



PIERRE BERTON



PANTHERS

Important Dates:

April 1	Light it Up Blue!
April 4-8	Wellness Week
April 20	Spirit Day
April 22/29	Earn Your Feet Fridays
April 27	Movie Night
April 28	TRIBES Assembly
April 28	Welcome to Kindergarten Night

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Principal

Wendy McVicar-Lew

Vice-Principal

Orlie Soroka

Office Staff

Zabrina Fraser

Karen Welcome

Superintendent

Paul Valle

905-764-6830

Trustee

Linda Aversa

647-462-0921

Pierre Berton Public School

[Pierre Berton Public School](#)

470 Via Campanile, Vaughan, ON

905-303-4540

Administrators' Message

April 2016

It is hard to believe that it is already April. The weather is finally beginning to warm up and the students are able to enjoy the sunshine outside. It has been a busy few months at Pierre Berton. As part of a project that began in 2011 under the renewable energy fund – the YRDSB has installed a 40 KW Photo Voltaic (Solar) system at Pierre Berton PS. When Pierre Berton PS was designed and built it had structural components added to make this site ready for this type of installation. The 40 KW system will be completed by the beginning of the 2016 school year. In addition, we have hosted several evenings, including Family Math Night and an EQAO parent information night. Students have also had the opportunity to participate in many workshops and field trips to enhance the curriculum. Our grade seven and eight students participated in a Skills Canada workshop looking at pathways for high school and beyond. Scientist in the School has worked with classes and presenters have come into the school to share strategies and supports for bullying prevention and making healthy decisions. We appreciate the support of our community as we work together for the success and well-being of our students.

The students have had many opportunities to participate in extra-curricular events. Many athletic teams have been in place with some excellent results at the area tournaments. Some members of our intermediate basketball teams participated in the NBA All Star Clinic having the opportunity to work on skills and see many NBA players. Our junior boys' and girls' basketball teams are involved in tournaments at this time. Clubs, such as Yearbook, Best Buddies and Student Leadership, etc. have also enabled students to become actively involved in the school life at PBPS. Our Tribes assemblies have focused on our Positive Climates for Learning initiatives (including Black History Month, Wellness and Environmental Stewardship) and our Light It Up Blue Assembly was an incredible celebration of learning for all. As a school community, we raised over \$600 for Autism Ontario.

As we get closer to the end of the school year, there are many goals still to be accomplished. Students will spend the next two months completing the curriculum for their grade engaging in many rich learning opportunities. Grade 3 and 6 students will be participating in the EQAO assessment of reading, writing and mathematics from May 25—June 8.

We are excited to host our second 'Fun Fair' at Pierre Berton on June 9th, 5:00 pm—8:00 pm. The School Council has been meeting regularly to plan the event. If you would like to volunteer with the Fun Fair, please contact the school office. We plan to have another basket raffle at the Fun Fair. Information will be sent home shortly. We are looking forward to coming together as a school community to celebrate another successful school year.



Writing the Pages of our Future!

Parent Information

Board Policies and Procedures

Policies and procedures govern the operation of the Board and our school. To ensure they remain current, the Board reviews policies and procedures on a regular cycle. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process.

All policies available for comment are sent to school council chairs, and are posted on the [Board website](#) along with information about how to provide feedback. The policies currently available for comment include:

Student Accommodation Review (comments due by April 25)

Anaphylactic Reactions (comments due by August 25)

Respectful Workplace and Learning Environment (comments due by August 25)

Environmental Responsibility (comments due by January 2, 2017)

Appointment of Community Members to Board Committees (comments due by January 2, 2017)

To learn more, visit www.yrdsb.ca/aboutus/policy/.

Summer Institute

The York Region District School Board **Summer Institute** is a program that offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.



Programs are offered at in Richmond Hill, Markham, Stouffville, Newmarket, Woodbridge, Vaughan and Georgina from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm [Summer Institute Locations Map](#).

[YMCA Before and Aftercare Registration](#); programs available at all locations.

Weekly Sessions July 4, 2016 to August 12, 2016

For registration information and to see what types of exciting programs are being offered this summer, please visit www.yrdsb.ca and select programs and services.

Aldergrove S.I.	150 Aldergrove Drive, Unionville
Armada S.I.	11 Coppard Ave., Markham
Crosby Heights S.I.	190 Neal Drive, Richmond Hill
Discovery S.I.	120 Discovery Trail, Maple
Lakeside S.I.	213 Shorecrest Road, Keswick
Lake Wilcox S.I.	80 Wildwood Ave., Richmond Hill
Maple Leaf S.I.	155 Longford Dr., Newmarket
Milliken Mills S.I. (located at Highgate PS)	35 Highgate Dr., Markham
Oscar Peterson S.I.	850 Hoover Park Drive, Stouffville
Sixteenth Avenue S.I.	400 Sixteenth Avenue, Richmond Hill
Unionville Meadows S.I.	355 South Unionville Ave., Markham
Woodbridge S.I.	60 Burwick Avenue, Woodbridge

Summer Institute Programs Index

For additional information please email performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca or call 905-884-2046 ext. 241.

