



PIERRE BERTON



PANTHERS

Pierre Berton Public School

[Pierre Berton Public School](#)

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

Important Dates:

Jan. 9	Welcome Back!
Jan. 20	PA Day
Jan. 23	School Council 7pm
Jan. 26	TRIBES Assembly
Jan. 27	Earn Your Feet Friday
Feb. 3	PA Day

Administrators' Message

January, 2017

We want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and welcome you back to school. We hope that everyone had a restful winter break with opportunity to spend time with friends and family. A new year is a great time for reflection and fresh goal setting with your children. Developing learning skills and work habits is a vital part of each student's success. The staff at Pierre Berton PS are helping students develop the learning skills and work habits needed for success in school and adult life: responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative, and self-regulation. The development of these learning skills and work habits begins early in a child's education.

Inside This Issue:

Admin. Message	1
Important Information	2-3
Student Achievement	4
Positive Climates for Learning	5-7

As the winter months are upon us, we wish to remind all families to be extremely cautious and to drive slowly during drop-off and pick-up times. We ask all parents to pull up to the curb at the Kiss and Ride when dropping off students in the morning even if your children will be walking to the portables. It is unsafe to drop students off at the end of the parking lot near the school yard. We appreciate the number of families who are dropping students off at 8:15 a.m. to provide students plenty of time to prepare for morning classes. A reminder that students are not to enter the school until 8:15 a.m. as supervision is not in place. Please wait with your child(ren) outside until the first morning bell rings.

Principal

Wendy McVicar-Lew

Vice-Principal

Jennifer May

Office Staff

Jane Purdy
Zabrina Fraser

Superintendent

Paul Valle
905-764-6830

Trustee

Linda Aversa
647-462-0921

We wish to remind everyone that at Pierre Berton Public School, we believe that children learn better when they receive regular intervals of exercise and fresh air. We send the children out for either a full or a shortened recess unless there is inclement weather. We ask that children are appropriately dressed for the weather: warm hat, gloves, scarf, coat, pants and boots at this time of year. During extreme cold weather conditions, students will remain indoors.

We wish you a healthy and happy new year and look forward to continuing the learning journey with all students in 2017!



Writing the Pages of our Future!

Important Information

Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 20, 2017

Kindergarten registration will begin at our school on January 20, 2016 for the 2017-18 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Or, you can attain a copy at the school once registration begins.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2017, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten.



A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact our school office.

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registration for students who are currently in Senior Kindergarten

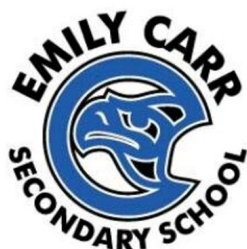
Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on **January 19, 2017 at 7 p.m.**

Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2017 (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/Pages/Program-Locations.aspx>) to find the FI program location for your elementary school location. FI registration will begin January 20, 2017.

Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2017, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, should:

- visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school.
- take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to the designated FI program location to register between January 20 and February 10, 2017. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

Emily Carr Secondary School Visit



Students in Grade 8 who live in the Kleinburg area, will be visiting Emily Carr Secondary School on Monday January 16th to begin to prepare for the transition to Grade 9. There will be a presentation for students about course selections and an opportunity for students to have any questions answered. Following the presentation, students will have an opportunity to tour the school with a student mentor. This is an exciting time for our Grade 8 students and we look forward to supporting them in their transition to High School.

Important Information^{Region}

Arts Program - For Current Grade 4 or 5 Students

WOULD YOU ENJOY **COLLABORATIVELY** 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**. If you are currently in grades **four or five**, you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

Thursday, January 19, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

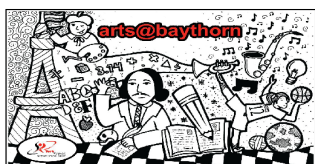
Applications will be available at bit.ly/arts_application2017 online after January 19th, 2017.

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

Kate Kurek
Principal

The Arts Team

Meytal Daniels
Vice Principal



Important Immunization Information

If parents/guardians or students receive a letter from York Region Public Health requesting immunization information, here's what to do:

Update York Region Public Health on your child's immunization status in one of the following ways:

- Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>
- Fax documents to 905-895-6066 or 1-866-258-2026
- Mail immunization information to Immunization Services, Box 147, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
- Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

