



December, 2014

Ross Doan News

www.rossdoan.ps.yrdsb.ca



Office Staff

Principal Mrs. Bernadette Smith

EOAA Mrs. Cathy Eden

Admin Assistant Mrs. Teresa Russano

Phone: 905-884-4022

Fax: 905-884-4025

Superintendent

Mr. Michael Cohen

Phone: 905-884-4477

Trustee

Ms. Carol Chan

Phone: 416- 953-2738

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

Kindergarten Schedule

Entry 9:00 a.m.

Morning Routines

Teaching/Learning Time

12:15 Outside Play

12:45 Lunch/Indoor Play

1:30 Teaching/Learning Time

3:30 Dismissal



Message from Principal Bernadette Smith

Greetings Parents/Guardians,

Always when we approach the December holiday break, I am reminded how quickly time seems to be passing. This past month, you have had the opportunity to review the progress that your children are making with their social, emotional, and academic learning so far this school year. Please take the time daily to speak with your child about what they are engaged in at school. Some questions to prompt a dialogue include:

- What was something you were most proud of today?
- Describe for me a task that you were working on today and how you knew you were being successful with it.
- If you are not understanding something you are learning about, what do you do? What are some other things you can do?
- What is a goal that we could set together for the next week?
- How will we know that we have reached that goal?

Our lives are always hectic and full of the many responsibilities that we take on in the various roles we play. However, creating opportunities for "time in" with our children will reap the greatest benefits for their overall development and reduce the likelihood to have "time outs". "Time in" may include any number of things done together (parent and child) such as, playing a game/sport, taking a walk, reading a book, watching a show, baking, talking.

Setting an after school schedule is one way to help set routines at home and build in time needed to have a snack, play time, homework, and together time.

At Ross Doan PS, we are continually exploring ways to nurture a love for learning in our children. This past week, students had several opportunities to experience Jungle Sport where they were able to climb, hang, glide, and move in many different ways to promote the importance of physical activity. Read on to learn more...

School Goal

Find Your Magic - Use It to do good!

Character Trait

Courage and Honesty



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SAFE ARRIVAL

It is expected that students arrive on time before the bell in order to be in class for attendance. A child is considered late when not in the classroom for the playing of the National Anthem. Attendance is taken at 9:05 a.m. and students who are not present will be marked absent and a phone call is made home.

If your child is going to be away for any reason:

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 905-884-4022 (Press 2 for Attendance).

You may speak directly to our office assistants or leave a message after hours on our answering machine. Please include the student's full name, teacher name, the reason for the absence, and the expected date of return. If the expected date of return is not known, please call daily for the duration of each absence.

Should a student not arrive at school for an unknown reason the school will try to contact parents first, then emergency contacts. If we cannot reach a direct caregiver, we will contact the York Regional Police.

Arriving on time for school is important for your child's learning and well-being. We monitor student lates and student absenteeism closely and will contact parents if either is a repetitive behavior.



PLEASE DRESS STUDENTS APPROPRIATELY FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS

All students are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal decides that weather conditions are such that it would be detrimental for students to be outdoors. Students are to come to school dressed for outdoor play and prepared to be outdoors before or after lunch. Weather, including temperature, wind chill, sun/cloud conditions and wind velocity, is continuously monitored and in extreme weather conditions, recess breaks may be shortened or students kept indoors.

Please note that when temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 20 degrees Celcius, the principal will consider an indoor routine for recess/events.

When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 18-19 degrees Celcius, the principal will consider a shortened outdoor routine for recess/events.

Parents sometimes request their children be kept indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Students with illnesses serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities should remain at home until their condition improves. This will also benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to the clothing collection in the Lost and Found, parents/guardians should be advised to label all articles of clothing, including but not limited to, boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants.

