



# Regency Acres P.S.

York Region District School Board



## From the Office of Regency Acres

The school winter break is fast approaching. The break begins Monday, Dec. 21st, 2015 and ends Friday, January 1st, 2016. It's an exciting month at Regency Acres as we prepare for the following events:

**Festive Shop on Dec. 8th and 9th** (a flyer was sent home). All proceeds will help fund parent/family and community engagement opportunities such as charitable opportunities for students to champion and in which to be involved.

Regency will be supporting the Aurora Food Party again this year. A **Food Drive** campaign will run from **Dec. 10 - Dec. 18**. You will also notice a "Helping Hands" spirit chain in our front entrance. Take time to read the student messages about giving to others.

The **Winter Concert** will be held on **Wed., Dec. 16 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.** The grade 7 and 8 band members will be performing. This is a school-wide event as there will be other grades performing songs. During this evening, we will be having a **Bake Sale in the small gym** (pre and post concert). As well, there will be pre-concert reception from 6:00-6:45 and a post-concert reception from 8:00-8:30 p.m.

There are still traffic and congestion concerns with our Kiss and Ride with parents pulling U-Turns in the morning. This poses a safety threat and ties up traffic. We encourage parents to use Kiss and Ride appropriately. Just a heads up to parents using the back parking lot (beside the Seniors' home) to drop off - as the winter approaches and with snow piles, it will be more congested.

Report cards for Gr. 1-8 students will go home on December 11<sup>th</sup>. This year, parent-teacher interviews were on a "needs basis". The teachers set up interviews with parents of students whose academic progress was at-risk.

We would like to extend our wishes to all families who are celebrating, vacationing, or just taking time to enjoy the break. Please note that school will resume Monday, January 4th, 2016.

See you next year.

## Message from Our Trustee

It is that time of year when our schools brim with energy and excitement for the many diverse celebrations taking place across our region. I am always happy to join the festivities happening in our schools and appreciate the efforts of our students, staff and community members to bring the holiday season alive. As we wind down 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and guardians for their support of our students and staff over the past few months. A school community is only as strong and welcoming as the people who make up that community. Our students, staff and community members have continued to demonstrate respect, character and commitment in their work and interactions over the last few months. As a trustee, I consider myself very fortunate to work with such supportive community and staff members.

On behalf of all of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday season.

All the best for 2016!

### Why Winter is the best

- Hot chocolate ☕
- Hot tea ☕
- Hot drinks in general ☕
- Big Sweaters 🧶
- SNOW ❄️
- Snuggling in front of a fire 🔥
- Knitted hats 🧢
- Holidays 🎄



### Principal:

Lisa Leoni  
Phone: 905-727-9811  
Fax: 905-727-5109  
E-mail: [regency.acres@yrdsb.ca](mailto:regency.acres@yrdsb.ca)  
School Website: <http://regencyacres.yrdsb.ca/>  
123 Murray Dr. Aurora ON

### Trustee:

Peter Adams-Luchowski  
Phone: (416) 906-0937

### Superintendent:

Becky Green  
Phone: (905) 884-4477



## From the Office of Regency Acres

Dear Regency Families,

One of our Regency values is GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP. *Growing to become a responsible member of a global community* are the words that our students wrote when they were asked to think about what they would like to see as the school's commitments. This sentence is reflected in our *Regency Pledge* (co-created by every student in our school). Our pledge is our school's touchstone and is proudly displayed in our front entrance (see attached). Our staff spend a tremendous amount of time and work, daily, to promote respect for others and to encourage students to reflect on their impact on others and their influence in the world. We have many socially-conscious students, who want to help make this world a better place. Critical thinking skills are an important focus at school in every grade - they are seen as important skills for students to develop in order to evaluate situations, problem-solve and generate new ideas. One way of developing critical thinking skills is by analyzing media texts (ads, posters, brochures, magazines, news publications...).

Recent tragic events that have been highlighted in the news and on the radio are capturing the attention of the world. Many of our students are aware and some have questions about what they see and hear. Therefore, I feel a strong sense of obligation and responsibility to share my thoughts and offer supports for staff, students and parents.

Tragic events can exacerbate many reactions (positive and negative) and it is important that we take time to look after ourselves, our staff and our students. It is also important to recognize that our students will express their feelings in different ways. As teachers and parents, we can help children understand the importance of treating all people with dignity and not judging entire *groups* of people for the actions of a few. Most importantly, it is crucial that adults model compassion and acceptance of differences in their words and behaviour.

I hope the following key messages can serve as a resource for you (adapted from the National Association of School Psychologists, 2015):

- ***Groups of people should not be judged by the actions of a few.*** It is wrong to condemn an entire group of people by association of religion, race, homeland, affiliations, or even proximity. No one likes to be blamed or threatened for the actions of others.
- ***All people deserve to be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity.*** Certainly, individuals proven to be guilty of a crime should be punished. No matter how angry we are over these terrible crimes, our laws ensure fair and equitable treatment for everyone.
- ***We are strong because of our diversity.*** We respect individual differences. Those differences in culture, religion, ideas, ethnicity, and other forms of identity have contributed to the strength and richness of our schools and our community.
- ***Learn about the diverse communities and faiths represented in your area.*** Knowledge debunks myths about other people and can humanize other cultures. In school, have children share information about their family or cultural customs to reinforce the notion that all people have special beliefs and rituals.

