



Poplar Bank News

We are a Respectful and Caring School

September 2016

Issue 1

Principal: Natasha Baage
Admin Assistant: Lana Grigorovich
Secretary: Jennifer Bissonnette

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

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



School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well Being

Respectful School

Focus Areas: 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!

~Mrs. Natasha Baage

School Council Elections- 2016- 2017

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 16th. The new School Council Election meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 28th at 6:45 p.m. in the Staff Room.

Upcoming Dates

Sept 21—Sept 23: English Book Fair
Sept 22: Curriculum Night (Meet the Teacher)
6:00—7:30

Sept 23—30: Safety Week
Sept 26: P.A. Day (No School)
Sept 28: School Council Meeting

Daily Schedule at Poplar Bank for 2016-2017

7:50-8:05 Supervision Provided on the Pavement

7:55 <i>a.m.</i>	Entry Bell
8:05 <i>a.m.</i>	School Begins
8:05 – 9:45 <i>a.m.</i>	Classes
9:45 - 10:15 <i>a.m.</i>	Recess
10:15 - 11:55 <i>a.m.</i>	Classes
11:55-12:15 <i>p.m.</i>	Lunch
12:15 -12:55 <i>p.m.</i>	Lunch Recess
12:55- 2:35 <i>p.m.</i>	Classes 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.

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 see the office.

Library News

The PBPS library will kick off the school year with a couple of exciting events!

In the afternoon of September 20th, the Junior grades will welcome Canadian author, Richard Scrimger, who has written many well-known books for youth, including, Zomboy, Vimmy Crowe's Comic Book, The Nose from Jupiter, and The Wolf and Me. Check out his website at www.scrimger.ca.

From Wednesday, September 21st through Friday, September 23rd, the English Scholastic Book Fair will take place. This will coincide with Curriculum Night on September 22nd. The Fair hours will be as follows.

Wednesday, Sept. 21st: 7:45am-3pm

Thursday, Sept. 22nd: 7:45am-8pm

Friday, Sept. 23rd: 7:45am-3pm

Please stop by to view a great selection of books and resources.

If you are available to help with the Fair, please contact Mme Hodge at roxanne.hodge@yrdsb.ca.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD AT HOME?

Parental Support of Literacy Skills

Literacy is about more than reading and writing. It is about how we communicate in society. Literacy takes on many forms: on paper, on the computer screen, on TV, on posters and signs. At Poplar Bank, we regard parents as partners in our quest to develop our students' literacy skills. Reading should be an activity enjoyed by all at home. Reading to or with your child on a regular basis and talking about the book or article read are two important activities parents and children can share.

The following are a few tips you may wish to practice at home to make the reading even more productive.

- 1—Ask your child to look at the cover and name any objects and characters they know.
- 2—Read the title and the author's name. See if the cover and title remind you of any other books you have read together.
- 3—Flip through the pages and note other objects and characters in the pictures. This is called "previewing" the book. Ask your child to "predict" what the story may be about.
- 4—For primary students, run your finger beneath the words as you read. Stop once or twice to ask questions like, "What do you think will happen next and why?" and then read on to compare the story to your child's guesses.
- 5—Afterwards, sum up the story line by talking about the beginning, middle and end of the book.
- 6—Connect the story line to real-life events. Did an event in the story ever happen to you or your child? Do the characters remind you of anyone you know?
- 7—Evaluate the story or article. (Did your child like the story? What was the best part? Who was the silliest character? Did the article give accurate information?)

Have fun reading together!

Library Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering in our library please contact Mme Hodge at (905)953-8995 or roxanne.hodge@yrdsb.ca



Useful Websites for Parents

Links for Parents (compiled by the Ministry of Education): <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/links.html#learn>

Resources to Help Your Child (compiled by the Ministry of Education): <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/howcanihelp.html>

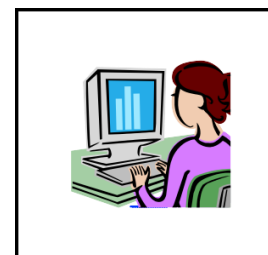
Ontario Ministry of Education: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/index.html> *EQAO:* <http://www.eqao.com/>

TumbleReadables: <http://www.tumblebooks.com/tumblereadable/>
Parents as Partners: <http://www.parents-as-partners.ca/parents.html>

The Canadian Safe School Network: <http://www.canadiansafeschools.com/parents/overview.htm>

TVO Kids: <https://www.tvokids.com/>

Link to Learning: <http://www.linktolearning.com/> *Discovery Channel:* <http://dsc.discovery.com/>



Safety is Our Top Priority: Routines and Guidelines

1—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.**

2—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.

