



l'école Elder's Mills

La Voix des Aigles

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avril 2015

Principal:
Kimberly Walke

Administrative Assistant:
Cathy Consiglio

Secretary:
Suzana Kil

Lead Caretaker:
David Nonis

**Superintendent of Schools
CEC West:**
Becky Green
(905)764-6830

Trustee:
Anna DeBartolo
(905)727-0022 Ext 2829

School Priorities:
Curriculum
Implementation:
Effective Literacy and
Critical Thinking Skills

School Climate:
Positive, Safe and
Inclusive Learning
Environment and School
Community

Student Engagement:
Student engagement in
explicit and purposeful

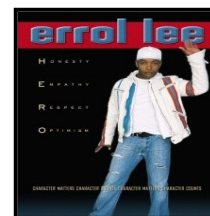
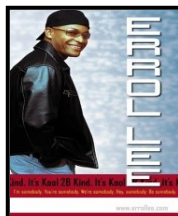
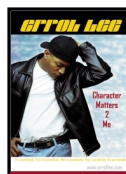
"Parental participation in schools
positively influences student
achievement" Joyce Epstein,
researcher.



Principal's Message-Un Mot de la Directrice:

Spring is finally here! Over the course of the winter months, we have continued to see our students demonstrate a keen interest in the instructional program, develop their proficiency in French and actively participate in a range of co-curricular activities. We are very proud of our students' progress and engagement in their learning and school life. Thank you for being such supportive partners in your child's education as we work together to provide a safe, welcoming and stimulating learning environment here at Elder's Mills. Your support is most appreciated. Looking forward, here are some important upcoming dates for your information and reference.

Student Leadership & Voice: In the last two months, we have continued to work with our student leadership teams on our anti-bullying campaign and focus on how to be a good EMPS citizen. On **April 17**, we will be holding two special concerts to continue to build a positive school climate. The theme for the Grade 1-3 Concert will be "The Golden Rule" and will be held at 9:00-10:00 a.m. The theme for the Grade 4-6 Concert will be "The Hero Club" and will be held at 11:05 a.m.-12:05 p.m. We are excited to say that Errol Lee, a singer, songwriter and dancer, will be our special guest and he will be engaging students in song and dance to spread the message of good citizenship, caring and sharing, and inclusion.



Errol Lee is the founder of Caring Kids' Concerts and is a multi-award winning singer songwriter, dancer and children's author. Each concert presentation is written and performed by Errol Lee who has been teaching, nurturing and modeling positive behavior since 2001 in homes, schools and communities. We look forward to having Errol Lee visit us here at EMPS! For more information about Errol, please visit www.errolee.com, [facebook.com/ErrolLeeMITM](https://www.facebook.com/ErrolLeeMITM), @ErrolLeeMITM

Student Class Placement for September 2015: Our student placement process will focus on creating balanced classes. A great deal of time is spent to ensure that each student's academic and social needs are taken into consideration. Parent input is one factor considered in the placement process. If you have any information about your child's learning needs or know peers he/she works well with, please inform Mme Walke in writing by April 30. Please be advised that we cannot always accommodate requests for particular teachers, or straight grade classes. We will endeavour to do our best.

Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO 2015 Provincial Assessments: Each year, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) oversees the testing of Ontario students. All our Grade 3 students will be taking part in the provincial Math Assessment in French and our 6 students will be taking part in Reading, Writing and Mathematics assessments in English. The EQAO assessments will be administered between **May 25 and June 5**. Parents are asked to avoid scheduling appointments or holidays during the dates and time noted above. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school. For more information, please see the EQAO website: www.eqao.com for parent resources.

York Region District School Board Student Surveys on School Climate



In order to provide information for Board and School planning, York Region District School Board students in Grades 5 to 12 will be invited to participate in a school survey. The survey, which is anonymous and confidential, will be conducted from **April 7 to May 15, 2015** and will take place at school. The information from this survey will be used to identify areas to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. Aligned with Board priorities, the survey will address topics including equity and inclusion, school safety, learning environment, student well-being and other priorities. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

Library News



The Forest of Reading Program is wrapping up in April! Students have been and continue to read books from the various categories: Le Prix Peuplier, Le Prix Tamarack Express, Le Prix Tamarack, Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch Non-fiction and Silver Birch Fiction. By the end of April, each student who has read at least 5 books in one of the categories will be able to vote for their favourite book! Who will be the winner author? Our EMPS favourites will be printed in the next newsletter! For more information on the Forest of Reading, see the following website: www.accessola.org Éditions FouLire Reading Challenge



The Éditions FouLire Reading Challenge is also wrapping up at the end of April! Which classes were able to read 100 books from the FouLire collection, with each student reading at least one book? Homeroom classes that were able to complete the challenge will be named in the next newsletter!

