



Walter Scott Public School

www.yrdsb.ca/schools/walterscott.ps

500 Major Mackenzie Dr. E., Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C1J2

"A Place Where Everyone Belongs"

FEBRUARY 2015

School Administrative Team

Principal: Kim Maybury
Vice-Principal: Deanna Durfy

Administrative Assistants

Sue Reid
Jennifer Hill

Superintendent of Schools

Michael Cohen
(905) 884-4477

Trustee

Corrie McBain
(416) 219-7426

Transportation

www.schoolbuscity.com

P.A. Day

Monday, February 16th Family Day (No School)

From Your Administrative Team!

We have had a strong start to 2015! As we begin Term 2 we are encouraging students to persevere with their learning. Teachers are looking for students to use class time wisely, to complete activities to their personal best and to actively participate and engage in their learning during class time. Report cards will be coming home on Tuesday, February 17th. Please spend a few minutes with your child, reviewing the comments on the report card, highlighting and praising all the things they are doing well. This is also a good time for your child to reflect on their achievement and to set goals for the remainder of the school year—"What did you do well?" and "What are you going to work on next?". The continued support of families at home is most appreciated!

We have had many cold days with temperatures below -20, resulting in indoor recesses. We closely monitor the weather conditions during inclement weather and decide when it is appropriate for students and staff to be outdoors. Whenever possible we try to be outside so students have an opportunity to expend excess energy and to have fun playing in the snow. It is especially important in cold weather that students are warmly dressed for the weather, including snow pants, hats, boots, and thick 'ski type' mittens. Families are asked to send these items to school everyday and we will remind students to wear them.

Every February, we recognize the legacy of Canadians of African Heritage, past and present. The celebration has been a part of Canadian society since the 1950's, honouring the significant contributions of peoples of African Heritage to the cultural, economic, political and social fabric of Canada. Throughout the month, students are involved in a range of classroom activities in accordance with the curriculum, raising awareness of the importance of these contributions to our Canadian history.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Ms. Visvalingam who will be joining our Kindergarten team, supporting the children in Ms. Bassel's classroom.

Finally, we remind you that Monday, February 16th is Family Day - a province-wide statutory holiday. Family Day occurs the third Monday of February each year. It is a day for families to spend time with each other and to celebrate the importance of family values. We wish all our families a memorable day!

Here's hoping for sunny skies and warmer temperatures in February!

Sincerely,

Kim Maybury
Principal

Deanna Durfy
Vice-Principal





Kindergarten Registration Open Now !

Kindergarten Registration is well underway for the 2015-2016 school year.

Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2015, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten.

All documentation must be submitted and completed before your child can be enrolled.

Documents required for registration include:

- **Proof of child's age**
(birth certificate/passport)
- **Proof of residency**
(child and parent/guardian)
- **Citizenship and immigration status**
(if applicable)
- **Direction of school support form**
(school office)

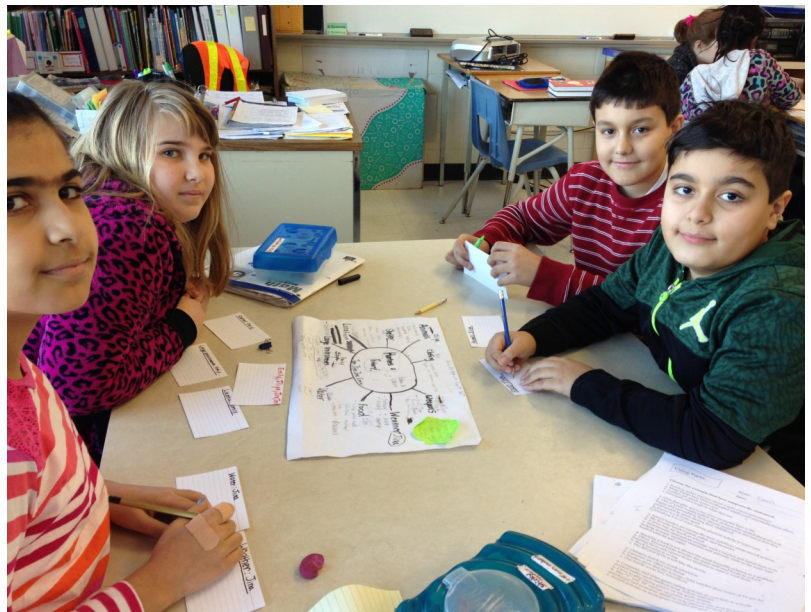
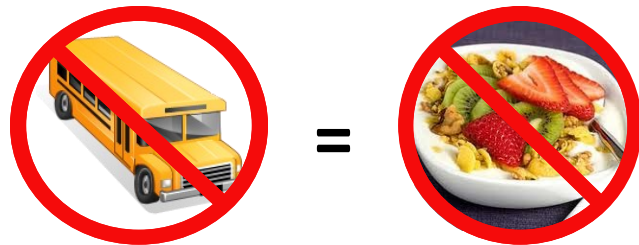
A kindergarten information session for parents is planned for spring. For information please visit the YRDSB website or contact the school office.

