



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 Omari White	Office Admin Team Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
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IMPORTANT REMINDER - EARLY DISMISSAL APRIL 8TH

Dear families,

On Monday, April 8, 2024, a full solar eclipse will occur, which will block the sun's light in some areas.



In York Region, we will experience effects of the eclipse between roughly 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., which coincides with the scheduled dismissal times for our schools. We have heard concerns regarding the potential for students being outside and inadvertently looking at the sun, which may cause serious health problems, such as loss of eyesight. We have also heard concerns of traffic and students walking home during peak darkness.

Out of concern for student safety, on April 8, 2024, all students in elementary and secondary schools will be dismissed early. **Your school will confirm and communicate the actual dismissal time.** Student after school activities will also be cancelled for that afternoon.

ELDER'S MILLS STUDENTS WILL BE DISMISSED AT 12:15

Transportation services such as busing and taxis will be adjusted for the early dismissal. The schedule for student transportation in the morning of April 8 will remain the same. Transportation in the afternoon will be modified to align with the early dismissal time and will be communicated to families.

As you may have seen, some Ontario school boards moved a preexisting April PA Day to coincide with the eclipse on April 8. This is not possible for our board due to contractual obligations, prior commitments and because there is no preexisting April PA Day.

We are working with child care providers to determine their plans for the day. If you have questions about child care, please contact your child's child care provider directly.

The [Government of Canada website](#) has additional information related to solar eclipses that you may review.

Please know that this decision was made with student safety at its centre. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school.

YRDSB

What's Happening @ EMPS!

BIG BAGS OF POPCORN!

The Big Bags of Popcorn Fundraiser starts April 5 - April 21.

New to our school this year, "the Big Bags of Popcorn" fundraiser event!

Get four Family Size Bags for only \$20.00.

Each bag is 125 grams and the flavours are:

- *butter and salt
- *white cheddar
- *chipotle cheddar
- *dill pickle

Locally grown! Locally popped! Peanut and Nut free! Gluten Free!

Individual bags cannot be sold. You must purchase all four bags.

All payments and orders will be placed on [School Cash online](#).

Many prizes for our top selling students.

Good luck and thank you for your participation.

FROM FARMER'S CANADA TO TABLE

Ready For Some Fundraising Fun?

Get 4 big family size bags for only \$20.00 including tax.

- ✓ Locally grown!
- ✓ Locally popped!
- ✓ Peanut & Nut free!
- ✓ Gluten Free!

Prizes for the top five sellers!

ELDER'S MILLS PUBLIC SCHOOL
Starts Friday, April 5

PEANUT FREE
NUTS REACTION

GLUTEN FREE
NONE GLUTEN

Due 26 April

YEAR BOOK COVER CONTEST!!!

Cover or back must have:
The year (2023-2024)
The school characteristics
The school quotes
Must be school appropriate



Cover and back must be done
digitally or on a size 8.5 x 11 paper.
When done give them to your
teacher or send them to Miss. Wong.
michelle.wong@gapps.yrdsb.ca

GOOD LUCK!



Meetings:

Our next School Council meeting is Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. If you are unable to join a meeting and would like to know the topics discussed, the meeting presentations are posted on the [School Council pages of the Elder's Mills website.](#)

Food Bank Cake Mix



Join our initiative to sweeten someone's day! **Donate cake mix** to support the food bank.

Spread joy with a simple gesture - **contribute cake mix**

Help us bake smiles! **Your cake mix donation** will make a difference in someone's life.



USED BOOK DRIVE

School Council is collecting used books, board games, and puzzles.

Books, games, and puzzles will be sold at upcoming school events to raise funds for the school!

Please ensure books are appropriate and games and puzzles are complete!

Books, games, and puzzles can be sent to the school with your child immediately!
Reusable bags also appreciated!

Thank you for your support!

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

Class Placements for 2024 - 2025:

In the upcoming weeks, homeroom teachers, support staff and administration will be working to develop balanced classes for the next school year that strive to best meet a number of criteria. In this process we rely on the professional judgment of the teachers and staff who have worked with your child.

We appreciate that parents/guardians may wish to share information about their child for staff to consider during the class placement process. If you wish to do so, please complete and submit the Google Form shared below by Friday, April 26, 2024. If you have more than one child at the school, please submit a separate form for each child.

Requests for specific teachers will not be considered.

As we make placement decisions, your input is taken into consideration; however, due to the variety and number of factors which inform class placement decisions, we cannot make any guarantees regarding placements.

Google Form: [Class Placement 2024 - 2025](#)

Thank you for your support.

Yearbook on sale now!

We have opened up [School Cash online](#) for families who wish to purchase a yearbook. The cost per yearbook is \$30.00. Delivery is expected mid-June. Place your order by April 30th, 2024.