Parent Information

Welcome to Kindergarten Night

(for new Kindergarten students beginning school in September 2016)

Join us on Thursday, April 28, 2016

Sign In beginning at 5:45pm

Sessions 6:15-7:15pm

If your child was born in 2012 and you have not yet registered your child for Junior Kindergarten, please visit our office to complete the registration package at your earliest convenience.

Grade 3 and 6 EQAO Assessments

This year's EQAO Assessments for grades 3 and 6 students will be held between May 25 - June 8, 2016. Please ensure that your child is at school during the weeks of the assessments and avoid booking medical appointments or family vacations if possible. For information about the assessment, please visit the [EQAO website](http://eqao.org).



Sign Up for the York Regional Police CRIME PREVENTION ACADEMY

Interested in learning about how to keep you and your family safe and secure? Community members are invited to register for a four-week program that offers presentations from our specialty units on:

- When to call police
- Fraud prevention & senior safety
- Home security
- Personal safety
- Internet safety
- Vehicle crime
- Resources including Road Watch program, Crime Map & Neighbourhood Watch
- Fire Prevention in partnership with Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service

Seminar dates & times:

Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Seminar 1: April 6

Seminar 2: April 13

Seminar 3: April 20

Seminar 4: April 27

Where: York Regional Police, #4 District Headquarters – 2700 Rutherford Road, Vaughan.

There is no cost to participate but registration is required. Applicants must live, work or attend school in York Region and be 18 years of age or older. Registrants are subject to a police background check.

To register, please contact Constable Jennifer Bujan at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7406 or email 1510@yrp.ca.



T.E.A.M MAPLE
(Together Everyone Achieves More)

presents

Parents as Partners

An information sharing evening about our youth today

Monday May 2, 2016

7:00 –9:00 p.m at Maple High School

Topic: Putting the Health in Mental Health

Speaker: Michelle Cassidy – YRDSB's Mental Health Lead

Parents will learn about stress and anxiety in children and youth, and explore how to improve and promote mental health.

All parents are welcome!

This event is for Parents only

RSVP by Apr. 25th to: maple.hs@yrdsb.ca (please indicate if you require translation and / or child care available for children under 12 years old only)



This school community event is made possible through the collaborative partnership with Maple HS School Council, Maple High School and YRDSB, and partially funded by the Ministry of Education's PRO Grant.

Positive Climates for Learning

Junior Basketball Teams On the Go

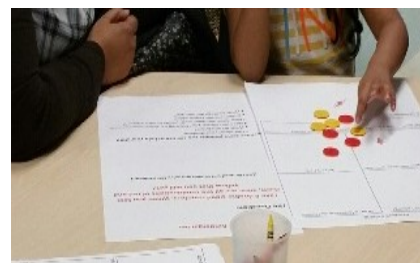
After a very successful Intermediate Basketball season, the Junior Boys and Girls Basketball Teams have been working hard to prepare for the 2016 season. Students have been practising playing together as a team and learning fundamental basketball skills like passing and shooting. Teams are preparing for invitational tournaments at Walter Scott Public School (boys) and Vellore Woods Public School (girls) as well as the area tournaments taking place near the end of the month.



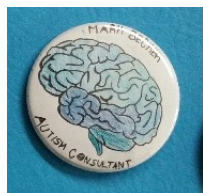
Go Panthers!

Family Math Night

Our Family Math Night was a huge success with families from all divisions attending. The evening began with a gallery display of our students' problem solving skills using a quadrant tool. Families heard about our school focus on problem solving, then moved to grade level presentations where families worked together to solve grade-appropriate problems. Well done families!



Light It Up Blue! Autism Awareness



We were so proud to begin the month of April with our Light It Up Blue Autism Awareness assembly. Our students, staff and honorary guests delved deeper into the uniqueness of our students with autism and celebrated their stories and successes. We learned that every person with Autism has strengths or “superpowers” that make them unique and powerful. Every student in the school designed a button to wear during the assembly and placed their fingerprint on our Autism tree to “grow” our Autism Awareness. As well, during the assembly each class participated in lighting up our blue puzzle piece. We were proud to host a number of participants, including members of the Vaughan Fire Department, York Regional Police, Superintendents of Schools, Paul Valle, Becky Green and Susan Logue, as well as our trustee Linda Aversa. Mr. Li and our choir showcased their talent and enthusiasm by leading our Light it Up Blue songs. The assembly was a result of the collaborative efforts of our students and staff, led by Ms. MacLeod, Ms. Kramer and Ms. Direito. Thank you for an outstanding job!



