

Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School
May 2014 Issue 9

Principal: Natasha Baage Vice Principal: Steve Helston Admin Assistant: Ruth Ann Grant

Secretary: Ginette Pallett

Phone Number: 905-953-8995

Website: www.poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Superintendent: Dianne Hawkins

Trustee: Martin Van Beek

School Improvement Plan
3 Part Math lesson
Differentiated Instruction and Assessment
Respectful School

School Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians

Between May 20 and June 2, we will be inviting parents/guardians to participate in a school climate survey. The surveys provide the Board and our school with valuable information about how you feel about the school environment and your child's education. The results will be used to identify areas that need to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. We value parent input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information parents provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Information about how to access the survey will be sent home with students later in May. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

Lunch Assistant Positions Available

We are in need of lunchtime school assistants for Monday to Friday from 11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m. as well as occasional help. This is a paid position and we are accepting applications now in the office.

UPCOMING DATES

Monday May 5 Pizza Day Monday May 12 Pita Day

Tuesday May 13 Track & Field Day
Tuesday May 13 School Council Meeting

Monday May 19 Holiday, Victoria Day, no school

Thursday May 22 Pizza Day

Thursday May 22 Spring Concert 6:30-8

Friday May 23 Move-a-thon Friday May 23 Pita Day

Monday May 26-

Wednesday May 28 EQAO testing

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This month, for our school focus of RESPECT, the grade 5 students discussed Earth Day. The grades 5's were passionate about their environmental responsibility. The grade 5's identified many ways in which they could help RESPECT our planet. They brainstormed in small groups to come up with various actions that we can all take as a school community and, in turn, take these actions into our homes and our wider community. Ideas such as reusing materials, recycling, planting trees, composting and no littering were among the many discussions in which the grade 5 students engaged. From these discussions, they worked in small groups to design and create our front hall bulletin board on Respect for the Environment. We are confident that our grade 5 students will continue to reduce, reuse and recycle all year long!



Hours of Instruction for French Immersion

YRDSB offers a French Immersion program that is highly sought after. As we continue to implement recommendations from our recent French as a Second Language (FSL) review, we are making a slight adjustment, based on our research, that will provide better consistency within our schools while also better meeting student needs. Research shows the importance of time spent learning in French at the beginning of a program. In Grades 1 to 3, YRDSB students receive 100 per cent of their instruction in French. Beginning in Grade 4, English instruction is introduced for a number of subjects. Starting in the 2014-15 school year, weekly instructional time in Grades 4-8 will be shared equally between French and English language of instruction. Students will accumulate at least 5,000 hours of French language instruction by the end of Grade 8, which far exceeds the 3,800 hours mandated by the Ontario Ministry of Education. YRDSB remains deeply committed to providing high quality and sustainable French as a Second Language (FSL) instruction

Spring Frozen Yogurt Sales

In May and June, frozen yogurt will be sold during the morning recess to JK-Grade 8 students for a toonie. Recyclable yogurt cups are \$2.00 each. The profits made will help defray the cost of the graduation and other special events.



April's eco-theme was "use reusable containers". Students were reminded to re-use in order to reduce the amount of garbage and recycling that they produce.

Earth Day was celebrated on April 22nd, and many classes participated in learning activities about environmental conservation.

The grade 1's watched a video clip about "Going Green", they learned a poem about the 3 R's, and listened to books about ways in which each person can look after our planet (e.g., Pourquoi je dois protéger la nature by Jenn Green, and 10 idées écolos: aujourd'hui je protège ma planète by Melanie Walsh). The children brainstormed ways that they can help the earth and each child made a promise to help ("Ma promesse pour aider la Terre . . . "). The students wrote and illustrated their promises. They created an earth by tracing their hand in a circle, and painting it blue and green. Their hand symbolized both a promise and helping. These promises were posted, to share with other members of the school community some ways in which we can all help our planet. Some examples included: I will play less video games to save energy. I will pick up garbage. I will shut off the lights when I leave the room. I will give away toys and clothes that I don't use anymore. I will walk or use my scooter instead of driving in the car.

Keep up all of your excellent eco efforts PBPS!

THANK YOU AGAIN

fundraising campaign this past year.

