



Michaëlle Jean P.S.

320 Shirley Drive, Richmond Hill, L4S 2P1
 Telephone: (905) 770-6507
 E-mail: michaëlle.jean.ps@yrdsb.ca
 Website: <http://michaelejean.ps.yrdsb.ca>

Principal: Nadia Russiello

Superintendent: Michael Cohen

Vice Principal: Linda Taglieri

Trustee: Carol Chan

Administrators' Message

January seems to bring with it a time for new beginnings, renewed hope and a determination to be a better person. It is important for children to understand and believe that although situations may not always have the outcome they would like, we can learn and become better people because of our willingness to work through them.

As adults, we need to encourage students to be open to new or unknown situations. We have all been faced with such challenges, and can recognize the empowerment and pride that comes from overcoming a fear, a change or an unknown possibility.

These are ways that we can help our children to become more resilient, that is, knowing that when they are faced with a challenge, they can overcome it. Will they be happy with the outcome of every situation? Probably not; however, these are important experiences that children must have in order to be prepared for difficult decisions in adolescence and even more complicated scenarios as adults. Learning how to compromise, work together and look for positive solutions are ways that we are trying to help Michaëlle Jean students grow as learners.

Mme Russiello et Mme Taglieri

Central Cares

Together with other schools in Central York Region, our community was able to raise a **total of \$2,270 in gift cards for families and enough items to help out 67 families. Thank you everyone for your generosity this holiday season.**

Our Vision

At Michaëlle Jean P.S., we begin to lay the foundation to prepare our students to become lifelong learners as they learn to effectively communicate in French. We promote an environment of cooperation, and encourage problem solving, independence and risk-taking.

We demonstrate respect for each other through our thoughts, actions and words.

We are responsible for our learning and our behaviour and strive to be positive in our outlook and our interaction with others. It is through our individual and collective efforts that we achieve a vibrant learning community.

January

- Jan. 8 – First Day back after the Break
- Jan. 12 – 8:30 am Character Assembly for December
- Jan. 15 & 16 – Mega Hoops
- Jan. 18 – Jersey Day
- Jan. 18 – French Immersion Info Night (for students entering grade 1 in Sept.2018)
- Jan 19 – PA Day
- Jan. 19 – Gr. 1 Registration begins
- Jan. 22 – Lice Check
- Jan. 22 – 26 – Scholastic Book Fair
- Jan. 26 – Character Assembly @ 8:30 am
- Jan. 30 – VIP for Grade 3s
- Feb. 2 – PA Day

Please check the school website for more events.



Pizza Fridays

If you ordered pizza through School Cash Online, please mark the following dates in your calendars:

January 12 & 26



Pita Mondays

If you ordered pitas through School Cash Online, please mark the following dates in your calendars:

January 8 & 22

February 5

Safe Arrival

If your child is going to be absent:

-Call 1-855-203-2994 or go online yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com before 8:00 a.m.

By reporting your child absent in advance using the **Safe Arrival** toll free number or website, you will NOT receive a call.

A confirmation number must be assigned once the absence is reported. Please do not hang up before the confirmation number is assigned.

Please contact the school office if you have questions.

Character Award Recipients for December

Grade 1:

Mme Collin – Nathan, Arissa
Mme Karchevskaya – Sarina, Aidan
Mme Lee – Rachel, Maximus
Mme Manarin – Haadi, Margeaux
Mme Mknjijan – Sophia, Pasha
Mme Prabakaran – Belle, Aaron
Mme Yum – Diana, Luke

Grade 3 :

Mme Barr – Dalia, Kimia
Mme Bessette – Ariana, Maayan
Mme Darvish – Ethan, Ariana
Mme Griffiths – Elspeth, Rasten

Grade 2:

Mme Bourrie – Omar, Baowen
Mme Kim – Eastton, Chloe
Mme Marjanovic – Kamila, Aydan
Mme Tadrissi – Skyller, Laura
Mme Tajahmady – Queensly, Gabriel
Mme Valerio – Ryan, Theo
Mme Xie – Ethan
Mme Yau – Sophia, Evan

Mme Messeroux – Jenna, Ryan
M. Mohamed – Noor, Mason
Mme Ryan – Zayed, Rihana
Mme Safar – Zeinab, Ethan

L'empathie



Le caractère compte ... Character Matters!

This month, we focus on honesty, "L'honnêteté": I will be sincere, trustworthy and truthful. At school, we encourage students to be honest, even when they've made a mistake and might be afraid of the consequences.

