

# Boxwood Broncos



February 2019



Boxwood Public School  
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## Principal's Message

This Thursday, your child will receive his/her report card for the first term based on the Ministry's "Growing Success" (<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/success.html>) assessment and reporting document. The Elementary Provincial Report Card is designed to show a student's achievement at two points in the school year. The first provincial report card will reflect the student's achievement of curriculum expectations introduced and developed from September to January/February of the school year, as well as the student's development of the learning skills and work habits during that period. The second provincial report card will reflect the student's achievement of the curriculum expectations introduced or further developed from January/February to June of the school year, as well as the student's development of the learning skills and work habits during that period. On the second report card, the achievement recorded on the first report card is also shown, to provide parents with an overview of the student's achievement.

The provincial report card for Grades 1 to 6 provides information for parents about letter grades and levels of achievement, and the provincial report card for Grades 7 and 8 provides information about percentage marks and levels of achievement. Both reports provide information about ESL/ELD, IEP, and the codes "R", "I", and "NA", and the report for Grades 7 and 8 provides information about the "median". Both reports also include tear-off sections for the student's comments, the parent's comments, and the parent's acknowledgement of receipt of the report card and/or a request to discuss the child's report with the teacher. These sections are to be returned to the student's teacher.

Learning Skills take front page on this report card format. The ability to succeed in these skills/habits is critical to growth and development in school and in life. Developing learning skills and work habits is a vital part of each student's success. The staff at Boxwood Public School are helping students develop their learning skills and work habits needed for success in school and adult life: responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative, and self-regulation.

**Remember that parents play a crucial role in their child's education. Many educational researchers have confirmed the link between parental involvement and academic success. Parents can extend the learning in the classroom by reading together at home, discussing the success criteria for homework assignments, and demonstrating an interest in their child's learning.**

## Our Boxwood Touchstone

At Boxwood, we are active participants in our own learning and we persevere to reach our goals. We recognize our own success and the successes of those around us. We are responsible for what we say and how we act. We treat others the way we want to be treated.  
We celebrate the diversity of our community.

# Report Card Information

## Understanding the Elementary Provincial Report Card

The table below outlines the potential letter grades and percentage mark ranges that students may receive on their Elementary Provincial Report Cards and summarizes what these grades mean in relation to the student's achievement of provincial curriculum expectations.

Letter Grade / Percentage Mark*	Achievement of Provincial Curriculum Expectations
A- to A+ 80%-100%	The student has demonstrated the required knowledge and skills with a high degree of effectiveness. Achievement surpasses the provincial standard. (Level 4)
B- to B+ 70%-79%	The student has demonstrated the required knowledge and skills with considerable effectiveness. Achievement meets the provincial standard. (Level 3)
C- to C+ 60%-69%	The student has demonstrated the required knowledge and skills with some effectiveness. Achievement approaches the provincial standard. (Level 2)
D- to D+ 50%-59%	The student has demonstrated the required knowledge and skills with limited effectiveness. Achievement falls much below the provincial standard. (Level 1)
R Below D-/50%	The student has not demonstrated the required knowledge and skills. Extensive remediation is required.
I	Insufficient evidence to assign a letter grade or percentage mark.
NA	A checked box indicates that a student did not receive instruction in a subject/strand.
IEP	A checked box indicates that grade level curriculum expectations have been modified and that students are working from an <b>Individual Education Plan</b> .
ESL/ELD	A checked box indicates that modifications have been made to curriculum expectations to address the language learning needs of English language learners.

\* Note: For students in grades 1-6, achievement is reported using letter grades.  
For students in grades 7-8, achievement is reported using percentage marks.



# Message from our Trustee

Welcome back. I hope everyone is feeling refreshed following the winter break, and that you had a happy and safe holiday season. While the weather may be colder, I also hope that you had time to enjoy this beautiful season in Ontario.

