Front of the School

Please do not park in the loop at the front of the school. This is the Fire Route and we require that this area remain open in the event that emergency vehicles need access.



VISITORS-Any person entering the school must report to the office

For the protection and safety of our children and staff, everyone must adhere to this rule. Please note that visitors to our school and parent volunteers must wear a *Visitor Badge* obtained at the office and must sign in the *Visitor's Log Book*.

All parent volunteers must have a recent Vulnerable Sector Screening completed. Please click on the following link to access the form required for a Vulnerable Sector Screening <http://www.yrp.ca/pvsc.aspx>

SAFE WELCOME PROGRAM- FRONT DOORS

For student safety, our front doors will continue to be locked with the following exceptions:

- The school front door will be **unlocked** between the time of the dismissal bell and when the main office closes.
- The front door to access the childcare program will be **unlocked** after the main office closes.
- Classroom doors to a childcare program or an after school activity will be locked when these programs are in session and the front door is unlocked.
- An appropriate door is to be **unlocked 15 minutes** before a permit begins, and is to be **locked 15 minutes** after the permit begins.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

LUNCHES AND ALLERGIES AWARENESS

Nutrition is very important. Please help your children make good food choices for their lunches. We discourage sharing of lunches because of food allergies. We continue to need your cooperation in keeping **the school a nut-safe area**. As we have explained in the past, we are doing all we can to protect the lives of some of our students who are deathly allergic to peanut and nut products. We need your help and vigilance in assisting us in providing a safe and healthy environment for all. In keeping with this policy, **please do not send food to school with your child to celebrate his or her birthday**. We will acknowledge birthdays by announcing them on the morning announcements and providing each student with a birthday pencil.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Please make sure your child has a pair of **indoor shoes** for school. 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 running shoes, with non-marking soles, 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.



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. The School Board or school will not assume any responsibility for lost or stolen items. We ask that all valuable items are left at home.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Please provide non-marking running shoes, shorts or comfortable pants for your child's gym days. As well we recommend for safety reasons that jewellery be removed the day of gym classes.

STUDENT BUSSING ELIGIBILITY

Did you know that students' bussing 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CURRICULUM NIGHT INVITATION

This year we will have our Curriculum Night on October 2nd beginning at 6:45 p.m. sharp. Our evening will begin at 6:45 sharp and end by 8:00 p.m.

This will be your opportunity to meet your children's teachers and learn about the curriculum expectations for their grade and their particular classroom routines. This is also a perfect opportunity to ask questions about the programme. Please remember that this is not a parent-teacher interview night.

This is a very important evening and we strongly urge you to attend. We ask that you leave your child at home as **this is a parents' only presentation. More information will be forthcoming.**



PICTURE DAY

All students and classes will be photographed on **October 14, 2014**

P.A. DAY

On Monday, September 22, all the schools in the YRDSB will be involved in professional development activities and reorganization of classes to meet the Ministry class size compliance. There will be no classes for students on this day.



Upcoming Events for September

September 3	Welcome Assembly
September 8	School Council Fundraising Assembly
September 15	Bus Safety & Evacuation
September 16	Gr. 3 VIP program with our local police constable
September 22	P A Day - No School
September 23-24	Lice Checks
September 23	Parent Council Meeting- All are welcome in the library at 7:00 pm
September 24	Terry Fox Walk
Sep 29 to Oct 3	Safety Week
October 2	Meet the Teacher and Curriculum Night
October 14	Smile it's Picture Day!



MICHAËLLE JEAN TEACHING STAFF

GRADE 1	VOICE MAIL
Mme Gray	115
Mme Karchevskaya	117
Mme C. Lee	113
Mme Zealey	109
Mme Yum	108
Mme Ryan	116
Mme Samuel	120
Mme Collin	114
GRADE 2	
Mme Mandlsohn.....	200
Mme Hill	132
Mme Brunet	125
Mme Kamyab	224
Mme Kim	202
Mme Marjanovic.....	201
Mme Yau	131
Mme Barr	217
M Attias	223
Mme Bourrie	126
GRADE 3	
Mme Bessette	215
Mme Darvish	219
Mme Griffiths	220
Mme A. Lee.....	218
Mme Messeroux	P2-321
Mme Safar	222
Mme Bernard	P1-322
SUPPORT STAFF	
Mme Kalfon (Sert).....	204
Mme Tollefsen (Library).....	186
TBA (Music).....	119
M Vojnic (Phys. Ed.).....	205
M Segbor (Phys. Ed.).....	205
Mme Simba (Social Studies).....	188
Mme Tajahmady (Social Studies).....	205

June 25th, 2015 Early Dismissal in Elementary Schools

All students have received a copy of the *2014-15 Learning Calendar*. Please note that on **Thursday, June 25th, 2015** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to participate in activities in the afternoon of that day in support of student achievement and school planning.

Students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 25th, 2015 only. More details will follow closer to the date.

P.A. Days for 2014-2015

Monday, September 22, 2014
Monday, October 27, 2014
Friday, November 14, 2014
Friday, January 16, 2015
Monday, February 2, 2015
Friday, March 13, 2015
Friday, June 5, 2015
Friday, June 26, 2015

School Holidays for 2014-2015

Labour Day

Monday, September 1, 2014

Thanksgiving

Monday, October 13, 2014

Winter Break

Monday, December 22, 2014
to Friday, January 2, 2015 inclusive

Family Day

Monday, February 16, 2015

March Break

Monday, March 16, 2015
to Friday, March 20, 2015 inclusive

Good Friday

Friday, April 3, 2015

Easter Monday

Monday, April 6, 2015

Victoria Day

Monday, May 18, 2015

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

MJPS School Council is an amazing group of parent volunteers who have contributed positively to so many aspects of school life. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of parent volunteers who are part of Council. Our first meeting is scheduled for :

Date- September 23

Location- Library

Time- 7pm

All are welcome!

Please remember that you do not need to be a member of School Council to attend any of the meetings. All parents are encouraged to join the meetings and provide input whenever possible.

Our Council continues to support our School Improvement Plan, school initiatives and programs. The Council has also enhanced many of our school resources, technology and library books. If you would like to join Council, please complete the *School Council Candidate Nomination Form* which is in your package.

If you are not interested in joining our School Council but would like to volunteer at our school (classroom, school lunches, school events), please complete the *Volunteer in our Schools Form* and indicate your areas of interest. A parent council member or staff will contact you in the near future.

We hope to see you at our Council meetings or volunteering in the school. We look forward to the valuable contributions our parents continue to make to our school community.

SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

The York Region District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students. During the year, we will have several practice fire evacuation drills and lock down drills. To further support this endeavour, the week of **September 29 to October 3** has been designated YRDSB Safety Awareness Week. All public elementary and secondary schools across the region will be featuring activities and events that highlight various facets of safety at school and in the community. As part of the Safety Awareness Week activities, all schools in the York Region District School Board will be conducting emergency preparedness exercises. To ensure that all members of the school community are familiar with the emergency procedure, we will be conducting practice drills. In advance of the drill, we will review protocols and expectations during an emergency with all students, staff and affected partners.