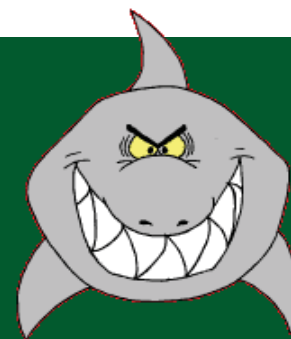


David Suzuki
Public School
45 Riverwalk Drive
Markham, L6B 0L9
905-209-0435

SUZUKI SOURCE



davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Volume 2

October 2013

Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we're into the first week of October. After only a month at school, the students appear to have adjusted well to their new classes and their new teachers. As children do, they have easily adapted and have quickly learned what is expected of them.

The students have been kept very busy in the classroom. We have a very dedicated staff that care about the students and their learning. They should be commended for all their efforts and commitment!

Traffic Loop

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 car 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 side between the two lanes of traffic as this is very 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 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 or in handicapped parking spots by the loop.

Vice-Principal's Message

Thank you for the warm welcome to David Suzuki Public School, it was great to meet so many parents & caregivers on the Curriculum Evening on September 19, 2013. I hope to meet more families in the upcoming weeks. I am also looking forward to working with the School Council this year. Our next meeting takes place on October 7, 2013 at 6:30pm. It is important that we work together to meet the needs of all our students, we welcome your ideas and thoughts and hope to see you at our next parent council meeting. As I visit the classrooms and walk around the school it is wonderful to talk with the students and see their excitement, energy and enthusiasm to learn. Many extra-curricular activities are starting up and we thank our wonderful staff for this. We are off to a fantastic start and I thank you for working with us as we move forward to ensure success for all our students.



Principal
Nancy Dodds

Vice-Principal
Shelley Anand

Admin Assistant
Linda Smithson

Secretary
Gail Koidis
Denise Sumi

Superintendent
Dr. Lisa Walsh

Trustee
Juanita Nathan



Character Matters - Responsibility

September's focus was on Respect. We were pleased to see so many students around the school demonstrating respect on a daily basis.

The assemblies for Respect were held on September 25th. Congratulations to the following students for being selected this month:

Miss Lim JK/SK:	Biranav, Archana, Rajeesh, Nedi, Harshita
Mrs. Khalil JK/SK:	Rayan, Ashwin, Jamai, Trinity
Mrs. Gertsakis JK/SK:	Khai, Neda, Aryan, Mathuram
Miss Halliday JK/SK:	Zayden, Diya, Amelia, Ashley
Mrs. Barovier 1:	Adam, Atiyah
Mrs. Tsiampouris 1:	Aisrria, Shiv
Miss Chan 1:	Saharnah, Anojan
Miss Steele 1:	Abera, Abina
Mrs. Neveu 2:	Brian, Harissh
Miss Fairclough 2:	Husna, Trisha
Mrs. LaMarca 2:	Basit, Rasad, Megha
Mrs. Shum 2:	Yusuf, Rima
Mr. Hwee 3:	Ashiga, Ayushi
Ms Arkeveld 3:	Aaravee, Komal
Mrs. Michael 3:	Shawn, Sayisa
Miss Blando 3:	Navid, Hanah
Miss Wilson 3/4:	Kyle
Mr. Kafieh:	Thulaksiya



The character trait of the month for October is Responsibility. **"We are accountable for all our actions. We follow through on our commitments."** We look forward to seeing the responsible and respectful students throughout the hallways and classrooms of David Suzuki P.S. Our character quote for the month is, ***"Let the choices you make today be choices that you can live with tomorrow"***.

Waste Reduction Week!

October 21st to 27th is Waste Reduction Week across Ontario.

Each student is **STRONGLY** encouraged to bring a waste free lunch to school.

Things that count as waste...

- 1) Plastic wrappers from snacks
- 2) Juice boxes or juice pockets
- 3) Tin foil, plastic wrap, wax paper
- 4) Plastic bags



“Even if I don’t finish, we need other’s to continue. It’s got to keep going without me.” Terry Fox

“We are Terry Fox”

Our Terry Fox Run at David Suzuki was a success. The students ran hard and continued Terry Fox’s legacy of finding a cure for cancer. Thanks to all the parents, students and teachers for all their efforts and donations. Together, we raised a total of \$1600! Let’s continue our work next year to beat this year’s amount! Here’s to finding a cure for cancer!



Lost and Found

Now is the time to make sure your child’s belongings are readily identified. Please take time to clearly label the items your child brings to school (e.g., indoor shoes, boots, backpacks, lunch bags). Doing this makes it much easier to return the lost items to the rightful owners. If your child does lose something, please have him/her check the lost and found boxes which are located outside of the office.



