



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!

Congratulations to our Junior Girls! Thank you to our athletes for their perseverance, sportsmanship and school spirit! Thank you to our coaches, M. Kakar, Mme Merches and M. White for their mentorship and support! Way to go Eagles!



STEM and Coding @ EMPS!

Grade 2 classes in Coding sessions with Mme Mahmoudi. Just look at how focussed they are! Thank you to the community for your support with our fundraising efforts. We recently received a shipment of books, STEM and Coding supplies, games and materials and we can't wait to use them! Merci a Mme Mahmoudi for the wonderful work she is doing with the Library Learning Commons and the activities she supports.



Earth Week Celebration April 24th

Our Eco Team hosted an Assembly on Monday, April 24th. We celebrated student achievement with their EcoFair projects and Earth week activities. Thank you Mme Nursimulu and the team of teachers and students who champion EcoSchools @ EMPS!



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**



FREE Family Event @ EMPS
Thursday, May 18th
6:00 p.m.
In-person at the school
Details coming to your Inbox soon!

PEAC Regional Symposium: Parent Voice Matters!

EMPS family and community members are invited to register for this event.



Wednesday, May 3, 2023 6:50 pm - 9:00 pm - VIRTUAL EVENT

Who May Register: Up to 10 school community members representative of our diverse parent communities

How to Register: Please register by accessing the [PEAC Regional Symposium](#) webpage where you will find the [registration form](#) as well as more information about the PEAC Regional Symposium.

Questions about the PEAC Regional Symposium may be directed to leadership.development.engagement@yrdsb.ca.

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 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/1kmfoueOBkITZyMVymg_nm8rlwFlX_ycpkdfTIilZlaO/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](#)



EQAO Grade 3 and Grade 6

EQAO is coming soon to EMPS. Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will participate in this province-wide assessment. The test will be administered between **May 10th - June 14th**. Details about the dates and the assessment will be sent to our Grade 3 and 6 families in a separate communication. Families wishing to learn more about EQAO and the assessments are invited to visit their website at <https://www.eqao.com/about-eqao/>.



2023 Summer Learning Programs Available

During the month of July, YRDSB continues to offer credit and non-credit summer school program opportunities for elementary, secondary and adult students.

Registration is now open for the following programs:

Elementary Credit and Non-Credit Programs:

- Camp Black Brilliance (for Black Families entering JK or SK)
- Summer Institute (K-8)
- Elementary Summer School (Grades 6-8 non-credit reinforcement)
- Grade 8 Reach Ahead (credit)

Secondary Credit Programs:

- In-Person Learning
- Online Learning

Adult Learning Programs:

- Adult Literacy and Basic Skills
- English as a Second Language
- Citizenship Classes
- Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada

For more information about summer learning programs and registration please visit www.yrdsb.ca and follow us on Twitter @YRDSB.

May is Asian and South Asian Heritage Month and Canadian Jewish Heritage Month:

In May 2002, the Government of Canada signed an [official declaration](#) to designate May as Asian Heritage Month. At the provincial level, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario designated May as [South Asian Heritage Month](#) in 2001 and as Asian Heritage Month in 2005. As we approach the month of May, communities across Canada will be coming together to understand, affirm and appreciate the vibrant heritages of Canadians of the Asian and South Asian diaspora.



[Canadian Jewish Heritage Month](#) was given Royal Assent in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario (Jewish Heritage Month Act, 2012, S.O. 2012, c. 1 - Bill 17) on April 24, 2012 and in the Senate of Canada on March 29, 2018. As we approach the month of May, staff and students are encouraged to engage in opportunities that celebrate and affirm Jewish histories and the achievements of the Jewish community.

Canada is home to the fourth largest Jewish population in the world. There are close to 400,000 Jewish residents in Canada, and almost half of that number reside in Ontario. Jewish settlers in Canada can be traced as far back as 1760. Jewish Canadians have proudly contributed to Canadian heritage in all of its facets including the military, the arts, government, business, academia, law, medicine, culture, and sports. Throughout the month of May, we celebrate the contributions Jewish Canadians make in communities across the country.

The Centre for Black Student Excellence

Please find this month's newsletter linked here:

[May Newsletter](#)

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

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



Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS)
invites you to

Family Engagement Conference 2023: Creating Dynamic Futures

Please join us to learn about mental health, special education,
and ways to navigate the education system with appearances
from children's authors Amaya James and Erica London.

Keynote Speaker: Dwayne Morgan

When:

Saturday, May 13, 2023

10:30am - 2:30pm

Light refreshments will be served

Where:

Richmond Green High School

1 William F. Bell Pkwy in Richmond Hill

[Register Now !](#)

Follow Us On Twitter [@AEBSyrdsb](#)

For additional information please contact aebzca@gmail.com

[REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT AT THIS LINK](#)



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](#)



2023 South Asian Heritage Month

Educators of Students of South Asian Heritage (ESSAH)

**Invites you to engage in the celebration & professional learning around
Affirming South Asian Identities**



Randall Public School

50 Randall Ave, Markham, ON L3S 1E2

May 4, 2023 from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

[Register Online by April 30, 2023](#)

This event is an opportunity for **all** educators and parents to network, share and learn about ways to affirm and create positive spaces for students of South Asian Heritage.

Please join us for an evening of connecting through storytelling, music, information and resource sharing. This is an opportunity to amplify South Asian student, educator and parent voices.

Light refreshments will be served.

For additional information please contact ESSAH Co-Chairs: asha.rathod@yrdsb.ca, kala.henry@yrdsb.ca, and rashmee.karnad-jani@yrdsb.ca

Follow us on [ESSAH \(@ESSAHyr\) / Twitter](#)

Who are South Asians?

According to the Canadian Encyclopedia, [South Asian Canadians](#) trace their origins to South Asia, which encompasses India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Most South Asian Canadians are immigrants or descendants of immigrants from these countries, but immigrants from South Asian communities established during British colonial times also include those from East and South Africa, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Fiji and Mauritius. [Some South Asian Canadians come from Britain, the US and Europe. In the 2016 census, 1,963,330 Canadians reported South Asian origins (1,603,000 single and 360,330 multiple responses)].

That said, the experiences of individual students and their families are so rich and diverse that they cannot be neatly packed into labelled boxes.

[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](#)

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

Late Arrivals to School

Consistent, punctual attendance is very important. Learning occurs daily, right from the beginning of the school day. Frequent, repeated late arrivals and absences result in missed learning for students, disruptions to the routine of the classroom and missed opportunities to develop socially.



Consistent late arrivals impact your child's learning in several ways. We find that we have a high volume of students arriving late that are not typically bussed students. We request your support in getting your child to school on time.

Classes start and attendance is taken at 8:45 a.m. If you are driving your child to school, or if they are walking, they can arrive as early as 8:30 a.m. when supervision is available in the school yard. Parents and caregivers please support positive habits about school attendance. Please let us know how we may support you and your child in setting them up for success as we come to the end of this term and prepare for the next school year.

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>



On the Horizon....

May

- 1 Grade 7-8 Trip to Skills Ontario Workshops Field Trip**
- 4 School Council Meeting**
- 5 Jump Rope for Heart kick off Assembly**
- 8 & 9 Vaughan Firefighter Hazard House visit in library**
- 11 & 12 Gr 6s Trip to Science Centre**
- 14 Mother's Day**

18 School Council Family evening event
19 Jump Rope for Heart Event
25 EMPS Track and Field Day Grades 4 - 8
29- Track and Field Rain date

June

1 - 8- Book Fair

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

Eugenia Korinis

Principal

Omari White

Vice-Principal