

# DEVINS DRIVE NEWS

## NOVEMBER 2019

**Principal: Tracey Davies**

**Admin. Support: Kelly Smith  
Josie Altieri**

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

**Superintendent: Neil Gunathunge  
905-884-4477**

**Trustee: Bob McRoberts  
905-727-3141**

### Principal's Message

Progress Report Cards will be sent home and Family / Teacher Interviews will be taking place this month. The purpose of the Progress Report Card is to share with you how your child is progressing towards meeting the required curriculum expectations. Curriculum expectations will be evaluated using the following designations: *Progressing Very Well, Progressing Well and Progressing with Difficulty.*

Also on the Progress Report Card will be an assessment of your child's Learning Skills. The Ministry of Education recognizes that the development of Learning Skills and Work Habits is an integral part of a student's learning. Throughout the year, teachers instruct, assess, evaluate and report on the following learning skills and work habits: *Responsibility; Organization; Independent Work; Collaboration; Initiative; and Self-Regulation.*

Requests for interviews were recently sent home and are due back on November 1st. Families will receive confirmation of their scheduled interview times on November 7th. Progress Report Cards are being sent home on November 12th. Family/Teacher interviews are scheduled to take place on the evening of Thursday, November 14th and the morning of Friday, November 15th.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

### Devins Drive School Council Meeting

**Monday, November 4, 2019**

Please note that all meetings are from 7-9 pm in the Learning Commons.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS!

Photo Retakes: November 13th-9 am

Scholastic Book Sale: November 11th - 15th

Progress Report Cards Go Home: November 12th

Progress Report Cards Family/Teacher Interviews:  
November 14th (Evening) / November 15th (Morning)

Cookie Dough Order Pick Up: November 14th from 5:30 - 8:00 pm

North Country Meat Order Pick Up: November 14th at 6:00 pm

**Please visit our school website frequently for updates:**

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/devinsdrive.ps/Pages/default.aspx>

### Remembrance Day

On Monday, November 11, 2019, we will be distributing Remembrance Day poppy stickers for our students to wear. The Aurora Legion provides us with these poppies at our request, so we might wear them to demonstrate respect on this important day.

Students are invited to make a small donation for their poppies. Money donated goes to providing food, shelter, and/or medical attention for veterans and their families. The funds also support drop-in centres for seniors and 'Meals on Wheels' services. Any 'pocket change' or amount your family deems appropriate, is appreciated. Teachers will be collecting funds from students until Wednesday, November 13, 2019. Thank you in advance for your support in this valuable endeavor.

### The Colder Weather is Almost Here!

With the cold and snowy weather fast approaching, we must remind our students of the need to dress in the clothing that will keep them warm and dry. The essentials include: a warm coat, snow pants, boots, mittens/gloves and a hat. It would be a good idea to send in an extra pair of mittens and/or socks in your child's school bag as these items often get wet in the course of a child's play at recess. Please mark your child's name on each piece of clothing brought to school. This helps us find the owner of the lost clothing.

### Before and Afterschool Program

If your child is ill and is going to be absent from school, please ensure you either enter your child's absence onto Edsby or call the school's attendance line and leave a message to this effect. If your child attends, Best Friends, the Before and After School program at Devins Drive, please also ensure you also **inform the staff at Best Friends of your child's absence by calling them directly at 905-841-2703**. Thank you.

### Volunteers in Our Schools

Volunteers are welcome and greatly appreciated at our school. In accordance with the York Region District School Board's Policies and Procedures, all volunteers who may be interacting with students are required to have a *Police Vulnerable Sector Check* (PVSC). Once you have obtained your PVSC, please submit it to the office. If you obtained your PVSC last year, all you need to do is to drop by the office to sign an *Annual Offence Declaration* and a *Confidentiality Agreement*. Any person entering the school must report to the office, sign in and wear a Devins Drive Public School Visitor's badge/sticker. For the protection and safety of our children and staff, everyone must adhere to this rule. Thank you for your support and understanding.

