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# Thornhill Times

## Principal's Message:

**Thornhill Public School** is alive with activity both in the classroom and out! I wish to welcome our new families to the Thornhill Public School Community. We hope you will become involved in the activities that we offer and we wish your children success with their education in our school. Please note that families who don't already receive an email copy of our newsletter but who wish to do so, should please send an email note to: thornhill.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca.

**Registration for 2007-2008.** We have started taking kindergarten and other registrations for the next school year. Please encourage neighbours and families in the area to register as early as possible. This helps us with our staffing and class organization.

**School Plan for Continuous Improvement.** We continue to focus on improving student literacy by highlighting the comprehension strategies. Our staff is involved in peer coaching and all staff meet bi-monthly to look at student work samples and plan focussed teaching strategies around areas of need. We are providing on going workshops and lessons in the classroom around bullying and cyber bullying. Please continue to monitor your child's use of the internet, email and text messaging. Teachers are using Tribes activities to support our community and character building. To further our work with connecting to our community, our school Ambassadors are doing a great job with assisting new students and their families. Coffee mornings/evenings with the principal and council members are announced in the monthly calendar. Please try to attend if you have questions or if you have any great suggestions.

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>. PA Day.** Please note that our teachers will be involved in professional activities on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be no classes for students on that day. Staff will be looking at assessment data for all students and will be planning interventions for improved student performance. **February 15<sup>th</sup>** is an Options Day for all students from Grade 1 - 8. Students will be involved in activities, many of which focus on healthy, active lifestyles. Information has been sent home to indicate the options for your child.

**Arts Package and other cultural highlights.** This week on Thursday, we have Kim and Jerry Brodie coming to entertain our students in Grades K - 6. On February 7<sup>th</sup>, students from Grade 4 - 8 will attend the Toronto Symphony Orchestra performance at Roy Thompson Hall.

**Principal's Message continued on page 2**

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February 2007

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Principal: Y. Gilinsky  
Superintendent: R. Dunn  
Trustee: J. Hertz

School Council Co-chairs:  
Chuck Magerman  
Daveda Goldenberg

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### Reminders:

- ☺ Feb. 02 - P. A. Day
- ☺ Feb. 15 - Options Day
- ☺ Feb. 26 - Dental Screening
- ☺ Mar. 06 - Term 2 Reports go home
- ☺ Mar. 07 - Student Led Conferences
- ☺ Mar. 09 - March Break Begins
- ☺ Mar. 19 - Back to School

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## Principal's Message continued:

**Activities for the term.** There are many special learning and leadership opportunities for our students this term. There will be a Primary and Junior Spelling Bee. Finalists in the primary division will meet with other York Region schools at Forrest Run PS on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Math Club (Grades 4 - 6) has begun for students who show an interest and to prepare students for various math competitions. Our grade 7 and 8 leaders will be doing a series of lunch recess intramural activities for students in the primary and junior divisions. Information about all school activities and clubs is announced daily at 8:30 am. Students who are late for school miss out on the morning announcements. Students are participating in many extra curricular sporting activities such as volleyball, basketball and badminton in the spring. Participation in regional activities such as Together we're better and Character Matters leadership opportunities are on-going. I wish to thank our staff once again for their continued commitment to the well-being of students academically, socially and emotionally.

**Food Options for the winter term.** We provide a number of food options to support fund raising. On Wednesdays we have pizza days. Students must sign up for pizza at the beginning of the term. Proceeds from pizza sales go directly into the classroom to support technology, sporting equipment and other special resources. Thursday is popcorn day. Students may bring \$1 to purchase popcorn as a recess snack. Proceeds go to keeping the cost of the school yearbook at a minimum. Friday is sub day and hot chocolate day. Send \$3 for the purchase of a sub sandwich and \$1 for the purchase of Starbucks hot chocolate. Our Grade 8 leaders are selling the hot chocolate to support the graduation fund. An additional 50c will provide you with the deluxe cup of hot chocolate. Kids Kitchen, a private organization, sells hot lunches to interested families on Mondays and Thursdays with advanced orders. This is not part of the school fund raising but is a service to parents/guardians.

Finally, please mark your calendars for the annual Student-led Conferences which will take place on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. This is an important opportunity for you to share in your child's learning.

Yvonne Gilinsky  
Principal

## Dental Screening

Dental Services staff provide dental screening to children in grades, JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 and 8 and others as required in accordance with the Ministry of Health Promotion's Child Health Program under the Mandatory Health Program and Services Guidelines which are published pursuant to section 7 of the "Health Protection and Promotion Act". This service consists of a quick look in the mouth by a dental hygienist, using a separate, sterilized mirror for each child. If a child is not in one of these grades and you would like to have him or her screened please contact Dental Services at one of the numbers listed below.

If a child needs to see a dentist for treatment, does not have dental insurance and if the cost of care would be financial hardship, treatment may be covered through the **Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT) program**.

Also, if a child is to be **excluded** from screening, parents/guardians are requested to notify Dental Services in writing with the child's names, school and grade. The address is: York Region Health Services, Public Health, 22 Prospect Street, Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 3S9

For more information contact Dental Services at:

Tel: 905-895-4512 or 1-800-735-6625 or

Fax: 905-895-7520

*TPS turns 160 years old this year !!  
Be a part of the celebration on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007*

## Here's how:

### Pen Pals



Students who were interested, have been matched with alumni and are currently corresponding with past students.

