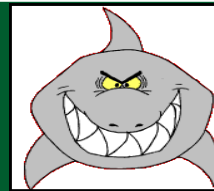


David Suzuki Public
School

45 Riverwalk Drive
Markham, L6B 0L9
905-209-0435

SUZUKI SOURCE



davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca

Volume 4 - December 2016

happy holidays



Principal
Terry Weatherill

Vice-Principal
Jennifer Cowley

Administrative Assistant
Helen Olidis

Secretaries
Meharaj Aklak
Sunitha Krishnan

Superintendent
Peter Tse

Trustee
Juanita Nathan

Principal's Message

On November 7th, 2016 we celebrated "Bring Our MP to School Day" by welcoming our Federal Minister of Parliament and Canada's Minister of Health, the Honourable Dr. Jane Philpott to David Suzuki. This day provided an opportunity for our Federal Government through the eyes and ears of Minister Philpott to hear our students' voices, concerns and interests. She responded with honesty, sincerity and conviction to the intelligent questions posed to her by our students. Also, our Trustee Juanita Nathan, YRDSB Director J. Parappally, and Superintendent of Schools Peter Tse were honoured guests at the event. Trustee Nathan and Director Parappally both spoke eloquently and briefly to our students. To quote Minister Philpott, she was, "so impressed by the outstanding dramatic presentation, the excellent questions, and the overall thoughtfulness and sincerity of the students." Sincere thanks to Mrs. Scott, Mr. Bansal and Mrs. Simmons for their part in planning the overall program, and showcasing the talents of our students.

On November 11th, our students, staff and a number of parents attended an inspirational Remembrance Day assembly. It provided us with an opportunity to honour Canadians, and other people around the world, who have sacrificed their lives in the name of peace and freedom. The audience was engaged in remembering our past, reflecting on the current and hoping for the future. Our honoured guest, Mr. Honsberger, was a Veteran of the Royal Canadian Army who served in the Second World War. His message to students and adults alike was about the importance of talking and listening, and resolving our differences peacefully. Thank you to all of our students who contributed by emceeing, making art for the walls, reciting of poems, singing special songs, asking questions of our Veteran guest, placing wreaths at the front of the gymnasium, and to our Remembrance Day Committee of Ms. Steele, Mrs. Kennedy, Ms. Kilgour and Mrs. Barovier for organizing this important service.

Progress Report Cards were sent home on Tuesday, November 22nd. Thanks to the diligence, commitment and dedication of our staff, these reports provided parents/guardians with a good idea of how their child was progressing to that point in the school year. Thanks to all of our parents/guardians who visited the school for Parent/Teacher Conferences and engaged in thoughtful discussions about their children's learning. We know that all of our parents are very committed to their children's academic success and so it is so important that they engage with their children and with the teacher about their strengths, their needs and their next steps for improvement.

We are pleased to welcome back our Educational Assistant, Ms. Aitchison, on a full time. We wish Mrs. Cheong, who has been filling in for Ms. Aitchison in the afternoons all the best in her future endeavours.

For the past three months our Intermediate Boys' and Girls' Volleyball Teams have been practicing before school or after school almost every school day, and playing in a number of games. Our heartfelt thanks to our students for being such fine ambassadors on behalf of Suzuki and to coaches Mr. Hwee, Mr. Lowrie, Mrs. Ming, Mrs. McMichael, Mrs. Tsiampouris and Mrs. Sambrook for all your time and dedicated service to providing an unforgettable and valuable team experience for the players.

Our strong partnership will ensure your children meet with success!

Sincerely,

Terry Weatherill (Principal) Jennifer Cowley (Vice Principal)

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Happy Hanukkah!



Happy Kwanzaa

Canadian Identity & Interconnectedness

As was mentioned in the Administrator's Message, last month our Member of Parliament, the Honourable Dr. Jane Philpott was a guest at our school on Take Your MP to School day. The theme of the presentation to her focused on the Canadian Identity & Interconnectedness.

The original design for this presentation was by *Elizabeth Tsui*, a David Suzuki alumna., is shown below.



“We need to appreciate – as we ponder our own unique Canadian identities – the actuality that we are not alone – each and every one of us represents a unique component in a complex tapestry of what we deem - Canadian Society.”

