



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

February 2018

Principal: Natasha Baage
Admin Assistant: Lana Grigorovich
Secretary: Diana Hogan

Phone Number: 905-953-8995
Superintendent: Dianne Hawkins
Trustee: Martin Van Beek

www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.ca



School Improvement Plan
For Student Achievement and Well Being
Respectful School, Modern Learning,
Math and Mental Health

Upcoming Events

- February 1 Junior Co-Ed Volleyball Regionals
Spirit Day (Pajama Day)
Math Education Evening (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm)
- February 2 PA Day
- February 8 National Sweater Day
- February 13 Snow Valley (Grades 4 to 8)
Skating (Grade 1)
- February 15 Skating (Grades 2 and 3)
- February 21 Gregg LeRock Concert (Grades 1 to 3)
Senior Boys Areas Basketball
- February 22 Dental Screening (Grades 2 and 8)
- February 26 Skating (Grade 1)
- February 27 Skating (Grades 2 and 3)
- February 28 Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying)
Senior Girls Basketball Areas
Parent Council Meeting

Lunch Assistants Needed!

We are in need of lunch-time school assistants, for Monday to Friday from 11:55- 12:55 p.m. This is a paid position. If you are interested, please contact the school office.



Snack Shack!



Snack Shack will be returning this month ... STAY TUNED.

Message From Our Trustee



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 rate-payers. 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 Cash Online

All YRDSB schools are now using School Cash Online as an online payment system. School Cash Online is an easy, safe and convenient way for families to pay online for extracurricular items or events, including yearbooks and field trips. It helps to reduce paper and the amount of cash/cheques handled by parents and students.



Families may make payments using School Cash Online, or by cash or cheque.

You can [register for School Cash Online](#) at any time. There is also a button on our school website. Once you are registered, you will be notified of any new items available for your child.

Confidential Information (Students Turning 18)



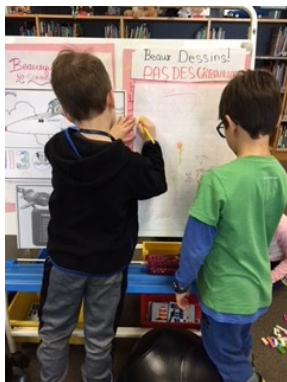
Under the Education Act, parents/guardians have a right to access their child's Ontario Student Record if the child is under 18.

If the student is 18 or over, the Board/school must follow the privacy provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act regarding the disclosure of personal information about the student to their parents/guardians.

Students 18 or over must provide written permission by signing the [Consent for Information Sharing](#) form to allow parents/guardians to continue to access school-related information about the student. This includes academic progress, attendance and behaviour.

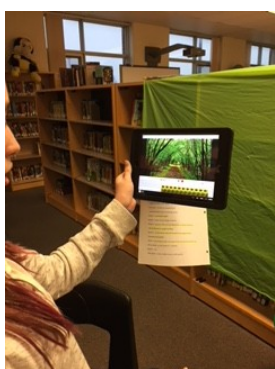
Students can also obtain the form from the school office.

Greetings from the Learning Commons



The month seems to have flown by because of all the modern learning happening in the "Commons"/Carrefour d'apprentissage! Here are some examples of how the space is benefiting all of our learners, with the accompanying photos:

Mme Mason and her Grade 7 students have been using the Green Screens and the *Doink* app on the Ipads to bring their dramatic creations to life. Students in Mme Hampton's Grade 2 class have used Lego bricks to build scenes inspired by books they read. Grade 3 students in Mme McGraw's class constructed 3D mazes. Then, they wrote, tested and modified the code needed to enable the Abeilles-robots (Bee Bots) to successfully travel through the labyrinth.



Our students were also treated to the *Power of One*, an "anti-bullying" themed, theatrical performance in the gym on January 24th. The actors explained to the audience that they would be acting out skits that would show the negative effects of different types of bullying, the roles that people play that make bullying possible, and what each child can do to prevent bullying from happening in their school. Student volunteers were selected to assist the actors, during the Primary presentation and the Junior/Intermediate presentation. This presented the message to the audience that together we can continue to make our school a welcoming place.

Chantal Jenicek

Punctuality Counts!



Punctuality is an important life-skill valued by school, employers in the workforce, and society. The morning entry bell rings at 7:55 a.m. and classes begin sharp at 8:05 a.m. Students who walk to school or who are driven to school **must** be in class before the start of the National Anthem. Otherwise, they are marked as late and this is recorded on their report card.

