



Sharon P.S. Flyer

Website: sharon.ps.yrdsb.ca

Twitter: @SharonPublic

September 2016

Contact Us

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A Message from Administration

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Sharon Public School staff, we would like to welcome our students and their families to the 2016-2017 school year! We are very excited about starting the new school year, and we know that staff and students are eager to get back to school to see those they have missed over the summer. The start of a new school year is always exciting! We look forward to meeting you all at our "Meet the Staff" evening on **Thursday, September 22 at 5:30 p.m.** More details regarding this event are included in the newsletter.

We look forward to working with families to support our students in reaching their highest academic and social-emotional potential, focusing on the development of strong Math and Literacy skills, Modern Learning and Mental Health. Our teachers and support staff work hard to plan informative and interesting lessons in order to meet the varied needs of our learners, and to provide support when needed.

The safety and security of our students is of utmost importance to us. We will be celebrating Safety Week during the week of September 26-30, providing students with opportunities to practice a number of safety drills, participate in safety presentations, and to engage in class discussions regarding a variety of safety issues including home safety, neighborhood safety, bike safety and internet safety.

Our goal is to create a school environment where our students are challenged and supported academically, and where parents and students feel included, welcome, safe, and secure. Parents are invited to get involved in the school by volunteering or becoming part of our School Council. The first meeting for our School Council this year will be on **Wednesday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Learning Commons. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend our School Council meeting. If you are unable to attend meetings, you are still welcome to be involved through volunteering for lunch programs, snack programs, reading programs, etc. Please visit our School Council display at our Meet the Staff evening on September 22.

We hope that all students, parents and teachers have a positive and productive school year. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Gilbert
Principal

Heather Stevens
Vice Principal

Upcoming Dates:

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 20 Picture Day
- Sept. 22: Meet the Teacher
Scholastic Book Fair
- Sept. 26: PA Day
- Sept. 28: School Council

OCTOBER

- Oct. 26 School Council
- Oct. 28 PA Day

Future newsletters will not be sent home in print copy. Please visit the school website:
<https://sharon.ps.yrdsb.ca>

Character Matters! September's Trait: **Respect**

Respect

We respect ourselves and treat others with courtesy, dignity, and positive regard. We honour the rights of others. We respect their belongings, the environment and the world around us.

THE SCHOOL DAY

8:45: Outdoor Supervision Begins
8:55: Morning Bell, Entry and Attendance

9:00-9:40: Period 1
9:40-10:20: Period 2
10:20-11:00: Period 3

11:00-11:30: *Nutrition Break/Recess*

Period 4 11:30-12:10
Period 5 12:10-12:50

12:50 – 1:50: *Lunch/Recess*

Period 6 1:50-2:30
Period 7 2:30-3:10
Period 8 3:10-3:30
Dismissal 3:30

MEDICATION



Please remember that students are not allowed to carry medication at school. Epi Pens and puffers are the only exception due to life-threatening reasons. If your child requires medication on a daily basis, you need to fill in a form entitled

‘**Administration of Medication**’. The office staff will keep the medication locked in the office and administer during the lunch break. All medications must be in a bottle from the pharmacy clearly stating the child's name and dosage.

Two Epi-Pens are required at school and for all school outings. One Epi-Pen must be carried on the students person at all times.

COMMUNICATION HOME

Parents/guardians are our most important partners in educating children. Early communication between home and school is an important step in assuring that your child gets off to a positive start in his/her educational year.

The Sharon Flyer Newsletter will be posted on our website monthly. The full year calendar is updated regularly on the school website. Classroom teachers will also be sending home regular newsletters to keep you informed about your child's program and special events. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school to speak with staff or to arrange a meeting.

In addition, you can follow Board news and updates at www.yrdsb.ca or on Twitter [@yrdsb](https://twitter.com/yrdsb).

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM



Every morning we contact the parents of students who are absent from school and for whom we have had no prior notification.

