



# Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

March 2018

Principal: Natasha Baage  
Admin Assistants: Lana Grigorovich  
Diana Hogan

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[www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)



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

## Daylight Savings Time

The date for Daylight Saving Time spring forward 2018 when we turn our clocks one hour ahead is coming soon, meaning we will get an extra hour of daylight at the end of the day. Don't forget to change your clocks on March 11, 2018 at 2 a.m.



## Upcoming Events



March 8  
March 12-16  
March 21  
March 28  
March 30

Little Red Theatre  
March Break  
Saidat Show  
Advanced Band (Newmarket Theatre)  
Good Friday (No School)

## Lost and Found

We have accumulated a number of clothing items, lunch bags and water bottles. These items will be put on display in the school from March 2nd to March 9th. After that, unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity.



## Message from our Trustee

With spring approaching and the hours of daylight increasing, now is a good time to enjoy the outdoors and our natural environment. Did you know that our Board has five [outdoor education centres](#), and students have opportunities to visit them and other outdoor learning spaces throughout their schooling? This is part of our commitment to giving students an opportunity to learn in and about the natural world. This learning supports students in gaining a deeper appreciation for nature and the importance of environmental sustainability.

“Modelling continuous environmental sustainability” is one of the goals outlined in our [Board of Trustees’ Multi-Year Plan](#). We believe that we all have a role to play in reducing waste and protecting our environment. Our students, staff members and families continue to show leadership when it comes to supporting student learning and initiatives to reduce our ecological footprint.

Spending time outside as a family also provides a great opportunity to support and enhance your child’s learning outside of school. Whether visiting a park or museum, reading with your child in your home language or asking questions about their day at school - know that there are many ways you can support their education and that you are making a difference.

I hope you all have a happy and safe March Break and enjoy the warmer weather ahead.

## Fun Festival

This year, the Fun Festival will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018. But before the big day, there is a lot of work to do and we want YOUR help!

We - Melissa and Jen - have signed on to coordinate the event. We’re new to the school, and we’re looking for other new and existing parent volunteers to join us.

Whether you can give a couple of hours the day of, or donate some time starting next month, we need help with everything from advertising to setting up tents.

We have already started the planning process, and we want to thank those who have already committed to jumping on board!

Anyone else who is interested can contact us directly with any question.

Melissa O’Neil - call or text 905 806-3636  
Email - [melissa.funfood@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.funfood@gmail.com)

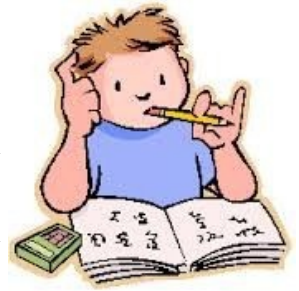
Jen Thomas - call or text (416) 275-1477  
Email - [jen.thomas@rogers.com](mailto:jen.thomas@rogers.com)

Let’s make this year’s fun festival the best one yet!



## 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 23th to May 30th. If possible, please avoid taking vacations or booking appointments for your child during this time frame.



## Eco News - Reduce, Reuse & Recycle



On Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, the 'Capitaines de l'environnement' led the Eco-Ambassadors in a **Water Taste Challenge**.

Many students found that tap water tasted better, or that they couldn't tell the difference. Tap water is safer than bottled water as its strictly regulated by Health Canada's Water Quality & Health Bureau. It's fresher than the plastic bottles that can sit in their plastic containers for months. One of the

biggest problems about single use bottled water is that **90% are not recycled**, ending up in landfills and in our oceans. The whole Eco-Team signed **pledge certificates to choose to drink tap water instead of bottled water**. Try the challenge yourself at home!



The school will be celebrating **Earth Hour** on Friday March 23<sup>rd</sup>, with our annual "**Lights Out**" Campaign. Everyone is invited to celebrate the day at home on the official day of Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> from 8-9pm. For more information and to sign up please check out: [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).

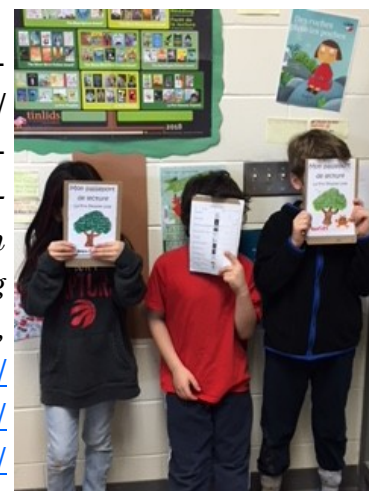
In the front foyer, we continue to collect **used markers** and **batteries** to be properly **recycled**. In our classrooms we collect **poptabs** to be **re-used** as material to make wheelchairs and the Eco-Ambassadors are collecting **milk bags** to make mattresses for people in need. For more information on this initiative check out:

[CTV Toronto: Milk bags to mattresses](#)



## Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage!

