



Pierre Berton Public School

Pierre Berton Public School
470 Via Campanile, Vaughan, ON
905-303-4540

May, 2013

Important Dates:

May 2	J/I Family Movie Night
May 17	J/I Track and Field Day
May 20	Victoria Day (no school)
May 27	School Council Meeting
May 27— June 6	Grade 3 & 6 EQAO
May 29	Tribes Assembly/School Photo / Welcome to Kindergarten Night

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Principal

Wendy McVicar-Lew

Office Staff

Jane Purdy
Zabrina Fraser

Superintendent

Dianne Hawkins
905-764-6830

Trustee

Anna DeBartolo
416-898-9653

Administrator's Message

It is hard to believe that it is already May. We continue to be busy at school working towards the completion of this year's curriculum. We will be hosting our second Track and Field Day for students in grades four to eight as part of the PHE curriculum on May 17th. This month I would like to recognize the work of our grade eight student leaders who coordinated grade seven and eight intramural badminton for April and May, preparing the teams, schedules and equipment. It has been a lot of fun for the students. We look forward to the intermediate badminton team representing our school at the area tournament later this month.

This month, we are beginning to transition our senior kindergarten students to the 'big yard' during morning recess and lunch in order to prepare them for grade one. Under the supervision of the D-ECs, small groups of senior kindergarten students will have the opportunity to learn the routines of the school yard and games they can play when outdoors. While in the big yard, students will be wearing coloured pinnies for easy identification. They are very excited to have the opportunity to play on the grass!

During the weeks of May 27th and June 3rd, students in grades three and six will participate in the EQAO assessment of reading, writing and mathematics. It is very important that all students arrive at school on time each day as the assessment will begin quickly after the morning bell. We ask our families to avoid making appointments during these weeks.

Our next Tribes assembly will take place on May 29th. Following the assembly, we will be taking a rooftop photo of all students in the school. We ask the students to wear blue on this day as students will be forming the letters PBPS on the tarmac. We are hoping that the sun will shine on that day!

Planning for the Next School Year

If you are planning to move prior to the beginning of September 2013, please let the office know as soon as possible. We are in the process of planning for next year and this information is extremely helpful when we make enrolment projections.



Writing the Pages of our Future!

Positive Climates for Learning

Pierre Berton Public School is "Cooking" up a storm!



Our Grade 6—8 students participated in a Cooking Club for the month of April. Each week, students learned how to make simple and nutritious recipes. During the program, they learned basic skills, cooking, proper food preparation and safe food handling. The program is designed to encourage a greater consumption of vegetables and fruits.

Eco Schools—The Golden Garbage Can

The winners of the Golden Garbage Can was ...

March—Mr. McRae's Class
April—Ms. Oliveira's classes



Student Leadership Team

The last few months have been busy for our student leadership team. They had a very successful crazy hat, cultural and crazy hair days. These days were organized by our Student Leadership Team. The school spirit continues at Pierre Berton P.S. and it is great to see! We are looking forward to blue and white day on Monday, May 6th.



Ache Brazil Performs at PBPS!

On April 26th, we had our second arts performer at Pierre Berton Public School. Ache Brazil was a high energy performance fusing together music, dance and the martial art of Capoeira.

Ache Brazil was electrifying to watch and even more fun to dance to. It was a great experience for the PBPS students.



Yearbook Committee

Students in the intermediate division are hard at work preparing the 2012—2013 school yearbook. They have captured the highlights from the school year and are busy have uploading photos and designing the layout for the pages. The yearbook is a great keepsake for students. We appreciate the leadership the students have taken. Their commitment to the school is to be commended.

Light It Up Blue!

Thank you to everyone for your participation in World Autism Awareness Day. We lit up our school blue and raised approximately \$700 for Autism Speaks Canada. The students in each grade took part in very informative workshops about autism. We are very proud of our students and their commitment to inclusion at Pierre Berton Public School.



PBPS makes the commitment against bullying!

The Anti-Bullying Committee has continued to meet weekly and has been working on "keeping our school safe and bully-free!" They had every staff and student member sign the anti-bully banner to show our commitment against bullying at Pierre Berton Public School!



Important Information

Forest of Reading

The Forest of Reading voting day is just around the corner. Very soon the students will be voting for the book of their choice. Many students have finished reading the entire selection of books! They have been keeping track on their special Forest of Reading bookmarks which has also served as a special pass for lunch time reading in the Learning Commons. I have certainly been enjoying the many chats we have had about the stories they have read. Students have definitely dedicated themselves to the goals set for our book club! I look forward to voting day.

As always,
Happy Reading!