Your tremendous support has made this a very successful fundraiser for our school!

Looking for some Summer-Time reading?

Looking for Mother's Day or Father's Day gifts?

You can still help our school, by placing

your order at:

www.QSP.ca Poplar Bank - 18405

Don't forget we will be running this reading fundraiser again and that some publishers may send you early renewal notices.

If you renew with the publishers,
the school does not benefit.

If you wish to renew early, please do so on-line.
Thank you.

www.QSP.ca

Remember, if you have a question regarding your QSP magazine orders, please call QSP Customer Service at 1-800-667-2536.



School Council

POPLAR BANK SCHOOL COUNCIL MAY 2014 UPDATE

School council activity in April and May includes funding various school priorities and preparing for our final events of the school year.

At our April meeting, the school council allocated funds to support the **music program**, **grade 8 graduation**, and rewards for students volunteering within the school as part of the **Win It Program**.

There are a number of other initiatives also likely to be funded by council at the June meeting dependant on the success of our last major fundraisers of the year; the Move-a-thon and Fun Fair.

Grade 2/3 teacher Mme Hazlewood demonstrated the **A-Z reading program** being used in some of our primary classrooms, and presented the opportunity to expand this program to all primary classrooms and include the Raz Kids program that students would be able to access online at home. **Scientists in the School**, a fall **lice check**, and **curling** set up at the school instead of Rocks and Ropes for 2015 are some of the other projects that will be considered for school council support. Parent input is always welcome!

On Friday May 23 our fifth annual **Move-A-Thon** will take place in the gym. Thanks to one of our parents Richard Klous, Mix It Up DJ Services will set up a fun morning of music and movement for all classes. A pledge form for this event will be sent home for families who wish to contribute towards the projects funded by school council.

The **Poplar Bank Fun Festival** takes place Thursday June 12th from 5-8pm rain or shine. As usual there will be 4 inflatables for bouncing, racing, and climbing. Midway games, Zoo-to-You, face painting, BBQ, and a very popular basket raffle are a few of the activities. There are many ways to help including donating small prizes for the midway games via Pam Schelps pamschelps@rogers.com, larger corporate or local business donations to the basket raffle via Susan Thomson susanrathomson@rogers.com or volunteer on the day of the event via Dianna Twigger dtwigger@rogers.com. We will also be collecting new and gently used K-8 books and DVDs to sell. Full details will be coming home soon. Fun Festival is one of our largest school fundraisers and a wonderful way for our community to end the year. Please get involved and plan on attending!

We encourage you to follow the school council on Twitter **@PoplarBankSC** for updates on our initiatives, and info on community resources for families. If you're not on Twitter you can scroll through our Twitter updates by visiting the Poplar Bank home page.

Our next school council meeting is **Tuesday May 13th at 6:45 pm** in the library. All parents are welcome to join us with questions, comments, or ideas.



Register Now for Grade 1 French Immersion

Registration for Grade 1 French Immersion is underway. Registrations are being accepted daily in the school office from 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. If you have a child you would like to enroll, please call the school office at # 905-953-8995 for more information.





Overdue or Lost Library Books:

Students are asked to please read and return all borrowed library books including the Forest of Reading selections. Other students are anxiously waiting to read these books. Thank you.

Author Visit:

Poplar Bank has an award winning author visiting the library May 27th. Our grades 2 and 3 students will have the pleasure of seeing Mireille Messier a Canadian author who has been nominated this year for the Forest of Reading, Prix Peuplier award for her picture book Charlotte Partout. Mireille has been writing for years and has received many awards and nominations.

Safety and Dogs on School Property

Dogs are wonderful members of the family; however for safety reasons, dogs are not permitted in the school building during the school day or after hours. Some people are afraid of dogs and some people are very allergic to dogs. Therefore, parents who wish to bring their child(ren) to school or pick up their child(ren) from school, and bring their dog along, are asked to have their pets on a leash, have them muzzled and wait outside the school building. This will prevent any accident from occurring between dogs and students, parents, school staff, and Child Care staff on school property. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dress Code for Warm Weather

With the warm weather upon us, we ask for your help to ensure that students are dressed in an appropriate manner conducive to a proper learning environment. Please review the following with your children: Shorts and skirts must be mid-thigh length or longer. Tops must meet bottoms without the midriff showing. A top must not be low cut and the straps must be at least the width of two fingers. Undergarments must be covered. Beach wear type clothing, such as tank tops with spaghetti straps, halter tops, tube tops and muscle shirts is not permitted. The bib on overalls must be attached to its straps.

