



Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye
Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity
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Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair	Superintendent Otilia Olteanu	Principal Eugenia Korinis	Vice-Principal Ayesha Mondal	Office Admin Team Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
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IT'S HERE!!!!

The Winter Concert has arrived!

We are very excited to present this year's Winter Concert to be held on Thursday, December 14th.

This event will include performances by our many talented students across many classes and groups.

We are fundraising to support initiatives outlined in our Fundraising plan aligned with enhancements to our music programs, instruments, resources, opportunities and equipment as well as with our Graduation activities.



The Concert will be performed in two parts:

Part I: Grades 2 - 4

Intermission

Part II: Grades 5 - 8

Tickets are \$5.00 per person.

Details and tickets are available on [School Cash online](#).

We look forward to entertaining you and thank you for your continued support and partnership!



EMPS Food and Toy Drive for the Vaughan Food Bank!

Our bins are almost full! We have two weeks to get them full and overflowing. Please support me if you can. Bring in non-perishable food items and/or new unwrapped toys to school and place them in the bins. The campaign ends on December 14. Let's go Eagles!

Holiday Toy and Food Drive for the Vaughan Food Bank



Let's fill up our bins with NEW unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items and support communities in need! The campaign will run until December 14th. Thank you for your support!

Thank you to our School Council for coordinating this opportunity.

Weather and Recess:

All students are expected to go out for every recess, weather permitting. **Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors up to 15 minutes at morning recess and 40 minutes at lunch recess.** Please support conversations with your child at home about wearing their coats, hats, gloves etc... when they go outside

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for the weather. It is advisable for students to bring a change of clothes (extra pants and socks). A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. Students are asked to have a pair of indoor shoes at school so that they may change out of their outdoor shoes/boots prior to entering the classroom. Indoor shoes should be closed toe and closed heel and non-slip (no sandals/crocs/slip-on shoes). Label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants will help make recess an enjoyable time.



Please also remind them to check the lost and found bin for items they have removed and left on the field. Our lost and found bin is overflowing. These items will be collected and donated over the Winter Break.



Preparing for Severe Weather - Stuff to Know:

School Transportation Cancellations:

School transportation (buses and taxis) may be cancelled due to extreme cold or inclement weather. On these days, schools will remain open unless otherwise stated. If school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon. Any special or hot lunch days and field trips will also be cancelled.

Families should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school on extreme cold or inclement weather days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on those days. For safety reasons, please let the school know if your child will not be attending school that day.



School Closures

Emergency closures will be considered when conditions may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations or access to the school site (e.g., widespread, prolonged power failures or downed power lines).

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. However, it is important that families have alternate childcare arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and aftercare programs will not operate if schools are closed.

Communication to Families

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance when we may be considering closing school and Board offices. Transportation cancellations or school closures are communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services - www.schoolbuscity.com or 1-877-330-3001
- [Board](#) and school websites
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- Radio and TV media outlets

For more information on [severe weather days](http://www.yrdsb.ca), please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.



November 30, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

RE: French Immersion Accommodation Plan for Elder’s Mills PS and Lorna Jackson PS

The York Region District School Board (YRDSB) French Immersion accommodation model is offered in various configurations as outlined below. These program configurations allow the Board flexibility to address community needs and to continue to offer the French Immersion program to all who wish to enroll.

- Single Track - French Immersion in Grades 1 to 8, 2 to 8, 3 to 8 or 4 to 8
- Dual Track - English track Kindergarten to Grade 8 and French Immersion with either Grades 1 to 8, 2 to 8, 3 to 8 or 4 to 8
- Primary Dual Track (PDT) - English track Kindergarten to Grade 8 and French Immersion with either Grades 1, 1 to 2 or 1 to 3

In 2018 Lorna Jackson PS started a grade 1 Primary Dual Track (PDT) French Immersion program due to growth in French Immersion enrolment at Elder’s Mills PS. French Immersion enrolment growth has continued in the area and another PDT school is required.

Effective September 2024, Pierre Berton PS will offer grade 1 French Immersion in addition to Lorna Jackson PS that currently provides grade 1 French Immersion. Students who live in the Elder’s Mills Public School catchment area who wish to enroll in grade 1 French Immersion will attend either Lorna Jackson PS or Pierre Berton PS based on their home address. The map below outlines the new PDT French Immersion areas and student addresses can be confirmed using the [Board’s school locator](#) in early January 2024.

Grade 1 French Immersion students attending either Lorna Jackson PS or Pierre Berton PS in 2024-25 will remain at these schools for grade 2 French Immersion in 2025-26 and then complete their grade 3 to 8 French Immersion programming at Elder’s Mills PS.

