

Y R D S B

# Rick Hansen Public School

April 2013

490 Mavrinac Boulevard, Aurora, ON, L4G 0J6  
905-841-6225

Steve Gardner, Principal

Kathy Williams, Elementary Office Administrative Assistant

Yolanda Kingsbury, Office Secretary

Gayle Brocklebank-Vincent Superintendent of Schools (905) 884-4775

Peter Adams-Luchowski, Trustee (416) 906-0937



## Administrator's Message

Our website is: <http://www.rickhansen.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>

Spring is in the air! It was wonderful to hear about everyone's March Break adventures.

We are so excited to be able to invite you to our Community Official Opening Ceremony which is set to take place on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 am. Our Big Idea of *Making a Difference* will be alive and well as our students perform.

In addition to the performances, we will be hosting a Gallery Walk for parents and community members to see all of the wonderful things that RHPS students have been involved in at various points in the year. The Gallery will take place in the main foyer, multi-purpose room and Learning Commons. This will be self-directed tour with some students taking on the role of ambassador guides.

In the afternoon, we will be hosting a ceremony for our students, invited dignitaries and invited guests, and as such, our parking lot will be closed to vehicular traffic beginning at 12:00, as each parking spot will be demarcated with a pylon indicating a reserved location. We are asking that families please either walk or park on neighbouring side streets when picking children up for lunch or after school.

Due to space, we are unable to accommodate parents for the afternoon session (and hence the reason we are hosting the morning ceremony) but we are fortunate to have the services of the YRDSB's Media Production Unit. This team will professionally videotape the afternoon session for us and provide a final edited copy of the ceremony for families to view. As with any videotaping by the Board, signed parental consent is required. We have sent home with all of our students, a form for parents to sign, permitting your child to be videotaped in the school performance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Gardner this week. We are requesting that parents please sign the consent form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher no later than Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Fire regulations dictate the seating capacity of our gymnasium, and, as a result, we are initially only able to offer 2 tickets per family to the Community Opening Ceremony which will begin at 9:30 am on the 18<sup>th</sup>. We are asking if each family can please complete the ticket request form that were given to students and return it to the school no later than Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> (one form per family). There is a section on the form that allows families to indicate, that if there are additional tickets available, that they are requesting more (to a maximum of 2 additional tickets). We will provide all tickets to families by April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Kind Regards,

S. Gardner — Principal

## Important Dates:

- ⇒ April 3—Hansen Walk to School Day
- ⇒ April 4—Pizza Lunch
- ⇒ April 5—Breadbox Theatre—FDK-Grade 2
- ⇒ April 9—School Council Meeting—7:00 pm
- ⇒ April 18—Community Official Opening of RHPS—9:30 am
- ⇒ April 26—School Spirit Day—PJ day
- ⇒ April 30—Pride Assembly - COURAGE (Mr. Martyn and Mr. Carr's class hosting) 11:45 am

## CHARACTER Matters at Rick Hansen

April's Character trait is COURAGE

### Courage

We face challenges directly. We seek help from others when necessary. We do the right thing even when it may be unpopular. We are able to recognize risks and danger and do not take unwise risks to gain the approval of those around us.

Together we can work towards ensuring that we all exemplify this important character trait.

During the month of April, we will be learning about, and celebrating Courage.

In the final week of March, we held our monthly Pride Assembly. This was an opportunity to recognize students in K to Grade 8 for their dedication in demonstrating actions that represented the character trait.

Our wonderful Grade 1's and 2's from Ms. Gray's class, hosted the March Pride assembly. We are incredibly proud of their performances. Their video presentation and dance routine was spectacular! What a powerful message it provided. Congratulations is extended to Ms. Gray's class.

We look forward to April's Pride Assembly, set to take place on Tuesday, April 30th at 11:45 am. Our Grade 4, 5 and 6's from Mr. Martyn and Mr. Carr's class will be hosting. As always, parents are invited and encouraged to attend.

Congratulations to the following students for showing February's Character Trait:

### Initiative

Ariyana- Ms. Garnett/Mugford

Naureen— Mrs. Merkley/  
Applebaum

Veena—Ms. Robertson/Taebpour

Kenneth—Mrs. Howard

Hayden-Mrs. Teel

Amisha—Ms. Gray

Jonathan—Mr. Yoshida

Olivia—Ms. Leung

Jenna—Mrs. Lummiss

Nathan—Mr. Martyn

Donyie—Mr. Carr

Paige—Mr. DeGirolamo

Emily—Mrs. Foster



Dear Parents and Families,

Do you have gently used children's books that your family has outgrown? Would you like to see those books in the hands of children who do not have their own books?



