

David Suzuki

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



Principal

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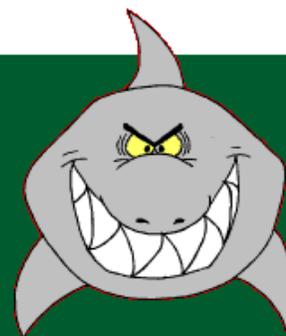
Juanita Nathan



SUZUKI SOURCE

Volume 10

JUNE 2014



davidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca

Administrators' Message

We have begun our final month of the 2013-2014 school year and, as always, we are amazed at how quickly the year goes by!

May has been a flurry of activity which included our outstanding Spring Concert and Intermediate Drama Night, Track and Field for the Junior and Intermediate students, EQAO for our Grade 3 and 6 students and our Welcome to Kindergarten evening for our new Junior Kindergarten students and their parents.

June will be an equally busy month beginning with our Fun Fair and Sidewalk Sale on Thursday, June 5, at which we hope to see all of our families! Soccer teams are in full swing and we have over 60 students attending the Regional Track and Field Meet. Teachers will be working hard to finish this year's curriculum and prepare final reports of their students' achievement and we hope that our students will persevere and stay focused on their studies so that they can finish the year successfully. With the onset of summer and all of the extracurricular activities going on after school, it is easy to let some of the attention to homework slide. We would ask that parents/guardians keep encouraging your children to keep up with their work in the classroom and at home. Needless to say, as we work our way through what promises to be a positive and exciting final month of the year, we are all looking forward to the lazy, hazy days of summer!

Character Trait For June

~ Perseverance ~

We stick to a goal and work hard even in the face of obstacles and challenges. We complete all tasks and assignments.

Yvonne West

Principal

Val Taylor

Retired Principal

Acting Vice-Principal

Inspire Learning!



Character Matters - Integrity

May's character trait was 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 Integrity winners:

Miss Lim JK/SK:	Alex, Anshul, Ethan, Sruthi
Mrs. Neate JK/SK:	Anishika, Saad, Aswitha, Keiran, Kavan
Mrs. Gertsakis JK/SK:	Aditi, Ashwin, Vinoj
Miss Halliday JK/SK:	Maya, Vishal, Aleesha, Aidan
Mrs. Barovier 1:	Aditya, Abisaan, Debby
Mrs. Tsiampouris 1:	Shanjai
Miss Chan 1:	Keaton, Sabaresh
Miss Steele 1:	Veer, Shivaani
Mrs. Neveu 2:	Jordan, Farhaan
Mrs. Abbi 2:	Vishnu, Sameer
Mrs. LaMarca 2:	Saeyon, Muhammad
Ms. Suganth 2:	Ibrahim, Laila, Issa
Mr. Hwee 3:	Jimmy, Niraj
Ms Arkeveld 3:	Prit, Aeshu
Mr. Kawnik 3:	Mahdi, Mariya
Mrs. Nedelkovski 3:	Mukilan, Jessica
Miss. Wilson:	Eray
Mr. Kafieh:	Khadijah



In June, our focus is on Perseverance. "We stick to a goal and work hard even in the face of obstacles and challenges. We complete all tasks and assignments."