Lets join together to make a difference. Difference starts with us so let's stand proud beside a "Canadian" identity that for many has meant a place of opportunity and new beginnings. Regency Acres as well as our local and broader school community receives new families each year and this acceptance of cultural and linguistic diversity only strengthens our landscape. December is a month where many students show a special spirit by giving *to others*. We also encourage students by saying: **"Take the time to get to know someone new, someone different than you"**.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Leoni





## Holiday Concert

Wednesday, December 16  
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 Wednesday, December 16th 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 any-time during the day on December 16 or sent with your child to school. Please deliver by 5:30 p.m. at the latest so we have time to set up.

Please contact Karyn Clegg if you are able to help out with this tasty fundraiser!

[karynsleepclegg@gmail.com](mailto:karynsleepclegg@gmail.com)

Thank you for your support!



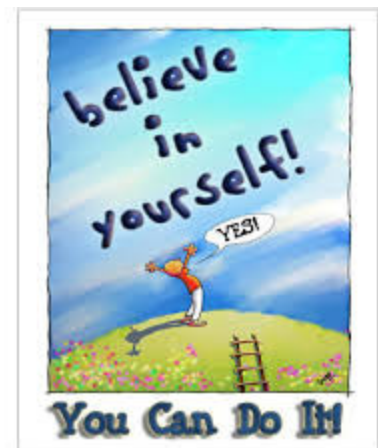
## QSP

### *A Message from QSP.*

Go SHOPPING at [www.QSP.ca](http://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 SUPPORTING OUR  
FAMILY READING MAGAZINE  
FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN!





## Festive Shop at Regency

We are pleased to announce the return of Festive Shop on **December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>**. 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 room 11

on December 8th and 9th. Each class will be invited to the shop to choose and purchase their gifts while volunteers will assist and gift wrap then and there so the students can bring their holiday gifts home to their family.

**NEW:** This year we will be pleased to open the Festive Shop to parents and staff after school on December 9<sup>th</sup> once all children have had the opportunity to choose their gifts.



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION EARLY 2016



Kindergarten registration will commence early to mid January, 2016 for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Children who turn four or five years old during 2016, 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.

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.

## Regency Spirit Wear



Order forms will sent home in January for Regency Spirit wear. You will be able to order Shirts, Shorts and Sweat-shirts.

## 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.

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

**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.**

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





## Helping Hands Food Drive

Many Aurora families rely on the Aurora Food Pantry throughout the year but especially at this time of year. We, at Regency, have always done whatever we could to help the food pantry meet these needs. This year is no exception. Our annual food drive will run from December 10 to December 18.

We are asking for non-perishable food items to be donated to the boxes in the front foyer.

Each time a student donates food, they

may pick up a cut out hand, write their name on it and place it on the board which will be on the wall.

Thank you for your help.



## Healthy Active Living/ Healthy Cart



Jingle Bell Walk and Walking Wednesdays at Regency Acres P.S.

According to the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, "Physical activity is vital to maintaining health, yet many people continue to lead sedentary lives. Perhaps it is because they think that exercise must be difficult and time-consuming in order to be beneficial. In fact, you don't have to train like a triathlete to reap the benefits. If you are able, simply walking to the store or taking the stairs instead of the elevator can make a lot of difference."



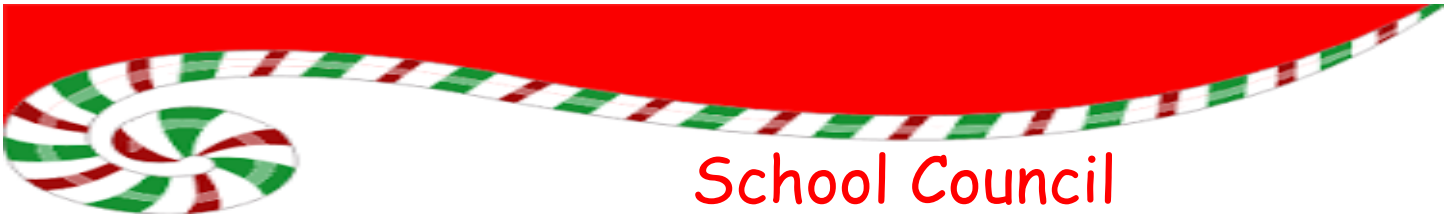
On December 9<sup>th</sup> 2015, Regency will be launching Walking Wednesdays with a Jingle Bell Walk! We encourage students to incorporate physical activity into their daily routine and use an alternative form of transportation that gets their heart pumping (ride a bike, walk, scooter). Our Healthy School Team members will be outside waiting to greet everyone.





# In and Around Regency





## School Council

Season's Greetings from your School Council! As the year draws to a close we have already accomplished so much and are very excited for the events planned in 2016!

The Money Mentors workshop was terrific! Who knew learning about finances could be so entertaining? Please plan to attend future workshops, they are no-cost and a great parent/guardian resource.

Some of the events coming up include:

Helping Hands, Festive Shop, Bake Sale during winter concert (December)

Movie Night (January)

Valentine's Event (February)

Read-a-thon (March)

Bag2School (April)

Pop-Up Grad Shop

Spring Fundraiser

More details on these and many other events will be available as they get closer.

As always, the minutes from the monthly council meeting are available on the school website.

Please remember, council members work hard to represent your voice. We are always available to listen to your ideas/concerns.

On behalf of the entire School Council, we wish you all the very best this Holiday Season!

*Joan Lash and Lynn Pearson*

Co-Chairs, Regency School Council