



# Boxwood Broncos



**Boxwood Public School**  
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**[www.boxwood.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.boxwood.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)**

**November, 2018**



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

## Principal's Message

### Parents Inquiring About Their Child's Learning

At our last school council meeting, we discussed communication. Specifically, we were focused on how parents can get more information about what their child is learning in their class. With this knowledge, parents are better able to support their child at home. We spoke about different strategies that we can look at and implement as a school to make the learning at home more visible to parents, and we are evaluating, as a staff, which communication strategies we will employ. Parents also shared that their students are not the best or forthcoming sources of information about what they are learning. They shared that they can get little detailed and/or short responses when they are questioned about their day. Therefore as a response to this, I would like to share some questions that you can ask your children to learn more about their day and what they are learning in school

### Questions to Ask Your Child About Their Day at School

*Get a sense of your child's life at school by asking questions that elicit more than a one-word response.  
(from Scholastic Parents)*

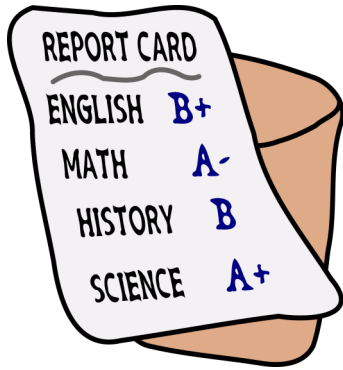
The trick is to ask about things that are **specific**, but still **open-ended**. Move beyond "**fine**" and "**nothing**" by asking your child to describe their world. It's also great to start the conversation with something from your own day. Try one of these conversation-starters:

1. Tell me about the best part of your day.
2. What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
3. Tell me about what you read in class.
4. What did you play at recess?
5. Do you think math [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
6. **Can you show me something you learned (or did) today?**

I find that question 6 is an effective question because it sets an expectation that you expect to see their work, and it gives you something concrete to discuss. When they are discussing this work, you are better able to determine if your child understands the content (e.g., animal adaptations in science) or is able to perform the task (adding 3-digit numbers) that is required of them to meet curriculum standards. This can provide you with information as to what your child may need help with.

## 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. At Boxwood, every voice is heard.**



## Progress Report Cards & Parent Teacher Interviews

For **Grades 1 to 8**, in the fall, teachers will use the Elementary Progress Report Card to inform parents of the progress students are making towards achievement of the curriculum expectations for each subject/strand. Teachers will check one of the following to indicate progress:

- ✓ **Progressing With Difficulty**
- ✓ **Progressing Well**
- ✓ **Progressing Very Well**

Families will receive progress reports on **Wednesday, November 21st**. We will have our parent teacher interviews on the evening of **Thursday, November 22nd and on Friday, November 23rd**. The new interview process will be communicated through **Edsby**. If you have not created your parent account, please do so as soon as possible. If you need a new invite, please notify the school office. This will be the strongly preferred method to book your parent/teacher interview. You will receive more communication by email in the coming days. If you have any questions regarding this, please direct them to the office.

We look forward to discussing your child's progress with you.

## Boxwood School Blog

To further increase the visibility of the learning happening at Boxwood, I am going to post artifacts of learning on our school blog. It is important to note that this is a school blog and not a classroom blog. Therefore, the posts will be from various classes in the school. I will also use this blog to share events that happen at our school. You can view our blog through the link below:

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

***Copy this address into your internet browser to view the blog***



## WARM CLOTHES

As I am sure you have felt, we are quickly getting cold temperatures. That being said, it is important that children dress warmly to maintain their comfort when the weather is cold. The graphic shows some appropriate clothing for the cold, winter months. Let us bundle up to keep warm!



## BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast provides children with energy and essential nutrients, including iron, calcium and vitamins B and C, which are necessary for growth, development and good health. Children who have eaten breakfast can concentrate better and have a longer attention span, helping them to learn and study better. They can also perform better physically after eating breakfast as there is more energy available to their muscles. Breakfast can improve behaviour and mood, as children have better concentration and aren't tired or hungry.

As a healthy school, we support our children's health by providing a grab and go breakfast program 2 days a week. This includes a variety of healthy items (e.g., muffins, tangerine, carrots, cucumber...). I would like to **thank** our breakfast club team for their work in organizing the food, giving out food, and monitoring this initiative!