Bring your MP to School Day

By: Anjali Kosuri (Grade 8 Student)

Our school, David Suzuki Public School, had the opportunity to host the “Bring Your MP to School Day” on November 8th, 2016. Mrs. Scott’s grade 8 Class performed a meaningful play all about Canadian identity, which held many powerful messages that resonated effectively amongst the audience. The play acknowledged the diversity of this country and how we are each unique, and have our own different opinions and ideas, but in the end, the fact is that we are all interconnected. I think that it can be meaningful amongst the students and teachers in this school because it shows that although we can be incredible on our own, we can be a whole lot better if we cooperate and rise together. We had the pleasure of hosting our MP and Minister of Health, Minister Jane Philpott at our school. Minister Philpott wasn’t our only special guest though. Director Parappally, Trustee Nathan, and Superintendent Tse were also some of our esteemed guests. Each of our visitors spoke at the podium for a couple of minutes, as well as our Principal, Mr. Weatherill, and our Vice-Principal, Ms. Cowley. As they finished, we had 5 students from different classes pose questions to Minister Philpott. She was very honest with her answers and spoke about how not everything is perfect in Canada, and that she (along with everyone she is working with), is working on making Canada more fair to everybody. Lastly, I read a poem (that I composed specifically for this event and relating directly to our play) about Canadian identity and the importance of attaining student voice, and from there the assembly took a smooth finish. Overall, I think that the assembly was highly meaningful and inspiring. It went along smoothly and it was a spectacular experience!

Thank you.

Character Matters—Empathy

November's focus was on **Empathy**. We were pleased to see so many students throughout the school striving to sense and appreciate the emotions of others, by "standing in their shoes." Many students demonstrated appreciation of and concern for others feelings. Many students tried to understand issues from other student's perspectives even though they may not agree with them personally. We know this is a characteristic that we hope to see a lot of at David Suzuki!

Congratulations to the following students for being selected for the month of November,2016

Mrs. Hudspith/Mrs.Prasth	OFTJSA	Prithika P., Sainthavi S., Ayshra T.
Ms. Agnihotri/ Ms. Elmi	OFTJSB	Aaliya R., Kanisha R., Asvikaa L.
Ms. Orr/ Ms. Abreu	OFTJSC	Elias R., Alexander P., Ananya Y.
Ms. Halliday/Ms. Donnan	OFTJSD	Lucas P., Kitson W.
Ms. Eng/ Ms.Wang	OFTJSE	Inneya S., Mahissha J., Jaagavi J.
Ms. Llewellyn/Ms. Khalil	OFTJSF	Bahar S., Tilak P.
Mrs. Neate/Ms. Selvaratnam	OFTJSG	Neela H., Arshanth A.
Mrs. Gertsakis	GR1	Iris L., Juvala S.
Mrs. McMichael	GR1	Farahnaz A., Reshan S.
Mrs. Kennedy	GR1	Jasnoor P., Sanjana R.
Mrs. Veiga	GR1/2	Priscilla K
Mrs. Barovier	GR2	Keashavan G., Ashna P.
Mrs. Cooper	GR2	Ariana H., Aakash R.
Mr. Binner	GR2	Ariana H., Aakash R.
Mrs. Kilgour	GR3	Roheth R., Oviyaa., K., Simran D.
Mrs. Clements	GR3	Mekinan K., Pranavi. S.
Ms. Hall	GR3	Maya H.
Ms. Nedelkovski	GR3	Daksh M., Hanna G.

The Character Trait for December is

Compassion.

If someone shows kindness, caring, and a willingness to help others, they're showing compassion. This is a word for a very positive emotion that has to do with being thoughtful and decent. Giving to a charity takes compassion. Volunteering to work with sick people or animals takes compassion. It is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is strick by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.

Kindergarten Registration — January 20th, 2017



Kindergarten registration will commence on **January 20th Friday**, at **9:00 am** for the **2017-18** school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.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 school.



David Suzuki P.S. Book Fair December 5-9

The scholastic Book fair is coming to our school! Everyone is invited to attend our Book Fair being held in the library from Monday December 5th to Thursday December 9th. It is a great opportunity to purchase books for holiday reading and at the same time support our library. For every \$10 spent at the Book Fair, up to \$6 goes back to our school. This allows us to purchase new books and build our library collection. A newsletter with a schedule of classroom visits to the Fair and a preview flyer will be sent home with students on Friday. Mrs. Tompkins-London is looking forward to seeing everyone at this exciting literacy event!

School Council Meeting

All parents are invited to attend monthly meetings without having to be officially on Council. Babysitting is provided by grade eight students during the meeting. Please join us!



