



Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye
Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity
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What's happening @ Elder's Mills!

Carnaval Week!

Carnaval has arrived at EMPS! Our Grade 8 classes have planned a series of Spirit Days and activities during the week of March 3rd, culminating in a Carnaval Activity Day on Friday March 7th. All students are invited to show their Eagles Caranaval Spirit by coming to school dressed in the theme of the day! Let's all be on the look-out for when Bonhomme comes to visit!



Carnaval Week Spirit Days:

Monday Portez les couleurs du bonhomme! Dress up in Bonhomme colours!
Tuesday Portez une écharpe et un chapeau! Wear a scarf and a hat!
Wednesday Portez une pulle mouche! Wear a cozy sweater!
Thursday Portez les couleurs de l'école! Wear school colours!
Friday Journee Pyjama! Pyjama Day!

Everyone is encouraged to incorporate the colour purple throughout the week for International Women's Day on March 8!

Student Vote Ontario @ EMPS



On Thursday, February 27, our Grade 5, 7, and 8 students took part in **Student Vote Ontario**, an educational simulation of the electoral process. Throughout the day, students assumed various roles, such as election officers, allowing them to experience firsthand how elections are conducted.

Participants filled out voter ID cards and cast their ballots in Room 217, making meaningful connections to real-world democratic processes. The results of **Student Vote Ontario** were revealed at the close of the official polls, providing students with a deeper understanding of civic engagement.

A big thank you to our teachers for facilitating this learning experience, which encouraged critical thinking and active participation in democracy.

Felicitations! Intermediate Girls win the Basketball Area Tournament!

Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Basketball Team! Through hard work, sweat and teamwork, the team won today's tournament! They are off to the Regionals next week! Thank you to the coaches, the athletes and the parents for their support!



Ramadan

Ramadan is a holy month of fasting and contemplation for Muslims.

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is referred to in the Qu'ran as a blessed month in which the teachings of the Qu'ran were revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). This year, the Holy month of Ramadan is expected to begin on the evening of Friday, February 28th.

During Ramadan, most Muslims fast during the hours of daylight and increase their focus on prayer and contemplation. At the end of each day the fast is traditionally ended with a prayer and a light meal called the Iftar.

Ramadan is considered a time for Muslims to recommit themselves to cultivating spiritual renewal within themselves and their communities, as well as practicing compassion and generosity for others.



Ramadan @ EMPS:

Elder's Mills is committed to supporting student needs during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

During this time, we usually experience an increase in the number of students who wish to access prayer space.

To provide us with an indication of student needs and to support communication with classroom teachers, **please fill out the form, [Ramadan 2025 - Prayer Space](#), if you wish for your child to be excused from class during prayers.**

As in previous years, space will be provided during snack and lunch for students observing the fast for Ramadan.

Merci.

Notes from the Office

Visitor entry to school:

Parents/guardians, caregivers, and volunteers are welcome at Elder's Mills PS.

Please be reminded of the school and Board safety protocols when you arrive; you are visitors to the school.

Visitors must enter the building only from the main entrance at the front of the school. This is expected at any time before, during and after school.

Upon arrival, if you need to enter the school building, come to the front entrance and ring the doorbell. A member of the office team will answer the call. They will inquire as to the nature of your visit and provide instructions regarding entry at that time (ie. come to the office, please wait on the bench, or drop lunch off at the lunch table).

Thank you for your attention and adherence to these protocols.

**All Visitors
Must Report
to Main Office**



Yearbook 2024 -2025

The 2024 - 2025 Yearbook is coming together. Mme Wong and a group of Grade 8 students are collaborating to build a book of 64-colour pages filled with milestones, moments and memories for the whole school! Each copy is \$30.00. Yearbook Sales are open now. Please go to [School Cash online](#) for details and to make a purchase. if you'd like to purchase a yearbook.



Yearbook Photos - Consent

Yearbooks chronicle the activities of the school and student body. They are produced for sale (hard copy or digital) to students and the school community. School yearbooks may be placed in the school library in hardcopy or electronic format.



Class photos, photos of your child's participation in school clubs, activities and events, work products by your child, and your child's achievements may be published in the yearbook along with their grade and full name.

Please complete and submit this form if you **DO NOT CONSENT** to your child's photo and/or name being published in the yearbook. Complete a separate form for each child. Submit by March 31, 2025.

[Student Personal Information Consent Form](#)

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.



Send them to school with changes of clothes (socks, hats, mitts) and indoor shoes. Thank you.

Playing in the snow is fun and encouraged. It is important that students play safely. Please remind your child that throwing and kicking snow is not permitted. Snowballs are for building snow sculptures and not for throwing. Please do not send your child to school with snow toys such as toboggans/sleds, snowball makers/ for example.