If you know that your child is going to be absent for a medical appointment etc., please contact the school by note or phone call the day before. This reduces the number of calls we have to make to parents (often interrupting them at work). If your child becomes ill overnight, please leave a message on the school voicemail system which is accessible 24 hrs a day. Thank you for your diligence!

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION AND STAFF 2016-2017

Principal	Mrs. Gilbert
Vice Principal	Mrs. Stevens
Office Staff	Mrs. McPhail Mrs. Brillinger
Caretaking Staff	Mr. Grant Mr. O'Neil
FDK	Mrs. Jones, Mrs. MacLean
SK/1	Ms. LeBlanc, Ms. Lyons
Gr. 1/2	Mrs. Brown
Gr. 2/3	Mrs. Bechberger
Gr. 3/4A	Mrs. Diakos
Gr. 3/4B	Mrs. Cooper
Gr. 4/5	Mrs. Martin
Gr. 6	Mrs. Bick
Gr. 7	Mr. Baxter
Gr. 8	Mrs. Godden
Community Class	Ms. Motiar, Mrs. Newman
Community Class	Mrs. Patenaude, Ms. Tatton, Mrs. Parks
CYW's	Ms. Snitman
Ed. Assistant	Mrs. Guitard
Music/ SERT	Mrs. Nagy
SERT/Library	Mrs. Winch
French	Mrs. Claxton
Prep Coverage	Mr. Nikitopoulos, Ms. Kolkman
Reading Recovery	Mrs. Cormier

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Prior to Morning Entry—Staff supervision begins at 8:45 a.m. Student safety is a priority. Please ensure that your child does not arrive to school prior to 8:45 a.m. unless accompanied by an adult who will wait until staff supervision begins.

End of Day Dismissal—Student dismissal is at 3:30 p.m. Please ensure that you arrive promptly if picking-up your child at the end of the day. Parents are asked to follow the procedures outlined in the “Using Our Parking Lot” portion of this newsletter. We **must** have prior written notification if you have made alternate arrangements for your child’s dismissal at the end of the day. Please arrange for a back-up plan and ensure that the school has up-to-date emergency contact information in the case of an emergency.

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 notify Administration immediately 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 student—protect the privacy of other individuals and do not publicly display images of any other person without permission.**

STUDENT BUSSING ELIGIBILITY

Did you know that students’ busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your child’s eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to 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 guaranteed 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.

School Council

HOLD THE DATE: September 28, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

First Meeting and Elections

Thank you to all that were involved in last year's School Council. Your time and effort on behalf of the students at Sharon P.S. is very much appreciated. With the beginning of a new school year comes the process of getting our School Council in place for this coming year. Our first meeting will take place on September 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Please consider getting involved this school year. If you are a new parent to the school, this is a wonderful opportunity to become involved with the school. Please complete the form included in the September Start-Up Package and return it to the school if you are interested in applying for a School Council Executive position. We welcome all parents at our meeting.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Parents/Guardians, please note that activities throughout the school year may require the use of student names, age, grade, etc., and while notices will be sent for most events, parents are welcome to discuss any restrictions they require with the school principal. The *Consent to Post Student Information on the Internet* form is in the School Start-Up Package.

Visitors and Volunteers in Our Schools

For the safety of our students and staff, **ALL VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS** must report to the office and sign-in. If you are picking up your child from school early please wait at the Office while a staff member calls your child from class. Visitors and volunteers working in the school must wear a visitor's or volunteer's badge which is available at the office when you sign-in.

All volunteers must complete a Vulnerable Sector Screening Form (Criminal Background Check) through the York Region Police specifically for the YRDSB (or an Annual Offence Declaration Form if you are a returning volunteer that has a VSS form on file with the school).

LUNCHTIME PROCEDURES



According to the York Region District School Board Policy 335.0, “Students are encouraged to go home for lunch wherever the length of the lunch hour and distance makes it practical.” The exercise and the break from the school are viewed by the school as beneficial to students.

At Sharon Public School, students in grades 7 and 8 may sign themselves out at lunch regularly with written permission from a parent/guardian. Younger students will need to be signed out by an authorized adult. Please inform the office of individuals who may sign your child out at lunch.

