



**Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye**  
*Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity*  
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<b>Superintendent</b> Otilia Olteanu	<b>Trustee</b> Nadeem Mahmood	<b>Principal</b> Eugenia Korinis	<b>Vice-Principal</b> Omari White	<b>Office Admin Team</b> Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
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Dear Families and Students,

We have had a great start to the school year! We have a lot to look forward to this month and this year!

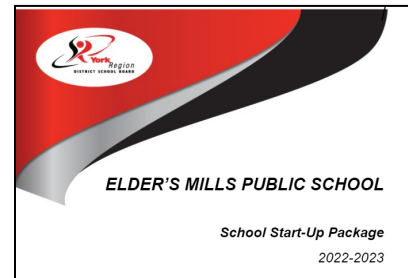
Please take the time to read through the information shared here about upcoming events, updates and reminders.

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### **School Start up Package:**

All families are asked to review the School Start-up Package **attached** to this email.

This start-up package includes important information about our school, and we encourage you to review it. Families will also receive the [Guide to the School Year](#) booklet which includes important Board information.



Each year we ask families to complete some **important forms** to indicate they have reviewed and understand school and Board policies, and to indicate permissions. You will receive an email from the school board with a link to these forms in the coming days. Please take the time to review and complete the forms. If you prefer to receive and complete a paper copy, please let us know.

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### **Covid-19 Measures in Schools: Masks and Screening**

As outlined by the Ministry of Education, students, staff members and school visitors are not required to wear masks in school. Individuals who feel more comfortable or who are advised to wear a mask can continue to wear a mask and will be supported in doing so.

Students/attendees, staff and visitors should continue to complete the provincial [COVID-19 school and child care screening tool](#) every day before attending school or child care settings. Symptomatic

individuals and their household members should follow the instructions on the screening tool for isolation requirements; parents should not send children to school or child care if they show any symptoms of COVID-19.

Every school has a designated isolation room. Parents or caregivers must pick up their child as soon as possible if they are notified by the school that their child has become symptomatic at school.

For more information, please refer to YRDSB Webpages [Covid-19 Health and Safety](#) linked here.



### School Council

School councils play an important role in building school, family and community partnerships by providing input into relevant Board and school-level decisions and by encouraging the involvement of all members of the school community in support of student learning, achievement and well-being. **Our first School Council meeting for this year will be held on Thursday, September 22nd, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Elder's Mills P.S.** A link will also be shared should families choose to join us virtually. Details to follow.

If you are interested in holding a leadership position on our School Council or nominating someone, please complete the School Council Nomination Form linked in the School Start Up Package attached. You may also contact the office to request a form. **Please complete and submit this form by September 21st.** At our meeting on September 22nd, we will be reviewing the nominations and forming the Council for this year. All parents of EMPS students are invited to attend.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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### Attendance and Safe Arrival:

Parents may inform the school office of their child's absence in three different ways:

1. Absences can be entered into **Edsby** which is available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time;
2. Send an email to the school attendance email address at: [elders.mills.ps.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:elders.mills.ps.attendance@yrdsb.ca) or;
3. Parents may choose to contact the school office at 905-893-1631 between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on the day of absence.



We invite all parents/guardians to create an EDSBY account, as this tool is also used as a form of communication from school and home. If you do not have an EDSBY account, please click on the link below to create your account. [Tip Sheet: Creating an Edsby Account](#)

**A note about parent/guardian contact information:**

There are times when the office will need to contact you and we ask that you ensure your contact information is up-to-date and accurate. We need to know who to phone should your child need to be picked up from school (e.g. presenting with Covid symptoms). If the parent/guardian and other contacts are away (e.g. vacation) and your child is being cared for by other family members/caregivers, the office needs to have this information. Please send an email to [elders.mill.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:elders.mill.ps@yrdsb.ca) should you need a temporary change to the school contacts.

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**Drop off and pick up Reminders:**

- **Do not park in the Kiss'n Ride**
- Help us maintain the flow of traffic through the loop:
  - **pull as far up into the loop as possible**
  - ensure your children exit and enter your vehicle from the passenger side;
  - do not leave your vehicle unattended;
  - when pulling in to the school parking, leave room for vehicles to make the right turn out of the loop;
  - do not block the exit lane;
  - If you prefer to walk your children to and from the drop-off area, please park on the street, being mindful of traffic and road signs.



Parents/Guardians are reminded not to congregate in the Kiss'n Ride area or at the back of the building. Please leave school property once you have dropped off your child.

A reminder that if you drive up after the 8:45 bell, you will need to escort your child to the front door for entry. Students arriving after 8:45 a.m. are considered late and will need to let the office know of their arrival.

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**School Bus Transportation**

The first few days of bus routes can be challenging. With new routes, new drivers and new riders, bus pick-up and arrival times can be inconsistent. Please refer to [schoolbuscity.com](http://schoolbuscity.com) for information on pick up and drop off times as well as any late bus notifications. Should there be instances where buses are extremely delayed or canceled, the school office will send an email to families of students on the affected bus route. Please email the school if you have any questions.





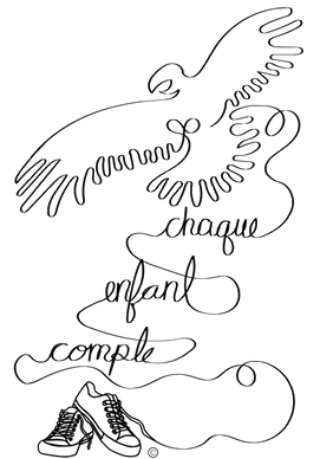
### Terry Fox School Run @ Elder's Mills PS!

