

MICHAËLLE JEAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Website: www.michaillejean.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Nadia Russiello
Jean Rudman
Michael Cohen
Carol Chan

Principal
Vice-Principal
Superintendent
Trustee



Message from the Principal and Vice Principal

Welcome Back! Bonne Rentrée! On behalf of all the staff at Michaille Jean Public School, we would like to welcome all of the families in our community to another exciting school year! We hope that everyone enjoyed a safe and relaxing summer, and that all students are ready and eager to meet the challenge and excitement that comes with the start of another school year.

Every school year brings with it a wealth of possibility, opportunity and new beginnings. Both myself and my Vice Principal are thrilled to be serving the Michaille Jean PS community. 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. Together we will seek to provide the best environment possible for the academic and personal achievement of our students.

We have been busy preparing for the arrival of students! A special thank you is extended to our office staff for all their work to ensure a smooth start to the school year. Also, our caretaking staff has done an amazing job preparing classrooms for learning. A hearty 'Merci' goes out to our teachers for all their work in making your children's classrooms welcoming learning environments.

MJPS is pleased to welcome the following new and returning staff members for the 2015-2016 school year: Mme D'Agostino, Mme Bawab, Mme Papas, Mme German, Mme Daigle, Mme Darnley, Mme Zealey, Mme Prabakaran, M. Nelong, M. Wong and M. Ebtessam.

We are committed to student learning through focused instruction for each student and in working together to build a safe, supportive and inclusive school climate. We know that when parents, teachers and students are partners in education, a caring community is formed and student learning is supported. As partners, we support each other's efforts on behalf of our students. Please call the school with any questions or to discuss ideas with us. We strongly believe and value the community school concept, where the school is an integral part of the community and serves students and their families by providing opportunities for life-long learning.

Sincerely,

N. Russiello

J. Rudman

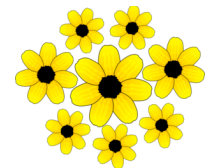
N. Russiello
Principal

J. Rudman
Vice Principal



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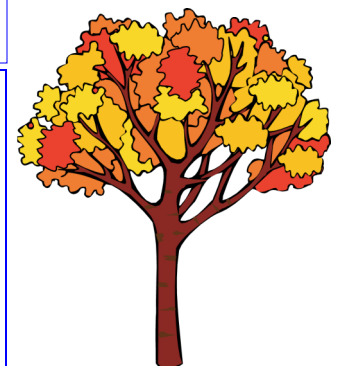
Important Information and Important Forms

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

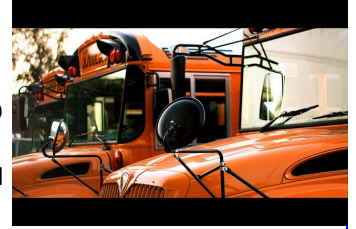
The School Start Up Package

The Guide to the New School Year



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 Beverly 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.

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.

*****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 Arrival

Please remember to call the school when your child is going to be absent or late. Our answering machine will take your calls when the office is closed. Calling will help us ensure the safety of your child and prevent a call to you at work or at the emergency number that you have provided for us. Please remember, the fewer calls we have to make, the sooner we are able to contact parents with a concern. When illness is at a peak we may have to make 50 or more calls in one morning.

The YRDSB protocol states that if we are not able to reach an adult to confirm a child's absence we are to call the police.

The Challenges of Change

We are closely monitoring the change in enrolment that occurs every year between June and September, in order to make the most effective school organization in accordance with Ministry of Education mandated class sizes. If there is a need to change the organization to meet the learning needs of all of our students, it will take place at the end of September. Should this occur, it is essential that we remain positive through the process. Our children take the lead from us and it is therefore important to face these challenges with a positive outlook. These sorts of reorganizations can be looked upon as adventures and opportunities to embrace change.

