

David Suzuki

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



Principal

Yvonne West

Vice-Principal

Shelley Anand

Admin Assistant

Linda Bond

Secretaries

Gail Koidis

Denis Sumi

Superintendent

Dr. Lisa Walsh

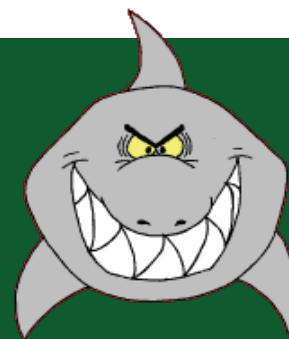
Trustee

Juanita Nathan

SUZUKI SOURCE

Volume 8

April 2014



davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.edu.on

Administrators' Message

It's been a long, cold winter and we're sure that you share our hope that the few days of above zero weather that we are currently enjoying are here to stay! As we look forward to the warmer spring weather outside, inside, we are working hard to achieve our academic goals for the final 3 months of the school year. Our expectations for success remain high for all the students and we will continue to provide them with the support they need to meet these expectations. As always, we need and appreciate your help in encouraging your children to maintain their commitment to achieving academic success and to demonstrating high standards of behaviour and good character.

With the arrival of Spring, muddy shoes and wet socks and pants from outdoor play may be common occurrences. Sending your child to school with a change of socks and pants is probably a good idea. Ensuring your child has indoor *and* outdoor shoes is also recommended as this will help with keeping the floors of our classrooms nice and clean. You will likely hear your children complain about not being allowed on the field at recess. Unfortunately, there is always a period of time as we transition from Winter to Spring, where all schools are directed to keep the children off the field so that the ground has the opportunity to harden. If we don't, the result is a severely damaged field which the school would then have to bear the cost of restoring. We look forward to some consistently warm and sunny weather so that we can, once again, take full advantage of the wide expanse of green space that we are so fortunate to have at David Suzuki!

In the past week, we communicated with you regarding the new construction of the extension which has now begun. Accommodating this is certainly a challenge for us, but we understand that ultimately, the completion of this work means that the families of this community will finally have access to a Full Day Kindergarten Program... and that will be a great thing for our community! We thank you for your support and understanding as we work through the challenges associated with some of this work occurring while school is in session. The construction crew will also work on this project for the entire summer. The adjustments that we have made to lunch, recesses, drop/off and pick up have all been done to ensure student safety. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

And, finally, we would like to thank all of our families who came out to our Primary Literacy Evening on March 26. It was wonderful to see so many families here and the children were clearly excited to be back at school in the evening, in their pajamas, sharing their love of reading and their love of books with you! Thanks to our teachers for planning this amazing event and thanks also to our School Council for providing a snack for all the children! This evening was a true reflection of school and community coming together in support of student learning and well-being!

Yvonne West
Principal

Shelley Anand
Vice-Principal

Character Trait For March
~ Fairness/Tolerance ~

We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights.



Character Matters - Honesty

March's character trait was Honesty. "We behave in a sincere, trustworthy, and truthful manner."

Congratulations to our Honesty winners:

Miss Lim JK/SK:	Carlos Jr., Nicky, Denai
Mrs. Khalil JK/SK:	Arushan, Brenda, Luxman, Ethan, Samuel
Mrs. Gertsakis JK/SK:	Amina, Shanugen
Miss Halliday JK/SK:	Kyro, Joshua, Nityan
Mrs. Barovier 1:	Joythi, Sean
Mrs. Tsiampouris 1:	Prathesh, Pooja
Miss Chan 1:	Charan, Meera
Miss Steele 1:	Khaleel
Mrs. Neveu 2:	Preveen, Ethan
Mrs. Abbi 2:	Travon, Tanraj
Mrs. LaMarca 2:	Sathaana, Vernujen
Ms. Suganth 2:	Safwan, Jai
Mr. Hwee 3:	Sachin, Saif
Ms Arkeveld 3:	Aakash, Micah
Mr. Kawnik 3:	Nilavan, Akshileya
Mrs. Nedelkovski 3:	Maarria, Aziz
Miss. Wilson:	Johney
Mr. Kafieh:	Arushan



In April, our focus is on Fairness. "We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights."



SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

Anish – Recipient of Celebrating Student Success Award



Each year our Board recognizes up to 24 students from across the Region who demonstrate leadership and exhibit the qualities that are consistent with our Board's Mission Vision and Values. Both Mrs. Scott and Mr. Kafieh nominated Anish for this award because of his consistent dedication to helping others.

Anish will be recognized at a special awards ceremony hosted by our Director of Education , Ken Thurston.

Kindergarten Yard



The Kindergarten teachers and students are looking for outdoor toys for the Kindergarten yard. If you have any gently used toys (ie. Playhouses/kitchens, cars, Fisher Price basketball nets etc.), we would love to have them! If you would like to donate any gently used outdoor toys please drop

them off in the Kindergarten yard at your convenience.

Thank you in advance for any donations!



The CLARKSON CUP, Women's Hockey

On Wednesday, March 19th, Suzuki staff and students in grades 3-8 had the amazing opportunity to attend a game as part of the Clarkson Cup being held at Centennial Arena in Markham. The Clarkson Cup is one of the most premier events in women's professional hockey worldwide, and our students had the chance to see and even meet many of these talented athletes and role models. Many of the athletes we saw were past, current, and/or future members of the National and Olympic Women's Hockey Teams, and our students had a great time running around trying to collect their autographs! As we watched with rapt attention, the Toronto Furries beat out the Calgary Inferno 3-2, and Toronto went on to win the coveted Clarkson Cup! This must have been due to our students' thunderous cheers and applause edging them on! The players from Boston's team even took a number of 'selfies' with the students as they signed their programs and autograph books. Everyone had a great time watching the game, exploring the hockey arena, visiting the snack bar, trying to sneak into the background of the news programs broadcasting the event, and breaking their teachers' eardrums with their applause and thundersticks! Two of our students even made it onto Global News' broadcast of the event!! Thank you to all of those who made this special day possible. It was such a wonderful day and we hope that the memories of this event will last a lifetime.



Literacy Corner

Why reading aloud to your child matters?



1. Reading aloud is a social event
2. A child will learn to relate to his or her life experiences to others.
3. Your child needs models and demonstrations
4. Reading aloud addresses the fact that children can often understand more sophisticated and complicated books than they can read alone
5. Reading aloud expands your child's vocabulary
6. Reading aloud builds the desire to read
7. Written language is different than spoken language

Reading aloud can help to further the understanding of difficult concepts

***adapted from "Raising Readers" – YRDSB*

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 between the two lanes of traffic as this is very dangerous. The lane closest to the school is for stopping and dropping off, **not parking.** The other lane should be left clear for cars to exit the loop. **There should be no stopping in this lane.** 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.



Our Intermediate Students Access Home Help

On Wednesday March 26th, our Intermediate students here at David Suzuki Public School had the opportunity of receiving a very informative and practical session about the **Homework Help** online resource – “**FREE Grade 7-10 Math Tutoring for Ontario Students.**” The instructors, Amric and Isha, were very personable and knowledgeable. The students responded well to their step-by-step instruction on how to access and use this online, learning tool. Through their participation in this Homework Help workshop, our students came to appreciate the versatile nature of this resource, being able to access it after school hours, and being able to attain a variety of learning modes while using it. One of our grade 7 students describes her experience below:



“Math Homework Help has helped me understand my math in a clear and effective way. When entering the chat room I was really having trouble with comparing ratios. The tutor first welcomed me and gave me a question. As soon I was given the question I froze, and I simply said “I do not understand.” Then, the tutor went through the question with me and told me which parts were important. After, on the “whiteboard,” the tutor wrote the question down, but at the end of the question I was still confused. Then the tutor explained it to me in a way that I understood and was clear. The teachers are very supportive even when you make a mistake. I plan to use this site in the future when I have other math problems.”

