



Walter Scott Public School

www.yrdsb.ca/schools/walterscott.ps

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

"A Place Where Everyone Belongs"

From Your Administrative Team!

JANUARY 2014

School Administrative Team

Principal: Kim Maybury

Vice-Principal: Deanna Durfy

Administrative Assistants

Sue Reid

Jennifer Hill

Superintendent of Schools

Karen Friedman

(905) 884-4477

Trustee

Diane Giangrande

(416) 969-8131

Transportation

www.schoolbuscity.com

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back! We hope you enjoyed a restful break with family and friends.

The new year provides a chance for students to set new goals and reflect on their achievement. Our staff and students are continuing our work in Mathematics learning. We encourage you to try some of the activities outlined in the blue booklet "Doing Mathematics with Your Child" from the Ministry of Education that was sent home with the Progress Report card. For some quick ideas visit our "Math Corner" on page 5. We hope the information will help families to support Mathematics learning at home.

Our new school website is up and running! The school calendar, including daily events (class trips, lunch days, etc.) is now available online, as well as much other useful information. We are hoping this will make it easier for families to keep up to date with school activities. Please visit us online: Walter Scott P. S.

We wanted to remind everyone that starting Monday, February 3rd, the entry process for all visitors to the school, has changed. This new process, includes the use of a front door camera, monitor, intercom and buzzer locking system. School doors will be locked 15 minutes after the bell rings in the morning and will remain locked for the rest of the school day. Anyone entering the school will need to be buzzed in, and then sign in at the office. Please be patient, when you arrive. This new level of security brings with it the need for visitors to wait outside, until we are able to buzz you in. As this process will be new for everyone, we appreciate your support as we adjust to this change.

Mrs. Larter retired in December and we hope she is enjoying a well deserved rest! She will be missed by students and colleagues and we wish her all the best as she begins her retirement. We would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome Ms. Brown to the WSPS Kindergarten staff. We would also like to welcome back, Mrs. Jones who is returning from her maternity leave.

We had lots of snow in December and with the arrival of our "hay bale targets", students have been having lots of winter fun—developing their accuracy in throwing snowballs at the targets. We ask that families remind children the only place they are permitted to throw snow is at the hay bale targets. We will also be reminding students at school, as we strive to balance winter fun and student safety. Your support at home is much appreciated!

We wish you good health and much happiness for 2014!

Sincerely,

Kim Maybury
Principal

Deanna Durfy
Vice-Principal



P.A. Day

**Friday,
January 17th**

No School

School Council

FUNDRAISING UPDATE!

We wanted to say a big "Thank You!" to all of the families in our school community who contributed to our School Council fundraising initiative for the 2013-2014 school year. We are very pleased to report that we raised \$3,408. This money will be used to support a variety of school initiatives.

Thank you everyone for your support!



Junior Kindergarten Registration

Begins January 17, 2014

Registration forms are available: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca.

JK is available to students born in 2010, who live within the school boundaries and whose parents are Public School Tax Supporters.

All required 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)

Children born in 2010 are eligible for JK in September 2014. Children born in 2009 and not currently attending public school are eligible for SK in September 2014.

Current JK students do not need to register for SK, as they are already enrolled.



Please help us with our online QSP Family Reading Magazine Fundraising Program!

S.O.S.!
(SAVE OUR SUBSCRIPTIONS)

Don't forget...you can renew and purchase your favourite magazine subscriptions online 24/7 and support our school.

It's easy to support our school...
Go to www.QSP.ca and support our school.

Our school Group # is **10003**

Our online QSP magazine subscription fundraiser raises money to benefit our students while also encouraging more at home reading.

Remember, children love to receive their own mail.

Consider giving magazine subscriptions as gifts this year!
Each issue acts as a reminder of your thoughtfulness all year long!



Let friends and family know about our online fundraiser.
You can easily do this using the email feature at www.QSP.ca.

Thank you in advance for your support!



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 P. S. Students currently in grades 4 and 5 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, students and their families are invited to attend an information evening at **Baythorn Public School on Thursday, January 16, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Applications will be on line via the school website and available after January 16, 2014.
www.baythorn.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca Please call us at Baythorn P. S. (905) 889-7992, if you require further information.