Ms. Cipollone

New School Website

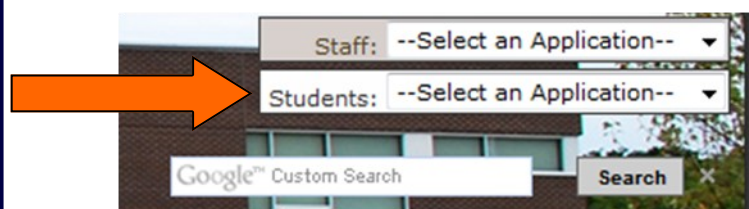
In March we launched our new Pierre Berton website. We hope that you will find it user-friendly and it will provide you with helpful information about the school and the board. Please check out <http://pierreberton.ps.yrdsb.ca/>. Two features that you may find helpful are:

School News and Events—Calendar:

A detailed calendar for the school year provides updated information regarding school events such as spirit days, field trips, assemblies, school council meetings, etc. It is updated regularly to keep you informed of what is happening in the school. This website feature will replace the calendar attachment in the newsletter.

Student H Drive Access

For our students who save their school work on their 'H Drive' at school, they are able to access their school files from home. On the home page, students need to go to the drop down menu in the top right hand corner and select 'H Drive'. This will take the students to the login screen for their H Drive.



Student Bussing Eligibility

Did you know that students' bussing 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



Important Information

Welcome to Kindergarten Night

We are hosting our Junior Kindergarten open house on **Thursday May 29, 2013 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.**

If you have registered your child to start Junior Kindergarten here at Pierre Berton Public School in September, please join us for an evening of educational information, and to help make the transition a smooth one. Each new Junior Kindergarten student will receive a package of educational materials to help them over the summer.

Track and Field Day

On Friday, May 17th, the Junior and Intermediate students at Pierre Berton Public School will be participating in the school Track and Field Day which will be held at Fossil Hill Public School and on the track at St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic High School. Students will begin their day at Pierre Berton and walk with their classes to St. Jean de Brebeuf and Fossil Hill.

Students will be outdoors for the entire day (8:40 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.) participating in various track and field events. These activities are tied in with the Physical Education program of the school, and it is expected that all students will take part.

Students are encouraged to dress appropriately for physical activity in proper running shoes, shorts or track pants, and t-shirts. Parents are asked to ensure their child comes to school wearing sunscreen as well as a hat and has sunscreen to re-apply, as needed. As well, students should bring a lunch and water bottle. We recommend an environmentally friendly, refillable bottle with their name on it. Students need to prepare themselves appropriately based on the weather conditions.

Class Placements

We are in the process of coordinating class placements for the 2013-2014 school year. Current homeroom teachers, in consultation with receiving teachers, appropriate support staff and the school administration will work to develop balanced classes that strive to best meet the needs of all of our students. All class placement decisions are made after extensive planning, preparation, and discussion on the part of many people. Our primary goal is to develop balanced classes with regards to gender, academic ability and social dynamics.

After working with your child over the course of this year, your child's teachers have a very good understanding of your child's abilities and needs, both academic and social. Each new year brings opportunities for all students to meet new friends and expand their circle of acquaintances. Please be aware that we do not accept requests for specific teachers and/or for particular groups of students to be placed together.

Open dialogue between parents and teachers is encouraged and has a direct and positive influence on your child's learning. If you have information about your child that may have an impact on his/her ability to learn effectively, you are encouraged to share this information with us throughout the school year.

Parents play a critical role in helping their child make the adjustment to a new teacher and new classmates. Teachers will be working very hard to make sure they create inviting learning environments for all their students. Your active support in helping your child remain positive about the new challenges ahead is important for a smooth transition to his/her new class.

Teaching assignments and school organization for next year will be finalized in August based on student enrolment during the summer and the Ministry mandate to meet primary class size. Students in grades one to eight will be informed of their class placement on the first day of school in September.

2012—2013 Pierre Berton School Council

Co-Chairs

Linda Aversa
Rajesh Dhoun

Treasurer

Hannah Mark

Secretary

Lisa Simonelli-Rennie

Parent Members

Navneet Chandok
Maurice Guzzo
Erica Lien
Hardev Pabla
Aruna Sharma

Pierre Berton School Council

The Pierre Berton School Council met on April 15, 2013. Highlights from the meeting include:

- ♦ Junior/Intermediate Movie night planned for May. The goal of these evenings is for community building. Fundraising component will be minimal.
- ♦ Fundraising Update: Panini lunches started; QSP fundraiser for May
- ♦ School capital expenditures shared—drinking bottle filling stations purchased (one per floor); 100 additional chairs ordered for gymnasium; wall-mounted Smartboard to be installed in the Learning Commons
- ♦ Allocation of Fundraising Monies—\$5000 for technology cost-sharing purchases in the Fall; \$3000 home reading books to support early reading. (Home reading resources purchased this year for kindergarten from Ministry funds. Fundraising money will go towards purchasing the resources for grade one.)
- ♦ Sharing of School events: Arts Performances; Welcome to Kindergarten; EQAO; Track and Field Day; You're the Chef; Badminton; Grade 8 Graduation; Yearbook; Forest of Reading & Light it Up Blue Campaign

Panini / Pasta Lunches

The School Council introduced Panini & Pasta lunches for the remainder of the school year. We have received some very positive feedback from students.

