



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

APRIL 2015

Issue 8

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<http://poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.ca/>

School Improvement Plan
Respectful School
Differentiated Instruction and Assessment



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

This is a reminder that the school day starts at 8:05 a.m. Please note that the early entry bell rings at 7:55 a.m. Students are expected to be in their classrooms for 8:05 a.m. when instruction begins. Students who enter the classroom after 8:05 am are considered late.

Punctuality is very important to school routines and student success!

A Key to Success

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing their academic success. Here are some additional tips to help your child arrive to school on time:

1. Choosing outfits ahead of time is a great idea, of course. It also never hurts to have them pick a back-up in case have changed their mind when it's time to get dressed
2. Check the night before for any due library books, permission slips and homework to turn in.
3. Put the backpacks by the front door.
4. Limit or refrain from allowing the children from using electronics.
5. Monitor their overall progress and help them stay focused on the task at hand. Give them both a ten- and five-minute warning before it's time to go.
6. Bonus Tip! Check your watch, cell phone, or timepiece of choice against the school bell to see if it rings when your clock says it should



R E S P E C T

During the month of April, the students in grade 2 were able to show how they demonstrate respect on a daily basis, such as by sharing, telling the truth, being kind to all classmates and helping to clean up in the class and school yard.

Upcoming Events

Apr. 1st	Scientist in Class (Grade 1)
Apr. 2nd	Scientist in Class (Grade 1)
Apr. 3rd	Good Friday (no school)
Apr. 6th	Easter Monday (no school)
Apr. 7th	Scientist in Class (Grade 2)
Apr. 8th	Scientist in Class (Grade 2)
Apr. 9th	J/I Choir at Cosmo Music in Richmond Hill
Apr. 10th	Glee Performance at Show Choir Canada
Apr. 14/15	Lice Lady
Apr. 15	Heart Healthy Presentation Gr. 3's (10:40—11:10 am) Gr. 4 & 5's (11:15—11:45 am)
Apr. 16	Hosting Music Alive at Poplar Bank P.S.
Apr. 20-23	Gr. 8 Quebec Trip
Apr. 20	Gr. 7 Ste. Marie Among Hurons & Wye Marsh Trip
Apr. 22	Earth Day (lights out 10:40—11:40 am)
Apr. 24	Gr. 7 Hep. B & Gr. 8 Girls HPV
Apr. 28	Jr. Girls Basket ball Areas
Apr. 29	Earth, Wind & Fire School Assembly Arts/Environment (Tentative)
Apr. 30	Jr. Boys Basket Ball Areas



Engineering Design Challenge

On March 26 after school, two teams of four Intermediate students eagerly took part in the 2015 Engineering Challenge, which took place at Mulock High School. This year, our junior engineers designed and constructed 2 miniature drag racing cars out of wood and axles, and then tested their innovations for speed and distance. Both teams were creative, enthusiastic, and worked cooperatively during the evening. Mme McDonald would like to congratulate the Grade 7 team (Matthew, Vané, Gabriel & Jennifer) who won 4th place, and the Grade 8 team (Jack, Nico, Nick & Sneha) who placed 6th out of 15 teams. An honourable mention goes out to the Grade 7 team, who placed #1 in the design category for their ingeniously looking drag car.

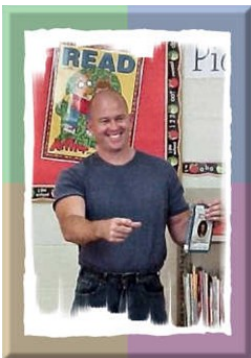
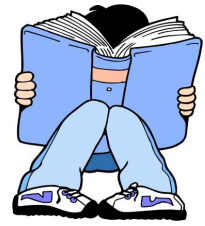
Félicitation à nos ingénieurs!

Snack Shack

Thank you for supporting the music program by buying popcorn in March!



Library News



Students at Poplar Bank were excited to welcome two authors to our school at the end of March!

Michael Wade, author of the series “And then it happened” spoke to the Junior and Intermediate classes. His presentation style was very engaging, and the students appreciated his sense of humor! His message about writing and reading made an impact. He stressed the fact that we are all writers, and that we already have the tools to be successful. He also explained that re-writes are an important part of the process of creating good pieces of writing, so not to get discouraged when asked to edit and re-write. Many students purchased signed copies of Michael Wade’s books, and he donated a set to our school library as well. We look forward to reading his newest book, which he apparently started in his car as he waited in the parking lot of Poplar Bank!

