

PIERRE BERTON



PANTHERS

Pierre Berton Public School

[Pierre Berton Public School](#)

470 Via Campanile, Vaughan, ON
905-303-4540

Important Dates:

Feb 2	PA Day
Feb 15	Report Cards Home
Feb 19	Family Day
Feb 23	Earn Your Feet Friday
Feb 26	TRIBES Assembly
Feb 26	School Council

Administrators' Message

February 2018

Students have been busy in the classrooms since the winter break, actively engaging in many learning experiences. Staff and students continue to be dedicated in their efforts to the learning that occurs each day. Parents will have the opportunity to learn more about their child's current achievement through upcoming reports.

First term Gr. 1—8 reports and Kindergarten Communication of Learning will go home on February 15th. Ongoing discussions are occurring between parents and teachers to ensure the children are receiving the next steps that home and school can collaboratively work on to improve student learning. Parents can extend the learning in the classroom by reading together at home, discussing the success criteria for homework assignments, and demonstrating an interest in their child's learning. A report card is a checkpoint in your child's learning and should be understood as just that. There is always room to grow and opportunity to learn. The communication of achievement, next steps, and learning for your child is always a partnership between school and home. Set goals together and always ensure that your child is part of the conversation. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher at any time throughout the year when there are questions or concerns. We thank for your continued support and look forward to continuing the learning in term two.

After reviewing our school attendance data, it is very evident that arriving late for school is a significant issue for some students. Punctuality is an essential life skill. We ask that you do your best to ensure your child attends to school on time. As our parking lot is busy at entry and dismissal times, consider leaving the car at home and walking to school; this is great exercise and helps the environment. If you do drive your child to school, please remember that the bus loop is a fire route and parking in this loop or in front of the pylons at this entry point is not allowed at any time of the day.

We have many exciting events occurring in the upcoming months including our Tribes Assembly, Arts Performances, Field Trips, Dance-a-thon and more. We also know that many will be looking forward to spending time with family during the upcoming Family Day weekend. We hope you have the opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends during this time. Have a wonderful month!

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Principal

Wendy McVicar-Lew

Vice-Principal

Jennifer May

Office Staff

Jane Purdy
Anna Gabrielli

Superintendent

Paul Valle
905-764-6830

Trustee

Linda Aversa
647-462-0921



Writing the Pages of our Future!

School Council / Message from our Trustee



Pierre Berton School Council is hosting our 4th

Family Fun Fair and Basket Raffle

Thursday, June 7th, 2018
5:00 - 8:00pm

We are excited to announce that the planning of this year's Family Fun Fair is well underway! There will be delicious food, fun games and our themed basket raffle, and much more for all to enjoy!

Order forms and further information will follow in the coming months.



We can't wait to see you there!



Message from our Trustee Linda Aversa

With report cards coming home, this is a good time of year to review your child's progress and to set goals for the rest of the school year.

As trustees, our goals are set out in the Board [Multi-Year Plan](#). In the coming months, trustees will be reviewing and updating this plan. This process will include opportunities for public input, and trustees will be out in the communities talking about this. More information will be shared about this in the spring.

Developing and reviewing the Multi-Year Plan is just one of our responsibilities as publicly elected officials. Trustee responsibilities also include hiring the Director of Education, setting [Board policies](#) and the [annual budget](#), and communicating with the public.

This is a good time to learn more about the [role of trustees](#) with the next [municipal election](#) taking place later this year on October 22, 2018. York Region District School Board has [12 trustees](#), elected by ratepayers. As a trustee, listening and communicating with families is an important part of my role. Students, families and members of the public are welcome to attend and observe any public Board, Advisory or Board Committee meetings and to share their views with us on policy and Board governance.

As we move into the second half of the year, I hope that you are seeing evidence of your child's learning and progress, and finding opportunities to get involved in their learning and the life of the school.

I wish you all the best for a successful second term.