Sheer see-through clothing is not permitted. We thank you in advance for your help and cooperation. If you have questions, please call Mme Baage.

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 2014.



Sports News

The Junior Boys Basketball Team went undefeated in the April 22 Area Tournament, but lost in the final game 24 – 25. A very respectable 2nd place finish! Way to go Boys!

They have also been extremely successful in all of their exhibition matches, including winning the Phoebe Gilman tournament! Team Members: Brycen, Eric, Gabriel, Denton, Kieron, Mitchell, Alexandre, Dwight, Adam, and Ethan Coaches: Mme Sampson and Mme Hodge

Track & Field

Students in grades 4 – 8 will all be participating in Track & Field on Tuesday May 13th. On this day, the students will be walking to Denison Secondary School, accompanied by their teachers and will return on time for dismissal. Feel free to come and support Poplar Bank on that day.

Junior Girls Basket Ball Team Wins C.E.C North Banner

On Thursday, April 24_{th} , the Junior Girls BB team travelled to Huron Heights S.S for their area tournament. They played in the competitive tier

Heights S.S for their area tournament. They played in the competitive tier against Terry Fox, Crosslands, Clearmeadow, Park Avenue and Queensville public schools. After losing their first game to Queensville P.S. by just one basket, the girls needed to win all their games moving forward. They did just that! With unwavering effort and focus, every player on the team pulled together and gave 100%. They encouraged and pushed each other to strive to win again and again earning a spot in the final match against Clearmeadow P.S.

Then the girls poured everything they had into this final championship match. It was evident that we were not going to give Clearmeadow P.S. an easy win. We matched them basket for basket and went into the second half of the game only down by 3 points. Stealing the ball from our opponents was our specialty and we really gave it to them when it was full court press. We tied the game up 17-17 and went into 3 minutes of overtime. We were happy to find out that the overtime was full court press and we used it to our advantage. Clearmeadow quickly got a basket on us but they couldn't hold us back from driving to the basket with shot after shot. They fouled Tristan twice. She sunk one shot bringing the score to 18-19. With an incredible 11 seconds left, they fouled Tristan a second time. With an unmatched clear focus, a determined Tristan sunk not one but both her foul shots to pull us ahead 20-19. Unbelievable! But it wasn't over yet. With mere seconds left, Clearmeadow flew to the basket trying to get a winning shot but we fouled them. Only one remaining second left on the timer and complete silence in the gym that you could hear a pin drop, the Clearmeadow player did not sink her shots. In a surreal blur of cheering, the girls realized that they had won and they ran to each other for a winning team embrace! Congratulations goes out to Tristan, Talia, Alejandra, Jenna, Maya a.k.a Rockie, Maya B., Rachel, Kaitlyn, Kira and Brianna. You did it! Thank you to all parent drivers and supporters. Thank you to coaches Tummon, Hazlewood and Bimo. Good luck girls at Regionals on May 7th at Aurora Senior P.S.!

Pita and Pasta Lunch Orders

If you are interested in ordering either Pita's or Pasta lunches for your child, you will have until Monday May 5th to get in on the FINAL order for the year.

Ice Cream Sandwiches Available for Sale

Terra Cotta Ice Cream Sandwiches will be available for sale on Monday, Wednesday and Friday's at \$2.00 each. The options are Chocolate Chip Cookie with vanilla ice cream or Chocolate Cookie with Chocolate Chips filled with Vanilla Ice Cream.



Once again, Poplar Bank has demonstrated its amazing musical talent at the regional music festival "Music Alive".