Locked Doors

Our school continues to be a safe yet inviting place where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. As part of this commitment to safety, beginning Monday, February 3rd, 2014 all school doors, including the front doors, will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell. The doors will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone, including parents and guardians, arriving at the school after that time must use the front door, buzz in and sign in at the office.

Measures will also be put in place for parents and guardians to buzz in and pick up students from before and after school programs. More detailed information will be available later in January.

This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.



Fairness

Fairness is not about everyone getting the same; it is about everyone getting what they need.

It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself. -Eleanor Roosevelt

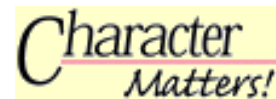
A person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the person doing it. -Chinese proverb

Though force can protect in emergency, only justice, fairness, consideration and cooperation can finally lead to the dawn of eternal peace. -Dwight D. Eisenhower

I think perfect objectivity is an unrealistic goal; fairness, however, is not.

Live so that when your children think of fairness and integrity, they think of you.”

-H. Jackson Brown, Jr.



French Immersion

Information—January 16th Registration—January 17th

French Immersion (FI) Information sessions will take place at Michaëlle Jean P.S. on [January 16th at 7 p.m.](#) **Registration will begin January 17th.** To streamline registration, parents or guardians of students entering Grade 1 in 2014, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, can request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school and must be up-to-date. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Michaëlle Jean P.S. to register between January 17 and February 14th. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to students and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enroll. The FI program is offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. To meet community needs and optimize 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.edu.on.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.



Up Coming Dates

February 3	School Council meeting
February 12	Report Cards Go Home
February 13	Grade 8 Alexander Mackenzie H.S. Course Selection due
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 17	Family Day Holiday
March 3	Mary Poppins Play 1:30 p.m.
March 4	Mary Poppins 1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
March 5	Mary Poppins 6:30 p.m.
March 7	PA day
March 10 - 14	Mid-Winter Break
March 18	Grade 7 Hep B shots & Grade 8 Girls HPV
April 18	Good Friday Holiday
April 21	Easter Monday Holiday
April 28/30	Grade 3 Swimming
May 5/7	Grade 3 Swimming
May 12/14	Grade 3 Swimming
May 19	Victoria day Holiday
June 6	PA Day
June 24	Grade 8 Graduation
June 25	Grade 8 Luncheon
June 26	Early Dismissal 1/2 Day a.m. only
June 27	PA Day



Please Be on Time

8:15—8:30 a.m. Supervision of students begins on the school yard starting at 8:15 a.m. It is not safe to drop students off prior to 8:15 a.m. as there is no supervision on the school yard.

3:00 p.m. Students are to be picked up promptly at 3:00 p.m. Families are asked to ensure they are on time. There is no supervision for students beyond 3:00 p.m. If there is an emergency, please call the office. Families are responsible for children when school ends at 3:00 p.m.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!



Safe and Healthy Schools for Children with Allergies



School staff and parents are responsible for creating safe and healthy environments for students and staff. This is an additional challenge for schools attended by children 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 as there are implications for the whole school, not just individual classrooms.

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

Math Corner

“The greater the support that families provide for their children’s learning and educational progress, the more likely that their children will do well in school and continue on with their education.”

-Karen Mapp and Anne Henderson, 2002
A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family and Community Connections on Student Achievement



Learning to Think (and Talk) Like a Mathematician

The Ontario mathematics curriculum emphasizes seven processes that are essential for learning mathematics:

- Problem solving
- Reasoning and proving
- Reflecting
- Connecting
- Selecting tools and computational strategies
- Representing
- Communicating

In each grade, a set of “mathematical process expectations” describes how children actively learn and apply mathematical understanding. Ontario Mathematics curriculum: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/math18curr.pdf

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Clue Game

This game introduces your child to the foundations for geometric thought—namely, that the location of objects can be described mathematically.

Pick an object and give your child clues to that object by using directional language: up, down, over, under, between, through, beside, behind, in front of and one top of.