**The Children's Book Bank** is a charitable organization whose mission is to provide gently used books and literacy support to the children of low-income families in Canada. The first book bank location is at 350 Berkeley Street in Toronto. The Children's Book Bank is aimed at children up to Grade Six and operates like a children's bookstore, though the books are available to the children free of charge. In addition to supplying free books to the children, The Children's Book Bank also offers informal literacy support such as readings and story hours. The Children's Book Bank sustains its inventory of books by accepting charitable donations of gently used children's books.

**The students and staff at Rick Hansen Public School aim to make a difference everyday!** One way to make a difference is to support charities and make donations to help others in need. **The Kindergarten department at Rick Hansen Public School is therefore running a book drive from now until April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 so that we can support The Children's Book Bank of Toronto.**

If you are interested in participating in the book drive, you may send your **gently used** children's books to school. We will collect your generous donations and then deliver all of the books to The Children's Book Bank after April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Please take care to ensure that the donated books are **gently used** and are **suitable for children up to grade six**. No teen novels or adult books please.

For further information on The Children's Book Bank, you may visit their website at [www.childrensbookbank.com](http://www.childrensbookbank.com)

Thank you for your interest and support!





## **It's Spring!**

### **Let's Green a Tree!!!**

Dear Parents,

Rick Hansen Public School is celebrating Spring by greening a tree! We will kick off our Greening Tree Activity on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Participating students who walk, bike, take the bus or park and walk a block will receive a green leaf to add to the large tree in our front foyer.

For each additional week in April, students will receive a blank white leaf from their teacher if they have walked, biked or taken the bus to school that week. The leaves can be decorated in any shade of green and added to the tree.

Join us for the walk and join us for the fun greening a tree!



**Parents' support to the Walking Wednesday Program at Rick Hansen has been crucial to the success of our program!**

If you have any questions or suggestions,  
or would like to be part of the Walking Wednesday working group,  
please contact Principal Steven Gardner or our parent champions, Ms. Lueloff and Ms. Barkla

## Rick Hansen Public School Staff List

### Homeroom Teachers

Mr. J. Carr—Grade 5/6  
 G. DeGirolamo—Grade 6/7  
 R. Foster—Grade 7/8  
 C. Gray—Grade 1/2  
 A. Howard—Grade 1  
 S. Leung—Grade 3  
 J. Lummiss—Grade 3/4  
 J. Garnett/D. Mugford— JK/SK  
 Ian Martyn— Grade 4/5  
 C. Merkley/B. Applebaum—JK/SK  
 S. Robertson/N. Taebpour— JK/SK  
 M. Yoshida— Grade 2

French  
 K. Yungblut  
 Music  
 I. Legros  
 Reading Recovery  
 G. Mackay-Johnstone  
 Literacy Teacher/Library  
 M. King  
 Special Education Staff  
 J. Kennedy, C. Teel, K. Au  
 Educational Assistants  
 L. Britten, M., C. May, P. Mundinger,  
 E. Kouchani-Ramezani.

Office Staff - K. Williams (EOAA)  
 Y. Kingsbury (Secretary)

Caretaking Staff  
 K. Lacroix, S. Agnew, B. Robertson



### *School Day Organization*

#### *Kindergarten to Grade 8*

9:10 am - 3:40 pm  
 9:10-11:10 - Instructional Time  
 11:10-11:40 - Recess  
 11:40-1:00 - Instructional Time  
**1:00—2:00 - Lunch**  
 2:00-3:40 - Instructional Time  
**3:40 - Dismissal**

### *Professional Activity & Training Days - No School*

Friday, September 28, 2012  
 Monday, October 22, 2012  
 Friday, November 23, 2012  
 Friday, January 18, 2013  
 Friday, February 1, 2013  
 Friday, February 15, 2013  
 Friday, June 7, 2013  
 Friday, June 28, 2013

### Rick Hansen PS—School Council 2012-13

Karen Boms Co-Secretary  
 Kiran Bisnauth Treasurer  
 Michael Corniffe Co-Chair  
 Beth Christie Co-Chair  
 Martine Kolm Member  
 Jennifer MacEachern Co-Secretary

### Meeting Dates

October 9, 2012  
 November 13, 2012  
 December 11, 2012  
 January 15, 2013  
 February 12, 2013  
 March 19, 2013  
 April 9, 2013  
 May 14, 2013  
 June 11, 2013

### *School Holidays*

Labour Day	Monday, September 3, 2012
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 8, 2012
Christmas/ Winter Break	Monday, December 24, 2012
Family Day	Friday, January 4, 2013
Mid-Winter Break	Monday, February 18, 2013
Good Friday	Monday, March 11, 2013
Easter Monday	Friday, March 15, 2013
Victoria Day	Friday, March 29, 2013
	Monday, April 1, 2013
	Monday, May 20, 2013