



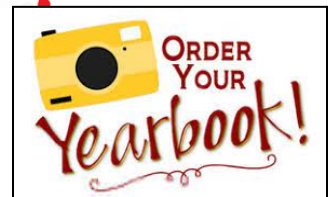
Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye
Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity
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Phone: 905-893-1631; 647-795-7705
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Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair	Superintendent Otilia Olteanu	Principal Eugenia Korinis	Vice-Principal Omari White	Office Admin Team Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
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What's Happening @ EMPS!

Yearbook sales END SUNDAY, APRIL 23rd! Our campaign for yearbook sales is coming to a close. If you would like a Yearbook and have not yet had a chance to place your order, please go to [School Cash online](#). This year's book will have 64 full- colour pages and will include class pages, graduation photos and pages of memories from this past school year. The cost per yearbook is \$28.00. Delivery is expected mid-June. **Place your order by April 23rd, 2023.**



Steelpan Music Workshop @ EMPS!

We are excited to welcome Joy Lapps to EMPS to teach students about the history of the Steelpan on Thursday, April 20. Joy empowers educators to creatively engage students with the steelpan and meet curriculum goals through alternate, inclusive and anti-oppressive pathways. Additionally, we are excited to announce that we will have a class set of steel pans available to enhance our music program for the remaining month of April.



Big Box of Cards Fundraiser!

The Big Box of Cards is a set of 35 All Birthday cards for the low price of \$35.00 per box. Each family would have received a box on Tuesday, April 4th. In the bag with the box was a sheet of instructions. Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about this campaign:



Frequently Asked Questions:

- **What do I do if I don't want to participate?**
 - Return the box with all the cards, in its original condition, to the school office
- **What do I do with the order form that came with the box?**
 - This is for your reference only. Keep track of the boxes you sell so that when you receive delivery of your orders you will know who purchased from you
- **I've sold the box that was sent home, how do I get more to sell?**
 - Use the box that was sent home as the 'sample' to show your family and friends
 - Once sales are finished, place your order on School Cash online and pay for the number of boxes sold
 - Boxes will be sent home at the end of April/beginning of May so that you can fulfill your orders
 - For example: If you sell 10 boxes, you will make a payment on School Cash online for \$350.00; we will send home 9 boxes with your child. You will use the one that was sent home as part of your order.

Don't forget our amazing prizes!! For every two boxes of cards your family sells, your child's name will be placed in a draw to win one of four \$25 gift cards at local retailers like Cineplex, Toys R Us, Indigo, Walmart and Amazon. There is also the possibility to award a Samsung 8" Tablet 'A' to the top seller if the school reaches sales of 400 boxes or more!



Where do the funds go?

Some of the program enhancements we have been able to provide for our students and our school through this year's fundraisers and in response to community input (EMPS Community Check in Survey open from Nov 2022 - Jan 2023) include: new instruments for the band, subsidizing costs of field trips, enhancing our collection of library books, adding books to our classroom libraries, equipment for gym and extracurricular activities, classroom games, guest speakers/presentations, STEM activities such as MakerSpace, Robotics and Coding. Our fundraising efforts also provide us the opportunity to allocate funds to modernize our library space (coming soon!)





What else is happening at EMPS?

Earth Week April 17th - 21!

Our EcoTeam will be leading us in a variety of activities and learning next week. See the schedule of events shared below. We will celebrate our learning in a school-wide assembly on Monday, April 24th. All students are invited to wear blue and/or green on this day. Way to go Eco@EMPS!



Eco Week/Semaine Éco: April 17 - 20

Monday/Lundi 17 avril (jour 5)	Tuesday/Mardi 18 avril (jour 1)	Wednesday/Mercredi 19 avril (jour 2)	Thursday/Jedi 20 avril (jour 3)
<p>Bondar Challenge Students will learn about the art of photography to discover new perspectives of nature through a camera lens.</p>  <p>Suggested teacher action: Teacher takes students outside so students can take pictures and discover other ways of looking at nature.</p>	<p>Sit spot and mental health benefits A Sit Spot cultivates a connection between you and nature, improves observation skills, and well-being by visiting one specific place in nature on a regular basis.</p>  <p>Suggested teacher action: Teacher brings students outside for some quiet reading and writing. Teacher recommends students to bring something to sit on outside.</p>	<p>Waste Free Lunch Have a waste-free lunch to reduce environmental impacts of packaging by using drink containers, washable cutlery, and cloth napkins instead of prepackaged foods, juice boxes and pouches, and disposable utensils.</p>  <p>Suggested teacher action: Encourage students to bring their lunch in reusable containers and to use reusable water bottles.</p>	<p>Community Clean-up Every year in April, in honor of Earth Day, residents in Vaughan come together to take part in the City of Vaughan's 20-Minute Makeover community litter cleanup.</p>  <p>Map and materials will be distributed next week! Rain date: April 24, 2023</p> <p>Suggested teacher action: Remind students to wear appropriate clothing to go outside. Remind students to wear gloves at all times. Remind students to not pick up broken glass, syringes and any other litter they do not feel comfortable picking up.</p>

