

# COLEDALE COUGARS



January 2017



Coledale Public School  
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[www.coledale.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://www.coledale.ps.yrdsb.ca)  
Twitter: @ColedalePS



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

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday break filled with love and laughter with family and friends. Before the holidays, we had our book fair, our junior intermediate students went skating. This month our primary students will have an opportunity to go skating! Thank you to our staff for arranging these experiences for our students!

We would like to welcome Ms. Sidana to the Coledale community. Ms. Sidana will be teaching our FDK classroom!

Please help remind your child to dress appropriately for the winter weather, so that they can enjoy their time outside during recess and lunch breaks. It is advisable for children to bring extra socks and pants if a change is required due to the wet and cold weather of winter months. To avoid clothing being lost, please label all articles of clothing. We want to encourage physical activity and ensure our students enjoy winter activities.

Please remember that there are PA days on January 20th and February 3, 2017. As we begin our New Year we will continue to focus on student achievement and well being. Students will continue to have multiple opportunities to show their thinking and be provided with descriptive feedback before engaging in summative tasks. All this data **will be used by teachers in order to provide you with a clear picture of your child's achievement to date.** Our students will work with their teachers to review goals and set new goals as they move into second term. It is important that we all work together to support these goals. Reports will be sent home on February 16, 2016.

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.

*Catherine Arnold*  
*Principal*

*Shelley Anand*  
*Vice-Principal*

## A MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL

Welcome to 2017, we hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and a lot of fun with the snow so far. In 2016, with the great support from Ms. Arnold and Ms. Anand, CPAC was able to arrange many things for Coledale. CPAC supported with funding school instruments and technology equipment to support student learning. CPAC also set up a booth on curriculum night and book fair event in order to increase parent engagement. We were very glad to see more parents got involved! We would like to take the opportunity to thank all parents/guardians, school staff, especially Mrs Arnold and Ms. Anand.

There will be more exciting CPAC events when we come back in the new year. Teacher Appreciation Tea will take place on Tuesday, January 24th. It will be a great opportunity for Coledale parents to come to school and say thank you to teachers and staff in person. We also plan to have a Dance-a-thon on February 9th and Spring Fling on June 1st. We are looking for parent volunteers to help sourcing glow-in-the-dark toys for the Dance-a-thon and soliciting donations/free attractions tickets and local business coupons for the Silent Auction in Spring Fling. Our next CPAC meeting will take place at 7pm on January 17th in the school library, hope to see you there!

Zhanyuan Hu & Lawrence Li

Co-chairs, Coledale Parent Advisory Council

# CURRICULUM CORNER

## Developing Mathematical Thinking

Teachers use a variety of questions to help students develop their mathematical thinking. The Ontario Mathematics Curriculum outlines seven mathematical processes that support the development of mathematical thinking: problem solving, reasoning and proving, reflecting, selecting tools and computational strategies, connecting, representing, and communicating.

The following are questions you can ask your child to help him/her develop mathematical thinking:

Problem Solving: What is this problem about? What could you do to explore the problem? What questions do you have about the problem?
Reasoning and Proving: How can you check to see if your answer is correct? How would you convince someone else that your answer is correct? Describe any cases in which your solutions will not hold true?
Reflecting: Does this problem make sense to you? What does your answer mean? What strategies did you use to try to solve the problem?
Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies: Which tool or strategy could you use to solve the problem? How do you know your strategy works? What other tool or strategy could you have used to solve the problem?
Connecting: What other problems have you solved like this? When might you use something like this in real life? How is this related to other mathematics you have learned?
Representing: How have you shown your mathematical thinking? In what other ways could you represent this? <b>(diagram, table, graph...)</b>
Communicating: How might you organize your solution so someone else can follow your thinking? How could you make your mathematical thinking clearer?

Ministry Of Education, Mathies.ca



## 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 would like to remind the Coledale community to continue to send litterless lunches and **reusable water bottles**. **We can all demonstrate stewardship by supporting Coledale's Eco Club Initiatives!** The Eco team is also looking forward to lots of exciting events in 2017!



