



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

April 2018

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Diana Hogan

Superintendent: Dianne Hawkins

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www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca



School Improvement Plan

For Student Achievement and Well Being

Respectful School, Modern Learning, Math and Mental

Student Class Placement for September 2018



We will soon begin the process of organizing classes for the 2018-2019 school year. The student placement process focuses on creating balanced classes. A great deal of time is spent to ensure that each student's academic and social needs are taken into consideration. Parent input is one factor considered in the placement process. If you have any information about your child's learning needs or know peers

he/she works well with, please inform Mme Baage in writing by April 20th. Please be advised that we cannot accommodate requests for particular teachers, or straight grade classes.

Upcoming Events



April 2nd	Easter Monday
April 5th	Music Alive (Junior Choir)
April 9th	Music Alive (Junior/Intermediate Choir)
April 11th	Music Alive (Calixa) Parent Council Meeting
April 18th	Junior Boys Basketball (Areas)
April 19th	Music Alive (Stage Band)
April 23rd to 26th	Grade 8 Grad Trip (Quebec City)
April 25th	Junior Girls Basketball (Areas)
April 27th	Class Placement (DEADLINE)

Grade 8 Graduation



This year's Grade 8 Graduation will be on Tuesday, June 26th. The ceremony will start at 6:00 p.m. in the Poplar Bank Gym. Please mark this date in your calendars.

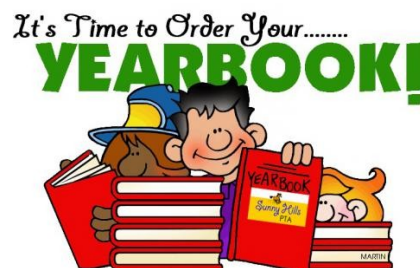
Spring Provincial Testing Update: EQAO



In a few short months, our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will take part in the provincial EQAO testing. Students in Grade 3 French Immersion write only the Mathematics subtest, which is given in French. Students in Grade 6 complete three subsets, namely reading, writing and Math in English. For parents interested in finding out more about the EQAO tests, please visit the website at <http://www.eqao.com>. Our Grade 3 and 6 students will take part in the testing between May 23rd to May 30th. If possible, please avoid taking vacations or booking appointments for your child during this time frame.

Year Book 2017/2018

The Cover Contest has now ended! Students feverishly created beautiful artwork in hopes of winning a spot of honour in this year's yearbook! The winners will be announced in the May Newsletter — stay tuned! Have you purchased your copy of the 2017/2018 Yearbook yet, for the low price of \$26.00? You have until May 10th to purchase your yearbook but keep in mind the deadline for free yearbook draw is April 30th. The winner for the SchoolCashOnLine draw will be announced on May 1st.



Chess Club



The Poplar Bank Chess Club sent 12 students ranging from grades 4-8 to a competition for all of Newmarket at the Optimist Club. We placed 2nd in both grades 7 and 8 and had 4 members qualify for Provincials in an upcoming tournament. These students have been developing their skills throughout the year and had proven themselves through ladder systems within the school. Their dedication and love of the game has been proven over and over again, and they represented the school and the remaining 40 club members with pride while away. Way to go team!

Intramural Badminton

It's Badminton season in the Poplar Bank Intramural Sports League and nearly 100 students have signed up to try their hand at the 150 year old sport! Our school's Intramural Sports League is proud to provide a friendly competition for all students who sign up, regardless of their ability. Junior students from grades 4, 5, and 6 will play on teams like The Tricky Serves and The Back Court on Day 1 in the gym, while Intermediate students will play as The Smashes or The Birdies on Day 3. The goals of the league are to promote respect, sportsmanship, and get a bit of healthy exercise along the way. Intramural Badminton is so much fun! It's bound to make quite a racket!



Junior Boys' Basketball

Mme Nicholson and Mme Hampton would like to thank all junior boys who tried out and congratulations to the boys who will be part of the Junior Boys Basketball Team! Please wish us luck as we participate in our exhibition game against Mazo, our mini tournament at Denison and our Area Tournament. Go Lions Go!





Congratulations to everyone who participated in **Earth Hour** at home on Saturday March 24th by turning out the lights from 8:30-9:30pm! Be sure to ask how your child honoured Earth Hour here at school. Great ideas were shared with our Capitaines de l'environnement who led the the **Eco-Assembly** on March 29th.

