



Sharon P.S. Flyer

Website: sharon.ps.yrdsb.ca Twitter: @SharonPublic

October 2016

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A Message From Administration

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to all families for supporting your children in a positive start to the school year. Our staff have been working to establish routines and procedures to meet the needs of our students, and our students have adapted well to expectations, have become involved in many extracurricular activities, and have embraced leadership opportunities.

We had a great turnout for the Intermediate and Jr. 3-Pitch tournaments on September 28 and 29. Our Cross Country team is training hard for their upcoming meet on October 6. We also have students involved in being lunch helpers, milk helpers, and office helpers. SPS students are pitching in to make our school a great place to be every day!

Thank you to our very dedicated staff for organizing and running these events, and to parents for their support to make such great things happen for our students.

It was great to see so many families out to our Meet the Staff evening, and to see the students so proud to show off their classrooms. Partnerships with our parent community are the key to our continued success and you are encouraged to continue communicating with your child's teacher throughout the year.

We look forward to continuing to work with you this year!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Gilbert
Principal

Heather Stevens
Vice-Principal

Upcoming Dates:

OCTOBER

Oct. 6	Cross Country - The ROC
Oct.10	Thanksgiving Day -No School
Oct. 19	Regional Cross Country
Oct. 26	School Council 7pm
Oct. 28	PA Day - No School for Students
Oct. 31	Halloween - <i>We Scare Hunger</i> Spirit Day (wear orange & black or a costume)

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1	Gr. 7&8 Immunizations
Nov. 8	Photo Retake Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 17	Michael Mitchell 2pm
Nov. 22	Report Cards
Nov. 24	Interview Evening
Nov. 25	PA Day- No School for Students

Our newsletters are available online, all year long. Please visit the school website:

<https://sharon.ps.yrdsb.ca>

Halloween Safety

Each year, many students from across York Region celebrate the long-standing tradition of Halloween.

This celebration also takes place in many of our schools both at the elementary and secondary level. We would like to remind all parents and guardians that students celebrating this occasion in costume at school must comply with the **York Region District School Board Safe and Supportive Schools Policy# 668.0** Costume accessories including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc. are in non-compliance with the policy.

Please note that this policy applies to all students at all levels, including kindergarten. We trust that this reminder to you, as parents, will assist in preventing problems and promoting compliance regarding this section of our Safe and Supportive Schools Policy.

As always, if you have questions, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the administration at the school. Please refer to our Tips for Trick-or Treaters below for more Halloween Safety ideas.



Tips for Trick-or Treaters



For kids, trick-or-treating is one of the great adventures of Halloween and October 31 is just around the corner. York Regional Police would like to remind parents and children that Halloween should be safe and fun. Following some easy tips can make it a pleasurable experience for everyone.

BEFORE HALLOWEEN: Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame. Add reflective tape to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility. Because masks can limit vision, consider using a non-toxic make-up instead. Purchase costumes and accessories that are flame resistant. Use flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts. This is also a good time to replace the batteries in home smoke detectors. Teach your children how to stop, drop, and roll should their clothing catch on fire. Eliminate tripping hazards on your property. Feed your children a good, healthy meal before they go out. This will discourage them from filling up on Halloween treats that have not yet been checked.

DURING TRICK-OR-TREATING: A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their rounds. Parents should know the route that older children are going to take. Stay in a group, walk slowly and communicate where you are going. Remain on well-lit streets and always use sidewalks. Never cut across yards. You may trip on shrubs. Obey all traffic and pedestrian laws. Do not assume that drivers can see you. If no sidewalk is available, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible. Do not eat treats unless checked by an adult you trust. Remove masks before crossing a street. Never enter a stranger's home or car for a treat.

AFTER TRICK-OR-TREATING: Sort and check children's candy upon their arrival home. Although tampering is rare, throw away any suspicious or unwrapped items. Remove items that can cause choking, especially in younger children, or treats that can remove dental work. York Regional Police wishes the residents of York Region a safe and happy Halloween. By working together, we can provide our children with a memorable holiday and ensure they remain safe. For more information, visit our website at www.police.york.on.ca.

International Baccalaureate Program Information Evening

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is student-centred with a focus on developing intellectual, personal, emotional, and social skills for students who live, learn, and work in a rapidly changing world. The program emphasizes critical, compassionate thinking, community involvement and intercultural understanding. It is founded on international standards and assessment. Students who complete the program earn both an Ontario Secondary School Diploma and an IB Diploma.

We are pleased to announce the expansion of York Region District School Board's IB Program offerings. In addition to [Bayview Secondary School](#)'s IB Program, YRDSB has four candidate school sites for the Diploma Program:

- [Alexander Mackenzie High School](#)
- [Dr. GW Williams Secondary School](#)
- [Maple High School](#)
- [Milliken Mills High School](#)

Current Grade 8 and Grade 9 students and families interested in YRDSB's IB Program are invited to attend an information session to learn more about the program and application process. No registration is needed.

IB Information Evening – Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Location: Le Parc, 8432 Leslie Street, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 7M6

Hall: to be announced

Times:

Families living EAST of Yonge St.	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Families living WEST of Yonge St.	8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Students eligible for Grade 9 and Grade 10 in September 2017 may apply.

