



Pierre Berton Public School

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

June, 2013

Important Dates:

June 7	P.A. Day
June 12	Area Track and Field Meet (4-6) / Volunteer Tea
June 13	Area Track and Field Meet (7-8)
June 18	Kindergarten Picnic
June 21	Tribes Play Day
June 24	Grade 8 Graduation
June 26	Reports Home
June 27	Tribes Assembly / Grade 8 Clap Out / Last Day of School

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Administrator's Message

It is hard to believe that June has arrived. Through the hard work and dedication of staff, students and parents, we have experienced many exciting events at Pierre Berton P.S. over the year. The students have been busy learning as they have been focused on completing the curriculum and consolidating learning. Over the past two weeks, our students in grades three and six have been completing the EQAO assessment.

Athletics at Pierre Berton have been in full stride with badminton and Track and Field Day. We congratulate our teams and our students who represented our school well as we used the facilities of other schools in our area. We also celebrate the accomplishments of the Pierre Berton students who attended the Track and Field Meet for Students with Special Needs. The students returned to the school with many awards. Finally, we wish good luck to the students who are participating in the Area Track and Field Meets next week.

Last month, our students also participated in our Tribes assembly, Toronto Argonaut Huddle Up Symposium, YRDSB Our Voice conference, and enjoyed spirit days. Thank you to everyone for providing these wonderful learning opportunities for our students. After the cancellation of our outdoor school photograph due to snow in April, we managed to successfully sneak it in while the dark clouds passed over us. We never thought that coordinating an outdoor photograph could be such a challenge!

June will be a very busy month. Staff are busy planning for next year, including the coordination of class placements and preparing the school timetable. We look forward to recognizing the numerous volunteers who support our work at the Volunteer Appreciation Tea on June 12, 2013. This year, we have had over seventy-five people who have volunteered their time to support student learning and well-being. In addition, the kindergarten team will be inviting parents to join their children to celebrate the end of the year with a picnic and activities. All students at Pierre Berton will participate in our Tribes Play Day on June 21st, engaging in many activities outdoors and will attend our final assembly on the last day of school. Finally, we will be celebrating graduation with our Grade 8 students. We have a special evening planned for June 24, 2013. We know this is a significant time in their lives as they transition to high school. We wish them all the best!

As of June 3, a new Superintendent of Schools has been assigned for Pierre Berton Public School. Dianne Hawkins has been reassigned to work in CEC North. We welcome Susan Logue to CEC West.



Writing the Pages of our Future!

Positive Climates for Learning

Welcome to Kindergarten

We had a very successful Welcome to Kindergarten evening in May. Forty-six families joined us to learn about the Full Day Kindergarten program and engage in activities to support their children's transition to school. We are looking forward to welcoming our new students to Pierre Berton in September.



Track and Field Day

On May 17th the junior and intermediate students enjoyed an active Track and Field Day. Students had the opportunity to compete in a variety of track and field events. Congratulations to our students who have qualified for the Area Track and Field Meets on June 12th and 13th at Maple High School. Go Panthers!

A special thank you to Fossil Hill Public School and St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic High School for welcoming us to their schools on that day.

Eco Schools—The Golden Garbage Can

The winners of the Golden Garbage Can was ...



May—Ms. Tedesco's Class

Grade 8 Graduation 'Capture the Moment'

It is hard to believe that Grade 8 Graduation is just around the corner. Our students have had a successful year and are well prepared to move on to high school in September. Course selection has been completed and the students have had opportunities to visit the school.

Grade 8 Graduation will be held on Monday, June 24th. The ceremony and dinner/dance for students will be held at Bellvue Manor. We look forward to celebrating a successful completion of the students' elementary school education with them.

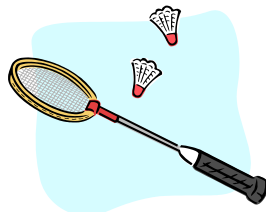


Once again on the last day of school, we will 'clap out' our grade eight students. This provides an opportunity for all of our students to recognize the graduates as they leave our school.

Intermediate Badminton

The Pierre Berton badminton team was first formed in April, 2013. With every practice Mr. Herbert and Mr. Pennino held, the team grew stronger. With hard work and determination, the team placed 2nd overall. Kirat and our male captain, Orion placed 3rd in Boys' Doubles. In addition, Patricia and our female captain, Selina placed 3rd in Girls' Doubles. Although the two teams both placed 3rd, all teams played extraordinarily well. Pierre Berton needed all the help we could get. The other boys' double team was William and Jimmy. The other girls' double team consisted of Melissa and Emilia. The mix teams were Nikki and Aric, along with Shiven and Ariana. Other members of the team included Brandon, Rachel, Franco, Nijeetha, Cindy, Devran, Kawon, Firat and Jasmine.

Congratulations, Panthers!



Tribes Assembly

At last month's Tribes assembly, the students had an opportunity to celebrate their achievements in music this year. Many classes performed sharing the learning that has taken place this year. We are very fortunate to have a specialized music program in all grades.

Important Information

Message from our Trustee

As the school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for another successful school year.

A school is more than a place of learning – it is a community. Thanks to the ongoing efforts of our students, families, staff and community partners, we have created a welcoming, caring and inclusive learning environment where students can thrive.

