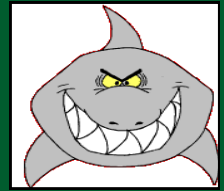


David Suzuki Public School  
45 Riverwalk Drive  
Markham, L6B 0L9  
(905) 209-0435

# SUZUKI SOURCE



[davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca)

Volume 9 - May 2017

## ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

Spring has definitely sprung around David Suzuki P.S.! At the end of April, we said farewell to Ms. Fogel. She was a great help throughout the school! We are very pleased to welcome Mrs. Cathy Hughes as administrator to our office staff! Mrs. Hughes brings great experience with her and we are happy to have the opportunity to work with her.

Spring is always a very exciting time of year around a school and this Spring is no exception! Students and staff have been busy! Our exciting Earth Week events were a huge hit with all our students and staff. We thank parents for their efforts towards being environmentally conscious and for getting active by participating in our Walk to School Day! Every bit helps! Keeping with the environmental theme, parents are reminded to check their email regularly as we work to reduce the amount of paper we use. In the coming months, and transitioning into September, we will be working towards eliminating paper notices coming home. You can help by checking your email regularly and using School Cash Online whenever possible. Please keep the office updated if you change your email address. Thank you for your help as we work toward decreasing our footprint on the environment!

There are many events planned over the next couple of months that will certainly keep us all busy. Our Primary Concert is happening on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and our Intermediate Drama Night is May 24<sup>th</sup>. Our annual Welcome to Kindergarten Event for parents and Junior Kindergarten students joining us in September is happening May 17<sup>th</sup>, and our Jump Rope for Heart event is planned for May 18<sup>th</sup>. The annual EQAO Assessment for students in Grades 3 and 6 will begin on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Please join us for the School Council Fun Fair on May 18<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date May 25<sup>th</sup>)!** With jumping castles, great food, and more, this year's Fun Fair is sure to be a hit! You can pre-purchase wristbands for the inflatables at <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/>. Tickets for other activities and food can be purchased (cash only) at the Fun Fair. **Please note that the parking lot will be closed starting at LUNCH on May 18<sup>th</sup> to facilitate setting up for the Fun Fair.**

As a reminder parent input into class placements is welcome. When we place students we take the time to consider a variety of factors such as learning styles, strengths/needs, and relationships with peers. If you feel that you would like to provide some additional information related to your child's learning and/or social emotional needs for us to consider for next year, please provide this information to Ms. Cowley or Ms. Hughes in writing by May 15, 2017. Requests for specific teachers can not be accommodated.

Finally, you are encouraged to participate in the **YRDSB Parent/Guardian Survey** between now and May 19<sup>th</sup>. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent/guardian voice. Results will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being. The English version of the survey is available online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/yrdsb2017ParentSurvey>.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Together, our efforts will ensure David Suzuki P.S. remains a school of excellence!

Sincerely,

*Jennifer Cowley (Principal)*

*Cathy Hughes (Vice Principal)*



Principal  
Jennifer Cowley  
[Jennifer.cowley@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Jennifer.cowley@yrdsb.ca)

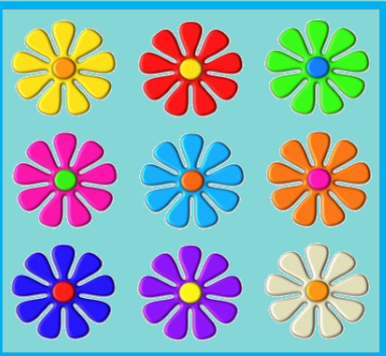
Vice-Principal  
Cathy Hughes  
[Cathy.hughes@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Cathy.hughes@yrdsb.ca)

Administrative Assistant  
Helen Olidis

Secretaries  
Meharaj Aklak  
Sunitha Krishnan

Superintendent  
Peter Tse

Trustee  
Juanita Nathan



# Character Matters—Integrity

**April's** focus was on Integrity. We are truthful and sincere. We ensure consistency between what we say and what we do as well as between what we believe and how we behave.

