

Principal's Message

One semester completed and another to go!!

So many great things happening at our school.....

Our Eco-Club continues to push towards PLATINUM certification!! A fantastic assembly was held in November to inform staff, students and the community of our goals! "Stay thirsty my friends!"

The Christmas assembly put us all in the Christmas spirit just in time for the holidays!

The Robb Nash concert inspired PJ students to always care and aspire to do something meaningful in life.

Our grade 8 Colour Night and Open House showcased the wonderful school that is PJ.

And those are just a handful of awesome events taking place at PJ since November!!

I continue to take great pride in being the principal of Pauline Johnson CVS. The students and staff are caring, hard-working and truly enjoy being a part of a family. The staff devote themselves to working tirelessly with the "whole" child and do all that they can to ensure success!

Thank you to all staff and community volunteers who assist in the extra-curricular activities that take place outside of the classroom walls. Without your time and effort, students would miss out on unique opportunities. It means a lot to many.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Michael DeGroot

TEL: (519) 756-1320 Ext 276001 , Cell: (519) 717-1904

Email: michael.degroot@granderie.ca

Vice-Principals

Adriana Potichnyj

Shannon Love

Office Coordinator

Donna Dougherty

BRANT NEWS' TEAM OF THE YEAR KIWANIS FIELD COMMITTEE

The Kiwanis Field Committee was selected as the 2015 Brant News' Team of the Year. Congratulations are extended to all of the members of this committee for your hard work and determination in bringing the first synthetic playing turf field to Brantford. It will also include top-of-the-line facilities for track and field and for Special Olympics. Check out the complete story
<http://www.brantnews.com/news-story/6214435-field-of-dreams-becomes-reality/>



COMING Sept. 2016
S.O.A.R.

A demanding, high level athletic program that provides student athletes with the skills and attitudes to enhance athletic performance and academic achievement!

Email soar-pj@granderie.ca for more info.



PJ Eco Club aiming for Platinum Status!

Our PJ Gold Eco Club is aiming for Eco Platinum. We've been recognized by the City of Brantford for our efforts and are still striving for more results. Our traditional assembly kick-started our efforts to achieve platinum status. Derek Forgie, the club's guest speaker, inspired PJ staff and students. Our focus for this year's assembly is to reduce the amount of plastic we use by banning bottled water and by encouraging the sale of reusable ones in the library and promoting monthly Earth Hours. Our Eco Club has also brought back litter less lunches with a grand prize of a \$50 Cineplex gift card to a deserving student at the end of each semester.



Eco Club is presenting at the Brant Rod & Gun's Club Environment Conference in February!

Join PJ's Parent Council: For more info, contact Mr. DeGroot.

Important Dates

- February 11 – SOAR Parent Info Night
- February 15 – Family Day holiday
- February 18 – Picture Day (new students) and Grade Retakes
- February 19 – Semi-Formal Dance
- March 9 – Progress Reports sem 2
- March 14 to 18 – March BREAK
- March 23 – Parent/Teacher Interviews
- March 25 to 28 – Easter Weekend
- March 31 – OSSLT Literacy Test
- April 19 – End of Term 1 for semester 2

See what's new in our community!

Your community flyers are available at www.granderie.ca/flyers



Winter – Sports Update

The winter sports seasons will be finishing up in the next few weeks and new spring sports will begin soon. Some highlights from the last few months include:

Girls Curling – Congratulations on a third place team finish in the regular season. Good luck in the semi-final on February 11!

Wrestling – Congratulations to Dustin Howick for placing first in his weight class and to Jack Bridesell and Dakota Laforme for second place finishes in their weight classes.

Good luck to both the **Jr. and Sr. Boys Basketball teams and the Boys Hockey team** in their quarter final on February 9rd!

