

Anne Frank Forward



"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

A Message from Administration

Dear Families,

It has been a cool wintery start to January! Thank you for your support by sending your child ready for outdoor recesses: hats, scarves, mitts, boots, extra socks and snow pants go a long way! We also thank you for keeping very sick kids at home. We will continue to encourage our students to wash their hands and to follow proper hygiene to ensure minimal spread of germs this season. Students too sick to go outside for recess are too sick to be at school.

Students this month will be busily engaged in many culminating activities as term 1 is coming to an end. The learning is buzzing all around the school as students are learning with and from each other and are sharing their successes with their teachers and peers. We will be continuing to work on the school song this month and have it professionally recorded. All of our students will learn the song and we can't wait to share it with you in the spring during our official school opening. We are hoping to have both a morning and an evening ceremony to provide everyone with an opportunity to attend. Please hold the date:

**Anne Frank P.S.
Official School Opening Ceremony
Wednesday, May 6th, 2015 (Education Week)
Time: TBD**

Students are also learning to be reflective and to set realistic and measurable goals as they transition into term 2. We continue to support and embed a growth mindset culture in our school as we truly believe that...

Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is!

-Anne Frank

Report cards will be distributed on February 18th. Please take the time to discuss the reports with your child/ren. Remember that the **Learning Skills** part of the report card is just as important, if not more so, as the subject area part of the report card. Learning skills are life skills. They are part of what makes a child grow up into an adult who's a responsible, collaborative and contributing member of society. Please review that section of the report card carefully with your child/ren and discuss next steps and plans ahead.

On February 12th, we will hold our 1st annual **Dance-a-thon**, fundraising for technology and books for our school. Please remember to send your child with their pledge form and money on February 12th and not before (forms will be sent home by mid January). A special thank you shout out to our amazing school council for all their volunteer work organizing this event the other student and family engagement events for our school! We have an amazing student and community body and we are very appreciative of everyone's collaborative spirit. Together we are better and together we achieve more.

Sincerely yours,

Aneta Fishman

Contact Us

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647-795-7745
F: 289-553-5642
E: anne.frank.ps@yrdsb.ca

Trustee: Linda Aversa
P: 647-462-0921

Upcoming Dates:

JANUARY

- Jan. 5: •First day of classes after Winter Break
- Jan. 16: •P.A. Day—no classes
•JK registration begins
- Feb. 16: •Family Day—no classes
- Feb. 17, •GROW Workshop in-school
18, & 20: field trip
- Mar. 2-4: •Lake St. George trip, Gr. 7/8
- Mar. 13: •P.A. Day—no classes
- Mar.16-20: •March Break—no classes

School Council Dates

- January 5, 2015
- February 9, 2015
- March 2, 2015
- May 4, 2015
- June – TBD Year End celebration and wrap up

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION COUNCIL CONFERENCE



In November, Ms. Babalis, our Teacher Librarian and Early Years Lead, presented at the Early Childhood Education Council Conference in Edmonton, Alberta. There, she shared her research on how to design a learning environment to support inquiry-based learning for twenty-first century learners. Her experience at the conference was a memorable one, especially having the opportunity to network with other educators, hear their presentations, and visit their schools. Ms. Babalis appreciated the chance to visit and learn within another province, and hopes that soon we can host visitors to our new and inspiring learning space!



WELCOME, MS. DIAMOND!

Mrs. Carol Diamond, retired on contract principal, will be helping us out as part time VP at Anne Frank for the next few months (sharing the role with Nellie McClung P.S.). We welcome Mrs. Diamond to our team and we look forward to her support as we continue to build our school together.



PEER MEDIATION AT AFPS

A Peer Mediator Program was recently established by the team of CYWs at Anne Frank P.S. At the end of November, an Outreach Worker from Yellow Brick House joined efforts with the CYWs and trained the students who signed up in ways to help their peers solve issues during snack and lunch recesses. The Mediators in our school can now help students work through disputes and difficulties in a safe setting. Skills that were learned by the Mediators include:

- The 3-Step Plan to solve issues during recess
- How to be supportive and use non-threatening language
- How to be non-judgmental to students when handling a problem
- Leadership and teamwork skills
- Self-esteem building skills
- Problem solving skills

We are so proud of our team of mediators and the students working with them to help make Anne Frank P.S. a safe and inclusive school!



ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

This is just a gentle reminder to please call in your child's absences before 9:10 a.m. You may leave a message in the attendance mailbox at any time of day. If you are sending in notes for future absences, please forward them to the office and they will then be recorded and forwarded to the teacher for reference.

Please also remember that students who are ill should not be sent to school, especially if they are unable to go outside for recess. Teachers available to supervise students are outside on duty, and thus only those students well enough to take part in recess should be in attendance. If your children need to recover indoors, please make arrangements for them to stay home until they are well again.



OMEA CONFERENCE

Last month, Stephanie Hopkins, our instrumental music teacher attended the annual Ontario Music Educator's Association (OMEA) conference. She attended workshops on teaching music to students with special needs using non-traditional notation, critical listening, building the foundations of excellent children's choirs and implementing a ukulele program through video modules. The conference was highly informative and inspiring. Many of the clinicians and keynote speakers focused their discussions on ways to engage students in the music classroom and how music education is changing in the 21st century. She looks forward to implementing new ideas in her music classes.

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at **Ventura Park P.S.** on January 15, 2015 at 7 p.m. FI registration will begin January 16, 2015. In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2015, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Ventura Park to register between January 16 and February 13, 2015. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

Stephen Lewis Secondary School

Welcome to Grade 9 Information Evening THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015 7:00PM

Presentation for Parents and Guardians of Grade 8 students

- Secondary School Information
- Ministry Requirements
- Course Selection Process
- Tour of Specialized Areas

555 Autumn Hill Boulevard, Thornhill, Ontario L4J 8X2

RSVP: 905.326.7994 ext 505

<http://goo.gl/YX67En>



Roots of Empathy

Racines de l'empathie

Roots of Empathy at Anne Frank PS

At Anne Frank PS we are proud to be part of the Roots of Empathy Program in our opening year.

Roots of Empathy is an award winning parenting program for elementary school children from Kindergarten to Grade 8, which has been bringing wisdom of parents and babies into classrooms since 1996.

The program helps children to learn about baby's needs and development, and gets children see a loving relationship growing between parent and baby.

Anne Frank is lucky to have two trained instructors amongst their staff and already started the program in October. We hope to add a second classroom to the one already in place in FDK in January.

In the heart of the program are a neighborhood infant and parent who visit the classroom over the school year. The Instructor coaches the children to observe the baby's development and to label the baby's feelings. In this experimental learning, the baby is the "teacher" and lever that the instructor uses to help the children to identify, reflect upon and understand their own feelings and the feelings of others. The Instructors follow a curriculum with a lesson plan for every visit during the school year. Nine themes are covered and each theme is addressed over three visits. (Pre Family Visit, Family Visit, and Post Family Visit)

Roots of Empathy is an evidence based classroom program that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression among school children while raising social/emotional competency and increasing empathy.

The program has been evaluated in both comparative and randomized controlled studies designed to measure changes in behavior of participating students.

Key research findings show that roots of empathy students perceive a more caring classroom environment by the end of the program. They as well exhibit

- A decrease in aggression
- A increase in prosocial behavior
- An increase in social and emotional understanding ,and
- An increase of knowledge of parenting

A follow up study of the program indicates that improvements in prosocial behavior and reductions in aggression, including bullying, are maintained and enhanced for years afterwards.

We as a school are excited to be part of this program and expect it to be meaningful for our FDK students, and beyond, in relation to our school improvement plan goals.

