

COLEDALE COUGARS



Coledale Public School
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December 2016



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

The past three months have been very busy at Coledale! In November, our students participated in Bus Safety Awareness. Representatives from the bus company reviewed safety rules and taught our students how to evacuate the bus in case of an emergency. This was important learning for all of our students.

We are so proud of our students who have been working very hard in trying to make our world a better place by giving back to the community. Our '360 Kids Campaign' began in October, where we began collecting hygiene products to donate to York Region Youth in need. Our students are learning that there are many ways to give back and how important it is to help others in order to positively impact the community. We want our students to understand that sometimes the smallest action can touch another person's life.

Please make sure your children dress appropriately for the cold weather. Warm boots, socks, pants, sweaters, coats, hats, mittens and scarves tucked inside the coat are very important for children of all ages to wear. Children will be expected to be outside during recess and lunch so please make sure they are dressed for the weather. As well, since we have almost 500 students, and many children wear the same brands, colours and sizes of clothing, it would be very helpful if your child's name could be printed in ink in boots and on labels of clothing. If your child has lost any items, please check our Lost and Found box located near the gym. It is a good idea to send extra clothing with younger students as accidents do happen or they get wet on the way to school with rain and snow.

This year at Coledale Public School we are continuing our commitment to student achievement and well being. We will focus our learning on our Board's focus areas: Math, Modern Learning and Mental Health. Our staff are currently learning about the Comprehensive Math Program and how to engage our learners.

We are all looking forward to our Winter Concert this year! Please plan to be with us on Thursday, December 15th. The kindergarten Winter Concert will take place at 2pm. The evening concert will begin at 7pm. School ends on December 23rd and will resume on Monday, January 9, 2017. We wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday season.

Catherine Arnold
Principal

Shelley Anand
Vice-Principal

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

Please follow us on twitter @ColedalePS to see the learning that is taking place at Coledale. We often post pictures of things that are happening in the various classrooms.



A Message From School Council

In 2016-2017 school year, Coledale Parent Advisory Council (CPAC) continues to make progress in encouraging parental involvement. We believe in facilitating a strong partnership amongst school community members and supporting services for school and community. We set up a School Council Booth introducing CPAC to families at Curriculum night and the Book Fair event, which attracted quite a few parents/guardians. We encouraged parents and guardians to attend council meetings or to join the council email communication list. In November, CPAC members joined the Regional School Council Forum and learned the latest updates on educational trends and the board focus areas of Modern Learning, Mental Health and Mathematics. This year we transitioned pizza lunch and milk orders from the traditional cash/paper order to School Cash Online. We have extended the programs so that families can order pizza and milk for nine more weeks. In October, CPAC had made a decision to use \$17,800 from its account to support the purchase of iPads, a musical instrument, Gym equipment and to fund various programs such as Scientists In The School, Chef Le Ecole and a library program.

CPAC will be even busier with exciting events after we are back from the New Year. Teacher Appreciation Tea will take place on Tuesday, January 24th. It will be a great opportunity for Coledale parents to join and say thank you to the teachers and staff members in person. We also plan to have Dance-a-thon on February 9th and Spring Fling on June 1st. We would appreciate the support of parent volunteers. Some items we would need help with would be sourcing glow-in-the-dark toys for Dance-a-thon and soliciting donations/free tickets/coupons from attractions and local businesses for the Silent Auction in Spring Fling.

Our next CPAC meeting will take place on the evening of January 17th in the school library at 7pm. We look forward to seeing more parents/ guardians and caregivers getting involved after in the new year.

On behalf of all CPAC members, we wish Coledale families a safe and happy holidays!

Zhanyuan Hu & Lawrence Li
Co-chairs, Coledale Parent Advisory Council

A Message From Our Trustee

As we near the end of 2016, I hope everyone has had a great school year so far and found opportunities to get involved with the life of the school.

It is wonderful to have opportunities to see not only what our students are learning, but to see how they are learning – collaborating and problem solving, using technology in exciting new ways, and engaged in hands-on activities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff members, students, families and community members across our Board. Thanks to all of the great people we have in our system, we continue to advance student achievement and well-being.

