

R.L. Graham P.S.

Principal – J. Macpherson
Vice Principal- S. Dickson

By Phone:(905) 476-9295
By email: r.l.graham.ps@yrdsb.ca

By Fax:(905) 476-8598



Superintendent – D. Hawkins
(905) 895-5155

Trustee – Nancy Elgie
nancy.elgie@yrdsb.ca

December's Character Matters- EMPATHY

Administrators' Message

As 2016 comes to a close, we'd like to take this opportunity to share some of the great things that are happening at RL Graham.

Our dedicated staff continues to focus on mathematics while maintaining the highest levels of literacy instruction. Staff has been using Learning Goals and Success Criteria as a means to engage and include students in the learning process, while keeping learning skills and work habits at the forefront of all our work. We all welcome the opportunity to hone our mathematics skills as we explore what it means to be a 21st century learner.

Our extra-curricular activities are now in full swing. Our students have participated in games, choir, volleyball, cross country, Mathletes and other enriching events. They have the opportunity to be leaders in the school as part of our newly formed student council, the upcoming green bin program, and through community supports like our holiday food and toy drive. They have represented our school in sports activities and field trips to many different locations and are looking forward to the opportunities to come. We are always proud of our students as they represent us positively.

Our School Council is comprised of an enthusiastic group of parents who are making a contribution to our school in many ways. The first major fundraiser of the year was a huge success and the proceeds will support new technology and other much appreciated enrichment programs like dance week and Jungle sports. We thank them for their tireless dedication to our school.

We are looking forward to the New Year, and wish you a happy and relaxing holiday.

Jane Macpherson
Principal

Susan Dickson
Vice Principal

Message from Trustee Nancy Elgie

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.

2017-2018 ~ Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten registration for the 2017-2018 school year will begin on Friday, January 20th, 2017. 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. If you have questions about registration, please contact the office at 905-476-9295.



French Immersion—registration begins January 20th, 2017

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Keswick Public School on January 19th, 2017 at 7 p.m. FI registration will begin January 20th, 2017. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2017, and wishing to enrol 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 the designated FI program location to register after January 20th to February 10th. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

Santa Claus Parade

This year, RL Graham participated in the Santa Claus parade. Although the weather was a little soggy, everyone had a great time. We'd like to thank the students, staff and families that supported the parade with decorations, participation and enthusiastic support. Special thanks to Mr. Dale for providing the trailer for the float.





Holiday Concert

Our Holiday Concert will take place on **Thursday, December 15th from 6:00-8:15 pm in the school**. There will be baked goods for sale in the staffroom. We will also be collecting toys, hats, mitts and food donations throughout the month of December. If you would like to contribute items for the bake sale, please contact Staci Bassie at stacibassie@yahoo.ca

Kids Holiday Bazaar

The RLG School Advisory Council is proud to announce that we will be holding the 2nd annual KIDS HOLIDAY BAZAAR **for one day only** on December 8th. Each student will have an opportunity to “shop” independently for gifts for parents, caregivers, siblings, etc. for the holidays. This event will give students a great sense of pride as they are able to buy these gifts without a guardian present and help folks in need at the same time. The gifts will be nominal in price. Between \$0.50 - \$5 and Canadian Tire money is accepted at par. All proceeds go to charity.

Student Council Holiday Spirit Events

Our RL Graham Student Council has a fun filled week of spirit events leading up to the winter holidays. The list of spirit events includes:

- Monday, December 19th – Festive Sweater Day
- Tuesday, December 20th – Red, White and Green Day
- Wednesday, December 21st - Festive Hat and Hair Day
- Thursday, December 22nd – Sparkle and Jingle Day
- Friday, December 23rd – Breakfast Club with Santa and Pajama Day

Winner, Winner Turkey Dinner!!

All students will be given a ballot to win their family a free turkey dinner. Winners will be notified by December 19th and Turkey dinners will be available for pick-up in the lunchroom after 1:00 pm on December 21st. Winners, please arrange to pick up your turkey dinners by 5:00 p.m. at the latest. We would like to thank Steve Malatesta from Natures Vine Produce and Justin's No Frills for their tremendous generosity.

Volleyball

The Intermediate Girls and Boys Volleyball teams worked very hard through the months of September through to November learning volleyball skills and hosting two local tournaments. Both teams did very well in the area competition with the girl's team taking the Area Tournament! Everyone did their very best and is looking forward to representing Graham again next year. Go Gators!!

Cold Weather is Here!



The colder weather is here and we'd like to remind you to be sure to have students wear coats, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens or gloves and scarves. You may also want to send a change of clothing as students love to play in the snow. Students will be outside unless the temperature is extremely cold so please ensure they're well prepared!



Lost and Found Items

We have lots of lost clothing in our lost and found box. We will be laying out the clothing for two weeks before the holidays so please check. Unclaimed clothing will be sent to charity before the holidays.



Bus Cancellation Information

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- ☐ A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- ☐ **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.**

Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.

Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM
1540 AM	1580 AM				

88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM
95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM
101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	107.1 FM

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

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

Please note that school bus charters will not operate when home to school bus service is cancelled.

Peanut Allergies - Quick Facts

- Peanuts are a member of the legume family, not related to tree nuts. A person can be allergic to peanuts and not be allergic to tree nuts, or they can be allergic to both.
- Peanut allergy is one of the most common food allergies. It is considered a priority allergen by Health Canada

Other Names for Peanuts

Arachide
Arachis oil
Beer nuts
Cacahouète/cacahouette/cachuète
Goober nuts, goober peas
Kernels
Mandelonas (a nut-flavoured peanut confection)
Nut meats
Valencias

Please read all labels carefully and help us keep RL Graham a nut safe environment. For more information about food allergens, visit [Food Allergy Canada](http://FoodAllergyCanada.ca).

Healthy Schools Committee Welcomes You to Jingle All the Way!

In the next few weeks, you will hear a great deal of holiday music. Why not put on your favourite festive gear (hats, Reindeer antlers, jingle bells) and jingle all the way to school. Or perhaps you are walking down the street to get a slice of Tooney Tuesday Pizza. Where-ever you go, your Healthy Schools Committee is encouraging you to get outside and walk!

R.L. Graham School Council Executive – 2016/17







Chair:	Corinne D'Angelo
Treasury Liaison:	Staci Bassie
Secretary:	Lee Canavan

Next School Council Meeting: Thursday, January 12th, 6:30-8:00 p.m.



2016!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			30 Day 3 PIZZA DAY 	1 Day 4 5:30-7PM QS P PICK UP	2 Day 5	3
4 FOOD AND TOY DRIVE ALL WEEK UNTIL DEC. 15 →	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7 Day 3 SUB DAY 	8 Day 4 HOLIDAY BAZAAR FOR STUDENTS Purchase holiday presents with loonies and Can. Tire Money	9 Day 5 Intermediates to Les Misérables	10  Les Misérables
11	12 Day 1	13 Day 2	14 Day 3 Choir to Roxborough Retirement Residence Candy Grahams for sale until Friday! PIZZA DAY 	15 Day 4 6-8pm HOLIDAY CONCERT and BAKE SALE	16 Day 5	17 
18 CAROL SINGING IN THE GYM ALL WEEK! →	19 Festive sweater day	20 Red White & Green Day	21 Festive Hat and Hair Sub Day  Community classes to the Mall	22 Sparkle and Jingle Day	23 Breakfast program with Santa and Pajama Day! Delivery of Candy Grahams	24
25 H	26 O	27 L	28 I	29 D	30 A	31 Y
BACK TO SCHOOL ON JANUARY 8, 2017						