It is my honour to serve as your school board trustee and to uphold the [values](#) of York Region District School Board. The new [Board of Trustees](#) was sworn in on December 3, following the October municipal elections. Together, we look forward to moving forward the four priorities outlined in the [Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#):

- Foster well-being and mental health
- Build collaborative relationships
- Champion equity and inclusivity
- Empower ethical leadership

There are a lot of exciting things happening in our schools and classrooms to foster and support student well-being and mental health. **Ask your child what's happening in their school,** and how they take care of themselves. As adults, we often focus on the health and well-being **of the children in our lives, but it's also essential that we take care of ourselves. Taking time** to do the things we enjoy and nurture our own health is also important and helps to model a healthy and active lifestyle for our children.

An important part of my [role as a trustee](#) is to listen, and I look forward to connecting with members of our school community in the coming weeks and months. We will continue working to build collaborative relationships with our communities and to keep you informed about the things happening in the school board. I wish you all the best as we enter 2019.

Juanita Nathan  
Board Vice-Chair  
Trustee – Markham Wards 2, 3 and 6



## Family Day—Monday February 18th

A reminder to all parents/guardians that Monday, February 18th is Family Day, an observed holiday by the Ontario Government and therefore school will be closed that day. Please take the day to enjoy and spend time with your family.



## REPORT CARDS— FEBRUARY 14TH

Notice to all Parents/Guardians that students reports cards will be coming home on **Thursday February 14th.**



## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Our School Council Meeting will be held on **February 19th from 7:00—8:30 PM** in the Library. All parents are welcomed.





## Online Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for September 2019 begins January 18 for the 2019-20 school year.

This year, our school is excited to be one of the pilot schools in the Board offering online registration for Kindergarten.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2019, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten.

If you, or someone you know, is registering a child for Kindergarten at our school, you can access the online registration information at [bit.ly/KindergartenYRDSB](http://bit.ly/KindergartenYRDSB). Please note that for this pilot, a laptop or desktop computer is strongly recommended, rather than a mobile device.

Families are still welcome to register in person in the school office. **Registration forms are available on the Board's website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).**





## Weather Watch

All students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal or vice-principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors up to 40 minutes after lunch. We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions e.g. wind chill; we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.



Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.

Wind chill - Minutes to Frostbite for exposed skin (Environment Canada)

The following are approximate values								
Temperature (°C)	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45	-50
Wind (km/h)								
10	*	*	22	15	10 T	8 T	7 T	2 TTT
20	*	30	14	10 T	5 TT	4 TT	3 TT	2 TTT
30	*	18	11	8 T	5 TT	2 TTT	2 TTT	1 TTT
40	42	14	9 T	5 TT	5 TT	2 TTT	2 TTT	1 TTT
50	27	12	8 T	5 TT	2 TTT	2 TTT	2 TTT	1 TTT
60	22	10 T	7 T	5 TT	2 TTT	2 TTT	2 TTT	1 TTT
70	18	9 T	5 TT	4 TT	2 TTT	2 TTT	2 TTT	1 TTT
80	16	8 T	5 TT	4 TT	2 TTT	2 TTT	2 TTT	1 TTT

The wind speed, in km/h, is at the standard anemometer height of 10 metres (as reported in weather observations).

### Legend:

Frostbite unlikely

\*

Frostbite possible in 2 minutes or less

2 TTT

Frostbite possible in 3 to 5 minutes

5 TT

Frostbite possible in 6 to 10 minutes

10 T

## Cold Weather Guideline



Outdoor temperatures and shelter conditions vary substantially from school to school. Winter temperatures in the minus teens and even minus twenties are not uncommon for many Ontario students to face as they travel to and from school. In fact, they are quite normal for Northern Ontario students.

Health authorities, such as York Region Public Health Services, advise that risks arising from cold weather come from *prolonged* exposure of unprotected skin.

Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors after lunch.

When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 20 degrees Celsius, we have indoor recess/events.

When temperatures and/or wind chill reach minus 17-19 degrees Celsius, we consider a shortened outdoor routine for recess/events. This usually means that we cut the recess in half (either 15 or 20 minutes).

We have found that outdoor recess has many benefits for our students (e.g., **exercise, fresh air...**). **Therefore, when it is possible, we send students outside** for recess.

The biggest challenge we encounter is when students are not dressed properly for recess. Despite our many reminders, some of our students are not dressed **properly (e.g., not wearing their coat, no hat, gloves...)**. **Children need to be** dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to the clothing collection in the Lost and Found, parents/guardians are advised to label all articles of clothing, including but not limited to, boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants.

