



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

November 2013 Issue 3

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

Congratulations to Our New School Council!

At the October School Council meeting, we held our yearly elections. Thank you to all the parents who attended and put their name forth as candidates. Congratulations to the following individuals who have been elected:

Executive Positions

Wendy Lebskin , Chair
Arun Chulliyil, Treasurer
Jennifer Casa-Todd, Secretary

Coordinators

Kelly Parker (QSP Fund Raiser)
Petra Turco, Fund Raising Coordinator
Jennifer Brett – Fraser , Communications Coordinator
Nina Doiron, Volunteer Coordinator

Pam Scheps
Susan Thompson
Adrian Glauser
Lica McIntyre
Michelle Williams-Lee
Kelly Barbarich
Natalie Ocak
Dianna Twigger
Amy Johnson
Sarah Howson

Fall Progress Reports

It is hard to believe that we are already talking about fall progress reports. Students will be receiving their progress report on Tuesday, November 12th. Parent Interview times will be sent home with reports.

UPCOMING DATES

Mon. Nov. 4 Pizza Day
Wed. Nov. 6: Take Gr. 8 Students to High School Day
Mon. Nov. 11: Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:40-11:20 a.m.
Tues. Nov. 12: School Council Meeting @ 6:45 p.m. in Library
Progress Reports Go Home
Thurs. Nov. 14: School Photos Retakes
Progress Report Parent Interview Night
Fri. Nov. 15: P.A. Day for Parent Interviews from 8:05- 11:05 a.m.
Mon. Nov. 18: Pizza Day
Tues. Nov. 19: Boys' Area Intermediate Volleyball
Tue. Nov. 19 – Fri. Nov. 22: French Book Fair
Thurs. Nov. 21: Girls' Area Intermediate Volleyball
Thurs. Dec. 12: Holiday Concert 6:30 – 7:30

This month, in keeping with our school focus of RESPECT, the grade one classes discussed what it means to show respect, and the students developed success criteria for how to be respectful. Each class prepared a book about respect using tracings of the children's hands - the hand being a symbol for helping as well as to represent a promise.



Here are a few examples of how the grade 1's show respect.

Aaron: "Je démontre le respect quand je parle poliment."

Connor: "Je démontre le respect quand je ne lance pas les déchets par terre."

Kateryna: "Je démontre le respect quand je joue avec tous les amis."

Selina: " Je démontre le respect quand je garde mes mains à moi."

MUSIC NEWS!!!!

Congratulations to everyone who made Poplar Bank's 10th Anniversary celebration such a huge success!!! The students were so excited to present an evening of music and memories of the last 10 years. Thank-you to all of the parents, guardians, families and friends who gathered on October 24th during the day and evening concerts to share in this special occasion. Special thanks to the Deokinandan family who supplied and ran the sound system for the concerts!! Here's to another fantastic 10 years!!!

The music department is in full swing at Poplar Bank! While walking in the upstairs hallway you are sure to hear an ensemble practicing during the morning and lunch recesses and on Wednesdays after school. Here is a reminder of the times of the rehearsals that take place throughout the week. It is important to note that students involved in these ensembles must attend all practises in order to be able to remain in it.

Monday – 1st recess- Primary Choir

-lunch recess- J/I Choir

Tuesday- 1st recess- Calixa Lavallee

-lunch recess- Stage Band

Wednesday- lunch recess- Advanced Band

-after school- Glee Club

Thursday-lunch recess- Junior Band

Friday- 1st recess- extra rehearsal TBA

-lunch recess- Beginner Band (starting in Mid November)



On November 11th, Poplar Bank will be having a Remembrance Day assembly. Family and friends are invited to come and watch. The assembly will begin at 10:40am in the gym.

Musically Yours,
Mme Smith



CROSS COUNTRY

There were 10 students who qualified to run at the Regional Meet at Bruce's Mill on Thurs, Oct 17. All runners did great and showed Poplar Bank Pride! A special congratulations to Nicholas M., grade 7, who finished in first place, and Michael M., grade 4, who finished in 4th place!! Bravo les garçons!

Now that the Cross-Country season is finished, Volleyball practices have been well under way. We have a Jr. Girls and Jr. Boys team, as well as a Sr. Girls and Sr. Boys team! Thank you to the coaches who are training our athletes! They look forward to competing in the Area Tournaments at the end of November, and early December. Good luck to our Poplar Bank Volleyball Teams!

Scholastic French Book Fair

Once again we will be having a Scholastic book fair in the library this month. Please come and visit to see the large selection of new books to read! All purchases help support our school library. Also, if you are interested in assisting with the book fair please contact Mme Hampton.

Reading Tips



Before Reading

- Before you read the book, take a few minutes to talk about the front cover and the title of the story.
- Remind him or her of a time they had an experience like the one in the book.
- For early readers, take a picture walk through the story. Look only at the pictures and talk about what they see.
- Remember we are reading for meaning so it is important to understand the context of the story.

During Reading

- Let your child hold the book and ask them to read.
- Notice and praise him or her for all of the attempts

and the wonderful skills they are using when reading this new book.

- Be supportive and positive and offer help when they need it.