School Year	Lorna Jackson PS or Pierre Berton PS (based on home address)	Elder’s Mills PS
2024-25	Grade 1	Grade 2-8
2025-26	Grade 1-2	Grade 3-8

The grade structure outlined in 2025-26 will remain in place unless future changes are required to support a change in enrolment trends.

Transportation

Bus stop times and routes will consider the movement of the French Immersion program. Information on bus stop times for all students will be available on schoolbuscity.com in August 2024.

Week 13- Friday, December 1, 2023

Before and After Care Programs

A before and after care program operates at Lorna Jackson PS, Pierre Berton PS and Elder's Mills PS. The providers are aware of the change for French Immersion programming. Please contact the provider directly should you wish to enroll or make changes to your before or after care for September 2024.

Board and school staff will be supporting students throughout this transition. If you have any questions, please contact your school principal.

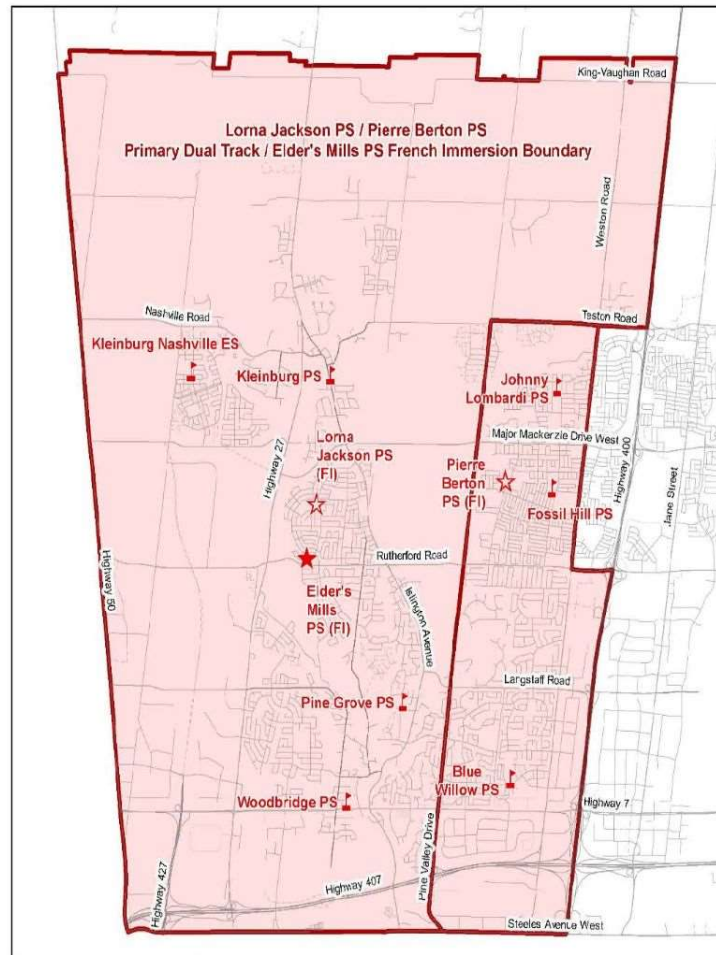
Sincerely,



Otilia Olteanu
Superintendent
Student Achievement and School Operations
Community Education Centre - West



Elder's Mills PS French Immersion Boundary and Lorna Jackson PS / Pierre Berton PS Primary Dual Track Program



Produced by Planning and Priority Development Services (P) Copyright Base Map Data from Regional Municipality of York 2023

- ★ French Immersion Elementary School
- ☆ Primary Dual Track Elementary School
- Elementary Feeder School
- ▭ Elementary French Immersion Boundary

Message from Our Trustee

December 2023

I hope everyone has had a good start to the school year and is looking forward to the winter break ahead.

As I have been visiting schools and attending events, I continue to be impressed by the professionalism and dedication of school staff, the commitment and support of families and the curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm of students. As a Board of Trustees, we continue our commitment to delivering a high-quality education, this also includes striving to create safe, caring, inclusive and respectful school environments where students feel valued and supported.

I want to thank everyone who attended the school council forum held in our area and helped to make the event such a success. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together school council members for an evening of shared learning and discussion. School councils play such an important role in our schools, and we are grateful for all that they do to support students, family engagement and schools.

While we are not yet at the midway point in the school year, many students and families are already looking to the school year ahead, visiting [secondary school open houses](#) and starting to think about course selections for next school year. All our secondary schools offer a variety of courses, programs and opportunities that let students gain skills and experience, explore their interests and begin preparing for the future. Those opportunities are now even easier to explore.

Students can [search from 16 different sectors](#) that interest them, including STEM, Arts, business, manufacturing and many more to discover how they can earn credits, gain experience, skills and certifications in those areas. Visit www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb to learn more.