We thank you in advance for your support to ensure our children are dressed properly.

## ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL NEWSLETTER

**Welcome back!** We have some tips for how to get outside and still have fun in the cold, including while you're walking or wheeling to school or the bus stop.

- ◆ Being dressed for the weather is the first step to enjoying the outdoors. Here are a few suggestions on how to stay warm:
  - ◇ Wear a base layer
  - ◇ Wear an insulating layer (wool socks, shirt and pants but not jeans or cotton)
  - ◇ Wear an outer shell (windproof jacket with a hood and snow pants with elastic or velcro fastening at the cuff)
  - ◇ Wear insulated waterproof snow boots
  - ◇ Have a hat that covers the ears (and a spare!)
  - ◇ Add a neck warmer
  - ◇ Finish with waterproof mittens
- ◆ Keep moving!
- ◆ Eat high-fat snacks to keep your body going.
- ◆ Drink water! Even though it's cold, the air is dry and your body can become dehydrated.

### February 27th, 2019 is Winter Walk Day!

Winter Walk Day is celebrated by schools across Canada on the first Wednesday of February each year. Walking and wheeling to and from school is fun every day, so we encourage you to journey outside throughout the entire month of February!



Winter Walk Day – February 6, 2019

## Boxwood Blog!

A great way to see the learning and different events/activities happening at Boxwood is through our Blog. Recent posts include our work to improve our students' ability in math and the different cultural celebrations that we have recognized. Please take a look!



<https://boxwoodbroncos.blogspot.com/>



## February 2019 - ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL NEWSLETTER

In most households, finding time to be active together can be a challenge. Work schedules, technological gadgets, and other commitments often get in the way of important time that can be shared amongst family members. Active School Travel is a great way to incorporate this active family time and only requires some small alterations to your routine. Active school travel allows families to talk to each other creatively and be imaginative, create strong bonds, express feelings, and overall boosts self-confidence and positivity.

Walking or cycling to school or the bus stop is also a great way to meet other families and school community members which can lead to building relationships and even group walking. This helps to create safer neighbourhoods and build a greater community feeling.



Just a reminder that **February 27th, 2019** kicks off **Winter Walk Day** this year. By dressing for the weather, keeping active and staying hydrated you can stay warm and enjoy the winter weather!

For those who can't walk or cycle to school every day, choosing active travel once, twice, or a few days a week can still provide benefits. You can also consider parking a block away from the school and walking the rest of the way.

Remember it only takes 21 days to create a habit. Consider making small changes to your routine to get these benefits that could have major lasting impacts on your child(ren) lives. Include active travel as part of your day-to-day life.


Sincerely,

YRDSB Active School Travel Team



# Dates to Remember

## February 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 
4 1:05pm - Knitting Club	5 Lunar New Year 10:35am - Reach for the Top Final Practice 1:05pm - Badminton Club 	6 8:30am - Winter Walk to School Day 10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague 2:30pm - Reach for the Top Tournament	7 10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague 1:05pm - Concert Band 4:00pm - Boys' Basketball Tournament @ Cornell Village 	8 1:05pm - J/I Choir 
11	12	13	14	15
<b>Student Voice Week</b>				
1:05pm - Knitting Club	Gr. 2 Fire School Program 1:05pm - Badminton Club 	10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague	10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague 1:05pm - Concert Band <b>Report Cards go home</b> 	1:05pm - J/I Choir 
18 Family Day— NO SCHOOL 	19 Gr. 4s to Milne 1:05pm - Knitting Club 7:00pm - School Council Meeting 	20 1:05pm - Badminton Club	21 10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague 	22 10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague 1:05pm - Concert Band 
25 1:05pm - J/I Choir	26 1:05pm - Knitting Club 	27 1:05pm - Badminton Club	28 10:35am - Grade 6-8 Houseleague 11:05am - Primary Character Assembly 11:35am - Jr/Inter Character Assembly 	1 
<u>Upcoming Dates</u>  March 10th — Daylight Saving Time starts March 11th-15th — March Break March 19th — School Council Meeting April 19th — Good Friday (holiday) April 22nd — Easter Monday (holiday)				