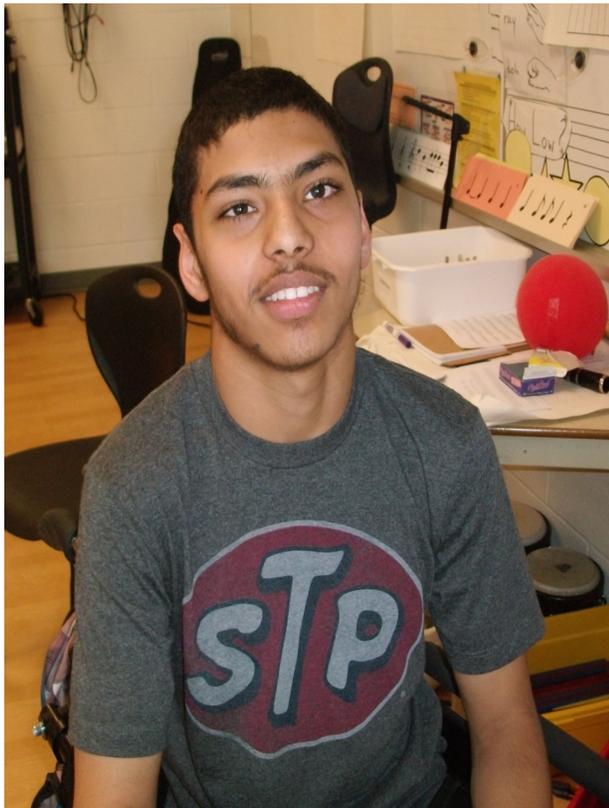


SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

Anish Umasuthan was awarded the YRDSB *Celebrating Student Success Award* this spring by Director Ken Thurston. This honour stands for outstanding leadership and initiative in the school and community. In December, Anish organized a towel and book drive for students in need in the Community Class. *The Markham Economist and Sun* featured Anish's exemplary work in an article this past winter. Anish has set a standard here at David Suzuki as to what good citizenship, empathy and leadership mean. Congratulations Anish! You truly deserve it.



On Thursday, May 22nd, 2014, **Rajat Patel** received a Yes I Can! Achievement Award in the area of Transition (Independent Living). This past year, Rajat has been working on becoming more independent within the school as he prepares for his next year in high school. He demonstrates perseverance and works hard to reach all the goals that he sets for himself. Rajat always shows great character by welcoming each new day with a smile and a positive attitude. Congratulations, Rajat, on winning a Yes I Can! Award... way to go!





SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

On Wednesday, May 21st the York Region District School Board in association with the Markham Tamil Organization, Inclusive Schools and Community Services, and the Association of Sri Lankan Graduates of Canada held their annual awards of excellence ceremony to recognize the achievements of Tamil students in throughout York Region.

At the ceremony, 60 elementary students from across the Board were recognized for their achievements in the areas of citizenship, perseverance, academics, arts, and athletics.

We would like to congratulate two of our grade 8 students who received awards at this prestigious event.

Congratulations to **Lagsana Ramathesun** for being recognized for her high academic achievements, and to **Vaishali Krishnanandan** for her outstanding contribution and success in the arts.

Your hard work and dedication to all that you do is commended.



THIS JUST IN...SUZUKI WINS AREA'S!!!!

This past spring saw the Suzuki badminton team at its finest. After a long two-month season that saw the team build their skills and competitive edge during many practices and games, the Sharks and Sharkettes went on a winning streak that culminated with winning two championship pennants.

After winning one-of-two tournaments hosted right here at Suzuki, the team travelled to Bur Oak Secondary School on Friday, May 9th to compete in the East Area Badminton tournament.

Throughout a long day of games against some very stiff competition from 10 different schools, all of the Suzuki athletes played hard and showed amazing skill, sportsmanship, and team spirit.

By the end of the day, the Sharks had captured the East Area pennant with a **1ST PLACE OVERALL FINISH!** That's right Sharks and Sharkettes....another beautiful red and white Area pennant for the gym walls!!!!

Special recognition goes out to the following pairs who had outstanding team performances in their respective Area divisions of 20 teams: Urooj & Kevin for finishing 3rd in the mixed division; Osmund & Faizan for finishing 2nd in the boys division; Manal & Layla for finishing 2nd in the girls division; and Alina & Emma for finishing 1st in the girls division.



The teams who placed 1st or 2nd in their division at the Area tournament automatically qualified for a spot in the Regional tournament held at Richmond Hill High School on May 23rd against the best 24 teams from all over York Region. Although the teams of Osmund & Faizan, Manal & Layla, and Alina & Emma played extremely well, they fell just short of any official placing.

Congratulations to all team members on a remarkable and truly memorable season. Thank you also to all of the Suzuki staff and students who helped support the team in some way.



Suzuki Invitational Tournament



Area East Tournament Champions

Track and Field

On Friday, May 23rd, 2014 students in grades 4-8 participated in David Suzuki Public Schools annual Track & Field Day. The weather was perfect for competition and enjoyment! Teachers and students performed events as planned and students did extremely well. 63 students will be competing at the York Region District School Board Area Meet on Monday, June 9th, 2014 in Stouffville. We wish them all luck as they represent our school. Miss Blando would like to thank all staff and student volunteers for their cooperative involvement in making our track and field day a great success.