You can make the game more challenging:

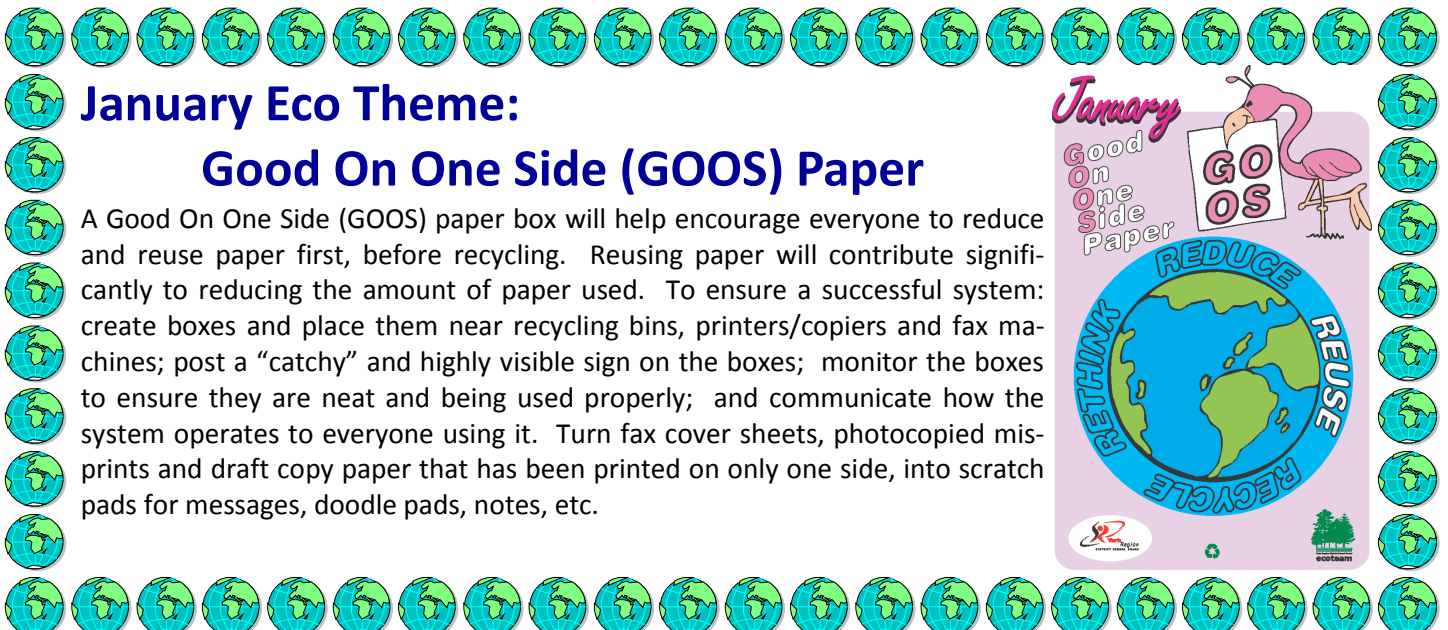
- Give two-part directions—for example, “It is on top of the table and to the right of the notebook.”
- Have your child ask questions such as, “Does it have a flat top?” “Is it under the table?”
- Give clues about objects that are in another room so your child has to visualize the object.

Grade 4 to Grade 6

What Shapes Make Structures Stable?

In playing these games, your child will come to understand that some shapes are more stable than others.

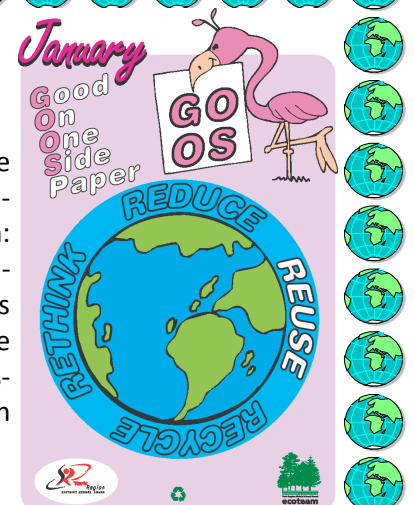
- Invite your child to use 50 straws or tightly rolled tubes of newspaper and some tape to build the tallest freestanding structure that he or she can build. The structure must not be attached to the floor or a wall or a piece of furniture.
- Ask your child which shapes (for example, rectangle, triangle or circle) he or she thinks will make the structure stable.
- With your child, look at pictures of skeletal structures, such as hydro-electric towers, roller coasters and suspension bridges. Ask your child which features of the structures make them stable and have your child explain why.
- Ask your child whether the designs have examples of symmetry. Have your child explain how he or she knows.