French author, Mireille Messier, presented for the grade 1 and 2 classes. The children are familiar with Mireille Messier’s books which have been nominated for “Prix Peuplier” and “Prix Tamarac Express” of the Forest of Reading. They enjoyed her story, Charlotte Partout, which was read to them with the help of the puppet Charlotte! Students had the opportunity to pre-order Mireille’s books with a personalized autograph.



Learning at Home: Parent & Student Corner

Research & Online Access @ Home:

To access our Library collection Search Computer from home:

-go to our school website: www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

-click on: Library

-click on: Library Collection LINK

Or go directly to: www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/Library

SEARCH LIBRARY CATALOGUE or use any of the YRDSB selected research sites including:

Grolier Online Encyclopedia <http://go-kids.grolier.com>

Username: dsbyork password: dsby 7692

Link to Learning & mediasmart.ca are additional valuable and safe online sources of information.

TECH TIME at THE Newmarket Library

For more information to see this website

<http://www.newmarketpl.ca/kids/tech-time-kids>



GET IN THE KNOW



Student Class Placement for September 2015

We will soon begin the process of organizing classes for the 2015-2016 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 30th. Please be advised that we cannot accommodate requests for particular teachers, or straight grade classes.



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 25- and June 8. If possible, please avoid taking vacations or booking appointments for your child during this time frame. A letter will be sent home in early April detailing the specific testing dates for each grade level. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Parents are asked to avoid scheduling appointments or holidays during the dates noted above.

Grade 8 Graduation

This year's Poplar Bank Grade 8 Graduation will be on Wednesday, June 24th, 2015. The ceremony will start at 6:00 p.m.. Please mark this in your calendars. More information will follow.



Lost & Found



All lost and found items will be out on display until April 17th. Please take the opportunity to take a look through to find lost items before they are donated.

Indoor Shoes for Students



This is a reminder that students must always have a pair of indoor running shoes at school that they change into and wear in the school and in the gym. Not only will this reduce the amount of dirt, sand and mud tracked into the classrooms; it will also increase student foot safety as they will not have to go in stocking feet in the school.

Scooters, Skateboards, Roller Blades



Please refrain from allowing your child to bring these items to school as this presents a safety hazard. These are expensive items and we cannot be responsible if they are lost, stolen or damaged while on school property. They also represent a storage problem in the classroom.

Student Safety & Bikes at School

If your child is going to ride a bike to school, please note the following:

1. Have students walk their bike on and off the school property.
2. Students are not to ride bikes around the property before school or directly after school. They must wait until 6:00 p.m.
3. Retain a description of the bike and the serial number at home.
4. Students are encourage to wear a safety helmet.
5. Remember to lock your bikes.

No Parking Fire Zone at the Front of the School

The front laneway of the school is a Fire Zone and there is no parking in this area. In the event that you need to come into the school, we would ask that you park your vehicle in the south parking lot. There is additional parking on the north-east side of the school, near the playground. Parking in the Fire Zone at the

Girls on the Run!

For all the girls in grades 3, 4 and 5 who already signed-up for the program, here are the program dates: April: 8, 9, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29

May: 5, 6, 11, 13, 19, 20, 25, 27

June: 2, 3, 8, 10

Typically we are meeting Mondays and Wednesdays but there are a few dates that are Tuesdays and one Thursday date the first week of start-up. There will be a meeting on April 1st at lunch recess, 12:20pm in room 123 for the participants so coaches can be introduced, to hand-out T-shirts and to relay any other important program information.

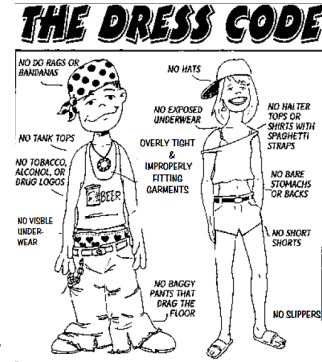
See you then!

front of a school will result in a fine from the Traffic Officer. Please comply with the signs to avoid a fine.

