



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

July 2015

Issue 11

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



School Improvement Plan
Respectful School
Differentiated Instruction and Assessment



Principal's Message

It's hard to imagine that we have now completed the 2014-2015 school year. What a productive and fun year it has been! We have all witnessed our students work very hard to meet the academic expectations of their grade and to build on and improve their learning skills and work habits.

Our students' achievements could not be possible without the support they receive on a daily basis from all members of our school community. Thank you to the teachers and support staff who work collaboratively to meet the needs of our students and to make learning possible for our students. Thank you to School Council and all our parents and guardians who support our efforts in so many different ways.

I wish you all a very happy and safe summer holiday and we are looking forward to working with you and your children next year.

Sincerely, Natasha Baage

First Day of School , September 8, 2015

Entry Plan for First Day

On the first day of school, we have the following gathering places for parents and students:

- Grade 1 students report to the Gym at 8:00 a.m.
- Grade 2-3 students report to the East pavement/field area
- All Grade 4-8 students report to the South pavement.

*****Should it rain on the first day of school,**

- Grade 2 students will go to the gym
- Grade 3 and 4 students will go to the library
- Grade 5-8 students are to proceed to their second floor hallways where their homeroom teacher can be found. There will also be 2 teachers, M. Maccarone and Mme Smith, wearing a vest and carrying a master list of classes, to assist students in finding their classroom. Please locate one of these teachers if you have questions about where to go.

Classroom lists will be posted outside of each classroom and on the walls in the assigned area of each grade. Teachers will be holding a sign indicating their grade level and will have a class list.



Lunch Assistant Positions Available

We will be in need of lunchtime school assistants in September. This position is for Monday to Friday from 11:55 am—12:55 pm as well as occasional help. This is a paid position and we will be accepting applications in the office starting August 31st.

School Year Calendar 2015-2016

The school year shall consist of 194 days with students commencing school on Tuesday, September 8th, 2015. The school holidays will be as follows:

Labour Day – Monday, September 7
Thanksgiving Day – Monday, October 12
Christmas Vacation – Monday, December 21 – January 1
Family Day – Monday, February 15, 2016
Mid-Winter Break – Monday, March 14—18
Good Friday, March 25
Easter Monday, March 28
Victoria Day – Monday, May 23



Transportation Reminder

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to remind you that your son/daughter's school bus transportation eligibility can change throughout his/her school career. Because walking distance requirements change in Grade 4 and your son/daughter will be attending Grade 4 next year, we encourage you to review his/her eligibility.

Busing in the York Region District School Board is provided in collaboration with the York Catholic District School Board and is governed by Board Policy #680 Student Transportation (full policy on the Board website at www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca). Below are the general provisions of eligibility identified in the Student Transportation Policy:

- 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.

The distance is measured from the end of any driveway, via the shortest distance to the closest access point of the school property. Measurements are conducted using GIS software and confirmed via aerial photos. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.



Back To School

Class Placements for 2015-2016

Class placement information for gr. 1-8 students will be available the first day of school, September 8. If you are planning a move and your child will not be at Poplar Bank Public School in September, please notify the school office during the week of August 31. The school office can be reached at 905-953-8995.

School Day Organization for 2015-2016

| <u>TIMES</u> | <u>PERIOD</u> |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 7:50 AM | SUPERVISION IN THE YARD BEGINS |
| 7:55-8:05 | STUDENT ENTRY |
| 8:05 | START OF INSTRUCTION |
| 8:05-8:45 | PERIOD 1 |
| 8:45-9:15 | PERIOD 2 |
| 9:15-9:45 | PERIOD 3 |
| 9:45-10:15 | OUTSIDE RECESS |
| 10:15-11:05 | PERIOD 4 |
| 11:05-11:55 | PERIOD 5 |
| 11:55-12:15 | LUNCH |
| 12:15-12:55 | OUTSIDE RECESS |
| 12:55-1:35 | PERIOD 6 |
| 1:35-2:05 | PERIOD 7 |
| 2:05-2:35 | PERIOD 8 |
| 2:35 | DISMISSAL |

Are you moving?

If you are planning on moving over the summer and will not be returning to Poplar Bank P.S., please call the school office at 905-953-8995 as soon as possible. That would be greatly appreciated as we plan and prepare classes for September 2015.

School Office Hours

The school office will be closing on Friday, June 26 at 3:00 p.m. and will be reopening on August 31 at 8:00 a.m.

Summer Registration

Our summer registration location and hours for new students to our area as follow:

CEC North

130 Carlson Drive July 13-16 9am-3pm

Newmarket, ON August 10-13 9am-3pm

(905) 895-5155 (closed for lunch 12-1pm)

Poplar Bank Staff Updates

We wish Mme Bordea all the best in her full time position at Doncrest P.S. Best wishes to Mme Gywn as she is expecting a baby and will be on Maternity leave for the next school year! Thank you to Mme Gibbs and Mme Rampsberger for their contributions to Poplar Bank. We wish them well as they will be moving on to new opportunities. We are happy to welcome back Mme Nicolson to Poplar Bank.

Tentative School Organization for September 2015

We are projecting an enrolment of approximately 466 students. Here is the tentative class organization structure with 20 classes for 2015-2016.

