



Regency Acres P.S.

York Region District School Board



From the Office of Regency Acres

Dear Regency Families

The school winter break is approaching. The **last day of school will be Fri., Dec. 23**. The school break begins **Mon., Dec. 26, 2016** and ends **Fri. Jan. 6, 2017**. **School resumes Mon., Jan. 9, 2017**. December is always an exciting month at Regency (as you will read in this newsletter). There is lots going on!. Our **Festive Shop** is being set-up and so far, we have great items to sell. Thank you to everyone who donated. Our **Winter Concert will be held on Thurs., Dec. 15 at 7pm**. On this evening we will also be having a bake sale that will support our Healthy school initiatives.

Thank you to all **volunteers** for completing and signing all the necessary board forms. If your volunteer interests change, please let me know. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me or your child's teacher.

The weather is getting colder and as we expect snowy days ahead, we do hope that there will be no traffic and congestions concerns during Kiss and Ride. I would like to re-iterate the importance of following traffic rules (i.e., no U-Turns, no parking on the road). The safety of our students is paramount!

On Nov. 29th, we had our first round of **Student Council elections**. Every student in Grade 4-8 voted for a Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Speaker of the House. On Dec. 12th, all Gr. 4-8 students will vote for the Ministers. Student Council is a great leadership opportunity not only for the elected members but for the class reps and other students who get involved on student-led committees and initiatives. Student voice matters!

On behalf of our entire staff at Regency, we would like to extend our wishes to all families who celebrating, vacationing, or taking time to enjoy the break. We will see you all in the **NEW YEAR!**

Sincerely,

Lisa Leoni

Message from our Trustee

As we near the end of 2016, I hope everyone has had a great school year so far and found opportunities to get involved with the life of the school. It is wonderful to have opportunities to see not only what our students are learning, but to see how they are learning - collaborating and problem solving, using technology in exciting new ways, and engaged in hands-on activities. I want to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff members, students, families and community members across our Board. Thanks to all of the great people we have in our system, we continue to advance student achievement and well-being.

Our Board continues to have a strong commitment to creating welcoming, inclusive learning environments that enable all of our students to thrive. Engaging families in your child's education and the school community is in an important part of creating that environment.

There are resources for families available on our Board website at www.yrdsb.ca/parents, including information on Board programs and supports, and tips for parents to support your child's learning at home and at school.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful start to 2017. I hope you are able to enjoy time with family and friends.



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Becky Green
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From the Library at Regency Acres

Our library has undergone a number of transformations. The new Young Adult section is now complete with fabric covered benches and a standing table, as well as separate shelving for the YA books. Our Reading Zone for our younger students is also complete with a carpet, reading buddies, and a rocking chair and chart stand as well as fiction and non-fiction appropriately leveled books. Our greenscreen is now ready to use, and the Makerspace is taking shape as well.

Thank you to all the families, friends and neighbours who came out to Chapters in Newmarket on Monday, November 21st, and got some shopping done. While completing your shopping, you helped put many new books into the hands of our students. Your on going support of our library and Makerspace is truly appreciated.

As you clean over the holidays and come across items that may support our Makerspace, please put them aside and drop them off in January. We are always looking for building toys (such as Lego, Duplo, K'Nex, etc.), craft materials, boxes, tubes, and much more. If you are not sure if an item would be suitable, please feel free to call or email Mrs. Claus at the school to check.

Our Forest of Reading Book Club is underway. If you have a child in grades 5-8 who would like to join, but hasn't it's not too late. Have them drop in to see Mrs. Claus for a sign up form. Children in younger grades are reading the books as part of their library or literacy programs.

From Our Classes

Our Grade 4 class participated in Global Read Aloud. Students from around the world connected through Google Hangout to play Mystery to guess where we were from. Our class was able to guess the state of our grade 4 partners from Richmond Virginia! We chatted about the novel we were all reading, *The Big Friendly Giant* by Roal Dahl. We had fun speaking to them across the Internet! by Ethan.

