

Paisley Road Public School



February Newsletter

Randal Wagner, Principal
Shashana Hare, Vice Principal

Bus Cancellations/Pick Up

During Inclement weather school buses and taxis may be cancelled if they feel it is unsafe for travel. These notifications can be found by 6:30 a.m. at www.ugdsb.on.ca. PLEASE NOTE: If buses are cancelled in the morning they are cancelled all day and **will not run** in the afternoon.

So far this winter we've had two bus cancellations days. On these days the office had over 20 students who were waiting on pickups by either a parent or guardian. School is dismissed at 3:15 p.m.

All students must be picked up at this time. We do not have assigned supervision in the office.

Please ensure you have arranged proper pick up for your child(ren). The school parking lot is closed from 8:30-9:15 a.m. for student safety.

BULLYING

We take all incidents of bullying seriously. If your child is the victim of bullying or sees bullying behavior at school, please encourage him/her to speak with someone at school or use our board's online reporting tool. Report Bullying gives students and parents 24/7 access for reporting bullying. You don't have to identify yourself – just your school – and your message gets sent directly to the school principal for follow-up. You'll find the Report Bullying button on our school's website

HOLIDAYS

Family Day – February 20th
March Break – March 13-17
Good Friday – April 14
Easter Monday – April 17
Victoria Day – May 22

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Special points of interest:

- Feb 1 -Forest of Reading Launch
- Feb 2 -Afro-Cuban Drumming
- Feb 8-10 Chef à L'école
- Feb 23rd Math Night 6-7:30 p.m.



Interruptions Reduce Time to Learn and Time Counts

We are always looking for ways to improve our instruction and to meet the needs of all our students. One topic that is always a concern is the number of interruptions during the school day.

There are interruptions that cannot be eliminated, but there are interruptions that we can at least minimize.

- Early dismissal – parent/guardian pick ups before 3:15 p.m.
- Change in pick up/taxi's, alternate care provider, playdates etc.
- Items left at home – lunches, agendas, trip permission forms

“These brief interruptions actually steal about three minutes each. That is the time that elapses from the point of interruption through its end and until most children in the classroom are once again engaged in academic work. Now consider that the classroom is once again engaged in academic work. Now consider that ten such interruptions would eat up about thirty minutes of engaged instructional time. Every day. Two and one-half hours every week. **Two whole school days every month!**”

After considering the accumulative effects interruptions can have, we respectfully request for our students **to arrive to school on time.** The number of late students has drastically increased. On average we have between 30-52 lates per day. This late arrival not only affects the student who is late but every student who is in that classroom loses time when the late student arrives. We understand things happen in the mornings that can affect a morning schedule, but we would appreciate anything you can do to help reduce the number of late arrivals.

Please ensure to make end of day pick up arrangements with your student in the morning before he/she leaves for school. Giving a student a message may seem to not be obtrusive, but as you can see from the above information, it can become an interruption in learning. **Agenda notes to teachers are the best way to communicate these arrangements.**

We strive to provide a quality education for your children. You are very important in this equation. Thank you for your understanding and support.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

As a school, Paisley Road is very fortunate to have such a great team of Educational Assistants. Our E.A's facilitate the development of self-esteem in students, promote positive interaction between peers, collaborate with teachers to provide learning opportunities designed to actualize the potential of the student they are assigned to work with.

These amazing individuals often go quietly about their routines. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work.



- Shannon Daly
- Jane Godfrey
- Jennifer Hayston
- Amanda Pilon

Forest of Reading 2017

It's that time again! Our very popular Forest of Reading Clubs are back this year with a new selection of great books. We are starting up our Forest of Reading Program this month.

Our school will be participating in the following clubs:

Blue Spruce- A club for Kindergarten and Primary classes led by their teachers in collaboration with Mrs. Richer (Teacher-Librarian). Teachers read the books to students in the class and complete a passport. They vote for their favourite book in April and celebrate the winner at a Blue Party in May.

Le Prix Peuplier - This is the Primary French Immersion reading club 'en francais'! Students will listen to stories in class, complete a passport and participate in voting in April and a special party in May.

Silver Birch Clubs- Students read books, complete passports, blog, summarize or conference (other creative approaches encouraged) to prove they read books with Ms. Richer. In April students vote for their favourite book in any categories they read at least 5 of the books. In May students who read at least 5 books in one of the clubs are invited to our walking Trip to the Boathouse for Ice Cream and then to Royal City Park for activities, games and the unveiling of the winning books.