Caring & Safe Schools @ EMPS: Technology Use

We recognize that learning can be enhanced by technology and we have created opportunities in our classrooms to leverage digital tools to enhance teaching, learning and communication. Discussions about the impact of digital footprints and how a positive attitude toward using technology supports collaboration, learning and productivity are ongoing in our classrooms.



At Elder's Mills, personal mobile devices/laptops are permitted at school for our grades 5 - 8 classes. We are reaching out to our families for support regarding the appropriate use of technology both on and off-school property. Please continue to engage in

Week 27 - Thursday, March 28, 2024

conversations with your children regarding respectful and appropriate use of this tool and the privilege and responsibilities that come with it.

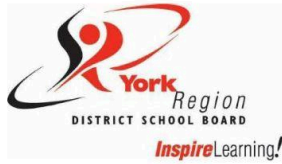
To support these conversations, we are highlighting some of the school's and Board's expectations and understandings regarding technology use. Some of these continue to be a challenge for our students.

When using technology, students are accountable for:

- Following the Caring and Safe Schools Policy and the school code of conduct.
- Treating technology with respect.
- Being respectful when writing messages and sharing ideas while using technology.
- Respecting others' privacy and personal information, including passwords.
- Keeping personal information private (e.g. not publishing photos, names, addresses or phone numbers on the internet).
- Using technology responsibly for educational purposes as assigned by a teacher.
 - Cell phones and other personal communication devices must be turned off and kept out of sight during all instructional periods, except with the clear permission of the principal or the classroom teacher.
- Reporting inappropriate or uncomfortable situations involving technology to a staff member.
- Camera and/or video functions on mobile devices are not permitted for use on school property without clear permission from the principal or teacher. Infractions will be dealt with as student discipline, under the Caring and Safe Schools Policy and its related procedures.
- At no time may electronic devices be used in washrooms or changerooms.
- Students are responsible for the care and security of their personal devices. The school is not responsible for any damage, loss or theft.

Families are invited to review YRDSB's [guidelines for technology use](#) by referring to the Guide to the School Year and the School Start-Up package shared in September.

We thank you for your understanding and your ongoing support as we continue to reinforce for and instill in our children their responsibilities to themselves, their peers, their families and their school community in contributing to caring and safe environments for all.



Keep the Door Open: Understand Your Child's Inner World 敞開孩子的心房/敞開孩子的心房

This session in Mandarin and Cantonese will share tips on ways that lead your child to open their inner world and take care of their emotional wellbeing under the influence of both traditional Chinese culture and Western culture.

本次研讨会将探讨传统华裔文化和西方文化的影响下如何有效地关爱和照顾孩子的心理健康。

這次的講座將探討傳統華裔文化和西方文化的影響下如何有效地關懷和照顧孩子的心理健康。

To register for a Mandarin session:

[点击这里报名普通话讲座](#) or scan QR code



To register for a Cantonese session:

[點擊這裡報名粵語講座](#) or scan the QR code



Parents, Guardians, Caregiver and Students

Join us to learn and share with your community how the families are supported!

Date: **Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024**

Time: **6:00pm-7:00pm (Mandarin 普通话)**

7:00pm-8:00pm (Cantonese 粵語)

Location: **Virtually**

Presenters:

Hannah Xu (MPH)

Hong Fook Mental Health Association
Youth Program Worker

Charmaine Tong (M.S.W., R.S.W.)

York Region District School Board
Community Care Social Worker (Chinese Heritage Community)

For more information, please contact:

Community Care Social Worker (Chinese Heritage)

Charmaine Tong

charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca

This free session is brought to you in partnership with

On the Horizon....

April

April is Sikh Heritage Month

Character Trait: Respect

8 Solar Eclipse - school dismissed at 12:15

10 Eid ul Fitr

14 Vaisakhi

17 Grades 4 - 6 Richmond Hill Performing Arts Centre

17 Grades 2 and 7 Dental Screening

17 Basketball Area Tournament - Jr. Boys

18 Basketball Area Tournament - Jr. Girls

18 Grade 8 Toronto Symphony

20 Ridvan

23 First Day of Passover

10 'Īd al-Fiṭr (Islam)

Literally the 'Festival of Breaking the Fast,' 'Īd al-Fiṭr is one of the most important Islamic celebrations . At 'Īd al-Fiṭr people dress in their finest clothes, adorn their homes with lights and decorations, give treats to children, and enjoy visits with friends and family. (Observance begins at sunset of the previous day, but special worship and prayers primarily begin April 10.)

14 Vaisakhi (Sikhism)

Vaisakhi is important for Sikhs because on this day in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth Guru, removed the clerical system from Sikhism. Thus he reaffirmed the direct connection between Sikhs and the Divine. Guru Gobind Singh Ji also created the Khalsa Panth, the Fellowship of the Pure. Khalsa brothers are given the name Singh (lion), and sisters are named Kaur (lioness or princess).

We wish our students and our families a very happy weekend!

Eugenia Korinis

Principal

Ayesha Mondal

Vice-Principal