



Phintastic News

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SEPTEMBER NEWS 2019

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I am so very pleased to once again be the Principal of Elizabeth B. Phin P.S. this year. On behalf of the Phin staff, we would like to extend a warm welcome to the families new to our school and a special welcome back to our returning families. We are pleased to report that the students are settling into the routines of school quite nicely and we are all looking forward to another exciting year working with you and your child(ren). We appreciate that your continued involvement in your child/rens' education has a long and lasting impact on school success. One of the key components of this success is regular communication between home and school. Monthly school and classroom newsletters will provide you with information regarding areas of study, school and classroom activities, special events and good news stories. Student planners/agendas are being used in grades 1 to 3 as an organizational tool and are also another excellent method of communication. Many of the teachers are also choosing to use applications such as Remind or Class Dojo to communicate with the families of their students. Please make sure that you sign up to stay up to date.

Our first School Community Council (SCC) meeting for this year will be held on Thursday, October 10th at 6:30pm in the library. At this meeting, we will be holding the elections for this year's SCC. The SCC provides a forum through which you can contribute to improving school achievement and school performance.

Lastly, Curriculum Night will be held on Thursday, September 19th from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. This is a great opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom, meet his/her teacher(s) and learn more about the curriculum being taught. The curriculum documents can also be accessed online through the following link: [Ontario Curriculum Documents](#)

Should any concerns or questions arise during the school year, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the office to arrange a meeting to discuss your concerns.

Riley Lord
Principal

Principal: Riley Lord

VP: Jean Ferrier

Office Admin.: Kathleen Ovcjak

City of Pickering Trustees:

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Pickering Superintendent

Jim Markovski

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Dates to Remember....

**Sept 19—Curriculum Night
6:30—7:30**

Sept 25—Picture Day—all day

Sept 26—Terry Fox Run—pm

Sept 30—Orange Shirt Day

Oct 2—Area Cross Country Meet

Oct 9—Regional Cross Country

Oct. 10—SCC Elections/Meeting

Oct 11—PA Day

Oct—14 Thanksgiving

SCC NOMINATIONS PLEASE

The SCC needs you! Our School Community Council plays an important part in supporting our school. They organize many of our fundraising activities, meet regularly to stay well-informed of school initiatives and to ask questions, and they help connect the entire parent community of Pin. If you are interested in being a voting member of the SCC (this means you are able to attend scheduled meetings which are held in the evening), then please complete one of the SCC Nomination forms that were sent home. If you wish to run for one of the executive positions, please be sure to mark the form accordingly. If you need any more information about our SCC, just ask! Can't commit to coming to every meeting? No problem, all parents/guardians are welcome to attend any and all meetings without voting status.

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED!

We are always in need of volunteers to help with the many things going on at Pin! It's as easy as volunteering for an hour in a class or two, or for a day...anything helps! All volunteers in DDSB schools are required to have a valid vulnerable sector screening Criminal Reference Check. Volunteer applications are available at the office. If you are interested in helping us, contact the office to pick up the forms.

LUNCH TIME ROUTINES

Students eat their lunch at 11:25 am in the classroom. On the odd occasion that you have to drop off a lunch to your child, please leave it outside of the office on the lunch table. Please make sure your child is aware of this drop off, as we can't guarantee that we can call them down. Students have 20 minutes to eat their lunch and then they have outdoor time. If their lunch does not arrive at or before 11:25, then the student will have to wait until 12:25 before they are able to eat their lunch. There is no supervision for students to stay behind and eat their lunch after the 11:45 bell. It is very important that their lunch arrives on time, or best practice, students come to school with their lunch in their knapsack.



CLEAR HALLWAYS – Please Meet Outside!

Thank you for setting up a meeting place outside the school rather than waiting for your child indoors. The space you create makes movement inside our halls easier and safer. It also teaches our children to be independent as they use the appropriate doors to enter and exit the school. Having a child run to your car in a parking lot of moving vehicles is dangerous. If you are late to pick up your child, please instruct them to report to the office and we'll have them await your arrival.

ALLERGY ALERT SCHOOL

In our school we have a number of students who are extremely sensitive /allergic to peanuts, tree nuts, or nut by-products. The resultant anaphylactic reaction can be so severe, it can be life threatening. We shall make every effort to NOT have **PEANUTS, TREE NUTS, SEAFOOD, SWEET PEAS, SOY, KIWI, SESAME SEEDS, CHICK PEAS, LEGUMES, SEEDS, MUSTARD, EGGS, PEACHES, NECTARINES & PINEAPPLE** in the school.



We would like to remind parents that Soy Butter, also sold as WOW butter, is not permitted at school. Though the product is peanut free, it creates a stressor in the classroom for our students with allergies as it looks and smells just like peanut butter. This is not a request made specifically by EB Pin PS, but rather it is a DDSB and Durham Region Health recommendation. Thank you for your cooperation in making sure that your child does not bring snacks or a lunch that could put another child's life at risk.

