



- 1. New School Website:** A new school website for Oscar Peterson P.S has been launched. The website can be accessed at <http://oscarpeterson.ps.yrdsb.ca/>. Please take the opportunity to view the new website for information for our school and the school Board. As the site continues to be collaboratively built by our staff and Council, it is hoped this resource will serve as a valuable communication tool for our families and community.
- 2. A Message from our Trustee- Lorelea Carruthers:** As 2013 draws to a close, I hope everyone has had a wonderful school year so far. As a trustee, I am always very proud to hear about the great things happening in our schools, thanks to the hard work of our students, staff and community members.
With the school year well underway I hope you have had an opportunity to get involved with the school community. There are many different ways to get involved. Our great schools become even better when everyone in the school community – families, students, staff and community partners – feels welcome and engaged in the school.
We will begin 2014 with a renewed Mission, Vision and Values statement. They are being updated to better reflect the school communities we serve, and the changes we have seen in education over the past decade.
Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views. As we enter the winter months, on behalf of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season, and a wonderful start to the new year.
- 3. Staffing Change:** Please note that our secretary, Amanda Harris, has accepted a temporary office administrative assistant position at Summitview P.S. Her absence has been filled by Theresa Murphy.
- 4. Student Leadership:** The Leadership team at Oscar Peterson consists of students in grades six to eight who have come together to work on four different initiatives within the school. When the team first came together they brainstormed what they believed to be areas of need within the school and where they could make a positive contribution. The four areas consist of:
 - Recess Crew:** This group of students are working to distribute equipment during recess and will be joining efforts with the Healthy Schools Committee to create a recess program where older students model social skills and a variety of games to our younger students.
 - Peer Mediators:** The students on this committee will be trained to help mediate student conflict on the yard. Their intent is to work with students on their development of conflict resolution strategies as well as provide another avenue for students to voice their concerns.
 - Jazz Assemblies:** This committee is working to provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their accomplishments at an assembly. During assemblies, students will see themselves reflected in a slideshow, share learning from their classroom, and allow teachers an opportunity to reflect upon the many accomplishments of the students at Oscar Peterson. *The next Jazz Assembly has been scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 11:00. Please join us!*

OSCAR PETERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL: e-BULLETIN

Spirit Days: The Spirit Day Committee has brainstormed a variety of topics for monthly spirit days. They have thought hard about the topics chosen and ensured that they are something every student in the school would be able to participate in.

The Leadership team is a dedicated group of students who are committed to the achievement and well-being of all students. We look forward to seeing their success as they work on their various initiatives.

5. **The Giving Tree:** Please help support the 18th Annual Toy Mountain Campaign with an unwrapped toy. Take a tag off the Giving Tree in the front hall. Simply purchase a new toy and place it (unwrapped) under the Giving Tree and return the tag to the tree. We will be collecting donations until **Wednesday December 18th, 2013**. All toys will be donated to Toy Mountain.
6. **Robotics Champions:** Oscar Peterson Public School's Robotics Team (Cyber Jazz) were the champions at the York Region FIRST Lego League (FLL) Regional Qualifying Tournament on Saturday, at St. Robert Catholic High School in Richmond Hill. Twenty-Four teams from York Region and surrounding areas were registered for the tournament. This was Oscar Peterson's third straight York Region championship and they have qualified for the Provincial Championships on January 18 at UOIT in Oshawa. Well done team!
7. **Eco-Schools:** Our Eco Club at Oscar Peterson has been working diligently on many new initiatives. We have started up a recycling program where each class must take care of their own recycling, which creates awareness. We have also started something called a "Boomerang Lunch." This means that all food waste, plastic wraps, wrappers, and drink boxes will be coming home. This is a fantastic way to bring awareness to both students and families about how much waste they are creating. To avoid too much waste coming home, try a reusable water bottle instead of sugary juice boxes, tupperware containers are an easy way to pack food, and try cutting up some fresh fruit and veggies instead of sending fruit snacks in a wrapper. Our Eco Monitors will soon be tallying up the waste from each classroom, and some exciting rewards are waiting for the class with the least amount of waste each month!
8. **Equity and Inclusivity Committee:** 'Inclusive education is based on the principles of acceptance and inclusion of all students. Students see themselves reflected in their curriculum, their physical surroundings, and the broader environment, in which diversity is honoured and all individuals are respected...The dimensions of diversity include, but are not limited to ancestry, culture, ethnicity, gender...language, physical or intellectual ability, race, religion...and socio-economic status.'

Ministry of Education, Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy 2009

In an effort to continue to meet the needs of all students, we are in the process of identifying school wide initiatives and resources that members of our school staff feel are most valuable. We are creating a template listing a variety of subcommittees and their initiatives throughout the year. A sample of the committees include:

- Positive Climates for Learning (PC4L)
- Eco Schools
- Me to We



- Student Leadership
- Healthy Schools
- Inclusive Classrooms
- School Council

At an upcoming general meeting we will invite parents, community members, students from our leadership team and staff members to give input to the planning template. It is hoped that those who attend the meeting will identify an area of interest and sign up for a committee. Each subcommittee will determine the focus for that group as guided by our School Improvement Plan. Watch for information regarding that meeting to come soon!

- 9. Pita/Pizza Information:** Pita forms went out Monday, December 9th and are due back Thursday, December 19th. The next pizza order will go out when the school returns in the New Year.
- 10. Games Club:** The Games Group needs a volunteer leader who can play chess. Group runs Tuesdays from 12:50-1:40 pm.
- 11. Front Foyer Display:** If you have extra decorations that reflect your family's celebrations and you would like to donate them to our school, we will use them in our front hall display case. Please send them to the school office.
- 12. Fundraising:** Please hand in your stamped Samko and Miko Toy Sale receipts to the office by Monday Dec 16 so we can send them in by the deadline. Thank you for your continued support with our fundraising efforts.

***Please take the time to read the attachments to this e-Bulletin. They provide information regarding school and community initiatives.
(see next page for calendar)***





December, 2013

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9	10	11 Jr. Girls Volleyball Tournament 	12 Jr. Boys Volleyball Tournament	13 Community Class Luncheon 
16	17 Band to SDSS	18 Crazy Hat Day Jazz Assembly- 11 	19	20 PA Day
23 Winter Break	24 Winter Break	25 Winter Break	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break
31 Winter Break	1 Winter Break	2 Winter Break	3 Winter Break	4 Winter Break