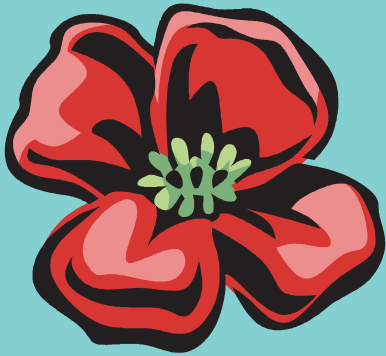


David Suzuki Public
School

45 Riverwalk Drive
Markham, L6B 0L9

905-209-0435



"Lest We Forget"

**Principal
Nancy Dodds**

**Vice-Principal
Shelley Anand**

**Administrative Assistant
Linda Bond Smithson**

Secretaries

Gail Koidis

Denise Sumi

Superintendent

Dr. Lisa Walsh

Trustee

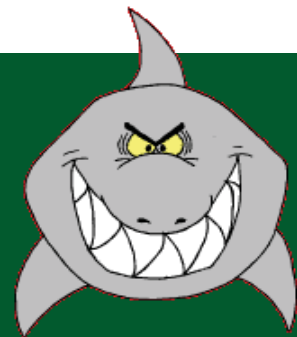
Juanita Nathan



SUZUKI SOURCE

Volume 3

November 2013



davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Principal's Message

The staff and students continue to be extremely busy here at David Suzuki. As always, the cooperation and enthusiasm shown by the students and the commitment and professionalism demonstrated by the staff continues to impress me. Thank you parents for your continued support of the classroom programs.

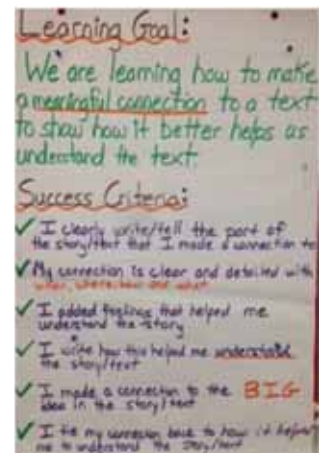
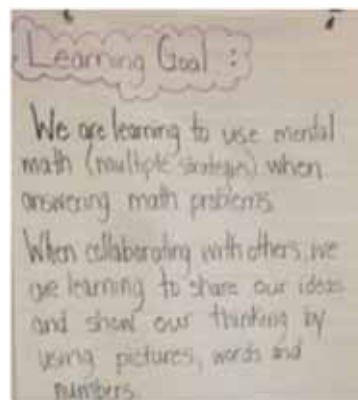
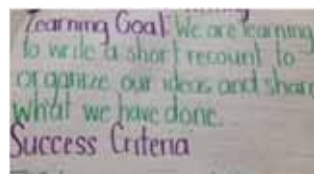
As the safety of your children is our priority, we have the following procedures in place:

- ◆ Students should enter and exit the school through their assigned doors (not the front doors, unless with an adult or if they are late)
- ◆ When picking up a student, please wait at the exit doors and do not proceed to the classrooms
- ◆ All parents and visitors entering the school should use the front door and check in at the office. If you are volunteering or visiting the school, you should sign the book in the office and obtain a visitor/volunteer badge

Your cooperation in keeping our students safe is appreciated

Vice-Principal's Message

At David Suzuki Public School our focus continues to be student achievement and well being. As the year continues, you may hear your children talk about learning goals and success criteria. Learning goals are brief statements based on the Ontario Curriculum that clearly identify for students what they are expected to know and do. Success criteria allow students to understand what success "looks like" and how to achieve it. Success criteria allow students to assess their own work and monitor their progress and are used by teachers to provide descriptive feedback. It is important that our students are actively engaged in the learning process. There are many ways you can support your child at home by talking about their learning. Some questions that you can ask are: "What did you learn more about today? What did you improve at? What steps did you take to get there? What do you think you need to learn more about? Why? How did your new learning connect with what you already know?" We thank you for being our partners in education and invite you to attend our next parent council meeting on November 11, 2013 at 6:30pm.



Character Matters - COURAGE

October's focus was on **Responsibility**. We were pleased to see so many students throughout the school being responsible in the classroom, being responsible for getting their homework done and being responsible in so many other ways.

Our assembly for Responsibility was held on October 29th. Congratulations to the following students who were recognized at this assembly:

Miss Lim JK/SK:	Jackie, Logan, Indira, Vincent
Mrs. Khalil JK/SK:	Janya, Sara, Aneesa, Rayyan
Mrs. Gertsakis JK/SK:	Sharvein, Thami, Hamza, Rahman
Miss Halliday JK/SK:	Roya, Daksh, Darren, Liyana
Mrs. Barovier 1:	Anoj, Archana, Abiram
Mrs. Tsiampouris 1:	Riya, Anoushka
Miss Chan 1:	Ansh, Meilayna, Fatima
Miss Steele 1:	Jarushan, Cynthia
Mrs. Neveu 2:	Nila, Bhoomika
Miss Fairclough 2:	Ajay, Riya
Mrs. LaMarca 2:	Tina, Thenuja
Mrs. Shum 2:	Rohit, Marissa
Mr. Hwee 3:	Suwaitha, Baljeevan
Ms Arkeveld 3:	Sevan, Taniya
Mrs. Michael 3:	Krishna, Junaid
Miss Blando 3:	Rachi, Mathavan
Mr. Kafieh:	Khadijah



The character trait for November 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". I know this is a characteristic that we will see a lot of at David Suzuki!