To help us celebrate **Earth Day** on Monday April 23rd, the Eco-Team Ambassadors will be making presentations to their classrooms. The junior & intermediate classes will be taking a **Water Challenge** to decide what tastes better: tap water or bottled water. In a blind taste test, the Eco-Ambassadors preferred the taste of tap water (not to mention the fact that bottled water is bad for the environment).

A special thanks goes out to John Mathewson of 21st Century Documents who turned the art work of Mateo K., one of our grade 3 Eco-Ambassadors, into a beautiful banner for the **Eco-Food Garden** at the front of our school. We look forward to start planting again in late May, and welcome all edible plant donations.

Please send in **milk bags** to be **reused**. Members of the Hillside Retirement Residence (headed by Mrs. Taylor's mother) will weave them into bed mats to help the less fortunate. We continue to **collect pop tabs, used batteries and old markers** to be **recycled**.

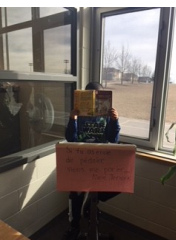


Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage!



Though March is a relatively short month, many events, activities and lessons have taken place in the Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage. With a focus on perseverance and ability, students of all ages are reflecting on how they can work with others or collaborate for a common goal, when using the "Read and Ride" bicycle, Lego walls and other Makerspace centres.

Ipads, Green Screens and laptops have been regularly used by students from Grades 1 to 8 as tools to enhance their learning. The Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage has also hosted presentations, meetings and a special technology workshop for Grade 7/8 students in Mr. Pichora's class. Older students can often be seen helping younger students complete tasks or read during the Lunch recess. Special mention is given to the team of student monitors who willingly give up a weekly recess to help in the Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage. I'd also like to thank the Daniels family for the books they recently donated to our collection.

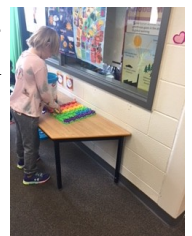


On March 21st, Poplar Bank's students participated in an assembly given by Saidat. The "Saidat Show is a fun, high energy show designed to lift spirits while celebrating diversity, inclusion and acceptance." Her presentation was very interactive and entertaining, through music, dance and drama. Saidat's performance encouraged students to "make a difference". Many thanks are given to Mme Sampson and the following student leaders who acted as Saidat's "Team": Jaylah, Vanessa, Sharon, Alisa, Ceilidh, Chelsea, Claire, Alicia, Abby T., Bradley, Elise, Sergio, Emma W., Maia R and

Maggie.

Wishing all of you a happy Spring!

Chantal Jenicek



Music

Music ensembles at Poplar Bank are in full swing! Children are all working very hard at preparing for the upcoming music festivals.

“Music Alive” is a local music festival where students have the opportunity to perform for other schools and hear other schools perform. I am very excited to demonstrate the musical excellence of the students at Poplar Bank. Parents are invited and encouraged to come and watch the performances. For each ensemble, the **performance attire** is the **black music t-shirt, black/dark bottoms and black/dark shoes.**

Group	Date	Location	Time
Advanced Band	March 28 th	GOLD AWARD RECEIVED	
Junior Choir	April 5 th	YCDSB Centre for the Performing Arts 525 Westminister Drive , Thornhill, ON	10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Junior/Intermediate Choir	April 9 th	YCDSB Centre for the Performing Arts 525 Westminister Drive, Thornhill, ON	10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Calixa Lavallee	April 11 th	Cosmo Music 10 Via Renzo Drive, Richmond Hill, ON	9:30 am to 11:30 am
Stage Band	April 19 th	Cosmo Music 10 Via Renzo Drive, Richmond Hill, ON	9:30 am to 11:30 am
Junior Band	May 4 th	Newmarket Theater 505 Pickering Crescent, Newmarket, ON	9:30 am to 11:30 am
Advanced Band	May 15 th	University of Toronto MacMillan Theatre , Toronto, ON	12:00 pm to 10:00 pm