Thursday June 5th 2014 David Suzuki's

5th Annual

Fun Fair and Sidewalk Sale!

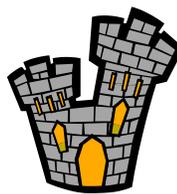
Time: 5:00 to 8:30 pm

Location: David Suzuki Public School

RAIN OR SHINE



Live Band



Bouncy Castles



Carnival Games

Nail & Face Painting

Popeyes Chicken

Pizza

Samosas

Bake Sale

Popcorn

Drinks

Crafts

Sidewalk Sale

50/50 Draw



Suzuki Spring Concert

On Thurs. May 8th Suzuki's performing artists shone at our Spring Concert.

A huge crowd, with standing room only, was on hand to support the many wonderful acts that performed. There was an excellent variety of performances including singing, dancing, drama and instrumental numbers.

The Dance Club did a lyrical movement to "Say Something".

Sign language club performed with the popular song "Happy".

Other extracurricular performing groups included Grade 3 – 5 choir, and Junior and Senior Bands.

Grade 1 Barovier and Tsiampouris sang the Canadian classic "Land of the Silver Birch."

Grade 1 Chan performed "Best day of your life"

Grade 3 Kawnik and Nedelkovski presented a fable about a dancing Hippopotamus, which included an Orff orchestra, dancing and drama.

Grade Arkeveld performed "Ding Dong" in an Orff orchestra with improvisation by Fatima, Keshini, Arden and Ashwinii.

Grade 3 Hwee stole the show with a Beatles Medley featuring some awesome dance moves and styling guitar by Mr. Binner.

Grade 5 Ducas and Kilgour/Orr performed a Jamaican folk song "Hill and Gully rider" as an Orff orchestra.

Grade 5 Ducas and Buczkowski sang "Try" by Pink with choreographed movement.

Grade 6 Korman presented a drama highlighting the problem of bullying.

A huge shout out to all those that performed you were amazing!

A special thank-you to Mr. D, Ms. Benson, and Ms. Halliday who supported running the show, and to those who helped prepare such amazing performances!





Lost and Found

Please be sure to have your children check the Lost & Found boxes (located on each floor of the school) by June 26th, for any items they may be missing. After June 26th, all remaining items will be donated to charity.

Thank you.



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 will 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.



Thank you for your cooperation.

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!



June 26th, 2014 Early Dismissal in Elementary Schools

All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to student success and well-being. On **Thursday, June 26th, 2014** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in staff meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan.

As has been our practice over the past years, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 26th, 2014 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at 12:05 p.m. . Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bussed to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule.

Suzuki learns to STOMP!

The award winning Cornell Village P.S. STOMP! Crew came to Suzuki to put on an awesome show and an interactive workshop for our grade 7 & 8 students.

They showed our students a form of dance called "step" which includes simple cheers, clapping, stomping feet, and using their bodies as percussion.

At the end of the afternoon, Suzuki and Cornell students all showed off their perfected dance moves on the stage, the beat of which could be heard throughout the entire first floor!



Playing on the Schoolyard After School Hours

With the warm weather here, we are noticing that many of the students are lingering at the end of the school day to play or just hang out with friends. It's wonderful that the students are spending time outdoors (far better for them than sitting in front of a screen), however, we need you to be aware that there is **no supervision outside at the end of the day**. We have teachers supervising the Kiss and Ride and in the Bus Loop only, until 3:50, so children playing on the schoolyard after school are doing so at their own risk, but, hopefully with your knowledge and your permission. We again remind you of the construction occurring on our site and the caution that needs to be used in that area.



Tentative School Organization for 2014-2015

With the year coming to a close, we are now looking ahead to the new school year and so have begun the process of creating next year's classes and schedules. In our final newsletter, which you will receive at the end of June, we will include a tentative school organization. Please keep in mind that as a result of the complexity involved in this process due to the Ministry's Primary Class Size Reduction guidelines, it is possible for changes to occur. As with previous years, we have been instructed by the Board to withhold class teacher names until September and so teacher names will not be on the Report Cards, however, we will provide you with the tentative assignments of teachers who will be here next year.