We also offer a variety of [programs for Black students](#) through the Board's Centre for Black Student Excellence. These summer and school-year programs are designed to affirm students' identities and support student achievement and well-being. You can learn more about the programs and how to sign up for the centre's mailing list [on the website](#).

One of our roles as a Board of Trustees is to regularly review Board policies to ensure they are relevant, reflect our mission and values as an organization, and meet the needs of our students. An important part of that process is collecting feedback from the community. [Learn more on the Board website](#) about how you can share your input and see what policies are currently being reviewed.

I want to take this opportunity to thank families for their patience while we work to restore services following [network outages](#) as a result of a cyber incident, and to acknowledge the work of our staff who continue to deliver high quality public education and to restore services.

As we head into December, I also want to wish you a safe and enjoyable winter break. There are many significant dates for different faiths and cultures during this time of year, and to all those celebrating, I wish you a happy and joyous celebration. I hope everyone has an opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair,

Trustee, Vaughan Wards 2 and 3



We'd like to hear from you!

Please take a moment to complete the survey at this link. Ideas and input will be shared with the various school council committees: [School Council Family interest survey](#) If you'd like to join any of the committees please email us at our school council email: elders.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca

SAVE THE DATE!

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Monday, January 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteers! The School Council is already planning for **Winterfest!** Anyone interested in assisting with planning or volunteering please email us at elders.mills.ps@sc.YRDSB.ca.

LAST CALL! For these FUNDRAISERS!!

FundScrip - How it Works:

- Visit the site [Fundscrip](#)
- Buy gift cards from retailers available (give them as gifts or use for your own everyday needs)
- **Each purchase includes a donation to the school !**
- Gift cards will be delivered to the school prior to the Winter Break for distribution



Slime is Back!

- We had a great response on Meet the Teacher Night and raised \$200 for the school
- This fundraiser is back! See the flyer below
- <https://sillysquishslime.com/>

DEADLINE
EXTENDED

Slime Fundraiser!

Scented Holiday Slime \$20 each
Includes Charms and Sprinkles!



Red & White Candy Cane
Green Watermelon
Blue & White Blue-Lemonade
White Marshmallow
Pink Bubblegum

20% Donated to School!
Visit SillySquishSlime.com to order
by December 1st



To purchase your
Gift Certificates
please visit
Fundscrip.com

- Click the 'Support a Group' button
- Type 5LRTLQ as the group invitation code
- Enter your personal information to create an account
- Activate your account by clicking on the emailed link
- Select and purchase your desired items
 - The corresponding % will be donated to our school

Orders must be placed by Nov 30!

Money raised from fundraising efforts like the ones listed above and the lunch programs, for example, will be used to support enhancements in technology, music and library resources and other opportunities such as Stem/Robotics, Graduation, Guest speakers and presentations, field trips and more! We thank you for your support!

IN THE COMMUNITY

6 x

100% Free Math Tutoring for Ontario Students

Available for Grades 4-12 Connect with an Ontario Certified Teacher today at mathify.tvolearn.com

tvo learn mathify 9

Join the annual Ontario Kids' Fish Art Contest!
Students in grades 4-12, this is your moment!



Kids' Fish Art Contest

Deadline: December 29, 2023

Draw a Chinook salmon or brown bullhead fish

Show your skills and dive into fishy fun for a chance to win!

ontario.ca/fishArtContest



Bird watchers, unite! We are hosting a Christmas Bird Count walk on Sunday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. Join to learn about the many bird populations that live in Vaughan, hone in on your avian identification skills, help locate species and more! Info: <https://www.vaughan.ca/news/join-vaughans-christmas-bird-count-walk-december>

Join Vaughan's Christmas Bird Count walk this December!

vaughan.ca/environment



VAUGHAN



Integrated Elementary Arts@Baythorn!

Current Grade 4 or 5 students can APPLY for the Arts@Baythorn full-time school program 2024-2025 (For students going into Grade 5 or 6 in Sept 2024).



The **Arts@Baythorn** allows students to explore
Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music
Integrated into learning each and every day in a
Collaborative and Cooperative learning environment.

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/baythorn.ps/arts/Pages/default.aspx>

REMINDER Check the website for updated information.
Application Registrations opens: January 15, 2024 and closes January 29, 2024 (late applications not accepted)
Collaborative Workshops held: March 4, or 5, or 6, 2024 (these dates are firm)

Winter Vacation Plans?

With the Winter Break coming up, if you anticipate an extended absence from school for your child, please notify the office in writing (email elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca). Be sure to include the last day your child will be at school and your expected date of return.



On the Horizon....

December:

14 Last Day for Toy and Food Drive

14 - Winter Concert

23 - January 7 - Winter Break - School closed

January 8 2024 - Classes resume



Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Eugenia Korinis and *Ayesha Mondal*

Principal

Vice-Principal