It is recognized that many of our students need to have lunch at school regularly and others on an occasional basis. To accommodate these needs, the school has School Assistants who supervise the students during this time. Students must have prior written permission from a parent/guardian to leave school property during the lunch hour.

For students who leave school property at lunchtime, it is expected that

- ☐ They will go home for lunch and return to school before the end of lunch recess.
- ☐ They will be ready in class on time
- ☐ They will observe all community behaviour expectations
- ☐ They will not bring food into the school to be finished in class after instructional time starts again

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
Victoria Day	Monday, May 22, 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

Healthy Eating at School



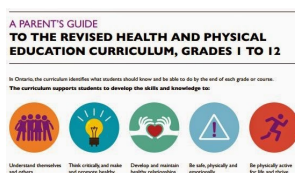
Under **Sabrina's Law**, it is incumbent on us in our classrooms and the school to protect our students, staff and visitors to our school and to educate staff, students and parents / guardians with respect to food allergies and anaphylaxis.

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. looking for 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.



Health Curriculum

On February 23, 2015, the Ministry of Education announced a revised Health and Physical Education Curriculum that all publicly funded Ontario schools are required to implement throughout the school year. This is not a new curriculum; it is an update on the previous Health and Physical Education curriculum, which has been in place since 1998 and under review since 2007. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any curriculum questions.

DOWNLOAD THE YRDSB APP

Did you know that you can download the York Region District School Board app, *YRDSB Mobile*, using your iPhone, Android or Blackberry 10 device?

YRDSB Mobile provides parents and students with up-to-date news, access to student resources, school maps and contact information. Users are able to access the *Report It* tool, school year calendars, transportation information and much more.

To download the free app, search for "YRDSB" in your app store.



A MESSAGE FROM MRS. GILES...

To the Wonderful Parents, Students and Staff at Sharon PS:

First and foremost, I hope everyone had a fabulous and safe summer like I did.

I thought of all of you often as I looked over the wonderful retirement cards and gifts while I sat in those beautiful chairs presented to me at the school assembly on our last day. Words really cannot express my sincere gratitude for everything you did to make my retirement something so special, I will hold in my heart forever. I could go on and on and on, but I will keep it 'short and sweet'.

Parents - Thank You for everything; your kind wishes and generous gifts; your support over the many years; letting me 'mother' your kids and your friendship. I will remember you all, and hope to stay in touch with many of you.

Kids - Thank you for all your drawings/paintings over the years; the many books you've read and shared with me; your daily smiles as you delivered attendance, etc. to the office. I miss you so much already, and will cherish your cards forever.

Staff - You are the absolute best!!!!!! You have made me feel so special and loved over the years, (especially at the school assembly), I could not have asked for any better than you. I wish you all the best this coming school year, and I will miss you dearly.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank each and every one of you. Have a great school year!

With much love and gratitude,

Judy Giles



Breakfast Bin Program 2016

We need volunteers for our Breakfast Bin Program!

Every morning the bins are filled with pre-measured and prepared food at 8:00 a.m. The bins are then taken by senior students to the classrooms. If you are able to volunteer one morning a week loading the bins please contact Jennifer Daxon at jenndaxon@gmail.com as soon as possible. It only takes between 10-15 minutes to load up the bins.

Should you be interested in contributing to the program either through volunteering or a donation, please contact the office.