Eco Assembly: April 24, 2023. Wear blue or green.

Spirit Wear

Students, Families & Friends have an opportunity to soar with their fellow Eagles!!! Spirit Wear such as **hoodies, t-shirts, sweatpants and caps** will all be available to order for all. Create and share memories with purchases **available from now until June 1**. Deliveries will be made to Elder's Mills every 2 - 3 weeks and sent home with students. All proceeds will fund school enhancements and programs. Shop online by following this link:
<https://stores.inksoft.com/eldersmills/shop/home>





Please join us for our School Council Meetings! Our meetings are hosted in the library from 7:00 p.m. 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: **May 4th**

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Elder's Mills PS School Council is busy planning the FIRST Spring Fair since 2018!
Together we can make this a spectacular event!!!

We are looking for parent volunteers to support the event. The Spring Fair will be held on June 1st, 6-8pm. We will need help to set up, run activities, and take down.

Some jobs include:

Face painting

Henna

Refereeing volleyball/basketball games

Running kids activities

And more

If you are interested in helping out please email the School Council at elders.mills.ps@sc.YRDSB.ca.

We are also looking for special events to include at the fair. If you own a business or have a special talent and can donate time or resources to the event, please let us know.

Without you, these events would not be possible. Thank you to everyone that has already given their time!

Thank you,
School Council

Every Student Counts Survey:

The Every Student Counts Survey will be open from April 24 - May 12, 2023. All students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 are invited to participate. Families of students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will complete the survey with their child at home and students in grades 4 - 12 will complete the survey during class. For more information and responses to Frequently Asked Questions, please visit: [Every Student Counts Survey web pages](#)



Racial Literacy Workshop

A Master Class for Black Families & Youth



presented by
**THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE**

Monday May 8, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

@ The Venu Event Space

2800 Highway 7, Woodbridge, ON

Families of YRDSB students who self-identify as Black are invited to gather together for a master class in racial literacy for resolving racial encounters with the internationally renowned psychologist and author, Dr. Howard Stevenson.

Come learn techniques to discuss how anti-Black racism functions in a way that empowers and protects the mental health of Black children by building important racial communication skills that helps reduce racial stress and increase agency.

Dinner is available at no cost. All participants in this FREE workshop must RSVP using the link below.



[Register here](#)

Note: All YRDSB student participants must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or adult family member.



Dr Howard C. Stevenson

**BLACK
EXCELLENCE**

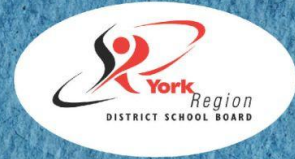
5:00 p.m. Doors open
5:15 - 5:30 p.m. Dinner & mingle with community partners
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Interactive workshop

[REGISTRATION LINK HERE](#)



50 years of

OUTDOOR EDUCATION AT
VIVIAN OUTDOOR RESOURCE CENTRE
5314 VIVIAN RD, WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE



50TH ANNIVERSARY

SATURDAY APRIL 22ND | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

JOIN US ON EARTH DAY AS WE CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF "THE BEST DAY EVER!!"

**register &
share a
memory,
story, or
connection**

**Family
Friendly!**

Past and current YRDSB
students, families, partners
and staff are welcome!

**No dogs
please**

**Light
Refreshments
Provided**

Bird Inquiry
Beginner orienteering
Giant chess game
Tent set-up
YRDSB Museum & Archives
Story Journey across the property
Toronto Wildlife Centre
Guided Tree ID Walk, Forests Ontario
Mountsberg Raptor Centre 11-1pm
Recognition of Partnerships

Pre-register for the event
via bit.ly/vivian50, QR code
above or by email:
georgina.marucci@yrdsb.ca





PARENTING SESSIONS

Let's talk about it!