After Reading

- It is important to talk about the story.
 - try retelling the story
 - relating the story to your own experience
 - talk about vocabulary that you found in the book
 - think of a new ending for the story
 - make yourself a character and describe what would you have done in that case.
- This important time spent reading together will help your child discover the world of reading and help foster a love for it!

Happy Reading,
Mme Hampton

Terry Fox Run Update

We held our annual Terry Fox Run on September 27! Students from Grade 1 to Grade 8 along with parents and staff took part. A total of **\$580.00** was raised in donations and presented to the Canadian Cancer Society in Terry Fox' memory! Thank you to all the families and friends of Poplar Bank for your generosity!



“MAINTAINING A RESPECTFUL, CARING AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOL FOCUSED ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELLBEING.”

Punctuality Counts! Punctuality is an important life-skill valued by school, employers in the workforce, and society. We continue to experience a number of students arriving late for school. The morning bell rings at 8:00 a.m. and classes begin sharp at 8:05 a.m.

Students who walk to school or who are driven to

School Safety Procedures & Reminders:

Reporting to the Office: Whenever a parent or visitor comes to the school, he or she **must always** come directly to the office. If a parent, grandparent or caregiver needs to drop something off for a student, we will take the item and call the student from class or the yard to meet the parent, grandparent or caregiver in the office. Parents, grandparents and caregivers are not to go into the school halls/classrooms or yard to meet students. This causes unsafe conditions as only school staff have access to those areas during the school day. All other people are considered to be strangers. Please share this with your child's grandparents, other relatives and caregivers. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Unsafe Crossing of our Bus Loop: We continue to see students and parents walking through the North bus loop both before and after school. We need your help in stopping this unsafe practice. When dropping off or picking up your child, please reinforce with him/her to use the sidewalks off Bonshaw adjoining the school property. It is an unsafe practice to cross between parked busses or walk through the bus loop and this must stop immediately. Thank you for helping us keep all students safe.

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 childcare staff on school property. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

school **must** be in class before the end of the respect songs. Otherwise, they are marked as late and this is recorded on their report card. Strategies to help students who are repeatedly late can include making up lost time or a letter to parents. Severe cases will be referred to Attendance & Counseling Services. Please ensure that your child arrives on time ready to learn.

Toys, Beyblades Walkmans, Cell Phones, MP3 Players, Gameboys, iPods. and Other Valuables:

We strongly discourage students from bringing these items to school as they can easily get broken, misplaced or stolen. They also become the cause of arguments. Should students bring these items to school, they must remain in their backpack and not be taken out in class or put in their desks. We are not banning these items at this time, but students need to understand that if they bring them to school, they do so at their own risk.

Student Safety in the School Yard

Please note that supervision in the school yard begins at **7:50 am** and after school, supervision ends at **2:45 pm**. **Parents are asked not to drop off their children before 7:50 am**. After school, students who walk home must be sure to leave school property and go directly home. This will help prevent unsafe situations from arising in and around school property.

Snowballs: Now that the snowy weather is here, we need to remind all students that we enjoy the snow, we play in it, we make snowmen and even snowforts, but we do not throw or kick snow. Students who throw snowballs or kick snow will receive immediate consequences. There are no warnings. Please counsel your child(ren) that throwing and kicking snow can result in serious injury to others and is not allowed.

Students Staying Indoors While Ill:

Frequently we receive requests from parents to allow a child to remain indoors at recess or lunch hour due to illness or a cold. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate these requests. We have no staff to supervise these students; all our supervisors are in the school yard. It is our belief and the recommendation of the York Region Health Services, that students who are too ill to go out for recess are too ill to come to school. The only time students are permitted to stay in at recess times or lunch hour occurs when Environment Canada announces severe winds and cold Conditions.

Healthy, Nut Free Snack Ideas:

In our effort to provide an environment free of nut products for our students, please find below a list of some products that currently do not contain peanuts/nuts, and would be suitable to send to school. **Please always double check the label for a warning, in case of an unexpected change in the manufacturing process. The companies listed below do consistently place allergy warnings on their products (not all companies necessarily place allergy warnings). Equality and Master Choice also consistently place allergy alerts on “at risk” products; Smart Choice and Our Compliments are beginning to place alerts on “at risk” products.**

Cereal Bars: Kellogg's – Nutrigrain Bars, Twists, Bites and Granola Bites, Special K Bars, Rice Krispie Squares - *Original and Chocolate Caramel only* (other flavours contain peanuts), Frosted Flakes cereal bars, Fruit Loop cereal bars

Cereals

Kellogg's – Fruit Loops, Mini Wheats
General Mills – Cheerios, Apple Cinnamon Cheerios, Multigrain Cheerios, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, French Toast Crunch, Golden Grahams
Post – Alpha Bits, Alpha Bits with Marshmallows, Honeycombs, Shreddies

Cookies and Crackers

Peak Frean's – Digestives, Fruit Cremes, Shortcake, Christie Chips Ahoy, Chewy Chips Ahoy, Chunks Ahoy, Rainbow Chips, Fudgee O's, Double Stuff Fudgee O's, Oreos and Double Stuff Oreos, Fig Newton's, Animal Crackers, Teddy Grahams, Arrowroots, Christie Crackers – Crispers, Toppables, Triscuits, Wheat Thins, Vegetable Thins, Ritz Original and Cheese
Ritz bits sandwiches (Cheese & S'mores only)
Kraft – Handisnacks (**cheese only**)
Betty Crocker – Dunkaroos

Cakes

Betty Crocker – Cake mixes (**not brownie mix**) and frostings.