Dress Code - Reminders

We have a dress code in effect with regards to appropriate wear during the warmer weeks. We ask that students refrain from wearing clothing that shows bare midriffs, low cut tops or short shorts/skirts. Students dressed inappropriately for a school environment will be asked to call home for appropriate clothing. If no one is available to bring appropriate clothing, we will provide replacement clothing that meets the dress code standards. We also encourage you to consider safety when selecting summer footwear (e.g. flip flops can prove to be hazardous when running and playing). We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a respectful and safe learning environment for all of our students.



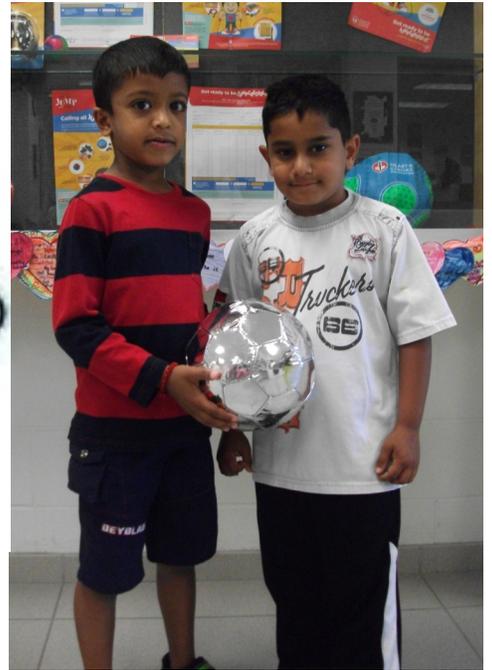
SWAG

On Friday, May 16th, 15 Intermediate girls attended the S.W.A.G. (Strength Within All Girls) conference at Middlefield Collegiate Institute. The focus of the conference was to teach the girls how to discover their own resilience through workshops about yoga, challenging stereotypes, healthy relationships and shedding negative labels. All of the girls who attended brought an amazing energy and spirit to the day, and have learned some strategies that will help empower them as they move forward in discovering their limitless potential. A special thank you goes to Nicole Baxter for not only extending an invitation to our school, but also for her continued support and encouragement.



Hope! Power! Change! Voice!

On the evening of Thursday May 29th, our Intermediate Arts Team presented David Suzuki's first ever Drama Night. Performed, was a play composed entirely by students. The theatrical performance was based on the picture book Ishtar and Tammuz – A Babylonian Myth of the Seasons. Essentially, it was a story about how hope, optimism, and how the power of collective voice can result in positive change. Over 95 students were involved in this creative process! Our Intermediate Arts Team consisted of a Lead Cast, Choreography Team, Backstage Crew, Usher Group, and Props Team. Response attained from parents, community members, fellow students, and teaching staff was one of praise and compliments, executed, was an outstanding performance – seamless in transition and powerful in message.



This Thursday, June 5th is the exciting date of our Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart event! The students have been hard at work gathering donations for the Heart and Stroke Foundation and we can't thank you enough for your help raising money for this important cause. This is the 32nd year for the Jump Rope for Heart and the 18th year for the Hoops for Heart program in Canada, and at David Suzuki, we are so excited to part of the team. Your donations will go to the Heart and Stroke Foundation which provides important funding to researchers, scientists, and doctors who are constantly finding better ways of preventing heart attacks and strokes. So, on Thursday, bring your jump ropes and water bottles, wear sunscreen, a hat and proper footwear, and get ready to jump!!

This year, we have come up with some pretty exciting prizes for students, classes, and our entire school. Some of the amazing incentives include a 'no homework day', divisional dance parties in the gym, a chance to spray paint your teachers' hair, pizza parties and many more! Students have also received raffle tickets for every \$10 they raised to enter a draw to win extra gym time, recess at the park, a Teddy Bear picnic, photo shoot, and more! Lastly, on the day of the event, students can also bring in a loonie for a chance to win some of the amazing Jump Rope prizes that we have shown off in our front display case by the office! Can't wait to see who the lucky winners will be!

And our first winner for this Jump season is Shievon, in Mrs. Tsiampouris' grade 1 class! Shievon was the first in our school to raise over \$50 in online donations, and he was lucky enough to win the coveted special silver soccer ball. Congratulations Shievon!

We look forward to seeing everyone jump and hoop this Thursday, June 5th during our Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart event! Thank you for your support in raising funds for this important cause, and have a jumptastic summer!