## Reminders from our Music

Teacher Ms. Joo

### Markham Music Enrichment Day

On **Wednesday, November 21st**, our **Grade 8** students will be going to Markham District High School for a music workshop entitled "Markham Music Enrichment Day." Boxwood P.S. will also be hosting an evening concert that same evening, **November 21st**, at **7:00pm** for our parents.



### Remembrance Day Assembly

All parents are welcome to join us on **Friday, November 9th** at **11:05am** in the gym for our Remembrance Day Assembly. Let's take this time to recognize all the people who have fought for peace and to remember the sacrifices that those before us have made to our country and the sacrifices that continue to be made today. We will be giving students a poppy tomorrow. Families can make a voluntary donation for the Royal Canadian Legion. Parents are welcome to attend this ceremony.





## **NEW! Pathways Planning and Course Selection Platform: Grades 7 - 12**

**The York Region District School Board** will be providing your child with an engaging and new interactive online education and career/life planning platform starting in November 2018. Career Cruising will not be available to students after **November 15, 2018**. Students will be notified via their GAPPS account email of the steps required to save information, that has been stored in their Individual Pathway Plan (IPP), from Career Cruising into their GAPPS account.

This new platform will include a number of beneficial resources to support your child as they progress through high school, including:

- ♦ **Who Am I** – 6 unique assessments for self-exploration and discovery (including Learning Styles, Myers-Briggs Personality, Holland Interests, Knowledge, Motivations, and Compatibility)
- ♦ **High School** – A tool to visually plan courses, track progress toward graduation, and instantly identify post-secondary eligibility for opportunities in all pathways
- ♦ **Post-Secondary** – A database to explore post-secondary opportunities and compare detailed information on apprenticeships, college programs, university programs and workplace sectors across Canada
- ♦ **Goals** – An interactive goal setting tool to set S.M.A.R.T. goals and action plans
- ♦ **Occupations** – A database of over 500 occupations to compare comprehensive information on jobs
- ♦ **Resumes & Cover Letters** – Interactive tools to record personal experiences, build resumes and write cover letters
- ♦ **Money** – An engaging budget-making tool to help students track income and expenses and develop financial literacy
- ♦ **Job Search** – A tool to explore real-world job postings that relate to occupations of interest
- ♦ **Portfolios** – A portfolio builder to create multiple portfolios and share it with parents, teachers, or future employers

***Schools will be receiving more information regarding the transition to this new platform in the coming weeks and will continue to provide students and parents/guardians with updates.***



## Self-Regulation in the Intermediate Division

This year, the Intermediate Pod has undergone a makeover. The space has been converted into a space for students to exert some energy in an attempt to self-regulate. Students are learning to take the initiative to monitor their learning. Sometimes, that requires a break from the large classroom, so this space has been created to give them a place to re-focus before returning to class.



## The Global Read Aloud



This year, the Intermediate Division is participating in the Global Read Aloud. This is an opportunity to participate in a reading initiative that spans the globe. Classes are reading Refugee and have made different connections.

As we wrap up our book and we see the impact of decisions, the intermediate students witnessed Prime Minister Trudeau's apology to the Jewish Refugees of the MS St. Louis.



## Postcards Around the World

Our classes have received postcards and sent a number of postcards out to classes around the world.

Students have also begun to learn more about the background for why each of the 3 characters were forced to leave. Most recently, students learned about Mahmoud's life in Aleppo, before his family left, through the use of technology. Students used Virtual Reality goggles to walk the streets of Aleppo. Students began to understand the sheer devastation the war left and why Mahmoud's family had to leave.

Recently, our intermediate classes visited Westmount Collegiate Institute. They have created the Anne Frank: A History for Today display. This supported these students to learn more about Josef and why his family set out on the SS St. Louis to flee Nazi Germany.



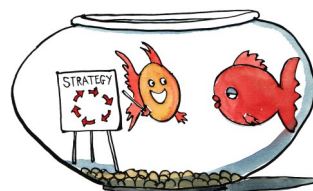
## Math Problem Solving

At school, students have opportunities to engage in problem solving tasks. At home, mathematical problem solving can take on many different forms. For example, budgeting, time scheduling, measuring and constructing are all situations where children would need to problem solve. Problem solving, being the process of finding solutions to challenging issues, is an essential component of your child's mathematical journey.