Congratulations to our winners:



Mrs. Hudspith/Mrs.Prasth	OFTJSA	Ayden S., Trinity T., Akshika K.
Ms. Agnihotri/ Ms. Elmi	OFTJSB	Neha A.
Ms. Orr/ Ms. Abreu	OFTJSC	Aaniya K.
Ms. Halliday/Ms. Donnan	OFTJSD	Ismail H., Cathy P., Shajeethan M.
Ms. Eng/ Ms.Wang	OFTJSE	Jazmine S., Ahren B., Natheesh S.
Ms. Llewellyn/Ms. Khalil	OFTJSF	Anish W., Asha T., Kyle C., Shageen T.
Mrs. Keane /Ms. Selvaratnam	OFTJSG	Shiv M., Tanroop R., Kayla R.
Mrs. Gertsakis	GR1	Preethi V., Harrison M.
Mrs. McMichael	GR1	Manav N., Dhani P.
Mrs. Kennedy	GR1	Anchana S.
Mrs. Veiga	GR1/2	Zehra Z.
Mrs. Barovier	GR2	Sayaan S., Amanda T.
Mrs. Cooper	GR2	Sara G., Nathan T., Veneshkar S.
Mr. Binner	GR2	Israel M., Khai P.
Mrs. Kilgour	GR3	Aaryan S., Barleen R.
Mrs. Clements	GR3	Rahman B., Elza M.
Ms. Hall	GR3	Maya H., Shivali K.
Ms. Nedelkovski	GR3	Abisha U., Navjot T.

The Character Trait for May is :

## **COURAGE**

**“We face challenges directly. We seek help from others when necessary. We do the right thing even when it may be unpopular. We are able to recognize risks and danger and do not take unwise risks to gain the approval of those around us”.**

Important  
Message

## YRDSB Survey for Parents/Guardians May 1-19, 2017

Parents/guardians are invited to participate in an important survey, the result of which will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being. The parent survey will be available between **May 1-19, 2017**. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent/guardian voice.

You may complete the survey **online** or on paper, beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>. The online survey will be available in English. Paper surveys will be available from the school office in English. If you required a paper copy in the following languages please contact the office. Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Sri Lankan Tamil, Urdu and Vietnamese.

We value your input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information you provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation.

Information about how to access the online survey will be sent home with students. Please contact the school if you have any questions.



## School Cash Online

**School Cash Online** allows parents to pay for extracurricular items, field trips, food sales and/or special events using their electronic devices that have Wi-Fi access.



The benefits of **School Cash Online** are numerous.

- it is available 24/7 which is an advantage if you forgot to give your child money/cheque for an activity
- it is a secure form of payment and reduces the number of people handling cash/cheques (child, teacher, office staff), making it more efficient for both the parent and the school to keep track of payments.

When an item/event has been created in **School Cash Online** you will receive an email alert. Email reminders are sent once a week regarding unpurchased items.

To register for **School Cash Online** click on the link below and follow the step by step instructions.

<https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

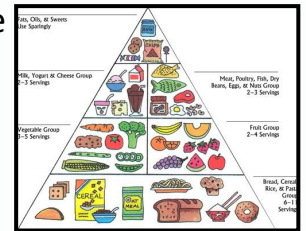
We hope that our whole school community will embrace **School Cash Online**. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

# SCHOOL CASH ONLINE



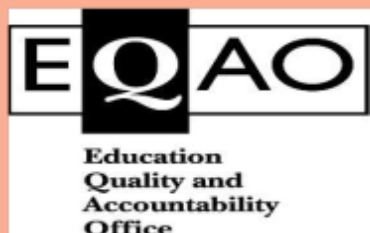
David Suzuki P.S. in partnership with York Region Food For Learning has received funding from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services to pilot a healthy snack program at our school. This program will provide nutritious snacks 3 times during the month of May. The central objective of this program is to support the learning and healthy development of children. It also supports initiatives to increase levels of school readiness among young people and provide a healthy environment at David Suzuki P.S. Research has established that proper nutrition, particularly during the morning hours, plays an important role in supporting learning. Students will be offered a healthy, nut-free snack consisting of servings from 2 of the 4 food groups. Some examples of our snacks might include apples, bananas and cheese strings. The intention of this pilot program is to provide a snack for students who may have missed breakfast or forgotten a snack.

We will monitor how this pilot program goes to determine our next steps for the 2017-18 school year.

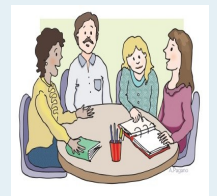


### Grade 3 and Grade 6- (May 23 – June 5)

The Ministry EQAO tests will be administered to our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students between May 23 to June 5th. Parents of students in these grades are asked to please refrain from booking any appointments or vacations during this time as it is very important for all students to participate in this province-wide testing.