~ The Jump Rope Team



Kindergartens Learn About Butterflies!

Submitted by the Kindergarten Classes

We are learning about the life cycle of butterflies. The caterpillars arrived just after the long weekend and have been munching and crunching away. We have been watching them grow and shed their skin.

This week, they have started to turn into chrysalises. The students are enjoying watching the chrysalises shake.

The students are anxiously awaiting their transformation into butterflies. When the butterflies emerge from their chrysalises, each class will be taking their butterflies outside to release them into the environment. If you have a child in Kindergarten, make sure to keep asking your child about our little classroom visitors!



On Wednesday, May 28th, David Suzuki PS students in grades 7 and 8 participated in an amazing day of financial workshops presented by Junior Achievement.

Volunteers from TD Bank Financial Group were in the school to teach students all about banking, budgeting, and financial planning.

It was an amazing day and everyone had a great time...and we all learned a lot about money in the real world :)

A special thank you to Parent Council for coordinating the program.





Literacy Corner

The Importance of Summer Reading

Summer is fast approaching and with it will come fun in the sun, relaxing moments and the possibility of “summer slide”. “Summer slide” is the term used to describe any educational loss in skills that occurs over the summer. Children who continue to read over the summer continue to grow and those who do not read experience a decline in their reading skills. According to Richard Allington, professor of literacy at the University of Tennessee, the “loss can be as much as three months for the average student... and three to five months for struggling readers.” (2009, Knoxville News Sentinel Co.)

So what can students and their families do to prevent summer slide?

- **Help your children read for enjoyment**

Read from a wide variety of texts, including novels, picture books, comic books, magazines, newspapers, websites, board game instructions, video game tips and tricks

Quality online news for kids:

Time for Kids (www.timeforkids.com)

National Geographic for Kids (<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/>)

Age-appropriate blogs for kids:

http://blog.scholastic.com/ink_spot_26

kidsblogs.nationalgeographic.com/blogs/

Take a look at Oprah’s booklist for kids:

<http://www.oprah.com/packages/kid-reading-list.html>

- **Set aside designated quiet times for daily reading**

Take a break from the hustle, bustle and heat of the summer to relax and read for 15-20min. daily (e.g. before dinner, before bed)

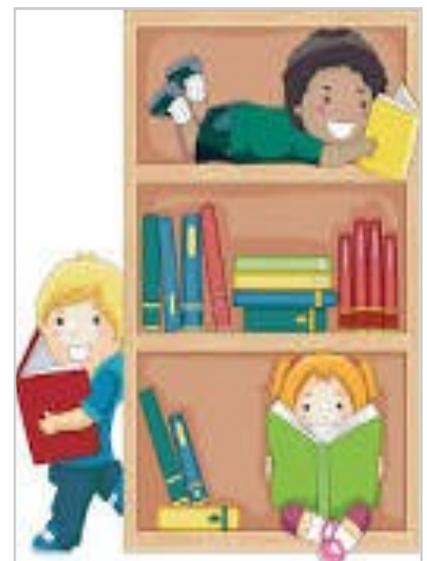
- **Discuss together what each of you (parents included!) is reading**

Ask questions like:

Who was your favourite character? Why?

What was your favourite part? Why?

What change would you make to improve the story?
Why?



- **Turn summer reading into a sport**

Have children challenge a friend, a sibling or compete against themselves to try to read a designated number of books or genres over the course of the summer.

E.g. Try to read as many genres as the grade you will be in

E.g. Try to read as many books as your age for 3 different genres

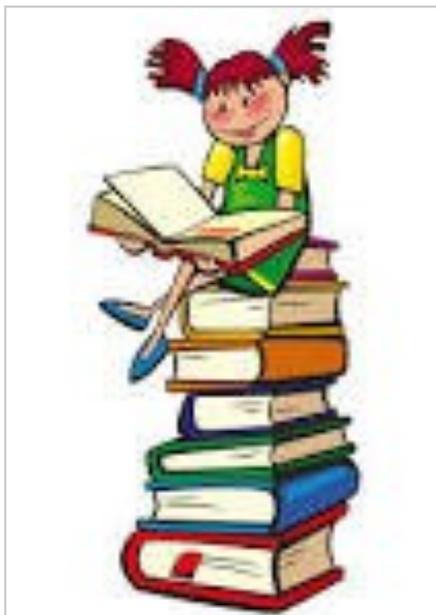
Keep track of reading using a Summer Reading Log or Genre Wheel.