3—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.

4—Parents Visiting the School:

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

6—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. Bissonnette or Mrs. Grigorovich in the office or you may seek assistance at 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.

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.*

Lunch privileges may be withdrawn if rules and expectations are not followed.



7—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.



8—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.



9—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

ECO NEWS



We are certified **ECO-GOLD** for all our combined efforts to help the environment!

It's a new year and we are shooting for **gold** again this year. We will be starting trash-less Tuesdays again this school year. As a school community, we are impressed at our waste reduction last year and we would like to keep our excellent work.

On Tuesdays we are asking that lunches be sent in reusable containers. Food waste will be composted as usual at school, but all non-recyclable waste (i.e. ziplock bags, foil wrappers, plastic wrap) will be sent back home.

Thank you for your support in keeping Poplar Bank PS 'green'.





Poplar Bank Staff 2016-2017

We are proud to present the Poplar Bank Staff:

Grade 1	Mme Roach	Intermediate	Mme DuChene
Grade 1	Mme Gwyn	Music	Mme Smith
Grade 1	Mme Nicholson	SERT	Mme Hazlewood
Grade 1	Mme Thomas	Math/ Spec Ed.	Mme McElroy
Grade 2	Mme McGraw	Library / Grade 5	Mme Hodge
Grade 2	Mme Moubarak	Science	Mme Rudyk
Grade 2	Mme Green	Primary	Mme Johnson
Grade 3	Mme Hampton	Head Secretary	Mrs Grigorovich
Grade 3	Mme Parenteau	Secretary	Mrs Bissonnette
Grade 3	Mme Samaai	Lead Caretaker	Mr Budd
Grade 4	Mme Kendall	Carataker	Mr Wills
Grade 4	M Korman	Carataker	Mr Dennie
Grade 4/5/Literacy/ Spec E.d	Mme Wansbrough	Principal	Mme Baage
Grade 5	M Krug		
Grade 6	Mme Middleton		
Grade 6/Literacy	Mme Jenicek		
Grade 7	M Maccarone		
Grade 7	Mme Bimo		
Grade 7/8	Mme McDonald		
Grade 8	Mme Sampson		



**CAN YOU
HELP?**

*We are in need of Lunch Assistants for the 2016-2017 school year. This is a **paid position** from 11:55- 12:55 p.m. and you choose the days you wish to work. Please apply in the office.*

Curriculum Night (Meet the Teachers night)

6:00pm—7:30pm

Session 1—6:00—6:30

Session 2—6:45—7:15

Parents can pick whichever session works best for them.





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.

Save the Environment!

Reduce School Costs Via Electronic Communication

Our School is going green to help save trees and reduce school costs. We are requesting that parents sign up on our electronic mailing list so that we can keep you informed via email of upcoming events and newsletters.

Log on to the school's website and follow the link at:

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

Trustee Message

As we start another school year, we are very pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you all enjoyed the hot summer months and are looking forward to the start of school.

There is a lot to look forward to in the months ahead and many ways for families to engage with their child's learning. There is a strong connection between parent and family engagement and student achievement and well-being, and I hope that you will find opportunities to get involved.

In the coming year, trustees will continue to focus on the priorities that we set out in our [Multi-Year Plan](#): student achievement and well-being; the delivery of effective and sustainable educational programs; and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

We know that partnerships with parents and families are essential to achieving these goals. However you choose to get involved, know that you are making a difference to your child's learning.