Warm Weather is Around the Corner! Dress Code

With the warm weather upon us, we ask for your help to ensure that students are dressed in an appropriate manner conducive to a proper

learning environment. Please review the following with your children: Shorts and skirts must be mid-thigh length or longer. Tops must meet bottoms without the midriff showing. A top must not be low cut and the straps must be at least the width of two fingers. Undergarments must be covered. Beach wear type clothing, such as tank tops with spaghetti straps, halter tops, tube tops and muscle shirts is not permitted. The bib on overalls must be attached to its straps. Sheer see-through clothing is not permitted. We thank you in advance for your help and cooperation.



Student Busing Eligibility

Did you know that students' busing 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.



How to Help Your Child at Home with Math

Why is a belief in our children's ability to learn mathematics essential?

(Source: [Doing Math With Your Child K to 6: A Parent Guide, Ministry of Education](#))

Understanding mathematics builds confidence and opens doors to many jobs and careers. Understanding mathematics enables us to:

- Solve problems and make sound decisions
- Explain how we solved a problem and why we made a particular decision
- Use technology (such as calculators and computer applications) to help solve problems
- Understand patterns and trends so that we can make predictions (for example, we can keep track of how much juice is consumed so that we know how much juice to buy each week)
- Manage our time and money (for example, we can calculate how much time we need to get to work, how much food we need to make meals and how much money we need to buy food)
- Handle everyday situations that involve numbers (such as figuring out when the next bus will arrive and dividing a recipe)

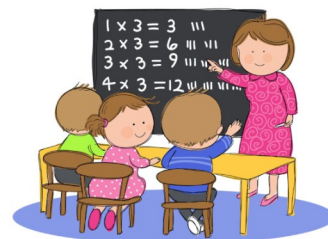
Before your child can learn mathematics, he or she needs to believe in his or her ability to do so. That's where you come in. You can be your child's first role model for learning. When you engage with your child in a supportive, relaxed atmosphere, your child will enjoy taking risks while having fun with math!

Top Tips for Parents

- Build strong, positive attitudes about math. When children feel positively engaged and successful, they are more likely to stick with an activity or a problem to find a solution.
- Begin with activities that meet your child's level of mathematical understanding. Early success in solving problems will build your child's confidence. Gradually move to activities that provide more challenge for your child.
- If you and your child are more comfortable in a language other than English, use it. Your child will understand concepts better in the language that he or she knows best.

For more information see:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideNum2012.pdf>



School Council Update



Fun Festival

Our committee is in full swing planning another great Fun Festival for Thursday June 11th 2015. It may be the most exciting Fun Festival yet! This annual event is a great way for our school community to end the year, and is an important fundraiser supporting special programs and resources at our school.

There are a few ways you can get involved:

We are now booking vendors for a limited number of tables, available at \$35 each plus a raffle basket donation. This year the vendors will be outside with all the action. Please contact Lisa MacDonald at 905-836-7329 or by email at lglmacd@gmail.com.

Each classroom will be contributing to a themed basket for a raffle. Information will be going home after the Easter weekend. We're also looking for contributions of sports or concert tickets, gift cards for raffle and silent auction.

Volunteers are always welcome. To get involved on the day, or for any other Fun Festival info please contact Pam Scheps pamscheps@rogers.com.

Watch for more updates in your May newsletter.

Parent Night – April 30th

Poplar Bank School Council was awarded a Parents Reaching Out grant to fund an evening for parent learning and engagement. Our topic is Parent-Teacher communication and will focus on practical tips to build an open dialogue with your child's teacher to support student success. Please mark Thursday April 30th in your calendar. More information will be going home soon.

The next council meeting is **Wednesday April 8th at 6:45pm** in the school library. All parents are welcome.

York Region District School Board Student Surveys

In order to provide information for Board and School planning, York Region District School Board students in Grades 5 to 12 will be invited to participate in a school survey. The survey, which is anonymous and confidential, will be conducted from **April 7 to May 15, 2015** and will take place at school. The information from this survey will be used to identify areas to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. Aligned with Board priorities, the survey will address topics including equity and inclusion, school safety, learning environment, student well-being and other priorities. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

Eco Team News

Thank you to everyone who participated in **Earth Hour** on Saturday March 28th! This event was communicated by email, to **help reduce paper waste**. Please make sure you have **given your email address to the office**, as many families in our school community are missing out on our electronic update. Congratulations to 64 families from Poplar Bank P.S. who participated in this national event.