Information about how to prepare for and respond to extreme weather conditions is outlined on the following websites:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Healthy/Pages/Extreme-Weather-Conditions.aspx>

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Healthy/Documents/GL-extremeweather-152.pdf>



Free the Children

In the month of October, Free the Children had a campaign to raise awareness for people who are hungry. Did you know that millions of people around the world go hungry everyday? The Ross Public school community collected non-perishable food for people in need. In total, we collected 7 full boxes or over 300 food items. We really stood up to hunger! All the food was given to a local food bank. I think what we did together was amazing! Think about the people in our community that we helped. Way to go Ross Doan!

Melissa W. -Student Representative of Free the Children



Healthy Schools Committee News!

We "monkeyed around" on the Junglesport equipment at Ross Doan....we had a ball climbing and jumping and we practiced taking turns and helping each other.

The Healthy Schools Committee Focus for December is "NO COUCH POTATOES HERE!". Let's all try to stay active as the cold weather sets in this month!



COOKIE FUNDRAISER

Nut, Peanut and Trans Fat Free

55g Sprinkle Cookies

When:

Tuesdays and Thursdays for
two weeks only

In the classroom at lunch recess

Beginning Tues, Dec. 9

(Dec 9 & 11, 16 &18)

only \$1





Library News

Reading At Home... Can Make A HUGE Difference!



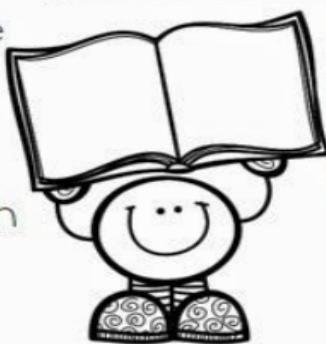
Choose Books That Are At An Appropriate Reading Level For Your Child

- Use the five finger rule. Open the book to any page and ask your child to read. Put up a finger every time your child does not know a word. If you have put up more than five fingers before the end of the page, this book is too hard for your child.
- Choose books that match your child's likes and interests.

Make Reading A Part Of Your Family Time!

Family time is so important... Why not make reading part of this valuable time with your kids? Here are some tips for integrating reading into our daily family activities:

- Read bedtime stories
- Play a board game
- Visit your local library
- Read a recipe and cook something yummy together!
- Create a comfy reading space in your home.
- Put your child in charge of reading the grocery list at the store.



Keep plenty of reading materials in your home: books, magazines, newspapers, and comic books. Children enjoy having a variety of reading materials!



Remembrance Day

Ross Doan held their annual Remembrance Day assembly on Tuesday, November 11th. Special guests included Trooper Rei, Private Sukar and Faigie Libman (Holocaust Survivor). The assembly focused on honoring and showing respect for our troops and veterans. Faigie Libman spoke about 'Character Traits' and the importance of peace. Thank you to all the students who performed and the community members who were in attendance.



ARTIFACTS WANTED!!!

The Grade 4s are starting a Social Studies unit on Ancient Civilizations, 3000BCE until 1500CE. We will be creating a display to showcase 'ancient' artifacts from around the world. Some of the civilizations we will be learning about include: Egypt, Japan, Greece, Mexico, Peru, China, Rome, India, ancient Israel, and Persia. If you have any relevant and interesting artifacts that can be contributed to our locked display please contact Ashley Hernandez ashley.hernandez@yrsd.ca. Thank you.

The largest learning event in history

During Computer Science Education Week,
December 8-14, 2014

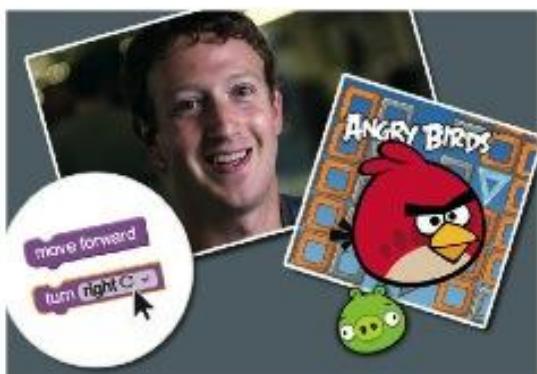
The Hour
of Code
is coming,
again!