School Events

Chess Tournament

A special congratulations to Michael P. in grade 1 who placed 3rd in the York Region Chess Challenge on March 28! He has now qualified for the Ontario Chess Challenge on April 19th! Good luck Michael!

Go Eagles Go!



Danish Educators Visit Elder's Mills

On March 4, we had four Danish Educational Leader visit at EMPS to see how French Immersion schools are organized. The visitors spent the morning with us, met with our Leadership Team, two student leaders and toured classes. We also had an opportunity to learn about the Danish school systems. They were impressed with our work at EMPS. It was a learning experience for all.



Day of Pink! Elder's Mills is a safe and supportive school community!

April 8, 2015 is the **Day of Pink** which is the International Day against bullying, discrimination, homophobia and transphobia in schools and communities. It is an annual day in April where communities around the world wear pink to show respect for diversity and to demonstrate support for learning and working environments that are safe and inclusive of people regardless of their social identities.

ECO CORNER



Earth Hour 2014

This year's Earth Hour was conducted globally on March 28 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. This global awareness event has millions of people participating annually to show their support for the environment. During Earth Hour, communities and their residents are encouraged to reduce the amount of energy being consumed by turning off their lights and not using any energy. What a great opportunity to go for a family walk or to cuddle up next to your children and read books to candle light. Every bit helps! In order to raise awareness and educate our students, Elder's Mills conducted their own Earth Hour on Friday, March 27 from 1:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Classroom lights, hallway lights and computers were turned off during this hour. It was a great opportunity to discuss with our students the purpose of Earth Hour, and how our daily actions affect our planet. For more information, please visit: WWF Earth Hour Official site: <http://www.wwf.ca/earthhour/> Earth Hour Official site: <http://www.earthhour.org/> Earth Day Canada: <http://www.earthday.ca/> Lights Out



20-Minute Vaughan Makeover/Wear Green Day

With spring having officially arrived, much of the garbage that was covered underneath snow is now littering our school yards, neighbourhood parks and our communities. Elder's Mills will be a proud participant of the 20-Minute Vaughan Makeover that will be taking place on Wednesday, April 22nd at Elder's Mills. Members of the community are also encouraged to take 20 minutes out of their day and to pitch in the cleanup from home, work or school. With everyone pitching in together, we can clean up this world class city and enjoy the warm months ahead in a clean and healthy environment.



Earth Day

Earth Day is April 22! How can you help our planet?



Le club Eco veut vous communiquer les résultats de notre comportement écologique des mois de novembre, décembre, et janvier. En novembre, nous avons bien recyclé 76% d'objets recyclable, conservé 92 pourcent d'énergie, et bien mis dans la poubelle 81 % de d'objets recyclable. En décembre, nous avons bien recyclé 82% d'objets recyclable, conservé 95 pourcent d'énergie, et bien mis dans la poubelle 93 % de d'objets recyclable. En janvier, nous avons bien recyclé 78% d'objets recyclable, conservé 85% d'énergie, et bien mis dans la poubelle 84% de d'objets recyclable. Nous avons obtenu le meilleur résultat en décembre. (Stéphanie)



Eco School/ BOOMERANG LUNCHES



Help Elder's Mills continue to be *green* Eco- School:

- Email virtual School Newsletters
- Pack a litter-less lunch
- Take all garbage and green bin material home to reduce food waste and the amount of garbage at school
- Use of school green bins
- Continue to recycle everyday
- Deposit used cartridges and batteries in our school recycling depot

School Yard Safety

For the safety of our students, only staff members and school assistants on duty are allowed in the school yard. Adults on duty will wear a bright orange vest or sash so they can be easily identified. Any other adults will be asked to leave the yard and report to the office.



SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER



Thank you to everyone who made our DrumFIT workshop a **huge success!** We had over 150 participants registered with many on a waiting list, hoping to join the wonderfully energetic event.



Our end of the year BBQ will be held on Thursday, June the 4th. The evening will be a great opportunity to enjoy our school community and participate in games, a raffle and silent auction. Stay tuned for more details.



Our next School Council meeting is on **Thursday, April 16, 2015.**

Please join us from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Staff Room.

Child care provided in Room 129. Everyone is welcome!