If your child is participating, please encourage and support their letter writing efforts.

If your child would like to be matched with an alumni, please have him/her notify their teacher, who will arrange a match.

A spring tea party (coinciding with our reunion event) will give everyone a chance to meet and greet their pen pals.

### Photo Mosaic

WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS! Please dig out all those great class candid or trip photos you have filed away. We want to show off TONS of TPS students, by creating a HUGE photo mosaic poster. Submit your photos (provide date and info if possible). Students will scan them into a file so that a professional company can collate all of them into one unified image. You'll want to be a part of it. Photos can also be electronically sent to the email address below.



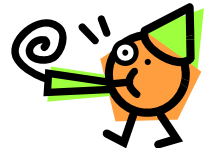
### Searching for Alumni



Do you have some spare time to spend on the computer? We need people to help work on our contact list of alumni. Invitations to our event in April will be going out soon, to all of the addresses we have, but we know we're missing lots of people. Help us search for these people, by giving us an hour or two of your time! Many computers make light work.

Event Day     APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007

Although we have a lot of preliminary plans, we can always use more help. Either in planning, phoning, emailing, or general running around. Let us know if we can call on you to be a part of this event.



If you are interested in any of the above, please visit our website at:

<http://thornhillalumni.com/tps160.html>

And contact us at: [tps160@yahoo.ca](mailto:tps160@yahoo.ca)

# Character Matters

## Initiative:

We act without being prompted by others. We are eager to do what needs to be done without having to be told to do it. We take the first step towards the achievement of a goal.



## **Grade 1 French Immersion Program for the upcoming school year**

The York Region District School Board offers two French Second Language programs: Core and French Immersion.

Core French Program: Students will receive 40 minutes of daily instruction at their local public school beginning in Grade 4.

French Immersion Program: Students receive full-day instruction in French in this optional program beginning in Grade 1.

Both are excellent programs but have different language learning outcomes. Core French graduates have basic communication skills in French which form a firm foundation for further study of French and other languages. Students who graduate from French Immersion secondary schools are functionally bilingual (able to work in a French milieu or attend a French-speaking college or university).

### ***Would you like further information regarding the French Immersion Program?***

Information will be sent home in January with all SK students.

For parents interested in the French Immersion program for their children, please attend the **information evening** on **Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.** at **Louis - Honore Frechette P.S.**

**Registrations for Grade 1 French Immersion will be accepted after February 7, 2007.** The deadline to apply for the school year commencing September 2007 is **Friday, March 2, 2007.**

Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. As space is limited, some students may be required to attend a French Immersion school other than the one designated for their community.

## **Premier's Awards School/Board Newsletter Articles**

Long version: **Nominate a winning teacher** (117 words)

The Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence recognize outstanding educators and support staff. Awards will be presented in 10 different categories, including teacher of the year, outstanding new teacher, contribution to school leadership, excellence in teaching support, and lifetime achievement.

You can nominate:

- a teacher,
- a guidance counsellor,
- a principal or vice-principal,
- a teacher-librarian,
- a teaching assistant,
- a school secretary, other school staff. As long as they work in a publicly funded school in Ontario, they're eligible for an award.

Nominations close January 31, 2007, and everyone can participate – students, parents, teachers and community members. Visit [www.ontario.ca/teachingawards](http://www.ontario.ca/teachingawards) to learn more and download a nomination form. Nominate someone today!

Short version: **Nominate a winning teacher** (58 words)

The Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence recognize outstanding educators and support staff. Anyone who works in a publicly funded school in Ontario is eligible for an award.

Nominations close January 31, 2007, and everyone can participate – students, parents, teachers and community members. Visit [www.ontario.ca/teachingawards](http://www.ontario.ca/teachingawards) to learn more and download a nomination form. Nominate someone today!



## FEBRUARY 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Regional JR Co-ed Volleyball	2 P.A. Day Mahashivaratri (Hinduism)	3
4	5	6	7 Symphony Gr. 4 - 8	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Options Day	16	17
18 Lunar New Year (Buddhism)	19 First Day of Lent (Christianity)	20 Area Meet for Intermediate Girls Basketball	21 Ash Wednesday (Christianity)	22	23	24
25	26 Dental Screening Intercalary Days (Baha'i Faith)	27 Math League Contest Gr. 6 - 8 Intermediate Basketball Boys	28			



## MARCH 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 19-Day Fast Begins (Baha'i Faith)	3 Holi (Hinduism)
4 Purim (Judaism)	5	6 Term 2 Report cards go home	7 Student Led Conferences	8 International Women's Day	9 March Break Begins	10
11	12	13	14 ← MARCH BREAK Sikh New Year's Day (Sikhism)	15	16	17 →
18	19	20 Spring Ohigon (Buddhism)	21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination  Naw Ruz (Baha'i Faith & Zoroastrianism)	22	23	24
25	26 Birthday of Prophet Zarathustra (Zoroastrianism)	27 Regional Intermediate Boys Basketball  Ramanavami (Hinduism)	28 Byron Germain - Fibonacci and Pythagoras Math Club Gr. 4-6 Regional Intermediate Girls Basketball	29 Author Liz Macleod Gr. 4 - 6	30	31 Mawlid-un-Nabi (Islam)