Medication Reminder

If your child has an epipen, inhaler or other medication please be sure to fill out the necessary paperwork for the 2019-2020 school year and return both the medication and the paperwork to the office in a timely manner. All forms whether it be an allergy form, asthma management plan or oral medication form must be signed by both a parent / legal guardian and a doctor. Please be sure to update expired epipens and inhalers.



Make your first visit at the office



If you have to sign a student in late or pick them up for early dismissal, please come to the office first. You can sign them in or out and we will make sure the student gets into class or we will retrieve the student from class.

There should be no parents/guardians going to the classroom directly to pick up or drop off your child. Your cooperation is very helpful in making sure our school halls remain a safe place.

Cross Country Season is Here!

Congratulations to our awesome Cross Country Team who have been practicing every day at lunch! Our Area Cross Country Meet is approaching quickly, Wednesday, October 2nd at Lakeridge Ski Resort from 10am-Noon. Those who place in the Top 8 will continue on to the Regional Finals on Wednesday, October 9th. Best of luck to all our runners!



Run for Terry



THE TERRY FOX
for cancer research **RUN**

Our Terry Fox run is Thursday, September 26th in the afternoon. Please send in your donations. Thank you for your generosity. Our goal is \$1000.00. Parents are welcome to join us in the afternoon from 12:30-1:00 for the run on the school field.



**Boomerang
Lunch** and



The Durham District School Board encourages our schools to reduce food and food-related waste by implementing a waste-free or boomerang lunch program.

A **waste-free lunch** contains no throwaway packaging and produces no food waste. Food and drinks are packed in reusable containers within a reusable (often insulated) lunchbag. All containers are resealable, so that leftover food and drink can be saved for later.

A **boomerang lunch** means that any uneaten food and any waste material produced is returned home and is not added to the school's waste collection. It is important that this food and waste packaging be taken home in a resealable container or bag so that lunch bags/backpacks/lockers remain clean!

Both a waste-free and a boomerang lunch enable parents to see what their children are actually eating during the day. Waste audits carried out at schools consistently demonstrate that a significant amount of this waste is made up of unopened packaged foods, uneaten fruit, full juice boxes, etc. Uneaten fruit that is added to the school waste can become a wasp hazard, especially in the fall. This organic waste can be returned home and added to the "Green Bin", the Durham Region wide organics waste program.

Some Waste-Free Lunch Tips

- Instead of expensive plastic sandwich bags, one reusable container can be used for packing snacks, sandwiches, etc. No more squished food!
- Cut fruit and vegetables into pieces so that some can be eaten at lunch and the rest saved for a later snack.
- Prepare extra food at dinnertime and use the leftovers for lunches.
- Label all containers to ensure that they return home if lost.
- Minimize the morning rush (when you'll reach for the convenience, over-packaged items) and pack lunches the night before and refrigerate overnight.
- Avoid drinks in packaging that cannot be resealed. After a few sips, drinks are often discarded.



ecoschools



The Lunch Lady is back! For delicious and nutritious lunches for students...look no further than the Lunch Lady!

E.B. Phin Lunch Lady Day is: **Friday**

Start Date is: **September 27, 2019**

To sign up and order lunches for your child, please visit the website:

theLunchLady.ca

TENNIS BALLS

We are in need of tennis balls for our gym program. If you have old ones at home or are part of a club that could donate please let Ms. Gellel know.



SAFE ARRIVAL SYSTEM

Reporting your child's absence is easy and convenient! All you need is to set up a Safe Arrival account with our new Parent Portal or use the toll free number 1-844-350-2646. There is even a mobile app! If you have not yet set up your account, it is very important you do, as this will be the only way absences are reported by parents. Please visit the DDSB website and click on the SAFE ARRIVAL button for information .

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

E.B. Phin's chocolate fundraiser is about to begin. Chocolates will be sent home on this Friday, Sept. 20, 2019 and are due back on October 4, 2019. All funds raised will support our Library renovation and Tech program. Thank you for your support!





ATTENDANCE MATTERS FACT SHEET

Fast facts:

A student who is absent 2 days in September is considered to be at higher-risk for chronic absenteeism (10% of the school year)
A student who is absent 10% in a school year will be away 18 days per year. If a student has been absent 10% of each school year from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, they will have missed one full year of classroom instruction before they move on to high school.

One or two days a week does not seem like much but...

If your child misses...	That Equals...	Which is...	And over 14 years of schooling that's...
1 day every two weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	280 days or over 1 ½ school years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	560 days or over 3 school years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	1,120 or over 6 school years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	1,680 days or over 9 years

How about 10 minutes late per day? Surely that won't affect my child's education?

They are only just missing...	That equals...	Which is about...	And over 14 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1 one hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 years