

December 2013/
January 2014



Redstone Review

Is it really December already? The beginning of the school year has flown by. When we reflect back on the last month, the word generosity comes to mind. We are grateful to the many families who gave so generously to support the victims of the terrible Typhoon in the Philippines. Thank you for participating in *Helping Hands-The Philippines* project. Redstone students raised \$1,058.68 through a coin drive. All money collected will be channeled to the typhoon affected regions through Canadian Medical Assistance Teams (CMAT). For more information visit <http://www.canadianmedicalteams.org>. CMAT has an established reputation and funds raised will go directly into the field.

This month Redstone will be participating in a Holiday Food and Mitten Drive to support families in our community. The food and mitten drive will begin **Friday December 6**. We are collecting mittens that can be placed on our "mitten tree" in front of the office as well as canned goods which will go into our donation bins by the tree. These items will be donated to local agencies in York Region. Thank you for helping to support families in need!

To kick off the holiday season, we will be having **4 Days of Winter Fun!** During the last week of school in December, we encourage all students to participate in our daily fun. On Monday December 16 it will be **Winter Hat Day**, Tuesday is **Wear Red and Green Day**, Wednesday is **Pyjama Day** and on Thursday there will be a **Holiday Sing-A-Long** in the gym. Show some spirit and get involved!

We also wanted to let you know about a staff member who will be retiring at the end of this month. Elaine Ecclestone who has been an Educational Assistant at Redstone from opening day has decided to spend some quality time with her retired husband and embark on some adventures. Her knowledge, skill and warm interactions with students and families will be well remembered. Please visit us often. You will be greatly missed, Ms. Ecclestone!

Whether you are spending the winter holiday travelling or staying closer to home, on behalf of all the staff at Redstone we wish you a safe and relaxing holiday season.

Diana Dal Bello and Liz Lue-Kim

P.S. Congratulations, Melissa, on your hat trick Saturday night!



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News from the School Council



We will be planning a donation fundraising drive in the new year to bring more new and exciting things to our school. Last year the school council raised money to purchase technology for the school and also to support an arts program for the students. Your generosity was greatly appreciated and benefited our children. If anyone has any incentive prizes for the fundraiser, please submit to the school office with your name. Thank you for your support. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. Have a happy new year and we hope to have you join us at our meetings. Our next meeting will be on Monday January 13th, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the library.

Karren Lee and Jeff Young, Co Chairs of School Council

***THE GREATEST GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE YOUR CHILDREN ARE THE
ROOTS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND THE WINGS OF INDEPENDENCE ~***
Denis Waitley

Students Demonstrating

JK/SK— Isabella B., Lakshman B., Nicki Li., Dominic K., Grace K., Cailyn W., Radman B., Anthony M., Isabella L., Sami J., Vidya P.

Gr. 1—Janet Y., Jennifer Z., Hanna Y.

Gr. 2 - Joanna C., Rukshan R., Jasmine M.

Gr. 3 - Maaz Q., Jaycee L., Chloe M., Nicole B.

Gr. 4— Ethan L., Rachel N., Michelle W., Veronica W.

Gr. 5 - Amina R., Reny L., Josh P.

Gr. 6 - Lauryn G., Neha N.

Gr. 7 - Yuan Yuan L., Chloe D., Divya B., Amir A.

Gr. 8 - Michelle K., Aakash J.

Junior Students



Participate in the DareArts Project

The grade 4, 5 and 6 students worked with artist, Gloria Hope to create cards for the DareArt Project.

Dare2draw is a card making project for classrooms to raise money and help ignite change in the lives of Aboriginal Youth. Ms. Hope shared a video with the students about the lives of Aboriginal youth in remote areas of Canada. Students were then taught the technique of sketching icebergs and either used paint or pencil crayons to complete their work. Redstone students are talented as you can see by some of the pictured cards. The completed cards will be sold on line and the money raised from the sales will be sent to areas such as Wegeque and Attawapiskat to support the unique challenges faced by Aboriginal youth today such as isolation, marginalization, poverty and suicide. The money is also used to send artists to work with Aboriginal students in the above remote areas.



Roots of Empathy

The Roots of Empathy program continued this month with the "meet the baby" and "crying" themes. Mr. Mangaloglu's grade 7 class learned about, made predictions and got to ask questions surrounding crying on the recent baby visit. Our baby, Owen Mangaloglu, is happy to help our students develop empathy this year, along with his proud dad!

Popcorn Thursdays!

The Grade 8's will be selling popcorn every Thursday, at morning recess, in the front foyer. All sales will be going to help pay the cost of Graduation 2014. A bag of popcorn will be selling for \$1.50. This delicious snack is both nut and gluten free. Try all the flavours, Butter and Salt, White Cheddar, Sea Salt and Vinegar, Kettle Corn, and Dill.

Kindergarten Registration - January 17, 2014

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 17, 2014 for the 2014-15 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2014, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

Remembrance Day Celebration at Redstone P.S.