This month we celebrate **Earth Day**, on Wednesday April 22nd. Poplar Bank P.S. will join hundreds of other schools across Canada in the [Lights Out Canada Event](#).



We will be **conserving energy** by shutting off the lights at our school from 10:40-11:40am. The Eco-Team will be doing a lighting audit to see how much energy is used to light the school, and discover how much energy we can conserve by turning out the lights and **using sunlight** whenever possible.

The Eco-Team will deliver **interactive presentations** to review some of our **Eco-Initiatives** with interested classrooms. They will review the following:

- Turning off lights when not necessary, usually sunlight is bright enough to light the classroom
- Turning off all computer monitors when they are not in use
- Ensuring you have a GOOS bin in your class – Good on one side paper, and encourage students to use it
- Ensuring your students are properly disposing of items –recycling in recycling bins, garbage in the garbage bins, compost in the green bin. They will invite students to help them perform a garbage audit

When you enter the school, be sure to check out the **beautiful sculptures** the Eco-Team made out of recycled materials to help promote the importance of **reusing things that we no longer need, into something creative and functional**.

Parent Challenge!

We challenge our Poplar Bank community to find ways to **reduce your energy use at home**. Check out the Clean Air Partnership Organization 20/20 planner filled with ways to cut your energy use and home & on the road by 20%. www.cleanairpartnership.org/2020



Immunization Information:

If you have recently updated your child's immunization, please inform the York Regional Health Services. The York Region Health Services is required by law to keep and check immunization information for all children attending school in York Region. As of May 2003, York Region Health Services collects immunization information directly from parents/guardians of all York Region students. All communications regarding immunization should be directed to: York Region Health Services at 1-877-4649675.



Reminder: Poplar Bank is a “Nut-Aware” School



We have a number of students and staff who have life threatening allergies to nuts and nut products. The most important thing you can do to help keep everyone safe is to avoid sending any foods from home that contain peanuts, nuts or nut products in student lunches and for snacks. Please read the labels to see if peanuts/nut products are present in the foods you are packing for school lunches and snacks. Students who accidentally bring food containing nuts will be asked to take it to the office and a replacement snack will be provided and the food item will be sent home.

Reminder: Ministry of Education Food and Beverage Policy PPM 150: Setting the Standard for Healthy Eating in School: It's a fact: a healthy mind depends on a healthy body. Students who

eat healthy food are better prepared to learn and are more likely to succeed in school. In 2011, The Ministry of Education has released a new School Food and Beverage Policy that includes comprehensive nutrition standards. The policy outlines that all food and beverages sold in schools on a regular basis must comply with healthy food and beverage nutritional standards. In a school year, schools do however have the ability to identify up to ten events at which foods/beverages that do not comply fully with the Healthy Food standards may be sold to students and parents. Good health is a prerequisite for good learning. The School Food and Beverage Policy offers a way to encourage healthy eating in schools, and brighter futures for students. For more information about Ontario's healthy schools initiatives, visit: www.ontario.ca/healthyschools

Music News

The festival season is quickly approaching us. The students in Advanced Band, Junior Band and Junior/Intermediate Choir have been working really hard on their pieces that they will be performing. This year, Poplar Bank has been chosen to host the music festival for the day on April 16th. The Advanced Band will perform in the morning and the Junior Band will perform in the afternoon. The Junior/Intermediate choir will be performing in the morning on April 9th at Cosmo Music. Parents are invited and encouraged to go and watch any of the performances. Calixa Lavallee will give back to the community instead of going to the music festival this year. They will be sharing their beautiful voices at one or two Retirement Homes in the area this spring. A permission form with more details about the registration and bus costs will be sent home soon.



On another note, the grade 8 Glee ensemble “Vocal Harmony” has been working very hard in preparation for the “Show Choir Canada” competition on Friday, April 10th at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre in Toronto. The amazing Primary Choir and Stage Band are finished for this year.