The focus this month in the Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage has been the introduction of the "Forest of Reading/Forêt de la lecture" programme. As a bit of background information, *the Forest of Reading® is Canada's largest recreational reading program! This initiative of the Ontario Library Association (OLA) offers eight reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. The Forest helps celebrate Canadian books, publishers, authors and illustrators.* [http://www.accessola.org/web/OLA/Forest of Reading/About the Forest/OLA/Forest of Reading/About the Forest.aspx?hkey=1eb8d37c-613b-4111-a940-d1eee01979ed](http://www.accessola.org/web/OLA/Forest%20of%20Reading/About%20the%20Forest/OLA/Forest%20of%20Reading/About%20the%20Forest.aspx?hkey=1eb8d37c-613b-4111-a940-d1eee01979ed)



The students and I are thoroughly enjoying reading high quality, children's literature. Primary students are participating in the Prix Peuplier read-alouds of French books written by Canadian authors.

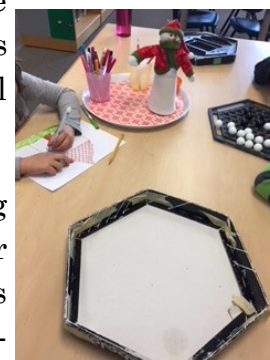
Follow-up activities are always planned and students are encouraged to participate actively. Mme McGraw's Grade 3 students have even created passports to track their journey through the 10 books we are exploring together.



Students in Grades 4-8 also have the opportunity to participate in the Prix Tamarac, the Prix Tamarac Express and The Red Maple Award (Grades 7 and 8). Students independently read a minimum of 5 books, thus allowing them to vote for their favourite books (fiction and non-fiction), from a selection of the best Canadian books written in French or English. Discussions often ensue, promoting critical thinking as well as respectful differences of opinion!



While this is happening, students are continuing to enjoy using the Learning Commons/Carrefour d'apprentissage throughout the day. The space is used to work, read while pedaling on the stationary bicycle, play cooperative games and let their imagination soar.



Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful and relaxing March Break!

Chantal Jenicek

## Intermediate Boys' Basketball



Congratulations to the Intermediate Boys Basketball team for a good season! They were a strong team and did well at the Area tournament! Way to go Ethan, Bradley, Noah, Sergio, Michael, Austin, Draco, Evan, Matthew, and Jeremy! Coach Sampson

## Intermediate Girls' Basketball



Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Basketball team! Throughout the season, they were undefeated winning the Husky Hoops tournament and various exhibition games! They did not advance after the Area tournament but did very well! Way to go Maia, Maya, Alejandra, Olivia, Caroline, Aryn, Alijah, Caitlyn, Ceilidh, and Jackie! Coach Sampson

## Snow Valley Trip

The Junior and Intermediate Students had a great time at Snow Valley for our Winter Electives day on February 13th. The kids, parents, and teachers enjoyed the perfect snow conditions to ski, snowboard, or tube down the hills! Thank you to all involved for supporting this trip!



## Scientists in the Classroom



Scientists in School will be coming to the grade 1 classes of Mme Roach, Mme Samaha, Mme Snow and Mlle Thomas in March! The workshop is entitled, "Structures...Under Construction". If you have any questions, please contact Mme Slessor.

## 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.



## Music

Music ensembles at Poplar Bank are in full swing! Children are all working very hard at preparing for the upcoming music festivals.

“Music Alive” is a local music festival where students have the opportunity to perform for other schools and hear other schools perform. I am very excited to demonstrate the musical excellence of the students at Poplar Bank. Parents are invited and encouraged to come and watch the performances. For each ensemble, the **performance attire** is the **black music t-shirt, black/dark bottoms** and **black/dark shoes**.



For those students who will be participating in the festivals, registrations, permission forms and payments must be completed on schoolcashonline. As well, for those wishing to purchase the black music t-shirts they too can be found on schoolcashonline until March 8th.

Group	Date	Location	Time
Advanced Band	March 28th	Newmarket Theatre 505 Pickering Crescent (Attached to Newmarket High School)	9:30 am
Junior Choir	April 5th	YCDSB Centre for the Performing Arts 525 Westminister Drive Thornhill, ON	10:30 am
Junior/ Intermediate Choir	April 9th	YCDSB Centre for the Performing Arts 525 Westminister Drive Thornhill, ON	10:30 am
Calixa Lavallee	April 11th	Cosmo Music 10 Via Renzo Drive Richmond Hill, ON	9:30 am
Stage Band	April 19th	Cosmo Music 10 Via Renzo Drive Richmond Hill, ON	9:30 am
Junior Band	May 4th	Newmarket Theatre 505 Pickering Crescent (Attached to Newmarket High School)	9:30 am

The **Advanced Band** will be performing at the University of Toronto (MacMillan Theater) in the **MUSICFEST NATIONALS** competition on May 15th. How exciting!!!

