

February 2017



JOHN M. JAMES PUBLIC SCHOOL



Website - <http://johnmjames.kprdsb.ca>



@JMJSchool

FAIRNESS

I am sensitive to the needs of individuals. I include others and value their uniqueness. I celebrate diversity. I treat people with the dignity and consideration with which I would like to be treated. I gather as much information as possible in order to make a decision that is just.

Principal

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michael_menheere@kprdsb.ca

Vice Principal

Valerie Ledrew-Williams

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Superintendent of

Student Achievement

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Trustees

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School Council Chair

Katherine Johnson

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175 Mearns Avenue

Bowmanville, ON L1C 5C6

Tel: (905) 697-7817

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<http://johnmjames.kprdsb.ca>

Message from School Administration

First Term Report Cards

Reports cards for the first term of the school year (Sept.-Jan.) will be going home on Wednesday, February 22nd. Whereas the progress reports that went home in November provided descriptive feedback on how your child had been progressing at that time, these reports will also include letter grades for the Grade 1 to 6 classes and numerical grades for the Intermediate classes. Kindergarten classes will continue to receive descriptive feedback on their progress.

Once you have received the report card, we encourage you to review this with your child. Conversations around achievement help to celebrate the successes of your child, as well as working to set goals for those areas where your child would like to improve their achievement. The tear-off sections of the report cards can be used as a format to do just that. Please be sure to return the tear-off section to the school.

Safe Arrival System

Just a reminder that our new Safe Arrival system is now in play. It allows you to report your child's absence quickly and conveniently, in **any one of the following three ways**:

- ◇ By calling 1-866-740-2902 toll free; (no need to register in order to use this option)
- ◇ By logging into the Parent Portal website at kprdsb.schoolconnects.com to set up the ability to report absences online (**you must have an account for this option**), or;
- ◇ By downloading an app onto your iOS or Android device, to report absences. (**you must have an account for this option**),

You are able to use whichever of these methods you prefer to report your child's absence, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You are also able to report future absences at any time.

If you have changed your email address, please contact the school office to have your contact information updated.

Student Safety

Just a reminder to parents. At morning entrance and at dismissal at the end of the day, we would ask that parents please do not enter the school with your child/ren. Rather than escorting your child directly to the classroom, we ask that you accompany them to our school yard where they line up with the rest of their classmates to enter the building.

Should you need to speak to your child's teacher, we ask that you please use our main entrance at the front of the school and report to the office so that we can let the teacher know that you would like to meet with them.

While we certainly do welcome parents to John M. James, for the safety of your children, we must know who is visiting in our building at all times. We sincerely appreciate your understanding in these matters.

Family Day

A reminder that Monday, February 20th is the Family Day Holiday. There will be no classes that day at John M. James.

On behalf of our staff, we hope that everyone in our JMJ community has a great Family Day and is able to make the most of this time to spend some special moments with their families!

M. Menheere

V. Ledrew-Williams

Principal

Vice-principal

School Council Update

Your School Council has introduced a Budding Artists FUNdraiser at JMJ to help raise funds to go towards a portion of the cost of Jungle Sport! During the weeks of January 25th to March 5th, students at JMJ will be creating fantastic works of art as part of our Budding Artists FUNdraising program. Each child that participates will receive an order form displaying their masterpiece on over a dozen different customized gift items that can be ordered. This is a win-win for everyone:

Students get to be part of the FUNdraiser by showing their creativity;

Parents and relatives get to commemorate their child's unique creation on a product for the home;

The school receives a portion of the money raised, which will be used towards our Jungle Sport week!

Look for the Budding Artists envelope to be brought home on Monday, March 20th. You will have 2 weeks to place your order and the items will be delivered on Friday, May 5th just in time for Mother's Day!!!

February diversity dates

- Bear Moon – Mkwā Giizis (Anishinaabe – First Nations)*
- Black History Month, National Inclusive Education Month (Canada)*
- February 2 – Groundhog Day
- February 6-13 – International Development Week
- February 11 – Bear Moon
- February 10 – Ash Wednesday, Lent begins (Christian)
- February 14 – Valentine's Day
- February 15 – National Flag Day of Canada
 - Paranirvana/Nirvana Day
- February 20 – World Day of Social Justice (UN)
 - Family Day
- February 21 – International Mother Language Day (UN)
- February 22 – Pink Shirt Day/Anti-Bullying Day (Canada)
- February 24 – Maha Shivratri (Hindu)
- February 27—Lent (Orthodox-Christian) begins
 - Losar (Buddhist)
- February 28—Shrove Tuesday



Signing In/Out Routines

Students are to remain on school property from the time they arrive at school to the time they leave at the end of the day.

