



Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye
Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity
120 Napa Valley Avenue, Woodbridge, L4H 1L1
Phone: 905-893-1631; 647-795-7705
Email: elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca Twitter [@EldersMills](https://twitter.com/EldersMills)



Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair	Superintendent Otilia Olteanu	Principal Eugenia Korinis	Vice-Principal Omari White	Office Admin Team Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
--	---	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---

Message From Our Trustee **December 2022**

I am happy to serve as your trustee on the 2022-2026 Board of Trustees.

As a trustee, my role includes being an advocate for quality public education in York Region, and I want to assure you that I am committed to that work. Every one of our students deserves to be learning in an environment where they feel safe, valued and supported in learning and achieving success.

Part of our role as trustees includes making policy and budget decisions, and setting our priorities as an organization through a Multi-Year Strategic Plan. Our board will work hard to keep students at the centre of our decision making, and to build collaborative relationships with the families and communities we serve. The education of our students, your children, is a partnership and the relationships we have with families is an essential one.

Communicating with families and members of the public is also an important part of our role, and I look forward to connecting with members of the school community in the coming weeks and months. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I will be sharing information with you throughout the school year, and letting you know more about our work and priorities as a school board. You can also visit the board website at www.yrdsb.ca or follow on social media.

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

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair
Trustee, Vaughan Wards 2 and 3

YRDSB Student and Family Surveys

We will be inviting all students in Grades 4-12 and students in Grades K-3 to participate in the 2022-23 Every Student Counts Survey in the Spring of 2023. Surveys will be available online and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.



You and your child should have received a letter from the Board notifying them that the survey will be taking place.

The surveys will provide the Board and our schools with valuable information about the learning experiences of students and families this year that are used to inform Board and school planning and to support student achievement and well-being.

Students in Grades 4-12 will be given class time to complete the survey at schools. Students in Grades K-3 are encouraged to complete the survey at home with their family. Families who do not want their child(ren) to be sent an invitation to participate in the survey will be given a chance to opt their child out of receiving the survey in the new calendar year.

As our first partners in education, we value input from families and encourage parents/guardians to complete the survey. The information provided will be confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation.

Please contact Research Services at research.services@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or visit the [Board website](#) to learn more.

What's Happening @ EMPS!

EMPS Winter Concert - Thursday, December 15th, 2022

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. **Tickets for all three shows are sold out on School Cash online.** Due to capacity in the gym we needed to set a limit on ticket sales. If your child is performing in the Winter Concert and you do not have tickets, please let the office know.





EMPS MUSICIANS PRESENT

**2022 WINTER
MUSIC CONCERT**

DECEMBER 15, 2022

1ST PRESENTATION 11:00AM-12:20PM
2ND PRESENTATION 1:40PM-3:00PM

EMPS FAMILIES 6:30PM-8:30PM

Lunch fundraisers for the New Year!

Families who are interested in continuing or joining the different lunch options for January - March 2023 will have the opportunity to do so between Friday, December 9th to Friday, December 23rd. Please go to [School Cash online](#) for details.



We will be continuing with our Monday Subway Lunches, Tuesday Pizza Lunches. Please note that we have increased the size of the slices for the Pizza lunch. Each slice is 1/12 of a party size pizza. Thank you to families who reached out with their feedback.

The Just Catering food service will also continue to be an option for families with a portion of proceeds supporting the school.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Holiday Heroes Toy Drive - 2022

Elder's Mills P.S. is a proud supporter of the Holiday Heroes Campaign!!!

RUNS FROM NOVEMBER 14 TO DECEMBER 16, 2022.

NOW ACCEPTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS : NEW TOYS

NEW CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

AND NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE!

Let's Go Elder's Mills! We Can Do It!!!



School Council

Please join us for our School Council Meetings!

Our meetings are hosted in the library from 7:00 p.m. Child minding is available, and for families who cannot join us face-to-face, a virtual meet link is shared on the day of the event. Our meetings for the remainder of the year are on the following days: January 26, March 9, May 4

Family events in the community:



MW WINTER Bazaar

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022
1PM-8PM

© VELLORE VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER CAFETORIUM

CLOTHES, JEWELRY, HENNA, FOOD, NAILS & ENTERTAINMENT
PLEASE COME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

FREE PARKING
FREE ENTRY
FUN FESTIVITIES AND ACTIVITIES

FOR INFO & BOOTH RESERVATIONS CONTACT
HINA: (647-637-6260)

MUSLIM WOMEN OF VAUGHAN



Menorah Workshop ב"ח

CHABAD JEWISH CENTRE OF WOODBRIDGE PRESENTS

Chabad

MENORAH WORKSHOP
BUILD AND DECORATE YOUR OWN MENORAH!

FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH 11AM
AT THE HOME DEPOT, 55 CITYVIEW BLVD. WOODBRIDGE

CRAFT UNIQUE WOODEN MENORAH

FREE WORKER'S APRON!

ENJOY CHANUKAH REFRESHMENTS!

Admission: \$5 per child | Chabad Hebrew School students: FREE
ALL ARE WELCOME | REGISTER AT JEWISHWOODBRIDGE.CA/HOMEDEPOT



Presentation On

Digital World & Internet Safety

Monday, December 12th, 2022
5:30pm-7:30pm
Vellore Village Community Center, RM #3
All Are Welcome!

