



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)



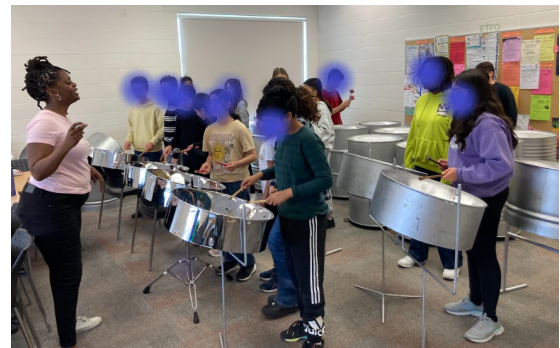
Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair	Superintendent Otilia Olteanu	Principal Eugenia Korinis	Vice-Principal Omari White	Office Admin Team Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
-----------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------	--

What's Happening @ EMPS!

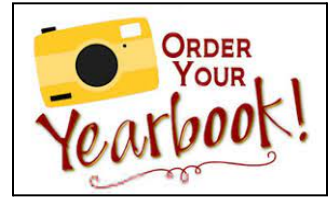
Steelpan Music Workshop @ EMPS!

Thank you to Joy Lapps-Lewis for our fun and learning with Steelpan drums! Thank you to our Curriculum Department for the loan of the Steelpans! Thank you to Mme Hill for coordinating this experience for our students!

Joy presented to our Grade 2-3 classes and our Grade 4 - 8 classes. Staff joined her in the staff room and learned a few chords. Our Intermediate band and music teachers also had the opportunity to workshop and learn their way around the barrels. This opportunity was made possible through our community's support with our fundraising activities! Merci!



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.**



Big Box of Cards Fundraiser! SUCCESS!!!!

Our community came together and we sold over 800 boxes! We cannot thank you enough for your support! These funds will support our program enhancements in alignment with our School Improvement Planning goals.

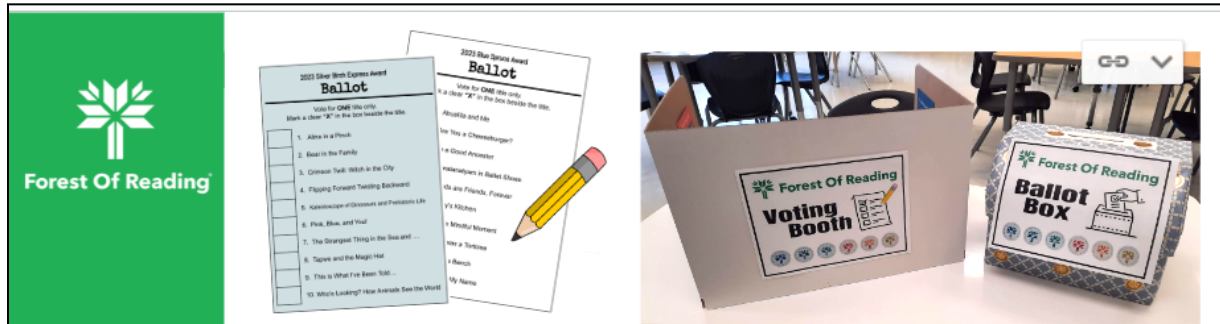
Some of the program enhancements we have been able to provide for our students and our school through this year's fundraisers and in response to community input include: new instruments for the band, subsidizing costs of field trips, enhancing our collection of library books, adding books to our classroom 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!)



Earth Week Celebration April 24th

Our Eco Team will be hosting an Assembly on Monday, April 24th. We invite all students to wear blue and green on Monday. We will gather in celebration of our activities during Earth Week and our achievements at the Eco Fair and in the City of Vaughan's EcoBanner competition. We look forward to unveiling our 1st place banner to our student body. Way to go Eagles!





Forest of Reading Voting Day is here!

Grades 4-8 students in the **Forest of Reading Program** are invited to vote for their favourite nominated title on **Wednesday, April 26th** in the **library** during **lunch recess**.

Come out to vote for your favourite book nominee for a chance to win 1 of 3 posters!

The Winners of the Forest of Reading Book Nominees will be announced in May!

