



**Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye**  
*Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity*  
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<b>Trustee</b> Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair	<b>Superintendent</b> Otilia Olteanu	<b>Principal</b> Eugenia Korinis	<b>Vice-Principal</b> Ayesha Mondal	<b>Office Admin Team</b> Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
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**EMPS Winter Concert -**  
**Thursday, December 14, 2023**

EMPS students will be showcasing their talents to our community with daytime and evening performances from our musical groups, different classes and students. This event is a fundraiser to support enhancements to our music programs. We look forward to seeing you there!

*(poster design by Gr 8 student Aries/Manuela.)*

**JOIN US ON THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 14TH!**

**PERFORMANCE N° 1**  
**GRADES 2 - 4 CLASSES**  
 11:00AM - 12:30PM

**PERFORMANCE N° 2**  
**GRADES 5 - 8 CLASSES**  
 1:40PM - 3:10PM

**PERFORMANCE N° 3 (PART 1)**  
**GRADES 2 - 5 HOMEROOM CLASSES**  
 6:30PM - 7:15PM

**INTERMISSION**  
**SNACKS FOR SALE TO SUPPORT OUR GRAD TRIP!**  
 7:15PM - 7:30PM

**PERFORMANCE N° 3 (PART 2)**  
**GR.5 BUCKET DRUMMING, SOARING EAGLES  
 CONCERT BAND, BEGINNING CONCERT BAND,  
 ETC.**  
 7:30PM - 8:15PM

**EMPS Food and Toy Drive for the Vaughan Food Bank!**

Our bins are full! We have one week left to get them overflowing. Please support 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.

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**LOST AND FOUND:**

Our lost and found bin is overflowing. Lost items have been laid out on tables in the front hall. Items not collected by Friday, December 22 will be gathered and donated. Please remind your child to check the tables. If you have an opportunity to stop by, check in at the office and take a look. Families who plan to be at the Winter Concert will also have an opportunity to check for lost items.

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**NEWS for Intermediate and Secondary Students:**

**Students Can Now Explore Secondary School Opportunities by Sector**

Our secondary schools offer courses and programs that let you explore your interests, build skills and gain experience in areas that interest you. You can now [search from 16 different sectors](#) to learn more about:

- career pathways in the fields that interest you
- courses and programs you can take in secondary school that let you gain sector-specific skills, knowledge and experience
- how you can earn certifications, post-secondary credits and job experience while in high school

Find out what courses and programs are available in the fields that interest you at your school. Visit [www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb](http://www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb).

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**Updates and Information on the lunches offered at EMPS:**

**Just Catering for Kids:**

NEW Menu! Visit their [website](#) for information and to place your order. This opportunity is on Wednesdays. Orders are placed and paid directly to the vendor with 60% returned back to the school. A reminder that orders need to be placed each week.



**Subway Mondays and Pizza Tuesdays re-open for January to March:**

If you are interested in continuing participation in these lunch programs OR in joining, please go to [SchoolCashonline](#) to place your order for the January to March session. **Orders need to be placed by December 15th.** Please call the office if you have any questions.

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:elders.mills.ps@sc.YRDSB.ca).

**Thank you for your support!**

Gift cards and Slime will be distributed to families who purchased them next week. Merci! 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](https://mathify.tvolearn.com)

**tvolearn** mathify 9

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](https://vaughan.ca/environment)



VAUGHAN

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](https://ontario.ca/fishArtContest) 



## 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](mailto:elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca)). Be sure to include the last day your child will be at school and your expected date of return.



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### On the Horizon....



- 7 - 15 Hanukkah
- 8 Bodhi Day
- 14 Last Day for Toy and Food Drive
- 14 - Winter Concert
- 16 - 24 Las Posadas
- 21 - Pancha Ganapati
- 23 - January 7 - Winter Break - School closed
- 25 - Christmas
- 26 - January 1 - Kwanzaa

Winter Break:  
December 25 - January 5  
Classes resume January 8

Hanukkah (Judaism): *Hanukkah - The Festival of Lights (and Feast of Dedication), commemorates the victory of Judah the Maccabee, religious freedom, and the rededication of the Holy Temple in 165 BCE*

Bodhi / Rōhatsu (Awakening) Day (Buddhism): *Anniversary of the historical Buddha's awakening. Rōhatsu is Japanese and literally means 8th Day of the 12th Month.*

Pancha Ganapati (Hinduism): *Pancha Ganapati is a modern Hindu festival held over five days in honor of Lord Ganesha, Patron of Arts and Guardian of Culture.*

Christmas (Christianity): *Christmas celebrates the anniversary of the birth of Jesus.*

Las Posadas: *One of the most popular Christmas traditions in Mexico is Las Posadas (Spanish for lodging or accommodation), a nine day celebration/observance. The ritual has been a tradition in Mexico for over 400 years.*

Kwanzaa is celebrated by many North Americans of West African descent in recognition of their African heritage. The candles of a seven-branched candelabrum representing attributes such as unity, self-determination, responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith, are successively lit over the seven days of the festival.

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Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

To our families observing and celebrating Bodhi Day and Hanukkah, we wish you happy festivities!

*Eugenia Korinis* and *Ayesha Mondal*  
Principal Vice-Principal