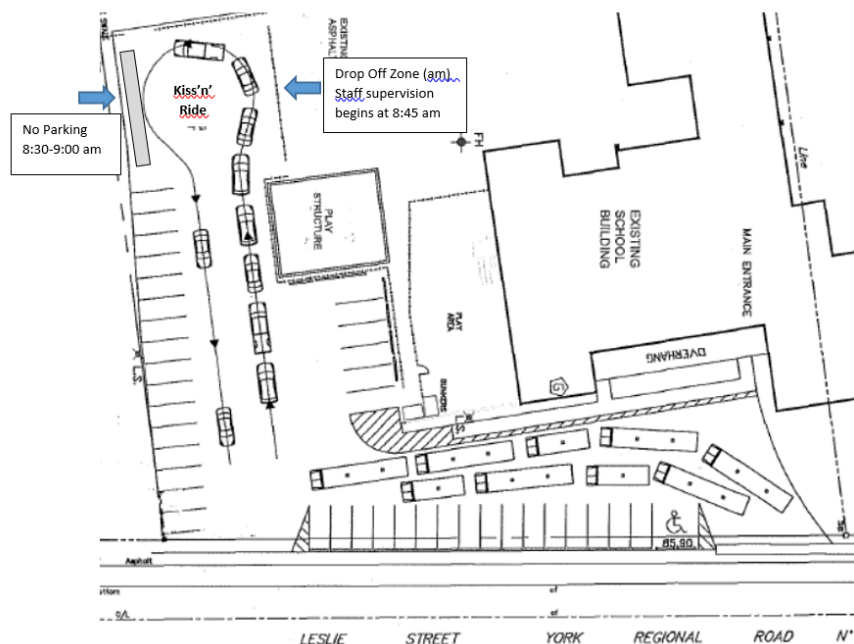
In 2014, Sharon P.S. started a breakfast program aimed at ensuring that our students do not have to learn on an empty stomach. Students come to school hungry for a number of reasons. Our goal is to give them the opportunity to be fueled to function better. The Breakfast Bin Program is specifically designed to provide **all** students with access to nutritious breakfast options, daily. It does not single out or target individual students, and we encourage modeling healthy eating by students and staff using the bins. Since the program began, we have had positive feedback from students and staff. Our students:

- Have increased their intake of fruits/vegetables daily
- Are better able to concentrate
- Have improved behaviour in the classroom
- Participated by helping to distribute bins and maintain the program, increasing volunteerism and sense of community within the school

This program is partially funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services through the School Nutrition Program (SNP). These funds provide a foundation, however, we require additional support in the form of grants, in-kind, and monetary donations in order to sustain the program.

CURRENT PROCEDURE FOR USING OUR PARKING LOT FOR STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

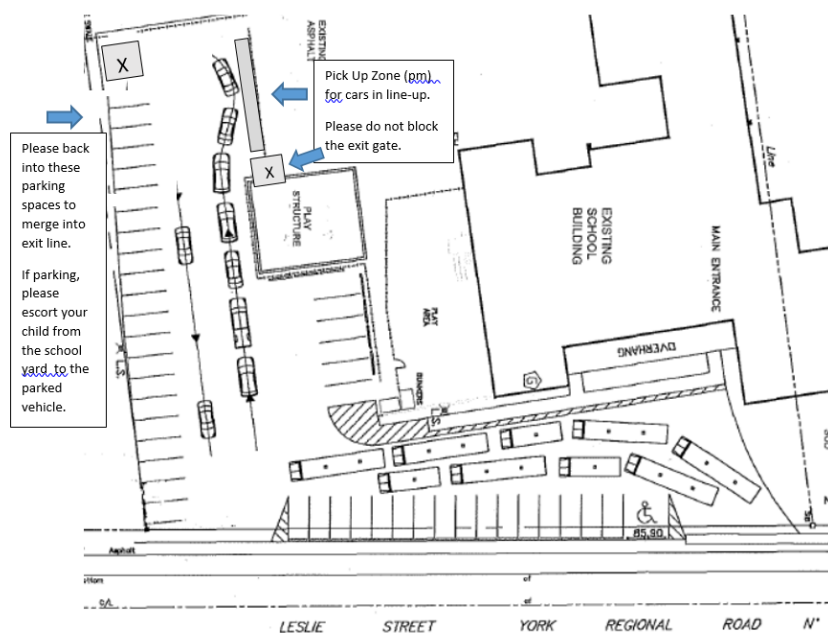
A KISS N' RIDE is available to those families who drive their child/ren to school. For those families with older children, you may also consider having your children walk from subdivision North of the school (Colonel Wayling Blvd) and have them "Walk A Block" and cross with the crossing guard who is on duty before and after school. Please reduce speed during drop-off and pick-up. We ask that you do not use the loop in the front of the school, as this is reserved for buses and taxis. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in following the procedure outlined below to ensure a safe and efficient arrival and dismissal for our students. As we continue to explore options to further improve efficiency, we will share revisions to the current procedure as needed.