### Pick Up / Drop Off Times at the Front of the School

Do you drive your child to school in the morning and/or drive to the school to pick your child up at the end of the school day? If so, please ensure that you **always** obey the posted traffic signs on the streets surrounding our school, ensuring that you only park where parking on the street is allowed and that you **do not** block the driveways of the houses surrounding the school at any point in time. Please also do not use our neighbour's driveways to turn around in during busy times as this creates unsafe conditions for our students and their families. Please note that the Aurora By-Law Department will be monitoring the area around our school at random times to ensure that drivers are adhering to the posted traffic signs. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter. Safety is our top priority.

### We Are Hiring PAID School Assistants

We are in need of School Assistants! School Assistants play an important role in providing a safe and comfortable environment for students during the lunch hour. This is a paid position, requiring you to be at the school from 12:45 pm —1:45pm. If you are interested in applying for this position or know of someone who is, either on a full-time or occasional basis, please contact the office immediately at 905-727-2022 and/or drop by the office to pick up a package.

## **Inclement Weather Procedures Attention Devins Drive Families**

If there is an inclement weather day and your child is going to be absent, please ensure you notify the school office of your child's absence at 905-727-2022 regardless of whether they take the school bus or walk. DDPS has a 24 hour/7 day a week Attendance line and this voicemail is checked regularly.

If the school buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not be operational in the afternoon as well. Please note that all lunch programs are cancelled on any inclement weather days therefore if your child attends school on an inclement weather day, please provide a lunch for your child. Thank you for your support.

## **Inclement Weather Procedures**

School Bus Cancellation Notice School bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and Environment Canada forecast. Please note the following;

A decision to cancel school bus service will be region-wide meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.

School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather is not affecting all municipalities in York Region. Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.

Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.

If regular home to school runs are cancelled, Charter trips will not operate.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO 590 AM 640 AM 680 AM 860 AM 1010 AM 1050 AM 1540 AM 1580 AM 88.5 FM 89.9 FM 92.5 FM 93.1 FM 94.9 FM 95.9 FM 97.3 FM 98.1 FM 99.1 FM 99.9 FM 101.1 FM 102.1 FM 104.5 FM 100.7 FM 107.1 FM TELEVISION CITY TV CFTO Barrie CFTO TV GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001.

## **Math - Spatial Reasoning**

When we think of supporting our children with math, we tend to focus on number sense - understanding numbers and basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), but have you ever thought about working on spatial reasoning?

Spatial reasoning involves thinking about the locations and movements of objects and ourselves, both physically and mentally, in space. Developing these skills has been shown to play a significant role in future math achievement. Working on spatial reasoning helps children find multiple entry points into math problems, see math visually and develops the skills necessary for success in many STEM careers. The neat thing is spatial reasoning is malleable and can be improved with education and experience!

## Upcoming Dates

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Pizza Lunch
- 4 Pasta Lunch  
School Council Meeting-7 pm-Learning Commons
- 5 North Country Meat Fundraiser orders due  
Grs. 3 & 7 Trip to St. Marie Among The Hurons
- 8 Grade 7 Immunizations  
Pizza Lunch
- 11 Pasta Lunch
- 12-15 Scholastic Book Fair-Learning Commons
- 13 Photo Retakes-9 am  
Gr. 2 Trip to VORC - Milroy & Gagnon  
Progress Report Cards go home  
Grade 8 Info Session at Dr. GW Williams SS-7:30 pm
- 14 Gr. 2 Trip to VORC - Cimarelli & Wei  
Family-Teacher Interviews-3:45-8:00 pm  
Cookie Dough Fundraiser Order Pick Up from 5:30 - 8:00 pm  
North Country Meat Fundraiser Order Pick Up at 6 pm
- 15 PA Day-no school for students  
Family - Teacher Interviews-9:00-11:45 am
- 18 Gr. 4 Trip to VORC - Pesce & Le Moine  
Pasta Lunch
- 21 Aurora HS Band Concert Tour-10:00 am
- 22 Grade 7 Immunizations  
Pizza Lunch  
K-Gr. 4 Presentation - Fana Soro: Yamo! Yamo! Greetings from West Africa! - 9:30 am
- 25 Pasta Lunch
- 26 Grade 6 VIP Program-9:30 am
- 29 Spirit Day-80s Day  
Pizza Lunch