Next meeting:

Monday, December 5, 2016 at 6:30pm in the Library.

Thank you to all our parents for volunteering their valuable time to support our students and the school and attend these meetings!



Let's Talk About Lice!

Lice Squad recently visited our school to conduct lice checks for all students. We continue to be vigilant, but require your support at home to help reduce the incidence of lice in our school. Please see the attached pages at the end of this newsletter for further information about how to detect, treat and prevent occurrences of lice. Should you require further support to access treatment, such as a proper comb to remove nits, please call or stop by the school office.



Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team

On Thursday, November 24th, David Suzuki's Intermediate Boys volleyball team travelled to Armadale Public School for their Area Volleyball Tournament. The team started the tournament with a tough loss to Wilclay Public School, with a score of 25 to 21. The team bounced back with a strong win in their second game against Aldergrove, overwhelming them to the score of 25 to 8. In their third game, David Suzuki was in-tough with a team that beat them earlier in the season – Unionville Meadows. It was a hard fought game, each team trading serves and spikes, but David Suzuki prevailed and managed to avenge an earlier loss to this team and beat Unionville Meadows with a score of 25 to 19. The team was gaining steam and confidence, ending the final round-robin game against Highgate Public School, beating them 25 to 10. The team advanced to the quarter-finals in which they beat Markham Gateway in a best two-of-three games and advanced to the semi-finals against a tough Parkland Public School team. It was a hard fought game, but the team lost to Parkland in the semi-finals and placed fourth out of fifteen teams in the area tournament. **Congratulations to the Senior Boys Volleyball team on a successful season!**



This year, the Senior Girls Volleyball team had another impressive season!

Over the course of their two-month season, the girls put together a season record of 13 wins and 9 losses throughout all of their exhibition and tournament play.

Their season was capped off on November 23rd at the East Area tournament where they competed in an extremely skilled and competitive tournament with teams from 14 other schools. Although the ladies fell just short of their season goals, all of the Lady Sharks should be extremely proud of their many accomplishments throughout the year.

Congratulations on becoming a true “team” who learned to battle through adversity, hardships, and injuries, and who showed true resilience as they learned to work together while demonstrating great sportsmanship and positivity. The countless hours of practice and play helped all of the Lady Sharks develop their athletic and personal skills to new heights.

Thanks to coaches **Mr. Lowrie & Mrs. Ming**, and to managers **Mrs. Sambrook & Mrs. Tsiampouris** for all their time and effort.



You ladies are AWESOME!!

BRING YOUR MP TO SCHOOL DAY PHOTOS



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE PHOTOS



This Holiday Season Make a Family's Holiday a Little Brighter

This year, the David Suzuki Student Council has partnered with our local Salvation Army chapter. We are asking each child to bring in a small monetary donation which will go towards supporting families within our local community. Student Council will also be planning some exciting events in the next few weeks for students and staff.



Some of these include:

- creating a school wide quilt,
- hosting a holiday bingo game,

having students and staff participate in a fun spirit week and coordinating a school wide sing-along. We hope that through these events we are able to bring our school together in the theme of interconnectedness.



School Bus Cancellation Notices

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.

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.
- **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.
 - 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.
 - 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	105.9 FM	107.1 FM						

TELEVISION

CITY TV	CTV Barrie	CTV Toronto	CP24	GLOBAL NEWS	
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A bus cancellation message will also be available at School Bus City and by calling **1-877-330-3001**, or by following @YRDSB and @YCDSB on twitter.

School Bus Challenges

Unfortunately, we are still continuing to experience some difficulties related to punctuality with a couple of our busses. We appreciate that this can be very frustrating for parents who are waiting for their children to be dropped off or picked up. We are consistently in communication with the bus company about this and they assure us they are doing everything they can to be on time. The challenge is that we are the second run for the busses meaning that they pick up and drop off students for another school with an earlier start time prior to picking up and dropping off our students. Thus, if there is a problem of any sort on the first run that causes delay, we are automatically affected. This is the case for all schools with bussing – if you are an early start school, you are on the first run; if you are a later start school, as we are, you are on the second run and impacted by what happens on the first run. We want to assure you that if the bus is late, your child continues to be supervised until it arrives.

Curriculum Corner

Let's Talk With Our Children!