Current Junior Kindergarten students do not need to register for Senior Kindergarten, as they are already enrolled.

Breakfast Club

We wanted to let you know that when buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, the Breakfast Club does not operate. Families who are driving children to school on these days, need to ensure that the children take time to eat breakfast at home, before coming to school.

When the driving conditions warrant the cancellation of buses, the Breakfast Club does not run, as the volunteers who prepare and serve breakfast are not at school.



arts@baythorn



Would Your Child Enjoy Learning the Ontario Curriculum through the Arts?

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an Integrated Arts program at Baythorn Public School. Students currently in grades four and five may apply for the arts@baythorn Program, where they will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music while meeting the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8.

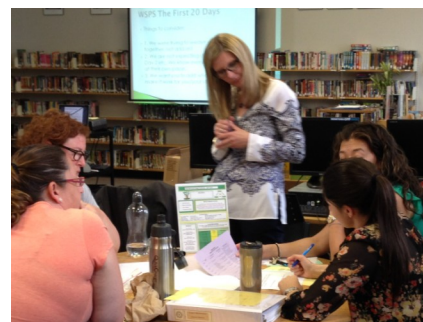
To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, visit the Baythorn P.S. website and/or contact the school office (905) 889-7992. Applications are now available online via the school website: www.baythorn.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca .



CONGRATULATIONS MRS. MAYBURY !



We are very proud and excited to let you know that Mrs. Kim Maybury has been chosen as one of Canada's Outstanding Principals - only 40 Principals from across the entire country are honoured. Her commitment and dedication to the Walter Scott Public School community are exemplary!



Forty Leaders Named Canada's Outstanding Principals™

The Learning Partnership honours principals from every province for exemplary leadership

January 27, 2015 – Toronto, ON – Great principals are the foundation of great public education – the cornerstone of Canada's future. The Learning Partnership is pleased to salute 40 individuals as *Canada's Outstanding Principals™* of 2015 who demonstrate innovation, have an entrepreneurial spirit and are creative in finding solutions and opportunities.

These exemplary leaders come from every province and territory in the country and will receive their awards at the 11th annual *Canada's Outstanding Principals™* gala on February 24, 2015, in Toronto.

The winners will also benefit from an exclusive five day executive leadership training program at one of Canada's top business schools, the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. The program will introduce them to leadership and management practices presented by business leaders and Rotman instructors.

The 2015 *Canada's Outstanding Principals™* will join the ranks of the National Academy of Canada's Outstanding Principals™, which now boasts over 350 members. The National Academy offers principals ongoing networking, mentoring and professional development opportunities so they can constantly enhance their leadership skills.

Canada's Outstanding Principals™ are nominated by their peers, school staff and/or community members. Winners are selected on a representation-by-population basis. The first round of adjudication is completed by the local Principal's Association. Finalists are then forwarded to a National Selection Committee made up of distinguished Canadian education, community and private sector leaders. Candidates are chosen using comprehensive criteria including: evidence of innovative leadership; evidence of partnerships with staff, parents and community; examples illustrating successful change resulting in improved student achievement; and corresponding letters of support.

"A great principal is the driving force behind a great school," says Akela Peoples, President and CEO of The Learning Partnership. "We recognize that being a principal is an extremely demanding job. Principals shoulder the responsibility of leading and managing everything that happens in their school. From effective teaching and learning to operational oversight of facilities and establishing community partnerships, their ultimate goal is to enhance student achievement and prepare them for the future. Canada's Outstanding Principals honours leaders in this challenging profession and shines a spotlight on the importance of strong leadership in public education."

Canada's Outstanding Principals™ is made possible through the generous support of CIBC and Deloitte.