Dressing for Cold Weather

We ask that children are appropriately dressed for the weather including a warm hat, gloves, scarves, coats, snowpants and boots at this time of the year. We send the students out for either the full or shortened recess in the cold winter weather. We keep a close eye on all weather conditions, including wind chill before making our decisions. When conditions necessitate, we may decide that the students remain inside for recess.

We are aware that during the winter we will see changing temperatures, however, it is best to be prepared for the coldest weather conditions. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Junior Co-ed Volleyball



Congratulations to the Junior Co-ed Volleyball team for a successful season! The athletes represented Poplar Bank very well by demonstrating team spirit and a positive attitude during all practices as well as the area tournament at Glen Cedar Public School. We advanced to the semi-finals and came in third place. Team members included: Tomi, Tyler, Finn, Armin, Tia, Vanessa, Jaylah, Alisa and Adrina. Madame Green would like to extend a special thanks to Maia and Ethan for all their help with the team!

Winter Electives

Snow Valley: Our junior/intermediate students are scheduled to attend Snow Valley on Tuesday, February 13th for tubing, skiing or snowboarding. Please go to SchoolCashOnline for registration and payment as soon as possible!



Primary Skating: Our primary students are scheduled to attend Ray Twinney Complex in Newmarket. Buses will depart Poplar Bank at 9:00 am and return to the school by 11:55 am. The students will be skating from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. All children will require skates and helmets in order to be on the ice surface. We also request that the children wear gloves or mittens while skating.

Junior Skating: Our junior students are scheduled to attend Ray Twinney Complex. Buses will depart Poplar Bank at 9:00 am and return to the school by 11:00 am. The students will be skating from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. All children will require skates and helmets in order to be on the ice surface. We also request that the children wear gloves or mittens while skating.

SKATING

Primary:

February 13th & 26th Grade 1

February 15th & 27th Grades 2 and 3

Junior:

February 26th

Grades 4, 4/5 and 5

February 27th

Grades 5/6 and 6

Throwing Snowballs or Ice: Not Allowed at School



Now that the snowy weather is here, we need to remind all students that we enjoy the snow, we play in it, we make snowmen and even snowforts, but we do not throw or kick snow or ice. Students who throw snowballs or kick snow will receive immediate consequences. There are no warnings. Please counsel your child(ren) that throwing and kicking snow can result in serious injury to others and is not allowed.

School Council Update



MATH NIGHT: Thanks to a PRO Grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education School Council will be hosting a math night for parents on February 1st at 6:30 pm in the gym. Mathematics in Ontario: A Parents' Guide to Joining the Conversation is a workshop delivered by Knowledgehook to engage parents in becoming active stakeholders in their children's mathematics education. Parents will gain knowledge on strategies for supporting and how to become active partners in meeting their children's mathematical education needs. The event is free to all interested parents, guardians or others who may be interested. Free babysitting is available. For more information and to RSVP please visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mathematics-in-ontario-a-parents-guide-to-joining-the-conversation-tickets-41956458898?aff=ehomecard>

QSP: Thank you to all the families who purchased items during our winter QSP drive. It was very successful and the money raised will go towards a variety of initiatives at the school. You can continue to order magazines throughout the year at www.QSP.ca using code our Group ID: 3738911. A portion of sales continue to go back to Poplar Bank.

COUNCIL MEETING: Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28th at 6:45 p.m. in the school staffroom. All parents are welcome! We will be providing child care in an adjacent room for those who require it. Please let us know in advance if you will be attending, and the ages and number of children who need minding. All are welcome at this and all council meetings. Thank you.

VOLUNTEER HELP: School Council has recently started using signup.com to post volunteer opportunities and tasks that we need help completing. All parents are welcome to visit the page and "sign up" for any of our volunteer postings <https://signup.com/group/8955835720108>.



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/>

FUN FESTIVAL: Council has begun making plans for our annual fun festival to be held in early June, and we need your help! We are currently seeking a Fun Festival Coordinator. The Coordinator will be primarily responsible for the organization and delegation of event planning tasks to other volunteer committee members. If you are interested in helping or finding out more please contact the office.



Eco-Team News

Eco-Team has started a brand new tradition at our school to celebrate classes who are making a difference to help the environment. The prize is looking after a potted tree. We call this special tree, and the class that receives it, “l’Hero de l’environnement”. Last month the honour went to **Mme Snow’s class** who has the **best organisation in recycling, composting and sorting garbage**.