It is important that we spend time talking with our children every day. We know that oral communication is the foundation for literacy. Just as we know that the more children read, the better readers they become, the more opportunities children have to talk, the better they are at using language effectively. Fostering children's oral language development will support their engagement in reading and writing from the start. Children need lots of opportunities to explore and talk about the world around them. Take time every day to share daily experiences, including what your child did at school, how your day went, or simply talk about a movie or book that you've seen or read. Talk to your children in the language that you know best! Daily talk with your child enforces the following important skills that they will need in school and life:



- * Making connections
- * Listening
- * Sharing ideas
- * Expressing opinions
- * Turn taking



Self-Esteem

Children form views of themselves as a person, their value as an individual and how good they are at doing certain things as they grow up. It is important for parents to encourage children to be confident to develop healthy self-esteem. This means children having a true sense of their strengths and weaknesses.

KEY STEPS:

- Praise your child's efforts and achievements
- Tell your child you care
- Help your child make friends
- Encourage your child to set goals, do things for themselves and assess their achievement
- Encourage your child to express their ideas and make decisions
- Help your child manage their feelings, think realistically and be optimistic



Snowballs



As we grow closer to the winter season and snow, we want to remind everyone of an important rule.

As you know, the safety of our students is our first priority therefore, **students are prohibited from throwing snowballs on school property as it could result in others getting hurt.** We will remind our students on a consistent basis of the importance of keeping snow on the ground and hope as parents, you will do the same at home. Students are encouraged to build "snow people" or to make snow angels.



Students who do not follow this rule will have consequences ranging from missed recesses to being sent home depending on the number of incidents and the result of the incident. We're confident that our students will remember the rules and not have this happen.

Again, we would ask your cooperation by discussing the above policy with your child.

Thank you.



Attention Parents!



The Suzuki Kindergarten and Junior Division Holiday Concert dates are fast approaching. Please see the important information below:

Our Junior Division Concert will take place on **Wednesday, December 14th starting at 6:30 pm (doors open at 6 pm)**

The Concert will include performances by the following classes and groups:

- * Grade 4: Ms. Prasoulis, Mr. Hwee & Mr. Clarke
- * Grade 5: Ms. Shum, Ms. Elsner & Mrs. Carter
- * Grade 6: Ms. Benson, Mr. Kermally & Mr. Duffus
- * Junior Concert Band with Ms. Puskar

**** Students who are performing need to be in their classrooms no later than 6:15 pm the night of the concert! Thank you for your support with this!**

Our Kindergarten Holiday Concert will take place on **Wednesday, December 21st starting at 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm).**

The Kindergarten students will be performing a song with their class and then all the students will be singing a song together in the finale.

**** On the night of the 21st, students must be in their classroom no later than 6:15pm.**

More information about the Kindergarten concert was sent home by your child's teacher last week. Please make sure to read the invitation and ask your child's teachers if you have any questions. Your support is greatly appreciated!

We would ask that if you are planning to come and watch the concerts, please stay for the whole concert and do not leave part-way through. Leaving early is very disruptive and is unfair to the students who are performing later in the program.

We hope you enjoy the Holiday Concerts and have a safe and happy holiday season!

The Primary division will be having their concert on Wednesday, April 26th, 2017. There will be more information sent home closer to the date.

Don't miss these wonderful events!

Reporting Your Child's Absence

You **MUST** call in your child's absence! We have a 24 hour absence reporting line, clearly state and **SPELL** your child's name and state their teacher's name as well. If we do not know where your child is we must call the police.



When calling in please indicate whether the absence is an illness, a medical appointment, an injury, Religious Holiday or a parent withdrawal (a day off).

If it is an illness please indicate the following:

- Has a fever
- Stomach and intestinal symptoms (vomiting or diarrhea)
- Respiratory breathing cold symptoms (coughing, sneezing and congestion)

Thank you for your cooperation.

Lost and Found



We have a number of items in our lost and found boxes inside the front door of the school. If your child is missing any items, please take a look in these boxes – we would like to find homes for everything. Parents, please take the time to look through these items while visiting the school.

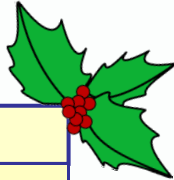


Pokemon - Yu-Gi-Oh Cards

Unfortunately we have had a number of issues with Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh cards at Suzuki. Cards have been damaged or have gone missing and this has caused a number of problems. Students should not be bringing these cards to school. They should remain at home where they can be played with appropriately and we don't have to worry about damage/theft. Thank you for supporting this by reminding your children to keep their cards at home. If cards are brought to school, staff will be taking them and they will be sent home.