Student Achievement

Modern Learning

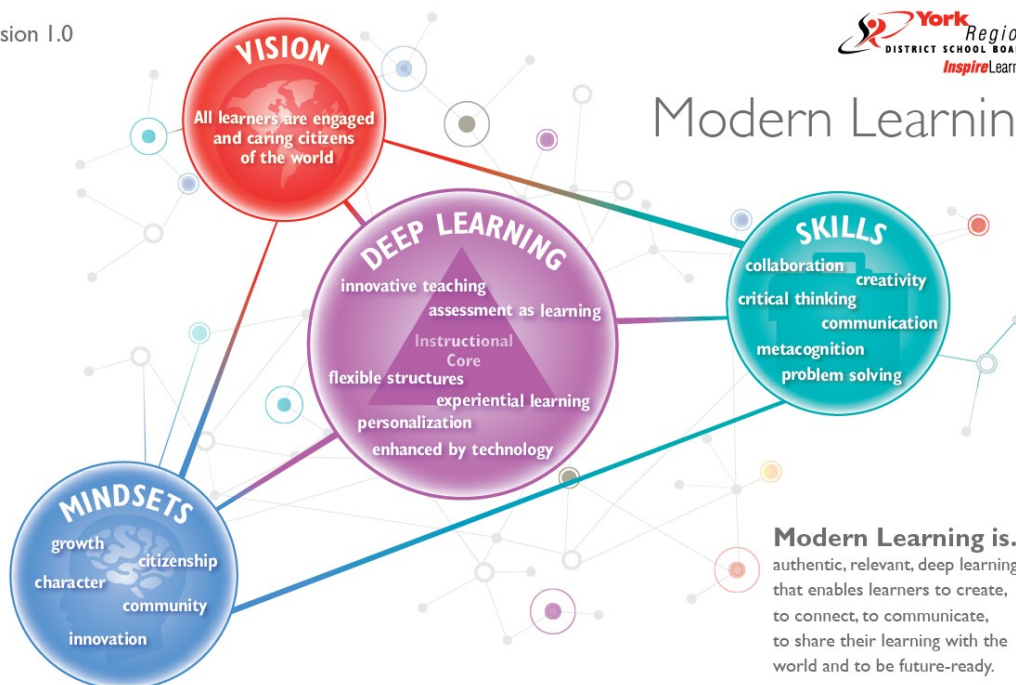
Modern Learning is the framework that our school board has established in order for us to pull together learning in a focused and intentional way. The official definition is: modern learning is authentic, relevant, deep learning that enables learners to create, to connect, to communicate and to share their learning with the world and to be future ready. This year we are excited to use this

framework as a guide as we explore learning with rich problem solving tasks in all areas of the curriculum. Students will also explore the use of innovative technology like circuit building, coding, constructing, and work on solving challenges that will allow us to become problem solvers and inventors. As a school we will begin exploring how we can teach and learn through a modern learning lens, to help us become 21 century thinkers!

Version 1.0

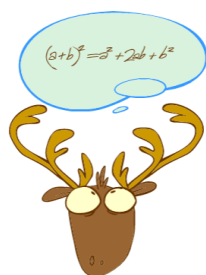


Modern Learning



Modern Learning is...
authentic, relevant, deep learning that enables learners to create, to connect, to communicate, to share their learning with the world and to be future-ready.

September 2015



Caribou Math Contest

In November, 15 students from grades 3-8 participated in the Caribou Math Contest. The results are in and our students have performed exceptionally well. Two of our students ranked in the top 7% out 6000 students globally, while another 3 students ranked in the top 13%.

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.

The next contest takes place on January 18th. We will be having practice sessions in the learning commons on January 12th and 13th during lunch recess.

Positive Climates for Learning

Intermediate Volleyball Season

Go Panthers Go!

This season, our boys' and girls' intermediate volleyball teams were able to accomplish what no other PBPS volleyball team has done before. Both teams had tremendously successful seasons which culminated in an opportunity to compete at the Regional tournaments. Both teams competed against the best school teams in all of York Region District School Board, and they did so with a very positive spirit and determination. Although the teams were unable to bring home Regional championships they remain true champions at Pierre Berton PS. Their dedication and tremendous effort throughout the season did not go unnoticed. All members of both teams should be congratulated on their accomplishments this season. We are all very proud of the efforts put forward by players and coaches alike.

Great job Panthers!

Junior Co-ed Volleyball Tryouts have now been completed. The team has an invitational tournament coming up on Thursday, January 12th where they compete at PBPS, as well as their area tournament on Monday, January 23rd at Fossil Hill PS. The Junior boys and girls are practicing hard and it should be a fun season!!!



Intermediate Basketball



The Boys and Girls Intermediate Basketball teams are working hard to prepare for the 2017 season. In addition to learning fundamental basketball skills, students have been learning to play together demonstrating excellent teamwork and cooperation. We look forward to an exciting season starting in the new year.