Positive Climates for Learning

Congratulations Panthers!

**We raised \$4000
through our
Dance-a-thon!**



That's how we Rock and Roll!

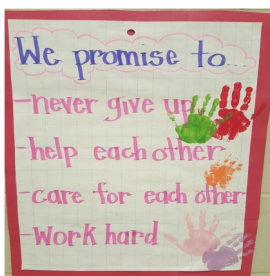
Special Days in April...

**TRIBES Assembly
April 28th, 2016**

**Walk to School and Earn Your Feet!
April 29th, 2016**

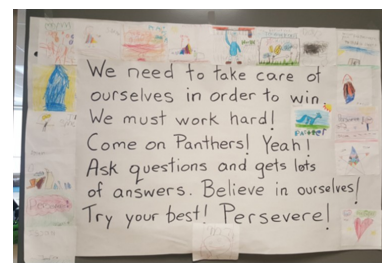


**Earn an extra foot by walking to school on
Earth Day April 22nd**



Tribes Assembly

During our last Tribes assembly, students focused on setting goals, developing a growth mindset and demonstrating perseverance. Each tribe created a unique motto to show their commitment to this focus. Our mottos are hanging around the school to remind students of their goals. Go Panthers!



Yearbook

We are having a Pantherific year at Pierre Berton and now you can remember it forever! Our full-colour, professionally printed yearbook will include 60 pages of pictures documenting school events, clubs, teams, class pictures, graduates, and much more to mark our school year together. These are the moments that you want to remember for years to come! Don't miss out on owning a piece of our Pierre Berton story as we write the pages of our future together!

Pierre Berton's School Council is proud to present...

Family Movie Night

on

Wednesday, April 27th, 2016

6:30 pm

for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3

Order forms for popcorn and drinks
have been sent home.



Positive Climates for Learning

Healthy Schools Recipe of the Month -from joyoushealth.com

Turkey Burgers

After a long day at work, it's so easy to pick up some dinner at a fast food restaurant. When you're tempted to do that, try this recipe for healthy burgers instead.

Ingredients:

- 1 sweet onion, chopped
- 8 sundried tomatoes, sliced into slivers
- 5-7 cremini mushrooms, chopped
- 1 clove of fresh garlic, chopped
- 2 tbsp fresh chives, chopped
- 2 tsp hot chilli flakes
- 1 egg or 1 tbsp chia seeds soaked in 4 tbsp water till they turn pudding-like
- 1 tbsp wheat-free organic tamari sauce
- ½ kilo ground lean (choose organic) turkey

Method:

Preheat your grill to medium or your oven to 350F. Chop all of the vegetables and set them aside. Place the ground turkey in a large bowl. Whisk the egg and combine the egg and tamari with the turkey. Add all the vegetables and spices and mix everything together with your hands. Form into patties.

This recipe makes four to six burgers depending on how large you make them.

Cook on the grill for 10 to 12 minutes to cook completely. If you're baking them, bake for seven to nine minutes on one side then flip them over and cook for another seven to nine minutes.



School Council

Celebrating our Diversity at Our Assemblies

Our TRIBES assembly was filled with great learning. Mr. McRobert's Grade 4 students shared their learning about people who made a big impact on the world such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Harriet Tubman. Ms. Rosato's Grade 4 students learned about Ruby Bridges and shared their perspective of what it would have been like to be a student integrated into the New Orleans school system in 1960. Mr. Herbert's Grade 8s shared the "Quilt" they made and the influence of several Canadians, such as Viola Davis and Lincoln Alexander. These presentations were very powerful and all of our panthers learned a great deal from them.

On February 29th we were treated to the incredible Ballet Creole's performance of "Jou'vert". Ballet Creole is a professional company derived of versatile dancers and musicians that perform traditional and contemporary dance and music from around the world, with a particular emphasis on the African Diaspora. Known as the Forerunner of Blacks in Dance in Canada they have shared their motto: "Diversity in harmony creating a new energy".

Save the date...

**Pierre Berton School Council is hosting our
2nd**



Family Fun Fair and Basket Raffle



**June 9th, 2016
5:00 - 8:00pm**

We are excited to announce that the planning of this year's Family Fun Fair is well underway! Along with delicious food, fun games and our themed basket raffle, we are excited to have X-Movement join us for some interactive and fun activities!