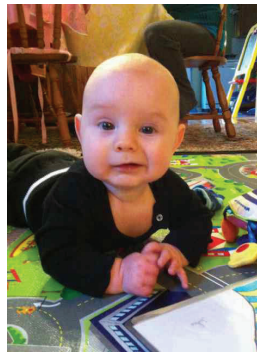
On November 11, our students and staff participated in a beautifully planned Remembrance Day Assembly. Each class created a wreath that was presented at the assembly. The choirs sang some lovely songs and the students watched a video clip about the World Wars. We were also fortunate to have a guest speaker from the Memorial Project. Mr. Cotter spoke to our Redstone students about the effects of the war

Staff Change

We wanted to thank Mdme. Rene Malin for her work as a French teacher here at Redstone for the last 3 months. She is well known to us here at Redstone and we look forward to working with her in the future. We welcome Jenna Armeland who will be working as a French teacher until the end of June.

S.W.A.G (Strength Within All Girls)

Redstone has started a girls' group, S.W.A.G (Strength Within All Girls). This group is a platform where girls from the ages of 10-13 have the opportunity to meet weekly to discuss various social issues in a safe and caring environment. After two successful meetings, the girls have already created their unique group identity using colours, words and a symbol to represent them as a collective. Using programs like the Dove Campaign for Real Beauty, the overall goal is to encourage girls to develop a positive relationship with beauty, helping to raise their self-esteem and thereby enabling them to realize their full potential. The discussions will also look at obstacles young women face around the world. We plan to have the girls organize and lead a school wide fundraiser in the Spring, which will bring awareness to global female issues related to educational obstacles. The money raised will be donated to Plan Canada, **Because I Am A Girl** (becauseiamagirl.ca). Thank you for your support as the students work towards their initiative.



Volleyball

The Sr. Volleyball season came to an exciting conclusion last week. After working hard to develop their skills and hosting two tournaments at Redstone, both boys and girls teams finished their seasons at the area tournament. Congratulations to the boys and girls who worked hard and had fun! A big thank you to the coaches, Mr. Horowitz and Mr. Mangaloglu who encouraged respectful play and gave of their personal time to make this possible.

Jr. Volleyball

The Jr. Volleyball team is made up of grade 5 & 6 girls and boys. Tryouts will begin on Wednesday, December 3rd and the final team will be selected before the break. The season begins in January and will be coached by Ms. Isit.

Basketball

The Intermediate Boys and the Intermediate Girls Basketball tryouts will begin on Wednesday, December 3rd. The two final teams will be selected before the break. The season begins in January. The boy's team will be coached by Mr. Stoddart and Mr. Grey. The girl's team will be coached by Mr. Anderson, Mr. Sherlock and Mr. Rosegreen.

Take Note...

Grades 7 & 8s to Richmond Green for Hooked

December 2

**School Council Meeting
7:00**

December 2

Richmond Green students visiting gr. 8s

December 3

VIP Program for gr. 6s

December 5 & 12 & 19

Gr. 4s to Medieval Times

December 6

Gr. 3s to Pioneer Village

December 13

**Character Assembly
(Respect)**

December 17 @ 9:15

Friday Schedule

December 18

PA Day—No School

December 20

Back to School

January 6

School Council Meeting

7:00

January 13

PA Day—No School

January 17

Kindergarten Registration

January 17

**Character Assembly
(Optimism)**

January 30 @ 11:10

Secret Buddy, An Anti Bullying Initiative at Redstone

During National Anti-Bullying week in November, our student teachers from the OISE Master's program helped to organize a school wide anti-bullying initiative. Every student and staff member in the school randomly picked out a name of someone that they had to make feel special. During the week, it was everyone's job to do an act of kindness for a "secret buddy". It was heart warming to see the smiles on student's and staff's faces alike when they received a special message from their buddy. Kindness is a wonderful thing. Please keep spreading it!



Lights! Camera! Action!

During the week of December 2, 2013, the students in Mrs. Hotchkiss, Mrs. Dawn, Mrs. Alveraz, Mrs. Zonni and Mr. Horowitz's classes will be participating in a one day workshop with the help of the Directors Cut media group to create their own motion picture to accompany the Walking with the Dinosaurs movie that will be showing in theatres over the Christmas break. The students will be working in groups to create a storyboard, write a script and produce a short video clip about dinosaurs, using the latest digital technology. They will be bringing home a DVD copy for your viewing pleasure.

This workshop will promote and develop social and academic skills for the students under the areas of media literacy through the use of technology, visual arts and science expectations.

We are looking forward to this exciting workshop and hope to share more information with you in the next newsletter after the workshop.

Making Redstone A Healthy School...

Invite your kids into the kitchen!

When is the last time you cooked with you kids? It's never too late to start! When families have fun cooking together and developing food skills, they tend to eat together more often.

Research shows that children and youth who eat with their families are more likely to have healthier eating habits and better nutrition, be a healthy weight and have less chance of developing eating disorders. Eating together not only provides an opportunity to teach manners and social skills but it's linked to better language and literacy development as well as improved school performance. Teens are less likely to participate in risky behaviours such as smoking and drinking when they eat with their families more often.