Assessment Dates – Saturday, November 19 or Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Admission to the York Region District School Board IB programs includes an assessment. At the time of application, students will select to write in either the a.m. or p.m. on Saturday, November 19 or in the evening on Tuesday, November 22.

There is a \$35 fee to apply to this program. For additional information, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/IB.

A Message from Student Transportation Services

Your child's eligibility to ride the school bus depends on their grade and distance from home to school. The provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's [Transportation Policy #680](#) are:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.
- Students are not automatically provided space on school busses where a sibling is eligible for transportation.
- **Students are not permitted to ride any bus other than the bus they are assigned to.**

To view [Board Policy #680 - Student Transportation](#), please visit www.yrdsb.ca.

For more information about bus transportation and to determine your child's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

Triple P Tip of the Month

~ OCTOBER ~
Homework



It is important for parents to find out what is expected of their child since expectations vary between schools and teachers. Homework should not be a time of stress or pressure. Parents have an important role in helping their child develop good study habits/routines, provide encouragement and offer help if their child needs it.

KEY STEPS:

Let your child relax after school

Ask your child about their homework

Set a regular time and place to do homework

Help your child get started

Offer encouragement while your child is working

Prompt your child to solve problems themselves

Show an interest and say something positive about your child's work

Acknowledge your child when they have finished doing their homework

Don't forget to check out the new Triple P Ontario website for online resources and podcasts for parents of children from birth to teens. www.triplepontario.ca



Food Drive

As part of the 'We Scare Hunger' campaign running for the month of October, SPS is having a Food Drive to collect non-perishable items for the local food bank until **Monday, October 31**. It is important to have students understand their role as responsible global citizens!

Thank you SPS!

The Sharon PS School Choir

Choir rehearsals have begun! The Sharon Choir is meeting each Day 5 at lunch recess in the Music Room. All students from Grades 4 - 8 who want to sing and learn some music are welcome to join. For more information, please speak with Mrs. Claxton.

Help Needed

The Sharon School Choir is in need of someone to play the piano for our weekly choir rehearsals and any performances that may arise. If you, or someone you know, have the skills and time to support our choir, please speak with Mrs. Claxton.

School Council Corner:



QSP Fundraiser Attention Sharon Public School Families!

OUR ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN STARTS:
Wednesday October 5th, 2016



WE ARE ENDEAVOURING TO RAISE ENOUGH FUNDS FOR: School Council initiatives including technology purchases for classrooms (i.e. iPads and chrome books/laptops), Library and continuing improvements to our *new* Maker Space/Learning Commons, and amazing in-school programs such as Scientist in the Classroom.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

We are delighted to bring back the **QSP magazine program** to our community as it allows us to focus on literacy and support reading. As well, **NEW this year**, we are excited to also be selling **TASTY Batters Cookie Dough** through the QSP program! Details regarding both of these programs will be coming home with your child(ren) next week.

Through fundraising efforts our students learn important life skills and build self-confidence in:

GOAL SETTING - TEAM BUILDING - DECISION MAKING - COMMUNICATION SKILLS - PROBLEM SOLVING

GET A HEAD START! Please assist your student(s) in sending 12 emails to your circle of friends and family by using the super-easy tools at qsp.ca/etools.

OUR ONLINE ID IS: 3725314 or easily found searching for Sharon Public School.

If you have any questions about the Fall fundraiser, please email Cheryl Breckenridge at cherylbreckenridge@rogers.com. This fundraiser is a significant part of our annual fundraising efforts, and without your support we would not be able to continue to offer so many of the programs that enrich your child's education. We truly appreciate everything you do to support our efforts.

2016/2017 Meeting Dates:

Please join us in the Library at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- October 26
- November 30
- February 1
- April 5
- May 3
- June 7

School Council Executive Members for 2016-2017:

Co-Chairs: Sofia Bountas and Cheryl Breckenridge

Treasurer: Lauren Margules

Secretary: Zoe Graham

Healthy Schools Team:



The Sharon PS Healthy Schools Team is excited to offer “*Fresh from The Farm*”, a healthy fundraiser for Sharon Public School that is educational, exciting and profitable! **It is also very quick**, as it will run until **Thursday, October 13, 2016. All proceeds from this fundraiser will support the SPS Breakfast Program.**

- Students sell Ontario-grown fruit and vegetables to our local school community – supporting our local economy and Ontario farmers, and encouraging healthy eating!
- 40% of all sales go directly to the school – so if we sell 100 of each Bundle – that’s over \$1000 profit!
- There are 2 produce bundles for sale:
 - ‘A’ sells for \$12– 5 lb potatoes, 3 lb carrots, 3 lb onions, 3 lb sweet potatoes;
 - ‘B’ sells for \$15– 8 lb box of 20-25 fancy grade apples (depending on the growing season, usually, Empire variety).

Order Forms are due to the school with **cash** or cheques written to **Sharon Public School** attached, by **Thursday, October 13.**

Thank you for your support!

For more information, please contact the school at 905-478-4952.

