



# Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

September 2017

Principal: Natasha Baage  
Admin Assistant: Lana Grigorovich  
Secretary: Diana Hogan

Phone Number: 905-953-8995  
Superintendent: Dianne Hawkins  
Trustee: Martin Van Beek

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



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

## Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff at Poplar Bank, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning students and families!

As the returning Principal at Poplar Bank P.S., it is an honor to have the opportunity to serve again such an outstanding community. I am looking forward to working with you, your children and the staff.

I truly believe that strong partnerships between parents and staff are crucial to maintaining a positive learning environment, where each student feels safe, valued and respected. It is through these strong connections that we can build a community focused on increasing student academic achievement and well being. Therefore, I invite you to visit our school, your school and to actively participate in your children's education. This participation may come in a variety of forms including: joining the School Council, volunteering at the school, attending school-wide events, checking your children's homework and agenda on a daily basis and communicating questions or concerns to me and the teachers.

I look forward to working with you. I wish everyone a great and fun start to the school year!

Sincerely,  
Natasha Baage



## Upcoming Events

September 19	School Council Meeting
September 25	P.A. Day (No School)
September 27-29	English Book Fair
September 28	Curriculum Night (Meet the Teacher) (6:00 pm to 7:30 pm)



## School Council Elections 2017/2018



The School Council Candidate Nomination Form is included in the School Startup Package. We encourage our entire parent community to consider being a part of School Council to share valuable ideas and opinions. Parent members are always welcome to attend any School Council Meeting, but if you would like an opportunity to be a voting member of School Council, please complete the School Council Candidate Nomination Form included in the Start up Package and return it to the office by September 15<sup>th</sup>. The new School Council Election meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the Staff Room.

## Daily Schedule 2017/2018

7:50 am to 8:05 am	Supervision Provided on Pavement
7:55 am	Entry Bell
8:05 am	School Begins
8:05 am to 9:45 am	Classes
9:45 am to 10:15 am	Recess
10:15 am to 11:55 am	Classes
11:55 am to 12:15 pm	Lunch
12:15 pm to 12:55 pm	Lunch Recess
12:55 pm to 2:35 pm	Classes Dismissal
2:35 pm	Dismissal



*Students are to be in class by 8:05 a.m. or they will be marked absent. Should students arrive at, or after 8:05 bell, they should report to the office for a late slip. This reduces unnecessary calls home.*

## Punctuality Counts!



Punctuality is an important life-skill valued by school, employers in the work-force, 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. 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.

## Safe Arrival Program

Our students' attendance check is an important part of our daily routine to ensure that your children have arrived safely at school. We ask that you cooperate with us by following the steps listed below:

- ♦ Call the school before 8:00 a.m. if your child will not be attending school that day and / or will be late.
- ♦ Please use our voice mail system to leave us a message before/after school hours.
- ♦ Please call every day of your child's absence. This is the only way to ensure the integrity of the Safe Arrival Program.

The following set of actions will take place if your child is not in school and his/her absence has not been accounted for by a call or by a written note:

- ♦ First, we will call your place of residence
- ♦ In the event that we are unable to reach you at home, we will next call your place of business/cell
- ♦ If no contact is made then we will call the emergency contacts you have provided and lastly.
- ♦ The York Region Police will be called for assistance in locating your child.

## Medication

Either on a regular basis or at times throughout the year some students may need to take medication at school. Parents are required to complete a Self/Staff Administration of Medication Form signed by the Parents and approved by the Principal. For legal and safety reasons, written permission is required for all medication including inhalers, Aspirin, Tylenol, Advil etc.

All medication is kept locked in the office and students are supervised as they take any medication. Students are not permitted to bring medication to school and keep in their classroom, lunch bag, backpack or lockers.

### Epi-Pens

If a student is anaphylactic, please ensure you have picked up the necessary forms from the office to fill in. Each student is required to have one Epi-Pen in the office and one on their person. If you have not received these forms, please contact the office.



## Lunchtime Routines

Any student who brings lunch to school is to remain at school and is not permitted to leave school property unless he/she has parental permission.

Students will:

- ♦ Follow school expectation regarding lunch procedures and behavior. Sign out at the office if leaving with a dated note signed by a parent
- ♦ Once children leave school property and return to school, they are NOT permitted to leave a second time during the lunch hour and must line up with their class for regular entry at 12:55.