Poplar Bank will be celebrating **National Sweater Day on Thursday February 8th, 2018**. This day isn’t about style, it is about saving our planet one sweater at time. According to the WWF (http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater_day/) “Since 2010, over a million Canadians have participated in National Sweater Day at their schools, workplaces and homes. We are thrilled to see that Canadians have made Sweater Day their own by turning down the heat, wrapping up and taking on climate change every February.”

Please plan for cooler temperatures on February 8th, 2018 and **wear a sweater to school!** The class that has the best participation will be awarded “l’Hero de l’environnement” until the March Break.



We were so fortunate to welcome back the Earth Rangers for an assembly on January 30, 2018. It was an exciting experience for all of us.

Reported by Emily F. Capitaine de l’environnement

Music



Music is in full swing at Poplar Bank! We are currently working very hard on preparing our pieces for the upcoming “Music Alive” music festival. The following groups will be performing; Advanced Band, Junior Band, Stage Band, Junior Choir, J/I Choir and Calixa Lavallee. There will be a fee to participate in each ensemble that will cover the registration and bus costs. It will be available on Cash-on-Line in the next couple of weeks. I’m looking forward to another AMAZING music festival season!

Musically Yours,
Mme Smith

Bus Information—Inclement Weather



The cold weather season is just around the corner. We would like all parents to be aware of the following bad weather procedures followed by the York Region District School Board. If the road conditions force the cancellation of the school buses, local radio stations will be notified as

soon as possible, normally no later than 6:30 a.m. During severe weather conditions, please tune in to one of the radio stations listed below for up-to-date

information. Remember that buses are cancelled in the morning then the buses will not be operating in the afternoon. Therefore, if you drive your children to school in the morning you must also be able to provide transportation for them after school at 2:35 p.m. Radio stations that will be notified of bus cancellations are: CFTR 680, CKEY 590, CFRB 1010, CHFI 98.1 and CKAN 1480. You have the right, as a parent, to keep your child(ren) at home in severe weather conditions; however, the school will probably be opened even though transportation has been cancelled.

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by following the YRDSB on Twitter.

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

We are still taking Grade 1 French Immersion registration until February 9th, 2018

Our Board has recently completed a year-long [review](#) of the French as a Second Language (FSL) programs, including Core French and French Immersion (FI). One of the outcomes of this review was a long-term FI accommodation plan for students across York Region. YRDSB's FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. Students may begin the French Immersion program in one location, but continue in a different location. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. The new accommodation plan will provide consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol.

Please note that some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision.

You can use the [School Locator](#) beginning in January 2018 to locate YRDSB schools offering the FI program for your address for the 2018-19 school year. Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on January 18, 2018 at 7 p.m. Registration will take place January 19 to February 9, 2018.



4th Annual New Years Gathering for Ward 7 Residents and Families:



When: Sunday, February 25, 2018
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (skating until 3:15 p.m.)
Where: Ray Twinney Recreation Complex
100 Eagle Street – Lounge 2, Arena 2

Join your friends and neighbours for Councillor Christina Bisanz's 4th annual New Year's Gathering for all residents of Ward 7. Drop into Lounge 2 for some hot chocolate and light refreshments, and informal conversation about issues in our community, and Town.

Once again, there will be activities for all--face painting for the children, a free massages, and of course, free skating for the whole family from 2:00 - 3:15 p.m.

Community service representatives from York Regional Police, Central York Fire Services, York Region EMS, the Newmarket Public Library, and Vivanext will be on hand for informal discussion and to answer questions related to community resources and issues. Check with in Brian Grenier, one of Ward 7's very own authors for a look at his published works.

Have a home-based business you'd like to promote? Please feel free to bring your business cards and brochures to share!

URGENT--VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Events like this benefit from having support from community volunteers. If you are able to give some time to help make this another great community event, please email cbisanz@newmarket.ca . This is also a wonderful opportunity for students to add to their volunteer hours.

Christina Bisanz
Councillor Ward 7
[905-953-5300](tel:905-953-5300), press 2, ext. 2027
cbisanz@newmarket.ca
www.newmarket.ca, FaceBook; @Bisanz4ward7
Follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/townofnewmarket) @townofnewmarket
Newmarket: A Community *Well* Beyond the Ordinary