



Elder's Mills: The Eagle Eye
Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity
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Better Me, Better We, Better Community!

Thank you Errol Lee for a fantastic day at EMPS on Friday! The songs and movement, the lessons and the motivation were appreciated by all. You've inspired us! Students had a great time singing and dancing along to messages and stories shared by Errol of friendship, resilience and integrity. Merci!



Fall Fun and Halloween Costumes @ EMPS - Tuesday, October 31st, 2023:

Students are invited to wear **Fall colours (black, orange, red, browns etc...)** or our **School Colours/clothing** on Tuesday, October 31st. For students who celebrate Halloween, if they wish to come to school on Tuesday, October 31st in costume, they are invited to do so.

When planning costumes, please keep the following in mind:

- that **no replica weapons** of any kind are allowed
- costumes should be respectful of others
 - symbols or objects representative of a person's culture or religious beliefs



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should not be worn as a costume nor should costumes that caricature social identities through stereotyping

- in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, it is important that costumes do not trivialize and devalue the lives of Indigenous peoples in Canada
- costumes should not should not overemphasize the scary aspects
- **No Halloween masks** are to be worn and students should only use single use make-up (no sharing of make-up).
- Costumes should be of simple design (to limit personal items being brought to school)
- **Please do not send your child to school with or in:**
 - A long or restrictive costume (these can lead to trips and falls)
 - An inflatable costume
 - A costume that requires adult assistance to take on/off
 - Any items to share with others (candy, treats, food, for example)

Students must be able to wear their running shoes and outdoor clothing as per usual

Fall Spirit Assembly:

On Tuesday, October 31st in the last block of the day, students will gather in the gym for a Fall School Spirit Assembly. The purpose of this assembly is to build school spirit and offer teachers the opportunity for student recognition. We are looking forward to seeing our students come together in community to support one another, dressed in the spirit of the day (see above). Our school band will showcase some of their talent and we plan to have everyone up and dancing by the end. GoEaglesGo!



November is Hindu Heritage Month:

On December 8, 2016, the province of Ontario designated November as Hindu Heritage Month as outlined in the Hindu Heritage Month Act. November 2022 marked Canada's first official Hindu Heritage month.



Hindus first arrived in Canada at the beginning of the 20th century.

During various waves of immigration, Hindus from all parts of the world continued to make Canada their home from the 1960s to present day. Canada is the proud home to nearly 830,000 Canadians of Hindu heritage, and many have settled in the Greater Toronto Area, including York Region.


“By proclaiming the month of November as Hindu Heritage Month, the Province of Ontario


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recognizes the important contributions that Hindu Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political and cultural fabric. Hindu Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about Hindu Canadians and the important role that they have played and continue to play in communities across Ontario." - Hindu Heritage Month Act, 2016

Hinduism is considered by some as one of the world's oldest religions, dating back over 10,000 years. With over 900 million followers worldwide, Hinduism is the third-largest religion. Hinduism is a henotheistic religion that worships one God without denying the existence of other gods. Some of these deities include Brahma, Shiva, Paarvathi, Lakshmi, Ganesha, Muruga, Kaali, and Vishnu, along with others. Hinduism consists of many traditions and festivities that are celebrated throughout the year. Diwali, Navaratri, and Ganesh Chaturthi are some celebrations in which Hindus participate in Ontario, Canada, and around the world.

Sikh Educators Voice Alliance (SEVA)
Group Launch Invitation







Sikh staff and community members are invited to the SEVA Affinity Group Launch. All are welcome to come learn, celebrate, and grow with us.

Date: Thursday, November 30, 2023
Time: 4:30 - 6:30 PM
Location: Blue Willow Public School
250 Blue Willow Drive, Woodbridge ON

This event is an opportunity for parents, families and YRDSB staff members to network, share, and learn about ways to affirm and create positive spaces for students of Sikh identity. Light refreshments will be served.

