



L'école Elder's Mills

La Voix des Aigles

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**Superintendent of Schools
CEC West:**
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Anna DeBartolo
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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 learning

décembre 2015-janvier 2016

Message From Our Trustee

Dear Elder's Mills Parents and Guardians,

It is that time of year when our schools brim with energy and excitement for the many diverse celebrations taking place across our region. I am always happy to join the festivities happening in our schools and appreciate the efforts of our students, staff and community members to bring the holiday season alive.

As we wind down 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and guardians for their support of our students and staff over the past few months. A school community is only as strong and welcoming as the people who make up that community. Our students, staff and community members have continued to demonstrate respect, character and commitment in their work and interactions over the last few months. As a trustee, I consider myself very fortunate to work with such supportive community and staff members.

On behalf of all of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday season.

All the best for 2016!

Anna DeBartolo, Trustee

School Council News...

On behalf of our Community Out-like to thank all families and made donations to our Holiday This York Region charity has supports at-risk and homeless generosity and goodwill will in need.



reach Committee, we would friends of Elder's Mills who 2015 Project for 360°kids. been around for 25 years and youth in the region. Your touch the heart of someone

Some Dates to Remember:

Dec. 18: Assembly @11:00. Parents welcome.

Dec. 21 to Jan. 1: Winter Break

Jan. 4: School Resumes



Jan. 14: New Gr. 1 Parent Information Night @ 7:00 pm.

Jan 15: PA Day, No School for Students & New Grade 1 French Immersion Registration Begins

Jan 21: School Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

School Updates: Effective January 4, 2016

Communication With Parents: Starting in January, we will no longer be sending out hard copies of our monthly newsletter. Our monthly newsletter will be posted on our website and e-mailed to families on our school list. Should you require a hard copy, please call the office to let us know.

Student Morning Entry: Starting January 4, all students will enter as they arrive between 8:30-8:45 through the front doors of the school only. This measure is being put into place to reduce the time students spend walking to side and rear doors in the morning. All other doors to the school will now be locked at all times.



SchOLastic Book Fair

Thank you to all families who supported our Book Fair! It was a great success! We were able to reach just over \$4000 in sales, which qualified us for the maximum reward bonus. We received almost \$2400 back so that we could purchase books for the library and classrooms. And we have already ordered and/or placed books in the classrooms and library from the Book Fair! Congratulations to all the students who won a book or poster from each homeroom! Thank you to all our parent and staff volunteers who made the Book Fair run smoothly. And congratulations to Brooke in Mme Ing's class who won the Family Draw Prize!



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

1. **Chess Club** has started for all students from grade 2 to 7!
2. The **Battle of the Books** is a reading program for all students in grade 4 to 6 who have signed up.
3. The **Choir** has been singing some winter and holiday songs with students from grade 1 to 6.



Being on Time Counts!

Being on time for school is an important life skill. School starts at 8:45 a.m.

Here are some quick tips to get you started:

- Lay out your outfit the night before so you don't have to rush around in the morning trying to find clean socks.
- Get your backpack organized and your lunch packed the night before, as well, so you do not have too many things to do in the morning before leaving for school.
- Set an alarm each morning to help encourage you to get out of bed on time.



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

On December 16 at 11:00, our grade 1-3 students will take part in an interactive storytelling presentation focusing on celebrating the holiday traditions celebrated in our community and around the world. Students will learn about Ramadan, Eid, Diwali, Winter Solstice, Hanukkah, Advent, Christmas, Kwanzaa and the Lunar New Year. Parents are welcome!



Grade 1 French Immersion Information Night

Our new Grade 1 Parent Information Night will take place on January 14 at 7 p.m. here at Elder's Mills Public School and registrations will take place from January 15-February 12, 2016.

Card Collections, i-Pods, MP3 Players, Toys, Walkmans, and Other Valuables:

We strongly discourage students from bringing these items to school as they can get broken, misplaced or stolen. They also become the cause of arguments. Should students bring these items to school, they must remain in their backpack and not be taken out in class or put in their desks. We are not banning these items at this time, but students need to understand that if they bring them to school, they do so at their own risk.

Safe Play Guidelines: In order to prevent physical injury and because of our concern for student safety, students are expected to avoid activities that involve aggressive play and physical contact. Recess activities that are not acceptable include wrestling, piggy-backing, football, lacrosse, tripping, baseball, pushing, shoving, body-checking, poking, punching, play fighting and other forms of rough play in busses, stairwells, hallways and playgrounds. During recess breaks, students are able to play organized games such as basketball, soccer and foot hockey as well as activities such as skipping and tag. We ask parents to regularly review these expectations with their son/daughter to ensure that our school is a safe place for everyone. Thank you in advance for your support!

*Happy Holidays & Happy New Year!
From All of Us at Elder's Mills!*