Our Board continues to have a strong commitment to creating welcoming, inclusive learning environments that enable all of our students to thrive. Engaging families in your child's education and the school community is in an important part of creating that environment.

There are resources for families available on our Board website at www.yrdsb.ca/parents, including information on Board programs and supports, and tips for parents to support your child's learning at home and at school.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful start to 2017. I hope you are able to enjoy time with family and friends.

Trustee Billy Pang

Curriculum Corner

You are an important partner in your child's mathematics education. When you find ways to engage your child in thinking and talking about mathematics, you are providing an important key for unlocking his or her future success. Today, critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning ability and the ability to communicate mathematically are essential skills. These processes are the foundation of mathematics instruction in Ontario schools." (Doing Mathematics with your Child K-6).

Do some math with your child every day. Reading, cooking, or playing basketball can provide opportunities to improve mathematical understanding and provide practice for children, rather than just doing a half-hour of drill practice of basic facts.

Here are some fun examples of activities that you can do at home with your child:

- Play board games, number cube (dice) games, card games, and dominoes, and solve puzzles together. In conversation, ask your child to tell you what he or she did to try to win the game or solve the puzzle. Then ask your child to tell you whether he or she would do the same thing next time and give reasons why or why not.
- Invite your child to save his or her change in a piggy bank or other suitable container. Identify coins and bills, and estimate and count money.
- Bake or cook together and follow directions for favorite recipes.
- Make a third, fourth, or half of a simple recipe or try doubling it.
- While baking cookies, let your child make an array of columns and rows of cookies and practice multiplication
- Have your child estimate and count! Count everything (e.g., books, chairs, compact discs, towels, steps, tiles on a floor).
- Count by 1's, 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's, 6's, and 7's, and remember to consider the ability and grade level of your child to know where to begin and when to stop.
- Talk about math experiences in daily events (e.g., measuring laundry detergent, packing a suitcase, creating a grocery list, setting an alarm clock).
- Have your child read through the newspaper to find math-related material (e.g., advertisements for retail sales, stock market quotes, sports box scores and statistics, classified ads for mathematics-related career opportunities).
- Explore opportunities for your child to make connections with mathematics in daily routines (e.g., estimating the distance to a nearby location, measuring the time it takes to complete a chore). Be sure to talk with your child about the math connections in these activities.



~ A Guide to Effective Instruction in Mathematics ~

ECO Corner

Once again the Eco team will be working to create sit-upon mats to be used outdoors. This is a great opportunity for us to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. If your family buys milk in bags, we need your help! Please send clean outer bags to school with your child and the Eco team will turn these into mats we can use outside.

The Eco team is also looking forward to lots of exciting events in the new year.

Thank you for your support.

The Eco Team



News From Student Council

2016 may be drawing to an end, but a New Year of new opportunities is about to come! The student council fundraising committee would like to thank everybody who helped, and continues to help donate to the various agencies that we are supporting within York Region.

Throughout these short couple of months, we have raised over \$150 during Remembrance Day for the Royal Canadian Legion, which offers veteran and community services. The money raised helps to make a difference in the lives of veterans and their families, providing essential services within our communities, and remembering the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Another agency that we currently support is 360 Kids. We have donated financially, as well as with varieties of hygienic products for the youth. This agency provides youth housing in Markham, for safe and supportive housing for youth who could no longer live at home. Their mission is to help isolated and vulnerable children, youth and families in our community, to overcome adversity and crisis and to move to a state of safety, stability and well-being.

Recently, Georgina Island, which is an island in Lake Simcoe has asked for our support. The population on the island is roughly 380 people, and it is considered a remote community, as it has limited access. They are asking for our financial support as their school was built on an underground aquifer, which accounts for the constant water issues, such as floods. With the flooding, it causes mould, and cracks in ceiling areas, allowing people to break in, as well as animals, including mice, snakes, and insects.

Lastly, winter is here, and we are starting our winter food drive again! We would like to ask for non-perishable food to be donated and placed in the boxes in the foyer. The boxes will be there until December 20, and will then be donated to the Markham Food Bank and 360 Kids.

In the New Year, we would like to continue giving back to our community, and helping out everyone that we can, who could use a helping hand. Your help is always appreciated, and donations will always be accepted! Happy Holidays!