Reporting Your Child’s Absence

You **MUST** call in your child’s absence! We have a 24 hour absence reporting line (905-209-0435) When calling, clearly state and SPELL your child’s name and 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 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.



School Bus Information

For school bus information including a "Late Bus Report" please go online to:

www.schoolbuscity.com

This site will give you bus stops, pick-up and drop-off times.

During inclement weather if the buses DO NOT run in the morning, they will NOT run in the afternoon. If they do pick up in the morning they WILL drop off in the afternoon.



Indoor Shoes



Indoor shoes are essential to keep our classroom carpets and floors dry and clean. Please ensure that your child has a pair of shoes that can be left at school. Please also make sure that your child's name is inside the shoes. Children are not permitted to wear wet outdoor running shoes or boots in the classrooms. **Stocking feet are dangerous in the event of a fire drill .**

Suzuki Water Bottles on sale NOW in the office!

\$12.00



Magazine Sales

As a school fundraiser we will be selling magazine subscriptions. Information on this fundraiser will be sent home shortly.



Substitute Peanut Butter "WOW BUTTER"

A substitute peanut butter product is being marketed to consumers as a safe alternative for children to bring to schools in place of peanut butter. We ask that parents refrain from including these kinds of products in your child's lunches or snacks. These products tend to look, taste, and smell very much like peanut butter. While the product is nut free, it mimics a known allergen that causes anaphylaxis in some children to the degree that it is indistinguishable from the allergen. It is a convincing substitute, opening up the possibility that it can be confused as peanut butter, or worse yet, peanut butter could be confused as this soy-based product.

The safety and well-being of our students is our first priority, which is why our schools have procedures in place to minimize risk of anaphylaxis reactions in our students. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in **avoiding the use of these products** to assist in our continued efforts to create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment for all students.

<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/page.cfm?id=CHH000001>

Christina Choo-Hum

Public Affairs & Communications

York Region District School Board

Cold Weather is on the Way

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 inside our front doors.

It is always a good idea to send extra clothing with younger students as accidents do happen or they get wet on the way to school with rain or snow.

Thank you.

Dropping Children off at School

Students who do not take a bus should be walking to school every day. Walking to school promotes a healthy lifestyle, encourages older students to be responsible for younger children, gives students an opportunity to socialize with friends, and much more. Fewer vehicles in front of the school reduces traffic congestion and lowers pollution levels in the schoolyard during drop-off times.

Teachers are on duty 15 minutes before the start of school in the morning (8:50 a.m.). Please ensure that your students do not arrive prior to this time as the yard will not be supervised and we want all of our students to be safe. Except in instances of severe weather conditions, students are not permitted to enter the school prior to the bell.

Curriculum Night

Thank you to all the parents who attended Curriculum Night last month. It was great to see you all. The staff appreciate the support you showed by attending and learning about what your child will be taught at school this year and other important information.

Child Safety!



Parents are NOT permitted to wander through the school. This is for the safety of the children. When dropping off or signing out students please report to the office. Please ensure all other caregivers are aware of this procedure.

RIGHT TO PLAY

On September 25, 2013 our primary and junior students participated in Right to Play Day. We thank the Right To Play Team from Bill Crothers Secondary School for helping organizing fun filled and informative activities for our students. The day was filled laughter and the students continued to build on leadership skills and demonstrated cooperation and teamwork. Here are some thoughts from our students who participated in this day:



"I liked playing with the balls, I had fun." – Khaleel, gr.1

"I loved playing duck, duck goose and the running games. It was so fun and interesting!" –Peter, gr.2

"I liked Right To Play Day because they had lots of different games that were fun. I learned that playing games makes you active and healthy."- Sarina, gr. 4

"I liked playing in teams with different grades because I got to meet new people and make more friends." – Aswin, gr.4

"I liked the shark game because you had to stay away from the sharks and be quick and think fast. It was a great day for the whole school." –Clement, gr.6

For more information about Right To Play please visit righttoplay.com



THE DAVID SUZUKI PS NEWSLETTER



www.david.suzuki.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

We are requesting that parents go to this website to register for our newsletters to be sent directly to you via email rather than receiving a paper copy. Please go to the new function feature on the homepage to sign up. This is a secure feature that can only be accessed by the school.

This box appears on the school's home page.

The user must have a client side mail program (i.e. Outlook Express, Outlook) set up on their computer for this form to work and java script must be enabled in their browser.



We are very committed to this endeavour and we ask for your cooperation. If you do not have Internet access at home, please make every effort to read the newsletter monthly on line.

Go to www.david.suzuki.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Thank you to the parents who have already registered online!

