

Devins Drive P.S.



70 Devins Drive, Aurora Ontario, L4G-2Z4 905-727-2022

Principal: Rosanna Totino Administrative Assistants: Jennifer Heyink, Christina Chickrie

Lead Caretaker: Russell Hamilton

Superintendent: Neil Gunathunge

Trustee: Bob McRoberts

April, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of our continued focus on student achievement and well-being, the staff at Devins Drive PS use restorative practices that foster and strengthen caring, safe and inclusive environments. Restorative practices have demonstrated positive outcomes in school settings, used as a part of a school-wide approach to discipline, behaviour management and the development of a positive school climate. These approaches provide a framework to address conflicts by focusing on prevention, intervention and resolution, ensures that relationships are restored, increases school safety and builds connectedness and a sense of belonging. The staff use restorative approaches and questions that focus on learning from an experience. Below you will see a sample of the questions used.

Restorative Questions 1 (When things go wrong...)

- What happened?
- What were you thinking of at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?

Restorative Questions 2 (When someone has been harmed...)

- What did you think when you realized what had happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

Yours in partnership,

R. Totino

Principal



Important Dates

School Council Meeting: April 11, 7 p.m.

ProGrant virtual parent presentation with Paul Davis: April 27, 7 p.m. (Meeting link to follow)

How to Help Your Child at Home with Math



Why is a belief in our children's ability to learn mathematics essential?

(Source: Doing Math with Your Child K to 6: A Parent Guide, Ministry of Education)

Understanding mathematics builds confidence and opens doors to many jobs and careers. Understanding mathematics enables us to:

- Solve problems and make sound decisions
- Explain how we solved a problem and why we made a particular decision
- Use technology (such as calculators and computer applications) to help solve problems
- Understand patterns and trends so that we can make predictions (for example, we can keep track of how much juice is consumed so that we know how much juice to buy each week)
- Manage our time and money (for example, we can calculate how much time we need to get to work, how much food we need to make meals and how much money we need to buy food)
- Handle everyday situations that involve numbers (such as figuring out when the next bus will arrive and dividing a recipe)

Before your child can learn mathematics, he or she needs to believe in his or her ability to do so. That's where you come in. You can be your child's first role model for learning. When you engage with your child in a supportive, relaxed atmosphere, your child will enjoy taking risks while having fun with math!

Top Tips for Parents

- Build strong, positive attitudes about math. When children feel positively engaged and successful, they are more likely to stick with an activity or a problem to find a solution.
- Begin with activities that meet your child's level of mathematical understanding. Early success in solving problems will build your child's confidence. Gradually move to activities that provide more challenge for your child.
- If you and your child are more comfortable in a language other than English, use it. Your child will understand concepts better in the language that he or she knows best.

School Council Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee would like relatives) who supported our 'Recipes in a Jar' and 'Artshine'. initiatives were so well received — an opportunity to give back to the meal or art box was donated to our We have an exciting APRIL fundraiser shortly. Hint: something practical

to thank all the families (friends & recent fundraising efforts – We are delighted that both these and more importantly – gave us community. For every purchase a community.

planned – more details to follow that you use often.

Devins Drive, and the School Council would like to re-introduce student lunch programs, but to do this we need parent volunteers. If you are able to spare a lunch hour 1 or 2 days a week or month (for the months of April, May and June) please contact our fundraising coordinator by email: mc.bc@rogers.com.

Vivian Outdoor Resource Centre

Throughout the month of April, grade two and four classes visited the Vivian Outdoor Resource Centre located in Whitchurch-Stouffville. The educational programs correspond directly to expectations in the Ontario Curriculum. The school building sits on the beautiful Oak Ridges Moraine. The naturalized school yard represents a focal point for introductory mapping activities, nature games and exploration. The Department of Lands and Forests and York County organized the planting of thousands of trees in these areas from 1920s to the 1960s. Trees stabilized the sand and reduced the associated problems of flash floods and droughts. Now, students can walk under the canopy of red and jack pine plantations.