Mark your calendar!!



Dec. 5-9	Scholastic Book Fair
Dec. 5	School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Dec. 14	Jr. Division Winter Wonderland Holiday Concert 6:30 pm
Dec 21	Kindergarten Holiday Concert 6:30 pm
Dec 23	Last Day of School in 2016
Dec 27 – Jan 6	Winter Break
Jan 9	Welcome Back-1st day of school for 2017!
Jan 16	School Council 6:30 pm

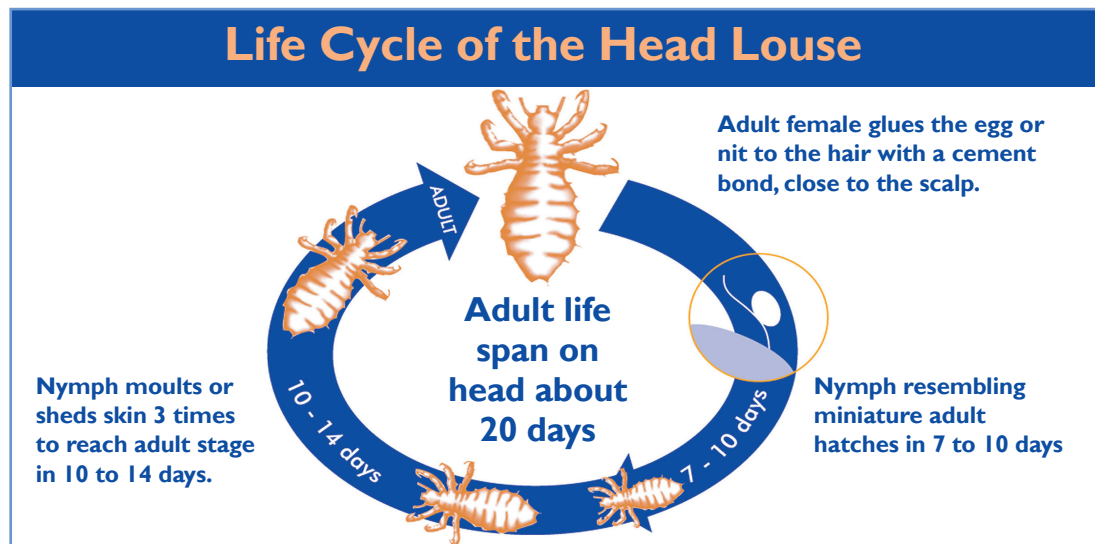
Pls see attached flyers for Lice and Norovirus fact sheets Arts Mackenzie and MDHS Events



Head Lice

What are head lice?

Head lice, or louse are a common parasitic insect that can be found on the head, eyebrows and eyelashes of people. Head lice feed on human blood and live close to the human scalp. Head lice are not known to spread disease. There are three forms of head lice; nit (egg), nymph or adult.



Nit (eggs)

- Half the size of the head of a pin and shaped like a tear drop
- Are a creamy colour and found close to the scalp, on the shaft of the hair
- Are cemented to the hair so they cannot be blown or flicked off

Nymph - immature louse

- Transparent or rust coloured after blood meal and very difficult to see
- Reaches maturity in about 10 days
- Lice have six legs with claws so they can cling to human hair

Adult - mature louse

- Larger than a nymph
- The female louse can lay up to 150 eggs during the life span
- Lice do not like movement or light and crawl from head to head

For further information, please call:
York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653
TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca



Head lice will cause:

- Itchy scalp; especially around the hair line and behind the ears
- Tickling in the hair
- Sores caused by scratching the itchy bites

Head lice move by crawling quickly not hopping or flying. Head lice are spread by direct head to head contact or sharing personal items like hats, scarves or brushes. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.

A co-operative community effort will help to control the spread of head lice. This means that all families need to have regular head checks and treat their children if head lice are found.

Steps to check for head lice:

- Sit in a well lit area - near a sunny window or bright lamp
- Divide the hair into sections and look carefully, one section at a time
- Look carefully in the hair, behind the ears, nape of neck, hairline of the head
- Check the heads of all family members

Be sensitive to children's feelings if they have head lice.

If you find head lice or nits, proceed with treatment. Speak to a pharmacist or health professional about treatments and follow the directions on the package.