Last year, 15 million students tried an Hour of Code in one week. Join students all over the world for an Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week, December 8-14. We're aiming for **100 million students worldwide** to do an Hour of Code by the end of 2014!

What is the Hour of Code?

A one-hour activity. Students of all ages can choose from a variety of self-guided tutorials, from kindergarten up. Tutorials work on any modern browser, tablet, smartphone, or even *with no computer at all*. Code.org's own tutorial features Angry Birds, Plants vs. Zombies and video lectures from Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates.



No experience needed from teachers and students.

A spark to keep learning computer science. Once students see what they create right before their eyes, they're empowered to keep learning.



"I have **never**, **ever** seen my students so excited about learning."

—Michael Clark,
Teacher

A global movement reaching tens of millions of students in 170+ countries.

Anyone, anywhere can organize an Hour of Code event. Tutorials are available in over 30 languages.

Why computer science?

Every 21st-century student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. The basics help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills, and prepare students for any future career. Software and computers are everywhere, but fewer schools teach computer science than 10 years ago.



"I knew this was a **once-in-a-life-time** chance"

—Mariana Alzate,
5th grader

Get involved

Ask your local school to offer an Hour of Code or host your own event. Help spread the word with **#HourOfCode!**

School Council December 2014 Update

Happy Holidays from our family to yours!



We wish you a wonderful holiday season and we hope that you enjoy the extra time with your little ones.

May your homes be filled with warmth and laughter.

See you in 2015!

'Tis the Season to be Sweet



Sprinkle Cookies in December

On these four days in December, your kids can buy sprinkle cookies in their classroom at lunchtime recess, for only **\$1 per cookie**.

- **Tuesday, December 9**
- **Thursday, December 11**
- **Tuesday, December 16**
- **Thursday, December 18**

Cookies are nut, peanut and trans-fat free. Enjoy the sweetness.

November School Council Meeting Rescheduled

Our November school council meeting has been rescheduled to **Monday, December 8, 2014 at 6:30 PM** in the Ross Doan Public School Library. Free babysitting is available. We hope that you come out and join us. If you would like to receive regular communications from us, let us know. Email us your contact information at: ross.doan.ps@yrdsb.ca

2014 – 2015 School Council Fundraising Initiatives

School Council members plan and organize many fundraising initiatives throughout the school year that benefit our students. Last year, with the money raised we were able to support our students with art performances, iPad learning technology, reading programs, play equipment and school improvements.

Our remaining 2014/2015 fundraising initiatives are as follows:

- Holiday cookies – December
- Pizza & hot dog lunches – January
- Valentine's cookies – February
- Wii move-a-thon – April
- Fun Carnival - June

Keep an eye out for the flyers with more information. Thank you for your contributions and your help!

2014 – 2014 Representatives

- Bernadette Smith - Principal
- Karen Gaston - Co-Chair
- Andreea Aslan - Co-Chair
- Jen Giffen - Secretary
- Susanne Gilster - Fundraising Co-Chair
- Shweta Minhas - Treasurer
- Fereshteh Khanzadeh - Parent Representative
- Maryam Bashari - Parent Representative
- Mansour Mansouri - Parent Representative
- Catherine Roberson - Parent Representative
- Stephanie Signer - Teacher Representative

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Join us at our
Monthly Meetings!

Monday, December 8
Wednesday, January 14
Monday, February 9
Tuesday, April 7
Wednesday, May 13

Ross Doan
Public School Library
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
FREE Babysitting
is Available



December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3	4	5 Pizza Day 
8 Computer Science Week 	9	10 6:00 Family Daycare Concert	11	12 Hot Dog Day 
15 11:15 Holiday Sing-along 	16	17	18	19 Last Day Pizza Day 
22 	23	24	25	26
29	30	31	1 	2

Winter Holidays

We look forward to seeing you when we return
Monday, January 5, 2015.