Jessica Johnson – Grade 7

French Performance



On Tuesday, March 21st, we had a great opportunity to see a bilingual play performed by the “Nearly World’s Famous Duffle Bag Theatre” at our school. They go around the world performing fairytales and stories that everyone knows. This year, they performed the story of Cinderella with a twist. They changed the script, added funny parts and used really good props. I really enjoyed when they chose students to play some characters in the story. It was a very engaging play. Overall, it was an outstanding French performance and we look forward to seeing them again next year.

By: Ankitha Desu, Mr. Maronitis’s grade 6 class



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration commenced on January 17th, 2014 for the 2014-15 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Children who were born in 2009 (SK) and 2010 (JK) (turn four or five years old during 2014), live within the school boundary, and whose parents are public school supporters, will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A “Welcome to Junior Kindergarten” information session is planned for May 12 at our school in the gym. For more information please visit the YRDSB website.

We are now accepting registrations for ALL GRADES.

Welcome To Junior Kindergarten Evening Save The Date May 12!

Please join us to:

- Learn about a typical day in Kindergarten
- Find out about Bussing
- Hear about our Safe Arrival Program
- Learn more about the Kindergarten Curriculum Expectations
- Learn about how we work hard to ensure your child’s social and emotional well-being
- Support your child in some hands-on activities that will help prepare him/her for Kindergarten!

Earth Day 2014

In celebration of Earth Day this year we are going to be holding events all week to help the environment. We will kick off Earth Week with an assembly in the gym which will include some messages from David Suzuki, some performances and information about our events for the week. Each day during earth week, we will be turning our lights off in the building from 12:30 to 2:30 to save energy. We will also be holding another Waste-Free lunch challenge for the week with a prize incentive for the highest achieving classes in each division! Lastly, the whole school will be participating in a community clean up! At David Suzuki Public School, caring for the environment is very important to us and any support you can provide at home would be greatly appreciated!



Planning Ahead for the Next School Year

Our preparations for the 2014-2015 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!



Birthday/Celebration Treats in the Classroom

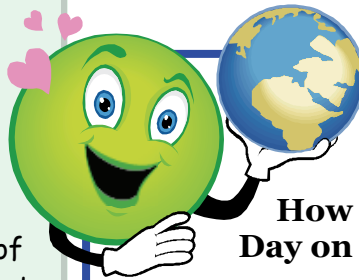
If you are bringing in treats to your child's classroom, they must be on the list that is on the next page of nut-free products or must have a nut-free symbol on them. If they are not on the list or have the label, unfortunately they will have to be sent home. Thank you for your understanding and continued support of our students and staff who have life-threatening allergies.

This also applies to student's snacks or lunches so please ensure that you check the labels carefully.

EARTH HOUR 2014

On Friday March 28nd, our whole school participated in a celebration of earth hour. We turned off the lights from 2:05 to 3:05 pm and the students were able to engage in activities using a minimal amount of energy. On March 29th at 8:30 pm, hundreds of millions of people around the world turned off their lights for an hour to demand action on climate change. However, the students are learning that we do not need an event like this to lessen our impact on the environment! Here at David Suzuki we continue to live every hour as an earth hour and take pride in our actions to protect our world!

- For more information on WWF- Earth Hour please visit <http://www.earthhourcanada.org/earthhour/>



Environmental Corner

How can you celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd

Clean up around your neighbourhood

Plant a tree, flowers or shrubs.

Get outside and enjoy nature

Build a bird house or bird feeder

Have a picnic outside

Make some art out of recycled materials

Listen for activities happening in your community

Thank you for your support.



ALL UNSAFE PRODUCTS WILL NOT BE SERVED,
THEY WILL HAVE TO BE SENT BACK HOME
PEANUT / NUT-FREE TREATS

The manufacturers listed below are **allergy-aware** and responsibly provide warning labels on their packaging when there is a risk of peanut/nut contamination.