School Council

2017 - 2018 Pierre Berton School Council

Co-Chairs

Nina Gill
Margarita Ramirez
Kristy Sood

Parent Members

Keri Bedeau
Rajesh Dhoum
Annarita DiStefano
Naveena Gojja
Samuel Iannucci
Opi Marok
Mona Nouroozifar
Tharshini Sriskandarajah
Hui Zhao
Frank Ziang

Teaching Staff

Farshad Derakshandeh
Kalpana Vaze

The Pierre Berton School Council met January 22, 2018. Highlights from the meeting included:

- Fun Fair planning update
- Spirit Wear discussion
- Fundraising update
- Traffic Safety update
- Positive Climates for Learning discussion
- School Climate data sharing
- Sharing of Wellness Week plan
- Sharing of the new Kindergarten Registration process

Next School Council Meeting:
Monday, February 26, 2018
7pm
Learning Commons

Upcoming School Council Meeting Dates
April 23, 2018
May 28, 2018

Caribou Math Contest

We are so proud of all of our students who participated in the Caribou Math contest this past month! There was an excellent turn –out with 49 students from grade 3 to 8 participating in January. Students performed very well and we are so proud of the dedication and effort put forward by all.

The goals of this project are to:

- To improve student's problem solving techniques by providing a wide variety of challenging math activities suitable for all students in grades 3-12.
- Motivate students to get back to their school math when a question needed a technique or formula which they did not remember.
- Show that mathematical puzzles can be fun and that competing in math contests with interactive questions is exciting.

Please encourage your child to participate in future Caribou Math Contests. It's a great learning experience.



Student Achievement

Kindergarten Communication of Learning

On February 15th you will be Kindergarten parents will be receiving their child's Communication of Learning. The Kindergarten Communication of Learning reports are intended to provide parents with descriptions, written in plain language and including anecdotal comments, about their child's strengths and growth in relation to the overall expectations within each of the four frames of The Kindergarten Program. Next steps in the child's learning are also indicated, to inform parents of the educators' plans for supporting the child's new learning at school and to assist them in supporting their child's learning at home. The Kindergarten Communication of Learning reports are issued at the end of the second and third reporting periods. The report issued at the end of the second reporting period reflects the child's growth in learning in relation to the overall expectations introduced and developed from September to January/February of the school year. The report issued at the end of the third reporting period reflects the child's growth in learning in relation to the overall expectations introduced or further developed from January/February to June of the school year. Please note that the Kindergarten Program now refers to Year 1 and Year 2 instead of the previous Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten. It is important to remember that the Kindergarten program is a two year program and that expectations will be report on throughout the two year period.

In Kindergarten, the learning expectations are now organized into four "frames", or broad areas of learning: Belonging and Contributing, Self-Regulation and Well-Being, Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours, and Problem Solving and Innovating. The Communication of Learning will focus on specific expectations that are outlined within these Four Frames.

Four Frames for Learning

What children learn in connection with *all four frames* lays the foundation for developing traits and attitudes they will need to become active, contributing, responsible citizens and healthy, engaged individuals who take responsibility for their own and others' well-being.

Belonging and Contributing

The learning encompassed by this frame relates to the child's early development of the attributes and attitudes that inform citizenship, through his or her sense of personal connectedness to various communities.

Self-Regulation and Well-Being

What children learn in connection with this frame allows them to focus, to learn, to respect themselves and others, and to promote well-being in themselves and others.

Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours

What children learn in connection with this frame develops their capacity to think critically, to understand and respect many different perspectives, and to process various kinds of information.

Problem Solving and Innovating

The learning encompassed by this frame supports collaborative problem solving and bringing innovative ideas to relationships with others.

Positive Climates for Learning



Tech Club

Big News!!! We are so excited to announce that for the first time ever, Pierre Berton's Junior Tech Club will be participating in the York Region District School Board's Skills Challenge. We have been granted 3 team spots, where a total of 12 grade 4-6 students, will be given the opportunity to compete with various different schools in the field of Lego Robotics. This is the perfect opportunity to try out our new Lego EV3 robots we just purchased this year!

The purpose of the challenges are to create engineering projects to encourage individuals with different skill sets to form cooperative teams to design, fabricate and operate a robot. Students will be independently designing, fabricating and operating robots capable of completing specific, and for now, secret tasks.

For the past few weeks we have been working on learning how to operate and put together our EV3 Lego robots in order to prepare. There has been a lot of trial and error, struggles and successes. Can't wait to see what happens in the competition....stay tuned for results and a sharing of our learning.