January Eco Theme:

Good On One Side (GOOS) Paper

A Good On One Side (GOOS) paper box will help encourage everyone to reduce and reuse paper first, before recycling. Reusing paper will contribute significantly to reducing the amount of paper used. To ensure a successful system: create boxes and place them near recycling bins, printers/copiers and fax machines; post a “catchy” and highly visible sign on the boxes; monitor the boxes to ensure they are neat and being used properly; and communicate how the system operates to everyone using it. Turn fax cover sheets, photocopied misprints and draft copy paper that has been printed on only one side, into scratch pads for messages, doodle pads, notes, etc.



Dressing for Outdoors

With the colder weather upon us, students need to be dressed to play outside during recesses, including coats, hats, and mitts.



During the winter, students are expected to come to school warmly dressed to play outside. **Students need to wear a winter coat, snow pants, hat, mittens, and boots.**

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 are expected to go outside at recess. If your child is not well enough to go outside they need to stay home and rest 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!

VISITORS

WELCOME!
PLEASE SIGN IN
AT OFFICE

Call Us ! 905-884-2693

When you know your child is going to be absent, please send a note in advance. When the absence/late is unplanned, please call the office. The answering machine is always on. Leave a message any time - day or night. Press 1 to leave a message.

By calling, you let us 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.

June 26th, 2014 Early Dismissal



All students have received a copy of the 2013-14 Learning Calendar. Please note that on **Thursday, June 26th, 2014** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to participate in activities in the afternoon of that day in support of student achievement and school planning.

Students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 26th, 2014 only. More details will follow closer to the date.





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:

RADIO

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	99.1 FM	99.9 FM	101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM
100.7 FM	107.1 FM					

TELEVISION

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).



COOK UP SOME FUN ON FAMILY LITERACY DAY

The families of the
Walter Scott Parenting
and Family Literacy
Centre invite
you to

COOK UP
some FUN!

<http://www.york.ca/nutrition>

Come Cook with Us



to
celebrate
Family Literacy Day

PLACE: Walter Scott P.S.

DATE: Monday January 27th

**TIME: Drop in between
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**



*Snack provided. No registration required.
Please bring indoor shoes.*

Parent Worker: Vida Ansari
No cost or registration required

Open: Every school day between 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Snacks are provided for the children Room 13

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

A. Stewart
January 2014



RED MAPLE READING CLUB

Students from grades 7 and 8 met in December to learn about the Red Maple reading program and many signed up. They are asked to read at least 5 of the 10 novels in order to vote for their favourite author. In the middle of this month tickets will go on sale for the Festival of Trees, which is a day at Harbourfront where students can participate in a variety of activities and see all the authors from the Red Maple reading program, perhaps get to meet some of them.

Check out the website for more information:
www.accessola.org
Enjoy your books!



SILVER BIRCH READING CLUB

Silver Birch will officially start the first Wednesday we are back at school. The students have already started reading books over the holidays and will continue to read other books during the next two or three months. During our weekly meetings we will be discussing the books and sharing thoughts and ideas about them. We have a wonderful group of students who are eager to participate and share their love of reading.

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS in the Library

This month Senior Kindergarten students are going to be learning how to log onto the computers independently and will go to reading sites. Junior Kindergarten students will be going on the same sites, using the Smartboard, in order to be prepared when they begin using the computers.



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
Wodzinski is Monday
Brown is Tuesday
Jones is Wednesday
Bassel is Thursday



January 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 School Resumes Milk, Pizza & Pita Pit Order Forms Go Home	7	8	9	10 Milk Order Forms Due	11
12	13	14 Milk Program Begins Secondary School Course Selections	15 Pita Pit and Pizza Lunch Order Forms Due	16 French Immersion Information Evening at Michaele Jean P.S. 7 pm	17 P.A. Day Kindergarten & French Immersion Registration Begins	18
19	20	21 Pizza Day  Lunar New Year	22 Pita Pit Lunch 	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Pita Pit Lunch 	30	31	



Walter Scott Public School
(905) 884-2693

