

# COLEDALE COUGARS



September 2016



Coledale Public School  
60 Coledale Rd, Markham, Ontario L3R 7W8  
(905) 940-0123 Fax (905) 940- 9760  
[www.coledale.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://www.coledale.ps.yrdsb.ca)



Principal: Catherine Arnold  
Vice Principal: Shelley Anand  
Trustee: Billy Pang (647) 461-9965  
Superintendent: Peter Tse(905) 940-7800

## A Message From The Administrative Team

We would like to welcome everyone back! We hope that everyone had a restful summer with family and friends. We look forward to working with your children this year!

Our staff have spent a great deal of time, setting up classrooms in order to create learning environments that promote learning through collaboration, taking risks and developing self efficacy.

At Coledale, we are committed to promoting quality education and supporting our children in becoming responsible global citizens. It is important that we create a positive and safe environment for our children so that they can strive to be the best that they can be. At Coledale, we do this by embedding character development throughout our school. This month the character trait we will be learning about is Respect. Our students will learn that "We respect ourselves and treat others with courtesy, dignity and positive regard. We honour the rights of others.. We respect their belongings, the environment and the world around us."

It is important that we work together to support our children with learning to accept new ideas and to persevere when trying more challenging tasks. Children need to learn to take risks, and understand that by making mistakes learning can occur, this helps them to develop a Growth Mindset.

As a staff, we will continue to engage in professional learning in the area of mathematics this year. We will deepen our understanding in the area of providing a Comprehensive Math program in order to support all our learners. Designing effective instruction in mathematics involves balancing understanding of mathematical concepts with procedural fluency. Effective math instruction involves students engaging in accountable talk, using math manipulatives, asking questions, collaborating and engaging in meaningful tasks.

We value instructional time at Coledale P.S. Our office staff has been instructed not to interrupt classes unless there is an emergency situation. Please make arrangements, in advance, if your child is to be picked up for an appointment and provide a note to the teacher.

We look forward to working with you this year! Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns. Thank you for all your support and we look forward to an exciting year ahead!

## Follow Us On Twitter



Coledale PS is now on Twitter! Keep up to date on school activities and events by following us  
[@ColedalePS](https://twitter.com/ColedalePS).

## A Message From School Council

A great way for parents to be engaged in the school is through participation in School Council. School Councils support schools in a number of ways and are an important vehicle for parents to provide input into the decision-making that occurs at a school. We are always interested in having new and diverse voices at the table and we invite all of our parents to attend meetings whenever you are able.

Our first school council meeting will take place on **Tuesday, September 20, 2016** at **7pm**. We will be conducting elections to determine our new Executive Council member for the 2016-2017 School Year. All are welcome to attend.

## A Message From The Trustee

As we start another school year, we are very pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you all enjoyed the hot summer months and are looking forward to the start of school.

There is a lot to look forward to in the months ahead and many ways for families to engage with their child's learning. There is a strong connection between parent and family engagement and student achievement and well-being, and I hope that you will find opportunities to get involved.

In the coming year, trustees will continue to focus on the priorities that we set out in our [Multi-Year Plan](#): student achievement and well-being; the delivery of effective and sustainable educational programs; and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

We know that partnerships with parents and families are essential to achieving these goals. However you choose to get involved, know that you are making a difference to your child's learning.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming school year.  
Trustee Billy Pang

## Help Keep Our Students Safe



- All students must arrive on time at **8:55am**.
- All students are required to enter and exit the school only through their assigned door.
- Parents are requested to meet their children at dismissal times outside their assigned entry/exit doors.
- Teachers' names are posted at each door to help students and parents know which door is assigned for their use.
- Parents visiting the school must register in the main office before moving through the halls.
- Lunches should be sent to school with children in the morning. Lunches that are brought to the school later in the day must be left on the lunch table with the student's name on it. Please do not personally delivery lunches to classrooms.

**ENTRY BELL 8:48 am**  
**LUNCH 12:45 - 1:45 pm**  
**DISMISSAL 3:25 pm**

## Safe Arrival & Student Absences

Please call the office for every student absence and/or late. This may include illness, appointments, personal reasons etc. You **MUST** call before 8:30am. Please leave your child's name and reason for the absence if you call during evening hours. Call **(905) 940-0123**.

It is important to note that research indicates that significant absence from school has a detrimental affect on student performances. It is for this reason that we discourage extended holidays. If your child is away from school for an extended period of time this will undoubtedly create gaps in their learning. It is not expected that teachers provide work for students for extended periods of absence from school. As a result we would ask you to consider carefully when withdrawing your children from school.