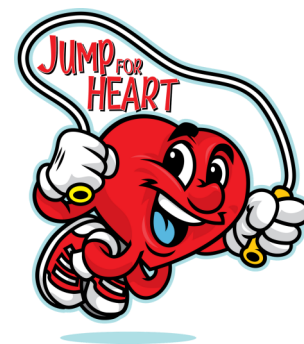
CONCERT NEWS

The Spring Concert will be held on Thursday, May 21st from 6:30-8:00 in the gym. The groups that will be performing are: all grade 4's on recorder, J/I Choir, Beginner Band, Junior Band, Advanced Band, Calixa Lavallee and Vocal Harmony (Glee). Mark your calendars!!!! All members are expected to attend.

Looking forward to a very musical spring!

Musically Yours, Mme Smith

Jump Rope for Heart



Thank you for your support of Jump Rope for Heart. Poplar Bank P.S. raised an overall amount of \$2,524.

Lunch Assistant Positions Available

We are in need of lunchtime school assistants for Monday to Friday from 11:55 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. as well as occasional help. This is a paid position and we are accepting applications now in the office.

Grade 1 French Immersion Registration

Registrations are still being accepted daily on a first come first serve basis in the school office from 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you have a child you would like to enroll, please call the school office at 905-953-8995 for more information.

HOT LUNCH ORDERS – Session 2 APR—JUNE 2015

	MR GREEK (MON)	PITA PIT (TUES)	PASTA (WED)	PIZZA (THUR)	MR SUB (FRI)
APR	APR 13,20,27	APR 7, 14, 21,28	APR 1, 8, 15,22,29	APR2,9,16,23,30	APR10,17,24
MAY	MAY 4, 11, 25	MAY 5, 12, 19,26	MAY 6, 13, 20, 27	MAY 7,14,21,28	MAY1,15,22,29
JUN	JUN 8	JUN 2, 9	JUN 3, 10	JUN 4,11,18	JUN 12

Have You Changed Your Address or Phone Number? Are You Moving? Do we have your up-to-date email address?

If you have changed your address, phone number, email address or plan on moving, please call the school office. It is very important that we have your up-to-date information in the event that we have to contact you for any reason.

Photos Needed Please

Parents that have any pictures of their child during the two skating events, please send them to Mme McDonald ASAP - before the end of April - by email

lise.mcdonald@yrdsb.ca or on a memory stick (delivered by their child).





Poplar Bank Public School Yearbook Order Form



This year is another milestone for Poplar Bank. This is our second year together as a French Immersion school. We will be having our FORTH full-colour (80-page) yearbook, worth **\$25 dollars** (taxes included). We want to recognize all that we have experienced as a community at Poplar Bank. Our logos this year are: "RÊVONS ENSEMBLE" and "LET'S DREAM TOGETHER". Share in the moments our students have lived, in **FULL-COLOUR!!!** Last day for orders is April 24th, 2015.

Please use one order form per family.

For school use only:

#	Student's Name	Teacher	Grade	\$25 Or cheque (#)
1				
2				
3				

For advertizing, please submit a business card with an extra fee of \$10.00. For families wishing to sponsor a page, please add \$5.00 to the initial price. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

v	Type of advertising	Family or Business Name	Page to Sponsor
	Business card		
	Sponsor a page		

(Please make cheques payable to Poplar Bank P. S.)

Please specify page you wish to sponsor.



Poplar Bank Public School Yearbook Cover Contest



Our annual Yearbook Cover Contest is about to begin! We want YOU to win a free FULL-COLOURED yearbook, worth \$25 dollars. We need to celebrate our achievements and dream of the future. Your drawing needs to reflect what you see our school becoming.

What you need to do...

To enter our contest, you need to have the following on a white sheet (8 ½ X 11) of paper (portrait side only):

- The French logo (first): **Rêvons ensemble**
- The English logo (second): **Let's Dream Together**
- P.B.P.S. or Poplar Bank P.S. or Poplar Bank Public School
- 2014-2015
- Symbols / drawings reflecting our future dreams as a school (i.e., clouds, thought bubble, dream scene)
- IN COLOUR, no pencil
- Use dark, VIBRANT colours, instead of *pale, light colours*
- Clear, LARGE, thick lettering
- School mascot (optional) - lion or lion's paw
- Name (first and last) & grade in bottom right corner (in black pen)

*Due date is no later than **Friday, April 10th** (after Easter Break).*

Please, only ONE colourful masterpiece per STUDENT!

April



**REUSABLE
CONTAINERS!**