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



Student Transportation Services of York Region
320 Bloomington Road West
Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1
905-713-2535
FAX: 905-713-2533
Web site: www.schoolbuscity.com

SEPTEMBER SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION NOTICE

Each summer, Student Transportation Services of York Region (STSYR) makes adjustments to bus route schedules to accommodate new students and new school openings. **As a result, some students may experience changes in their bus schedule or route number.** Please confirm bus information for September by checking www.schoolbuscity.com as of August 22. If you are unable to find the information you require, please contact your school.

During the first two weeks of school, students should arrive at their bus stop *10 minutes early*. After this, students are asked to arrive 5 minutes early as each bus route develops its regular routine and service times

Transportation Eligibility

In accordance with Board policies, transportation is provided for students who live within their designated Home School attendance area and outside their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone. Transportation eligibility changes throughout a student's school career. **Please note students currently in Grade 3 and Grade 8 who use school bus service may see a change in their eligibility as they transition to Grade 4 and Grade 9.**

Eligibility JK- Grade 8

- All YRDSB students in JK - Grade 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.

Eligibility Grade 9-12

- All YRDSB students in Grades 9 - 12 who live within a transit served area are **not eligible** for transportation.

Parents of students entering Grade 4 and Grade 9 may confirm their transportation eligibility by accessing the Bus Stop Information tab at www.schoolbuscity.com . Students not eligible for transportation who wish to obtain York Region Transit information should visit their website at www.yrt.ca or phone 1-866-668-3978.



Poplar Bank P.S. is accepting online payments through School Cash ONLINE!

School Cash Online provides the following benefits:

- A convenient fee payment option that saves time
- Reduces paper
- No more need to send cash or cheques to school
- A quick way to register. It takes less than 5 minutes to register.

Parents that opt to participate will receive notification via email of student fees owed (both required and optional), and can make secure online payments by credit card or Interac and receive a receipt.

To view a presentation about the program, go to <http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies/ParentRegEnglish/>.

Follow the easy steps on the next page to register and get started!

Step 1: Register

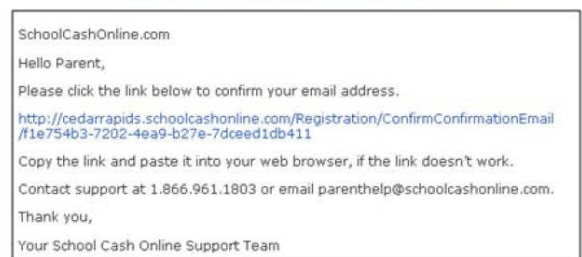
- Click on the School Cash Online button on our school's website at <http://poplarbank.ps.yrdsb.ca/> and select the **"Get Started Today"** button.
- Complete each of the three Registration Steps

***For Security Reasons your password, requires 8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.**



Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be automatically forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account. The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

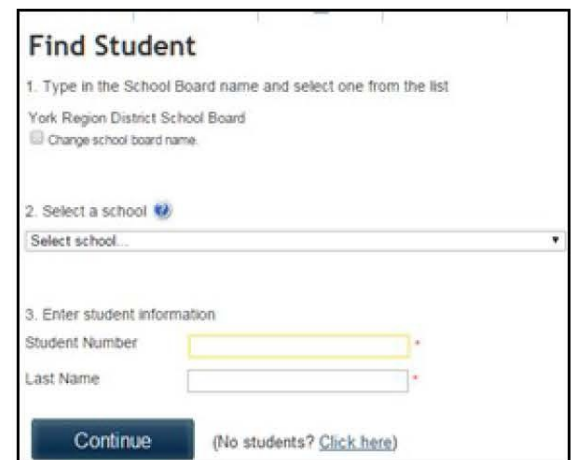


Step 3: Find Student

NOTE: A STUDENT NUMBER IS REQUIRED

This step will connect your children to your account.

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child's Student # and Last Name
- Select **Continue**
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**
- Your child has been added to your account



Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select **"Add Another Student"** option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **"View Items For Students"** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

NEED HELP?

If you require assistance, select the **GET HELP** option in the top right hand corner of the screen or contact **School Cash Online – Parent Help Desk** at 1-866-961-1803 or parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com.