On **Monday, May 7th**, Poplar Bank will be having the annual **MUSIC MONDAY** celebration. On this day, across Canada, schools are encouraged to sing the same song at the same time (**1pm** Eastern Standard Time) to show the **GALVANIZING** power of music and its importance in music education. Once again we will be singing the song entitled “Sing It Together” by Marc Jordan and Ian Thomas. “Focusing on the power of voices, *Sing It Together* asks us to sing for joy, for truth, for healing and for freedom. The recording and video feature Inuit throat singing, Métis fiddling, indigenous drumming, and children’s choirs in celebration of Canadian musical heritages. Creating *Sing It Together* was a journey of discovery and the songwriters encourage music makers to continue this discovery where music lives in their schools and communities. **PLEASE JOIN US ON MONDAY, MAY 7TH FOR OUR MUSIC MONDAY CELEBRATION!!**

Poplar Bank’s annual **“Focus on Festivals” music concert** will take place on **Thursday, May 3rd** in the gym from **6:30-8:00 pm**. The students are looking forward to demonstrating all of their hard work. Every member is important to the ensemble, so please arrange your schedules so that your child can be there. Make sure to mark your calendar for this important evening of music!!! The following groups will be performing: ***Grade 4 recorders, J/I Choir, Junior Band, Advanced Band and Calixa Lavallee, Beginner Band, Stage Band and Junior Choir.***

The **Advanced Band** will be performing in Toronto in the **MUSICFEST NATIONALS** competition on Tuesday, May 15th. How exciting!!!

Thank you for your continued support of the music program.

Musically Yours,
Mme Smith

“Music is the universal language of mankind.”

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Fun Festival

Silent Auction Items & Midway Game Prizes Needed!



The Fun Festival urgently needs parents and family relatives to help collect items for the Silent Auction and small prizes for the Midway Games.

Items include gift cards/certificates, retail goods, gift baskets, store products, branded giveaways, free swag, small toys, or even a donation by cheque or cash! If you own a business, please consider making a donation to the school. We are also seeking corporate sponsorship for our inflatables and activities. All donations over \$25.00 receive a tax receipt. If you frequently visit a local business, please consider making a request for a donation. Please email funfestivaldonations@gmail.com to request a PDF copy of the donation letter.

In the past, parents have received donations of summer camps, sport and music lessons, free passes and other items. Many businesses are willing to support schools in the community. All you need to do is ask.

Please clearly mark "Fun Festival" on all donations and drop them off at the school office.

For more information, please contact Karen Peck/Veronica Jouaneh at funfestivaldonations@gmail.com.

School Council Update



FOOD PROGRAMS: Our last hot lunch ordering session for the year is available on www.schoolcashionline.com now. Save yourself the frustration of making lunches! We have a great selection from Boston Pizza, Topper's Pizza, Mr. Sub, and our new vendor, Astoria Shish Kebob, as well as our Milk program. Order today...don't delay and forget!!

FUN FESTIVAL: Planning is underway for our annual Fun Festival. Thank you to Melissa O'Neil and Jen Thomas, both Grade 1 parents, for leading the team. Our first committee meeting was very productive with lots of great ideas! We are still in need of a few more volunteers to be part of the organizing committee, so please consider joining this fun group of parents. Call or text Melissa at (905) 806-3636 or email melissa.funfood@gmail.com; call or text Jen at (416) 275-1477 or email jen.thomas@rogers.com.

GARDEN: Spring is upon us, and with that comes gardening season! If you have any donations of plants, seeds or garden tools, please send them in to the office to be passed on to the Eco Team.

PARENT RESOURCE LIBRARY: A free resource library for parents is available with books and magazines on a wide range of parenting and education topics. It is in the main hallway throughout the year during any events where parents are invited to the school. You can also drop by the office during regular school hours and sign out an item. We are happy to accept any donations of books or magazines that you may have at home that other parents may benefit from.

COMMUNICATION: As well as reading the school newsletter, or attending a council meeting, you can stay up to date on volunteer opportunities, community events, and educational resources by following us on Twitter: [@PoplarBankSC](https://twitter.com/PoplarBankSC). If you are not on Twitter, you can visit the school website to scroll through our Twitter feed. We are also on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PoplarBankPS/>

COUNCIL MEETING: Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 11th at 6:45 p.m.** in the school staffroom. You do not need to be a council member to attend...All parents are welcome! We will be providing child minding in an adjacent room for those who require it. A huge thank you to COBS Breads for providing the delicious baked goods for our meetings.