



# Ross Doan Public School

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is always a wonder how quickly time seems to be moving especially as we begin to look forward to the winter holidays. You will now have received your child's Progress Report. We encourage you to continue to ask your child about the new understandings that they are developing and set learning goals together. This will support our efforts as we work with students to set learning targets and identify success criteria for the many tasks that they engage with in order to identify meaning and purpose for daily activities. When you are appreciating the work that is displayed on the bulletin boards in our school, notice the Learning Target that was identified for the work that was produced and ask your child about the learning that took place in order to produce their product.

It's been an exciting November filled with learning and recognition of the many factors that impact who we are as citizens of this world. Corporal Sung joined us for our Remembrance Day assembly. His message, as well as the performances by our students, reminded us all of the need to advocate for peace and to honour the efforts of those who sacrificed their lives to allow us the democracy, liberty, and freedom that we experience here in Canada today.

### Administrative Staff

#### Principal

Mrs. Bernadette Smith

#### Office Staff

Mrs. Cathy Eden

Ms. Rose Kipling

Phone: 905-884-4022

Fax: 905-884-4025

[www.rossdoan.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.rossdoan.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

#### Superintendent

Mrs. Karen Friedman

Phone: 905-884-4477

#### Trustee

Ms. Carol Chan

### Daily Schedule

Entry Bell	8:55 a.m.
Instructional Time	9:00-10:40 a.m.
Recess	10:40-11:10
Instructional Time	11:10-12:50 p.m.
Lunch	12:50-1:50 p.m.
Instructional Time	12:50 - 3:30 pm
Dismissal	3:30 pm.




Hannah Alper, one of our grade 4 students, launched our *We Create Change* campaign. From November 12 – December 12 we will be collecting pennies! Every \$25 raised will provide clean water for one person for life! Read more about this initiative <http://www.freethechildren.com/get-involved/campaigns/we-create-change/> We are so excited that Hannah was an invited guest at We Day – Waterloo. Read all about at her experience at her blog [www.callmehannah.ca](http://www.callmehannah.ca)

To kick off Bully Prevention and Awareness Week, Lil Jaxe, a victim of bullying because of his severe stuttering when he speaks, shared how he found his voice in rap. When he raps, his stuttering disappears. We were so pleased to share our learning with students as Roselawn P.S. Our experience with Lil Jaxe was captured by *The Liberal*. Read the Thursday, November 14 article at the following link



<http://www.yorkregion.com/news/article/1536790--stutterer-raps-out-anti-bully-message>



Character Trait

COURAGE

Our School Council has been busy as usual with several fundraising efforts. Popcorn sales are happening every Friday (\$2 per Kernels bag); the enticing Raffle Baskets that were assembled by members of our school council through your donations were a big hit once again with our school community, and our Fundscrip fundraiser is up and running. Find a message from members of our school council at the following YouTube link to learn more <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72buWCXz3q4>



School Goal

TIDY UP!

On behalf of the staff at Ross Doan, I would like to wish you and your family a happy and healthy New Year, filled with peace, love, and joy. Happy holidays!

## Literacy News

The instructional strategy this month is "determining importance". Children read texts to determine what is important vs. what is interesting information. They decide what the main ideas are and what the author's message is to help them understand what they are reading.

"Learning is a matter of sifting, sorting, selecting, ingesting and then digesting the most important morsel." Maya Angelou

### Determining Importance

When is your child using this strategy?

Your child is using this strategy when he can identify clues, words and phrases the author provides that could signal importance. They can reflect on the material as they continue to relate to the sorting out information that does not meet that purpose. They can retell and summarize as they read and recall key words and concepts.

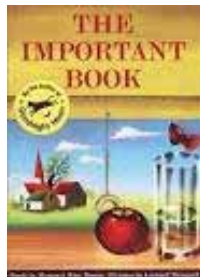
### Parents

When reading to your child share with them your thoughts and questions.

- This part is really important to remember...
- I think this part means...
- A question I still have is...
- This is interesting but what seems to be more important is...
- Look at facts, charts, graphs, diagrams, headings, glossary, index, table of contents in non fiction books
- Visit the public library and read books to your child while focusing on what is important

Here are some book suggestions:

- The Important Book  
by Margaret Wise
- Chrysanthemum  
by Kevin Henkes
- Lily's Purple Plastic Purse  
by Kevin Henkes



Ross Doan's "Ambassadors Club" recently met SK - grade 4 students who are new to Ross Doan this year to officially welcome them



to our school. Our student ambassadors who represent all of the languages spoken at our school presented our newest students with "Welcome Kits, specially created by our ambassadors, that included a Welcome Bookmark, pencil, eraser and other school items, as well as a hand-made tag with the word "Welcome" in each student's first language. Our student ambassadors plan to continue their new friendships as well as meet with other new students as they arrive at Ross Doan during the school year. Thanks to our School Council for their support of this initiative!