Children do not come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.

We welcome all parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these virtual sessions!

April 5, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Raising Competent Teens

For parents of teens and tweens. This session will focus on strategies for your child to develop communication skills, self-discipline, good routine and problem solving skills.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

April 19, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Getting Teen Connected

For parents of teens and tweens. This session will focus on strategies to build your child's confidence, encourage social skills, plan and meet commitments and developing positive, supportive friendship.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

April 25, 2023 | 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Separation Anxiety

For parents 0-12 years of age. Whether your child is starting daycare, school or summer camp this session will help parents learn about the signs and symptoms of separation anxiety. The focus will be on strategies to calm your child's separation anxiety and how to better prepare your child for the transition.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families



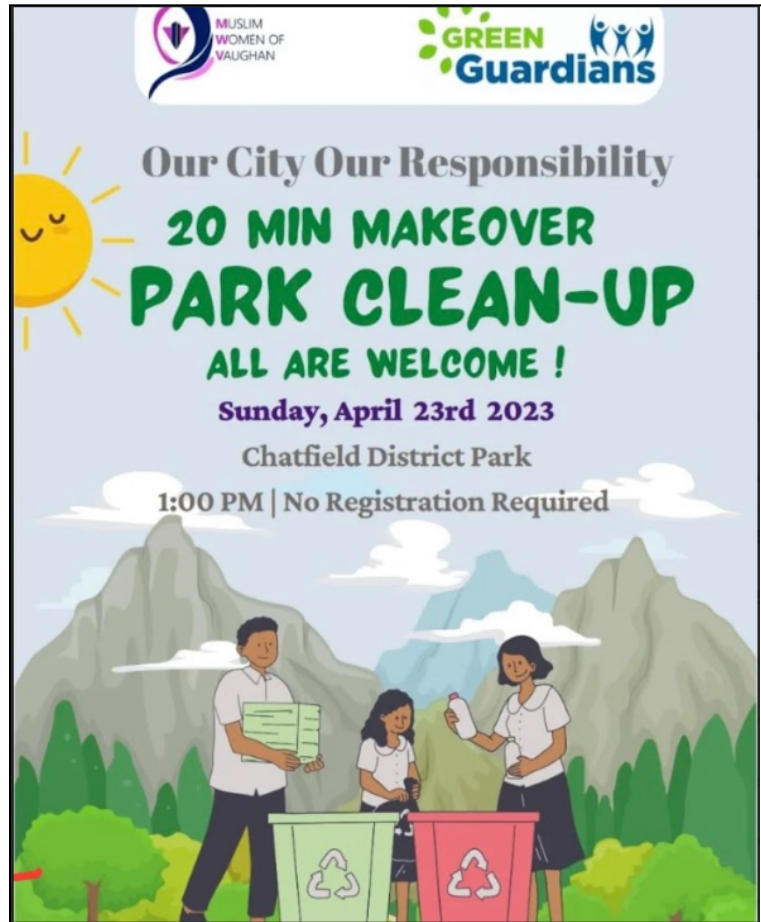
These free virtual presentations for parents and caregivers are brought to you through a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families.

For more information, please contact Oksana Majaski, YRDSB Community & Partnership Developer via email at Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

[April 19th - Getting Teen Connected Registration Link](#)

[April 25th - Separation Anxiety Registration Link](#)

IN OUR COMMUNITY



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

REMINDERS: The partnership between home and school is an important one. We consult, collaborate and support one another in ensuring that our children are contributing in positive, caring ways to our school community and that our students feel safe in our school environment.

Positive Behaviour:

Students are encouraged to demonstrate positive character attributes (such as empathy, courage, respect for human rights and inclusivity). Standing up for one another and reporting when something does not feel safe is part of a caring and safe school environment. Students should report incidents that make them or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable including acts of racism, discrimination and bullying. Students can report incidents by:



- Telling a caring adult
- Using the YRDSB's "[Report It Button](#)" (located on our school website). YRDSB's online Report It button allows students and families to share information about inappropriate behaviour and/or incidents of hate or discrimination. Please see this [video](#) for additional information.
- Contacting [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868)

Tobacco/Alcohol/Drug-Free Environment:

The use of tobacco, electronic products (such as vaping, electronic cigarettes and cigars and related products) and/or student possession of alcohol/illegal and restricted drugs, including cannabis, are prohibited on school property or within 20 metres of school boundaries. This also applies during Board or school-sponsored events and activities. This is in compliance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, which is enforced locally by York Region Community and Health Services and the Tobacco and Smoke-Free Environment Policy and Procedure. A progressive form of discipline, including suspension from school and fines (up to \$5,000), is in place for students who break the law. In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA), exceptions are made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Indigenous culture and spirituality.

