



**Mackay Centre School & Philip E. Layton School**  
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## February 2018 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The days are getting longer and Spring Break is coming soon! There is a lot going on in February and March, so please check the dates carefully:

### IMPORTANT DATES

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| February 4-11   | White Cane Week  |
| February 5      | Mackay & Philip E. Layton Professional Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b><br>(Daycare Service available; students must pre-register) |
| February 6      | Family Day Activity - Pansy's pre-k class  |
| February 12-16  | Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week  |
| February 16     | Deadline to submit Reverse Integration Program applications  |
| February 23     | Teen Tour Theatre presents play entitled "Totally Red"   |
| February 28     | Distribution of report cards   |
| March 1         | Parent-Teacher-Therapist interviews  |
| March 2         | Mackay & Philip E. Layton Professional Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b><br>(Daycare Service <b>NOT</b> available)                  |
| March 5-March 9 | Spring Break - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>  |
| March 12        | First day back to school after Spring Break  |
| March 23        | Board-Wide Professional Day - <b>NO SCHOOL</b><br>(Daycare Service available; students must pre-register)                |

### Very Important Notice

Please note that due to the snow day that we had on January 23, 2018, **Monday, February 19 will now become a regular day**; therefore, all students come to school and the bus service will run as usual.

let's go  
to school



### White Cane Week

In honour of White Cane week our students at Philip E. Layton will be participating in a Braille reading event that will take place on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will create a story with their students either in Braille or by other accessible means. Stories will be shared with all students and staff.

### Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

During the week of February 12-16 we will be celebrating *Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week*. Every year we reflect on the contributions that our staff members make to society. Our children are fortunate to have access to education. If possible, please take a moment to have your child write a simple note of appreciation to his/her teacher (and/or any support staff member).

### Pre-K Family Day

Information has been sent home to the families of Pansy's Pre-K class.





### **Monthly Theme**

As mentioned at the beginning of the year, each month we will be emphasizing a new theme. This month we are focusing on LOVE. Each class will be touching on this theme during the course of the month. We encourage you to discuss LOVE at home and ask your child(ren) what they have been talking about.



### **Reverse Integration Program Applications**

The E.M.S.B. and Mackay Centre School are continuing a joint venture, begun in 1973, in which a limited number of children in pre-kindergarten through Grade 6 are given an opportunity to attend Mackay Centre School for one year. Reverse Integration students follow the regular curriculum and learn alongside students with physical disabilities at Mackay Centre School. The program boasts small class sizes, smart boards in each classroom, weekly swimming and computer classes, as well as the opportunity to learn and/or play alongside children who use sign language, voice synthesizers and adapted equipment for recreation and mobility.

If you are interested in having your child's sibling attend the Reverse Integration program at Mackay Centre School for a year, please complete and submit **2 copies of the application** no later than February 16, 2018. Please note that children with special needs or IEP's are not eligible to apply. Please take the opportunity to learn more about the Reverse Integration program by visiting [www.emsb.qc.ca/mackay](http://www.emsb.qc.ca/mackay).

If your child is eligible to attend the Reverse Integration program, they will be invited for a two day visit in March. At this time, applicants will be screened and selected based on individual class needs. Parents will be invited to attend a Parent Information meeting on the first day of your child's visit. A tour of the school and the classrooms will be arranged for that time. You will be notified by mail of the date of your child's visit.

We receive more applications than available spaces so unfortunately not all students will be eligible for admission. You should be notified of your child's admission to the program by the end of April. Students who are eligible for admission following the screening process will be invited to spend one more day at Mackay Centre School in May.

Should you require further information, please contact Mrs. Patrizia Cicarelli, Principal at (514-482-0001, extension 1600) or Mr. Greg Watson, Vice-Principal at (514-482-0001, extension 1602).

### **Winter Carnival**

On February 1<sup>st</sup> the whole school participated and enjoy a myriad of carnival activities. Everyone had a great day.

### **Report Cards and Parent-Teacher-Therapist Interviews**

On **Thursday, March 1, 2018** we will be holding Parent-Teacher-Therapist interviews. You are invited to meet with the classroom teacher and therapists to discuss your child's progress.

### **Spring Break**

Please be advised that Spring Break is from **Monday, March 5 to Friday, March 9**. **Students will return to school on Monday, March 12.**

