

# Home of the Panthers

## Park Avenue Public School

York Region District School

September , 2016

From the Principal's desk...



### WELCOME BACK GREETINGS!

Welcome back and welcome to new families to our Park Avenue Public School community! With the first few days of school completed, we are settling into routines and re-establishing our expectations. We will be gathering for our first whole school assembly to emphasize the character trait of RESPECT and to kick off our school spirit. Each month we will be focusing on a different character trait in an assembly format. We are looking forward to partnering with parents/guardians so that our students achieve to the best of their abilities. We are always happy to meet with parents /guardians regarding any questions or concerns you may have. Please take a few moments to read through this newsletter and **please make sure to look at our Student Information Handbook about our school routines (which was sent home the first day of school) and return the completed forms.** On behalf of all our staff here at Park Avenue Public School, I would like to thank all of our students and parents for a wonderful start to our school year. What an incredible Community! Also I would like to acknowledge our office, teaching and support staff for their preparations over the past few weeks readying their classrooms, programs and office. Kudos are also extended to our fabulous caretaking team for their efforts making our school sparkle.

### Staffing Updates:

We would like to welcome the following new / returning staff to Park Avenue PS, :

- Mrs. Jagoe (JK/SK)
- Ms. Dickinson (DECE)
- Mrs. Blank (P/J SERT)
- Mrs. Taylor (Community Class Teacher)
- Mrs. Purdham (Office Staff)
- Mrs. Chowdhury (Educational Assistant)

### Spring 'Fling'

In lieu of a Fall Fair this year, volunteers are needed to form a committee to help plan a Spring Fair ...aka as a 'Spring Fling' for our Park Avenue Community. Anyone interested in helping please contact the main office.

**Follow us on Twitter!**

**@parkavenueps**

### Save the Date-Meet the Teacher BBQ

Plans are underway to host a 'Meet the Teacher BBQ' for our Park Avenue Families on Thursday, September 29th. More details and order forms will be coming soon.



### Principal

Mr. Bruce Baynham

### Office Staff

Ms. Kim Eikeland

Mrs. Hilary Purdham

Phone: 905-836-5951

Fax: 905-836-8373

### Superintendent

Mr. Paul Carew

Phone: 905-895-5155

### Trustee

Ms. Lorelea Carruthers

Phone: 905-953-0562



### "Daily Schedule"

Warning Bell	8:25 a.m.
Entry Bell	8:30 a.m.
Period 1	8:30-9:00 a.m.
Period 2	9:00-9:20 a.m.
Period 3	9:20-10:10 a.m.
Recess	10:10-10:30 a.m.
Period 4	10:30-11:20 a.m.
Period 5	11:20-11:50 a.m.
Period 6	11:50-12:10 p.m.
Lunch	12:10-1:10 p.m.
Period 7	1:10-2:00 p.m.
Period 8	2:00-2:30 p.m.
Period 9	2:30-2:50 p.m.
Dismissal	2:50 p.m.

## 'Tentative' School Classroom Organization

Listed below is our 'tentative' school classroom organization.. Direction from Collective Agreements and the Ontario Government aimed at reducing class sizes in the primary grades has established strict limits on the number of students that may be included in each classroom from Junior Kindergarten (JK) to Grade 3. The changes will enable more attention to the individual needs of each student and better learning environments for all primary children. As a result, our school organization is **VERY** 'tentative' at this time -meaning, the teacher your child is assigned at the beginning of September may change. We will monitor our enrolment numbers over the first few weeks and if necessary will make changes later in September.

### Please note:

Class placement decisions are the result of a comprehensive consultation process involving staff and optional family input and are subject to Ministry of Education and Collective Agreement requirements. As a result, we are not in a position to consider requests for changes to individual class placements at this time.