### David Suzuki School Council News



All parents are invited to attend monthly meetings without having to be officially on Council.

#### Next meeting

*Monday June 5, at 6:30 pm in the Library.*

#### **UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Fun Fair: Sunshine or Rain**

**Please save the date- May 18 or May 25 (RAIN DATE)**

**Volunteers needed for the Fun Fair**– Please sign the Volunteer sign up sheet and send it back to school.

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



## Walk to School Day



On Friday, April 21st in celebration of Earth Day, we held our second annual **WALK TO SCHOOL DAY** and once again, what a success! We had many of our wonderful staff/SLAS member volunteers welcome students and their families as they took part in this fun event!

Why do we do this? To support many of the initiatives that our school believes in:

Walking to school supports our Healthy Schools pledge. Walking gets our hearts pumping and provides the daily exercise we all need!

Walking to school supports our Eco-School initiatives. By walking to school we are reducing the air pollution that is caused by vehicles!

Walking to school supports our Safety Team's goals. If more of our community walked to school it would reduce the traffic around the school community which results in safer roads!

Thank you for your continuous support of our school initiatives and we hope this day will encourage more students and parents to walk to school daily!



## Suzuki Cleans Up!

April 22<sup>nd</sup> was Earth Day and our ECO team organized classroom clean ups to help keep our community free of debris! Classes went outside the school building at different times and on different days to help keep our Earth healthy for future generations. Students from Ms. Steele's class talked about different ways that they could help save the Earth. The class went to the school outdoor property to find and collect garbage and recyclable materials around the school. Sadly, it didn't take long before they found enough garbage to fill their bag. Our class has the following tips for keeping the Earth healthy:

- Put your garbage in the garbage cans (this means it won't end up in parks for children or in the water for animals to get stuck in)
- If you can recycle it, put it in your blue bin
- Green bins are great for compostable garbage and can be used to make new earth



### Are you planning on moving?

Our preparations for the 2017-2018 school year are underway, and our success depends on accurate projections of the school population. If you are moving out of our school area, please take a few minutes to send in a note to inform us of this as soon as possible.

*Thank you*



## **FAREWELL FROM MS. FOGEL**



It is with fond happy memories of David Suzuki P.S. that I return to my “retirement” life. I was so fortunate to be given the opportunity to, once again, hold the position of vice principal at this most wonderful school. My work here began in January, and I will tell you that I looked forward every day to being at this school. Welcoming the students and wishing them a good day at school and seeing their happy faces and their greetings of hello, watching the caring, dedicated teachers as they planned, taught and interacted your children, and meeting many of the proud, involved and concerned parents made every day a meaningful, worthwhile experience.

I hope that I have had some influence and impact on the special students I met in the office who often needed kindness, compassion, understanding and guidance to understand their behavior and impact on others.

David Suzuki is ablaze with energy and activity that makes a large school of nearly 800 students and 60 staff a community unto itself. It is our “second” home. The number of activities: intra and intermural, dances, special evenings, school council, field trips, Earth Week, the hatching of baby ducklings and chicks, Student Council, School Council bring energy and life to the school. Student involvement at school is aligned with student success.

A big thank you to our caretaking staff who maintain our building so that it is a clean, safe place to learn. They work with the students on projects such Recycling in the school. The front office staff know not only the students, but their parents and the daily routines surrounding school life. Everyone is a team member allowing your child to have a positive attitude towards school and the desire to enter our doors each day to something that excites them about school and learning and socializing with other students. I will miss being part of this very special community.

A special thank you to Ms. Cowley, the principal, who I have worked with over these last few months. Our approaches to learning and expectations for our school and students were always aligned. Much has been accomplished and together many issues were resolved through our amazing working relationship. I know David Suzuki has an amazing principal who is committed to the school and its staff and students.

I would like to wish all my students the best of luck and success in their future endeavors. I want to thank the students, teachers, caretakers, office staff and Ms. Cowley for an exceptional opportunity to be part of this special team.

### **Looking for a friend to play with? Good News. The Buddy Bench is Open for Business!**

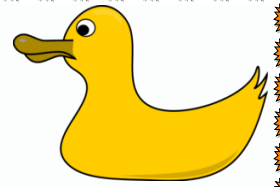
We are so happy to announce that our new Buddy Bench is now ready for use in our grade 1 to 4 tarmac area. The Buddy Bench promotes inclusion and helps to support the mental health of our students. It is a place for students to go if they need a friend to play with. Classroom posters have been made and teachers will be introducing this important tool to their students. Teachers will be teaching the students how to use the Buddy Bench and encouraging students who see someone sitting at the Buddy Bench to ask them to play. With your help and encouragement at home, we hope this will be a successful support for our students!