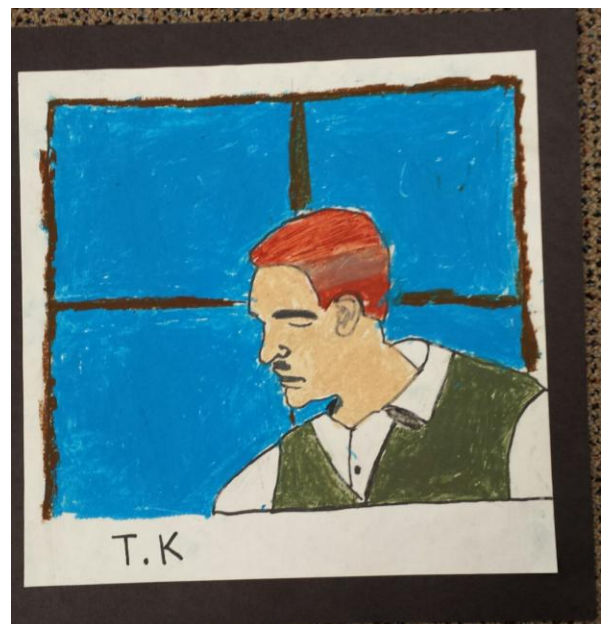
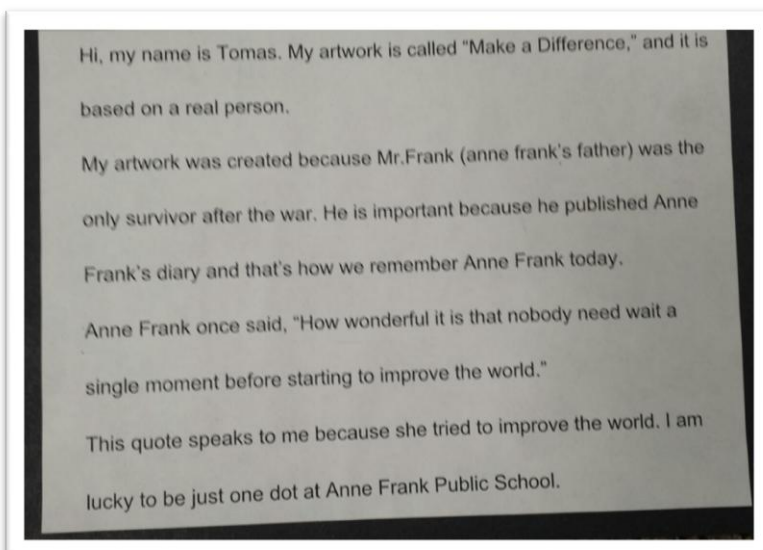
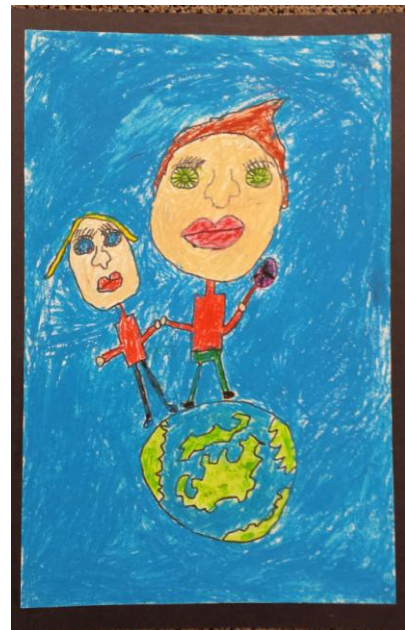
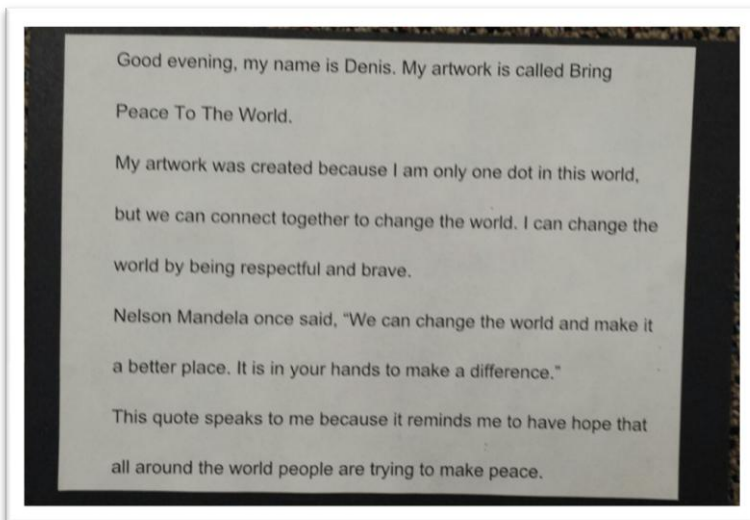
For more information about Roots of Empathy please visit www.rootsofempathy.org

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On Thursday, December 4th, Anne Frank Public School was invited to present at the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting. In York Region, the SEAC is responsible for making recommendations to the Board, making sure that exceptional students receive appropriate educational services.