French Immersion Primary Division Classes:

Grade 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2/3, 3, 3, 3

French Immersion Junior Division Classes:

Grade 4, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6

French Immersion Intermediate Division Class:

Grade 7, 7/8, 8

Congratulations Students, Staff & Families:

Together we collected over 60—2 Litre pop bottles full of aluminum pop tabs to send to Elora Legion to help pay for wheelchairs. Bravo! Start saving tabs this summer for next year's class.

Mme Taylor

Eco Team

Congratulations Poplar Bank for all your efforts to support our green initiatives. Together we have helped win an Ontario Eco-School's **GOLD** designation! In our assessment we were applauded for: having such a large and diverse team (39 student ambassadors from grades 3-7), for promoting litter-less lunches, our impressive use of the green bin system, as well as the teachers' rich samples of lessons in the curriculum section.

We are very excited to be going to the Kortright Centre June 24th for a "Go Green" workshop to get inspired for next year!

Poplar Bank Family Fun Festival

On Thursday, June 11th, Poplar Bank hosted its 9th annual Fun Festival. We were fortunate to have had ideal weather conditions, allowing everyone to fully enjoy the festivities! We are very pleased to announce that the Fun Festival has raised more than \$7000 for the school. This money will be used to fund various school initiatives as decided by School Council at the June council meeting.

There are many, many hours required to plan and prepare an event of this size. Without people who are willing to donate their valuable time (whether an hour, several hours, or more!), the Fun Festival would not have been possible.

Thank you to all the volunteers (70+) who helped out on the day of the event including parents, staff and students. Thank you to all those who donated prize items, supplies and tents. Thank you to the parents and the local businesses who provided donations for our highly coveted raffle baskets. Thank you to teachers and office staff for fielding inquiries and collecting all the order forms and donation items, as well as handling the finances! Thank you to Mme. Baage for supporting this event and for helping out the night of the event. Thank you to the school custodians, especially Mr. Papaevangelou, for helping us from planning to cleanup and anticipating our needs before we even thought to ask!

A very grateful thank you to the core members of the Fun Festival committee for making this event such a success: Adrian Glauser, Kelly Parker, Jen Casa-Todd, Michelle Williams-Lee, Sue Thomson, Lisa MacDonald, Dianna Twigger, Evelyn Chisamore, Kim Jagger, Karen Peck, Petra Turco, Jen Brett-Fraser, Sarah Howson, Nina Doiron and Natalie Ocak.



And finally, a HUGE thank you to Jeremy Laverty and Muskoka Woods CITYCAMP (www.citycamp.ca). CITYCAMP is a day camp for kids entering Grades 1-6. They offer a wide variety of camp activities in local community locations. CITYCAMP very generously donated 2 large inflatables including a dual slide and Spider Mountain as well as Imagination Blocks and Laser Tag. Not only did CITYCAMP donate all these new activities but they also brought a large contingent of staff to help as well. It is due to the donations provided by CITYCAMP that we were able to surpass the fundraising efforts of all Fun Festival events over the past 9 years!

A million thanks to everyone involved!

On behalf of the staff, the Fun Fair Committee and the Poplar Bank families I would like to thank Pam Scheps for her leadership in planning, organizing and making sure the event was running smoothly. It was indeed a memorable evening!!!

Natasha Baage



SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE - END OF JUNE

THANK-YOU

There are so many thank-yous at this time of year. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who contributed in the school and with council activities to provide extra resources and activities for our kids!

We appreciate very much the parents that came in to take care of our Pizza Days. That hour of time every week makes pizza day possible! We had five days a week of food programs this year, which is a ton of hours for overall organization. We also had several parents preparing Crunchy Munchy, our healthy snack program for students who have forgotten their snack or would like an extra snack. We have a milk program that has dedicated volunteers in the school every week. Thanks to you all!

We very much appreciate the time of parents who serve on school council, bringing forward ideas and contributing to fundraising for extra school resources. This year with the support of the school community over \$30 000 was raised. Our largest fundraisers are Pizza Days, Fun Festival, QSP Magazine subscriptions, Food Programs, Milk Program, and Moveathon. These programs have supported many resources this year and into next year as we have already been able to allocate funds to programs to start up in the fall. We also put on a Parent Engagement Night with over 60 parents coming out.

JUNE ACTIVITIES

In May our Moveathon event raised close to \$2000. The students achieved all the Moveathon incentives and in June enjoyed an extended recess, and no-homework day. Mme Baage visited each class as a student for a day, and most exciting, Mme Ramsperger's grade 5s represented the students in a student-teacher soccer game. It was a close match that finished with a 2-2 score. Thanks to all our teacher and student players, and the senior students who helped with the Move-a-thon and with our soccer game. There was great school spirit with the entire school outside cheering on the two teams.

The 8th Annual Poplar Bank Smoothie Day is a clear sign we're almost at the end of the school year. A group of parents arrive at the school with their blenders to prepare and deliver healthy smoothies to every classroom. This year we used 131 bananas, 10 kg of strawberries, 16 kg of berries, 18 kg of yogurt, 2L of rice milk and 2L of soy milk! A great treat as the days get warmer and a reminder school is almost over.

We look forward to a new year in September with opportunities for parents to serve on council, or as volunteers with some of our other initiatives. Our first council meeting in September is Thursday September 26. All parents are welcome.

You can stay in touch with the Poplar Bank community over the summer by following our Twitter account @PoplarBankSC for local events, and educational resources. Have a safe and happy summer!