Thank you for supporting the music department's popcorn sales.

Musically Yours,  
Mme Smith



*“Music is the universal language of mankind”-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

## Year Book 2017/2018

This year is another milestone for Poplar Bank. We are still growing strong as a French Immersion community. We will be having our SEVENTH full-colour (80-page) yearbook, worth \$26 dollars (taxes included). We want to recognize all that we have experienced as a community at Poplar Bank. Share in the moments in this remarkable time capsule of the events and people that made this year unique!!!



PBPS families will be able to purchase a yearbook using **ONLY** [SchoolCashOnline.com](http://SchoolCashOnline.com). If you order your copy of the book by April 30th, your child's name will be added to our school's **YEARBOOK DRAW** in order to win a **FREE YEARBOOK**.



Be sure your child has this special keepsake to help them remember the memories, fun and friends this school year. **ORDERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE.**

For families wishing to sponsor a page, please add \$5.00 to the initial price. For advertising, please submit a business card (to Mme McDonald) with an extra fee of \$15.00. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

## Year Book Cover Contest

**GOAL:** To create a colourful piece of artwork that will be selected to be in the **FRONT COVER** of this year's yearbook (a total of 58 colourful artworks in all). Up to 5 artworks will be selected from each homeroom. First Place Winner also gets a **FREE YEARBOOK!**



### 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 (BIGGEST): **VISONS LES ETOILES!**
- ◆ The English logo (smallest): **LET'S REACH FOR THE STARS!**
- ◆ P.B.P.S. or Poplar Bank P.S. or Poplar Bank Public School
- ◆ 2017-2018
- ◆ Symbols / drawings reflecting ideas that shows your goals and dreams of a better tomorrow.
- ◆ **IN COLOUR**, erase all pencil marks
- ◆ Use dark, **VIBRANT** colours, instead of pale, light colours
- ◆ Clear, **LARGE**, thick lettering (preferably center logos on page)
- ◆ School mascot (optional) – lion or lion's paw
- ◆ Name (first and last) & grade in bottom right corner (in black pen, not in sharpie or in pencil)

Disqualification: If any information from above is missing or spelling mistakes.

Due date is no later than **FRIDAY, MARCH 9TH** (before March Break).

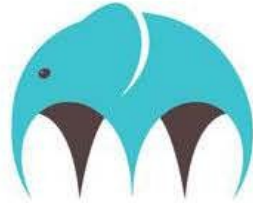
# SCHOOL COUNCIL



- ◆ **KNOWLEDGEHOOK – MATH NIGHT:** Thank you to all the parents who came out on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, to attend the Knowledgehook math presentation. We hope you all took a little something away from the evening to help support your child in math. Thank you to Mr. Carpani and Mme. Baage for supporting the event. A huge thank you to Veronica Jouaneh for organizing the evening, and securing the Parents Reaching Out Grant from the Ministry of Education.
- ◆ **FUN FESTIVAL COORDINATORS FOUND:** Thank you to Melissa O'Neil and Jen Thomas, both Grade 1 parents, for offering to organize our Fun Festival this year! They have lots of amazing ideas and energy, and we are so excited to start the planning! Melissa and Jen could use your help, so please consider joining the Fun Festival committee. It is a great way to meet other parents, be a part of the school community, to roll model volunteering to your children, and be involved in the largest and most successful event at their school.
- ◆ **FOOD PROGRAMS – GREEK VENDOR CHANGE:** At our last council meeting, the decision was made to change the vendor for our Tuesday Greek Lunch. We have decided to utilize Astoria Shish Kebab House as our vendor. Council felt the food quality and offerings were superior, while the prices were lower, which would result in a savings to our Poplar Bank families. Meal options will be available on SchoolCashOnline in the middle of March for our last ordering session.
- ◆ **MARCH BREAK:** On behalf of School Council, we hope all our Poplar Bank students and families have a wonderful March Break!
- ◆ **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/>
- ◆ **COUNCIL MEETING:** Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11th 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.







Parents for Children's  
Mental Health

SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

**Monday, March 12, 2018** **NEW LOCATION**

## **PARENTS' Support Group**

**Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?**

### **Benefits of PCMH Support Group:**

- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
  - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
  - learn how to access resources in the community

When	Second <b>Monday</b> of every month (no meeting July & August) NO pre-registration for the meeting.
Time	6:30-8:00 pm
Where	<b>*NEW*</b> Aurora Kinark Office 218 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 7, Aurora, ON L4G 6V7. from Bayview Ave take Pedersen (west side of Bayview) one block south of St. John's just south of Superstore. Avoid St. John's west of Bayview due to construction blockage.

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit [www.pcmh.ca](http://www.pcmh.ca).

**NEW LOCATION>>>>NEW LOCATION>>>>NEW LOCATION>>>>NEW LOCATION>>>>NEW LOCATION>>>>**