At Anne Frank, our school focus has been to teach students and staff to celebrate our individual differences and the vital role each person plays within our school community. Each individual comes to our community with his/her own special character traits. We are learning to connect the dots to see how we all work together to grow and learn as one.

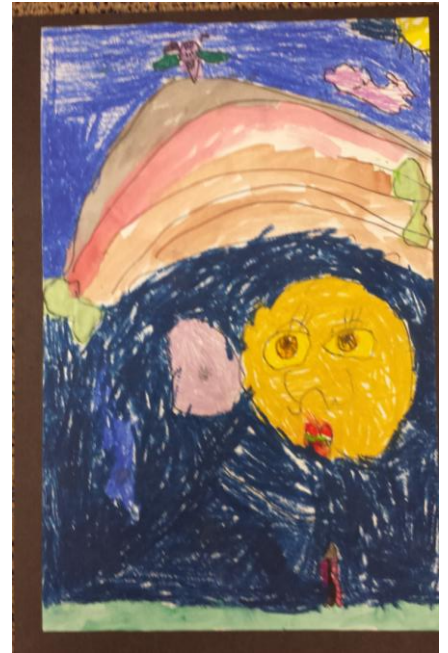
Students created artwork around the theme of "I am the world and the world is me," and wrote artist statements. Each child shared his/her artwork and statement with the committee. Our choir concluded the presentation with a rendition of, "We Are the World." It was a lovely evening.



Hello, my name is Emily. My artwork is called The Sun Dot.

My artwork was created to show that you can make a difference in the world by being helpful and loving.

Picasso once said, "Every child is an artist." I think he means that every child can do great stuff in their pictures. In my picture, the boy is being helpful by caring for a sun dot. If we all care for others, the world will change for good.

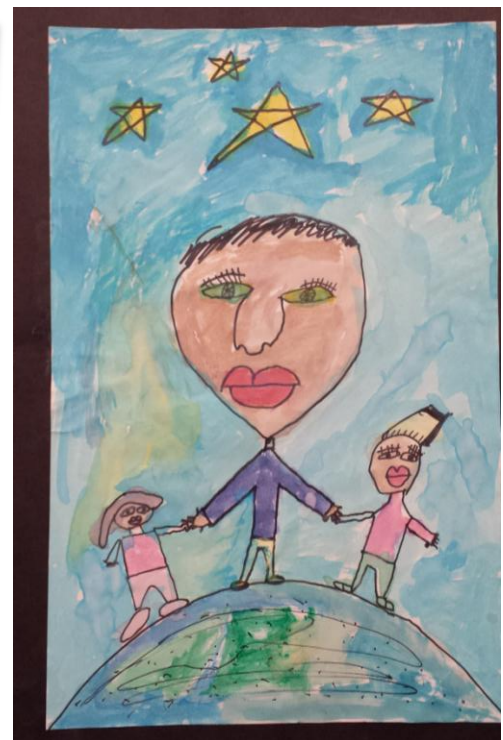


Good evening, my name is Fillip. My artwork is called The Dotted World.

My artwork was created because not everyone in the world is good at everything. Everyone is good at one thing. In the picture, I am holding hands with 2 kids with Down's Syndrome. They have a challenge, but they are also important in the world. Together we can make the world better.

Helen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

This quote is important because it reminds me that I am just one dot in the world, but we are all connected. Together we can improve the world and make it a better place to live in.



Good evening, my name is Jenny. My artwork is called All Dots Together As One.