The **Cook Up Some Fun!** campaign provides how-to information, tips and resources to help families with children plan, shop, cook and enjoy eating meals together. **Register** today at www.york.ca/nutrition to be part of **Cook Up Some Fun!** and enter to win a \$200 grocery store gift card by completing a quick and confidential survey! You'll also receive healthy and tasty recipes, tip sheets and activity ideas.

For information about creating a healthy school nutrition environment, visit www.nutritiontoolsforschools.ca

There is no diet that will do what eating healthy does

Check out this month's healthy recipe below. This recipe can be found in York Region Public Health's Cooking Up Some Fun Cookbook.

<http://www.york.ca/wps/wcm/connect/yorkpublic/d88c6f1c-23dc-47c3-a7ab-402e9925d036/cooking+up+some+fun.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

Easy Chick Pea Curry

Ingredients

15 mL (1 tbsp) vegetable oil 5 mL (1 tsp) paprika
2 onions, sliced finely 15 mL (1 tbsp) ground cumin
4 cloves garlic, crushed 15 mL (1 tbsp) ground coriander
5 mL (1 tsp) chili powder 2 x 540 mL (19 oz) cans chickpeas, drained
5 mL (1 tsp) salt 540 mL (19 oz) can diced tomatoes
5 mL (1 tsp) turmeric 5 mL (1 tsp) garam masala (spice)

Directions

1. Heat oil in a large frying pan.
2. Add onion and garlic to pan; cook over medium heat, stirring until soft.
3. Add the chili powder, salt, turmeric, paprika, cumin and coriander. Stir over heat for 1 minute.
4. Add chickpeas and undrained tomatoes. Stir until combined. Cover and simmer, over low heat 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.
5. Stir in garam masala. Cover and simmer for another 10 minutes.
6. Serve with brown rice, chappati, whole grain pita or naan breads.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Information Evenings at YRDSB High Schools

Alexander Mackenzie H.S. December 9, 2013

Bayview S.S. January 16, 2014

Richmond Green S.S. December 10, 2013

Richmond Hill S.S. January 9, 2014

Start time for the information nights is 7:00 p.m. For information on Gr. 8 Information Nights for other York Region Schools visit: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Michaelle Jean P.S. on January 16, 2014 at 7 p.m. FI registration will begin January 17, 2014. In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2014, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Michaelle Jean P.S. to register between January 17 and February 14, 2014. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

Winter Weather is Coming ...

With the colder weather approaching, we are asking that you ensure that your children are dressed for outside play. All students are expected to be outside for each recess. Please keep the following in mind:

- Students with health concerns, such as, but not limited to, heavy colds, coughs and flu, which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until the condition improves.
- Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors. This includes dressing in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer (jacket and snow pants) that is wind-resistant, wearing a hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf (or neck warmer) and insulated, waterproof footwear.
- It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to the clothing collection in the Lost and Found, parents/guardians should label all articles of clothing, including but not limited to, boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants.
- When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 20 degrees Celsius, we will have an **indoor** routine for recess/events.
- When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 18-19 degrees Celsius, we will have a **shortened** outdoor routine for recess/events.
- Children are encouraged to engage in physical activity, such as walking or playing, to increase metabolism – which generates more body heat.

Message From Our Trustee

As 2013 draws to a close, I hope everyone has had a wonderful school year so far. As a trustee, I am always very proud to hear about the great things happening in our schools, thanks to the hard work of our students, staff and community members.

With the school year well underway I hope you have had an opportunity to get involved with the school community. There are many different ways to get involved. Our great schools become even better when everyone in the school community – families, students, staff and community partners – feels welcome and engaged in the school.

We will begin 2014 with a renewed Mission, Vision and Values statement. They are being updated to better reflect the school communities we serve, and the changes we have seen in education over the past decade. Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views.

As we enter the winter months, on behalf of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season, and a wonderful start to the new year.



Carol Chan, Trustee

Milk Program Beginning in January

Watch for a flyer coming home next week so that you can order milk for the January to March term.

Parenting and Counseling Support-Family Services York Region

Looking for tips on parenting? Have questions around routines, managing stress at home or seeking individual or family counseling? Family Services of York Region offers a variety of counseling options and support is available in different languages.

Check out their web-site <http://www.fsyr.ca/> or call 905-780-9927.

Lost and Found Items

It's that time of year! Please have your child check the lost and found area. All the clothing and other lost items will be placed on tables outside of the library and in the upstairs hall. Any articles that are not collected by the end of December will be donated to a charitable organization.

Our Redstone Touchstone

At Redstone Public School,
We respect ourselves, others and our environment.
We are responsible for what we say and what we do.
We speak up for ourselves and for others,
And we include everyone in all activities.
We treat all people equally,
And we help others without being asked.
We never give up, no matter how difficult the task;
At Redstone, everything is possible.