Please **REMEMBER** that not all products made by these manufacturers are safe. Always read the label to make sure that peanuts/nuts are not listed as an ingredient and the label does not contain a warning such as “**may contain traces of peanuts/nuts**” below the ingredient list. **Manufacturers that are Allergy Aware**

Kraft	Quaker	Vadeboncoeu	Hostess Frito - Lay	Weston Bakeries
Christie	Dare	Chapman's	Humpty Dumpty	Dempster's
Peek Freans	Allan's	Kisko Trebor	Concord Confections	General Mills
Kellogg's	Hershey's	Nestle		

IT IS CRITICAL TO READ THE INGREDIENT LISTING EVERY TIME YOU PURCHASE A PRODUCT SINCE INGREDIENTS CAN CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. ALWAYS MAKE SURE THERE IS NO WARNING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE INGREDIENT LIST (“MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF PEANUTS/NUTS”)

SAFE PRODUCTS

Cookies/Crackers/Cereal Bars

Christie	Chips Ahoy and Chewy Chips Ahoy, Oreos (regular Oreos only, new flavours are not safe), Animal Crackers, Premium Plus, Ritz (Ritz MINIS are not safe), Triscuit, Wheat Thins, Stoned Wheat Thins, Teddy Grahams
Peek Freans	Digestive, Shortbread, Crème-Filled Assorted, Nice
Kellogg's	Waffles, Pancakes, Rice-Krispie squares, Nutri-grain bars, Frosted Flakes Cereal Bars, Fruit Loops Cereal Bars, Pop Tarts
Betty Crocker/ General Mills	Dunkaroos, Cheerios (regular), fruit snacks, fruit rollups, Poptarts, Nutrigrain bars, Nutrigrain Twists
Pepperidge Farms	Goldfish Crackers
Quaker	Granola Bars (only the flavours that say Peanut-Free” on the front package are safe)
Dare	Wagon Wheels, Bear Paws (some Dare products will have peanut-free symbol on the front of the package) various cookies and crackers
Tickle Your Tummy	various cookies and cupcakes – available in bakery section of various grocery stores
Treasure Mills Inc.	labelled as “School Safe 100% Nut and Peanut-Free” – available in Bakery section of Loblaws, Costco and other grocery stores
New Moon Kitchen	various cookies and baked goods – available in various fine food shops

Donuts/Cakes/Cupcakes

Amazing Donuts	Peanut/Nut-Free bakery - 3772 Bathurst Street, Toronto (416) 398-7546
Richman's Bakery	Peanut/Nut-free bakery - 4119 Bathurst Street, Toronto (416) 636-9710
Cakes by Robert	134 Doncaster Avenue, Thornhill (905) 889-1448
The Cupcake Shoppe	2417 Yonge Street, Toronto (416) 322-6648
Krispy Kreme	ORIGINAL GLAZED available at Walmart and various gas stations
Annette's Doughnuts	located in bakery section of various grocery stores

Frozen Treats/Ice Cream/Freezies/Yogurt

Chapmans	Chapmans products which say “peanut/nut-free” on the front of the box
Mr. Freezie	all sizes
Kisko Kid Freezies	all kisko and C-plus freezies are safe
Yoplait	Yogurt Tubes

Chips

Hostess/Frito-Lay	all flavours
Humpty Dumpty	all flavours
Pringles	ORIGINAL flavour only

Candy/Chocolates

Concord Confections	Bubble Dubble, Rockets, assorted candy
Wonka Candy	Sweet Tarts, Nerds, Rainblo gum
Dare Candy	all Dare packaged candy is made in a peanut/nut free plant except for imported candy (check label)
Effem Inc.	Skittles, Mars (only the Mars bars with the peanut/free symbol are safe)
Starburst	Starburst
Hershey’s	Twizzlers, chocolate (if no “may contain” warning on label)
Tootsie Roll	candy, lollipops, Charms Blow Pops
Lifesaver	candy rolls, lollipops
Tootsie Roll	candy, lollipops, Charms Blow Pops
Just Born	Mike & Ike, Hot Tamales, Zours, Marshmallow Peeps
Nestle	Aero, KitKat, Smarties (seasonal smarties are not safe –check label), Coffee Crisp, Mirage (Treat size bars are labelled “Peanut-free” on the front of the package)
Trebor-Allan	various chocolates and candy (if no “may contain” warning on label)
Vadeboncoeur chocolates	all chocolates are made in a peanut/nut-free factory – available at Loblaws, Costco, Zellers, Wal-mart, Shoppers Drug Mart