### Daily Reading with Your Child

It is essential that your child read with and to you everyday. Just twenty minutes a day reading aloud with young children strengthens relationships, encourages listening and language skills, promotes attention and curiosity, and establishes a strong reading foundation. These skills are essential for success in school and in life. (Children's Reading Foundation).

TumbleBooks are a great way to engage your child in reading in an interactive and fun way. Ross Doan Public School subscribes to the *TumbleBook Library* so students can participate at home and at school.

[www.tumblebooklibrary.com](http://www.tumblebooklibrary.com)

Username: rossdoan

Password: books

## Positive Climate Corner

### Stand Up Against Bullying

The past month we have done a lot of work around bullying prevention. This is an important topic for us all, and is a conversation that we will continue throughout the year. As a school we will be taking the pledge together to put an end to bullying. Stay tuned for more information!

### Holiday Food Train

As we enter the holiday season, it is important we remember all we can do to support our community. This year we have partnered with the York Region Police to join their Holiday Heroes campaign. The campaign collects food, toiletries, new toys and new clothes for those in need. Our drive will run from December 3<sup>rd</sup>-December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please send in any appropriate items to support the Holiday Heroes campaign, and our community!



## Healthy Schools

### Just Dance!

The weather is definitely getting cooler, which limits our time to play outdoors. Why not get some exercise indoors and have fun at the same time! Many of our students really enjoy the game, Just Dance, available on video game consoles, such as the Wii, Xbox 360, but there are many videos uploaded on Youtube as well. Just go to Youtube and search Just Dance and many dance-a-long videos will show up. Get dancing and have some fun!



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## French Immersion Accommodation Plan

YRDSB recently completed a year-long [review](#) of the French as a Second Language (FSL) programs, including Core French and French Immersion (FI). One of the outcomes of this review was a toolkit to address the need for French immersion spaces and allow the Planning department to craft a long-term FI accommodation plan for students across York Region. YRDSB's FI program will be offered in a variety of settings: Dual Track (Grades 1-8), Primary Dual Track (Grades 1-2 or 1-3) and Single Track (Grades 1-8, 2-8, or 3-8). Students may begin the French Immersion program in one location, but continue in a different location. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. The new accommodation plan will provide 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. You can find more information about the program, as well as a [school locator](#), on the [YRDSB website](#). Information sessions for the FI program will take place at *Adrienne Clarkson Public School, 68 Queens College Drive, (905-709-3554)* on *January 23, 2013 at 7 p.m. and registration will take place Feb. 1 – 15, 2013*. 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.



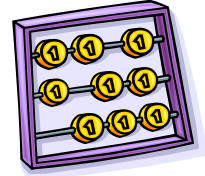
### Bullying Prevention Measures

The York Region District School Board (YRDSB) has launched a new web reporting tool that allows students, parents and community members to report bullying incidents as well as positive behaviours and events related to our students and learning environments. The online tool, called Report It!, is a web button on the YRSB homepage ([www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)) that links to an online form where users report bullying or positive behaviours that are consistent with Character Matters.

The development of this tool is the result of student feedback from an anti-bullying conference held last spring. It is meant for reporting non-emergencies only and deals solely with student issues. Follow-up will be determined by the severity of the incident and may involve sharing information with authorities. Users may submit reports anonymously (although anonymity cannot be absolutely guaranteed).

YRDSB is also asking students, parents, teachers and community members to "Take the Pledge" against bullying. To learn more, click on "The Pledge" image on the YRDSB website or go to [www.ctvbarrie.ca](http://www.ctvbarrie.ca).

### Math Alive!



Our school has embraced a greater focus on the teaching and learning of mathematics and the development of mathematical literacy this year.

Teachers are engaged in a variety of professional development opportunities that focus on the encouragement of critical thinking in mathematics, more specifically through the use of the 3 part math lesson and math workstations.

The 3 part math lesson is comprised of:

- Part 1* – Getting Started and preparing for the learning
- Part 2* – Working on problem solving activities
- Part 3* – Consolidating understanding and practicing skills.

The 5 mathematical strands that we focus on within a school year are the following:

- Number Sense and Numeration
- Measurement
- Geometry and Spatial Sense
- Patterning and Algebra
- Data Management and Probability

How can you support as a parent at home? There is valuable resource full of strategies, information, and ideas specifically for you at the following link:

<http://www.edugains.ca/resources/LNS/ParentResources/ParentGuideNum.pdf>

### NO CHILD WITHOUT

Supported by:

Canadian Medic Alert Foundation, the Lions Clubs of Canada and Government of Canada.

To enroll for a free Medic Alert Bracelet call

1-877-282-5378

Or visit

[www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca)



**HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE  
STARTING DECEMBER 3RD  
WANTED FOOD, TOILETRIES, NEW CLOTHES AND TOYS**



**LUNCH/SCHOOL ASSISTANTS NEEDED**

If you are interested in being a paid lunch assistant and supervise the students during the lunch period on either a full or part-time basis, please contact Mrs. Eden or Mrs. Kipling at 905-884-4022.