## LIBRARY NEWS

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January 27 is Family Literacy Day. With your partnership, we strive each day to support our students to develop strong foundational literacy skills. These skills are building blocks for future learning in all areas of the curriculum. One goal to establish at home is to read together daily for 15 minutes. Visit the sites listed below for some ideas to incorporate into your daily routines at home to continue to motivate your child to develop a love for reading.

ABC Life Literacy Canada  
Markham Public Library

[abclifeliteracy.ca/family-literacy](http://abclifeliteracy.ca/family-literacy)  
[markham.bibliocommons.com](http://markham.bibliocommons.com)

Stay tuned for activities and events that will be taking place at Coledale!

A banner with the text 'Library News' in bold black letters on a yellow background. The banner is set against a background of colorful books on shelves.

# Library News

## INTERNET SAFETY

As our children use more technology and social media it is important that we remind them to use it appropriately in order to ensure their safety.

Here are some suggestions for parents/guardians and caregivers:

- Make sure your children understand how vast and public the Internet is. Remind them that anything they post or send in a message is virtually available to be seen or read by anyone in the world.
- Talk to your children about cyber bullying. Make sure they understand what it is. Let them know that cyber bullying is no less serious and unacceptable than other forms of bullying.
- Set up the family computer in an open, common area so that you can monitor what your child is sending and receiving.
- Inform your Internet Service Provider (ISP) or cell phone service provider of any abuse. Although it can take a lot of time and effort to get Providers to respond and deal with your complaints about cyberbullying, it is necessary in order to try to stop it from re-occurring.
- There are parental controls that filter both Instant Messaging and chat rooms.



## LE CHEF D'ÉCOLE

On December 12 and 13, students in grades 6,7 and 8 had the pleasure of participating in the fun, interactive and culturally enriching **Chef à l'école program**. Under the animated leadership of Chef Suzanne, our students were able to prepare pastries following instructions in French while listening to Acadian music and playing the spoons. The session wrapped up with the students enjoying their "langues de chat" treat and **drinking tea while listening to the animated Chef Suzanne tell stories of Canada's history with France**. Thank you to our parent volunteers and to Parent Council for funding such a great experience.



## SKATING

During the month of December, the Junior and Intermediate divisions participated in three skating trips to the Angus Glen Community Centre. Students and staff had a wonderful time, whether it was with small games of hockey, or simply just skating in circles to holiday music. Overall, it was a great way for everyone to take part in healthy physical activity, and an even better way to end off an amazing year of 2016.

By: Mellisa



## MORNING SUPERVISION

During the winter months, the Field will be closed between 8:35-8:50. Teachers will be on supervision 15 minutes before school begins on the pavement area. Please ensure that your children stay on the pavement area until the school bell rings.



## TIPS TO GET YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL ON TIME

How things go at home in the morning can set the tone for the day ahead. A predictable and positive morning routine for school can help children arrive at school feeling calm, fed and ready to make the most of the first few hours of the day.

### Morning routine for school: the whys and hows

Children don't understand time in the same way as grown-ups. This can make school mornings a stressful time of day for families. But staying calm and getting along in the morning will help you all feel positive about the day ahead. For example, fighting with children in the morning makes it harder for you to work well. It even increases the risk of you having an accident at work. The most useful way to reduce morning chaos is to set up a morning routine for school. Sticking to a morning routine for school **helps your children predict what's coming, and remember what they need to do**. Here are some ideas to take some of the pressure out of school mornings – **even if things don't always go smoothly!**

### Planning ahead for school mornings: the night before

The first step in your morning routine for school is to think about what you need to do and work out a plan for doing it. **You'll probably find that** you and your child can do many things the night before.