Panthers' Cheer

*Deep in the school, we're kind and humble.
You can hear the Panthers rumble!
Ooo Ah, Oo Ah! Ooo Ah, Oo Ah!*

*Deep in the school, we face our fears.
Watch us as we persevere!
Ooo Ah, Oo Ah! Ooo Ah, Oo Ah!*

*Deep in the school, we're strong and proud.
Come on Panthers, let's get loud!
Ooo Ah, Oo Ah! Ooo Ah, Oo Ah!*

Holiday Heroes

Thank you to all of the families who donated food and toys to the 2016 Holiday Heroes Campaign. Since Holiday Heroes began in 2008, York Regional Police has raised more than \$1 million in monetary donations, new toys, new children's clothing and food. The generosity of the PBPS community is greatly appreciated and it is wonderful to know that so many families in need will benefit from the kindness of others during this holiday season. Way to go Panthers!



Positive Climates for Learning

Tech Club



Pierre Berton has its first ever technology club! Students who participate in this club range from grades three to seven, and meet weekly to take on new projects in computer science, sharpen their skills on Google Drive, including Sheets, Docs, Slides and Forms, and help others troubleshoot and problem solve.

This month the students participated in Hour of Code, where they started learning about algorithms, how to program elements of their own games with Code Studio, and how the Internet works. Coding helps to nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity, and build a foundation for any 21st-century career path. If you are interested in exposing your children to coding at home, take a look at this website to get started: <https://code.org/>



Making a Difference Program



For the past few months, a Community Outreach Worker from The York Centre for Children, Youth and Families has been working with some of our Grade 4 students as well as the Grade 5 classes talking about the subject of bullying. The program is called Making a Difference and is an eight week program designed to help students recognize bullying behaviours, as well as develop and use assertive responses to bullying situations. This

month the program will start for the remaining Grade 4 students as well as out Grade 6 students. We are very pleased to have this program at Pierre Berton PS and hope that students will continue to develop strategies to deal with and take a stand against bullying.

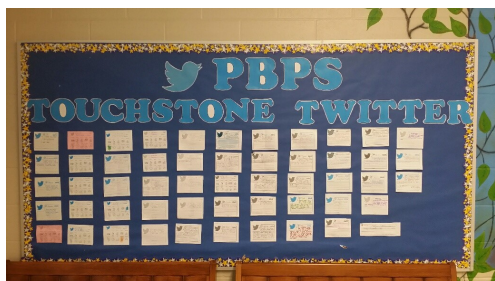


Pierre Berton Fun Fair



Planning for this year's Fun Fair is already underway! The Fun Fair will take place on Thursday, June 8, 2017 from 5pm –8pm. We are looking forward to another successful, fun filled event. More details will be shared as the planning continues. Those parents who indicated a willingness to volunteer will be contacted to determine what role you can play in supporting this wonderful event.

Positive Climates for Learning



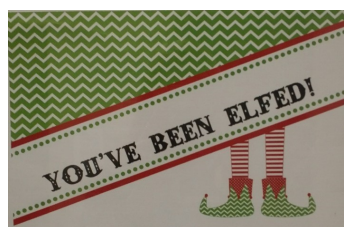
Our Pierre Berton Touchstone Twitter Board

Our school-wide Twitter board is displayed in the front of the school! The purpose of our Twitter board is to recognize students and staff who exemplify the characteristics of our school Touchstone.

Staff and students are given the opportunity to tweet daily in their classrooms. The touchstone tweets give students and staff an opportunity to acknowledge others for making positive contributions to our Panther community.

Seemingly small or random acts of kindness can mean the world to someone and can have huge long lasting impacts on the Pierre Berton community. This in itself is cause for recognition and celebration.

Keep Tweeting Panthers!



Random Acts of Kindness

For the month of December, the school has been participating in a Random Acts of Kindness campaign. Classes have been "Elf-ing" one another with small tokens of appreciation.

Here are some ways we passed on the kindness:

- caroling elves singing winter songs
- a sweet treat
- a winter craft
- teaching a class a new game
- a winter poem and cards
- a snowman kit

It's true what they say, a little bit of kindness really does go a long way. Way to go Panthers!

BEST BUDDIES.



Best Buddies are Back!

The Best Buddies program is in full swing again this year! Best Buddies focuses on creating friendships between students at Pierre Berton PS. Participants are paired in a one-on-one partnership, focusing on friendship, similarities and accepting everyone for who they are. Students meet monthly to participate in group activities, held during the school day.

Upcoming School Council Meeting Dates

January 23, 2017
February 27, 2017
April 24, 2017
May 29, 2017