Here are the results:

Primary Choir - GOLD

Junior Choir – **GOLD** –invitation to Nationals

Intermediate -GOLD -invitation to Nationals

Calixa Lavallee – **PLATINUM** –invitation to Nationals

Beginner Band -GOLD -invitation to Nationals

Advanced Band – **PLATINUM** –invitation to Nationals

(An invitation to Nationals means that the ensemble has met a National standard of musicianship and is invited to compete in the Nationals which is Musicfest Canada. Every year the Nationals rotate throughout Canada. This year they will be held in British Columbia. Although we would not travel that far for a competition, it is wonderful to be invited and to know that we perform at a National standard.)

The Junior Band still needs to perform on May 12th and the Stage Band still needs to perform on May 14th. GOOD LUCK!!!

On Tuesday, April 8th, the grade 8 GLEE ensemble called the "CrescenDOES" performed on Breakfast Television!!!! It was a fabulous experience!!

On Saturday, April 12th, the "CrescenDOES" competed in Show Choir Canada! They were AWESOME!!!!!! OUR **SPRING CONCERT** WILL OCCUR ON **THURSDAY, MAY 22ND** at **6:30pm**. At this concert, the Primary Choir <u>will not</u> sing as it is a Junior/Intermediate based concert. Please stay tuned for more details. They will be sent home with your child.

Indoor Shoes for Students

This is a reminder that students must always have a pair of indoor running shoes at school that they change into and wear in the school and in the gym. Not only will this reduce the amount of dirt, sand and mud tracked into the classrooms; it will also increase student foot safety as they will not have to go in stocking feet in the school.

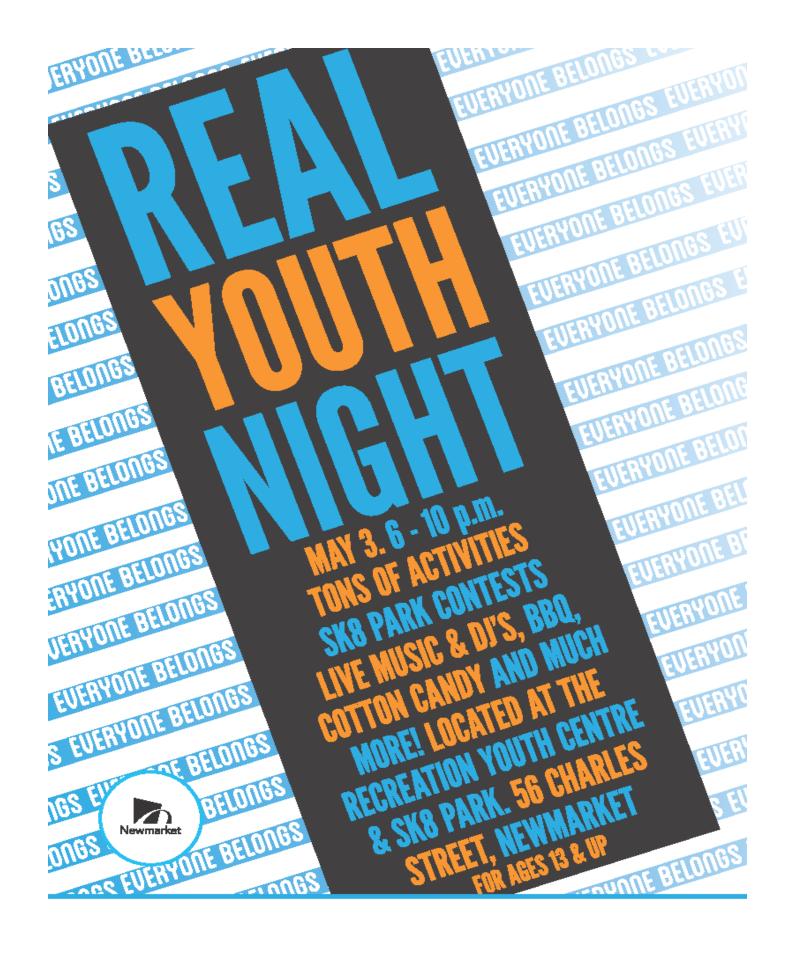
Scooters, Skateboards, Roller Blades

Please refrain from allowing your child to bring these items to school as this presents a safety hazard. These are expensive items and we cannot be responsible if they are lost, stolen or damaged while on school property. They also represent a storage problem in the classroom.