The Water Team:

Did you know that 90% of our brains are made from water? Did you know that even 2% dehydration will reduce endurance, and that 3% dehydration will harm strength and power? When writing tests, groups that drank water before school tests



performed higher than groups that did not drink water. When they switched, the reverse was true. That's how important water is to our daily health! Bring a steel water bottle to school every day and sip your water throughout the day. It will help your brain perform its many jobs, better! This message was brought to you by the Water Hero Team: Anika, Aria, Francesco, Kaitlyn, Sara and Yashar. We want you to join us in our future endeavours!

This is the Grade 1s having science class outside. We are learning about how plants, animals and the weather changes in the Fall and other seasons. These are our class trees that we will be observing and seeing how they change throughout the seasons.





Holiday Concert

Thursday, December 15
7– 9 p.m.

Families and Friends of Regency Acres are invited to enjoy an evening celebration of the Arts.



Come out and listen to the sound of music as the Primary Choir sings for your enjoyment.

The Grade 7 and 8 Bands will be performing a selection of songs.

Art pieces created by students will be on display.

All are welcome

Bakers Needed for Regency Bake Sale

Call out to Moms, Dads, Kids, Family members... WE NEED BAKERS!!!

Regency will be having a bake sale in the small gym, the evening of the **Winter Concert on Thursday, December 15th from 6:00 - 6:45pm** and following the concert.

We are looking for bakers to donate delicious cupcakes, cookies, cakes, squares, and nut free treats. The proceeds from this bake sale will go towards healthy school student initiatives (e.g. fitness events, student workshops, school clubs, stu-

dent council support etc.).

Baked goods can be delivered anytime during the day on December 15 or sent with your child to school. Please deliver by 5:30pm at the latest so we have time to set up.

Please contact Leah Clark if you are able to help out with this tasty fundraiser!

leahclark357@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!



QSP

Go SHOPPING at www.QSP.ca and you'll be supporting our school at the same time. Our school group number is 3725249 and the internet site is open to take your order 24 hours a day. No line-ups, no gift wrapping and free delivery anywhere in Canada. QSP also offers a free e-card service. A gift of a magazine subscription is like giving a gift every month for an entire year!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

FOOD DRIVE

We will be running a Food And Toiletries Drive beginning this Wednesday, November 30. It will run for 1 week. Students may bring their donated items down and place them under the tree in the front hall.

All non-perishable items will be accepted, but there has been a special request for allergen-free foods.





Festive Shop at Regency

We are pleased to announce the return of Festive Shop on **December 7th and 8th**. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to get in the holiday spirit & shop for each of their family members.

We are asking for YOUR help. Please take this opportunity to re-gift or clear out unwanted, new or gently used items you think other moms, dads and siblings of all ages would appreciate, the more variety the better!

The Festive Shop will be held in the

small gym on December 7th and 8th. Each class will be invited to the shop to choose and purchase their gifts while volunteers will assist and gift wrap them and there so the students can bring their holiday gifts home to their family.

Once again we will be pleased to open the Festive Shop to parents and staff after school on December 9th once all children have had the opportunity to choose their gifts.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION EARLY 2017



Kindergarten registration will commence early to mid January, 2017 for the 2017-2018 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2017, 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 us.

Hot Lunch Snow Days

In the event of a SNOW Day (either bus or school cancellation), the Wednesday Hot Lunch program will be postponed. It will be delivered to students on the next fully operational school day. Please note that no pizza or sub lunches will be served on Snow Days.

Inclement Weather

The imminent arrival of winter reminds us of the possibility of snow days. The School Board cancels bus transportation should they believe that it is unsafe to send them out on the roads and if a long wait in the cold could put students at risk. On these days the schools remain open in order for our students to have a safe place to stay during the day.

Our teachers who are able to get to school provide programs for our students, although modified. We do not support students phoning their parents in order to go home once they have arrived.

Please be reminded that the schools remain open and we will care for your child/ren.

Beginning in December all bus cancellation, inclement weather and school closure information will be available on our school website and Board website.

If you make arrangements to bring your child/ren to school please remember to make arrangements for them to be picked up also.

A reminder that during inclement weather the following radio stations will be notified of any bus cancellations:

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following @YRDSB and @YCDSB on twitter.

CJCL 590 AM; CKDX 88.5 FM; 640 AM; JACK 92.5 FM; NEWS 680 AM; CHAY 93.1 FM; CJBC 860 AM; CJEZ 97.3 FM; CFRB 1010 AM; CHFI 98.1 FM; CHUM 1050 AM; CHUM 104.5 FM; CKFM 99.9 FM; CHIN 1540 AM; CJBC 860 AM; CBC 99.1 FM.