Character Matters!

March Character Trait Recipients for "Honesty/l' honnêteté"

1 Mme Yususf	Tafreed, Hadia, Readia	3 Mme Konjikusic	Carter
1 Mme Bergeron	Sophia I., Dev, Alice and Jason	3 Mme Colonna	Ethan, Ajay and Huda
1 Mme Sampogna	Isabella and Emily	4 M. Ghomffo	Noah, Thomas, Michaela, Seif, Hannah and Sarina
1 Mme Trivedi	Olivia, Robin, Edward and Romina	4/5 Mme Fancy	Brooke, Matthew, Sabrina and Aidan
1 M. Villa	Micah and Emily	5 M. Petrilli	Aziyah, Nima, Puneet and Kaitlyn
1 M. Kouri	Aysenur and Haylee	6 Mme Ing	Samara, Giuliano and Philip
2 Mme Constantin	Bethel, Ethan and Jaden	6 Mme Bassett	Manav and Victoria J.
2 Mme Bianchi	Emily and Gabrielle	Golden Dustbin Award First Floor	la classe de Mme Nakhla
2 M. Thompson	Layla and Danita	Golden Dustbin Award Second Floor	la classe de Mme Yususf
3 Mme Nakhla	Brandon, Ilim, Andrei		

Character Matters!

We encourage our students to display positive character traits always and we celebrate their efforts at our monthly Character Assemblies.



April's Focus is: "Fairness" - "la justice"

Respect/le Respect
Optimism/l'optimisme
Integrity/l'intégrité

Honesty/l'honnêteté
Courage/le courage
Empathy/l'empathie

Fairness/la justice
Initiative/l'initiative

Perseverance/la persévérance
Responsibility/le responsabilité

Spirit Wear

School Spirit Wear Sales are coming soon.....Look out for more information in the coming days!



2015/2016 School Year...Are you moving?



This is the time of year when we begin planning for the next school year. In order to assist us with staffing, if you know that you are moving out of the area or that your children will not be returning to Elder's Mills in September, kindly inform the School Office or call us at **905-893-1631**. Thank you.



Spring is in the air.....

As the weather starts to become warmer, and the snow and ice melts, we anticipate rain, puddles and other wet weather, we ask that parents send their child(ren) to school dressed properly with appropriate hats, boots, closed shoes, etc. Please label your child's clothing to avoid it being brought to our lost and found.



The Big Crunch—Apples are a popular healthy snack at Elder's Mills ! On Thursday March 12 we participated in "The Big Crunch" event to promote healthy living and healthy eating. The entire school bit into a delicious apple at the same time for one big massive, synchronized bite. "An apple a day helps keeps the doctor away...."



Reminder!

Please remember to report all planned absences or lates to your child/ren's homeroom teacher and to the school office!

The School Council at Stephen Lewis Secondary School Presents

A Free Parenting Seminar on **DE-STRESSING** *Family Life*

Join us for a free informative seminar to learn how to deal with stress in an effective and productive manner. Register today and improve your family life!

GUEST SPEAKER:

MICHELLE CASSIDY
(YRDSB MENTAL HEALTH LEAD)



THURSDAY APRIL 30, 2015 | 7:00-9:00PM

LOCATION:

STEPHEN LEWIS S.S.
555 AUTUMN HILL BLVD, THORNHILL, L4J 8X2
MAIN FLOOR - AUDITORIUM

Please RSVP by April 15th

Stephen Lewis Secondary School Council
Stephen.lewis.ss@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca





l'école Elder's Mills



avril



dimanche	lundi	mardi	mercredi	jeudi	vendredi	samedi
			1 Lice Check Just Kids Catering	2	3 Good Friday NO SCHOOL	4
5	6 Easter Monday NO SCHOOL	7 Jungle Sport Lunch Lady	8 Jungle Sport Day of Pink Just Kids Catering	9	10 Jungle Sport Pizza Day	11
12	13 Hot Lunch	14 Lunch Lady	15 Just Kids Catering	16 Parent Council Meeting @7:00 p.m.	17 Visit from Errol Lee Pizza Day	18
19	20	21 Lunch Lady	22 20 min Vaughan make-over Wear Green Day Earth Day Just Kids Catering	23	24 Pizza Day	25
26	27 Hot Lunch	28 Lunch Lady	29 Lockdown Simulation Drill	30		

"FAIRNESS"

Fair Isn't....everyone getting the same thing.
Fair Is....everyone getting what they need in order to be Successful!