## Message from the Trustee

As we begin the 2017-2018 school year, I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new and returning students and families. This is an exciting time of year and I hope you are starting this new school year as trustees are - with optimism and a commitment to working together to continue advancing student achievement and well-being.

An important part of that commitment is working together with staff members, families and communities to ensure our schools provide an environment that is safe, welcoming and inclusive. This takes on increasing importance given recent local and global events. We take pride in the diversity of our communities and will continue striving to uphold the values of equity and inclusivity in our system.

Trustees have had a busy summer, welcoming our [new Human Rights Commissioner](#) and beginning the [process for selecting a new Director of Education](#) as we continue to move forward implementing the [Minister's Directions](#).

An important part of the director selection process includes collecting input from students, staff, families and community members - input that will be used to shape the job description, interview questions and more. I encourage everyone to share their thoughts through the [survey](#) available in September. We will continue to keep you updated as this work progresses.

Our schools are stronger when we work in collaboration with families and communities. Partnerships with parents and families are essential to achieving the goals we have for our students, and I hope that you will find opportunities to get engaged with the school and your child's learning this year.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming school year.

## Library News

Greetings from the Learning Commons/Carrefour de l'apprentissage (Poplar Bank Library):

As the new Teacher-Librarian, I wanted to welcome you to the new school year. I hope to create a safe, inclusive and vibrant space where students will be able to sign out books, do research, access technology, make new connections to the world, unleash their creativity through a Makerspace or simply read about a topic that piques their curiosity.

An exciting event is already planned! From Wednesday, September 27th through Friday, September 29th, the English Scholastic Book Fair will take place. This will coincide with Curriculum Night on September 28th.

### BOOK FAIR HOURS

Wednesday, September 27th:	7:45am-3:00pm
Thursday, September 28th:	7:45am-8:00pm
Friday, September 29th:	7:45am-3:00pm



Please stop by to view a great selection of books and resources. If you are available to help with the Fair, please contact me at [chantal.jenicek@yrdsb.ca](mailto:chantal.jenicek@yrdsb.ca).

Merci!



## School Year Calendar 2017/2018

The school year shall consist of 187 days , the school holidays will be as follows:

Labour Day - September 4th  
 Thanksgiving Day - October 9th  
 Christmas Vacation - December 25th to January 5th  
 Family Day - February 19th  
 Mid-Winter Break - March 12th to March 16th  
 Good Friday - March 30th  
 Easter Monday - April 2nd  
 Victoria Day - May 21st



## Safety is Our Top Priority: Routines and Guidelines

- ♦ **NUT Alert! We are a Peanut (Nut-Free School):** Please do not send Peanut, Peanut products or other foods that contain nut products to school. We have students and staff members who are anaphylactic. This means that exposure to even the smell of peanuts can result in a severe allergic reaction that can be life threatening. Some safe snack foods are: fruit, veggies, cheese and crackers, fruit roll-ups, mini-bagels with cream cheese, milk puddings and yogurt. **Prior to sending in food for the class, please contact your child's teacher.**
- ♦ **Before School:** Supervision on the school yard pavement begins at 7:50 a.m. Between 7:50—7:55 a.m. all grade 1—8 students are together on the pavement around the east and south sides of the school building. The entrance bell rings at 7:55 a.m, Students are to walk to their respective entry doors, proceed to class and get ready for the school day which begins at 8:05 a.m.
- ♦ **Picking your Child Up at 2:35 p.m.:** When 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. Meet your child at their exit doors.
- ♦ **After School:** Students are dismissed at 2:35 p.m. and they are required to leave the school grounds immediately after school There is staff supervision on the east and south pavement adjoining the school from 2:35—2:45 p.m. Please note that there is no supervision for students who choose to play in the nearby Town of Newmarket playground or fields around the school. Students who have not been picked up by their parents are to report to the school office at the 2:45 bell where they will wait and an office staff member will contact a parent.



- ♦ **Parents Visiting the School:** When dropping off a child in the morning, please do not walk through the school with your child. Students are to wait outside at their assigned entry doors.

1. When dropping off your child's lunch or homework, please come into the office and we will ensure that your child gets the item.
2. We will not interrupt curriculum times for you to speak to your child unless it is an emergency. Please make alternate arrangements at home.
3. When picking up your child for an appointment, please come into the office to sign your child out and we will call your child down to the office.
4. When picking up your child at 2:35 p.m., parents are to wait outside the appropriate exit doors.

