

Parkland Post

January 2015



**Parkland
Public School**
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PARKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL WEBSITE

<http://www.parkland.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>

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parkland.ps.@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Message from the Administration

Happy New Year everyone and welcome back to school! We hope that you had a wonderful and enjoyable break. Many of us take the opportunity of the new year to make resolutions. Here at Parkland Public School we are constantly striving to make changes in order to improve the academic achievement and well-being of our students. This would be a great time to talk to your child(ren) to see what goals they have made for their academic pursuits. We encourage your children to focus on Learning Skills and to understand the importance they play in their success.

Our students, with your support, have also been learning about giving and therefore supporting others. They have worked hard to support our local community by collecting food for the food bank. They have also worked hard to collect money for 'Me to We', gifts for needy children and raising money to help our school. Thank you to all of our families for your continued support!

We look forward to a very exciting 2015 here at Parkland Public School!

Lisa Leoni
Principal

Susan Palmer
Vice Principal

Looking Forward to....

January 16 – Kindergarten registration begins
19 – HPV shots for grade 8 students who missed it

February 2 – PA Day (no school)
9 – School Council Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
14 – Valentine's Day
16 – Family Day (no school)
19 – Term 1 report cards home



Kindergarten Registration

Do you have a child that will be entering junior kindergarten in September 2015? Do you have a friend or neighbor who has a child that will be entering junior kindergarten in September 2015? If so, please note that kindergarten registration begins on January 16th. Please share this information. Parents are to go to their home school to register their child for kindergarten

Required Documents:

Proof of child's age (Birth Certificate/Passport)

Any legal documents related to custody arrangements if applicable

Proof of Residency of the student - two documents, one from each of the categories below showing the home address;

Category A - notice of tax assessment, current rental/lease agreement, agreement to purchase including proof of purchase provided before the pupil attends the school, or property tax bill, and

Category B - utility bill, bank statement or other official document.



Learning Commons



HOW DOES READING INFLUENCE YOU?

Freedom to Read Week provides an opportunity for students to focus on issues of literacy freedom as they affect their community, province, and country. Stay tuned for more information.

Report Cards

Criterion-referenced Assessment and Evaluation (Excerpted from *Growing Success*)

Ontario, like a number of other jurisdictions, has moved from *norm-referenced* to *criterion-referenced* assessment and evaluation. This means that teachers assess and evaluate student work with reference to established criteria for four levels of achievement that are standard across the province, rather than by comparison with work done by other students, or through the ranking of student performance, or with reference to performance standards developed by individual teachers for their own classrooms. (There is no expectation that a certain number or percentage of students must be allocated to any one level of achievement.)

In the past, assessment and evaluation performance standards varied from teacher to teacher and from school to school, and this led to results that were not always fair for all students. Criterion-referenced assessment and evaluation ensure that the assessment and evaluation of student learning in schools across the province are based on the application of the same set of well-defined performance standards. The goal of using a criterion-based approach is to make the assessment and evaluation of student achievement as fair, reliable, and transparent as possible.

For more information and to view *Growing Success* in its entirety, visit the Ministry of Education's website at:

Ontario.ca/EDUparents

Eco News

Did you know.....

Ontarians use an estimated 7 million plastic bags each day, which is roughly 80 bags per second. Plastic bags can take up to 1000 years to break down. York Region started the *Plastic Bag Take-Back* program to let residents know they can bring their plastic bags back to retailers to be recycled. This reduces the number of bags that end up in a landfill.

Retailers across York Region have joined the *Plastic Bag Take-Back* program. You can drop off your plastic bags at their stores so they can be sent for recycling. Recycled plastic bags are used to make things like new plastic bags, plastic lumber, patio furniture and park benches.

It is easy to recycle plastic bags. Just turn your plastic shopping bags inside out. Stuff your plastic shopping bags into one bag. Drop them off at a *Take-Back* bin at a participating store. Our nearest participating store is:

Loblaws

200 Bullock Drive
Markham, Ontario
L3P 1W2



arts@baythorn

Would your child enjoy learning the Ontario curriculum through the Arts? If so, the York Region District School Board offers an Elementary integrated Arts program at Baythorn Public School. Students currently in grades four and five may apply for the arts@baythorn program, where they will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music while meeting the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum for grades five, six, seven, and eight.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, students and their families are invited to attend an information evening at **Baythorn Public School on Thursday, January 16, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Applications will be on line via the school website and available after January 16, 2014.

www.baythorn.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Please call us at Baythorn Public School (905) 889-7992, if you require further information.

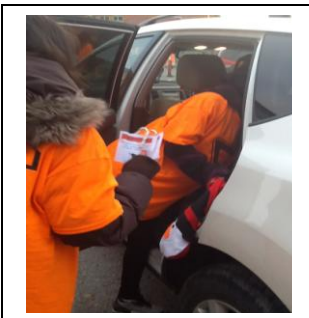
Jacqueline Linton Jennifer Rosenberg
Principal Vice-Principal

Celebrating Our Loopers!