Thank your for your support,

Sharon PS Healthy Schools Team

Under **Sabrina’s Law**, it is incumbent on us in our classrooms and the school to protect our students, staff and visitors to our school and to educate staff, students and parents / guardians with respect to food allergies and anaphylaxis.

We continue to field concerns regarding the serving and offering of food in our classrooms / school. It is our collective responsibility to provide all students, staff and visitors to our school the best protection we can deliver. This is not a guarantee, but that we have given every reasonable effort to provide protective measures.

Please do not send food into the school to be shared with classmates. Staff will pre-arrange with families if there are special situations where outside food is being provided for sharing. When pre-arranged with staff and outside food is being sent into the school to be shared, we must ensure the following to best protect the safety of students, staff and visitors to the school:

- Food is in its original packaging.
- Ensure there were no warnings on the labels, i.e. anything with a **"may contain"** warning.
- **Cross contamination may easily occur in home baking: it is our position that no home baked goods will be allowed for sharing.**

We welcome any further input into our school's best practice whenever outside food is brought into the school to be shared.

Protecting Student Privacy Under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

At times throughout the school year, your child's first name and last initial, image, or other information may be shared beyond the classroom and the school. This may happen, for example, during special events that attract media attention, in class and school newsletters, on websites and in displays for events such as assemblies, seasonal celebrations, or other occasions.

If you wish to exclude your child(ren) please contact school Administration in writing so that alternate arrangements can be made.

***NOTE: Parents/Guardians personally recording school events and then publicly posting them on social media do not respect the privacy rights of all parents, staff, and students whose images they share without their knowledge and/or permission. These photographs and video clips cannot be controlled by the York Region District School Board nor can it prevent their further distribution or use. **Please exercise caution when showcasing your child—protect the privacy of other individuals and do not publicly display images of any other person without permission.**

School Year Calendar 2016/2017

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Labour Day	Monday, September 5, 2016
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 10, 2016
Christmas/Winter Break	Monday, December 26, 2016 to Friday, January 6, 2017 incl.
Family Day	Monday, February 20, 2017
Mid-Winter Break	Monday, March 13 to Friday, March 17, 2017 incl.
Good Friday	Friday, April 14, 2017
Easter Monday	Monday, April 17, 2017

Elementary PA Days:

Monday, September 26, 2016
Friday, October 28, 2016
Friday, November 25, 2016
Friday, January 20, 2017
Friday, February 3, 2017
Friday, June 2, 2017
Friday, June 30, 2017

Fight the bite!

Protect yourself against
West Nile virus



What is West Nile virus?

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne virus that can be passed to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito.

What are the symptoms of West Nile virus?

Most people infected with West Nile virus have no symptoms or have flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches and fatigue. Sometimes West Nile virus can cause severe illness including meningitis and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

Symptoms usually develop between two and 15 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

Fight the bite!

What you can do...

Clean up

The best way to keep mosquitoes away is to clean up areas of standing water where mosquitoes like to breed.

Here are some tips:

- Clean up and empty containers where water collects (old tires, tin cans, flower pots, etc.)
- Change water in bird baths weekly
- Remove water that collects on pool covers
- Turn over items such as wading pools, wheelbarrows and small boats
- Clear eavestroughs and roof gutters
- Unclog drainage ditches
- Drill holes in the bottoms of containers so water can't collect
- Check that door and window screens are tight-fitting and in good repair

Cover up

Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites.

- Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts and pants
- Use insect repellent containing DEET when outdoors; apply according to manufacturer's instructions

For more information about West Nile virus or to report standing water, contact York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit york.ca/westnile

Community and Health Services
Public Health



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www.york.ca

Bounce Back & Thrive!



Are you a parent or caregiver of children eight years of age and under?

Join York Region Public Health's FREE Program for Parents!

Attend in-person sessions that are led by registered nurses and learn to:

- “Bounce back” from every day stress and hard times
- Relieve stress and calmly solve problems and conflicts
- Help your children handle disappointment, anger and frustration
- Help your children feel good about themselves, confident and hopeful for the future

For more information about **Bounce Back & Thrive!** contact York Region Health Connection at **1-800-361-5653**, TTY **1-866-252-9933** or email us at HC@york.ca

Registration is available online at york.ca/bbt



1-800-361-5653
TTY: **1-866-252-9933**



York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services
Public Health

york.ca



October 2016

◀ September 2016

November 2016 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	'We Scare Hunger' campaign					1	
2	3 Gr. 6 VIP School Bus Safety 	4 Pediculosis Rechecks 	5 	6 Area Cross Country 	7 	8	
9	10 Thanksgiving Day Holiday (No School) 	11 	12 	13 Healthy Schools 'Fresh From the Farm' orders are due 	14 	15	
16	17 Gr. 6 VIP 	18 	19 Regional Cross Country 	20 Take a stand against bullying and wear purple today 	21 	22	
23	24 Gr. 6 VIP 	25 Brooks Farm trip (SK-2) am Picture retake day 	26 School Council 7pm 	27 Brooks Farm trip (3-5) am 	28 PA Day (No School for Students)	29	
30	31 Halloween ('We Scare Hunger' Spirit Day – wear orange & black or a costume) 	Notes:					