Our school community has come together throughout the past year to celebrate diversity, support student learning and achievement, and to make a difference – whether it is to benefit our community, our environment or those less fortunate than us. This is a good time to recognize and celebrate your child's successes over the past year, and to set goals for next year.

Learning does not need to end as summer begins. There are many opportunities to keep learning throughout the summer months, and I encourage you to continue seeking them. That could mean taking a nature walk, visiting a museum or gallery, volunteering in the community or reading a book.

Whatever your plans are over the next few months, I hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Medication

Many students have medication that is kept in the office during the school year. If your child has any medication, an epi-pen or puffers in the office, please arrange to pick up it by Thursday, June 27th.



Lost and Found

If your child is missing any clothing, please ensure that he/she checks the lost and found. We will lay the clothing out in the front hall during the week of June 17th. Any unclaimed articles of clothing will be donated at the end of the school year.

First Day of School Tuesday, September 3, 2013

If your child is returning to Pierre Berton, but will not be in attendance on the first day of school in September, please notify our school office at 905-303-4540. Students who will be absent for an extended length of time in September are required by the Ministry of Education Bill 52 to complete a form indicating the date of their expected return. Please drop by the office if you require a form.

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 www.schoolbuscity.com.



News from the Learning Commons ...

Forest of Reading

During the month of May the Forest of Reading wrapped up and all of the results are in. I am very proud of all of the reading that students did and it has been an exciting wait for the results.

The winning books for this year's forest of reading are:

Red Maple: (Grades 7-8) *The Vindico*
 Silver Birch: (Grades 5-6) *Making Bombs for Hitler*
 Silver Birch Express: (Grades 3-4) *Margaret and the Moth Tree*
 Blue Spruce: (Grades K-2) *Kate and Pippin*



Our school voting results matched the Ontario results above. There were many wonderful books that were nominated and they would make a great summer reading list for your child. You can find the lists (including an adult reading list for yourself) at the following link:

<http://www.accessola.org/Documents/OLA/Forest/Forest-fyler-for-web-2013.pdf>

Calling all Books ...

It is hard to believe that June is already here. Students are still actively signing out books from our collection. Toward the end of June it will be time to return all books so that we can ensure there is a full collection for the Fall. I ask that at this time you begin looking around with your child for books that may be overdue. When circulation closes, lost book notes will be sent home for any books that have not returned. I'm hoping to set a goal of 100% return!



We hope that your child continues to read for the rest of the month and throughout the summer as well.
 As always, Happy Reading!

Our Voice Conference, 2013

On Wednesday May 1st, 2013, we were selected to join our teacher at the Our Voice Conference, which was held at the Sheraton Hotel to help better our understanding of anti-bullying.

At the conference, we met a man named Ken Thurston. He is the Director of Education and also the one who held the conference. During the conference, students from all across the York Region District School Board voted for the two people they wanted to be the new student representatives for the YRDSB. These students will help represent the students' point of view and will share all our different ideas with different schools everywhere.

We did various, helpful activities to help us understand how to stand up to bullies. One activity was when all students from different schools gathered together and shared ideas on how to improve and promote anti-bullying board wide. The activity showed us that we need to stand up and not just stand by. It showed us that if we work together, bullying **can** stop!

In conclusion, we greatly enjoyed this conference because we were taught several techniques on how to stop and prevent bullying. We are willing to share our now improved knowledge on bullying with the whole school! Let's go panthers! Together we can make our school safe and bully free!

- Taylor Pham & Daniela Candea

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 May 27, 2013. Highlights from the meeting include:

- ◆ Presentation from YRDSB Planning and Property Services sharing information regarding the proposed boundary change for the new high school, Tommy Douglas S.S.. A community meeting scheduled for Pierre Berton parents. Please access the link to the [Presentation](#) here.
- ◆ Principal Profile, developed by School Council members, shared for input.
- ◆ Fundraising Update: Panini and pizza lunches were a success—will continue next year; QSP completed; Dance-a-thon will be booked for next year.
- ◆ Sharing of updates for technology plan for 2013-2014 school year. Technology to be increased in the Learning Commons (8 laptops ordered, iPads to be ordered with cost-sharing funds in the fall); Grade 7 & 8 will be piloting e-texts next year and iPads/apple tv to support collaborative learning in the classroom.
- ◆ Sharing of School events: EQAO, Graduation, Track and Field, Tribes Assembly, Kindergarten Picnic, Tribes Play Day, Volunteer Tea

YRDSB Mission, Vision and Values

"We unite in our purpose to inspire and prepare learners for life in our changing world community." – YRDSB Mission Statement

Our Board is proud of the Mission, Vision and Values statements that we have followed for the last 16 years which have outlined our core purposes and collective commitments to meet the needs of our students and communities. We are now preparing a review of our statements to ensure that we continue to be aligned with our current and future context. The board is seeking input from a variety of stake holders such as school trustees, parents, staff and students. Parents and guardians who are interested in giving their feedback are asked to access a short survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/yrdsbmvsvsurvey2013. The survey will be available online until June 28, 2013. Thank you for your involvement.

Last Day of School—Early Dismissal

All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to student success and well-being. On **Thursday, June 27th, 2013** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in staff meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan.

As has been our practice over the past three years, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 27th, 2013 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at **11:30 a.m.** Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bussed to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule.