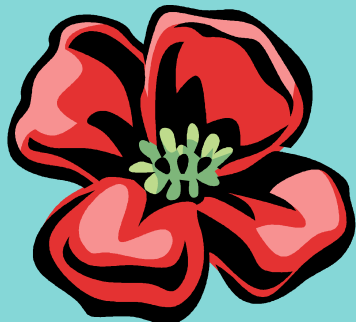


David Suzuki Public  
School  
45 Riverwalk Drive  
Markham, L6B 0L9  
905-209-0435



### “Lest We Forget”

#### Principal

**Terry Weatherill**

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#### Vice-Principal

**Jennifer Cowley**

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#### Administrative Assistant

**Helen Olidis**

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#### Secretaries

**Meharaj Aklak**

**Sunitha Krishnan**

\*\*\*

#### Superintendent

**Peter Tse**

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#### Trustee

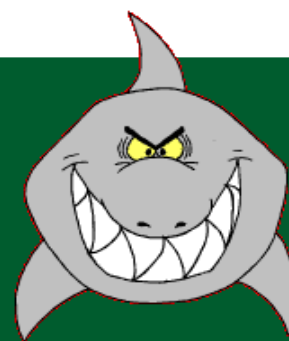
**Juanita Nathan**



# SUZUKI SOURCE

Volume 3

November 2016



[david Suzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://david Suzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca)

## Principal's Message

Fall is definitely upon us and as we approach winter and the weather gets cooler we ask that you send your children to school with the necessary clothing to go outdoors for recess. Outdoor recess is a wonderful opportunity for the children to engage in physical activity, social interactions with friends and to get some fresh air. Thus, we want them to be dressed to enjoy recess, no matter what the weather brings! Packing an extra pair of socks is also a very good idea as boots can sometimes leak.

On Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, our school will be celebrating “Bring Your MP to School” day in conjunction with National Child Day. We are very excited to announce that local MP Jane Philpott, Trustee Juanita Nathan and Director of YRDSB J. Parappally will be in attendance. The focus of this event is on our students' voices and what their hopes are for the future of Canada, while highlighting the interconnectedness of our past and our present.

We are looking forward to seeing you here on November 24<sup>th</sup> or the 25<sup>th</sup> as you come in to the school to discuss your children's progress with the teachers. We know that all of you are very committed to your children's academic success and it is so important that you engage with them and with the teacher about their strengths, their needs and their next steps for improvement. Our strong partnership will ensure your children meet with success!

One of our staff members, Mr. Alam Kermally, was nominated for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Toronto Star Teacher Award. On behalf of our students, staff and community, we congratulate him for being on The Toronto Star's 2016 Honour Roll. Way to go Mr. Kermally.

Our school facility is under the supervision of our new permanent Lead Caretaker, Mr. Ted Johnston. We wish to congratulate him and welcome him to the team. We are also pleased to welcome Ms. Selvaratnam who is our DECE replacing Ms. Zhao in Mrs. Neate's class. She will be with us until early December.

The staff and students continue to be extremely busy here at David Suzuki. As always, the cooperation and enthusiasm shown by the students and the commitment and professionalism demonstrated by the staff continue to impress us.

Thank you parents for your continued support.

Sincerely,

**Terry Weatherill & Jennifer Cowley**





## Cross Country

On Wednesday October 19th, David Suzuki was well represented at the Regional Cross Country meet. The students showed determination and perseverance throughout their race. They are to be commended on the high level of sportsmanship they displayed. The day was a great success for all. Congratulations goes out to the following students who competed on the 19<sup>th</sup>:

Tyler L. Ausha U., Sonya S., Jessica A., Ishani S., Mathumai N., Anjali T., Nivetha K., Peter P., Tina T., and Shanjai T.



## Terry Fox Run

Our Terry Fox Run at David Suzuki was a success on October 6<sup>th</sup>. 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 **\$1137.95!** Let's continue our work next year to beat this year's amount! Here's to finding a cure for cancer!

**"Even if I don't finish, we need others to continue. It's got to keep going without me." Terry Fox**



## Kindergarten goes to Brooks Farm

In the month of October, the kindergarten students went on a trip to Brooks Farm. The students moved through a variety of different hands-on experiences. What an experience we had exploring the farm! The highlights of the trip included a train ride through the farm, choosing a pumpkin from the field, learning about the life cycle of a pumpkin and meeting all of the different animals that live on the farm. The students had a great day and didn't want to leave.





# From the Teachers' Desk



## Report Cards

### Progress Report Cards :

The Elementary Progress Report Card communicates your child's progress towards the achievement of the curriculum expectations since the start of the school year. It describes how well ( up to this point in the school year ) your child is demonstrating the various learning skills and work habits. It serves as a central part of early discussions between home and school. For this report card, teachers use a rating scale instead of letter grades or percentage marks. Depending on the subject, teachers may also include some personalized comments that indicate what has been learned, the student's strengths as well as next steps to work on to improve student learning.

On Tuesday, November 22nd, your child will be receiving his/her Progress Report Card. Parents will be invited to meet with their child's teacher and discuss the progress report either on **Thursday, November 24th or on the PA Day - Friday, November 25th**. Prior to these dates you will receive further information about booking an interview time with your child's teacher.

### **No Bringing In Food To Share Policy**

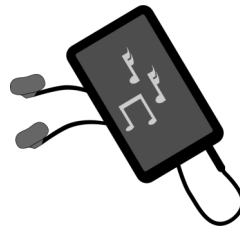
We have decided as a school to no longer allow students to bring in food to share with their class. We have many students in our school with life-threatening allergies and numerous food restrictions. Even healthy foods can be dangerous as there is always the possibility of cross contamination. Due to this policy, on special occasions if you wish to send in non-food items, possible 'treats' could include play dough, pencils, erasers, rings, stickers, or craft items. We thank you for your support with this new initiative.



### Electronic Devices and other Valuables

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

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







## REMEMBRANCE DAY

NOVEMBER 11

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

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

At David Suzuki, we will do our part to ensure that Remembrance Day is afforded the respect and dignity it rightly deserves and maintains its place among the great traditions of our country. We will also take this opportunity to look optimistically towards a future of peace for all people. **On Friday, November 11th, at 9:45 am** we will have an assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day. We invite you to attend.

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



## School Council Meeting

All parents are invited to attend monthly meetings without having to be officially on Council. Babysitting is provided by grade eight students during the meeting. Please join us!

Next meeting:

**Monday, November 7, 2016 at 6:30pm** in the Library.

Thank you to all our parents for volunteering their valuable time to support our students and the school and attend these meetings!



## Student Council Elections

On Monday, October 17, 2016, David Suzuki P.S. held their annual student elections.

Students in grades 6, 7 & 8 listened to the speeches of 26 candidates! All of our candidates spoke extremely well. We would like to thank the following students who stood for election:



from **Grade 6 - Gawtham, Mathavan, Vaishika, Suwaitha, Akshileya, Rachi, Jessica**

from **Grade 7 - Sonya, Ameeya, Srishti, Sahana, Pavan, Kalen, Aditya, Daanish, Atheithean**

from **Grade 8 - Kate, Mahesa, Faseeha, Nia, Stacey, Thardchi, Emma, Bilal, Anoushka, Karanveer.**

We wish to congratulate the following students who are members of the Student Council Team for 2016-2017:

**Grade 6: Gawtham, Rachi & Jessica.**

**Grade 7: Atheiean, Sonya, Sahana, Daanish, Pavan & Ameeya.**

**Grade 8: Bilal, Karenveer, Anoushka, Thardchi, Mahesa, Stacey & Emma.**

**Well done everyone!**





**November 20-26<sup>th</sup>**

Ontario has designated the fourth week of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to help promote safer schools and a positive learning environment. At David Suzuki, our commitment to the well-being and safety of our students goes beyond this week and permeates our work as educators over the course of the entire year. Our daily inspirational quotes and reflections, our Reflection Room and Restorative Discipline approach are all ways in which we help encourage students to be kind, respectful citizens who “stand up against bullying.”

Bullying is defined as a form of **repeated, persistent and aggressive** behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a **real or perceived power imbalance**.

Bullying can take various forms. These include:

- Physical – hitting, shoving, stealing or damaging property;
- Verbal – name calling, mocking, or making sexist, racist or homophobic comments;
- Social – excluding others from a group or spreading gossip or rumours about them;
- Electronic (commonly known as cyberbullying) – spreading rumours and hurtful comments through the use of cellphones, e-mail, text messaging and social networking sites.

Teachers, parents and students together can heighten awareness of bullying and its impact on the school community by continuing to openly discuss the adverse effects of bullying and the actions to take if witnessing bullying or if being victimized by bullying. We believe that bullying is a community issue and together with you, our parents, we seek to find solutions. We ask all parents to encourage your children to report all bullying incidents to you, their teacher or their Principals and to coach your child with possible alternatives. Most importantly, treat the school as your ally – if you become privy to a possible bullying situation at the school, please contact us and share this information with us.

**We encourage all school staff and parents to learn more about bullying and its effects on student learning and well-being. For more information on how to support your child at home please visit: [www.bullyingawarenessweek.org](http://www.bullyingawarenessweek.org)**

## Anti idling at David Suzuki

Here at David Suzuki Public School the environment is very important to us. There are signs in the drop off loop to remind us all to turn our cars off. Did you know? Idling gets you nowhere!



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

[Natural Resources Canada](#)

### Traffic Loop/Parking Lot

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

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

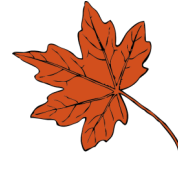
If you wish to park and walk your child to the schoolyard, please park on a side street. The Town of Markham parking enforcement could be making visits to the school area and we do not want any of our families being ticketed for parking illegally in the loop, fire route, or in handicapped parking spots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







### Cold Weather



Please make sure your child dresses 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 780 students here at Suzuki, and many children wear the same brands, colours and sizes of clothing, it would be very helpful if your child's name could be printed in ink in boots and labels of clothing. If your child has lost any items, please check our Lost and Found box just outside of the office.

Please make sure your child has a pair of indoor shoes for the school. With the wet, and soon to be slushy weather, outdoor shoes track mud into the halls and classrooms. If the students are able to change into indoor shoes when they are in the building, this will contribute to a cleaner school environment for us all.

**Thanks for your support!**



### Inclement Weather



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

For more information go to: [WWW.SCHOOLBUSCITY.COM](http://WWW.SCHOOLBUSCITY.COM)

### Lice Awareness

Lice are common and anyone can get them. They do not spread disease and are not a sign of poor hygiene or uncleanness. However, we know that lice can be a nuisance for your child and your family. Please refer to attached flyer of this newsletter for some tips about how you can help prevent your child from contracting lice as well some tips for treatment. If live lice have been found on your child, it is Board policy that we request for you to pick up your child from school and follow through on completing a Pediculosis Treatment Form. Please contact the school if you have further questions related to this policy. Thank you for doing your part in preventing the spread of lice!

### **High School Registration Date**

ARTS Unionville at Unionville High School

Applications due: December 2, 2016

[Unionville.hs.yrdsb.ca](http://Unionville.hs.yrdsb.ca)

For more details please see attached flyer!

## Curriculum Corner



### **Learning Skills and Work Habits**

In the next couple of weeks, your child will bring home his/her progress report. The progress report will provide you with important information about your child's learning skills and work habits, and serves as a conversation starter with teachers. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child's teachers to discuss specific strengths and next steps that will be areas of focus for your child throughout the remainder of the term.

The learning skills and work habits reported on include: responsibility, independent work, collaboration, organization, initiative, and self-regulation. Within those broad categories are many subsets of skills and work habits, such as persisting, creating, and questioning that contribute to success both in school and life. Additionally, many of the skills are directly connected to academic achievement, such as the ability to access information, evaluate information, and communicate effectively.

### **Consider how well your child:**

- **Responsibility**  
Manages his/her own behavior
- **Independent Work**  
Follows instructions with minimal supervision
- **Collaboration**  
Responds positively to the ideas, opinions, values, and traditions of others
- **Organization**  
Establishes priorities and manages time to achieve goals
- **Initiative**  
Demonstrates curiosity and interest in learning
- **Self-Regulation**  
Perseveres when facing challenges

International research has led to a broad consensus that strong learning skills and positive work habits are often an indicator of future success in school, at home, and in life in general. It's important for parents, teachers, and students to work together to understand the importance of these skills, as well as to develop goal plans to support further growth.

## GIVE Program

We are pleased to announce the re-launching of GIVE (Get Involved Volunteer In Education) free training program for community partners interested in volunteering in our school.

From: Yasmin Mawani | Community Resource Facilitator - CEC East | Inclusive School and Community Services, YRDSB | E-mail: [yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca](mailto:yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca) | Office: 905-940-7800 ext. 122 | Cell: 416-727-8179

For more details please see attached flyer at the end of the newsletter!



### Pizza Lunch Reminders

Pizza lunch has started!  
Please be reminded that



if you ordered pizza for your child, it is delivered to their class every Friday EXCEPT on holidays and PA Days. When there is a holiday or PA Day on a Friday, there is NO PIZZA lunch at all that week. It does not move to an alternate day.

### Mark your calendar!

**Nov 2 :** Picture Re-take day

**Nov 7 :** Gr. 3 Swim To Survive program

**Nov 7:** School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

**Nov 8:** Bring Your MP To School Day

**Nov 11:** Remembrance Day Assembly  
(Parents welcome!)

**Nov 14:** Gr. 3 Swim To Survive program

**Nov 21:** Gr. 3 Swim To Survive program

**Nov 22:** Progress Reports sent home

**Nov 24:** Parent Teacher Interviews evening

**Nov 25:** Parent Teacher Interviews - morning

**Nov 25 :** PA DAY

## PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)

### What is it?

Head lice are tiny insects that live on the scalp of human beings. Head lice can be found on the hair very close to the scalp, behind the ears, back of the neck or behind the bangs. The saliva from head lice may cause itching. Head lice are a nuisance, but rarely cause health problems. They have nothing to do with lack of cleanliness.

### How is it spread?

Anyone can get head lice. They are very common among school-aged children or children attending day care. They spread mainly through direct head to head (hair-to-hair) contact or through indirect contact from items such as shared hats, combs, hairbrushes, hair accessories and headphones. They don't fly or hop, but they crawl very quickly. Head lice can't live on pets, such as cats and dogs.

### What do I look for?

- The first symptoms are itching and scratching of the head. However, some people do not itch at all.
- Scratch marks may be seen on the neck and scalp and may look like a rash.
- Adult lice are the size of a sesame seed, greyish-brown in colour. They move fast and are hard to see.
- The nits are easily seen and are firmly attached to the hair shaft close to the scalp.
- Nits are grayish-white in colour and oval in shape.
- Nits may look like dandruff but are not easily removed.
- Nits hatch in 7-10 days and lice survive for about 1-2 days away from the scalp.

#### Where to look and how to check:

- Look for nits by parting the hair in small sections, going from one side of the head to the other.
- Look closely near the scalp, back of the neck or under the bangs.
- Look also at the top of the head and eyebrows.
- Good lighting is important (natural light may help you see them better). Use a magnifying glass if you have one.
- Check all family members.

### How is it treated?

- Treating head lice may require two treatments, applied about 1 week apart, to kill newly hatched lice.
- After the second treatment, check the head every 2 to 3 days for 2 to 3 weeks to ensure all lice and nits are gone.
- Head lice products can be purchased without a prescription at the drugstore. It is important to use the product as directed and consult the pharmacist.
- Consult your health care provider before applying head lice products to pregnant or nursing women, to those with allergies, asthma or epilepsy, or to children under 2.



(Head Lice Treatment - continued)

- Removing nits after treatment helps make it easier to see new infestations. To help remove nits use a special fine-tooth comb to comb them out. Nits can also be removed by running hair strands between your thumb and fingernail. Put the nits in a plastic bag, tie it up and throw away. Wash your hands with soap and water afterwards.
- Treat all those affected in your household at the same time.
- If your child has head lice, be sure that his/her school or day care and children's group is aware so that the parents can check their children. Also, tell the parents of your child's playmates.
- Wash bedding, clothing and personal items used within the last 2 days before treatment starts in hot water and dry in a hot dryer for at least 15 minutes. The heat of the water or a hot drying cycle will kill any live lice and nits.
- Personal items (such as stuffed toys) that cannot be exposed to heat should be dry-cleaned or stored in air-tight plastic bags for 2 weeks.

## How can I protect myself?

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- Teach children not to share combs, brushes, hair accessories, hats and headphones.
- Talk to your child about avoiding head to head (hair-to-hair) contact.
- Long hair should be tied in a ponytail.

Source: Durham Region Health Department (July 2016)



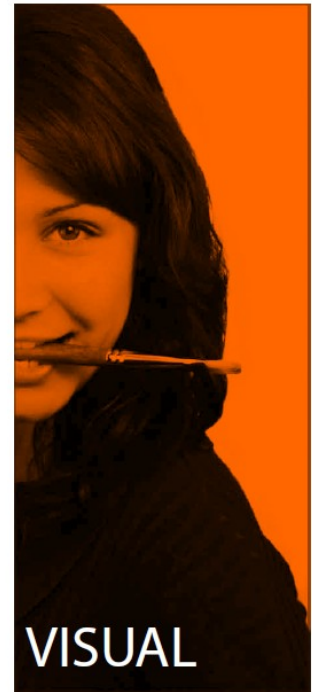
DANCE



DRAMA



MUSIC



VISUAL



We invite Grade 8 Students to apply for

# ARTS UNIONVILLE

## at Unionville High School

- A four-year, 8-credit, intensive arts high school program for artistically interested and talented students
- Open through application and audition. **Applications due: December 2, 2016**
- Dance, Drama, Winds, Vocal, Visual Arts students residing in the Arts Unionville boundary of York Region may apply
- Strings students residing in the Arts Unionville, Arts Westmount and Arts Huron areas of York Region may apply
- Piano students residing in all areas of York Region may apply
- For more information and to complete our online application please go to:

[unionville.hs.yrdsb.ca](http://unionville.hs.yrdsb.ca)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR INFORMATION SESSION:  
Tuesday November 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Complimentary seats must be reserved by calling Flato Markham Theatre at 905-305-7469.

*Online application opens on November 2nd, 2016.*



## Develop skills to support your school community!

**GIVE (Get Involved Volunteer In Education)** is a free training program for community members who wish to volunteer in our schools.

Participants will have the opportunity to share and learn about:

- Role of the Volunteer
- Equity and Inclusive Education
- Communication Skills
- Human Rights
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Mental Health & Well Being
- Immigrant Experience
- Employment Standards

**All participants will receive a certificate upon completion**

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**Where?** Welcome Centre Markham North  
8400 Woodbine Ave. #102  
Markham ON L3R 4N7

**Time?** 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**When?** Every Friday for 6 weeks starting November 4, 2016 - December 9, 2016.

**To Register call or email:** Yasmin Mawani, Community Resource Facilitator  
Phone: 416-727-8179 Email: Yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca

**Please register today!**