Student Safety & Bikes at School

If your child is going to ride a bike to school, please note the following:

- 1. Have students walk their bike on and off the school property.
- 2. Students are not to ride bikes around the property before school or directly after school. They must wait until 6:00 p.m.
- 3. Retain a description of the bike and the serial number at home.
- 4. Students are encouraged to wear a safety helmet.
- 5. Remember to lock your bikes.







Heart and Stroke Corner – May 2014 Edition

Tip of the Month

Sometimes kids just aren't cereal eaters, preferring unconventional things such as leftover lasagna and tacos. Luckily the pros say that's just fine! Try these tips even if a bowl of cereal isn't what's on the menu for a grab 'n' go breakfast: *Leftovers can be a great option for a healthy and nutritious breakfast. Had whole-wheat pasta for dinner the night before? Warm it up for breakfast the next day. The nutrition doesn't change. *Have a batch of whole-grain, low-fat muffins or breads ready in the freezer. In the morning, pair one up with a banana and yogurt.*Do some prep! Cut up fruit the night before and keep in the fridge. *Mix it up. Smoothies make a quick, tasty and nutritious breakfast. Make sure you use 100 per cent fruit juice, low-fat yogurt and plenty of fruit.*Eat on the go. When you just have to get everyone out the door, pack fruit, whole-grain crackers and a piece of cheese for your kids to get their nutrition on the go.



Recipe of the Month

For the unconventional breakfast eaters, kids will love this healthy, fun dish to start the day. It's high in protein and filled with Mexican flavours.

Breakfast Tacos

Nutritional Information: Calories: 390, Protein: 23 g, Fat: 10g, Saturated Fat: 1.5g, Dietary cholesterol: 105 mg, Carbohydrate: 49g, Dietary fibre: 11g, Sodium: 380 mg, Sugars: 2g, Potassium: 511 mg

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 5 egg whites
- · 2 tbsp (25 mL) skim milk
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) freshly ground black pepper
- 1 (15 oz/425 mL) can low-sodium black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) salsa

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) canola oil
- 4 whole wheat flour tortillas, 8-inch (20 cm)
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) reduced-fat shredded cheddar cheese

Optional – cilantro, salsa, avocado, Greek Yogurt

Directions

- 1. In medium mixing bowl, whisk together eggs, egg whites, skim milk and pepper.
- 2. In medium skillet, heat black beans and salsa over medium heat for 5 minutes, stirring well. Set aside and keep warm. In large non-stick skillet, heat canola oil over medium heat. Cook eggs for 3 to 4 minutes, stirring occasionally to scramble.
- 3. Place tortillas on work surface. Divide egg mixture equally in centre of each tortilla. Add black bean mixture and cheese evenly over eggs. Add desired toppings and serve immediately

Question of the Month

Q: "I feel like every birthday party (sometimes twice in a weekend!) my child attends is laden with unhealthy food habits, how can I turn up the notch on healthy but still delicious birthday food fare for my child's own birthday party?"

A: When it's your child's day to shine, you might want to consider throwing another type of party: one that serves up heart-healthy foods while taking the focus off the sugary cakes, cookies and candies. Here are some tips to making your child's next birthday party a heart-healthier one: * **Opt for a menu change** Mini bagels with tuna or low-fat, lower-sodium deli meats such as turkey, chicken or ham are a great alternative. Or make tacos with cooked lean ground beef or shredded cooked chicken, diced tomatoes and cucumbers and let the kids assemble them. * **Make old favourites healthier** If serving pizza, choose a vegetable or fruit (such as pineapple) topping over the double cheese and pepperoni. Serve chicken, turkey or veggie hot dogs instead of beef. * **Create a sundae bar** Give each child a small cup with a scoop of frozen yogurt. Have fun toppings for them to choose from to create a delicious sundae. Fill small bowls with fresh berries, dark chocolate chips, granola and graham cookies. ***Have healthy beverages available** Quench kids thirst with water, milk (even chocolate milk) and 100% fruit juice instead of soda pop, punches and other sugary drinks. ***Serve up the veggies** I always serve a platter of cucumber slices, baby carrots, grape tomatoes and pepper rings for kids to snack on during the party instead of candies and chips. You can also make it fun by creating a salad bar that kids can pick and choose from.