Your Coledale Student School Council Fundraising Committee



Bullying Prevention Week

The third week of November was designated as National Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week in order to promote safe and positive learning environments for our students. At Coledale, we are committed to the well being and safety of all our students and this permeates our work throughout the year. We believe in using Restorative Discipline approaches in order to help encourage our students to become kind, respectful citizens who 'stand up' against Bullying.

Our student council took the initiative to organize meaningful workshops for students to learn more about how to stand up against bullying. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to lead the learning! We are so proud of our Coledale students!

Raising Awareness Against Bullying

Every year at Coledale, the 3rd week of November (20th-26th) is designated as "Bullying Awareness Week". The goal of this initiative is to make students aware of bullying. On Friday, November 18th, it was our annual bullying awareness assembly, our Student Council was tasked with planning the assembly. We decided to make that day "Pink Day" the symbol of anti-bullying. Student council used videos, a game show, along with a PowerPoint presentation to help raise awareness against bullying. The game show, was a big hit at the assembly. The game show had students guessing words that were related to bullying and after each word, there was a scenario presented on the screen about that specific word. Some of the videos shown in the assembly were the Bars and Melody video, the "Pink Shirt Day" video and poem following that. The "Bars and Melody" video was about two teenagers performing a song based on "Anti-Bullying". One of the singers on the video had gone through bullying himself. Another video that was shown was the video about "Pink Shirt Day". We learned that we all need to stand up against bullying.

During the week of the 20th-26th of November, a group of Grade 7 and 8 students put on workshops for the other students. These workshops used a variety of tools (videos, presentations, games, and interactive activities) to convey a message about a certain topic. The topics ranged from bullying in general, to self-esteem, confidence building, and even cyber bullying. It was a rewarding experience for the presenters as they got to see what it was like to develop a lesson plan and help raise awareness. All the workshops received positive reviews by the teachers. We hope that students now have a good understanding of importance of standing up against bullying. We hope to carry that moment throughout the year and really make Coledale P.S. a bully free zone.

Written by: Zeeyan B



LIBRARY NEWS

COMING SOON! *The 2017 Forest of Reading Book Clubs*

Authors and Titles for the 2017 Forest of Reading were announced on October 14th 2016. Coledale will once again be participate in selecting some of Canada's favourite authors! This year we will be running reading clubs for junior and intermediate students who enjoy reading fiction books. Reading clubs will be meeting every week or two beginning in mid-December, and students must commit to reading a minimum 5 out of the 10 selected titles.

A big **Thank You** to Parent Council for purchasing our initial copies of the titles!

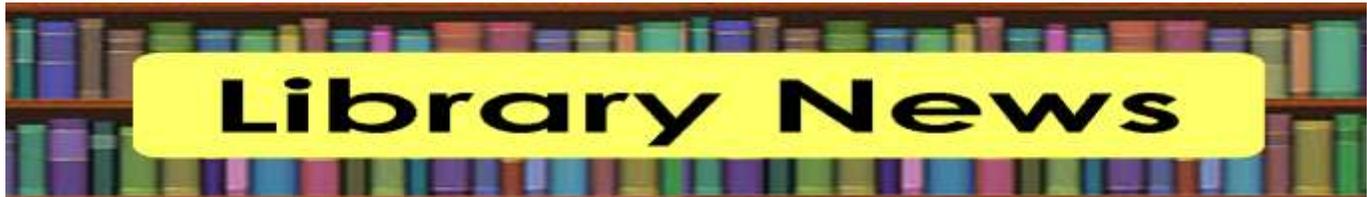
Encourage Choice!

All students should be reading every day, and are encouraged to explore a variety of print and digital resources. Students should choose books that interest them and that are appropriate for their age and reading level.

It is important to note that "harder" is not always better when it comes to reading. Students benefit far more from reading books that they are interested in and can understand, than ones that they find difficult or boring.

Help your child determine whether a book is a good fit by asking:

- Can you read and understand all or almost all of the words?
- Does it seem interesting? (topic, illustrations, author, etc.)
- Did someone recommend this book/author?