### Teaching Staff

JK/SK	Mrs. Jeffers
JK/SK	Mrs. Jagoe
1	Mrs. Henderson
1/2	Mrs. Marshall / Mrs. Semkowich
2	Mrs. Norwood
3	Mrs. ST-AMOUR
3/4	Mrs. Hughes
4/5	Mr. Moreira
4/5	Mrs. Wiley / Mrs. Antolak
5/6	Mrs. Stoltz
6	Mrs. Ploder
7	Mrs. Stanojev
7/8	Ms. McAlear
8	Mrs. Frans

### Support Staff

DECE	Mrs. Perrault / Ms. Dickinson
Educational Assistants	Mrs. Brillinger / Mrs. Neal / Mrs. Stewart / Mrs. Webster / Mrs. Forsythe / Mrs. Rogers / Mrs. Chowdhury
Office Staff	Mrs. Eikeland (EOAA) Mrs. Purdham
Caretaking Staff	Mr. Richardson Mr. Maroti Ms. Crittendon

### Community Classes:

Autism	Mrs. Gucciardi
Social Adjustment	Mrs. Taylor
Special Education	Mrs. Blank (Primary / Junior) Mrs. Simpson (Junior/ Intermediate)
Library / Literacy / Prep	Mrs. Walsh
Physical Education	Mr. Lea
Music	Mrs. Frans
Prep	Mrs. Antolak / Mrs. Wiley
Reading Recovery	Mrs. Marshall



Friday, September 23rd @ 11:20 am P.A.P.S. will be collecting 'optional' Toonies for Terry! All students will be invited to walk / run in our Terry Fox Run to show their support. Parents are more than welcome to join in too!  
Hope to see you there!

### Office Index Emergency Forms !!!!

Forms will be sent home with your child later in September to ensure we have accurate contact information. Please return this critical information (accurate phone numbers, email address )asap and update the office if there are any future changes. If no changes are needed please initial the top corner and return to the main office. Thank you!

### Upcoming Dates

#### September

- 9 MADD presentation (gr. 7-8)
- 11 Eid
- 15 School Council mtg.
- 23-30 Safety Week
- 26 PA Day-no school
- 28 Respect Assembly, 1:30 pm

#### October

- 3-4 Rosh Hashanah
- 6 Area Cross Country meet
- 10 Thanksgiving Monday
- 24 Picture Day!

### Greetings from our School Trustee: Ms. Lorelea Carruthers

As we start another school year, we are very pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you all enjoyed the hot summer months and are looking forward to the start of school.

There is a lot to look forward to in the months ahead and many ways for families to engage with their child's learning. There is a strong connection between parent and family engagement and student achievement and well-being, and I hope that you will find opportunities to get involved.

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 parents and families are essential to achieving these goals. However you choose to get involved, know that you are making a difference to your child's learning.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming school year.

### **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](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca). For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).

# Your Child's Safety Comes First at P.A.P.S.



**No Peanuts, Tree-nuts or Nut by-products  
or Sesame products at Park Avenue P.S.**



School staff, students and parents are responsible for creating a safe and healthy environment for all of our students. This is an additional challenge for schools attended by children with life threatening allergies. While it is impossible to create a risk-free environment, together we can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions.

Please help your child understand that they should not share their lunches. The children at risk may also be made aware, on a regular basis, that they should not take any food other than what has been sent by a parent or guardian. Also remember to pack lunches that are free from products which contain peanuts, tree nuts such as walnuts, almonds, pecans etc or nut by-products including sesame.

If your child has a severe allergy, please contact the office staff to let them know. You will be required to fill out a medical care plan and provide the school with **two Epi-pens**.

In keeping with this policy, please do not send baked goods or products containing nuts to school with your child to celebrate his or her birthday. We are asking food **not** be brought in to be distributed to students as these products do not guarantee that they have not come in contact with nuts. An alternative to food would be to send in a pencil or any loot bag type object to share with classmates.

## Free' Medic Alert "No Child Without Program"

PAPS is pleased to offer our students who may have special medical needs / allergies etc. (e.g. severe allergies to drugs, food, insects, anaphylaxis, Asthma, Autism, Epilepsy, Diabetes, Hemophilia etc.) Free Medic Alert support through the "No Child Without Program."

