



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

January 2014

Issue 5

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The staff at Poplar Bank would like to extend their best wishes for a happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year!

Poplar Bank Food and Toy Drive

We would like to thank all the families who made food and toy donations. Your donations have been distributed by the Holiday Heroes of York Regional Police to those thousands of families who have registered for assistance through the local Salvation Army programs and the York Region Children's Aid Society.

New Website Reminder

View dates of upcoming events, school's newsletters, teacher websites, moodles, inclement weather alerts, and general information on the new Poplar Bank Website

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



UPCOMING DATES

Mon. Jan 6	Back to School
Mon. Jan 13	Pizza Day
Thur. Jan 16	French Immersion Info Night
Fri. Jan 17	PA Day, no classes
Fri. Jan 24	Electives Day
Mon. Jan 27	Pizza Day

R E S P E C T

For the month of December, the Grade 4's have been doing several activities to promote respect in the classroom and in the school. They were asked to design posters about respect to display in the front hallway. They wrote slogans, colored images and organized ideas explaining how to respect oneself, each other and our environment. As well, students continue to respect and learn about each other every Friday in community circle as they share something good / bad in their world. Bravo 4e années! Vous ferez un meilleur monde!



French Immersion program
Information Session
January 16, 2014 at 7 p.m.

French Immersion registration will take place from January 17 - February 14, 2014

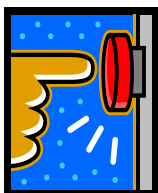
Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at [French Immersion schools](#) on January 16, 2014 at 7 p.m. FI registration will begin January 17, 2014. In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2014, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, can visit or call the [home school](#) office and request an Office Index Card - short version. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the [home school](#). Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to your [designated French Immersion school](#) to register between January 17 and February 14, 2014. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

Families registering students who do not currently attend a YRDSB school will need to complete full registration paperwork at their designated FI school.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term 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 enroll. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. Please note: 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. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in [Policy #108](#).

La cabane a collation

Poplar Bank has started a "Snack Shack" to sell fun and healthy snacks. Students must listen to announcements for when "La cabane a collation" will be open again. Stay tuned for a Valentines February special at "La cabane a collation"!



Locked School Doors

Beginning February 3, all school doors, including the front doors will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell. The doors will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone arriving at the school after that time must buzz in and sign in at the main office.

Measures will also be put in place for parents/guardians to buzz in and pick up students participating in before and after school programs. More detailed information will be available in January.

Measures will also be put in place to lock port-a-pack doors.

Our school continues to be a safe place where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.

Bus Loop for Buses ONLY

The bus loop is to be used by buses only for the pick up and drop off of students. Cars are NOT ALLOWED to go through the bus loop as indicated by the "No Entry" sign.

Dropping Off Students In The Morning

The safety of our students is a priority at Poplar Bank and we always ensure that student are supervised in the school and on the yard during the school day. In the morning when students arrive, teachers are stationed at the back of the school to supervise students till the school bell rings. **There is no supervision at the front of the school.**

Students who are driven to school in the morning are expected to join their classmates outside at the back of the school where there is teacher supervision. They are to line up in their classes and enter the school when the bell rings.

Only students who are late enter through the front door as they need to report to the office.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other personal communication devices must be turned off and kept out of sight during all instructional periods, except with the clear permission of the classroom teacher. The school is not responsible for personal items that go missing at the school. We expect that students will keep their cell phones in their knapsacks during the school day.

Being on time is important to school success

We continue to have a number of students arriving late to class in the morning and sometimes in the afternoon after lunch. Late students often end up disrupting learning, for both themselves and their classmates. As part of being a member of the school community students have the responsibility of being on time. The late student often arrives flustered to the class and this is not a conducive condition to begin a day of learning. They miss important announcements, taking up of homework, new assignments, daily routines and introductions to new work. Being constantly late will eventually lead students to poorer work habits and lower standings. This is part of Character Education, being on time and prepared for class. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Getting Messages to Students

Please try to get messages to the office about changes for after school plans or alternative care arrangements for pick up or other pertinent information first thing in the morning. They should be made before the students arrive at school in the morning. Please help us avoid interrupting classes for last minute changes and messages. Your cooperation on this matter is appreciated.

Immunization Information

The York Region Health Services is required by law to keep and check immunization information for all children attending schools in the region. As of May 2003, York Region Health Services collects immunization information directly from parents/guardians of all York Region students. All communication regarding immunization should be directed to Joanne Anderson at York Region Health Services, 1-877-464-9675 or by mail to: The Regional Municipality of York, Health Services Department, Public Health Infectious Diseases Control Division, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario. L3Y-6Z1

Inclement Weather Emergency Conditions and Bus Cancellation

As you have noticed, the winter season has arrived! 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 busses, 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. As a parent, you have the right to keep your child(ren) at home in severe weather conditions; however, the school will probably be opened even though transportation has been cancelled.

Please be advised that if the school buses are cancelled in the morning then the busses 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.

When buses are cancelled in the morning, and schools are still open, parents who choose to send their children to school are reminded of the following important things:

- STUDENTS WHO DO NOT TAKE THE BUS NEED TO CALL IN AND REPORT THEIR ABSENCE
- . all trips outside of the school will be cancelled
- . any special day (spirit day, hat day etc.) will be cancelled
- . any planned lunches, pizza day, lunch lady will be cancelled, and
- . depending on the number of students and staff, students will be combined and students will be offered a highly modified program.

