



# l'école Elder's Mills

## La Voix des Aigles

avril 2016

120 Napa Valley Avenue, Woodbridge, On L4H 1L1

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Suzana Kil

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David Nonis

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Paul Valle  
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**Trustee:**  
Anna DeBartolo  
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### Principal's Message-Un Mot de la Directrice:

Dear Elder's Mills Families,

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 Class Placement for September 2016:** 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 29. Please be advised that we cannot always accommodate requests for particular teachers, or straight grade classes. We will endeavour to do our very best to meet student needs.,

**Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO 2016 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 28 and June 8**. 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](http://www.eqao.com) for parent resources.

### School Priorities

#### **Curriculum**

Critical thinking skills in language, math and digital literacy

#### **Equity and Inclusion**

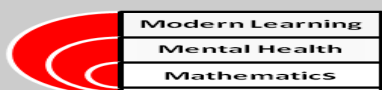
Caring, safe and inclusive learning environment for all learners

#### **Student Engagement:**

Student engagement in purposeful learning and of student voice and leadership

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#### **New Board Improvement Plan Focus Areas:**



These three focus areas are underpinned by the foundational practices of leadership, innovation and equity. and are guided by the Board's [Mission, Vision and Values](#).

### **Student and Family Safety:**

#### **Did you know that we have a Kiss & Ride ?**

Safety is our number one priority at EMPS! When driving your child to school between 8:30-8:45 and picking them up at 3:15, we ask that you use our **Kiss & Ride** located in the parking lot of the school. Napa Valley Avenue is a very busy street and parking your car and trying to negotiate a run across the street to the school is very dangerous and there have been unsafe conditions with busses and traffic in front of the school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.



## Student Engagement

Spring Into Reading



Read-A-Thon

### EMPS Read-a-thon to support SickKids Foundation

From April 11 to 22, 2016, our students will be participating in our EMPS Read-a-thon! This year, our students were surveyed by the Student Leadership Team and SickKids Foundation was chosen. EMPS would like to raise \$1000 for SickKids Foundation. Please help your child read daily and collect pledges to reach our goal. Please follow the link to make your pledges directly to SickKids Foundation: <http://my.sickkidsdonations.com/EldersMillsPS>

It's Time to Order Your.....  
**YEARBOOK!**



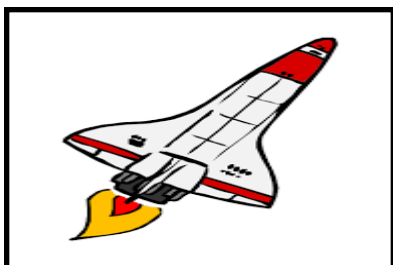
### EMPS 10th Anniversary Yearbook

Have you ordered your yearbook yet? This full-colour, professionally printed yearbook will include pictures of various assemblies, school events, student clubs and teams, class pictures, and much more! To order your yearbook, go to School Cash Online from the EMPS website. The yearbook is \$25. Our annual Yearbook Cover and Back Cover Design Contest will be taking place in April! Students can submit their Yearbook Cover and Back Cover Designs to Mme Esposito by **April 29, 2016**. All students will vote on their favourite entries at the beginning of May. The winning entry will be featured in our Yearbook, and the student will receive a copy of the Yearbook as well! Good luck!



### Chess Club News

Good luck to Nima in grade 6 who will be representing our school in the next Chess Championship Tournament on April 17!



### 21st Century Inquiry-Based Learning

How will plants grow in space? Our grade 3 students will be conducting an inquiry about plants, through their Science units on Soils and Plants. Our students will be planting two sets of tomato seeds. One set has been sent into space or treated in space-simulated conditions. The other set will be a control group. Which set of seeds will germinate and grow faster? To find out more information about our project, go to [tomatosphere.org](http://tomatosphere.org).



### Creating Community Connections and Career Awareness Pathways

As part of their Local Community study, all of our grade 1 classes received a visit from Mr.Scrozzo, a firefighter and Elder's Mills parent, on March 29. Students report that they learned:

1. Le pompier est dans la communauté pour la sécurité.
2. Le pompier porte un uniforme.
3. Le pompier porte des vêtements très chauds.
4. Le pompier protégé les familles.
5. Le pompier éteint le feu avec des outils.
6. Le pompier a un camion rouge.
7. Le pompier sauve les gens.

## York Region District School Board Policies and Procedures

All policies available for comment are sent to school council chairs, and are posted on the [Board website](#) along with information about how to provide feedback. The policies currently available for comment include:

- Student Accommodation Review (comments due by April 25)
- Anaphylactic Reactions (comments due by August 25)
- Respectful Workplace and Learning Environment (comments due by August 25)
- Environmental Responsibility (comments due by January 2, 2017)
- Appointment of Community Members to Board Committees (comments due by January 2, 2017)

To learn more, visit [www.yrdsb.ca/aboutus/policy/](http://www.yrdsb.ca/aboutus/policy/).

## 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 the winning authors be? Silver Birch Fiction nominated author, Valerie Sherrard, will also be visiting our grade 6 students on April 12 to talk about her book, Rain Shadow. For more information on the Forest of Reading, see the following website:

[www.accessola.org](http://www.accessola.org)

## Upcoming Special Event!

**ELDER'S MILLS' 10TH ANNIVERSARY TALENT SHOW CELEBRATION!**



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!**

**WHEN? FRIDAY, APRIL 15 @ 11:00-12:00**

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF ELDERS MILLS**

**PLEASE JOIN US TO SEE SOME OF OUR OF TALENTED STUDENTS PERFORM!**

## 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



## 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.





# l'école Elder's Mills



# avril



dimanche	lundi	mardi	mercredi	jeudi	vendredi	samedi
					1	2
3	4	5 <b>Lice Check</b> (Please notify the school if you do not want your child to be checked by April 4)	6 <b>Safety Drill Practice:</b> Hold & Secure	7 <b>Safety Drill Practice:</b> Lockdown	8	9
10	11 <b>Read-a-thon</b> benefitting Sick Kids begins and runs to April 22	12	13	14 <b>School Council Meeting</b> @ 7:00 p.m.	15 <b>10th Anniversary Talent Show</b> 11:00-12:00	16
17	18	19	20	21 <b>Parent Evening:</b> Revised Health Education Curriculum 7:00-8:00 p.m.	22 <b>Wear Green Day Earth Day</b>  <b>Last day of Read-a-thon</b>	23
24	25	26	27	28 <b>Grade 6 and 7 Career Day</b>	29	30



## Earth Day/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 Friday, 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.