Many thanks go out to our winter coaches:

Sr. Girls Volleyball – coached by Mr. Michaelides, Mr. Ricci and Ms. Phillips

Jr. Girls Volleyball – coached by Ms. Getchell and Mr. Farr

Boys Hockey – coached by Mr. Sitak, Mr. Leedham, Mr. Olds and Mr. Blue

Boys and Girls Curling – coached by Ms. Taylor and Mr. Kozub

Sr. Boys Basketball – Mr. Monahan and Ms. Sweers

Jr. Boys Basketball – Mr. Garlow and Mr. Papachristos

Look for the following teams to start at the beginning of Semester Two:

Jr. Badminton – Mrs. Sitak

Sr. Badminton – TBA

Spring Season begins after March Break. See the coaches below if you are interested in any of these teams:

Girls Rugby – Mr. Colton, Ms. Getchell

Girls Soccer – Mr. McClung, Mr. Stamer

Boys Soccer – Mr. Michaelides, Mr. Ricci

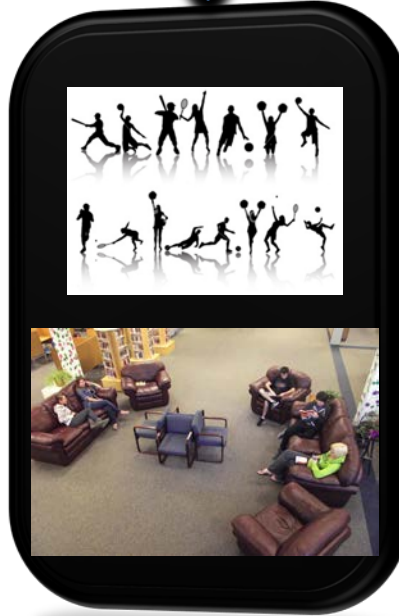
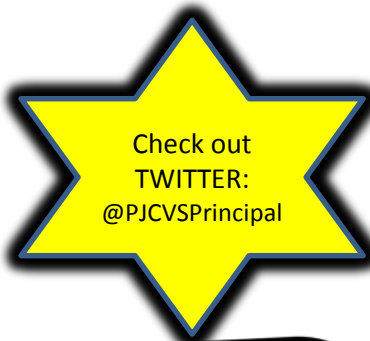
Boys Baseball – Madame Clarke, Ms. Kraemer

Girls Softball – Mrs. Sitak, Ms. Partridge

Track and Field – Mr. Tice

Lacrosse – TBA

Boys Rugby – Mr. MacDonald



Donation of Computers!

Thanks to JoAnne Dubois and the Grand River Community Health Care Center for donating 20 laptops, a modem, cart and printer. The computers will be signed out as a lending library. Students who do not have access to computers at home will be able to sign out a laptop similar to a library book. This will allow students who do not have access to the internet to use the school's WIFI either in the school or on the school grounds at night or on weekends. With this equipment students will also be able to access free WIFI at the public library or at businesses that offer free WIFI. If parents would like their child to be able to sign out this equipment, contact Mr. Wilson at edward.wilson@granderie.ca.

HOMEWORK HELP

Do any of the following apply to you?

- ❖ Incomplete assignments?
- ❖ Need to re-write a test?
- ❖ Need to catch up on work due to absences?
- ❖ Need help understanding work from class?
- ❖ Need a quiet place to finish your homework?
- ❖ Need a computer to complete work/resumé?

Then come to **Homework Help!**

Monday – Thursday in the library 3:00-4:15. ☺

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Couch;

katherine.couch@granderie.ca or (519) 756-1320 ext. 276419

PJC Library is now on Twitter! Please follow us at

<https://twitter.com/PicLibrary>

Students have also been using our resources, in print and in digital format, for research projects and recreational reading. Remember, students may access the digital resources 24/7 from any computer in the school and at home. Students can access the library link from the PJC website.

- The PJ book club is once again running every Tuesday during lunch in the library, Ms. Tice is the club advisor.
- Positive Spaces is running every Wednesday during lunch in the PC room, the advisor is Mr. Wilson.
- The GNC (Graphic Novel Club) is running every Thursday in the PC room with Ms. Vynckier as the club advisor.
- The Eco Club meets every Friday at lunch in the library, club advisors are Mr. Sitak, Ms. Nowiki-Prime, Mrs. Lowes, Ms. Tice, Mr. Clarridge.



