

# David Suzuki

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



**Principal**  
**Yvonne West**  
**Acting**  
**Vice-Principal**  
**Mary Salvarinas**

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**Admin Assistant**  
**Gail Koidis**

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**Secretaries**  
**Dina Tsigaridis**  
**Sunitha Krishnan**

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**Superintendent**  
**Peter Tse**

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**Trustee**  
**Juanita Nathan**



# SUZUKI SOURCE



VOLUME 8

davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb

APRIL 2016

## ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

There are no words to express the sadness that we all feel as a result of Ms. Ahren's sudden death. For staff, students, and, perhaps many of you, Ms. Ahren's was a bright light, exuding warmth and joy all day, every day. Her kindness and compassion were reflected in her words and in her gentle voice and her joyous spirit radiated through her beautiful smile and raucous laughter. She lit up our halls, our classrooms, our office and the school yard with her presence and everyone who she touched felt special. That was her gift. We are grateful to have had the Gift of Ms. Ahrens for the time that we had...six short months, but an everlasting memory.



***Yvonne West***  
Principal

***Mary Salvarinas***  
Acting Vice-Principal

### Character Trait For April **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."



## Character Matters - Honesty

March's character trait was Honesty. "We behave in a sincere, trustworthy, and truthful manner." Congratulations to our Honesty winners:

Mrs. Hudspith	FTJSA	Fiza, Ayden, Alexia
Mrs. Seepaul	FTJSB	Saanvi, Janani, Varun, Om
Mrs. Gertsakis	FTJSC	Mikayla, Varun, Laxshana
Ms. Halliday	FTJSD	Sarah, Joshua, Abieran
Miss Eng	FTJSE	Devin, Shaneil, Rindha, Reshan
Ms. Llewellyn	FTJSF	Imran, Hayyan, Karthika, Akshaya
Mrs. Sambrook	1 A	Sayaan, Shanuka, Anthony
Mrs. McMichael	1 B	Sara G, Amelia B
Mrs. Cooper	1 C	Archana, Kieran
Ms. Risman	1 D	Veneshkar, Aswitha, Samuel
Mrs. Barovier	2 A	Ethan, Abia, Amina
Mr. Binner	2B	Rahman, Joshua
Mrs. Clements /Mrs. Arumagam	2 C	Aksha, Abishan, Shaila
Ms. Wood	2 D	Nijaniha, Ashana
Mr. Kawnik	3 A	Nida, Umair
Mr. Hwee	3 B	Shiroth, Kaaviya, Pooja
Ms. Kilgour	3 C	Charan, Devina
Ms. Hall	3 D	Saad, Shievon



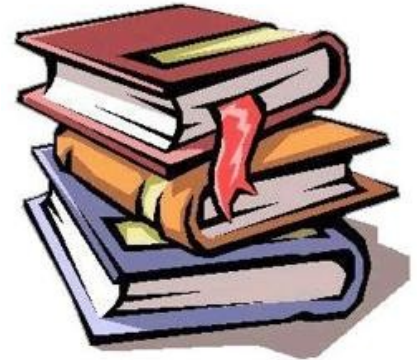
## Curriculum Corner - Lifelong Readers

Learning to read is a complex process. In addition to developing decoding skills and strategies, it is important to understand the purpose of reading as an integral part of our lives. We want our students to become readers who:

- Read voluntarily and often
- Read a wide variety of materials
- Read to become informed on a wide range of topics
- Collect books and refer to favourites again and again
- Recommend books to others
- Talk with others about what they read
- Reflect on their reading
- Think critically about what they read

(Fountas & Pinnell, 2001)

Essentially, we want our students to become lifelong readers!



To foster a love of reading at David Suzuki P.S., we have been participating in the *Forest of Reading* program sponsored by the Ontario Library Association. This is the largest recreational reading program of its kind in Canada and offers eight reading programs. Fiction and nonfiction lists of titles are chosen to celebrate Canadian books, publishers, authors, and illustrators.

The grade ones and twos have been thinking critically and having conversations about stories through the *Blue Spruce* program. We have been reading about colours, magnificent things, tall tales, and trips to far away places. In addition, a group of students in grades five to eight have been meeting at lunch on Wednesdays and Thursdays to read the *Silver Birch* and *Red Maple* titles. We are all excited to be part of the voting process to choose this year's winner.