My artwork was created to show that even if we are all different, we don't have to be bullying each other for being part of different cultures. We can all be part of one big family.

Rosa Parks once said, "Each person must live their life as a model for others." This quote speaks to me because it reminds me to stand up for what's right and set a good example for others. As one

person, I can show other people how to be respectful. If one person starts a conversation about getting along, more people will

continue to talk about it. We can connect the dots to show each other that it's ok to be different and we can all put a stop to

bullying.



Hi, my name is Kai. My artwork is called Shining Stars .

In my artwork I wanted to show peace everywhere on the earth.

Even though we are separated around the world, we are still connected. As we all stand together nothing will stop us.

Walt Disney once said, "It's kind of fun to do the impossible."

This quote is important to me because in my artwork I am reaching for the stars. You can achieve your goals if you work hard and never stop. Together we can shine!





Triple P Positive Parenting Seminar Series

For parents of children birth to 12 years of age

Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.

Location: Anne Frank Public School
431 Ilan Ramon Blvd., Vaughan L6A 0X2

Free Seminars and Dates

January 14, 2015 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

The Power of Positive Parenting

- Ensuring a safe engaging environment for children
- Creating a positive learning environment
- Using assertive discipline
- Having realistic expectations
- Taking care of yourself as a parent

January 21, 2015 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Raising Confident and Competent Children

- Encouraging respect and cooperating
- Learning to be independent
- Learning how to develop healthy self-esteem
- Learning how to be good problem solvers

January 28, 2015 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Raising Resilient Children

- Recognize and accept feelings
- Express their feelings appropriately
- Build positive feelings
- Deal with negative feelings
- Deal with upsetting or stressful life events

To register and for further information please call:

Oksana Majaski, Community Resource Facilitator
905-738-5497 ext. 213

This presentation is brought to you by Anne Frank P.S. in partnership with Blue Hills Child and Family Centre and York Region District School Board.





groups & workshops

JANUARY 2015

PARENTING IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Join us in a one session workshop with presenter and TV personality Joe Rich who will be discussing the up and downs and ins and outs of Parenting children and teens in this digital and technological age. Following the presentation there will be a panel of experts for a question and answer period.

Wednesday, January 21, 2015 | 9600 Bathurst St | Lebovic Jewish Community Centre | 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

MIND, BODY, CONNECTION for Women | 2 Locations

Join us in an 7 session group for women who want to learn mindfulness and meditation in a safe and supportive group setting. Topics will include: stress and anxiety reduction, connecting with your mind and body, enhancing your self worth and self esteem, and learning about general relaxation and meditation.

Wednesday, January 28, 2015 | 9600 Bathurst St | Lebovic Jewish Community Centre | 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Thursday, January 29, 2015 | 9600 Bathurst St | Lebovic Jewish Community Centre | 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

BEYOND THE CHUPPAH, BECOMING A COUPLE

A five session Marriage Preparation group for couples who are going to be married in the next year. Topics include: Changing roles and expectations, finances, conflict negotiation and resolution, communication, and Jewish home and family life. This program is offered in partnership with the Rabbinical Assembly-Ontario Region.

Thursday, January 29, 2015 | 1700 Bathurst St | Beth Tzedec Synagogue | 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

As with all of our programs, registration is required. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community regardless of cultural, religious and/or racial background and we offer a sliding scale for those who require reductions.

For more information or to register, please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 x 6215 or visit our website at www.jfandcs.com.

www.facebook.com/jfandcs 



Student Transportation Services of York Region
320 Bloomington Road West
Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1
905-713-2535
FAX: 905-713-2533
Web site: www.schoolbuscity.com

School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be region-wide meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO

| | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| 590 AM | 640 AM | 680 AM | 860 AM | 1010 AM | 1050 AM |
| 1540 AM | 1580 AM | 88.5 FM | 89.9 FM | 92.5 FM | 93.1 FM |
| 94.9 FM | 95.9 FM | 97.3 FM | 98.1 FM | 99.1 FM | 99.9 FM |
| 101.1 FM | 102.1 FM | 104.5 FM | 100.7 FM | 107.1 FM | |

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB and YCDSB on twitter.