If you don't see lice or nits, continue to check the head regularly twice a week for one month, or more often, if your child has been in close contact with a confirmed case of head lice.

To control the spread of head lice:

- Do not share personal items
- Wash all bedding, towels and hats in hot water or use a hot drying cycle. Place items that can't be washed into airtight bags for 10 days to two weeks
- Vacuum surfaces where head may have rested, but no extra cleaning of the home is required
- Use treatments if live lice or nits are found in the hair. Check the head daily and repeat treatments if necessary
- Follow-up with anyone who may have had close contact to ensure they are checked for lice

SickKids

<http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/ConditionsandDiseases/SkinHairandNailDisorders/Pages/Headlice.aspx>

Canadian Paediatric Society:

<http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/whensick/HeadLice.htm>

For further information, please call:
York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653
TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca



November 28, 2016

Norovirus illness is common at this time of year

Over the past few days, media has reported a number of norovirus-like outbreaks with symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea and nausea. Norovirus, often referred to as the “stomach flu”, is a very contagious viral illness that is usually not severe, comes on quickly and normally resolves in 24 to 48 hours.

York Region Public Health can confirm that two York Region schools, one in the Town of East Gwillimbury and one in the City of Markham, have tested positive for norovirus. York Region Public Health actively works with facilities experiencing outbreaks to implement control measures, such as increased cleaning and disinfection.

As seen with Thornhill Woods Public School, these control measures effectively reduced student absenteeism by 50 per cent over a few days.

To lower the spread of norovirus within our communities:

- Anyone experiencing symptoms should continue to stay home for at least 48 hours after symptoms stop
- Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water, especially after using the toilet or changing diapers and before preparing, handling and eating food
- Wear gloves when cleaning up vomit or diarrhea. Contaminated surfaces must first be scrubbed using detergent and water and then disinfected. To disinfect a contaminated surface, create a chlorine bleach solution by mixing one cup (250 ml) of bleach in nine cups (2.25L) of water
- Remove and wash clothes and linens that may be contaminated with vomit or feces
- Keep sick individuals out of areas where food is being handled or prepared
- Anyone who is sick should not handle or prepare food for at least 48 hours after symptoms stop



1-800-361-5653
TTY: 1-866-512-6228

York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services

Public Health

york.ca



Norovirus and influenza are different

Norovirus is not related to influenza, or “the flu”, a respiratory illness caused by the influenza virus which commonly starts circulating during the fall and into spring.

Symptoms of influenza include:

- Sudden onset of headache
- Fever (over 38 degrees Celsius or 100 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Muscle aches and fatigue
- Loss of appetite
- Runny nose
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Cough

Most people recover from the flu within a week to 10 days, but some people, including those 65 years of age or older, healthy pregnant women and adults and children with chronic health conditions are at greater risk of becoming ill and developing severe health problems such as pneumonia.

You and your family can reduce your chances of getting the flu by:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available. Handwashing is especially important after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- Coughing and sneezing into your sleeve or a tissue, not your hand and throwing away used tissues immediately
- Getting the seasonal flu shot for anyone six months of age or older. It is especially important for people 65 years of age or older, healthy pregnant women and adults and children with chronic health conditions
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Not touching your face
- Regularly cleaning and disinfecting common surfaces

For more information, please read York Region’s [norovirus](#) and [flu](#) fact sheets.

Should you have any questions, please contact York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73588.



Creativity Thrives Here | Arts Mackenzie Applications for September 2017

The York Region District School Board's specialized arts program is designed for students passionate about the arts. The Arts Mackenzie program gives students opportunities to develop strong artistic skills in a safe, inclusive environment. Students who enjoy kinaesthetic learning opportunities will benefit from the Arts Mackenzie experience. While working towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, students are required to take a minimum of eight arts credits in their chosen discipline. Grade 8 and grade 9 students may apply to study one of the following Arts Mackenzie disciplines: dance, music (strings, instrumental, vocal), theatre or visual arts.

Benefits of Enhancing Your Secondary School Experience with Arts Mackenzie:

- Specialized arts programming
- Professional guest artist workshops from Canada's top artistic organizations
- Arts field trips and cross-curricular opportunities
- A kinaesthetic instructional approach to acquiring traditional, digital and financial literacy skills
- The arts can nurture creativity, build confidence, perseverance, focus, collaboration, critical thinking and higher order thinking skills
- Graduate with OSSD and YRDSB Specialized Arts Certificate

Application Deadline:

Applications for September 2017 are due to Alexander Mackenzie High School by 4 p.m. on **December 9, 2016**. Auditions **will be held in January 2017**. Students must submit a completed application, complete with both an academic reference and an artistic reference, to be guaranteed an audition in January 2017. There is a \$20 dollar fee to apply to Arts Mackenzie.