YORK REGIONAL POLICE

MUSLIM WOMEN OF VAUGHAN

Funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program

Canada



Holiday Concert

Dec 10 • 1 pm | Dec 15 • 7 pm

Markham Concert Band | Emily Carr H.S. Band

Bathurst Clark Resource Library | Pierre Berton Resource Library

After School and Evening Mental Health Supports in Light of the Protests in Iran 2022:



The protests in Iran are affecting the well-being of many YRDSB students, staff, families and communities. As a school board, we remain committed to learning and working from anti-racist, anti-oppressive, anti-colonial and trauma-informed frameworks. We are committed to ensuring that schools and workplaces remain safe, welcoming, equitable and inclusive places where students and staff feel safe, affirmed, respected and protected. Families and educators can support children and youth in understanding and coping with the impact of the protests in Iran. Most children and youth will cope well with the support and caring of their families, teachers, friends, and other caring adults, however some may require additional support.

YRDSB has collaborated with Family Services of York Region (FSYR) to offer three supportive mental health gatherings for Iranian parents/caregivers, students grades 6-8, and students grades 9-12.

The series: YRDSB in Collaboration with FSYR (Family Services of York Region): Mental Health Event for Families and Youth in Light of the Protests in Iran : An event to “Acknowledge - Bridge - and Connect” During Global Protests

The events are open to Iranian parents, caregivers, and families acknowledging that we all may have different experiences in relation to the protest in Iran. At the events, Iranian families will hear about common reactions to stress and trauma as well as potential ways to cope and support their mental health and their child using the ABCs (i.e., Acknowledge, Bridge, Connection) of Mental Health. Youth will hear about common reactions to stress and trauma as well as potential ways to cope and support their mental health using the ABCs of Mental Health. Each event will end with a brief panel discussion responding to pre-submitted participant questions.

After School Events (Support available in English and Farsi):

- **Elementary** (Grades 6-8): December 16, 2022 (Red Maple PS, 155 Red Maple Rd, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4P9) Gym A – from 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- **Parent /Caregiver Session** (for parents/caregivers of **elementary** students): (Red Maple PS, 155 Red Maple Rd, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4P9) Gym B - from 4:00-6:00 pm
- **Secondary** (Grades 9-12): December 19, 2022 (Alexander Mackenzie HS, 300 Major MacKenzie Dr W, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 3S3) 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- **Parent/Caregiver Session** (for parents/ caregivers of **secondary** students): December 19, 2022 (Alexander Mackenzie HS, 300 Major MacKenzie Dr W, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 3S3) from 6:00– 8:00 pm

Session information and registration for the parents/caregivers session and the student session is available on the [registration form](#). Registration closes on December 14, 2022. For more information about the after school mental health supports in light of the protests in Iran please contact:

Patricia Marra-Stapleton, Mental Health Lead, patricia.marra-stapleton@yrdsb.ca.
Dr. Sue Ball, Chief of Psychological Services, sue.ball@yrdsb.ca, or Heather Carter, Chief of Social

Work and Attendance Services, heather.carter@yrdsb.ca Fawzia Durrani, Principal, Inclusive School and Community Services, fawzia.durrani@yrdsb.ca

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE COMMUNITY



In collaboration with
York Region District School Board

SAAAC Autism Centre Presents

Caregiver Orientation: New Autism Diagnosis

To be delivered in Tamil and English

Join us to chat about:

- Next steps after diagnosis
- Types of funding available
- Services and programs available in the community
- SAAAC Cares Program
- YRDSB Autism Supports
- Cultural perspectives on children with disabilities
- Your experiences as a caregiver of a child with Autism

December 13th 2022 | 6:30-8:30pm

Markham District High School
89 Church St, Markham, ON L3P 2M3

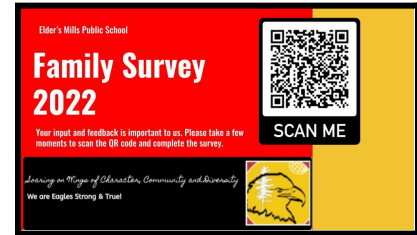
Register here on our [Google Form](#)

For questions or accommodation requests please
email: nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca

[Caregiver Orientation - Tamil and English - Register at this link](#)

EMPS wants to hear from families! If you have not already had the opportunity, please take a few minutes to complete this survey. Questions are optional and anonymous.

The survey may also be accessed at this link: [EMPS Family Survey 2022](#)



LOST & FOUND: We have a bin overflowing with lost items. Over the next week we will be asking students to walk by the tables in front of the library to retrieve lost items. Items left after December 23rd will be bagged and donated.

On the Horizon....

December
15 - Winter Concert
16 - Las Posadas
19 - First Day of Hanukkah

21- Pancha Ganapati
21 - December Solstice
22 - Staff vs. Student
Volleyball

23 - Last day of classes
25 - Christmas (Western)
26 - Kwanzaa
26 - Last Day of Hanukkah
January 9 - Classes resume

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

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

***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.*

**Source: YRDSB's Multifaith Calendar*



Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Eugenia Korinis
Principal

Omari White
Vice-Principal