Keeping Our Environment and Students Safe

Allergies – We ask that you remember that a number of our students and staff members are allergic to many food products and scents. The York Region District School Board policies require us to keep the environment free of nuts and nut products. Although a good source of nutrients, nuts can be lethal to those with nut related allergies. **Please leave all nuts and nut products at home. Let's keep MLPS a nut safe place to learn and work.** 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.

Likewise, scents and perfumes can make breathing very difficult for those who suffer from allergies. Please refrain from wearing these products when you enter the school.

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

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 BUSING ELIGIBILITY



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.

P.A. DAY

On Monday, **September 28**, 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.



Picture Day

All students and classes will be photographed on October 14, 2015.



Casual School Assistants Needed

If you are interested in becoming a casual back up School/Lunch assistant at our school please contact our office. This is an occasional on call paid position for one hour at lunch time.



A Message from our Trustee Carol Chan



Welcome back to another school year.

I am happy to extend a warm welcome to our returning students and families and those who are new to our Board. I am the trustee for your child's school and your representative on the York Region District School Board of Trustees.

I am looking forward to continuing my work to ensure that all YRDSB students receive a high-quality education within safe, caring and inclusive learning environments.

In the coming year, trustees will continue to focus on the priorities that we set out in our Multi-Year Plan: student achievement and well-being, the delivery of effective and sustainable educational programs and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

We know that partnerships with families are essential to achieving this goal. Good schools become better schools when they are connected to parents and families.

I hope that you will find positive and meaningful ways to engage with your child's school over the course of the year. There will be many events and activities to look forward to throughout the year and many opportunities across the Region that support parent engagement.

2015-16 promises to be an exciting year. All the best for the upcoming school year!



Be Food Safe in packing lunches

Keep your children safe by using these four simple food safety steps when preparing and packing your child's lunch and snacks:

CLEAN: Wash your hands before preparing food. Wash all fruits and vegetables (even pre-washed or those with skins or rinds) under cool running water. Wash lunch bags and storage containers every day.

CHILL: Use an insulated lunch bag with ice packs to ensure that food is kept cold at 4°C (40°F) or below. Refrigerate foods prepared ahead of time until packing the lunch.

COOK: Use an insulated thermal container to keep lunches hot at 60°C (140°F) or above. Bring soups to a rolling boil and stir prior to packing in lunch bag (thermal container).

SEPARATE: Store lunches above and away from any raw meat, poultry or seafood in the fridge. Throw out any hazardous food (e.g. cheese, sandwiches, yogurt) that has returned home in the lunch bag.



For more information about creating a healthy school 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

MICHAËLLE JEAN TEACHING STAFF

| GRADE 1 | VOICE MAIL |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mme Gray | 115 |
| Mme Karchevskaya | 117 |
| Mme C. Lee | 113 |
| Mme Manarin | 109 |
| Mme Yum | 108 |
| Mme Ryan | 116 |
| M. Wong | 134 |
| Mme Collin | 114 |
| Mme Prabakaran | 120 |
| GRADE 2 | |
| Mme Bawab..... | 200 |
| Mme Zealey | 132 |
| Mme Darnley | 125 |
| Mme Kamyab | 224 |
| Mme Kim | 202 |
| Mme Marjanovic..... | 201 |
| Mme Yau | 131 |
| M. Nelong..... | 126 |
| GRADE 3 | |
| Mme Barr | 217 |
| Mme Bessette | 215 |
| Mme Darvish | 219 |
| Mme Griffiths | 220 |
| M. Mohamed..... | 218 |
| Mme Daigle..... | P2-321 |
| Mme Messeroux | 223 |
| Mme Safar | 222 |
| Mme German..... | P1-322 |
| Support Staff | |
| Mme Kalfon (SERT)..... | 204 |
| Mme Tollefsen (Library)..... | 186 |
| Mme D'Agostino (Music)..... | 119 |
| Mme. A. Lee (Phys. Ed.)..... | 205 |
| M Segbor (Phys. Ed.)..... | 205 |
| Mme Simba (Social Studies)..... | 205 |
| Mme Tajahmady (Social Studies)..... | 205 |
| Mme Papas (CYW)..... | 205 |