Exceptions:

- 1) Students who have returned a signed permission form allowing them to go home for lunch (2nd nutrition break) each day during this school year. (These were distributed on the first day of school.) **Please note that these students still must sign out when they head out for lunch and sign in when they return from lunch.**
- 2) Students who bring in a note from a parent/guardian stating they have permission to go home for lunch on a specific day or that they have an appointment that day. This note should be brought to the office at the beginning of the school day and the student should sign out. If/When the child returns to the school after lunch or an appointment, they must remember to sign back in at the office.

Students are **never to leave the school property without permission**. It is very important that the school knows where all of the students are at all times!!!



FUN LUNCHES ON-LINE

You've been asked to order your Fun Lunches On-Line... Now what? Go to www.HealthyHunger.ca and click "REGISTER STUDENT". After your account is created, you will be able to view all up-coming Fun Lunches, place orders, and then pay for your orders Online with Visa, MasterCard, or Interac Debit.

HOW IT WORKS

Creating an account

Parent Account Registration

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Mobile:

Work Address:

ADD STUDENT

First Name:

Last Name:

Province:

Select the province:

City:

Postal Code:

Class:

Add a Student

Account Balance

Item	Amount	Payment Status	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-01	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-02	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-03	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-04	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-05	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-06	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt
2012-01-07	\$10.00	PAID	View Order	View Receipt

Order Due

Order Due

Order Due

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
2012-01-01	\$10.00		
2012-01-02	\$10.00		
2012-01-03	\$10.00		
2012-01-04	\$10.00		
2012-01-05	\$10.00		
2012-01-06	\$10.00		
2012-01-07	\$10.00		
Total			

Payment Status

Payment Status

Payment Status

STEP 1.
Click "Register Student" and create your account.

STEP 2.
Login, and add your children to the account.

STEP 3.
View all of the Up-Coming Fun Lunch dates.

STEP 4.
Place your orders and make payment Online.

BENEFITS

1. Receive an email reminder if you have not ordered for an up-coming lunch.
2. Receive automatic email notification when your School posts a new Fun Lunch.
3. Order for multiple children attending the same or different Schools.
4. Flexibility & Control. Order for 1 lunch, 2 lunches, or the entire year.
5. Cancel orders at any time before the 5 day Cut-Off
6. Quickly review your orders at anytime.
7. Free and Unlimited Tech Support from Healthy Hunger.

WWW.HEALTHYHUNGER.CA
1-800-818-6260
211-B BROADWAY, SUITE 200, TORONTO, ONT. M5T 1A5

Calgary
403-516-0485
Edmonton
780-800-5688

Mississauga
289-205-1250
Toronto
647-933-9002

Vancouver
604-757-1235



Medical Concerns

All medication required by students must be kept at the office. A medication form must be completed annually, by the physician and parents, and kept in the office. If necessary, (e.g., life threatening allergy, etc.) an Emergency Response Plan should be completed by the parents and the school.



For your calendar

• Family Day—February, 20 2017

• March Break—March 10-17, 2017

• Good Friday—April 14, 2017

• Easter Monday—April 17, 2017

• Victoria Day—May 22, 2017

• P.A. Day—June 9, 2017

• Last Day of School—June 29, 2017

No Smoking

The Tobacco Control Act of Ontario prohibits smoking for anyone, anywhere on school property



No Dogs Allowed!

Kindly keep your dogs (both small and large) at home. Leashed or not - do not bring them on school property. We have posted this message on the property and ask you to spread the word. Many students/staff are afraid of, or allergic to dogs. Keeping dogs off the property also saves a lot of mess and aggravation. Thank you for helping to keep our school yard clean and safe for the students.