TELEVISION

CITY TV, CTV Barrie, CTV Toronto CP24, GLOBAL NEWS





Helping Hands Food Drive

We will be running a Food And Toiletries Drive beginning this Wednesday, November 30. It will run for 1 week. Students may bring their donated items down and place them under the tree in the front hall.

All non-perishable items will be accepted, but there has been a special request for allergen-free foods.



School Board Policy Regarding the Clearing of Snow and Ice



What are the main snow/ice clearance responsibilities that are to be undertaken by Caretaking staff?

The main responsibility of Caretakers is to maintain sidewalks, stairs, ramps, and entrance ways that are not serviced by contractors, as well as any defined paths or patches to accommodate students with mobility issues and/or general safety.

Maintenance by Caretakers includes snow blowing and/or shoveling, as well as the distribution of an "ice

melt" product or sand.

Caretakers can use "ice melt" and/or pickled sand to address *small* ice covered areas in the parking lot or other paved areas that may pose a risk to staff or students. Caretakers must not use "ice melt" and/or pickled sand on any grassed areas.

Can Caretaking staff be asked to clear the entire paved playground area?

No. Such an undertaking puts both the Caretaking staff and equipment at risk. Snow blowing a few access paths to the field area and/or using salt/sand to create paths are more viable practices. Also, "ice melt" and/or pickled sand may be used to address small ice-covered areas.

Can Caretaking staff be asked to salt or sand an entire paved playground area?

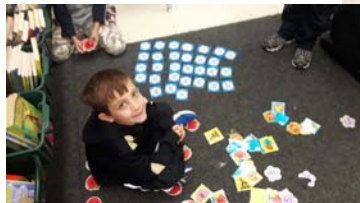
No. Salting of this magnitude creates a number of environmental concerns. Sand, when tracked into the building, acts as an abrasive on floors and can do significant damage

Please also note that if a path is cleared from The Town of Aurora Park land that leads to our school the school does not maintain the upkeep of it. If you are using this path to get to school please use with care.





In and Around Regency



Makerspace





School Council

Our last School Council meeting was Wednesday Nov 16. Thank you to everyone who came out! We take a break in December and our next meeting will be Wednesday Jan 18, 2017.

Regency had a great turnout to the Dr. Karyn Gordon workshop, "Motivating Kids & Teens". Parents gave positive feedback on the speaker, the content, and the evening as a whole. Thank you to Sandy Kennedy for organizing the event bringing another great workshop to the parent community.

Alison Edwards gave us a presentation on a physical activity program for students K - 6 called BOKS (build our kids' success) for which Regency can sign up for.

Our fundraising is in great shape! Carol McLeod, Treasurer, shared some of the highlights: QSP, hot dog lunches, frozen yogurt are exceeding targets.

We reviewed a new sign up program (signup genius) for recruiting volunteers. It was recently tested for salad day with good reviews all around.

Panzerotti Day Nov 29: a well-loved FREE lunch for all students & staff. Thank you to Lauren Malowney, Parent Lead, for all of your hard work in organizing this very popular lunch!

Festive Shop is Dec 7 & 8. This year, Leah Clark - Chair Fundraising, broadened the call for donations and advertised the event around the community by way of flyers. A great team of volunteers are ready to help students choose and wrap their special gifts! A BIG thank you goes to Leah Clark for organizing the 3rd annual festive shop and bringing her enthusiasm and professionalism every step of the way!

I would like to thank Principal, Lisa Leoni for her continued support and collaboration in working with School Council. Ms. Leoni constantly reminds us, as volunteers, what a privilege it is to be a volunteer and to embrace our roles and the positive contribution we make to the school. Thank you to all School Council members: Carol, Kim, Leah, Jill, Heather, Judy, Rodney, Kathy, Sandy, Sophia, Maryam, Diana and Pat for your ideas, contributions, and volunteering of your time.

Parents, please do not hesitate to reach out to School Council members with your feedback, suggestions, ideas etc. We appreciate it very much. Happy Holidays to you and your families!

Joan Lash

Chair, School Council