To evaluate the stories we are reading and help us vote, we have developed the following list of criteria to identify what makes a good story:

- Characters we like
- An interesting problem and solution
- Colourful, detailed illustrations
- Well described setting
- Catchy title and cover
- 'Juicy' words
- Different feelings
- Humour
- Adventure
- Message/lesson/big idea



Providing students with opportunities to talk about their likes and dislikes about stories is a great way to develop a lifelong enjoyment of reading. Talking about what makes a good story is a great starting point to engage our students in conversations about reading at home. **Happy reading Sharks!**

Mrs. Tompkins-London

# ACTIVITY DAY 2016

On March 23, 2016, the students of David Suzuki P.S. participated in Activity Day. Students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 were able to participate in activities that took place both in our school, and in various locations outside the school. It was a great opportunity for students to get active, burn some energy, and have fun with friends. It was a huge success and the students all had a great time. A special thank you goes out to all our parent volunteers who accompanied the teachers!



## MAD SCIENCE



## Arts & Crafts



# ACTIVITY DAY 2016



**Bruce's Mill**



**Cheerleading**



# ACTIVITY DAY 2016



## SKY ZONE





SUZUKI  
SAFETY  
MONTH!



Our Suzuki Safety Month is well underway! At the beginning of the month, the York Regional Police trained almost 40 students from grades 6-8 how to be Safety Patrollers. Our Safety Patrollers, in turn, trained all of our students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 in some basic rules of Pedestrian Safety. Included in this newsletter are some Pedestrian Safety Tips for you to review with your children at home. Beginning next week, you will see our Safety Patrollers outside on a regular basis assisting the students with getting to school safely.

On Tuesday, you may have seen all of our Grade 5 students along with many members of the York Region Police in the Kiss and Ride and along the sidewalks in front of the school at the beginning and the end of the school day. They were delivering 'Safety Tickets' to parents as they dropped off or picked up their children, with a variety of driver safety messages. We know that this created a bit of traffic congestion but we feel that it was an opportunity to raise awareness about safety. Thank you so much for your patience if you were stuck for a few minutes in the traffic back-up!

As the month continues, the children will be learning about Sun safety, Cyber Safety and Personal Safety. They will have an opportunity to practice their learning about Pedestrian safety on April 22, when we have our Walk To School Day (look out for a flyer that will be coming home shortly with details about this).

We are very excited about all of the learning we are doing about safety and hope that this month will result in a safer community for us all.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our

**Parent Presentation on Cyber Safety and  
Social Media on April 12 at 6:30 p.m.!**





## Tips To Help You Cross The Road Safely!



Always **make eye-contact** with drivers before you cross the street

Always cross when the traffic comes to a **complete stop**

Always cross the street at **crosswalks** or at **stop signs** (with an adult if possible)

Always **stand away from the road** when you are waiting to cross

Always **Stop, Look, and Listen** before crossing

Always **look both ways** before and while you cross the street, by looking left, right and left again

Always wear **bright colored clothing** so you can be seen (especially at night)

Always **walk** across the street – **DO NOT RUN**

If riding a bike, walk beside the bike –  **do not ride while crossing the street**



### Primary Travellers

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Grade Five students had the wonderful opportunity of participating in the Primary Travellers program with York Regional Police. Students spent months creating posters with safety messages, reminding drivers to drive carefully and slowly in school zones and not use hand-held devices while driving. On Tuesday, the students were outside during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up to display their safety posters and work with York Regional Police to hand out “tickets” with safety messages that the students had written themselves. In addition, the children were able to sit in a police car and practice holding a radar!

The children were thrilled to be provided with the opportunity to participate in this important program and have a significant impact on their community. Thank you to Officer Jen and the YRP for working with the Grade 5 teachers to ensure this learning opportunity occurred as a great start to Suzuki Safety Month!



David Suzuki Public School's first-ever...



# Walk to School Day!

Friday, April 22nd, 2016

 Rain Date: Tuesday, April 26th

This year, we have decided to hold our first 'walk to school' day at David Suzuki PS in celebration of Earth Day. By walking to school, we will help to reduce the toxic carbon emissions our cars expel into the air we breathe. In addition to supporting our environmental initiatives at the school, this special day also allows us to practice our pedestrian safety skills we have learned this month.

Every student in the school is encouraged to participate! Bus students will be dropped off on Nevis Drive that morning and will walk down Riverwalk Drive together (there will be supervision to make sure all students make it to the school safely). Daycare students will also be able to participate (further communication will follow regarding this).

We will be blocking off both the Kiss & Ride Loop along with the Bus Loop as extra encouragement to walk your child to school that day!

We can't wait to see everyone starting off their day by taking a walk in the fresh air!



Every student who participates will be receiving a special prize!

## 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 links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Weekly sessions are offered in Richmond Hill, Newmarket, Stouffville, Woodbridge, Vaughan and Georgina from **July 4 - August 12, 2016**.