Visitor's Policy

All visitors, **including parents/guardians** are required to report to the Main Office upon arrival at the school and sign in. If you are staying for any length of time you will require a Visitor or Volunteer Pass. For your child's safety, it is important that we know the identity, at all times, of all the adults that are in our school.

If you are dropping off your child's lunch, forgotten homework, etc. please leave them at the office.

The secretary will ensure that necessary items are given to students in a timely manner, with minimal disruption to program.

Police Record Checks

(including Vulnerable Sector Screening & Search of Sexual Offences Database)

It is wonderful to have so many parents/guardians wanting to volunteer in our school each day! We greatly appreciate all of your help!! Board Policy does require that all school volunteers (e.g. trip chaperones, parent drivers, hot lunch helpers, classroom helpers, pediculis volunteers, etc.) receive a Criminal Records Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening. These must be completed **every year**. These can be completed locally at the Bowmanville or Oshawa office of the Durham Regional Police Services. A letter from the school is required to begin the process. This letter can be picked up at the school office. There is a fee for this service (the records check, not the letter). If you have already completed a record check from the police department, please submit it to the school as soon as possible as we need to have this information on file. For those that are still waiting to receive their information from the police department, please bring it in to the school as soon as possible. Again, please note that all volunteer applicants must provide the school or volunteer program contact with a police record check that:

- is dated within one year
- identifies any criminal convictions or criminal charges
- includes a search of the Pardoned Sexual Offences Database, and
- includes a Vulnerable Sector Search



Safe Arrival Program

In order to fully benefit from education, regular attendance and punctuality is required. Absences and lates must be reported to the office (905) 697 - 7817 (Our answering machine is on 24 hours a day) by the student's parent or guardian. During school hours, please call the school or send a note (on a separate piece of paper) for our records. Before or after school, please leave a message on the machine. If your child is absent and we have not been notified, we will call you at home or your place of business; however, this is very time consuming for us and disruptive at your workplace. As such, we encourage you to write a note or leave a message. We need to ensure that your child is safe, and we ask that you help us out by letting us know in advance of appointments and absences.

If you are dropping your child off at school in the morning please be reminded that yard supervision does not begin until 8:35 a.m.

Crossing Guards

A Crossing guard is available at the corner of Mearns and Apple Blossom to assist your child to cross the road to school safely. The times they will be present are:

8:30 - 8:45

12:45 -12:55

1:15 -1:25

3:05 - 3:15

The Crossing Guards have been asked to adhere to these times. They will be taking names of stragglers to provide to the school.

*****Please note that the intersection of Mearns & Apple Blossom Blvd/ Sprucewood Crescent contains a NEW four-way stop sign.*****



Allergy Alert! *Nut Safe School*

This year, we have several students who have a very serious allergy to nuts. We are asking for your support and co-operation in refraining from sending nuts or nut products to school. Due to the rotary schedule that is in place, students spend time in many rooms throughout the school. The school will be continuing these accommodations as we need to maintain the safety of these students by ensuring that they do not come in contact with surfaces with nut products on them (e.g., a door handle touched by someone with peanut butter on his/her fingers, water fountain handles, etc.) **Your help and support in promoting a safe environment at our school is gratefully acknowledged!**

follow us on
twitter



If you have a Twitter account, you can follow us @JMJSchool

If you don't have a Twitter account, you can still receive updates on your cell phone via text message. Send a text message to 21212 with the following message: follow JMJSchool

You will receive confirmation that you are following @JMJSchool and will receive Tweets from the school.

We look forward to enhancing communication with our community and to celebrating all the great things happening at our school.

Breakfast Club

8:15 - 8:40 am

(enter through rotunda doors)

**If you are able to volunteer,
please contact the school at (905)697-7817.**

Class Trips and Excursions

Throughout the school year, as part of our regular program, students leave the school site to go on trips. Some excursions may be community walks, while others are more distant and require transportation by car or bus.

When students are transported by car or bus, a form will be sent home outlining the event requiring a "consent for travel form" to be completed by a parent and returned to the teacher. For a student to participate, a completed consent form must be returned. We regret we are unable to accept verbal permission, and will not phone parents to acquire permission on the day of the event.

Vision Statement

At John M. James, we believe all students can achieve success. Through student engagement and partnerships with our school community, we will strive to ensure that every child realizes their full potential.