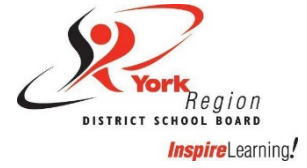




Devins Drive P.S.



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

Principal: Rosanna Totino
Administrative Assistants: Hali Czetner, Christina Chickrie
Lead Caretaker: Travis Wood

Superintendent: Neil Gunathunge
Trustee: Bob McRoberts

September 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to new and returning families! Our school now has 470 students. Over the summer, we had a few staff changes. Please join me in welcoming these new staff members: Ms. Simpson (grade two French Immersion); Mr. Ikwai (grade one French Immersion); Ms. Collinge (LTO teacher for Kindergarten); Ms. Gikov (grade 5/6); Ms. Chickrie (Office assistant); Brandon Nicholls (caretaker) and Ms. Li (DECE). We also welcome back the following staff members who are returning from a leave: Ms. Wellard (prep coverage); Ms. Palumbo (grade two French Immersion); and Ms. Monacelli (grade 1 French Immersion).

The return to school instills excitement and anticipation. Our caretakers have worked diligently to ensure that all the nooks and crannies have been cleaned and that the floors gleam. The teachers have been busily getting rooms ready and collaborating with colleagues. They have been awaiting the arrival of our students who themselves, are eager to reunite with their friends and make new ones. Our office staff has worked long hours to accomplish the myriad of tasks to ensure a smooth September launch. I thank our entire Devins Drive staff and we look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Yours in partnership,
R. Totino
Principal

COVID-19 School Screening

Parents and guardians of Elementary students are required to complete the on-line self-assessment [Covid-19 School and Childcare Screening Tool](#) (please click on Check for Symptoms Daily) on a daily basis, prior to their child entering the school. Upon completion of the self-assessment, parents and guardians will complete the response to the question: "Have you completed the self-screening tool?" in the Confirmation Form at <https://covidscreening.yrdsb.ca> using their child's GAPPs account login information. If you need to confirm your child's gapps account information, please contact your child's teacher.



LUNCHES

We ask that parents ensure that all students bring a **Litterless/Boomerang Lunch** with them to school every day by packing their snacks and lunch items in reusable food and water containers. Plastic cutlery is not supplied by the school so please remember to pack a spoon or fork in your child's lunch bag. Please ensure your child has their own water bottle which can be filled throughout the day at the refill station in the school. Students are to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after eating. Students are to be reminded not to share food, utensils or drinks. For safety reasons, lunch drop offs will not be permitted. All special lunch programs/food days (e.g., pizza, sub, etc.) are cancelled until further notice. All food delivery services (UberEats/Skip the Dishes) will not be accepted.

Message From Our Trustee, September 2021

We have many reasons to feel optimistic as we begin the 2021-22 school year. Schools are reopening to in-person learning, vaccination rates continue to increase, and our students can start to resume some of their favourite school activities.

As we return to school, our [reopening plan](#) continues to prioritize the health and safety of students, families and staff members. We are working with public health to ensure we are taking all appropriate measures. For more information on the plan, including health and safety measures, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening. You can also find additional information from York Region Public Health at www.york.ca/safeatschool.

The pandemic and last year's school closures affected students and families in many different ways. This has been a challenging time. Our caring, skilled and dedicated staff members are prepared to prioritize the mental health and well-being of students as they transition back to school, as well as supporting their academic learning and growth. If you are worried about your child, please speak to your child's teacher or principal. You may also find some of the [learning and well-being resources](#) on our website helpful.

Whether your child will be attending school in person or online, we know how important it is that they feel safe, respected and valued. We want every student to feel supported, to take pride in their identities and to know that they matter. Any form of hate or decimation in our schools is not acceptable. This school year, we will continue to implement the [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#) launched in March to address anti-Black racism in schools. We also remain committed as a school board to honouring the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#). As an education system, it is imperative that we create learning environments that enable all of our students to feel valued and to be successful.

As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision-making. The Board of Trustees makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#). We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

The relationship that we have with families is important. I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website. You are welcome to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

There are also many other ways you can stay connected with what's happening in the school board. Visit our [newsroom](#). Listen to our [podcast](#). Follow us on [Twitter @YRDSB](#) and on [Instagram @yrdsb.schools](#). Watch the latest videos, including news, features and profiles about our schools, students and staff members on our [YouTube channel YRDSBMedia](#).

As we begin another school year, I am pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you have a great start and wish you a happy, healthy and successful year ahead.

Bob McRoberts
Trustee – Aurora and King

Personal Electronic Devices



In order to maintain a safe and positive learning environment, students are not allowed to use their personal electronic devices at school throughout the instructional day. This includes recess and during the lunch hour. The only exception to this is when teachers have planned instruction that necessitates the use of these devices.

School Council Elections

Nominations forms for our School Council are found in the September start-up package forms which will be distributed electronically by YRDSB.

Please ensure you submit electronically your nomination form by **September 24**. The elections will occur during the virtual School Council meeting scheduled for Thursday October 7 from 7-8 p.m. Please see below for this year's SC meeting dates:

Thursday October 7
Thursday November 18
Thursday January 13
Thursday February 24
Thursday April 14
Thursday May 26

Nut Alert!/We are a NUT-SENSITIVE School!



Please do NOT send foods that contain peanuts or nut products to school. We have students who are anaphylactic. This means that exposure can result in a severe allergic reaction that can be life threatening. Please be vigilant in reading product labels. Many now indicate that the product was made in a nut free/peanut free facility.

Attendance and Safe Arrival Program

It is the policy of the York Region District School Board for all elementary schools to monitor and report on the safe arrival of our students. If you know that your child will be absent, please enter your child's absence in Edsby or call (905) 727-2022 and press 2 to leave a message on the school's attendance line. If we do not know why your child is absent, we will, under Policy #665.0, do the following:

1. Call the home and business numbers provided.
2. Call the emergency contact number(s) provided.
3. If the above are unsuccessful, we will call the York Regional Police to report your child as missing.

Your support in following the procedure outlined above is important in ensuring the safe arrival of all of our students.

Safety Awareness



Teachers will be discussing a variety of safety and fire drill procedures with students throughout September. A fire drill will occur on Friday September 24 and a lockdown emergency simulation will occur on Wednesday September 29.

2021-2022 School Organization / Telephone Directory

Office Staff: Ms. Totino (Principal), Ms. Czetter (EOAA), Ms. Chickrie (SAS-A)

Caretakers: Mr. Wood (Lead Caretaker), Mr. Kaskow, Mr. Lee, Mr. Nicholls

Class/Teacher/Extension

K12A	Ms. Taylor	102
K12B	Ms. Collinge	103
12A	Ms. Milroy	110
23A	Ms. Rodrigues	206
34A	Ms. LeMoine	205
56A	Ms. Gikov	220
56B	Mr. Livingston	214
78A	Ms. Woodhead	217
78B	Mr. LeMoine	215
1AF	Ms. Petroff	108
1BF	Ms. Cook	106
1CF	Mr. Ikwai/Ms. Burey	105
1DF	Ms. Monacelli	107
1EF	Ms. Utica	109
12AF	Ms. Tomberg	124
2AF	Ms. Palumbo	203
2BF	Ms. Chung	125
2CF	Ms. Simpson/Mr. Wu	204
2DF	Ms. Berg	126
2EF	Ms. Scarcella	127
ICCSA	Mr. Smith	221
Music	Ms. T. Smith	216
SSC	Mr. Damtsis	212
LIBRARY	Ms. Mancino	214
Prep	Ms. Wellard, Ms. Barbour	218
Prep	Ms. Wei	123