A graphic for the EMPS Student Showcase. It features a corkboard background with a pink ribbon at the top. The text "EMPS Student Showcase Coming Soon!!" is written in a large, bold, black font. Below this, a question is asked: "Do you have a talent you would like to showcase at this year's Talent Show?" followed by three options: "Can you sing?", "Can you dance?", and "Can you play an instrument?". A yellow sticky note with a red pushpin is attached to the bottom right, reading: "Be sure to listen to the announcements for more updates!"

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!

- **Spring Fair - June 1st, 2023:**

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. 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!

- **Breakfast Bonanza: Let's Celebrate our EMPS Staff**

- **Wednesday June 14, 2023 at 9am in the Staff Lounge**
- Our EMPS staff work tirelessly to provide the best education to our children, and it's time to show them our appreciation! We're hosting a special brunch just for them, filled with delicious treats donated by our wonderful parents. Let's come



Week 30 - Friday, April 21st, 2023

together to make this event a memorable one for them!

- Parents, we need your help! Please visit our live Google document using the link provided below to let us know which items you can donate towards. We are counting on your generosity to provide our staff at EMPS with a variety of yummy dishes, pastries, and drinks based on the items on the list.
- **Live Google Link:**
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kmfoueOBklTZyMVymg_nm8rlwFLX_ycpkdfTTilZJaO/edit?usp=sharing
- **Instructions for Donations:**
 - To donate towards this breakfast event, please follow the steps below:
 - Click on the live Google document link provided below.
 - Choose the item(s) you would like to donate from the list.
 - Enter your name and the quantity of item(s) you will donate.
 - Purchases of **food** items can be dropped off at the school office **ON Tuesday June 13th, 2023**.
 - Purchases of **non-food** items can be dropped off any time **BEFORE Tuesday June 13th, 2023**.

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](#)





Preserving our Past Sikh Heritage Month

Please join us to commemorate our first Sikh Heritage Month Celebration with YRDSB. Our focus is on **Preserving our Past**. At this event, the Educators of Students of South Asian Heritage (ESSAH) will provide time and space to highlight and promote Sikh histories, language and identity, and to build unity through community.

Exhibits:

- Sikh Heritage Museum Display and Keynote Speaker
- Artifacts
- Artwork Exhibit by YRDSB Students
- Shabad Performance
- Gathkha Performance
- Community Partners and Vendors

Date: April 29, 2023

Time: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Location: Woodbridge College, 71 Bruce St, Woodbridge

[Registration Online by April 26](#)

More Information, contact: harpinder.kaur@yrdsb.ca 905-884-2046 ext 268

[Registration Link here](#)



Jewish Heritage Month Special Event Periphery Film Community Screening

Date: May 16, 2023

Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Location: Richmond Hill Secondary School

Audience: YRDSB students, families and staff

“**Periphery** is an evocative **photographic and film project** that bears witness to **ethnic diversity in the Jewish community**. Sharing narratives from individuals of multiracial and multiethnic backgrounds, Periphery creates space to look, listen, and learn from participants as they share their experiences and explore ideas of representation, intersectionality, ethnicity, race, and sexuality.”

More information regarding [Periphery, the Short Film](#) can be found on the [Periphery webpage](#). Directly after the film screening, there will be a question and answer period hosted by Sara Yacobi-Harris from No Silence on Race.

Register through the [Google Form](#) by May 1.

This event is presented by Inclusive School and Community Services, in partnership with the Network of Educators Supporting Jewish Learners (NESJL). Please contact ISCS at iscs@yrdsb.ca for more information.

[Periphery webpage link](#)

[Google Form Registration Link](#)

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](#)





Navigating Secondary School and Beyond

2023 Summer Program

Program overview

The Come Up summer program is a unique in-person course offered to self-identifying Black students in the York Region District School Board. It also includes guest speakers, field trips, lunch and swag.

Students entering grade 9 will earn a Civics and Careers (GLC20/CHV20) credit.

Students entering Grade 10 will earn a Black History (CHE30) credit. This credit can be used to fulfill the grade 10 compulsory history credit.

Eligibility (must meet all criteria)

- Are you entering Grade 9 or 10 in September 2023?
- Do you self-identify as Black?
- Are you a YRDSB Student?
- Are you interested in earning a high school credit?