Electronic Devices and other Valuables

Students are not to bring cell phones, handheld games, mp3 players, laser pointers, or any other electronic devices to school unless the student and parent have signed the school technology agreement. These kinds of devices are often very valuable and provide great temptation for theft. As David Suzuki P.S. and the Board are not responsible for theft or damage to personal property, parents and students are asked to leave all valuables at home.

If a student needs to bring a cell phone to school for safety reasons, it must be kept in his/her locker during class and recess times. Any cell phones that are not put away, will be taken from the student and returned at the end of the day. If a cell phone is taken away more than once, it will only be returned to a parent and not the student.

Camera cell phones are not to be used on school property.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

NOVEMBER 11



Canada, according to the United Nations, is one of the best, if not the best country in the world to live in. Our citizens are blessed with freedom, opportunity and a standard of living that is unrivalled in today's world, and without parallel in history. Canadians are correct to express pride in their ancestors for building such a great nation and in themselves for preserving it. However, this did not occur by chance; it is a result of tireless effort in the past that is carried on by those of today.

It is believed that most children, by the time they begin formal schooling, will have had some exposure to Remembrance Day through television, radio, movies, reading and through family observance of the day. Our educational system has the responsibility to enrich these early experiences so that each student may develop a real understanding and appreciation for Remembrance Day. Children new to Canada must also have an understanding of the sacrifices that many Canadians made to preserve and protect the way of life that they now embrace.

We must ensure that Remembrance Day is afforded the respect and dignity it rightly deserves and maintains its place among the great traditions of our country. On Monday November 11th, at 10:00 we will have an assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day . We invite you to attend.

(Adapted from the Royal Canadian Legion Teacher's Guide)



Anti idling at David Suzuki

Here at David Suzuki P.S. the environment is very important to us. There are signs in the drop off loop to remind us all to turn our cars off.

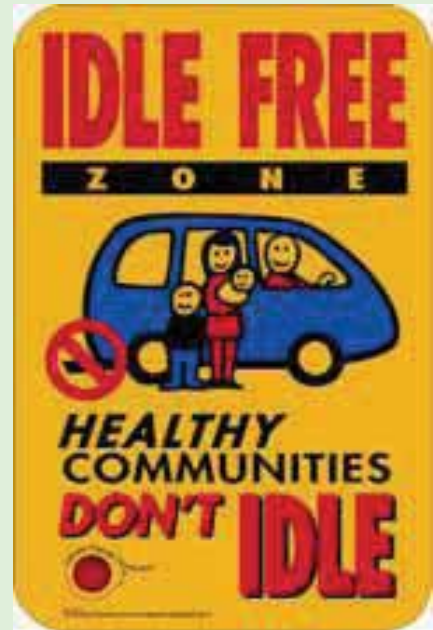
Did you know?

Idling gets you nowhere!

Excessive idling wastes a significant amount of fuel and money and generates needless green house gas emissions. If drives avoid idling just three minutes a day, over a year Canadians would collectively save 630 million litres of fuel and 1.4 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions and \$630 million in fuel costs (assuming a fuel cost of \$1.00/L)

Natural Resources Canada

<http://oee.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/transportation/idling/facts.cfm?attr=8>



Traffic Loop/Parking Lot



Parents familiar with morning traffic know just how congested traffic can be in the morning in front of the school and in the drop off loop in the parking lot. We strongly encourage students to walk to school. However, if you must use the loop in the morning, please be patient, drive slowly and be careful. The loop is for DROP OFF only, not parking. Parents should not leave the vehicle or wait in the loop at any time.

Once dropped off, students should proceed directly to the schoolyard or Kindergarten fenced area. There are two lanes of traffic in the loop. Children should not be exiting the vehicle on the driver's side between the two lanes of traffic as this is extremely dangerous. Your child should be exiting in the lane closest to the school and exiting out the passenger side of the vehicle so that he/she is stepping directly on to the sidewalk.

If you wish to park and walk your child to the schoolyard, please park on a side street. The Town of Markham parking enforcement could be making visits to the school area and we do not want any of our families being ticketed for parking illegally in the loop, fire route, or in handicapped parking spots by the loop.