Online Safety and Appropriate Use of Technology:

Students are continually reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools.

For More Information

For more details on each of these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools section](#) on the YRDSB website for details and resources for families to continue the conversation.

Thank you for helping us create a caring, safe, and inclusive school community.

Student behaviour on the bus:

- Please remind your child of the expected code of conduct on the school bus
 - The expectations for behaviour on the school bus are the same as those for behaviour at school
 - Instances where students are not respecting school bus rules will be reported to the school office to be addressed by the administration
 - Consequences for repeated misbehaviour may include a removal of bus privileges
- Please do not hesitate to report concerns to the school.



Class Placements for 2023 - 2024:

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 the needs of our students. 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 email eugenia.korinis@yrdsb.ca before April 27th, 2023. Requests for specific teachers will not be considered. As we make placement decisions, your input is taken into consideration; however, we cannot make any guarantees regarding placements.

Should you have any questions regarding the class placement process, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Pics of the week! Learning & Fun @ EMPS! Pink Shirt Day, Outdoor Ed, Ukulele and MakerSpace Fun!



On the Horizon.... April

14 - Vaisakhi

14 - Holy Friday

16 - Eastern Orthodox Easter (Pascha)

18 - Last Day for Big Box Fundraiser

19 - Junior Boys Basketball Tournament

20 - Earth Day and Community Clean Up

21- First Day of the Festival of Ridvan

21 - Id al-Fitr

25 - Ripley's Aquarium for Grade 2s and 3s

27 - Junior Girls Basketball Tournament

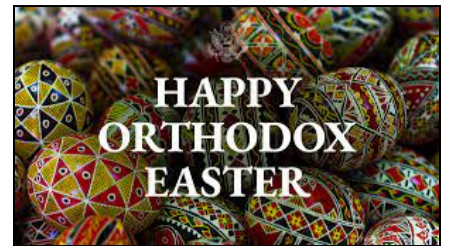
Save the Date:

Scholastic Book Fair - June 1st - 8th 2023!

Vaisakhi: The Sikh New Year, is celebrated in April every year. Vaisakhi is also celebrated in some other parts of India. For Sikhs, Vaisakhi celebrates the birth of the Panth Khalsa order (the Order of the Pure Ones) established by Guru Gobind Singh. It is at this time that Guru Gobind Singh gave the Khalsa order the five distinct symbols of purity and courage which would make Sikhs identifiable: the Kesh (unshorn hair); Kangha (the wooden comb); Karra (the iron bracelet); Kirpan (the sword) and Kachera (underclothing). Some of the ways that this day is traditionally honoured include visiting a place of worship (Gurdwaras), participating in a mela (fair), indulging in mithai (sweets), fruits and lassi (a sweet yogurt drink).



Good Friday: commemorates the passion and death of Jesus Christ. It is called Good Friday because Jesus' death on this holy day had to happen in order for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter to happen. Good Friday is a solemn, holy day for Christians. Good Friday may be marked by attending Church services and by observing a fast. Many Christians break the Good Friday fast after a candle-lit Easter vigil which occurs on the Saturday evening after Good Friday. The date of Good Friday varies from one year to the next on both the Gregorian (Western) and Julian (Eastern) calendars. Good Friday is also known as Holy Friday, and Great and Holy Friday. Good Friday is the Friday preceding Easter Sunday. For Christians, Easter is the most joyful celebration of the church year. Christians all over the world honour the resurrection of Jesus from the dead on Easter Sunday. Western rite Christians observe Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after March 21. Eastern Orthodox Christians celebrate it on the first Sunday after both the Spring Equinox and Jewish Passover. Once every few years the days coincide.



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

To families celebrating Vaisakhi and Eastern Orthodox Easter, we wish you joyous celebrations!

Eugenia Korinis
Principal

Omari White
Vice-Principal