Dates

July 5 - July 28, 2023 (Monday-Friday)*

*Attendance is mandatory for the duration of the program.
Please note: Lunch will only be provided on Mondays and Wednesdays.

8:45 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.

Choice of Tommy Douglas SS or Milliken Mills HS

Registration opens April 11, 2023

Register by May 26, 2023

[The Come Up Summer Program - Register at this link](#)



Virtual Black Parent/Guardian Workshop Series

2023 Summer Program

Is your child a YRDSB student?
Is your child transitioning to Grade 9 or 10?
Is your child registered in the Come Up Program?
Does your child self-identify as Black?

**Join us for a workshop series
on navigating the secondary
school system.**

Session # 1 - Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Understanding the Secondary System

(Structure, Rights, Policies, Attendance, Credit Recovery, IEPs and more)

Session # 2 - Tuesday, July 11, 2023, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Supporting your Child (Mental Health Supports, Tips and Strategies)

Families of all students for the summer school program will receive registration information for the Black Parent/ Guardian Workshop Series via email once student registration is complete.



For more information email: TheComeUP@yrdsb.ca



NATIONAL
COUNCIL
OF CANADIAN
MUSLIMS
Your Voice. Your Future.

CONSEIL
NATIONAL
DES MUSULMANS
CANADIENS
Votre voix. Votre avenir.



Building an Understanding of Anti-Black Islamophobia

YRDSB Families and Communities

In this session, participants will explore the interlocking impact of anti-Blackness and Islamophobia on Black Muslim Communities and Black Muslim Students. Throughout this session, participants will be encouraged to think about how they center intersectionality in their everyday lives and how that impacts anti-Islamophobia work. Practical resources and recommendations will be shared to support efforts in creating equitable and inclusive environments.

Date: May 10, 2023

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Location: VIRTUAL

Registration: [Register for Event](#)

Know Your Rights: Muslim Students and Families

YRDSB Families and Communities

In this session, students and families will learn about their legal rights and responsibilities within schools. Participants will be provided with tools and resources that will support them throughout their child's school experience, allowing them to feel more confident and empowered.

Date: May 16, 2023

Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Location: VIRTUAL

Registration: [Register for Event](#)

[Building and Understanding of Anti-Black Islamophobia Registration link](#)

[Know Your Rights - Muslim Students and Families Registration link](#)

IN OUR COMMUNITY



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

STUDENT SAFETY AT MORNING DROP OFF:

Drivers are reminded to follow the flow of traffic in and out of the school parking lot at morning drop off. **At no time are parent vehicles allowed onto the tarmac area of the school, or up onto the dock where the bins are located.** Students disembark from vehicles and walk towards the tarmac using this area. We have had to remind and intervene with drivers in the morning who have pulled up onto the tarmac. Please also be reminded that **the lane to enter the parking lot is a one way entry.** Your cooperation in this is expected. Thank you.



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.

On the Horizon.... April

- 21- First Day of the Festival of Ridvan**
- 21 - Id al-Fitr**
- 22 - Earth Day**
- 25 - Ripley's Aquarium for Grade 2s and 3s**
- 27 - Junior Girls Basketball Tournament**

May

- 1 Grade 7-8 Trip to Skills Ontario Workshops**
- 5 Jump Rope for Heart kick off Assembly**
- 19 Jump Rope for Heart Event**

***Eid al-Fitr - Islam:** Literally the 'Festival of Breaking the Fast,' 'Īd al-Fiṭr is one of the two most important Islamic celebrations (the other occurs after the Ḥajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca). 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 21.)*



Save the Date:
Scholastic Book Fair - June 1st - 8th 2023!

First Day of the Festival of Ridván - Bahá'í Faith:

The Festival of Ridván, termed by Bahá'u'lláh the 'Most Great Festival' and the 'King of Festivals,' commemorates the 12 days that Bahá'u'lláh spent in the garden of Ridván outside Baghdad. The festival

commemorates Bahá'u'lláh's public declaration of His mission to His family and closest followers. The first, the ninth, and the twelfth days of Ridván are Bahá'í Holy Days on which work is suspended.



We wish our students and our families a very happy weekend! To families celebrating Eid al-Fitr and Ridvan, we wish you joyous celebrations!

Eugenia Korinis
Principal

Omari White
Vice-Principal