At home:

- Acknowledge that telling the truth may not always be easy.
- Model honesty with your children. Share a story from your childhood when you were dishonest and then discuss the impact of your dishonesty, what you could have done differently and how this affected others.

(Adapted from [Making Caring Common Project](#).)



Winter Weather & Recess

All students are expected to go outside for recess except in extreme conditions (e.g., cold, windy, icy conditions, etc.). Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather: boots, snow pants, mitts, a hat and scarf are all essential items for our wintery weather. Students should also have a change of clothes (including socks and pants) in case their clothing gets wet. **Please be sure to label your child's clothes and accessories**, as our lost & found tends to overflow in the winter months.

Please note: If a child is healthy enough to come to school, then the child will be sent outside for recess. If parents feel a child should not be outside for recess, it may be best to keep him/her at home to prevent the spread of the illness.

LUNCH ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

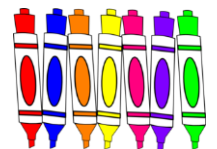
Are you able to spare 1 hour of time over our lunch hour? This is a paid position from 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. Our lunch assistants are invaluable members of our school team as they supervise while students eat, as well as during outdoor recess. Please call the school office if you can help.

Eco Corner

January – Marker & Pen Recycling

Send in your old, dried out markers and pens to be recycled. We will be collecting these items throughout the month of January.

February - Milk Bags – Start saving your milk bags. We will be collecting these to weave waterproof mats in February.



French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on January 18, 2018 at 7 p.m. Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2018 (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/Pages/Program-Locations.aspx>) to find the FI program location for your elementary school location. **FI registration will begin January 19, 2018.** Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2018, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to the designated FI program location to register between January 19 and February 9, 2018. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. Space requirements at some schools may mean that siblings are in different schools for primary dual track French Immersion programs due to differing grade structures. Like any of our schools across the Board, changes to school boundaries, and/or the accommodation model for the French Immersion program may need to be considered when new schools open, a school experiences enrolment growth, and program changes occur. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools.

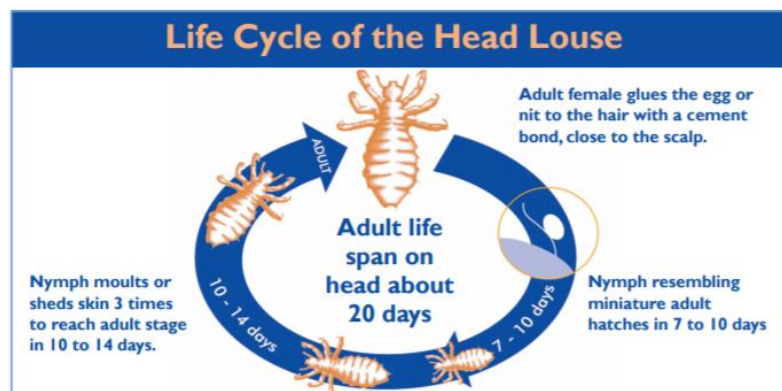
More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108

EQAO for 2017-18

At Michaëlle Jean, our Grade 3 students will be writing the Mathematics portion of the EQAO assessment later this year. Please do not book appointments or vacations during the period of May 22- June 4, 2018. More information for families will be provided as we approach these dates. Thank you for your cooperation.

Health Connections – Head Lice

With the winter weather here, lice are eagerly searching for warm places to stay alive. We are asking all families to be vigilant throughout the course of the year by checking your child's hair for nits (eggs) or live lice. Children with live lice must remain at home. Treatment involves not only the child's hair, but also other family members, bedding, clothing, hair accessories, etc. More information is available through [Public Health](#). Families are reminded to continue to check for lice and nits even after treatment has been applied. Continued combing using a specialized comb for the removal of nits is the only way to prevent a recurrence or the spread of lice.



BUS CANCELLATIONS **DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

You must **notify** the **school** if your child will be **absent** due to **bus cancellations**.

PLEASE CALL **1-855-203-2994** or GO ONLINE
yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com to notify the school.

SCHOOLS REMAIN OPEN

During an Inclement Weather Day, the school is open and alternate programming may be provided depending on the number of students in attendance on this day.

PIZZA/PITA LUNCH & KIDS' KITCHEN

If Pizza or Pita Lunches are scheduled on an Inclement Weather Day they will be **cancelled and rescheduled**.

All Kids' Kitchen orders will be delivered, unless cancelled by phone **before 8:00AM** on the day of delivery.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Students who come to school on a Snow Day may be dropped off and picked up through the parking lot loop. **Pick up will begin at 2:00 pm. Please pick up your child by 2:20 pm.**

School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore, students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM	1540 AM	1580 AM
88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM	95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1
FM99.1 FM	99.9 FM	101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	105.9	107.1 FM

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following @YRDSB and @YCDSB on twitter.