To Register
Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **November, 23rd 2023**
If you have any further questions, please reach out to SEVA.YRDSB@gmail.com





Student Mental Health and Addiction Newsletter

Dear Families,

Fall is officially upon us. Symbolically, Fall represents change – leaves changing hues, cooler temperatures and an Earth preparing to rest. Fall is also a season of changes. Our abilities to embrace and adjust to change vary – some may approach change with ease, while for others adapting to change may be stressful.

Stress is normal, it is a normal response to situational pressures or demands that are a part of daily life (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, 2023). Some common sources of stress that your child may experience include, but are not limited to: tests /exams, homework, lack of organization, too little 'down time,' poor sleep, speaking in front of their classmates and changes to routine

Follow this link for more content: [November 2023 Student Mental Health and Addiction Newsletter](#)

Preparing for the Fall Respiratory Illness Season:

If students have symptoms of illness, they can take the [COVID-19 self-assessment](#). As per Ministry of Health guidelines, individuals can screen daily for signs of illness and stay home when sick.

School
Council

Our next School Council Meeting is on Monday, January 15th from 6:30 to 7:30. We will meet in the school library. A remote option will also be available; look for the link in your email as we get closer to the date!

We'd like to hear from you!

Please take a moment to complete the survey at this link. Ideas and input will be shared with the various school council committees: [School Council Family interest survey](#) If you'd like to join any of the committees please email us at our school council email: elders.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca



As a result of the feedback we have already received, we launched our first daytime social "Mugs & Mornings" this past week. It was a great success

and we are looking forward to hosting another one soon!

Also, we received requests for resources for academic support in French. Please find this useful free tutoring service offered by the Vaughan Public Libraries. It is available in both English or French!

- Go to the Vaughan public Library website:
[Vaughan Public Libraries](https://www.vault.ca/)
- Click on "Articles & Research"
- Find "Brainfuse"
- Enter your library card number and password
- Click on live tutor!



e-Resources' Login

Please enter your Library Card Number:

Please enter your 4 Digit PIN:

Login

That's it! You will be connected with a live tutor! Happy studying!

Volunteers! The School Council is already planning for **Winterfest!** Anyone interested in assisting with planning or volunteering please email us at elders.mills.ps@sc.YRDSB.ca.

IN THE COMMUNITY

School Council highlights activities available to families in our community

A colorful poster for the Vaughan Halal Fest. At the top, it says "MUSLIM WOMEN OF VAUGHAN PRESENTS Vaughan Halal Fest". Below that, it features "50+ VENDORS" in large, stylized letters. There are several directional arrows pointing to "FUN GAMES", "ENTERTAINMENT", "FOOD", and "FRIENDS". A central graphic shows "12 → 8 PM" with a clock icon. At the bottom, it says "BELLVUE MANOR VAUGHAN" and "29TH OCTOBER 2023" with a calendar icon. A green circular badge says "FREE ENTRY" and a red sign says "JOIN US!".

MUSLIM WOMEN OF VAUGHAN PRESENTS
Vaughan Halal Fest
50+ VENDORS
FUN GAMES
ENTERTAINMENT
FOOD FRIENDS
12 → 8 PM
BELLVUE MANOR VAUGHAN
29TH OCTOBER 2023
FREE ENTRY
JOIN US!

A poster for the Festival of Lights. The title "Festival OF Lights" is written in large, white, sans-serif font against a dark background with colorful bokeh lights. Below the title, it says "Friday, Nov. 10 7-8pm" and "FREE event". The location is "Vaughan City Hall, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive". At the bottom, it says "vaughan.ca/festive" and features the Vaughan logo.

Festival OF Lights
Friday, Nov. 10 7-8pm
FREE event
Vaughan City Hall
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
vaughan.ca/festive
VAUGHAN

FUNDRAISING AT EMPS!