- ♦ **Students who take the bus:** During the first week, there are sometimes difficulties with the bus time arrivals and departures. The transportation department works closely with us to sort out the problems we are experiencing. For help and information, feel free to call Mrs. Hogan or Mrs. Grigovich in the office or you may seek assistance at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com). Your child's safety is our top priority. September is a time for parents to discuss bus safety, and stranger danger. These rules will also be reviewed and reinforced in September and throughout the year by school staff. Please note that we do not grant permission for students to change buses. Students must ride on the bus assigned to them by the Transportation Department.



- ♦ **Safe Play Guidelines:** In order to prevent physical injury and because of our concern for student safety, students at Poplar Bank P.S. are expected to avoid activities that involve aggressive play and physical contact. Recess activities that are not acceptable include wrestling, piggy-backing, football, lacrosse, tripping, baseball, pushing, shoving, body-checking, poking, punching, play fighting and other forms of rough play in busses, stairwells, hallways and playgrounds. During recess breaks, students are able to play organized games such as basketball, soccer and foot hockey as well as activities such as skipping and tag. We ask parents to regularly review these expectations with their son/ daughter to ensure that our school is a safe place for everyone.



- ♦ **Locked Doors:** Please note that the main entrance door will be unlocked 15 minutes prior to the first bell (7:50 a.m.). The school front door will be unlocked between the time of the dismissal bell (2:35 p.m.) and when the main office closes (3:30 p.m.). The door to the Childcare program will continue to be kept unlocked between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. On the evenings when there is a school event taking place, the front entrance door will be unlocked 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the event. Please use the door bell for entry into the school when the door is locked.



# Red Cross Babysitting Course (with first aid & CPR)

Offered by Stayin Alive With First Aid, CPR & AED

Caregiver and first aid skills for youth 11 to 15 years old. Participants learn how to manage difficult behaviour, gain essential leadership skills, and discover professional conduct for babysitters. Babysitting promises to deepen and enhance the responsibility that older youth feel when caring for younger children. The curriculum is complete with new science about giving appropriate care in the event of an emergency.

**Date:** Monday, September 25, 2017 (P.A. Day)  
**Duration:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (7 hours)  
**Ages:** 11 to 15 years old  
**Location:** **Hartman Public School, 130 River Ridge Boulevard, Aurora**  
**Instructor:** Stayin Alive Certified Red Cross Trainer  
**Cost:** \$60 per participant + **HST** = **\$67.80**

## Course content:

- Check, Call, Care (including phoning 911)
- Conscious choking (adult/child/baby/alone)
- CPR (baby/child)
- Asthma (includes use of inhaler and spacer)
- Anaphylaxis (includes use of EpiPen)
- Poisoning and insect stings
- Wound care (minor cuts and scrapes, splinters, nosebleeds, bumps and bruises, life-threatening bleeding, and burns)
- Broken bones, head, neck, and back injuries
- Seizures

**Take-home materials:** Red Cross Babysitter's Manual



**Register today! Only a few spots left.**

[www.StayinAliveWithFirstAid.ca](http://www.StayinAliveWithFirstAid.ca)

**Questions?**

[info@stayinalivewithfirstaid.ca](mailto:info@stayinalivewithfirstaid.ca) or call 416.509.1946

## Poplar Bank PS Food Program Schedule 2017-2018

### ATTENTION TO ORDER DEADLINE

Day of the Week	Program Description	Order Period 1	# of Days	Order Period 2	# of Days	Order Period 3	# of Days
		ORDER ONLINE BEFORE September 10, 2017		ORDER ONLINE BEFORE November 26, 2017		ORDER ONLINE BEFORE March 25, 2018	
Tuesdays	Mr Greek	Sep 12 to Nov 28, 2017	12	Dec 5/17 to March 27/18	14	April 3 to June 26/18	13
Wednesdays	Pasta	Sep 13 to Nov 29, 2017	12	Dec 6/17 to March 28/18	14	April 4 to June 27/18	13
Thursdays	Pizza, Juice & Cookie	Sep 14 to Nov 30, 2017	12	Dec 7, 2017 to March 29, 2018	14	April 5 to June 28, 2018	13
Fridays	Mr Sub	Sep 15 to Dec 1, 2017	10	Dec 8, 2017 to March 23, 2018	11	April 6 to June 22, 2018	12
Optional	Milk	Sep 11 to Dec 1	56	Dec 4, 2017 to March 29, 2018	66	April 3 to June 28, 2018	61

### ATTENTION TO ORDER DEADLINE

*We thank you for supporting the Food Program at Poplar Bank.*