Just over a year ago, the Parkland P.S. Kiss and Ride was a dangerous place to drive. After a few near fender benders, we decided it was time to put safety first. Students in Grades 7 and 8 volunteered to come out every morning to help us. After a week, parents were thrilled with our improved Kiss and Ride. Still, it wasn't welcoming. We wanted students and parents to not only feel safe, but to feel welcome.

We named our student helpers the Loopers. We ordered them bright orange t-shirts with "Parkland P.S. Loopers" on the back and a big yield sign on the front. We put the same staff on duty every morning. Then last Christmas we started a new tradition. We handed out thank you notes for supporting the Kiss and Ride with candy canes attached. We handed out thank you notes on Valentine's Day with chocolate kisses and again on the last day of school. This year we started advertising our School Council meetings on the reverse side.

Community spirit has soared. All of our drivers, students and walkers are greeted each morning. Drivers wave to our Loopers every morning. Loopers love their job! Staff even requests this duty. Many thanks to Ms. Burton, Ms. Stacey and Mr. Edwards!



Fundraising

Our chocolate fundraiser is now over. We sold approximately \$9,000 worth of chocolate and made a profit of \$3500.00. Thank you for your support!

'Our Me to We' committee has raised \$170.00 through bake sales. Well done Parkland bakers! This money is being donated to provide educational resources to a needy country through Free the Children. Their next campaign is the 'We Create Change' for the year of empowerment. They are hoping to raise enough money to buy 10 goats for needy families.

Beginning the week of January 12th, the school will be selling popcorn during the lunchtime every day. Each bag of popcorn will cost \$1.50. Popcorn sales will continue throughout the month of January, stop in February and continue again in March.



School Council Update

Our School Council meeting was held Monday, January 5th. School Council will be using the PRO Grant funds (\$900) to support the upcoming Triple P workshops for parents. This will be a series of 8 weekly workshops that parents can sign up for. These workshops will begin in late February or March. The exact dates and details will be announced in upcoming newsletters and flyers.

School Council has requested that our bus loopers hand out a reminder of our upcoming school council meetings on the Friday before the meeting. We are hoping to increase parent participation in our monthly meetings.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH AT 6:30 P.M.
EVERYONE IS ALWAYS WELCOME!!!**

Chair: Ladho Panesar-Chugger
Co-Chair: Bushra Raza
Secretary: Saema Khan
Treasurer: Cindy Huang

Council
Meeting
Dates:
February 9
March 2
April 6
May 4
June 1

Community Representative Needed

We are still looking for a **Community Representative** to serve on our School Council. A Community Representative is a member of the community and who does not have a child at the school. Please email parkland.p.s.@yrdsb.edu.on.ca if you know anyone who may be interested.

Black History Month

February is Black History month. In our efforts to recognize the contributions, achievements and experiences of African Canadians, Parkland P.S. will be celebrating with a Black History Performance on:

Thursday, February 26: 10:50 – 12:00 (Primary)
1:20 – 3:00 (Jr/Intermediate)

Parents are welcome to attend either performance!





www.360kids.ca

360kids
80F Centurian Drive,
Suite 206
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T: 905.475.6694
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November 26, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

RE: Elimination of Membership Fee

360°kids After School Program (360ASP) has been engaging students across York Region in activities that promote healthy and active lifestyles for the past two years. The program has taught children the fundamentals of living a healthy lifestyle and brought a number of professional workshops to the students including yoga, dance, cooking and music as well as an annual end of year field trip. While the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport does provide some funding, a large portion of program costs necessary to ensure quality programming remains unsupported. Over the past years, this program has run in a deficit to our organization. In an effort to sustain and improve the program for future years, we implemented a nominal membership fee this year.

The membership fee has proven to be an unintended barrier to service for many families in our community. Our goal is to leave no child behind and eliminate all barriers to accessing services whenever possible. As such, we have decided to waive membership fees effective December 1st in all our grade 6-8 programs. We will be pursuing other ways to support our programs through grant applications, donations and fundraising.

If you would like to donate to the After School Program feel free to gift your membership fees, donate in person to program staff or online at www.360kids.ca. We are very grateful for financial gifts at any level. Refunds for fees paid for the month of December onwards will be issued before the New Year. Receipts for tax purposes will be issued in January of 2015 for payments made between September and November 2014.

We thank you for your ongoing support and interest in 360ASP. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes please feel free to contact Brittany Jimmo, Program Coordinator of the After School Program, at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Michael Braithwaite
Executive Director

Brittany Jimmo
Program Coordinator
Cell: (416) 873 - 8004