Duncan Hines – Cake mixes (**not fudge bar mix**).

Dried Fruit

Ocean Spray – Craisins, Sunmaid – Raisins,

Sunrype – Fruit to Go

Fruit Treats

Betty Crocker – Fruit Roll-Ups, Fruit by the Foot,

Sodalicious, Character Fruit Snacks

Kellogg's – Character Fruit Snacks

Mott's – Fruitsations

Del Monte – Fruit Cups, Fruit Gels

Puddings

Kraft – Jell-o Puddings, Jell-o Pudding Snacks,

Magic Moments Snacks

Breads

Bread - Dempster's, Mealtyme, Sunshine, Value Plus, Wonder

Bagels/Pitas - Dempster's bagels, Sunshine bagels,

Pita Break pitas

Specialty Bread - Sunmaid Raisin Bread

Salty Snacks

Hostess/Frito Lay – Chips, Cheetos, Doritos, Miss

Vickie's, Tostitos

Sweet Treats

Kellogg's – Pop Tarts

Allan's – Cherry Blasters, Fuzzy Peach, Sour Patch

Kids, Swedish Berries

Nestle – Aero, Coffee Crisp, Kit Kat, Mirage,

Smarties (look for 'SAFE TO SHARE')

Hershey's – Goodies, Nibs, Twizzlers. **plain Kisses (not Hugs)**, Cookies 'n' Crème

Dare – Real Fruit, Juiced Up

Before sending snacks to school for your child, always double check the ingredients. Thank you in advance for cooperating with school staff on this important matter.

Eco News

Poplar Bank Public School is an Eco-School and there are teams of students responsible for Energy Conservation, Schoolyard Greening, and Waste Management.

October's Eco-theme was "Lights Out!" On a daily basis, the Energy Team has been monitoring the use of lights in the school. At lunch hour, these students check every classroom and office to verify if there is full lighting, reduced lighting or no lighting when the rooms are not in use. At the end of each month, the team will produce a bar graph indicating the decreased use of lighting for the entire school. The Energy Team encourages everyone to remember to leave the lights off if there is enough natural light during the day, or to turn off the lights when leaving a room. Our goal is to conserve energy.

The Schoolyard Greening Team has planted a variety of donated plants around the stone school sign near the entrance of the building, as well as at the rock circle/outdoor classroom. Each grade level has been assigned a month of the school year for yard clean-up to ensure that PBPS stays green.

To help reduce waste, all students at PBPS are encouraged to continue to bring litterless lunches to school. They must also use the correct disposal units (green bin, recycling bin, garbage). Signs are posted in all classrooms near the bins.

The caretaking team is an important part of Waste Management, and we thank them for their efforts!

The Eco-Schools website offers a number of suggestions for students to celebrate the environment. Friday, October 25th, was designated "Get Outside Day"

and all classes at PBPS were encouraged to spend time outdoors for DPA, a Phys Ed class, Science lesson, yard clean-up, etc. Participation in these special days will help PBPS gain points for its Eco-certification.

Keep up the good "green" work PB

Inclement Weather Emergency Conditions:

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.



School Bus Cancellation Notice

On occasion service cancellation due to inclement weather conditions may be required.

To ensure all education partners (staff, parents and students) understand how they can be informed of any service cancellation, please take the appropriate steps to distribute the attached **School Bus Cancellation Notice**.

Suggestions for sharing the information include but are not limited to:

- Sending copies home with students;
- Sending copies home in Report Card envelopes;
- Including notice in school newsletters and/or websites.
- Posting Notice in appropriate locations (hallways, staff rooms);

A decision to cancel school bus transportation will be **region-wide** meaning all buses, vans and taxis will not operate.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access local radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information. A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and 1-877-330-3001 or by following the YRDSB on Twitter.

Please note that **school bus charters will not operate when regular home to school service is cancelled**.

Student Transportation Services thanks you for your efforts to distribute this information as we continually strive to improve service levels to our schools and students.



Invites you to be Educated, Informed,
Inspired by Joe Rich, M.S.W., R.S.W.

Topic: Parenting in the Age of Technology



Joe is a Social Worker with over 25 years experience. He is seasoned presenter, author and media personality and is best known for his role as a regular guest therapist for many years on City TV's CityLine and currently on CTV's Marilyn Denis Show.

We invite you to join other parents for what will be an entertaining and informative evening as we look at the ins-and-outs of parenting children of all ages and stages in the age of technology.

WHEN Thursday, November 7, 2013

7pm to 9pm

WHERE The York Centre for Children, Youth and Families

11225 Leslie Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4S 1N5

HOW For tickets go to <http://pcmhyr9.eventbrite.com>

COST \$10