School Spirit Wear:

Shop online by following this link: <https://stores.inksoft.com/eldersmills/shop/home>

Mabels Labels:

Our School Council is pleased to offer this amazing opportunity for our families. Please follow this link for details: [Fundraising Support | Mabel's Labels | Raise Funds With Kids Labels](#)

NEW! Donation Drive: Donations will be accepted through **School Cash Online only**, no cash or cheques. You can [register for School Cash Online](#) at any time by visiting the website.

Money raised from fundraising efforts like the ones listed above and the lunch programs, for example, will be used to support enhancements in technology, music and library resources and other opportunities such as Stem/Robotics, Graduation, Guest speakers and presentations, field trips and more! . We thank you for your support!



Getting Ready for Progress Report Conferences



Dear Elder's Mills Families,

Progress Report Conferences will be held at the school on Thursday, November 16th and Friday, November 17th. Parents/guardians will have an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher in person, and learn more about the classroom.

Edsby is the online tool supported for scheduling elementary interviews/conferences. Families will receive an invitation to sign up for a meeting time once the schedules are available.

[Edsby](#) is a cloud-based platform that lets families easily reserve times to meet with your child(ren)'s teachers. YRDSB in partnership with Edsby have created a secure platform that protects the privacy of information for families.

Families that already have an Edsby account may use their previously created account. The username is the full email address that is on file at your child(ren)'s home school and the password is the one created at activation. If you have forgotten your password, you can find [resources on the Board website](#) to help, including how to reset your password.

Families who **do not have** an Edsby account will need to create one to access the online appointment scheduler for their child's teachers for Parents' Night. **An up-to-date and valid email address must be provided to your child's home school.** For help creating an Edsby account, [instructions can be found on the Board website](#). An email from York Region District School Board with instructions on how to create an Edsby account will be sent to your email inbox. If you do not receive the email, please check your junk mail folder to ensure you do not miss this opportunity.

If you have any questions about this process please contact our main office for support.

If you have any challenges with meeting in-person on the scheduled days, please contact your child's teacher.

For help signing up for Parent-Teacher interviews, please visit [our board website](#).

Important Timelines

October 27- November 3	Parents/guardians to create Edsby accounts if they don't already have one.
November 7 - 14	Parents' Night schedule opens for booking. Log into your Edsby account. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby account

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	and a notification to your email. Instructions for signing up for interview slots are found here .
November 14	Interview Scheduler closes at 4:00 p.m.
November 16 - 17	Progress Report Card Conferences

On the Horizon....

October

31 - Fall School Spirit Assembly

31 - Hallowe'en

November

November Character Trait - La Justice

1 - 9 Holocaust Education Week

1 - Take Our Kids to High School - Grade 8s

5 - Daylight Savings Time - Fall back!

5 - 11 Treaties Recognition Week

7 - Grade 7 & 8 Vaccine Clinic

7 - Zoo to You - Grade 6s

7 - Photo Retake Day

8- Intermediate Boys Volleyball Area Tournament

9 - 14 Progress Reports emailed home

10 - Remembrance Day Ceremony @ EMPS

11 - Remembrance Day

12 - Diwali

15 - 17 Scholastic Book Fair @ EMPS

16 - Progress Report Card Conferences p.m.

17 - PA Day; Progress Report Card Conferences a.m.

27 - 30 Grade 3 Gifted Screening

Holocaust Education Week:

Since 1982, Holocaust Education Week (HEW) has engaged generations of students and the public in learning about the Holocaust. HEW takes place annually during the first week in November.

Diwali (Hinduism- Hindu, Jain and Sikh celebration)

A very popular festival known as the Festival of Lights, Diwali (Deepavali) is dedicated to the Goddesses Kali in Bengal and Lakshmi (the Goddess of Wealth) in the rest of India. Diwali is associated with a story about the destruction of evil by Lord Vishnu in one of his many manifestations.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Eugenia Korinis and *Ayesha Mondal*

Principal

Vice-Principal