## Our Eggs Arrived!!!!



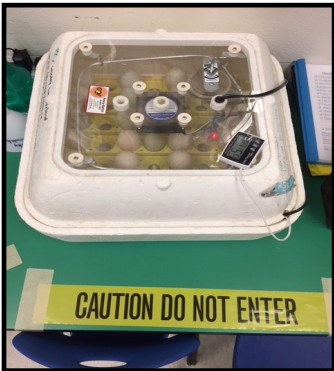
On Tuesday, April 10th, Farmer Karen delivered the incubators and eggs to our school. She also brought along a surprise for us.... two baby lambs and sixty ducklings! The Kindies (and the teachers) were so excited to meet these adorable baby animals.



Each classroom set up their incubator in a safe spot and our adventure began! Over the past couple of weeks, the students asked questions and have been learning all about ducks or chicks. Every couple of days, we would take the eggs out of their incubators to “candle” them to see their progress. “Candling” involves shining a light through the egg to see the development of the chick/duckling (see pictures below).

This week, our chicks hatched after a 21-day incubation period. Our ducklings will be emerging next week as they need a 28 day incubation period. We will share pictures of our adventures with our chicks and ducklings in next month’s edition!

Thank you again to all the parents that supported us through purchasing Kindergarten Concert tickets and DVDs. You made this amazing experience happen!



## SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

Thank you to all of the families that have participated in fundraising for Jump Rope for Heart and Stroke. We are thrilled to announce that, to date, we have raised **\$2,051**. Reaching this goal means that during lunch time next week the students will have music at this time. We are well on our way to reaching our goal of **\$9,700**. The final day for sending money into the school is May 12th. All of the proceeds from your fundraising will go directly towards the Heart and Stroke Foundation. We appreciate your support in raising money for this wonderful cause. Go Suzuki Sharks!!

## The Heart and Stroke Committee





## MORE SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

On April 20th, the Grade 5 students traveled downtown to the Rogers Centre where they had the opportunity to watch the Toronto Blue Jays take on the Boston Red Sox. The Jays were down 1 run going into the 9th inning where they hit a homerun, erupting the Rogers Centre. Extra innings were needed and it was exciting to watch. Unfortunately the Jays lost in the end. It was a fun day for all and for many students it was their first time experiencing a Jays' game. The Grade 5 teachers would like to thank all students for their fantastic behavior, as well as thank all the parents that joined us to supervise this trip. We look forward to reading the students' comparisons of baseball to a different sport.



# Go Jays go!



# SAFETY REMINDER



As Spring is upon us, we have been reminded by our Community Police Officer about safety tips for children and families while they are out and about in the nice weather. Please review these tips and other strategies that your family has reinforced with your children:

- **Always cross at the designated crosswalks**
- **Walk on the sidewalks**
- **Travel with a friend or a group**
- **Be safe and aware of your surroundings at all times**
- **Remind children to tell parents where they are at all times and with whom**
- **Do not chat with others who make you feel uncomfortable**
- **Do not accept gifts or go with strangers**
- **Remember to wear a helmet when biking or on a scooter**

Specifically on our school property, we respectfully ask parents to use caution when in and around the parking lot. We have recently noticed some cars travelling way too fast. This is a huge safety concern. Please also follow the posted signage regarding where you can and cannot stop. Our bus loop is not intended for cars driving through or for parking.

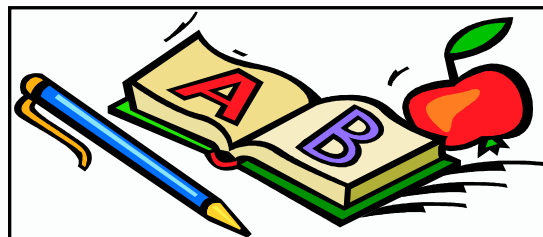
**We appreciate your help and commitment to keeping our community safe!**

