

March 2019

Boxwood Public School  
30 Boxwood Crescent, Markham, Ontario, L3S 3P7  
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Email: boxwood.ps@yrdsb.ca

Principal: Dane Prince  
Trustee: Juanita Nathan (416) 885-3479  
Superintendent: Peter Tse (905) 940-7800

## Principal's Message

### Class Placement Process

This is the time of year that school staff begin the collaborative process of class placement meetings. Classroom teachers, in cooperation with support staff, administration, and parental input work diligently to create balanced classes for the upcoming school year. School staff consider the academic, social, and emotional strengths, needs, and interests, and more of each student when preparing class lists. The ultimate goal of class placement is to support and enhance the **learning of all students. We welcome any input you wish to share about your child's strengths, needs, and learning styles. However, requests for specific teachers will not be considered.** The responsibility for final decisions lies with administration. Please send any information you **would like considered about your child's placement, in writing, to Mr. Prince by March 31st.**

### Fractions at Boxwood

For the past month, most of our school has been focused on the concept of fractions. Our math team reviewed our EQAO results for the past few years and found that this was an area of need. To confirm this, we gave each student in grades 3-8 a diagnostic assessment. This assessment confirmed that fractions is indeed an area of need. Our next action was to meet in divisional teams to learn more about the instruction of fractions, investigate resources, and plan lessons. Last week, we met again. At this meeting, we engaged in some more learning about fractions, looked over student work, and planned our final assessment. At our next meeting after the break, we are going to mark the assessments together and discuss next steps. To further support our teachers, we released them for an hour session to focus on assessment in math.

Please have a discussion with your child about their understanding of fractions would be a wonderful way to support their learning at home! Thank you!!!!



### 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.

## Message From Our Trustee



I hope everyone has had a great start to the second half of the school year. Over the past few months, I have had an opportunity to connect with families, students, staff members and with our broader community. I have seen a lot of exciting opportunities for students to explore their interests, celebrate their identities, and develop skills and knowledge that will benefit them in the future.

Many students are participating in [skills competitions](#) or other events where they problem-solve, innovate, collaborate and further develop their technical skills. Students compete in robotics, construction, hairdressing, transportation, 3D animation and much more. These events are among the many options available to help students explore different careers and [pathways](#), and gain valuable experience. We are grateful for the support of community partners in helping to provide these great learning opportunities to our students.

I also want to express my appreciation to our broader school community. One of the priorities in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) is to build collaborative relationships. The relationships that our schools have with families is so important. There are many different ways you can be involved - talking to your child's teacher, asking your child about homework, or volunteering on a field trip or the school council. Your contributions make a difference to your child's success and to the success of our schools.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable March Break.

Sincerely,  
Juanita Nathan  
Budget Committee Chair  
Markham Wards 7 and 8





## 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).

Kindergarten  
Registration

## School Council News



**School Council Next Meeting will be April 23rd @ 7:00pm.**



## Summer Institute

Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for six weeks during July and August. It is offered at 11 school sites around York Region.

For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the [Summer Institute](http://www.yrdsb.ca) page on [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Families can register on line, as well as in person or by mail.

### Base Registration Weekly Fees:

**York Region District School Board students:** \$110 (4 day weeks) \$125 (5 day weeks)

**Non- York Region District School Board students:** \$135 (4 day weeks) \$160 (5 day weeks)



# Math Games



## Games

Using games to support your child at home to reinforce math concepts they are learning in class can be fun for the whole family! Games provide children with opportunities to explore mathematical concepts such as number concepts, patterns and relationships. It also allows them to use models and strategies they are familiar with (e.g., arrays, ten frames, skip counting). Some math games are commercially available but most can be played with common household objects. In fact, most games that are not considered “math” games have many math concepts already in them. Try highlighting some of those concepts as you are playing.

For some game suggestions, go to the "Resources For Supporting Your Child In Mathematics" tab found on the [YRDSB Mathematics website homepage](https://www.yrdsb.on.ca/mathematics).

## Activities: Primary/Junior - [Math Before Bed](#)

Show your child an image and ask them “What do you notice? What are you wondering about?”. This promotes mathematical thinking - and then you can have them investigate one of their wonderings and come up with a solution. What a great time to ask them the questions above to really uncover what they are thinking!!



What do you notice? What do you wonder?

**What do you notice?**  
**What do you wonder?**

(Image and problem taken from <https://mathbeforebed.com/2018/04/26/broken-cracked/>)



# Math Games



## Junior/Intermediate - [Would You Rather Math](#)

On this site, there are a variety of scenarios that your child will be able to make a choice and use reasoning skills to justify their mathematical thinking.



**Would you rather...**

Roll two dice 10 times and...

**Option A:**

Receive \$5.00 every time you get a double.

**OR**

**Option B:**

Receive \$5.00 every time you get any 2 even numbers.

## Would You Rather...

*Whichever option you choose, justify your reasoning with mathematics. h/t @hallumclass*

Whichever option is chosen, justify your reasoning with math!