David Suzuki School Council 2013-2014

The 2013-2014 School Council would like to welcome all families back to another exciting year at David Suzuki P.S. The new executive council was selected during our first meeting on September 15th. We are delighted to announce the following representatives on our council:

Chair

Romila Jeevithan

Voting Members

Treasurer

Neetu Gupta

Gwen Collier

Dushy Killivelan

Jeevan Thiyagarajah

Bhaminy Mohendran

Our next meeting is scheduled for **October 7th, 2013 at 6:30**. We encourage all parents and guardians to attend. We are looking forward to a year of active engagement in our children's school!



ECO SCHOOL FOCUS

Litterless Lunches at David Suzuki

As an ecoschool, we are focused on making wise environmental choices to benefit our local and global community.

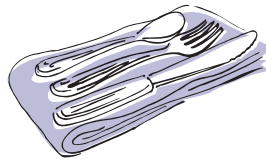
One of our first eco initiatives is to examine the waste that we are producing as a school and work really hard at reducing it. We have found that a great deal of our waste is coming from ***lunches*** and ***snacks***. We would like all students and parents to make a serious effort to pack litterless lunches and snacks.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

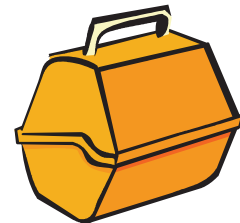
1) Use reusable containers instead of plastic wrap or plastic bags.



2) Pack stainless steel forks and spoons or wash and reuse your plastic ones over and over.



3) Use a reusable lunch box or bag, avoid plastic bags or paper bags.



4) Pack your water or juice in a reusable container and avoid juice boxes or disposable plastic bottles.

Suzuki Water Bottles on sale NOW in the office!



\$12.00

DID YOU KNOW?

A school-aged child taking a typical Canadian disposable lunch to school will produce 67 lbs of waste per year and almost 900 lbs of waste by the time they finish grade 12. That's 20,000 lbs of garbage per year for an average size elementary school!!

We ALL need to work together to make our school a greener place!



Message from our Trustee

Juanita Nathan

416 885 3479

Juanita.Nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

I am very pleased to welcome our new and returning families as we start another school year. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and feel refreshed and energized.

There is a lot to look forward to in the first few months of school, and I hope you will find an opportunity to get involved in some way. Partnerships with families are essential, not only to student achievement and well-being, but also to creating a positive, caring and supportive school environment in which students can thrive.

There are many ways you can get involved and support your child's education from communicating with your child's teacher and asking your child about what they are learning to volunteering in the school or participating in the school council.

Thanks to your support and the hard work and commitment of our staff, students, families and community partners, we continue to be one of the top performing school boards in Ontario.

As an elected trustee and an advocate for high quality public education, I am committed to ensuring the highest quality public education possible for our students and their families. In the coming year, we will continue our focus on the priorities set out in our Multi-Year Plan: student achievement and well-being, the delivery of effective and appropriate educational programs and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at Juanita.nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca or by phone at 416-885-3479. If you would like to be kept informed about various initiatives or topics that relates to your child's education and well being, please send me your email address and I would be happy to keep in touch with you on a regular basis.

I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you all the best for 2013-14.

Juanita Nathan

Trustee | York Region District School Board – Area 4

Town of Markham – Ward 7 & 8

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 7	School Council 6:30
Oct. 8	Cross Country Meet at Markham Fair Grounds
Oct. 9	Photo Day M/W Kdgn and grades 1—4
Oct. 10	Photo Day T/T Kdgn and grades 5 – 8 (& Mr. Hwee & Ms. Wilson)
Oct. 11	P.A. Day (no school)
Oct. 14	Thanksgiving (no school)
Oct. 23	Hep B & HPV vaccinations (gr. 7 & 8)



MILK & PIZZA

Our milk program is now underway. Thank you to all students and parent volunteers that have offered to support this program to ensure that it runs smoothly. Our pizza lunch will begin soon. Forms were sent home earlier this week and must be **returned by Monday October 7th. Late forms will NOT be accepted.**

If you are interested in volunteering with the pizza lunch program please feel free to contact us at the office. We look forward to working with you!



Environmental Corner

After we use things we throw them in the garbage and forget about them, but they actually stick around for a long time!

Take a look and think about re-using or recycling before you put thing in the garbage!

Aluminum Cans:	80 - 100 YEARS
Glass Bottles:	1,000,000 YEARS
Plastic Bags:	15 - 20 YEARS
Plastic Containers:	20 - 30 YEARS
Nylon Fabric:	30 - 40 YEARS
Rubber Boot:	50 - 80 YEARS
Orange & Banana Peel:	2– 5 WEEKS