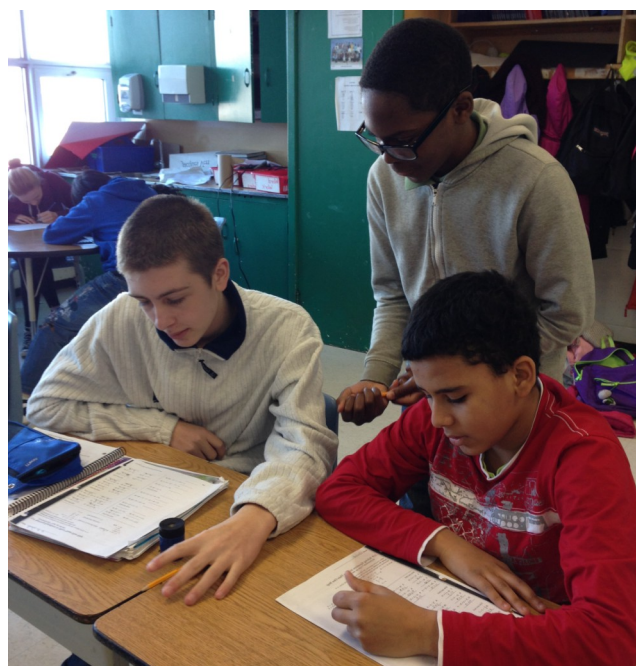
For a complete list of winners, including their biographies and photos, visit: thelearningpartnership.ca

Up Coming Dates

February 9	School Council
February 16	Family Day Holiday
February 19	Lunar New Year
February 17	Term 1 Report Cards Go Home
March 13	PA day
March 16-20	March Break
April 3	Good Friday Holiday
April 4	Pesach
April 6	Easter Monday Holiday
April 10	Holy Friday
April 14	Vaisakhi
April 21	Ridvan
May 18	Victoria Day Holiday
May 25 - June 5	EQAO
June 5	PA Day
June 16	Regional Track and Field meet
June 22	Term 2 Report Cards Go Home
June 23	Grade 8 Graduation
June 24	Grade 8 Luncheon
June 26	PA Day

360 Kids - After School

360 Kids runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. Students have the opportunity to participate in sports, cooperative games and learn about healthy lifestyles. This program is offered free of charge to students in Grades 6 - 8. For information about registration and fees, please contact Gweneth at 416-993-2311 or the program coordinator at 647-637-6028.



Forget all the reasons why it won't work, and believe the one reason why it will!

Are you moving?

When you know you are moving and your children will be changing schools, please let us know. If your plans change, no worries, your child always has a spot with us at their home school.



Safe Schools for Children with Allergies

School staff and parents are responsible for creating safe environments for students and staff. This is an additional challenge for schools that have children and staff with allergies, especially life threatening allergies. While we take every step to create a risk-free environment, school staff and parents can take steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions.

It is especially important parents communicate information about their child's life-threatening allergy to the school as soon as they are aware of it. Please notify the school office and your child's teacher so that we have accurate records and can jointly establish the protocol to follow with your child.

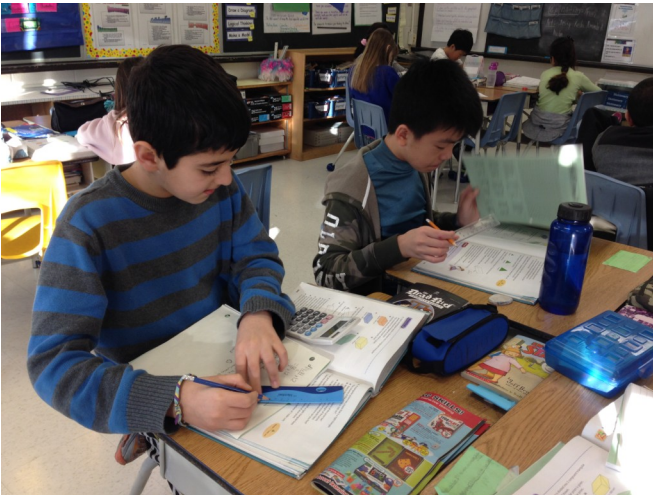
Dressing for Recess

During the winter, students are expected to come to school warmly dressed to play outside during recesses. **Students need to wear a winter coat, snow pants, boots, hat, and thick “ski type” mittens.**

As children may get wet while playing during the snowy season, we suggest children keep an extra set of clothing at school, especially pants and socks. These can be kept in a labeled bag in the classroom.