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



### Summer Institute Information and Registration Details

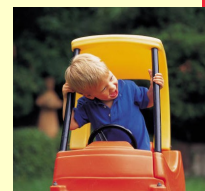
#### Can Be Found Online At:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/summer/si/Pages/default.aspx>

### 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!



## SUZUKI SHOUT OUT!

### Suzuki Musicians win awards at Music Alive Festival

**Concert Band, comprised of 44 musicians from Grades 7 and 8, performed at the Newmarket Theatre on March 7<sup>th</sup> were awarded Platinum. This is the first time our band has achieved such an honor.**

**Junior Choir, comprised of 50 musicians from Grades 4, 5, and 6, performed at Cosmopolitan Music Hall in Richmond Hill on April 4<sup>th</sup> were awarded Gold. The musicianship of both groups was amazing. Both groups received an invitation to perform at the National music festival *Musicfest Canada* held this year in Ottawa. Congratulations Suzuki Musicians!**





## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration commenced on January 15th, 2016 for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB website: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Pages/School-Registration.aspx>. Children who were born in 2011(SK) and 2012(JK) (turn four or five years old during 2016), 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 18 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 18!**

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 Week April 18—22, 2016

In celebration of Earth Day this year, we are going to be holding events all week to help the environment. This year, we are going to be holding a competition between our school and Black Walnut PS to see who can save the most energy during Earth Week. As an incentive to win, the losing school will have to wear the winning school's colours for a day! Other events throughout the week will include Eco inspired movies and an ECO photo booth. We will wrap up the week on Earth Day (Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>) by having the whole school participate in two great events. The first being our first-ever, Walk to School Day, where every student is encouraged to walk to school which not only helps the environment by cutting down on car emissions but encourages our students to practise their new pedestrian safety skills we have been learning about this month (please see the article regarding Walk to School Day in this newsletter). The second event being our annual community clean up where each class will be going out to clean up an area of our school yard or surrounding community! We are also very happy to announce that again this year, each student will get to bring home a tree seedling to plant at home!



## Planning Ahead for the Next School Year

Our preparations for the 2016-2017 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.



### REMINDER!

The school requires up to date contact information for all students in our school. If you have recently changed or cancelled a phone number or cell phone number or removed the landline, **please ensure you update this information with our office staff. Also, ensure you provide the office with any new contact information!**

Thank You!



### Class Placements

#### for the 2016-2017 School Year

For those students who will continue at David Suzuki for the 2016-2017 school year, we will begin to think about their class placements for the new school year within the next month or so. 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. West or Mrs. Salvarinas in writing by the end of the first week in May.

## **EQAO Testing**

### **for Grade 3 and Grade 6** **May 25- June 8**

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 participate in this testing.



## **UPCOMING DATES**

April 4	School Council Meeting 6:30
April 11	Grad Photos
April 20	Primary Concert
May 18	Welcome to Kindergarten
May 25—June 8	EQAO grades 3 & 6
May 26	Intermediate Drama Night

**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday June 2, 2016 for the  
Annual Fun Fair**



### **A Reminder to Subscribe to our Electronic Communications**

Please go onto our school [website](#) to subscribe. These e-mail communications will only be used by our school, we will not be sending you junk mail or spam. Effective July 1, 2014, Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) impacts how York Region District School Board communicates electronically with our parents and community partners. CASL prohibits the sending of any type of electronic message that is commercial in nature unless the recipient has provided specific and informed consent.

As a result, York Region District School Board requires your consent to receive any electronic messages which contain school advertising or promotions regarding school fundraisers, lunch programs, field trips, the sale of yearbooks, purchasing of student photos, books, prom or dance tickets, athletic events with an entry fee or similar events and offers.

In order to consent to receive commercial electronic messages we must already have your email address on file with the school to receive non-commercial communications. If you have not provided your email address as a part of the registration process, please contact the school directly to have your email address added to the non-commercial communications.

If your email address is already on file with the school, please indicate your acceptance of school commercial emails by providing your email address. The system will cross reference your email address with our database and if your email is on file with the school(s), you will receive a confirmation email.

### **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**

**Cookies/Crackers/Cereal Bars**

**PRODUCTS**

Christie	Chips Ahoy and Chewy Chips Ahoy, Oreos (regular Oreos only, new flavours are not safe), Animal Crackers, Premium Plus, Ritz ( <b>Ritz MINIS are not safe</b> ), 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 ( <b>only the flavours that say Peanut-Free” on the front package are safe</b> )
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
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 ( <b>only the Mars bars with the peanut/free symbol are safe</b> )
Starburst	Starburst
Hershey’s	Twizzlers, chocolate ( <b>if no “may contain” warning on label</b> )
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 ( <b>if no “may contain” warning on label</b> )
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