UNSAFE FOODS

Any UNSAFE items will not be served, they will be sent back home

- * **Tim Horton’s products (donuts, muffins and Timbits)**
- * **NUTELLA**
- * **Bakery items, even cakes from COSTCO**
- * Any product that does not have a list of ingredients
- * Imported chocolates and candy – many contain traces of peanuts/nuts but are not labelled accurately
- * All Granola Bars except for a few Quaker flavours which say “Peanut-Free” on the front package
- * Unpackaged products purchased from a bulk food store
- * All ice-cream and popsicles except Chapmans products which say “Peanut/Nut-free” on the label

School Council News

Thank you to all our families who came out to support the K-3 Literacy Evening! We hope that all the children enjoyed the snacks that we provided!

Looking forward, we are working on providing a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for our Suzuki staff on April 25th and we appreciate those families who have already offered to contribute some food items. Please contact Kathy at kouklitsa6@hotmail.com if you would like to provide a contribution to this special event.

We are excited about our annual Fun Fair and Sidewalk Sale so be sure to save the date of **Thursday, June 5!** Look for more information to this great community event to come out soon. Please contact Vana at vana19@hotmail.com you would like to volunteer.

EQAO Testing for Grade 3 and Grade 6 – May 26- June 6

This is the range of dates set aside to administer the annual EQAO tests to our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students. 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

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Kindergarten - Grade 3 Family Literacy Night

Thank you to all of the families that came to Family Literacy Night. We had a blast! Most of the teachers and students had their pyjamas on, and we had delicious treats from the Parent Council. To start off the night, Mrs. Tompkins-London read a book called, *The King's Taster*, to show us how to read and talk about books.



Then, Ms. Ducas did a raffle. Five people won a book! Next, we went to different classrooms and read with our families. We got a fun package that had different reading strategies that are easy for us to use at home.

We would like to thank all of the teachers and everyone else who made this night a great success! **THANK YOU!**

Nivetha, Maaria, Mathavan, Rhianna, and Atheeshan
from Mrs. Nedelkovski's Grade 3 Class

April 2014

Character Matters! Fairness/Tolerance
 We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights.



BUS ROUTES HOTLINE
 1-877-330-3001
 www.schoolbuscity.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 		1	2 World Autism Awareness Day	3	4 	5
6 	7 World Health Day	8	9 	10	11 	12
13 MAHAVIR JAVANTI	14 VAISAKHI	15 PASSOVER / PESACH	16	17	18 GOOD FRIDAY	19
20 EASTER	21 RIDVAN EASTER MONDAY	22 Earth Day	23 Community Clean Up	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30 			

Respect Responsibility Courage Compassion/Empathy Optimism Initiative/Independence Honesty Fairness/Integrity Perseverance Inclusiveness Updated: 3-Apr-14

SAVE the DATES

Spring Concert – May 8

Welcome to Junior Kindergarten—May 12

Sidewalk Sale and Fun Fair – June 5

Drama Night – May 29

Parents are reminded that the Easter Holidays will take place from Friday, April 18 to Monday, April 21. The School will be closed on both Friday and Monday.

The Kid’s Summer Institute



The York Region District School Board’s Summer Institute is a program that offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Weekly sessions are offered at eleven elementary schools throughout the region from **June 30, 2014 to August 8, 2014.**

The York Region District School Board Summer Institute for Kids Program provides a variety of academic, recreation and sports activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum to reinforce skill development and curriculum expectations for students from kindergarten to grade eight.

Weekly sessions run at sites for either 4 or 6 weeks from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm with extended before and aftercare programs available at all locations.

Applications are available at our school.