## Student Bus Assignments

The majority of our students depend on bussing for transportation to and from school. Creating routes and assigning students to buses is a complicated and very involved process, co-ordinated at the Board level. Please ensure that you confirm your child's pick-up and drop-off location and times by checking the "bus stop information" at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com). For student safety, security, and insurance regulations, **students are only allowed to ride on their assigned bus.**

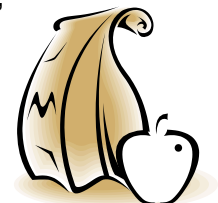
**Students are not permitted to change buses in order to travel to a friend's home or other destination after school.** At the end of each day, students are transported from the school to their assigned drop-off location, unless a parent has been contacted and it is confirmed that the child will be remaining at school after regular dismissal. In such cases the school and parent will confirm how the child is being picked up from school.



## Lunch Drop Off

This is a reminder to parents who need to bring a lunch to their child to please drop it off on the table outside the office. Please label the lunch with your child's name and teacher's name.

As part of YRDSB's Safe Schools Policy, we ask that parents do not walk the hallways or go to classrooms during the lunch hour. If you need to speak with or pick up your child for lunch, please report to the office first and we will call him/her down to the office.



## Coledale Staff

Listed below are our classes for the new school year and the names of the teachers who are teaching them. Please keep in mind that with the Ministry Class Size Reduction Policy, we may have to do some re-organization by the end of September. We have also included in this list the names of our administrative staff, educational assistants, DECE staff, and caretaking staff – all the people who, at Coledale Public School, are integral to the effective running of our school and the creation of our positive school climate.

Position	Staff	Position	Staff
Kindergarten	Ms. Clare Ms. Graham	Community Class Community Class	Ms. Smith Ms. Rochhar
Kindergarten	Ms. Martin Ms. Sivakumaran	ELL / Special Education	Ms. Beale Ms. Harding
Kindergarten	Ms. Toy-Sammut Ms. Baggetta	Physical Education	Mr. Chopyk
Grade 1	Ms. Kayes	Junior French	Ms. Nelson
Grade 1 / 2	Ms. Young	Intermediate French	Ms. Buono
Grade 1 / 2	Ms. Ciappa	Reading Recovery ELL	Ms. Lui
Grade 2	Ms. Dimitropoulos	ELL	Mr. Ringwald
Grade 3	Ms. Labbett	Library	Ms. Kay
Grade 3/4	Ms. Wong	Music	Ms. Kloepfer
Grade 3	Ms. Marshall	Educational Assistant	Ms. Vhora
Grade 4	Mr. Hoogendam	CYW	Ms. Payne
Grade 5	Mr. McAdam	Caretaking	Mr. Talbot Mr. Bowman Mr. Leung Ms. Russell
Grade 5 /6	Ms. Elsayed	Administrative Support	Ms. Smardenkas Ms. Dayaratne
Grade 6	Ms. Cheng	Vice Principal	Ms. Anand
Grade 6 /7	Ms. Kirkimtzis	Principal	Ms. Arnold
Grade 7	Ms. Dell-Bonner		
Grade 7/8	Mr. Wellman		
Grade 8	Mr. McMahan		
Grade 8	Mr. Papa		

## Curriculum Corner

As children enter the upper elementary grades, new demands may lead many children to believe that math has become much harder. This belief can affect their attitude and achievement in math class. Negative beliefs can increase stress and discourage learning. When students are positive about math they tend to be more motivated to learn. It is important that children learn to accept new ideas and try to persevere when trying more challenging tasks. Children need to learn to take risks, and understand that by making mistakes learning can occur, this helps them to develop a Growth Mindset. Here is an inspirational chart that can be posted in your child's homework space. Refer to it when your child finds homework difficult, loses interest, becomes negative or gets frustrated. Attitude is a key to success!

### What Can I Say To Myself?

#### Instead of...

I'm not good at this.

I'm awesome at this.

I give up.

This is too hard.

I can't make this any better.

I just can't do math.

I made a mistake.

They are so smart. I will never be that smart.

It's good enough.

Plan A didn't work.

#### Try thinking...

What am I missing?

I'm on the right track!

I'll use some of the strategies we've learned.

This may take some time and effort.

I can always improve, so I'll keep trying.

I'm going to train my brain in Math.

Mistakes help me to learn better.

I'm going to figure out how they do it so I can try it!

Is it really my best work?

Good thing the alphabet has 25 more letters!

~Council of Ontario Directors of Education~

## Restorative Approaches

At Coledale Public School we continue to use Restorative Practices when addressing concerns that may arise at school. The positive outcomes of Restorative Practices are increasingly evident as students become more cooperative and are more likely to make positive changes in their behaviour. By using Restorative Practices students are learning to use the common language or vocabulary in a safe environment to express and exchange concerns. When a situation arises they learn to play an active role in addressing the problem and making things right. In the long term, it helps students take ownership for solving problems as they learn the skills and language of problem solving. The language assists the students to come to a mutually acceptable understanding. Long term goals of Restorative Practices also include reduced rate of bullying by students, reduced rates of absenteeism by students, reduced aggressive and violent incident rates at recess and lunch time, and reduced rates of suspensions as students develop the skills to problem solve on their own or with their peers.