PJ Spotlight Award Winners

The PJ Spotlight Award is given to students who show excellent effort in their classes, their school and their community.

The first winner this year was Elita Sweers who has been highly involved in sports, student government, leadership and community volunteering. Among her other accomplishments she has been on Student's Council for three years and is currently serving as Minister of Senior Affairs. In the community she has been a referee for soccer, a camp counsellor for Brantford Parks and Recreation and has served as a member of the Brantford Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committee.

The second recipient of the award is Nathan Manners. Nathan is an Honour Roll student who is full of school spirit. He takes part in school events and is a fan of PJ sports. He has helped with the school recycling program. In the community he helped organize a yard sale that raised \$1,300 for the Sunshine Foundation of Canada. He also volunteers at Lansdowne Children's Centre for the Recreation Program.

The most recent recipient of the award is Sam Luckhurst. Sam has been on the High Honour Roll every year of high school. He is a good athlete focusing on track and football for which he is currently being scouted by the University of Waterloo. In the community he has volunteered with the Haldimand Youth Soccer Club, Crossing All Bridges Learning Center and Onondaga-Brant School



Elita Sweers



Sam Luckhurst



Nathan Manners

PJ Coop Works

Meet one of our top Coop Students this past semester!

My placement was one of the most intriguing and best learning experiences of my high school career. The position I was assigned was as an aircraft maintenance engineer at Brant Aero located at the Brantford Airport. I worked beside many of the most experienced engineers in the avionics world! One of the many great experiences I had was being involved in inspecting and repairing different planes. I highly recommend PJ co-op because PJ Coop Works!



Matthew Sheeler, PJC Coop student, enjoying his placement at Brant Aero.

New PA Day on February 26, 2016

The 2015-16 school year calendar has been modified to include a new Professional Activity (PA) Day on February 26, 2016 for elementary and secondary schools in Grand Erie.

Robb Nash at PJ

Robb Nash gave an inspirational assembly inspiring students to overcome obstacles in life and make a difference in their own world as well as in other people's lives.



RAISING AWARENESS AS A PJ FAMILY

Caroline Smith, a student at our school, suffers from Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. It is a degenerative connective tissue disorder that has caused some serious health complications for her. She has had a \$20,000 surgery and is in need of a second surgery (\$100,000) to fuse a bone to her neck to support her spinal column because her neck is no longer strong enough. For more details about Caroline's story see the article <http://www.lfpres.com/2015/08/06/caroline-smith-16--of-princeton-suffers-from-ehlers-danlos-syndrome>.

Our Students' Council met with some other Students' Councils about a month ago regarding fundraising in the other schools and in the community. The students discussed setting a goal of \$1 per student and our school decided that we should double that for PJ since Caroline is one of our own. Our goal was set at \$1600. This is a summary of the events we have been running.

Caroline Smith Fundraising Events:

Paint Toss This event was held in the cafeteria. Students paid \$3.00 each to throw paint & water filled balloons at staff members.

Stop The Bop Students and Staff "suffered" through 3 days of listening to the song "What Does The Fox Say?" before school, at breaks, at lunch and after school. Money was collected in the hallways and once the fundraising goal was reached the song was stopped.

Staff Lunch Student Council made a chicken & pasta lunch for staff. Some of the supplies for this event were donated to the school by No Frills, Metro and Food Basics.

Café Caroline Mr. Jeff Goodall's Period 2 class put on this event where students were able to purchase hot chocolate, with various toppings, cookies and candy canes.

General Donations These donations came in from various sources, including one student who donated \$1000.00. A grade 11 student (Blair Robb) at our school gave \$1000, money he was given by his family to fix up a truck for him to drive. He decided he would wait to save up money to do that and instead donate that money to Caroline!

PJ E-Bay The principal, Mr. DeGroot, organized a collection of items from the staff and community and has been auctioning them off to raise funds. Over \$1000 has been collected and will continue in the New Year.

TOTAL deposited to Caroline's Trust Account on Dec. 17/15

\$5273.73



To donate to the trust account or the Gofundme account
<https://www.gofundme.com/caroline-smith>