Snow Safety Rules

With the winter season upon us, people of all ages are looking forward to the joys of snow. Most children rank snowballing high on the list of fun winter activities. Unfortunately, when we have over 600 students in the school, the snow quickly becomes icy and SAFETY becomes a major concern. We have instructed all of our students that for SAFETY REASONS, SNOWBALLING IS FORBIDDEN. There are times where a teacher may supervise a snow activity such as snow/ice sculpture building if conditions are appropriate; however, with the exception of these activities, and the making of snowmen or snow forts, SNOW MUST STAY OUT OF THE HANDS AND ON THE GROUND at all times.

Eco team

Poplar Bank's Eco-theme for the month of December is "Reduce Your Carbon Footprint." Students are reminded via morning announcements and in class, of the importance of the 3 R's. REDUCE by using less "stuff" and by making sure that you use both sides of pieces of paper. REUSE by having garbageless lunches with reusable containers, spoons and forks. RECYCLE and ensure that you put things in the right container, whether it be the recycle bin or compost. Enjoy winter walks instead of driving in the car, turn out the lights when you leave a room, and wear warm sweaters to stay warm rather than turning up the heat. The Eco-team at PBPS wishes everyone a GREEN holiday!

As well, at Poplar Bank, we reduce our waste in many ways. We:

- Encourage students and staff to consider using reusable containers and to avoid individually packaged snacks where possible
- Use only reusable mugs, plates and cutlery in the staff room and for special events/meetings.
- Ensure that all garbage and recycle bins are placed side-by-side in highly visible and accessible locations in classrooms, offices and throughout the building and ensure that they remain side-by-side.
- Create GOOS (Good On One Side) paper boxes and place in strategic locations for students and staff to use; promote the use of "Good On One Side" (GOOS) paper.
- Ensure that a waste and recycle poster is placed above each respective bin identifying the materials that belong in each bin.
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Thanks to all our families who work hard and do what they can to reduce our ecological footprint!

ROCKS & ROPES

The week of Jan 6-10, Poplar Bank will be hosting the company Junglesport in our gym! They will be setting up a "Rocks and Ropes" program for all grades. Students will participate on the various apparatus, learn new skills, and be physically active! Thank you to our Parent Council for supporting this program!



Winter Electives Day

Winter Electives are here again! On January 24 and February 21st, 2014, students from Grade 1 to 8 will be participating in a variety of different electives. Primary students will be skating and may want to try on their helmets and skates to make sure that they fit .

PARKED CARS IN POPLAR BANK'S PARKING LOT

WE HAVE BEEN FINDING CARS PARKED OVERNIGHT IN OUR PARKING LOT AND THIS HAS IMPEDED THE CREW'S EFFORTS IN CLEARING THE SNOW. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ANY UNAUTHORIZED CARS FOUND PARKED IN OUR PARKING LOT WILL BE TOWED AWAY AT THE CAR OWNER'S EXPENSE



Volleyball News

Congratulations to the *Junior Girls Volleyball* Team who won their pool at the Area Meet on December 12th. The team then proceeded to win the semi-final matches and advanced to the finals, where they earned a 2nd place finish overall at the Area tournament! Coaches Mme Nicholson and

Mme Hodge are very proud of the girls. They showed excellent improvement in their volleyball skills, and they were always supportive of each other. They were excellent representatives for Poplar Bank! Bravo to Amanda, Jenna, Charlotte, Rachel, Avery, Tristan, Robyn, Kaitlyn, Talia, Abigail, Hailey, and Maia

Congratulations goes out to the *Jr. Boys Volleyball* team who placed third out of seven schools in their pool during the Area B Tournament held at Crossland Public School on Tuesday Dec. 10. The boys had a solid day of volleys, bumps, and serves on their way to their third place finish. It was a great learning experience for these young players, who showed tremendous school spirit representing Poplar Bank with pride. Way to go guys! Special thanks to grade eight assistant coaches Hannah Michaels and Meredith Parker for great help during the season. Members include: Gabriel, Kieron, Sean, DJ, Noah, Ethan, Kaleb, Adam, Denton, Adiyen

The *Senior Girls volleyball* team did very well at their area tournament in November. The girls came in second overall. They showed a great deal of spirit and good sportsmanship. Congratulations to Jordanna, Slava, Hannah, Tamara, Maya, Madeleine, Stephanie, Ashley, Crystal, Juanita, Katrina, Madison and Coach Mme Green

Congratulations to all our QSP prize winners

Elizabeth and Brennan – Gumball machines
Alexander – Popcorn machine
Nadia – Mini Ping Pong Table
Addison – Desktop Drums
Sarah – Double Bubble Plush Pillow
Riley and Megan - \$ 50 iTunes gift card

Thank you to all the parents, and friends of Poplar Bank who supported this important fundraiser. The \$5418.75 raised from this fundraiser will go towards acquiring additional resources for areas such as our Library Technology Department, Respect initiatives and sound system for the school. A huge thank you to Mrs. Parker for being our Program Coordinator this year, and to her family for lending a helping hand and supporting the fundraiser!