STUDENT SAFETY– TIPS FOR WINTER

As winter approaches, we know that severe weather will be part of our daily lives for the next several months. While traffic safety is an important matter all year long, this is a particularly good time to review what we can do to keep students safe.

Our children need to be aware and alert at all times, on any road, and even in the most routine circumstances is key to traffic safety. You can help reinforce these safety messages with your children at home. Below are some tips that might be helpful to review.

- Stop, look, and listen for traffic.
- Only cross at corners and crosswalks.
- Make eye contact with drivers.
- Walk on the right side of the crosswalk.
- Wear appropriate footwear to reduce the chances of slipping.
- Never run into the street.
- Obey crossing signals.
- Cross only if clear.
- Walk on sidewalks.
- Where there are no sidewalks, walk as far away from traffic as possible, facing traffic.



A FOND FARWELL

A Fond Farewell to Ida Toy-Sammut who is Retiring!

Although we are very excited for Ms. Toy-Sammut who is moving onto a new adventure in January 2017, we will miss her presence here at Coledale. Ida Toy-Sammut has been an incredible teacher at Coledale for the past 15 years. We will miss her helpful and kind nature and the way she greeted us each day that made us feel welcome at Coledale. When we think of Ms. Toy-Sammut we think of a teacher who was dedicated to her students and provided quality education for all students so learning was fun as well as educational. Ms. Toy-Sammut has left her legacy behind at Coledale. Overall, Ms. Toy-Sammut will be remembered as a caring teacher who was an active leader in the school and was dedicated to all her students.

We will miss you Ida Toy-Sammut and all the best with your new adventures and your retirement. Your friends the students of Coledale Public School!



COLD WEATHER

As the cold weather approaches, please ensure that your child has the following items: winter coat, snow pants, gloves/mitts, hat, scarf and winter boots. Please ensure that you label each of your child's belongings.



FRENCH IMMERSION

French Immersion Information Nights will take place at all French Immersion school locations offering a Grade 1 program on January 19, 2017 at 7 p.m. The School Locator Tool for 2017-18 French Immersion boundary information will be available in January 2017.

For more information please visit: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/Pages/Program-Locations.aspx>

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 20, 2017 for the 2017-18 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2017, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

1. Completion of :Elementary School Registration Form
2. Application for Direction of School Support
3. Staff Administration of Medication Form, if applicable
4. Proof of child's age
 - Canadian Birth Certificate/Birth Registration/Passport/Citizenship **OR**
 - Immigration Papers - Record of Landing/Permanent Residence
5. Any legal documents related to custody arrangements, if applicable
6. Proof of Residency of the student - two documents, one from each of the categories below showing the home address;
 - Category A - notice of tax assessment, current rental/lease agreement, agreement to purchase including proof of purchase provided before the pupil attends the school, or property tax bill
 - Category B - utility bill, driver's license, bank statement or other official document.
7. Any assessments to support the student's placement where applicable

NOTE: If any of the following apply, please visit the Reception Centre

Students new to Canada (residing in Canada less than 6 months)

Students transferring to YRDSB from home schooling in Ontario

Students transferring to YRDSB from other boards in Ontario/other provinces with time-sensitive documents, e.g. work permits, refugee claimants

Returning students from outside Canada

Reception Centre

Call or email to schedule an appointment:

Direct Dial: 289-842-3157

Toll Free: 1-888-811-0229

receptioncentre@yrdsb.ca



December 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 <i>Grade 3 Gifted Screening</i>	2 <i>Junior/ Intermediate Skating</i>	3
4	5 <i>Scientist In The School (Clare)</i>	6 <i>Scientist In The School (Toy-Sammut)</i>	7 <i>Scientist In The School (Martin) Trip to TIFF (Papa)</i>	8	9 <i>Junior Skating</i>	10
11	12 <i>Chef A L' Ecole Gr. 6,7,8</i>	13 <i>Chef A L' Ecole Gr. 6,7,8</i>	14	15 <i>Winter Concert Kindergarten 2pm Evening Concert 7pm</i>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 <i>Junior Intermediate Skating Last day of school before Winter Break Happy Holidays!</i>	24
25	26 <i>Winter Break Begins See you on Jan. 9, 2016</i>	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>