For more information, please visit <http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie> or contact Cathy Clarke, Head of Performing Arts, at arts.alexandermackenzie@yrdsb.ca



Markham District High School
Grade 8 Parent & Guardian Information Night
Thursday, December 8th, 2016
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Welcome to MDHS! You are invited to visit MDHS' subject departments, learn about high school (from extra-curricular activities to graduation requirements), and ask any questions you might have. **To accommodate our large numbers, we are offering two Welcome Presentations – 7:00 and 8:25 pm.**

Suggested schedules for the evening:

Option #1

- 7:00 p.m. **Welcome Presentation** – cafeteria (limited seating) or Attend the Breakout Session: *
- *Applied vs. Academic Math – How are they Different? (Sample Lesson)*
- 7:50 p.m. Tour Departments or attend the following Breakout Sessions: *
- *Course Selection – How to use Career Cruising*
 - *Special Education Support and Programming at High School*
 - *Applied vs. Academic Math – How are they Different? (Sample Lesson)*
- 8:25 p.m. Tour Departments or attend the following Breakout Sessions: *
- *Course Selection – How to use Career Cruising*
 - *Special Education Support and Programming at High School*
-

Option #2

- 7:00 p.m. Tour Departments or attend the following Breakout Session: *
- *Applied vs. Academic Math – How are they Different? (Sample Lesson)*
- 7:50 p.m. Tour Departments or attend the following Breakout Sessions: *
- *Course Selection – How to use Career Cruising*
 - *Special Education Support and Programming at High School*
 - *Applied vs. Academic Math – How are they Different? (Sample Lesson)*
- 8:25 p.m. **Welcome Presentation** - cafeteria
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Option #3

- 7:00 p.m. **Gifted Programming Presentation** – library (limited seating)
- 7:50 p.m. Tour Departments or attend the following Breakout Sessions: *
- *Course Selection – How to use Career Cruising*
 - *Special Education Support and Programming at High School*
 - *Applied vs. Academic Math – How are they Different? (Sample Lesson)*
- 8:25 p.m. **Welcome Presentation** - cafeteria

*Room locations, departments, and workshops will be provided on the evening of the event.

Drop in opportunities include:

- AP programming
- Mental Health & Well-being & Overview of Available Supports/Interventions for Students
- Pathways & Graduation Requirements
- SHSM/OYAP/Co-op Programming
- Grade 9 Subject Areas -Department Information

We look forward to seeing you!

Markham District High School



Upcoming School Council Presentations and Events

MDHS School Council is pleased to be hosting a number of upcoming informative events and presentations. These events are open to students, parents and administrators. All local area schools are invited to attend. Events take place in the MDHS school library. Additional details are provided below:

Event	Details	Date/Time
Student Advocacy Cards	Learn more about the new Advocacy Cards program and gain a better understanding of how you can support your son or daughter to advocate for their learning needs in the classroom environment. This session is for both parents and students and will directly follow the School Council meeting taking place from 6-7PM. RSVP to markham.dhs@sc.yrdsb.ca by Nov 25th. Presented by the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region	November 28th 7-8:30 pm
Supporting Community Concerns Advocacy Training	Learn about the board's policy on how they support community concerns, The policy and procedure reinforces the importance of high standards of practice with regard to service provision by the Board. A workshop on effective approaches to advocating for our children, school and community. Presented by YRDSB Inclusive School and Community Services	January 23rd 7:00 pm
Supporting High School Students with Math	A session for parents targeted on providing strategies to support your son or daughter with high school Math. Presented by MDHS Math Department	February 6th 7:00 pm
Social Media Branding	This session is open to both parents, students and teachers to gain an understanding on how social media can be used to portray who we are positively or negatively. As well, a brief discussions on the dangers of social media. Presented by Socially Active	March 20th 6:00-8:00 pm
YRDSB Mental Health Strategy (Tentative)	Session for Parents and Teachers to be held immediately following School Council meeting scheduled from 6:30-7. The focus will be on the board's strategy. Presented by Mental Health, YRDSB	May 15th 7:00 pm