All students, Kindergarten to Grade 8, go outside at recess. If your child is not well enough to go outside they need to be resting at home until they are feeling better.

Being physically active during our Canadian winter is an essential part of a healthy and fulfilling lifestyle.



School Visitors

ALL parents and visitors are required to sign in at the office and wear a visitor's pass. Parents may not go through the hallways or out onto the school yard. At entry and dismissal times, we remind families to wait outside for their children. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please send a note or call the office for an appointment.

Following these procedures fosters independence in our students and ensures a greater degree of safety for all. We appreciate your support in keeping our students safe!

Chess Sets Wanted!

Many of our students are developing their math strategy skills by playing chess at recesses. As so many students are interested in playing we are looking for more chess sets. If you have a chess set at home that is no longer being used, we would be happy to have it at school. Please drop them off in the school office or send them with your child.



We appreciate your support!

Absences—Call Us !

When your child is absent, please call the office. The answering machine is always on so you can leave a message any time - day or night. Press 1 to leave a message so we know that your child is safe.

When a student is not accounted for we will :

- Call home to see if the child is there, then
- Call the parent/guardian at work/mobile, then
- Call the emergency phone numbers, and finally (if we are unable to confirm the child's safety),
- Call the York Regional Police.

This call is a safety check; in accordance with the YRDSB Safe Arrival Policy #665.

Cold Weather

During the winter, we closely monitor the weather conditions, including temperature and wind chill. We consult a variety of weather information sources, including Environment Canada and then decide when it is appropriate for students and staff to be outdoors.

We try to have students outside at recess for fresh air and an activity break, as they need a chance to play and burn off energy.

When temperatures or wind chill reach -20°C , we strongly consider an indoor routine for recess. When temperature/wind chill reach $-18-19^{\circ}\text{C}$, we consider a shortened outdoor recess.

Over the announcements students are reminded to wear EVERYTHING sent from home. Staff also watch to make sure jackets are zipped, hats are on and boots are worn as students head outdoors.



It is not joy
that makes us grateful;
it is gratitude
that makes us joyful.



French Immersion Registration January 16th-February 13th, 2015

French Immersion (FI) registration has begun (January 16 to February 13, 2015). In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of current Senior Kindergarten students (entering Grade 1 in 2015), and wishing to enroll in the French Immersion program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office

Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Michaele Jean P.S. to register, between January 16 and February 13, 2015.

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 will be 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. 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: www.yrdsb.ca. 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.



Bus Cancellation

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather is not affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

<u>RADIO</u>	590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM	1540AM	1580 AM
	88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM	95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM
	99.9 FM	101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	107.1 FM		
<u>TV</u>	CITY TV	CTV Barrie	CFTO TV	CP24	GLOBAL NEWS			

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YCDSB and YRDSB on twitter.

Please note that school bus charters will not operate when home to school bus service is cancelled (e.g. busses for fieldtrips).



Perfect Attendance in January
Congratulations !

**Ms. Bassel &
Mrs. Visvalingam**

**David
Ryder
Hilda
Darian
Chris
Alexander**

**Ms. Hill &
Mrs. Moniz**

**Brandon
Cody
Melissa
Mira
Alan**

**Ms. Lu &
Ms. Wong**

Hannah

**Ms. Wodzinski &
Ms. Sun**

**Olivia
Consolata
Kenan
Jacob
Vanessa
Alexia
Eythan**

World Classroom



STUDENT PROGRAM

Join the many YRDSB students and families who have participated in the World Classroom Program since it began in 2005.

Since then local teachers, students and their families have had the opportunity to learn about another country and culture and made life-long friendships by hosting an international student in their schools and homes.

Host families receive \$225 per week to cover the cost of hosting a visiting student.

To find out more, call or email Jennifer:
 905 884 2046 ext. 254 | homestay@yrdsb.edu.ca



York Region District School Board
 Community & International Education Services
 36 Regatta Ave., Richmond Hill, ON L4E 4R1
www.yrdsb.ca/international

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

A. Stewart
February 2015



Shop online to **save money and support fundraising** at Walter Scott PS.
Look for brochures—coming home this week.

SHOP ONLINE - GO TO www.QSP.ca

It's quick, secure & easy and your order is processed instantly.
Order 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.
New titles are added all the time – so check back often.

