



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

January 2018

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www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.ca



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

Upcoming Events

- January 10th Parent Council Meeting
- January 18th French Immersion Information Night
- January 19th PA Day
Commencement of Grade 1 French
Immersion Registrations
- January 24th Power of One
Anti-Bullying Presentation
- January 26th Grade 8 Graduation Photos
Jr. Co-Ed Volleyball Areas Tournament
- January 30th Earth Rangers Assembly

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!



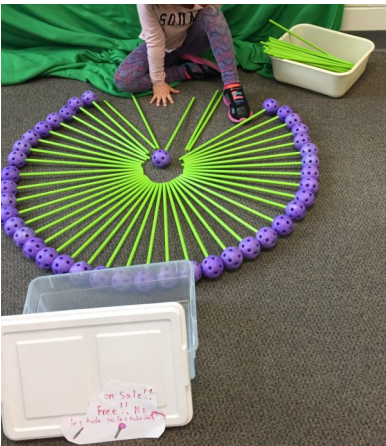
Snack Shack has been a great success in December with the addition of Holiday Treats and Candy Cane Grams! Thank you to all the students who helped in this successful fundraiser and for all the contributing students. Snack Shack will be returning sometime in February.

Greetings from the Learning Commons



This past month, the focus has been on incorporating new technology into students' learning. Our brand new Abeilles-robots (Bee Bots) are already being put to great use! Mme McGraw and her Grade 3 class are working with them to complete a Social Studies Mapping project. Grade 1 students are being introduced to coding. Mr Pichora and Mr. Maccarone are enhancing their intermediate students' Geometry lessons with these devices.

All classes will have opportunities in the new year, to drop in to the Carrefour d'apprentissage, to make use of these new items. The Snap Circuit kits, laptops, desktops, Osmo Genius kit and Overdrive (YRDSB Digital Library) are also providing students with Modern Learning experiences. Furthermore, the Green Screens are being used regularly by a variety of classes to assist students with their digital projects.



The Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage continues to attract students of all ages throughout the day. During Lunch recess, it is heartwarming to see students reading, building, creating, playing and working cooperatively. Mme Fernandez, our dedicated School Assistant, is always available to assist students, as well all the team of Grades 7 and 8 "Learning Commons Monitors".

Before signing off, I would like to thank the Koch Family for donating books to the Learning Commons. Merci bien!

Wishing you a wonderful new year! Bonne année!

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.



Student Safety



When dropping off and picking up your child, please do not park in the drive through at the front of the school or in the north bus loop as these areas are out of bounds. **ABSOLUTELY NO CARS, STUDENTS OR PARENTS** should be in or crossing through the bus loop area at arrival or dismissal times. **SAFETY** for our students is our priority!

Intramural Basketball



Poplar Bank's Intramural Basketball league is underway for students in grades 4-8! Junior students play on Day 1, while Intermediates play on Day 3 during first recesses in the gym. Intramural Basketball is an inclusive sports league with no tryouts necessary, all students who sign up are placed on a team. Les Gommees will take on Les Pupitres, Les Stylos will battle it out against Les Calculatrices! What Excitement! What Drama! The Basketball League runs from January to February, after our Intramural Volleyball season and before our Badminton League to close out the year. Go Poplar Bank!

Junior Boys Volleyball

Congratulations to the Junior Boys' 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 Alexander Muir Public School. Team members included: Samuel S., Tomi, Vivaan, Spencer, Samuel G., Tyler, Finn, Caleb, Armin and AJ. Mme Green would like to extend a special thanks to Maia and Ethan for all their help with the team!



Junior Girls Volleyball

Congratulations to the Junior Girls Volleyball team for placing 2nd in the round robin portion of our area tournament. The girls played very well and have wonderful attitudes on and off the court.



Félicitations à Vanessa, Tia, Adrina, Alisa, Jaylah, Aryanna, Audrey, Nadia, Emmy, Lily, Jillian and Sabrina!

Winter Electives



Curling: Our Grades 7 and 8 students will be participating in a Curling Day at the York Curling Club in Newmarket. Grade 7's will go on Thursday, January 18th or 25th, and the Grade 8's will go on Thursday, January 11th. Please go to SchoolCashOnline for payment as soon as possible!

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!



School Council Update

Welcome back to all our students and families. We hope you had a wonderful winter break! Here's to 2018 being another successful year at PBPS!



COUNCIL MEETING: Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10th 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.

QSP: Thank you to all families who purchased cookie dough, wrapping paper, gifts, or magazines through our QSP program. We hope you and your families are enjoying your items. Together we were able to raise \$1,900.00 to support our ongoing school initiatives. Thank you to Brenda Weeks for organizing and running the QSP campaign, along with all the wonderful parent volunteers who assisted her.

KNOWLEDGEHOOK – MATH NIGHT: On Thursday, February 1st, from 6:30 to 8:30, Knowledgehook will be holding a parent workshop to present ideas on how to create a love of math in our children. This presentation will be free to all families thanks to a PRO Grant from the Ministry of Education.

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.

This session will enhance parents' understanding on Ontario's education system, the EQAO, and equip parents with the confidence and knowledge to interact with their children and children's school, teachers, and administrators.

Registration is available now at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mathematics-in-ontario-a-parents-guide-to-joining-the-conversation-tickets-41956458898>

FUN FESTIVAL COORDINATORS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Poplar Bank Fun Festival is our school's largest community event, held each year in June. It is loved by all students, families, and community, and is the perfect way to celebrate another successful school year, while having fun and raising funds for our school. In order to keep this annual event going, we need to put together a Fun Festival committee to coordinate the event. This item will be discussed at our January council meeting, and a Fun Festival committee meeting will be held later in the month to start planning. If you are interested in being a part of this wonderful event, please sign-up at <http://signup.com/go/KJmMPTt> to be included in the meeting notifications.

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. 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/>

Eco-Team News

What is the ECO Team? The ECO Team at our school is a team of grade 3's to 8's who have meetings every week to discuss what our school can do better to help the Earth, and who also organize events or programs to tell the whole school what to do better and what they're doing great at.

What is the ECO Team currently doing?

Collecting MILK BAGS—The ECO Team is currently collecting milk bags to be reused and made into mattresses. Every class is participating in a little competition to collect the most milk bags in order to win a class prize. After we collect a certain amount of milk bags, they will be sent to a local retirement home to be weaved into mattresses.

- ◆ The reasons that we're collecting milk bags for mattresses are as below:
- ◆ Water proof - if you're sleeping with your mattress in a shallow puddle and need to sleep well and dry, it will keep you dry!
- ◆ Strong - if you are accidentally dragging your mattress over rocky plains, it won't rip and you won't need to find a replacement.
- ◆ Bacteria free - when you're in the middle of sleeping, you won't suddenly realize that your bed is rotting at the exact moment!
- ◆ Soft – who doesn't like a comfy bed?
- ◆ Free!

Markers—The ECO team is currently collecting dried up markers. We're collecting dried markers to be recycled because otherwise they would just be filling up our landfills. Over the holidays consider making your own wrapping paper or use gift bags that can be reused instead of single use wrapping paper.

RECYCLE! THE HUMAN SPECIES IS EARTH'S ONLY HOPE!

Written by Eco-Ambassador Hannah L.

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.



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

French Immersion registration will take place from January 19th - 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.