Some questions we ask students to work through when resolving a conflict are:

- What happened?
- What were you thinking/feeling at the time?
- Who have you affected? How?
- How can you make things right?
- What can you do differently next time?



## Anaphylaxis and Epi Pens

Coledale strives to be a Nut Safe School. Parents are asked to inform teachers if their child has any allergies (e.g., peanuts, dairy products, tree nuts, etc) please refer to our School's start-up-package. If so, you will be given an office form to complete indicating the type of allergy your child has, and will need to provide two EpiPens if necessary. Even if you have filled out the form previously, we need to update this at the beginning of each school year. The school keeps an EpiPen for each child with allergies if the doctor prescribes it in case of emergencies. EpiPens that are close to the expiry date will need to be replaced. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Further, students who require an EpiPen should carry one with them at all times (this EpiPen would be in addition to the one parents provide for the school office). Parents are asked to check that their child is carrying his/her EpiPen when preparing to go on all school excursions.



## Medic Alerts No Child Without Program

The **No Child Without** program offers a **free Medic Alert** membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a MedicAlert membership through this pro-gram. MedicAlert is your child's voice in an emergency. For further information on the No Child Without Program please visit: [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca).

## Search and Seizure

In accordance with the Principal's responsibilities under the Education Act to ensure a safe and orderly learning environment, the school has the right to search school property, such as lockers and desks, without notice to or permission of any person. From time to time, the police may be invited onto school property to conduct their own searches and these searches may be conducted without notice or permission of any member of the school community as per our Joint Board and Police Protocol. When conducting a search of school property, persons or personal property, the police are responsible for conforming to all legal requirements with respect to searches.

## Extended Student Absence

As you may be aware, Bill 52, which delineates the government's plan for Learning to Age 18, also requires that the responsibility for extended student absent be addressed to ensure continuity of their learning. In the past, a student who had been absent for 15 consecutive school days, without appropriate supporting documentation, was typically removed from the attendance register. Bill 52 allows for any pupil of compulsory school age to remain on the register for 16 to 30 consecutive days of absence, but only after the principal has referred the case in writing to the attendance counsellor. Further, this may be extended for subsequent fifteen-day periods, if the principal receives reports from the attendance counsellor every 15 days that the file is still active.

The legislation underscores the importance of maintaining contact with absent students. We are not fond of the idea of extended student absences for the purposes of family holidays during the school year as it interrupts student learning. However, if your child is going to be away for 15 or more consecutive days, parents must contact the school in order to receive a form they must complete in order to follow the requirements of Bill 52.

## Volunteers—Vulnerable Sector Screening

It is our Board's practice that all volunteers hold a valid Vulnerable Sector Screening (Police Check). The purpose of this is, of course, to ensure the safety of students, staff and community members.

There are some exceptions to this requirement that may be considered:

The volunteer is always in the presence of school staff

The volunteer is never alone with students and is not in a position of trust or responsibility

The volunteer is directed not to use student washrooms, change rooms

Situations in which we will require volunteers to get a VSS are :

Volunteers driving students on trips, to sport events, etc

Volunteers on school trips that require them to be alone with a small group of children

Situations that require the volunteer to be completely alone with a student

We truly value the assistance of all of our volunteers. Thank you for all that you do!

## Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

We celebrate student achievement by posting student work/pictures around the school within our newsletter throughout the year. If you would prefer that your child's work or picture **not be** on display in any capacity, **PLEASE CONTACT US IN WRITING**.

## Birthdays

To best ensure the safety of students and staff members who may suffer from life-threatening food allergies, and to support the religious and cultural values of many of our families, we continue to ask that parents **DO NOT send food to school to celebrate their child's birthday**. For the reasons mentioned above, many students are unable to eat various foods and therefore, too often, food that arrives at school is unable to be shared. If you do wish to send something to school on your child's birthday, then **please consider some alternatives to food**. **Colourful and decorative pencils, erasers, book marks and stickers** are always well received by children, as are small loot bags containing a few dollar store items. Alternatively, why not consider donating an age-appropriate book to your child's classroom library?

If a teacher determines that a specific situation or event in the classroom may/can include food, families will be informed ahead of time, and all food will be confirmed as "nut free", according to product ingredient labels. Your ongoing support of this very important practice is appreciated. Please feel free to contact the main office if you have questions about this practice.

## ECO Corner

At Coledale, we encourage everyone to care for the environment. Whether it's packing litterless lunches or using reusable water bottles, being eco-friendly is easy! We also highly encourage you to carpool or walk to school which will reduce the number of cars on the roads. Cars send out tons of pollution which is harming our environment and polluting our air day by day. Walking to school can help resolve this problem very easily. Wednesday, October 5th, 2016 is "Walk to School Day" and we want all families and community members to participate in this eco event. So, the next time you drop your child off to school, always remember to think eco!



# September 2016

**Sun**      **Mon**      **Tue**      **Wed**      **Thu**      **Fri**      **Sat**

				1	2	3
4	5 Labour Day	6 Welcome Back	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20School Council Meeting	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	