Please note that school bus charters (trips) will not operate when home to school bus service is cancelled.

OHIP+

Beginning January 1, 2018, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income.

Under OHIP+, over four million Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. This will help many families access medications their children need to stay healthy at no cost – no co-payment or annual deductible.

Enrollment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs for eligible medications. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist.

Visit Ontario.ca/OHIPplus for more information.

Get out and Enjoy York Region!!



Powerful Connections

As winter approaches, try to find time to connect with the winter wonderland. The York Regional Forest is open 365 days a year with something for everyone.

When exploring the forest, think about its amazing powers. Forests and trees:

- Filter rainwater making it cleaner to drink
- Block UV rays to protect our skin
- Produce oxygen and filter the air, making it easier to breathe
- Provide habitat for birds and wildlife

Find your local forest by visiting york.ca/yrf

PA Day Outdoor Adventure Camps

Adventure Day with Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority

January 26 and February 2

Scanlon Creek Nature Centre, Bradford

Your kids will enjoy a full day of exploration and adventure including treasure hunts, fire making, snowshoeing and arts and crafts.

Children ages 6 to 12. \$45 registration fee per day. [Register today](#)

The Nature School at Kortright Centre with Toronto Region Conservation

January 19, February 2 and June 4

Kortright Centre, City of Vaughan

Children will explore nature through shelter building, whittling wood, cooking over open fire, woodland crafts and creative play.

Children ages four to 10. \$45 to \$55 registration fee per day. [Register today](#)

2018 Forests of York Region Calendar

Get your copy of the 2018 York Regional Forest calendar (while supplies last, limit two calendars per person). Visit york.ca/forestphoto to find pick up locations.

See the York Regional Forest on your computer desktop

Enjoy previous forest photo contest images right from your own computer. Download desktop wallpapers directly from the [York Region Flickr](#) page by using the hyperlink below the image you like.

Once you have selected the image within Flickr follow these steps:

- Use the download button (bottom right) to choose your screen resolution OR
- Choose view all sizes, pick the size you need and right-click to find set as desktop background

Tell Us About Your Adventure and Win!

If you've spent time in the York Regional Forest this winter, then take a few minutes to complete a survey about your visit for a chance to win a \$50 Canadian Tire gift card.

Tell us about your adventure today. york.ca/YRForestFuture



Kids See Free

Kids aged 4 – 10 can get a completely FREE pair of eyeglasses when you bring them in to any Loblaw Optical location with their prescription that's less than 90 days old! (and a free pair of eyeglasses have not been provided to the child in the last 365 days.)

Some restrictions apply, see store for details. Visit loblawstores.ca to find your nearest store with an optical department.

Celebrating Our Diversity

January's Holidays and Observances

Buddhism	Christianity
January 1 – Temple Day has become a day for Canadian Buddhists to attend a special service in the local temple.	January 6 – Epiphany (Western Calendar) is the 12 th day of Christmas and the end of the Christmas season. It comes from a Greek word referring to the baptism of Jesus and the arrival in Bethlehem of the Three Wise Men who came to worship Jesus. The Armenian Orthodox Church celebrates the nativity of Jesus on this day. January 7 – Christmas (Eastern Calendar) Some Orthodox churches celebrate the birth of Jesus on this day. The Julian (Eastern) calendar is currently 13 days behind the Gregorian (Western) calendar. In York Region, this is often referred to as “Ukrainian Christmas”. January 19 – Epiphany (Eastern Calendar) The Eastern Church associates the date with the baptism of Jesus by John and the miracle of Cana in which Jesus turned water into wine. This day is also known as Theophany in Orthodox churches.
Hinduism	Sikhism
January 14 – Makar Sankranti , is also known as Lohri, Thai Pongal and Til Sankranti. It marks the winter solstice and is primarily a rice harvest festival. January 22 - Vasant Panchami is particularly celebrated in Northern India. This festival marks the advent of spring. Also known as Shri Panchami, it is a celebration commonly associated with Shri or Lakshmi (Goddess of Wealth). It is also commonly linked with the Goddess of Learning, Saraswati.	January 5 – Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji . The tenth guru (1666-1708 C.E.) was the final master who created the Sikh Brotherhood, the Khalsa. January 13 – Maghi commemorates the forgiveness shown by Guru Gobind Singh to forty deserters who returned to fight the Mughal army and sacrificed their lives under the leadership of a brave Khalsa woman named Mae Bhaago.