Morning Routine:

Students should not be dropped in the school yard before **8:45 a.m.**, when staff supervision begins. **There will be no access to parking spaces in the Kiss'N Ride from 8:30-9:00 a.m.**

If using the KISS N' RIDE, please drive into the South entrance of the school parking lot, and drive to the back of the loop where you will see staff wearing orange vests supervising the drop off area. Please do not stop in locations other than the KISS N'Ride in the parking lot, as this disrupts the flow of traffic. Kindergarten students will be met in the Kiss'N'Ride drop off zone by a designated Early Childhood Educator (DECE) and escorted directly to the Kindergarten yard.



Afternoon Routine:

Please enter through the South entrance of the parking lot. Parking is very limited at this time. If parking, please back into the space in order to merge into the line of vehicles as they exit the lot onto Leslie Street.

Otherwise, please drive your vehicle to form a line to reach the pick-up zone in the Kiss n' Ride. Once your vehicle reaches the pick-up zone, your child may enter the vehicle for pick-up. Please do not block the bus loop or the exit gate from the school yard.

Children must not be in the parking lot without direct parent/caregiver supervision. If you park your vehicle, please meet your child/ren on the school yard pavement and escort them safely to your vehicle. Parked vehicles may need to wait

to merge into the line of cars exiting onto Leslie Street.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE, LORALEE CARRUTHERS...

As we start another school year, we are very pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you all enjoyed the hot summer months and are looking forward to the start of school.

There is a lot to look forward to in the months ahead and many ways for families to engage with their child's learning. There is a strong connection between parent and family engagement and student achievement and well-being, and I hope that you will find opportunities to get involved.

In the coming year, trustees will continue to focus on the priorities that we set out in our [Multi-Year Plan](#): student achievement and well-being; the delivery of effective and sustainable educational programs; and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

We know that partnerships with parents and families are essential to achieving these goals. However you choose to get involved, know that you are making a difference to your child's learning.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming school year.

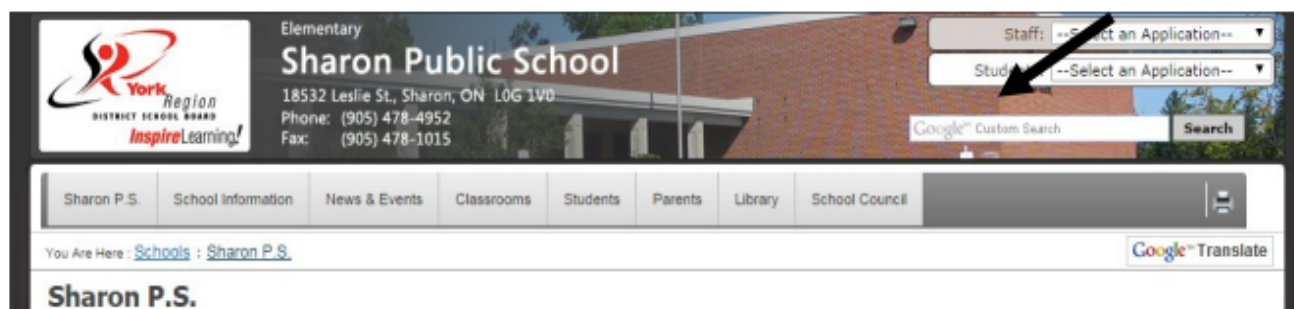
Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation



This letter is to inform you about the introduction of Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL), which takes effect on July 1, 2014. CASL prohibits the sending of any type of electronic message that is commercial in nature unless the recipient has provided specific and informed consent.