2012–2013 School Council Meeting Dates

May 27, 2013

All School Council meetings take place at 7:00 pm in the Learning Commons. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

QSP Magazine Fundraiser

We have kicked off our QSP fundraiser for May. Students have brought home the magazine catalogue and order forms. Orders can be made directly on-line or returned to the school. All orders are due back to the school by May 13th.

Family Movie Nights

School Council hosted its second movie night at PBPS. The junior and intermediate students had the opportunity to enjoy 'Escape from Planet Earth'. The movie nights have been a nice opportunity for families to join together at the school for a fun and enjoyable evening. We hope to host more movie nights next year. Thank you to everyone who assisted to make these evenings a great success.



A Message from Kid's Kitchen...



About our Program: Clarification of Policies

This month we'd like to review some details about the Kid's Kitchen Hot Lunch Program and our policies including bad weather days.

About us

Kid's Kitchen is a family run business operating from a nut-free, commercial kitchen in Markham. Lunches are prepared fresh daily and delivered and distributed to students at lunch time. There are a variety of nutritious lunch options available including halal, vegetarian meals. Our meals are prepared in accordance with the Ontario Food and Beverage policy guidelines. We take great care in preparing meals for students with allergies or dietary restrictions. Please call us with specific questions or requests.

Ordering

Ordering lunches with Kid's Kitchen is flexible and convenient. You can order as frequently as you need and start orders at any time.

Orders can be added, cancelled or changed on-line until 10am the previous business day (on Friday for Monday orders). A valid credit card is required for on-line ordering. If your school accepts paper orders, orders may be submitted in the Kid's Kitchen Drop Box in the school office (please do not give orders to your child's teacher). Please do NOT send cash with orders, as we cannot be responsible for missing cash payments.

Cancellations

We allow same day cancellations until 7am by phone only. Email messages are sometimes not checked until later in the morning. If a lunch is cancelled you will not be charged for the lunch. If it is too late to cancel a lunch, you are welcome to pick up the lunch at the beginning of lunch hour from the school. Any lunches not picked up at school are usually brought back to Kid's Kitchen unless a request is made to leave them at the school.

Bad Weather Policy

Our policy has always been that if school is open, Kid's Kitchen is open and we will deliver lunches. Even if school buses are cancelled, as long as school is open, we are open.

As we have no way of knowing which students will be staying home and who will be dropped off to school, it is the parent's responsibility to call us and cancel their lunch in the morning. We usually accept cancellations by phone on the day of until 7am, however, on bad weather days, we give more grace and will accept cancellations until 8:30am.

Any lunches not picked up at lunch time are usually brought back to Kid's Kitchen unless other arrangements have been made.

Customer Service

We are here to help! We have live Customer Service available from 8am to 3pm Monday to Friday. If you have any questions regarding the Kid's Kitchen lunch program or your child's order, please give us a call at 905-944-0210. You can also send us emails at information@kidskitchen.ca.

Summer Camps

Kid's Kitchen runs hot lunch programs at many GTA summer day camps. If your child will be attending summer camp this year, please do check if we are servicing their camp and allow us to take care of lunches this summer.

Did you know?

Leave the lunches to us! Take a break from making lunches and place your orders with Kid's Kitchen today. Lunches are delivered fresh and hot to children at the school at lunch time. Allergies? No problem, we take care of it all.

For more information visit www.kidskitchen.ca or call us at 905-944-0210.



Woodbridge P.S. Summer Institute 2013!

Join Us For Summer Learning!

During the literacy block, students are engaged in fun and enriching learning activities that address reading, writing, media and oral communication expectations from the Ministry of Education curriculum documents under the supervision of YRDSB Teachers and Administrators.

During the activity block, students are engaged in purposeful, intentional learning which is embedded within the following electives:

- Actor's studio
- Archery
- Ball Hockey
- Basketball
- Beginner Golf
- Computers
- Cricket
- Dance
- Digital photography
- Digital Photography
- Racquet Sports
- Ready, Set, Cook
- Soccer
- Softball
- Visual Arts
- Volleyball
- Wacky Science World



@YRDSB

Contact Information:

Woodbridge Public School

Phone: (905) 895-8401 x 240 (before July 1)

Phone: (905) 851-0102 (after July 1)

Email: woodbridge.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Cost for YRDSB students:

**\$100 to
\$115 per
week**



Discovery P.S. Summer Institute 2013!

Join Us For Summer Learning!

During the literacy block, students are engaged in fun and enriching learning activities that address reading, writing, media and oral communication expectations from the Ministry of Education curriculum documents under the supervision of YRDSB Teachers and Administrators.

During the activity block, students are engaged in purposeful, intentional learning which is embedded within the following electives:

- Actor's studio
- Archery
- Ball Hockey
- Basketball
- Beginner Golf
- Computers
- Cricket
- Dance
- Digital photography
- Racquet Sports
- Ready, Set, Cook
- Soccer
- Visual Arts
- Volleyball
- Wacky Science World



@YRDSB

Contact Information:

Discovery Public School

Phone: (905) 895-8401 x240 (before July 1)

Phone: (905) 417-1622 (after July 1)

Email: discovery.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Cost for YRDSB students:

**\$100 to
\$115 per
week**