We are excited to announce that our school will be proudly taking part in the 2022 Terry Fox School Run, scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, September 28th, 2022**. We hope that we can continue to show the great strength and resiliency of our school community through Terry's message of hope and strength. Our Terry Fox Run organizing team will be sharing more information through your child's teacher. Please join us to support cancer research while building incredible school spirit for all of our students. Thank you in advance for your support!

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### Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt Day is an annual Canada-wide event that began in 2013 to educate people and promote awareness in Canada about the residential school system and the impact it has had on Indigenous communities for over a century—an impact that continues today. All Canadians are encouraged to wear an orange shirt on September 30 to commemorate the history and legacy of residential schools and to recognize the resiliency and bravery of residential school survivors. **At EMPS, we invite all staff and students to wear an orange shirt on Friday, September 30th, 2022.**



### Use of Non-Board Electronic Devices (Mobile phones, laptops, tablets...) at Elder's Mills:

- Students in our grades 5 - 8 classes may bring personal electronic devices such as a tablet or a laptop into the classroom for instructional purposes only.
- Personal computers and tablets are used when instructed by and under the supervision of the teacher - no personal gaming etc...
- **Mobile phones are discouraged and are not allowed to be used during the instructional day.**
- Cell phones and other personal communication devices **must be turned off and kept out of sight during the instructional day (including recess and lunch)**. Should students need to phone home, they may come to the office to use the phone.
- **At no time may electronic devices be used in washrooms or changerooms.**
- Please review [YRDSB's Information Technology Acceptable Use Agreement linked here](#).
- This information will be repeated in the forms requiring parent and student signatures found in the School Start-Up Package that will be sent home next week.

Students and parents/guardians must remember to sign and return the Appropriate Use of Technology Agreement in the School Start Up package prior to being granted access to school or Board technology, hardware or network.

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### **Water bottles:**

We have had a high volume of students coming to the office for a single-use paper/plastic cup.

Families are asked to remind their children to bring a reusable water bottle to school. Please ensure the water bottle is shatterproof and clearly labeled with your child's name. Drinking from water fountains is permitted and students may fill their water bottles at the fountains or at our school water bottle filling station located on the first floor. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.



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### **Consultation Process - Student Leadership and Student Voice**



The York Region District School Board regularly engages in reviewing its policies. Currently, the Board of Trustees has identified a need to review Policy #672 Student Leadership and Voice and Policy #635 Student Dress Code. As part of the review process The YRDSB consults extensively with students, staff and community members.

We encourage you to review this [slidedeck](#) to build some context around Student leadership in our Board and fill out the surveys to provide your feedback. You will find the surveys on our [Board's Policy review page](#) along with an explanation of policy review. Scroll down the page and click on to find the links to the surveys.

We thank you for your participation and your voice in ensuring our policies are reflective of our community of learners. Participation in the survey is completely voluntary, anonymous, and confidential. Your input will be considered and used to help inform revisions to the policies.

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### **Indigenous Languages and International Languages:**

[Information and link to ILIL webpages here](#) - see below for flyer





## Indigenous Languages and International Languages - Elementary

Dear Students and Families,

We welcome everyone to the 2022-2023 Indigenous Languages and International Languages (ILIL) program year and thank you for your continued support and patience.

We are also excited to welcome our students and families back to in-person instruction onsite for the 2022-2023 elementary program year. While we will be returning to the same ILIL school locations pre-pandemic, there may be some changes to the locations in which specific languages are offered.

### **\*NEW\*** Elementary Online/Remote Options:

To better serve our language learning community, we have added online /remote learning options on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Online learning does not require students and teachers to be face-to-face at a school site. Classes occur online using a synchronous and asynchronous model, with check-in opportunities with the teacher. Families will be contacted with updates as necessary.

All program updates will be made on our [Board ILIL program homepage](#).

Did you know research shows that speaking more than one language may:

- Deepen cultural awareness
- Enhance communication with people from diverse backgrounds
- Improve memory and concentration
- Enhance decision-making and multi-tasking skills
- Open future employment opportunities

International Languages Elementary Program, Resource Guide, Ontario Ministry of Education (2012)

### **Elementary Program Update and Registration**

The first week of online classes will begin Friday, September 30, 2022. Please refer to our [ILIL Elementary Program](#) webpage for the most up-to-date information.

- Online registration is open and available to YRDSB and NON-YRDSB students:
  - Login here if you have an [existing Edsby account](#)
  - Or, to [create a new Edsby account](#)

NOTE: Use of a laptop or desktop is highly recommended. Edsby cannot support online registration from any mobile or tablet device.
- Program Fee
  - In recognition of the continued hardships faced during the pandemic, the consumable/resource fee for the 2022-2023 will remain at \$10.00. This is due at the time of registration to be paid online via Edsby
  - International fee-paying visa students are required to pay an additional \$225 for registration, for a total of \$235.

Best regards,  
The Indigenous Languages and International Languages Team

Phone Number: (905) 884-2046 ext. 242, Email: [ILIL@yrdsb.ca](mailto:ILIL@yrdsb.ca)

August 2022

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**On the Horizon....**

September 22 - School Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m.  
September 26 and 27 - Rosh Hashanah (Judaism)  
September 28- Terry Fox Event @ EMPS  
September 30 - Orange Shirt Day  
September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

SAVE THE DATE!

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT AND COMMUNITY EVENT - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6TH!

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Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

*Eugenia Korinis* and *Omari White*  
Principal Vice-Principal