

## Thornhill PS Email Information: Monday, January 22, 2024

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

#### *Monday, January 22*

- Junior/Intermediate Homework Club
- Last day to order popcorn on School Cash Online

#### *Tuesday, January 23*

- Pizza Lunch (for those who order)
- Young Rembrandts Lunch Program
- Cookie Fundraiser
- Junior/Intermediate Homework Club

#### *Wednesday, January 24*

- Junior/Intermediate Homework Club
- Grade 3 – 5 Games Club

#### *Thursday, January 25*

- Subway Lunch (for those who order)
- Junior Boys Area Volleyball

### EVENTS NEXT WEEK

#### *Monday, January 29*

- Junior/Intermediate Homework Club
- Last day to order popcorn on School Cash Online

#### *Tuesday, January 30*

- Pizza Lunch (for those who order)
- Young Rembrandts Lunch Program
- Cookie Fundraiser
- Junior/Intermediate Homework Club
- Junior Girls Area Volleyball

#### *Wednesday, January 31*

- Junior/Intermediate Homework Club
- School Council Meeting @ 7 p.m. – all welcome

#### *Thursday, February 1*

- Subway Lunch (for those who order)

#### *Thursday, February 2*

- PA Day – No School

### PRIMARY LITERACY NIGHT

Attention all families of children in Kindergarten to Grade 3! We would like to invite you and your child to join us in our school library on the evening of **Tuesday**

**February 13th, 2024 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for Primary Literacy Night!** This is an opportunity to spend time together with your child participating in engaging Literacy activities, games and snuggling up to read a book together. Please consider coming dressed in your pajamas, bringing a stuffed toy/animal and your favourite book. Please note this event is for our students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. We hope to see you all there!

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR LIBRARIAN – MS. FINKELSTEIN

TPS is excited to announce that The Forest of Reading program is back! The Forest of Reading® is Canada's largest recreational reading program! This initiative offers ten reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. The Forest helps celebrate Canadian books, publishers, authors and illustrators. More than 270,000 readers participate annually from their school and/or public library.

Our primary classes will be reading each Blue Spruce nominated book (there are 10 in total) and voting on their favourites! Students in grades 4-8 are welcome to join our Silver Birch and Red Maple book clubs. There are 20 books in total, and students will have an opportunity to read some different titles and vote! We are looking forward to this exciting opportunity!

#### P.A. Day February 2, 2024

Our staff will be participating in professional activities on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be no school for students that day. If you would like to learn more, please see the agenda for our meetings linked [here](#).

#### POPCORN FUNDRAISER

We will be having a monthly Popcorn Fundraiser at T.P.S. to fund educational programs and materials for our classes.

Popcorn will be delivered twice a month in February on the following dates:

*Wednesday, February 7th and Wednesday February 21st*

Pre-packaged butter/salt 23g popcorn bags will be sold for \$2.50 each, for a total of \$5.00. If you are interested in purchasing popcorn for your child, please purchase using School Cash Online by Monday, January 22, 2024.

Popcorn will be delivered to students on the mornings of the dates listed above.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

#### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration for September 2024 begins on **Friday, January 19, 2024**. Children who turn four or five years' old during 2024, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. The Board has included a page dedicated to the Kindergarten Registration process linked [here](#). Within this link you will find simple instructions to follow in order to register remotely. If your child is presently attending Junior Kindergarten at Thornhill P.S. there is no need to re-register. More information about our Kindergarten Program can be found [here](#).

#### FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION SESSION AND REGISTRATION

Any SK family who is looking for information regarding French Immersion should read the message below from our Board.

#### **Grade 1 French Immersion (FI) Information Sessions and Registrations**

##### **What is French Immersion?**

- Provides opportunities for students to develop enhanced proficiency in French.
- Students receive instruction in French from teachers who are fluent in French.
- Begins in Grade 1 and is designed for children whose first language is not French.
- In Grades 1, 2 and 3, all subjects are taught in French. Starting in Grade 4, instructional time is shared equally between French and English.
- Program continues in secondary school.
- Secondary school students must earn at least 10 French Immersion credits to qualify for the French Immersion Certificate upon graduation.

## Important Considerations

- Grade 1 is the only entry point into French immersion in YRDSB.
- Communication with parents/guardians is in English including, but not limited to, report cards, newsletters and parent-teacher interviews.
- For the first few months of Grade 1, children may not acquire skills identical to those learned by children in an English program as the focus is on learning in French.
- During the first few years of the FI program, students may not develop the same level of English proficiency as their peers in an English program, however children should acquire these skills by the end of Grade 8. Families are encouraged to continue to read to their children in their first language.

## FI Accommodation Plan

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides 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. The FI program is offered in Dual Track or Single-Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. Space requirements at some schools may mean that siblings are in different schools for primary dual track French Immersion programs due to differing grade structures. Like any of our schools across the Board, changes to school boundaries, and/or the accommodation model for the French Immersion program may need to be considered when new schools open, a school experiences enrolment growth, and program changes occur. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools.

More information is available on the [Board's website](#). **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. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their

community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

## **Information Sessions**

This year, our Information session for Grade 1 entry into the French Immersion program will take place in French Immersion schools on January 18, 2024, at 7 p.m. Program locations and additional information is available on our [website](#). If families are unable to attend the information session, they can hear about the French Immersion program on the [Tune In YRDSB: French Immersion Podcast](#).

## **Registration**

FI registration will begin on January 19, 2024. Parents or guardians of Year 2 Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2023, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can email or call their home school office and indicate their intention to enrol. The home school will notify the French Immersion school, and the French Immersion school will contact families by phone or email to collect any necessary information. Families are asked to register by February 6, 2024. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

## **Late Registrations**

Late registrations are those submitted after February 6, 2024. Late registrations will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period should overflow be necessary.