As your child works through problem solving tasks at home, here are some strategies you can encourage them to use and questions you can ask them:

### Strategies:

- Drawing a diagram or picture
- Make a simpler but similar problem
- Use concrete objects to represent the problem
- Use a mathematical model (e.g., ten frame, number line, array, etc.)
- Guess and check
- Look for a pattern
- Work backwards
- Use a formula
- Check your answer - does it make sense?



### Questions:

- How would you state this problem in your own words?
- How does this problem remind you of a problem you have solved before?
- What problem solving strategies have you tried?
- What strategy will you try next?
- Were there parts of the problem that were easy or challenging?
- Does your answer make sense? Why?




\* Strategies and Questions taken from Edugains.ca

### Activities:

Here are some problems that you can try with your child:

#### Primary

**Three Block Towers**



How many different towers can you make using one red, one blue and one yellow block?

How many can you make if you have a green block as well?

[nrich.maths.org](https://nrich.maths.org)

<https://nrich.maths.org/7196>

## Activities Continued:

### Junior

## Shape Times Shape



The coloured shapes stand for eleven of the numbers from 0 to 12.

Each shape is a different number.

Can you work out what they are?

$\square \times \square \times \square = \text{yellow semi-circle}$	$\text{blue rectangle} \times \text{blue rectangle} = \text{green star}$
$\square \times \text{orange oval} = \text{yellow semi-circle}$	$\square \times \text{purple star} = \text{blue hexagon}$
$\text{blue rectangle} \times \text{orange oval} = \text{red circle}$	$\text{blue rectangle} \times \text{yellow diamond} = \text{blue rectangle}$
$\text{blue rectangle} \times \square = \text{green triangle}$	$\text{yellow diamond} \times \text{blue hexagon} = \text{blue hexagon}$
$\text{green triangle} \times \square = \text{red circle}$	$\square \times \text{red inverted triangle} = \text{red inverted triangle}$
$\square \times \square = \text{orange oval}$	$\text{red inverted triangle} \times \text{yellow semi-circle} = \text{red inverted triangle}$



nrich.maths.org

<https://nrich.maths.org/5714>

### Intermediate:

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Can you explain why every year must contain at least one Friday the thirteenth?  
What is the greatest number of Friday the thirteenths that can fall in one year?

<https://nrich.maths.org/610>



# School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled 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](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB and YCDSB on twitter.



# Dates to Remember



## NOVEMBER 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			<b>1</b> 1:05pm Boys V-ball Practice 3:30pm Girls' V-Ball Team Practice 	<b>2</b> 10:35am Grade 6-8 House League 
<b>5</b> 2:05pm- Boys V-ball Practice 2:05pm - Concert Band	<b>6</b> 11:35am- Grade 6-8 House league 2:05pm - J/I Choir 4:30pm - Girls' V-Ball Team Practice 	<b>7</b> 2:05pm- Girls' V-Ball Team Practice	<b>8</b> 2:05pm- Girls' V-Ball Team Practice 4:30pm- Boys Int. V-ball Practice 	<b>9</b> Int Girls Volleyball Areas 10:00am- Remembrance Day Assembly Dress Rehearsal <b>11:05pm- Remembrance Day Assembly</b> 11:35am- Grade 6-8 House league 2:05pm- Boys V-ball Practice 
<b>12</b> 11:35am - Grade 6-8 House league 2:05pm - Boys V-ball Practice 2:05pm - Concert Band	<b>13</b> 2:05pm- J/I Choir 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>7:00pm- X-Fusion Family Night! Come out and enjoy the X Fusion Experience!!</b> 	<b>16</b> 11:35am- Grade 6-8 House league
<b>X-Fusion Presentations</b>				
<b>19</b> 11:35am- Grade 6-8 House league 2:05pm - Concert Band	<b>20</b> 2:05pm - J/I Choir 	<b>21</b> 10:00am- Gr 8 Music Enrichment Day <b>7:00pm- Gr 8 Music Concert</b> <b>REPORT CARDS GO HOME TODAY</b>	<b>22</b> <b>PARENT INTERVIEWS 3:45-8PM</b>  	<b>23</b> <b>P.A. DAY - NO CLASSES</b> <b>PARENT INTERVIEWS 8:45AM-11:45PM</b> 
<b>26</b> 11:35am- Grade 6-8 House league	<b>27</b> 11:35am- Grade 6-8 House league 2:05pm- Concert Band 	<b>28</b> Grade 7 @ Kortright Centre 2:05pm- J/I Choir	<b>29</b> <b>PICTURE RETAKE DAY</b>  	<b>30</b>