Express –A mix of fiction and non-fiction at approximately 3/4 reading level (Grade 3 students and up can join)

Silver Birch Fiction – Novels for Junior readers

Silver Birch Non-Fiction – Various non-fiction texts for Junior readers

Le Prix Tamarac Express- Easier level Junior French fiction and non-fiction

Thank-you to Parent Council for their ongoing financial support of the program. Thank-you to the many teachers that work to support this program in their classrooms. Thank-you to our wonderful student readers who have showed such great enthusiasm over the years!



February Library Contest

February is a great time to show our LOVE of books! It is also a time for the Forest of Reading. Put it together and we get the "Growing a Love of Books Tree". Students fill in their ballot about a book they have LOVED reading that week and decorate the other side with a pattern. Bring the completed leaves to the Library and add them to the tree. One leaf will be chosen to win \$20 in Scholastic Book Picks. Bonne Chance!

Library Help needed

Library volunteers are essential to the function of the library. If you a little time to offer each week to help shelve books please contact Julie Richer Ext 417.

Paisley Choir

Many of our students have joined the choir and are practising singing our new school song and a Bilingual version of O Canada to be recorded for our morning announcements. We look forward to hearing our own students voices each day. We will be recording later this month.

Music Fridays- Most Fridays from 1:50pm-2:30pm. Singings together brings us together! It has been great to see how students show respect, attentive listening, school spirit and take initiative during these assemblies. Students are invited to share and lead songs by coming out the preceding Monday first recess to pitch the song they wish to sing and arrange to practise. A note will go home with students who are leading a song. Parents are also welcome to join in the fun. If you have a musical talent or a cultural song to share (any language) this will help enrich our students learning experiences. Contact Julie Richer Extension 417 for more information or to get involved.

Panther Prides

Building School Community and working on the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action through education
During our next Panther Prides February 10th students will be learning about the value of the traditional talking circles common to many First Nations as a method to respectfully listen and learn from each other. We will apply the concept to share ideas about our responsibilities to the earth on various topics in expert groups and bring back the learning to their classroom Sharing Circle where each class will come up with an action item for our Two School, One Earth Treaty with St. Joseph's Catholic School. The outcome of this will be a shared Wampum belt developed with a traditional Wampum maker that represents the two schools shared earth commitment. The Wampum belt will be housed at each school on alternating months to remind us of our shared treaty commitment to the environment. The goal is that each year every class will create a Treaty promise for the earth they can all commit to doing as part of the ongoing commitment represented in the Two School One Earth Wampum.

Baby Moccasin Project

Daytime Student Workshop February 27th and Family Moccasin making Night March 2nd from 6-8pm
In our journey towards Truth and Reconciliation we are learning about some of the many inequalities faced by First Nations, Metis and Inuit people. That brings us to the question what can we do to make a difference? One way is to participate in meaningful initiatives led by First Nations people. In support of a project lead by some amazing Anishinaabe women we will be make baby moccasins. These moccasins will then go to babies in the hospital to help connect them with their roots before they are sent to non-indigenous foster families.

How can you help?

1. Donate leather - we will gladly take any leather or hide than can be re-purposed into baby moccasins (other than black leather)
2. Come and help - Volunteer to trace moccasin patterns on hide (anytime in February)
3. Family Moccasin Making Night-March 2 from 6-8pm- Work with your child to make a pair of baby moccasins to donate to this project - Bring snacks to share if you like
4. Help a student 1:1 to make moccasins on February 27th from 12-3pm - Food sharing table will be set up - Feel free to bring food for sharing (Peanut free)
5. Learn more about the project and why we are doing it and/or donate financially:

The Project <http://www.sotheycangohome.com/>

Example -<http://www.helpingourmotherearth.com/itstartswithus.html>

To get involved contact Julie Richer (Ext 417)

FUNDRAISING

Thank you to Families and Parent Council for the money raised through our fundraiser.
This money will be used to support/decrease field trip costs and the Afro Cuban Drumming.

Online Before and/or After School Survey

The online Before & After School Survey has been reopened and will remain open for parents to complete until February 10th. This will allow us to capture the needs of parents who are registering up to the end of next week. We understand that some parents are familiar with Kindergarten registration taking place the first week of February. It's really important for families with before/after school child care needs that we include them in the numbers and consideration for September programs.

https://docs.google.com/a/ugcloud.ca/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjWPnRmkL_IkeLnmbrijgMZYbZRQi9kEK8iETXh8BRXAoNlug/viewform#start=openform



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 	3	4
5	6	7	8 Grade 3 to Crawford Lake	9 Pizza 	10 Panther Prides	11
Chef a l'ecole						
12	13	14 Report Cards go home <i>Report Day</i> 	15 Basketball 	16 Pizza 	17	18
19	20  Family Day No school	21 Dental Screening  School Council Meeting 8:30	22 Dental Screening 	23 Pizza 	24	25
26	27	28 Grade 2/3 police visit 				