Help Your Child by Working as a School Partner

Motivate your children

- * Listen to your children. Talk to them about school work and school experiences. They need to know that you are serious about their school work and that it is important.
- * Be a positive school supporter
- * Review school work and discuss it with your children
- * Praise their efforts

Communicate with the teacher and school

- * Know the school rules, program expectations and discipline policy
- * Know any teacher expectations
- * Attend parent/teacher conferences
- * Attend special events
- * Read school/class newsletters and teacher notes in the student agendas

More ideas for helping your child

- * Make your child a partner in the home – give him/her responsibilities
- * Get your child a library card – this is a great outing you could do as a family
- * Set a good example – be a life long learner yourself. Learning is life long. Do it together as a family

** taken from

“Parents are Teachers – A Parent’s Guide”,
Edmonton Public Schools

Triple P Tip of the Month ~ NOVEMBER ~ Self-Esteem

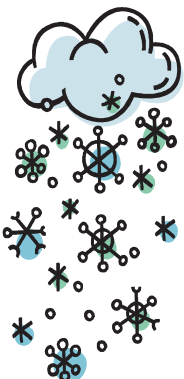
Children form views of themselves as a person, their value as an individual and how good they are at doing certain things as they grow up. It is important for parents to encourage children to be confident to develop healthy self-esteem. This means children having a true sense of their strengths and weaknesses.

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
- Teach your child to solve problems for themselves



Inclement Weather



Parents are advised to listen to local radio and television stations on inclement weather days. In the event that the York Region District School Board finds it necessary to cancel school busses, most stations will start reporting information by 6:00 a.m. If busses run in the morning, they will run at the end of the school day. Please remember that if the YRDSB does cancel busses in the morning, the afternoon busses are also cancelled.





FOOD BITES

Back to Basics

Last month we glimpsed at what it is to be a Generation X parent, growing up in a world exploding with technological growth and yet being able to appreciate the treasured traditions and simple pleasures of our childhoods.

Our children on the other hand are born into this fast-paced, hi-tech environment and being constantly 'linked-in' is the world they know. Most of us parents are on a quest to find a balance between tradition and innovation. How do we ensure our children stay grounded, value some basic traditions and not be absorbed into the cyber-world?

There are some simple experiences and moments that evoke human emotion that technology simply cannot replace. The paradox is that while technology helps us get more connected, it has also displaced human interaction.

As our kids rely more on texting, emailing and social media to keep in touch, basic social skills are lost. While our kids may know texting etiquette, basic spelling and cursive writing skills are missed.

As parents, we must help foster social skills and encourage human interaction to give our children a true advantage in life. Our children will need social skills to go to job interviews, converse with colleagues and build client relationships. And most importantly enjoy special relationships and memories with friends and family.

As you navigate through your busy day, stop and think about simplifying life and enjoying basic pleasures. Here are a few ideas to bring more simplicity and humanness into our everyday lives.

Pick up the phone and call an old relative. Hear their voice, reminisce over old stories.

Handwrite a note for your kids and put it in their lunch bags as a surprise.

Plan a family dinner together with no phones or TV and talk about your day.

Mail or hand out invitations to a party instead of using Evite.

Turn off the DVD on a road trip and play word games or observe the scenery.

Encourage your kids to go out to play instead of playing video games remotely with friends.

Plan a games night with friends or family.

Work on a craft or project around the house together.

Allot a time limit on tech devices to browse or play.

Refrain from carrying your phone around with you. Give your attention fully to who you're with.

Go for a walk or bike ride or do some other activity together.

Make a fresh meal and take it over to a friend or family member who can use some company.

Cuddle together and watch a funny movie.

Make your own Earth Day and turn off all electrical gadgets for an evening.

Volunteer for a charity or youth sports organization.

Ultimately, the number one way to encourage and teach our kids is by setting an example ourselves.

Did you know?

Kid's Kitchen serves hot lunches at your school. To find out more details visit www.kidskitchen.ca or call us at 905-944-0210.

Leave the lunches to us! Take a break from making lunches and place your orders with Kid's Kitchen today. Lunches are delivered fresh and hot to children at the school at lunch time. Allergies? No problem, we take care of it all.



Cold Weather



Please make sure your child(ren) dress(es) appropriately for the upcoming cold, winter 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 approximately 750 students here at Suzuki, 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 labels of clothing.

If your child has lost any items, please check our Lost and Found box just outside of the office.

Thank you.

UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, Nov. 6th	Photo Re-Take day
Wednesday, Nov. 6th	Gr 8's to visit MDHS
Nov. 8th & 22nd	School Bus Safety Program (whole school)
Monday, Nov. 11th	10:00 Remembrance Day Assembly (parents welcome)
Monday, Nov. 11th	6:30 School Council
Wednesday, Nov. 13th	Progress Reports go home
Thursday, Nov. 14th	Evening Parent Teacher Interviews
Friday, Nov. 15th	Morning Parent Teacher Interviews
Friday, Nov. 15th	P.A. Day (No school)

Progress Reports and Interviews

The progress report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, November 13th.

Letters regarding interviews were sent home last week.



Environmental Corner

This is just a reminder that we are collecting ink cartridges, cell phones and batteries to recycle. If you have any at your home or business, please send them to the school. We have boxes set up in the front hall of the school to collect these items.

Thank you for your support.