Please use the www.QSP.ca email feature
to invite out of town friends and family across Canada to support our school.
Our discount code is: **3725363**

FOREST OF READING



Students in grades 5 & 6 are busy reading Silver Birch novels and are invited to see Ms Matheson at morning recess to take out new selections.

Many students in grades 7 & 8 have read more than five novels. One student has already read all ten novels! He will be going to the Festival of Authors for sure.

Tickets have been purchased for the Red Maple reading program celebration. A detailed note will be going home shortly.



Students must read five books by the end of April in order to vote and/or attend the Festival in May.

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS in the Library



Sr. Kindergarten students are learning how to log on to school computers, and how to access language programs on the Internet.

Jr. Kindergarten students are working on the same programs, using the SmartBoard. Soon the SK students will be able to help the JK students login.

Please make sure your child's book comes back on time so he/she can get a new book and a sticker on his/her library card.

Library Days

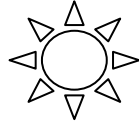
Krinsky is Day 1
Bassel is Day 2
Wodzinski is Day 3
Lu is Day 4



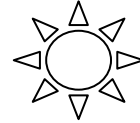
The Blue Spruce reading program is up and running, thanks to Ms Matheson. A selection of picture books will be read to participating classes from Kindergarten to Gr. 2. Students will then be allowed to vote for their favourite book and the author of that book will win a prestigious award.



News from the Walter Scott Parenting and Family Literacy Centre



Leave the cold of Winter behind!
Come and have fun in the PFLC
at these special February Events:



Visit from York Centre for Children, Youth and Families	February 4th 10:00 – 12 noon
Richmond Hill Central Library Librarian	February 9th 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Valentine’s Day Baking	February 12th February 13th
Celebrating Our Wonderful Diversity	February 18th
Fun with Math	February 19 9:30 – 12 noon
Art @ the Centre	February 23rd 8:30 – 12:30 p.m.
FDK Educator Visit	February 26th 11:00 – 11:40 a.m.

Parent Worker: Saima Khan
No cost or registration required

Open: Every school day between 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.n
Snacks are provided for the children



Positive Parenting TIP

“Cross border shopping may be tempting, but when it comes to buying a child’s car seat or booster seat for use in Canada, Transport Canada and Health Canada warn consumers against it.

Transport Canada and Health Canada are concerned that parents and caregivers may not know that it is illegal to import and use in Canada a seat that does not comply with Canadian standards. Many consumers are looking south of the border and in other countries for the best buy without knowing all of the facts.”

From *Child Car Seat Cross Border Shopping – What Parents and Caregivers Should Know*
accessible at <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/motorvehiclesafety/safedrivers-childsafety-notice-2007c09>

khanacademy.org



Math
+ - x ÷



$$\begin{array}{r} 22 \\ + 3 \\ \hline 25 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 38 \\ + 17 \\ \hline 55 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 47 \\ + 9 \\ \hline 56 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 99 \\ + 88 \\ \hline 187 \end{array}$$

1+9+8=18

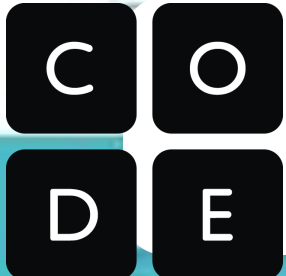
4 + 3 = 7

4 - 3 = 1



$$\begin{array}{r} 4368 \\ + 572 \\ \hline 4940 \end{array}$$

8+2=10
1+6+7=14
1+3+5=9



code.org

HOME LEARN TEACH HELP US QUOTES





February 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 PA Day (No School)  Groundhog Day	3 Day 5 Pizza Lunch 	4 Day 1 Return Carnival Colouring Contest Sheets	5 Day 2 Intermediate Girls Basketball at WSPS	6 Day 3	7
8	9 Day 4 School Council 7 pm	10 Day 5 	11 Day 1	12 Day 2 Intermediate Boys Basketball at WSPS	13 Day 3 French Immersion Registration Ends	14 
15	16 Day 1 Family Day Holiday	17 Day 4 Report Cards Go Home Pizza Lunch 	18 Day 5	19 Day 1 Celebration Assembly Lunar New Year	20 Day 2	21
22	23 Day 3	24 Day 4	25 Day 5	26 Day 1	27 Day 2	28
March 1	2 Day 3	3 Day 4	4 Day 5	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7



Walter Scott Public School
(905) 884-2693