## Welcome to Kindergarten Evening-May 17, 2017 (6:30 pm-7:30 pm)

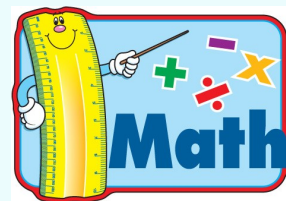
The Welcome to Kindergarten program is a unique experience for new Year 1 Kindergarten (JK) students and parents who will be joining DSPS in September! The program creates the foundation for positive relationships between children, parents and the school community. The orientation is aimed to provide resources and the support that is necessary to make early learning activity and play a priority in the home. This will help prepare the child for a fun and successful first year in school. Throughout the evening there will be a variety of key messages communicated such as:

- The parent is the child's first and best teacher.
- Make time for play and discovery.
- Use talk (speaking and listening) as you play and discover together.
- Recognize and celebrate your child's successes.

**Welcome to Kindergarten will take place at David Suzuki P.S. on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 from 6:30pm – 7:30 pm. This evening is intended for children starting Year 1 (JK) in September 2017, and who have registered for school in our main office. If possible, please make alternate arrangements for siblings. See you there!**



# 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 children to help them 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?

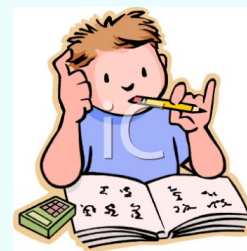
**Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies:** Which tool or strategy could you use to solve the problem? How do you know your strategy works? What other tool or strategy could you have used to solve the problem?

**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? (diagram, table, graph...)

**Communicating:** How might you organize your solution so someone else can follow your thinking? How could you make your mathematical thinking clearer?

Source: <http://www.edugains.ca/resourcesMath/CE/HomeSupport/PartneringWithYourTeen.pdf>





# Fun Fair— May 18,2017



David Suzuki PS will be holding its Annual Fun Fair on Thursday May 18 th from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. This event is being organized by our School Parent Council.

It is our hope that the Fun Fair will bring together our school community for an evening of fun! There will be music, food, games, bouncy castles, and much, much more. Any proceeds from this event will go toward school initiatives. In order for such an event to occur, we are in need of volunteers.

Volunteers may be family members, high school students or community members, so please spread the word! We are asking anyone who could give their time at this event to contact Sharon our Fun Fair School Council Chair, through email at [shareid6@gmail.com](mailto:shareid6@gmail.com)

Through your participation we can develop an active and welcoming school neighborhood and get to know each other better.

**We look forward to seeing everyone at the Fair!**



<b><u>Mark your calendar!!</u></b>	
<b>May 10</b>	• Grade 8 graduation trip
<b>May 11</b>	• Gr 4A Field trip to Toronto Botanical Gardens
<b>May 12</b>	• Gr 6 to Gr 8 Field Trip to Toronto Centre for the Arts
<b>May 15</b>	• Gr 7 Field trip to Seneca College • Scientist in the school for Gr 1
<b>May 16</b>	• Gr 4B Field trip to Toronto Botanical Gardens • Scientist in the School for Gr 5
<b>May 17</b>	• Welcome to Kindergarten Night - Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm • Track & Field Day
<b>May 18</b>	• Jump Rope for Heart event • Annual Fun Fair • Scientist in the School for Gr 5
<b>May 19</b>	• <i>Rain Date for Jump Rope for Heart event</i> • Scientist in the School for Gr 2
<b>May 22</b>	• <i>Victoria Day— No School</i>
<b>May 23-June 5</b>	• EQAO for Grade 3 & Grade 6
<b>May 23</b>	• Gr 4C Field trip to Toronto Botanical Gardens • Scientist in the School for Gr 1
<b>May 25</b>	• <i>Rain Date for Annual Fun Fair</i>
<b>May 26</b>	• <i>Rain Date for Track &amp; Field Day</i>



# Upper Canada Child Care

## David Suzuki

### 2017 Summer Camps!



Creative Arts    Cooking    Sports/Games  
Science★    Team Building ★ Music    Drama

Monday to Friday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm

Summer Camp Ages 6-12 years & Junior Camps Ages 4-6 years (at select locations)  
\$230.00 per week (10% discount on siblings)

#### Exciting Field Trips Twice a Week

Such As:

- Wild Water Works
- Cedar Park Resort
- Ezone
- Tree Top Trekking
- Airbone Trampoline
- Pirates Life (At Centre Island)

Limited Space  
Available



**Summer Camp Registration has  
begun!**

[www.uppercanadachildcare.com](http://www.uppercanadachildcare.com) or at 905-472-0555