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 |



P.A. Days for 2015-2016

Thursday, September 3, 2015
Monday, September 28, 2015
Friday, November 27, 2015
Friday, January 15, 2016
Monday, February 1, 2016
Friday, June 3, 2016
Thursday, June 30, 2016

School Holidays for 2015-2016

Labour Day

Monday, September 7, 2015

Thanksgiving

Monday, October 12, 2015

Winter Break

Monday, December 21, 2015
to Friday, January 1, 2016 inclusive

Family Day

Monday, February 15, 2016

Mid-Winter Break

Monday, March 14, 2016
to Friday, March 18, 2016 inclusive

Good Friday

Friday, March 25, 2016

Easter Monday

Monday, March 28, 2016

Victoria Day

Monday, May 23, 2016



Celebrating Our Diversity

September's

Holidays & Observances

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Buddhism</p> | <p>Christianity</p> |
| <p>September 28: Pavarana signals the completion of the Rains of Retreat.</p> <p>September 29: Kathina marks Buddha's "descent from heaven". The day is dedicated to remembering the dead and respecting elders.</p> | <p>September 12: Coptic/Ethiopian Orthodox New Year. This is the day for Copts (Christians of Egyptian origin) to celebrate the New Year and the Feast</p> |
| <p>Islam</p> | <p>Hinduism</p> |
| <p>September 22: Day of Hajj (Day of Arafat), or Pilgrimage to Mecca, is undertaken once in a lifetime for those who can afford it. Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam after the Belief in One God, daily prayers, fasting and charity. On the Islamic calendar, it falls on the 9th day in the last month of Zul-Hijjah.</p> <p>September 23: Eid-ul-Adha is the Festival of Sacrifice. It honours Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Ishmael to God. In commemoration, Muslims sacrifice a sheep or goat and donate the meat or its equivalent value in cash to charity. This is the "minimum" requirement for those who can afford it.</p> | <p>September 5: Sri Krishna Jayanti (also known as Janmashtami) celebrates the birthday of Lord Krishna. According to the Hindu epics, Lord Krishna was the eighth incarnation of the God Vishnu. His purpose was to destroy the demon Kansa who was responsible for the increase of evil in the world.</p> <p>September 17: Ganesh Chaturthi celebrates the birthday of Ganesha, God of success and one of the major Hindu deities. He is invoked at the beginning of all new undertakings.</p> |
| <p>Judaism</p> | <p>Jainism</p> |
| <p>September 14-15: Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, marks the start of a ten day period of spiritual self examination and repentance which ends with Yom Kippur. Families celebrate with a festival dinner at which apples dipped in honey are eaten. (New Year's Day, 5776).</p> <p>September 23: Yom Kippur, the day of Atonement, is the most solemn of the Jewish Holy Days. At synagogue, the evening service is called Kol Nidre. People ask for forgiveness of their sins and forgive others. Jews refrain from all eating and drinking on this day.</p> <p>September 28-October 4: Sukkot is a harvest festival of thanksgiving. Small huts are constructed in which meals are eaten, weather permitting, to commemorate the time when the Israelites dwelled in booths in a desert for 40 years.</p> | <p>September 27: Ananta Chaturdasi is regarded as the holiest period of the year. Fasting, worship, meditation and confession characterize the period.</p> <p>Sikhism</p> <p>September 1: First Parkash observes the installation of the Guru Granth Sahib, the first edition of the Sikh Scriptures, in the Golden Temple by the fifth Guru, Arjan Dev, in 1604 C.E.</p> <p>Wicca</p> <p>September 22: Mabon Autumn Equinox and the second harvest. Wiccans take a moment to pay their respect to the impending dark. They celebrate the aging Goddess as she passes from Mother to Crone, and her consort the God as he prepares for death and rebirth.</p> |