Copies can be found on the school website.



Sample Reading Logs:

Title	Author	Genre	E, JR, C easy, just right, challenging	Rating Give your book a rating out of 4 stars and write a sentence explaining your rating.



Genre	Tally
Realistic Fiction	
Historical Fiction	
Fantasy	
Science Fiction	
Traditional Literature	
Biography	
Informational	
Poetry	

Are you planning on moving?

Each year at this time we begin to plan for the upcoming school year. It is important for us to know how many students to expect for the fall term. If your child(ren) in JK – grade 7 will not be returning to Suzuki in the fall, please inform Mrs. Koidis in the office as soon as possible. *Thank you.*



Reminder!

Library



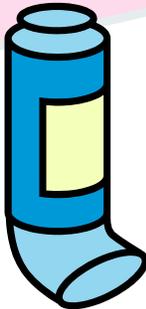
The year is winding down so we would like to begin collecting library books from the students. All books must be returned to the library by

Friday JUNE 13th.

Thank you.

Student Medication

Pick Up



If your child has a supply of **medication** or an **Epipen** at school in the office, please arrange to pick it up on the last day of school.

Thank you!



Report Cards

Students will receive their report cards on **Thursday, June 26th**. The Mon/ Wed Kindergarten classes will receive their report cards on **Wednesday, June 25th**.

Early Dismissal Reminder



A reminder that the last day of school for students is **Thursday June 26th**.

The students will be dismissed at 12:05 on that day so please make appropriate arrangements.

Thank you.

Environmental Corner

Hitting the brakes on Smog.
Carpool!



If your parents drive you to school, try starting a neighbourhood carpool by sharing a ride with friends who live nearby. Ask your parents if they would volunteer to drive you and the other students from your neighbourhood to school for a week. The next week, see if a friend's parent can do the driving. By taking turns, you're keeping more cars off the road and producing less smog.

Thank you for your support.

FATHER MICHAEL MCGIVNEY
HIGH SCHOOL

ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING EVENT

**Thursday, June 5th 8am - 3pm &
Saturday, June 7th 10am - 3pm**

Bring all your unwanted or obsolete electronic devices to

FATHER MICHAEL MCGIVNEY HIGH SCHOOL
5300 14th Ave., Markham @ McCowan Rd.

What's Included:

computers & peripherals (cables and cords), laptops, monitors, keyboards, copiers, VCRs, copier/fax machines, cell phones/pagers, printers, scanners, hard drives, TV, stereo & video equipment, shredders, gaming consoles, home theatre systems, radios, telephones and more!

What's NOT Included:

household and kitchen appliances; refrigerators, stoves, ovens, microwaves, air conditioners, vacuums, toasters, blenders, etc.

ARTEX recycles everything it accepts and guarantees secure destruction of information. No E-Waste is ever re-sold, or ends up in local landfills or developing nations!

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0% DEVICES OR COMPONENTS REUSED
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0% TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
100% SECURE DATA DESTRUCTION



June
2014

Character Matters!
Perseverance
 We stick to a goal and work hard even in the face of obstacles and challenges. We complete all tasks and assignments.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 <small>SHAYKOT</small>	5 FUN FAIR Jump Rope for Heart	6 PA DAY (No School)	7
8 <small>PENTECOST</small>	9 Track & Field Area Meet in Stouffville	10	11	12 ELECTIONS ONTARIO Graduation Trip Niagara Falls	13 	14
15 Father's Day 	16	17 Volunteer Appreciation Tea	18	19	20 	21 First Day of National Aboriginal Day
22	23 GRADUATION	24 Awards Assembly 9:15 in the gym	25	26 Early Dismissal 12:05 Last Day of School Report Cards	27 <small>Canada's Multiculturalism Day</small> PA DAY (No School)	28 <small>RAMADAN</small>
29	30 					See you in September! First day back is Tuesday, September 2nd

Respect Responsibility Courage Compassion/Empathy Optimism Initiative/Independence Honesty Fairness/Integrity Perseverance Inclusiveness

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.