Student Leadership Team



The PBPS Student Leadership team is comprised of grade 7 and 8 students who chose to be leaders in the school community. This is a full year commitment that students must apply for. This year we have over 50 students divided into 5 separate committees - Tribes, Spirit, Photography, Wellness and Earn Your Feet. These dedicated students plan, organize and run many of the activities within the school. Currently our Tribes committee is planning our next Tribes assembly and recently successfully planned our Mats of Kindness Evening. The Spirit Committee is busy organizing and promoting our upcoming spirit days. The photography committee is busy taking photos of school events and compiling them for the yearbook. Although it is months away, our Wellness committee has begun planning for our much anticipated wellness week! Finally, our Earn Your Feet Committee promotes and graphs the number of students who walk to school or are active during recess. We appreciate the dedication and leadership shown by our Student Leadership Team. Together we make a difference!

Book Fair Follow-up



At the end of November we had a very successful book fair. Funds raised has provided us the opportunity to purchase some exciting things for the learning commons. We will continue our focus on STEM in our makerspace by adding marble runs, a light table, more lego and K'nex. We were also able to purchase many of the best sellers from the book fair including Dogman, Wonder, Thelma the Unicorn, Geronimo Stilton and many more! Thank you for your support!

Positive Climates for Learning

Junior Volleyball Season

The Junior Volleyball team has had a fantastic season, showing much improvement throughout. During the month of January the Panthers attended the Lorna Jackson Invitational Tournament, where they communicated, passed, and spiked their way through the round robin games and into the finals. Their endless perseverance and determination lead them to victory, and a first place banner. Congratulations!

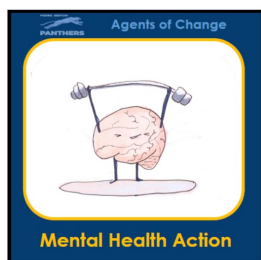


Intermediate Basketball

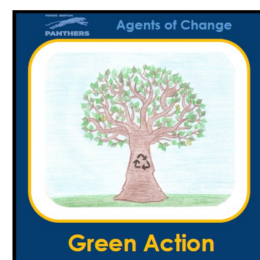


The intermediate boys and girls basketball teams have been working hard to prepare for the area tournaments at the end of the month. Before the area finals at Tommy Douglas Secondary School, the teams will participate in exhibition tournaments at Nobleton Public School and Walter Scott Public School as well as another home tournament at Pierre Berton. Both teams have been practising regularly over the last few months to develop their basketball skills. Students have demonstrated fantastic dedication, commitment, and team work, as they work toward their goal of winning the area championships. GO PANTHERS!

Agents Of Change



The students of PBPS have been very busy planning and carrying out actions to earn an Agent of Change Badge. Ten classes earned badges at this month's tribes assembly!



Mr. Pennino's class earned a **Green Action** badge with their creative video encouraging students to be green. Mrs. Gross's class earned a **Kindness Action** Badge by creating a book about kindness and reading it to the kindergarten classes. They even made a copy to keep in the learning commons! Ms. Feldman's class has been learning about internet safety and cyber-bullying in Health. They earned their **Safe Schools Action** Badge by creating an internet safety PSA! Ms. Bezaire's class earned their **Community Action** badge by organizing the Holiday Heroes clothing and toy drive and Mrs. Pattara's class earned their **Community Action** Badge for bringing in the most items! Way to go! Mrs. Ridgely's class wrote short stories about things they have "yet" to learn and shared them with kindergarten students. Sharing their knowledge of a growth mindset, earned them their **Mental Health Action** Badge. To earn their **Kindness Action** Badge, Mrs. Schipper's class provided each class with a random act of kindness to complete. Mr.

Sanghera and Ms. Punnett's grade 7's researched healthy eating and created posters to help inform our school community, earning them both a **Healthy Living Action** Badge. Last but not least, Ms. Morrison's class explored the importance of the civil rights movement and gave a moving performance at the assembly, earning them the **Inclusivity Action** Badge. You are amazing Panthers! We can't wait to see what you do next!