Lunch Assistant Needed

If you or anyone you know would like to be a PAID Lunch Assistant please contact the office. We are seeking people to supervise students while they are eating lunch and then playing outside at recess. The commitment is one hour per day. Please email the school at elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca if you are interested.



School Spirit Wear

The online store is open. Merchandise ordered will be delivered to the school every 3 weeks. All proceeds will fund school enhancements and programs. Shop online by following this link:

<https://stores.inksoft.com/eldersmills/shop/home>



Hot Lunches:

The Lunchbox program is live through: <https://www.schoolcashionline.com>. Orders can be placed by Sunday of each week. You may order one week at a time or several weeks all together; there are many options!



Upcoming Events to Watch For:

Coffee Drop In - March 18th

DATE CHANGE! Next school council meeting will be held April 10th.

If you wish to connect with School Council, please email elders.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca

In the YRDSB

Black History Gala

Aurora Black Community is hosting a Black History Gala on April 11, 2025. Attendees can expect an evening of culture, flavor and celebration! Visit the website for more information & to register. Administrators are asked to share with your community. Click the link below for information.

[Aurora Black Community Black History Gala](#)



In the Community



Inclusion Recreation Programs

Where every ability blooms!

This spring, discover our new inclusion programs focused on growing every individual's unique talents.

Register now!

The Social Lounge (20-30 years)

Designed for young adults with disabilities, this program enhances social skills and fosters relationships through creative projects, etiquette exercises, and group activities in a supportive environment.

Offered at: Vellore Village Community Centre



Flavour Fusion (18+ years)

Delivered in partnership with Community Living York South

A cooking program for individuals with special needs that enhances skills, promotes independence, and fosters social interaction through creating diverse dishes.

Offered at: Father Ermanno Bulfon Community Centre



Creative Connections (18+ years)

Delivered in partnership with Community Living York South

A dynamic program that blends artistic expression with lively social activities to boost mental and emotional well-being and bring more colour, movement and meaningful moments to your week.

Offered at: Father Ermanno Bulfon Community Centre



vaughan.ca/InclusiveRec



[Chinese Arts and Literary Festival - more information linked here](#)

Please share with your community. This festival aims to deepen participants' understanding of Chinese cultural heritage, promote appreciation and respect for cultural diversity, and enhance social harmony. Register by March 5, 2025.



Roots, Rauch and Resilience Group Workshop hosted by Jewish Family and Child Service:

Please share with your community. Join the JF&CS for a 4-week group workshop starting on March 4, 2025. For students in Grades 6-8. Dinner will be served.

[Link to Registration information here](#)



March is Persian Heritage Month

In 2021 the government of Ontario proclaimed March as Persian Heritage Month to recognize the contributions of over 200,000 Ontarians of Persian descent.

Since the 1970s to present day, the Persian community has played a significant role in shaping the province's economic, political, social, and cultural landscape. Rooted in one of the world's oldest civilizations, Persian culture has enriched Ontario's identity for generations. In the month of March, millions of Persians from around the world celebrate Nowruz, the beginning of their new year with a special significance of the relationship between nature and human life.



March is Hellenic Heritage Month

In 2019, the Government of Ontario proclaimed March as Hellenic Heritage Month.

There are over 270,000 Canadians of Hellenic or Greek descent living in Canada, with more than half residing in Ontario. Since the early nineteenth century, immigrants from Greece have made significant contributions to Ontario's culture, economy, and various fields such as education, law, medicine, science, and politics. Greece's vast history, including its structures for democratic governance, philosophy, and scientific methodologies, have influenced many present-day practices and structures in Canada. Greek Independence Day, celebrated on March 25, marks Greece's liberation from the Ottoman Empire in 1821.



Bangladeshi Heritage Month

In 2016, the Government of Ontario proclaimed March as Bangladeshi Heritage Month.

Ontario is home to over 50,000 people of Bengali heritage who have made significant contributions to the province's scientific, cultural, athletic, and political development. Every year on March 26th, Bangladeshis worldwide celebrate Independence Day, commemorating their nation's independence in 1971 with music, parades, and various gatherings.

**March is
Bangladeshi
Heritage
Month**



On the Horizon....

March

Character Trait: Perseverance

Persian Heritage Month

Hellenic Heritage Month

Bangladeshi Heritage Month

1 - 30 Ramadan

3 Carnival Week @ EMPS begins

6 YR Skills Challenge

7 Carnival Activity Day

8 International Women's Day

10 - 14 March Break

14 Holi

14 Purim

19 Eco Fair @ EMPS

21 Earth Hour @ EMPS

31 Eid-ul-Fitr



*During this time of reverence and renewal, we extend
our good wishes to students, families, staff and
members of the Muslim communities who will be
observing Ramadan.*