(Image and problem taken from <http://www.wouldyourathermath.com/dice/>)





Parents for Children's  
Mental Health

SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

**Monday, March 18th**

## **PARENTS' Support Group**

**Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?**

### **Benefits of PCMH Support Group:**

- **meet other parents with children who have similar challenges**
  - **find encouragement and emotional support**
- **learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school**
  - **learn how to access resources in the community**

<b>Future Meetings</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month NOTE some dates change due to statutory holiday conflict.	<b>Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker P. Marra-Stapleton Mental Health Lead York Region District School Board Topic: Four Pillars of Mental Health</b> <b>Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> topic TBA (note special date due to the next week stat holiday)</b> <b>Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> topic TBA</b> <b>No meetings July and August</b>
	6:30-8:00 pm No pre-registration is needed Sorry no child minding available. Young children cannot safely be left unattended.
<b>Where</b>	<b>*NEW*</b> Aurora Kinark Office 218 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 7, Aurora, ON L4G 6V7. One block south of St. John's Sideroad. One block west of Bayview Ave.

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit [www.pcmh.ca](http://www.pcmh.ca).



## Black History Month - Intermediate Division

Throughout the month of February the Intermediate students have been learning about a number of famous Black Canadians, the impact of racial profiling, and learning to speak up against injustices. They have been working very hard on a number of different projects, each with an underlying theme of speaking up when you witness something that isn't right. To consolidate this learning and to give students an opportunity to learn from each other, these projects will be presented to the Intermediate Division on March 19th. Following these presentations, students will be chosen to share their final project with the school at a school-wide assembly on March 21st in recognition of the ***International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination***. Along with these individual presentations, students will be participating in a variety of other mixed media presentations, from tableaux to dance performances. Each student in the Intermediate Division will be part of this assembly. Parents and community members are all welcome to come to this assembly on **March 21st at 11:05 am**. If you would like to come to this assembly, please RSVP using the google form so we can ensure there is enough seating.

RSVP FORM: <https://goo.gl/forms/jBlggmGo3yiPSNOD2>





## Winter Walk to School Day & Pink Shirt Day



On Wednesday, February 27th students and their families were encouraged to walk to school. With a blizzard on the way and buses cancelled, there were still a number of families who parked and walked in to school. Way to go Broncos! Once at school, students completed walking laps around the lower floor of the school before visiting the gym for an **I DO NOT BULLY DPA** activity and school photo!







**PINK SHIRT DAY**  
**BULLYING STOPS HERE**




## MARCH 2019 – ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL NEWSLETTER

*“The wheels on the bus go round and round...”* Walking to the school bus stop and riding the bus to school are considered important forms of active school travel. Students who live outside of the Non-Transportation Zone for their home school qualify for school bus service.

Walking to the bus stop and riding the bus provides a number of benefits including:

- ◆ Teaching children the value of time and being organized
- ◆ Keeping children active, which leads to strong physical and mental health
- ◆ Encouraging social interaction and improving and building social skills
- ◆ Keeping communities safe and reducing private automobile traffic congestion
- ◆ Reducing environmental air pollution
- ◆ Making school more accessible for all children

Ministry of Transportation School Bus Safety Tips	
When you board or leave the bus	While on the bus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Wait in a safe place away from the edge of the road</li><li>◆ Stay out of the DANGER ZONE. If you can touch the bus, you're too close. Use 10 giant steps to take you out of the DANGER ZONE, and make sure you and the bus driver can see each other.</li><li>◆ Always cross the road in front of the bus, never behind.</li><li>◆ Look all ways and wait for the driver to signal before you cross in front of a bus</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Stay seated, facing forward at all times</li><li>◆ Don't put things in the aisle</li><li>◆ Never distract the bus driver</li><li>◆ Don't eat or drink while on the bus</li><li>◆ Don't yell, push people or throw things</li><li>◆ Keep your arms and head inside the bus</li></ul> 

If your child does not qualify for the school bus, we encourage walking/cycling/scootering or parking a block away and walking the rest of the way. For those who can't walk/cycle/scooter every day, choosing active travel once, twice, or a few days a week can still provide benefits.

### Ontario Crossing Guard Recognition Day March 20, 2019


The Ontario Traffic Council has chosen **Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019** as Crossing Guard Recognition Day. If your child passes by a crossing guard on their travel to school, take some time to THANK your local crossing guard to show your appreciation! Crossing guards play an important role in keeping children and neighborhood's safe!

Sincerely,  
YRDSB Active School Travel Team



## Dates to Remember

# March 2019

Monday	Tuesday MILK DAYS 	Wednesday	Thursday MILK DAYS 	Friday PIZZA DAYS 
				1 Int. Boys Basketball Areas  10:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague
4	5	6	7	8
Grade 7/8 overnight trip			10:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague  1:05pm- Badminton Club	10:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague  12:45pm Badminton
1:05pm- J/I Choir	1:05pm- Knitting Club	1:05pm- Badminton Club		
11	12	13	14	15
<b>March Break</b>				
18	19	20	21	22
Coding Workshops - Whole School				6:30am- Ski Trip (Grade 6-8)  9:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague
12:05pm- J/I Choir	12:05pm- Knitting Club	12:05pm- Badminton Club	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Assembly  9:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague  12:05pm- Badminton Club	
25	26	27	28	29
12:05pm- J/I Choir	12:05pm- Knitting Club	12:05pm- Badminton Club	9:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague  12:05pm- Badminton Club	9:35am- Grade 6-8 Houseleague  10:05am- Primary Character Assembly  10:35am- Jr/Inter Character Assembly
<b>Upcoming Dates:</b> April 3rd— Grad Picture Day April 17th—Grade 7 Vaccinations April 19th—Good Friday (Holiday) April 22nd—Easter Monday (Holiday) April 23rd—School Council Meeting @ 7pm April 25th—5:30pm Arts Carousel @ 5:30pm			