As a result, York Region District School Board and Sharon Public School **requires your consent to receive any electronic messages which contain advertising or promotions regarding school fundraisers, lunch programs, field trips, the sale of yearbooks, purchasing of student photos, books, prom or dance tickets, athletic events with an entry fee or similar events and offers.**

Please take a few moments to visit our school website at www.yrdsb.ca/schools/sharon.ps . At the bottom right-hand corner of the school website, you may enter your e-mail address to subscribe to electronic communications of a commercial nature. You may choose to unsubscribe at anytime.



Parents/Guardians: Enter your e-mail address to **subscribe** to electronic communications of a commercial nature.

You may also choose to [unsubscribe](#) at anytime.



OUR ANNUAL MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN STARTS: *Wednesday October 7th, 2015*

WE ARE ENDEAVOURING TO RAISE ENOUGH FUNDS FOR: *School Council initiatives including musical instrument rentals, technology purchases for classrooms (Smart Boards, Laptops etc), expenses related to school athletics (uniforms, busing), and amazing in-school programs such as Scientists in the Classroom etc.*

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. Additionally, through the efforts our students learn important life skills and build self-confidence in:

GOALSETTING - TEAM BUILDING - DECISION MAKING - COMMUNICATION SKILLS - PROBLEM SOLVING

GET A HEAD START! Please assist your student in sending 12 emails to your circle of friends 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 this fundraiser, please email Cheryl Breckenridge at cherylbreckenridge@rogers.com. This fundraiser is a significant part of our annual fundraising efforts – 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. **Thank you.**

YRDSB ON TWITTER: @YRDSB

The York Region District School Board is on Twitter as part of an ongoing effort to enhance parent, family and community engagement in public education.

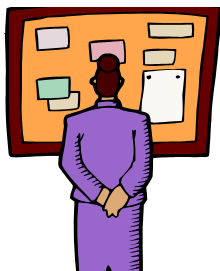
Followers of **@YRDSB** can expect to receive information about:

- Opportunities to provide feedback or participate in surveys
- Student programs and events
- Board meetings and agendas
- Board events and photos

- Busing and transportation
- Board policy information
- New content on the YRDSB website
- Media releases

Visit www.twitter.com/yrdsb to follow the York Region District School Board.





Community Corner

School Lunch Assistants Needed

We are currently looking for "on call" lunch assistants. If you have a flexible schedule and enjoy working with children, this is the position for you.

Benefits:

- Earn \$12.11 per hour
- Work on an on-call basis during the lunch hour.
- Meet new friends and staff.
- Contribute to a vibrant school community.

If you are interested, please contact the office for a registration package.

Thank you for your interest!

School Agenda Planners



Thank you to the SPS School Council for providing each student in Grades 2-6 with a generic Agenda Planner. The school information that was included in these planners in past years has been included in the September start-up package and is posted on the school website.

Individual classroom teachers will provide additional suggestions for students/families around tools to support homework organization and regular home-school communication.

Audit Committee Volunteers Needed

The York Region District School Board is seeking community members with financial expertise and business knowledge to serve on its audit committee for a three year term effective **January 31, 2017**.

The Audit Committee's primary role is to assist the Board of Trustees in fulfilling its duties related to governance and oversight. The committee meets at least 3 times a year, plus ad hoc meetings as required.

Applicants must be a York Region resident and have an accounting designation, as well as sufficient accounting and senior financial management expertise to understand public sector accounting and auditing standards.

Application deadline is Friday, September 23, 2016. For more information and to apply, please visit the [Board website](#).

October 2016

Website: sharon.ps.yrdsb.ca

Twitter: @SharonPublic

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Grade 6 VIP	4	5	6 Cross Country	7	8
9	10 THANKSGIVING <i>No school</i>	11	12	13 Regional Cross Country	14	15
16	17 Grade 6 VIP	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Grade 6 VIP	25 Brooks Farm (am) - K-Gr.2/3	26 School Council 7pm	27	28 PA DAY (no school for students)	29
30	31					

Responsibility