A child participating in this free program will receive membership to MedicAlert, a MedicAlert wallet card, a MedicAlert bracelet or necklet, 24 hour access to the MedicAlert hotline and notification of personal emergency contacts at the time of an emergency. This support is offered free of charge for all students attending Park Avenue PS. Pamphlets are available at the main office.



## School Zone Safety

The rush of cars, buses and children arriving at school can create many dangers. Everyone plays a role in ensuring the safety of children when they are going back and forth to school.

### Drivers, to keep kids safe in the school zone:

- Reduce your speed and be ready to stop at all times. Avoid distractions like a cell phone
- Drive cautiously and follow the rules (even when you're late!)

### Parents, teach your children to:

- Stop, look and listen before stepping out of the car or bus
- Walk only on the sidewalk
- Be sure that drivers see them before they cross by making eye contact



# Your Child's Safety Comes First at P.A.P.S.



Please remember that the first place to visit at school is the office. The only way that we can assure the safety of all students is with your full participation! A "Sign-In" binder is located in the office, and requires all visitors or volunteers to sign in when entering the building. Please sign in at the office and obtain a "parent visitor" badge so that you can quickly be identified by staff in the halls. Going directly to your child's classroom only causes clutter and confusion in the hallways. Make arrangements to meet your children at their specific entry/exit doors. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and makes it easier for staff to identify anyone who should not be in the school. Thank you!

## Safe Schools Reminder

Parents are reminded to ensure that their child does not bring any replica weapons, knives, multi tools with knives attached, air guns, or replica guns to school at any time. The Safe Schools policy is very clear to ensure safety for all. Students will be reminded in September and October -especially concerning any Halloween attire. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Baynham at the office.



## Lockdown / Hold and Secure Procedures

Once again school staff and students will participate in our 'Lockdown' and 'Hold and Secure' drills intended to practice school responses to emergency situations. The purpose of the 'Lockdown' response is to minimize risk to students and staff to the presence of an armed or dangerous intruder or other similar violent threat within the school. The purpose of the 'Hold and Secure' response is to have students stay inside the school, lock all exterior doors, and resume business as usual in our school. The 'Hold and Secure' response would be used if an armed or dangerous intruder was in our neighbourhood. We will practice our first Lock Down drill during Safety Week (week of Sept. 24th).

## School Council Meeting

**All parents /guardians interested in attending our School Council meetings are MORE THAN WELCOME!  
Our next meeting is Thursday, September 15th @ 7:00 pm  
in our school library.  
Hope to see you there!**



## Ontario Early Years update

Unfortunately due to space concerns, we are unable to host an Ontario Early Years drop in program at this time. We value the incredible support Ontario Early Years have provided our Park Avenue families and look forward to re-establishing this program in the future.





Before...



After ....

# PICS FROM THE PARK



## The Boys and Girls Club is back at Park Avenue PS for another amazing year ahead!



Boys & Girls Club  
of York Region

For more than 100 years, Boys and Girls Clubs in communities across Canada have been helping young people to discover, develop and achieve their best potential as they grow to become Canada's future adults, citizens and leaders.

Nearly three million young Canadians have played, learned and developed essential life skills through our safe, caring club environments and enriching programs.

Locally, the Boys and Girls Club of York Region (BGCYR) has been operating for more than 20 years providing evidence based programs that significantly impact the lives and potential of all participating young people. Our programs are designed for youth to experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life. Our participants are our members; our curriculum is designed around their needs and our commitment to build strong skills and assets.

Belonging to a Boys and Girls Club is often a life-changing experience. Children can build healthy, supportive relationships with caring adult role models, which in turn can positively influence the life path they choose. Clubs also encourage healthy, respectful relationships with peers and family members and community.

Program will operate at Park Avenue PS Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 2:40pm-5:30pm