Parent Council Meeting  
Tuesday January 8th, 2013  
6 pm



**Word Wizard**

Word Wizard is a unique app that lets kids hear the sounds of letters and words using a talking movable alphabet. Featuring advanced text to speech capabilities, the app can pronounce and spell-check an unlimited number of original words and sentences built using the movable alphabet. Word Wizard also provides spelling practice with a list of more than 1,400 questions and answers, and the best is that you can add your own words to create any spelling quiz, and track the progress of your kids thanks to detailed reports.

















**Garage Band**

Garage Band turns your iPad, into a collection of Touch Instruments and a full-featured recording studio — so you can make music anywhere you go. Play pianos, organs, guitars, drums, and basses. They sound and play like their counterparts, but let you do things you could never do on a real instrument. Enjoy a range of Smart Instruments that make you sound like a pro — even if you've never played a note before. Gather your friends to play and record like a real band with Jam Session. Use the built-in microphone or a guitar to record or capture any performance.



# December 2012

Ross Doan Public School  
 101 Weldrick Rd. West  
 Richmond Hill, ON L4C 3T9  
 Tel: 905-884-4022 - #2 Attendance Line  
 Fax: 905-884-4025  
[www.rossdoan.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.rossdoan.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 SCIENTIST IN SCHOOL GR.3s  DENTAL SCREENING JK,SK,GR.2,GR.4	4   	5 Family Day Concert @ 5pm  LAST DAY  	6   KARATE KIDS	7 PIZZA    LAST DAY FOR ART  	8
9 CHANUKAH  Begins	10	11	12	13   KARATE KIDS	14 PIZZA  	15
16	17 CHARACTER AWARD ASSEMBLY  	18 HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG  	19	20   KARATE KIDS  D A Y	21	22
23	24 <b>NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK</b>	25 Christmas Day  	26	27	28	29
30	31	JANUARY 1st 2013 NEW YEARS DAY			<b>BACK TO SCHOOL MONDAY JANUARY 7TH</b>	

# Ross Doan School Council Newsletter

December 2012

## Your School 2012-2013 Council Representatives

Bernadette Smith - Principal  
Stephanie Signer- Teacher Rep.  
Yvonne Sun - Teacher Rep.  
Ronnie Pearl - Teacher Rep.  
Janice Rayner - Teacher Rep.  
Tanya Dymont - Chair  
Avi Yoffe - Vice Chair  
Johanne Merritt - Treasurer  
Shelley Beaudry - Secretary  
Ginny Brod - Fundraising Chair  
Karen Gaston- Parent Rep.  
Calvin Ni- Parent Rep.  
Smita (Tina) Patel- Parent Rep.  
Ora Goldin- Parent Rep.  
Mojgan Shojaei-Parent Rep  
Norma Laughlin - Community Rep.

## Upcoming Meeting "Tentative" Dates

Tuesday, January 8th, 2013  
Monday, February 4th, 2013  
Tuesday, April 9th, 2013  
Monday, May 13th, 2013  
Tuesday, June 11th, 2013  
Join us from 6:30 - 8:30

Don't forget to read our monthly school newsletter as it will be full of information about events, happenings and other activities our school will be involved with.

Should you have any questions or concerns contacts us via email at [ross.doan.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:ross.doan.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca) or by calling us at (905) 884-4022 ext 702

## CARDS BY ME

The beautiful cards and calendar orders have been sent home for all those that ordered. Enjoy the masterpieces.

## BASKET RAFFLE

Good luck to all those that have purchased tickets. Winners will be announced in December.

## POPCORN FRIDAYS

The Grade 4's are selling Kernels Popcorn during lunch Each Friday for \$2.00 a bag. They are selling to raise money for their year end trip to Medieval Times.

## HOT LUNCH PROGRAMS !!!

### **Pizza Lunch:**

Pizza Days have been a huge success again this year. Thanks to our Pizza Program Coordinators for organizing volunteers, ordering pizza and supplies and of course distributing to our students.

### **Hot Dog Lunch:**

We are still looking for people that would like to take on the Hot Dog Lunch Program for this school year. Currently we would like to have Hot Dog Lunches on Mondays and/or Thursdays to avoid scheduling conflicts with Pizza & Lunch Lady Days. If you or someone you know thinks they would be able to take on this program, please let us know.

### **The Lunch Lady:**

The Lunch Lady Program has been an ongoing program delivering hot lunches to our students that have preordered on Tuesdays & Wednesdays.

Please remember that the online ordering must be done 3 days in advance. There is "non" minimum and so many "Board Approved" choices.

**Thank you to all our volunteers. No matter how much time, every minute counts.**

**After all, without you none of these initiatives would be possible.**