Here are some ideas:

- Try to find out the night before (or even earlier) if there is something special going on at school the next day.
- Organize lunches and set the breakfast table ready for the morning rush. Breakfast is one of the most important meals of the day, and helps your child to concentrate better at school.
- **Get your child to have a bath or shower the night before. This means you won't have to worry about this in the morning.**
- You might know something is going to come up that could cause conflict, like your child not wanting to eat breakfast, or wanting to wear sneakers rather than school shoes. Talk about it the night before when **everybody has time and you're all less likely to be stressed.**
- Think about having a weekly schedule or calendar with reminders of what your child needs to take to school each day – for example, library books, sports clothes, show and tell, and so on.
- Think about getting ready for your day the night before as well, to help ease time pressure in the morning.
- Try to read school newsletters and check bags for notes the night before. You could also try to prepare clothes, sign school notes, and get school bags ready the night before.

### Your morning routine for school: tips

Rushing can really increase everyone's stress levels, so it helps to give yourself a bit more time in the morning. One of the best ways to do this is to get up 15-30 minutes earlier. Here are more tips to take the stress out of mornings:

- Think about an alarm clock for children who find it hard to wake up or don't like getting out of bed.
- Tackle the morning as positively and as optimistically as you can. Good moods can be infectious. One way **to do this is by focusing on the positive aspects of your children's behaviour and praising them** – for example, 'Great to see you eating some toast'.

## TIPS TO GET YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL ON TIME (CONT.)

- Give your children calm, clear instructions about what you want them to do, and follow up with specific praise as soon as they start to cooperate. You might need to remind younger children more often about **what they're meant to be doing and when**. Simple 'to do' checklists, even with pictures, can help.
- As your children get older and more capable, encourage them to do more for themselves – for example, an eight-year-old can get dressed on his own, make his own breakfast, and tidy up after himself. A five-year-old can do things like putting his lunch box in his bag.
- Cut down on distractions like television, tablets and other devices. Many families have a rule about no screen time in the morning. Think about leaving screens off, unless screen time is a special treat for being ready on time.
- Try not to give your children extra attention for arguing, whining or stalling. Even negative attention is an incentive for them to keep going with this behaviour.
- Make it fun – for example, try our '[Beat the buzzer](#)' game to encourage your child to be ready on time.
- Sometimes children drag out the time in the morning as a way to avoid school. If you think this might be happening with your child, it's a good idea to check in with your child's teacher to make sure there aren't any problems that are causing [school refusal](#).

-Raising Children Network-



## 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 remind your children to dress appropriately so they can enjoy their outdoor time at recess and lunch. Please ensure that you label each of your child's belongings.



## COLDS, FEVERS AND THE FLU

As we move further into the winter season, we see an increased amount of illness with students. If students are sick it is important for them to get rest. If your children are sick, do not send them to school. If they are at school they will be expected to go outside for recess. Also we do not want illnesses to spread to other students! We appreciate your co-operation with this.



## IMMUNIZATION - A MESSAGE FROM YORK REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

If parents/guardians or students receive a letter from York Region Public Health requesting immunization information, here's what to do:

Update York Region Public Health on your child's immunization status in one of the following ways:

Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>

- Fax documents to 905-895-6066 or 1-866-258-2026
- Mail immunization information to Immunization Services, Box 147, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
- Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

## REMINDERS FROM PUBLIC HEALTH

At this time of year we typically see an increase in the number of student absences due to illnesses such as colds, flu and other illnesses caused by viruses. York Region Public Health reminds us that one of the best ways to stay healthy is to wash your hands often. This will help to stop the spread of germs.



## 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](http://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](mailto:receptioncentre@yrdsb.ca)



# January 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 <i>Happy New Year's Day!</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 <i>Back to School</i>	10	11	12 <i>Skills Ontario Presentation</i>	13 <i>Primary Skating</i>	14
15	16	17 <i>Primary Mkm. Theatre School Council Meeting 7pm</i>	18 <i>Meningococcal Vaccine Gr 7s</i>	19 <i>Markham Theatre Gr 3s UHS Guidance Visit at Coledale pm</i>	20 <i>Kindergarten Registration Begins 2017-2018 PA DAY</i>	21
22	23	24 <i>Junior Volleyball Area Tournament</i>	25	26 <i>Junior Ski Trip</i>	27 <i>Primary Skating</i>	28
29	30	31				