



ELLEN FAIRCLOUGH P. S.
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PRINCIPAL: MOHAMED HAMID
SUPT. OF SCHOOLS: RASHMI SWARUP
SCHOOL TRUSTEE: JUANITA NATHAN

FAIRCLOUGH GAZETTE

January 2014

Principal's Message

(*Please note that the important dates to be remembered are now found on the calendar page at the end of each month's newsletter.***)**

Happy New Year and Happy Lunar New Year to all of our Fairclough families! We hope you have all enjoyed a restful holiday. It was so wonderful to see so many of you at our Holiday Concert during the last week of December. This event was a great opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to building our inclusive Fairclough Culture grounded in the power of the arts and we thank you for your support of this!

We would also like to thank our families who supported our food drive during the month of December. Giving back is a foundational aspect that helps to build humility and character, aspects that we work hard to develop in our students.

We have many exciting events coming up during the next few months. We are very pleased to offer the students of EFPS a Winter Well Being Electives Program! Our elective days are Friday, February 14th & Friday, February 21st. Information has gone home recently about this. As well, we have our afterschool sports programs in partnership with the Town of Markham. These programs run twice a week. One day for our younger students and one day for our older ones.

Our Adult ESL program is also up and running. Classes are held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am – 12 pm. We still have limited spots available if anyone in our community is interested.

We would also like to remind our families that our report cards will be sent home on Wednesday February 12th. Our teachers are always available for parents to arrange for meetings to discuss their child(ren)s progress. If any parent would like to arrange for a meeting please do not hesitate to contact the school at 905-294-9455.

As always, we appreciate your continued support. If you ever have questions, suggestions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us.

Your Partners in Education,

Mohamed Hamid



416 885 3479

Juanita.Nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Message from our Trustee

This is an exciting time for our Board. We recently launched our new Mission, Vision and Values, and the Board's first slogan – *Inspire Learning!*

Our new mission statement – *to advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community* – will help to guide our work and move us forward in the months and years ahead.

Thank you to everyone who shared their input. We look forward to bringing these statements to life in our school communities.

We are now halfway through the school year, a good time to celebrate all that your children have achieved and to set goals for the rest of the year. I encourage you to speak with your child not only about what they are learning, but also how they are learning. There are so many exciting and innovative things happening in our schools.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at Juanita.nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca or by phone at **416-885-3479**. If you would like to be kept informed about various initiatives or topics that relates to your child's education and well being, please send me your email address and I would be happy to keep in touch with you on a regular basis.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and successful second term.

Juanita Nathan

Trustee | York Region District School Board
City of Markham – Ward 7&8



Inclement Weather

SCHOOL BUS CANCELLATION NOTICE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

School bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. Since busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m. or earlier, all cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to ensure the safety of our students. Cancellation decisions are made by the Board and will only be made after thorough consultation with school bus companies servicing York Region. Please note: If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents in the morning will need to be picked up by parents at the end of the school day.. Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO AM Stations - 590, 640, 680, 860, 1010, 1050, 102.1, 1540, 1580.

FM Stations - 88.5, 89.9, 92.5, 93.1, 94.1, 94.9, 95.9, 97.3, 98.1, 99.1, 99.9, 101.1, 104.5, 100.7, 107.1.

TELEVISION CITY TV, THE A-CHANNEL, CFTO TV, THE WEATHER NETWORK, GLOBAL.

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001.



RECESS — COLD WEATHER

Students should be dressed for cold weather (hats, scarves, mitts, boots, etc.) It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet.

The principal decides at the time of each recess whether students will remain inside or go out for a shortened or full recess period by keeping a close eye on weather conditions, including temperature, wind chill, sun/cloud conditions, and wind velocity. Students will be supervised in their classrooms during recess and lunch hour whenever an indoor recess is necessary.

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for September 2014 kindergarten students has begun. Children born in 2010 are eligible for junior kindergarten this September 2014. Children born in 2009 and are currently attending public school are eligible for senior kindergarten in September 2014.

Documents that are required for registration are as follows:

Proof of child's age - Birth Certificate, if born in Canada.

- Passport, P.R Card of the child and parents if born outside of Canada.

Proof of Residency :

If you own:

- ◆ Purchase Agreement
- ◆ Town of Markham Tax Bill

If you rent:

- ◆ Landlord/Tennant Lease Agreement

Applications cannot be accepted without these documents . For further information please call the school.



***** Please note that hand written letters will not be accepted *****

Library Resource Centre News

We have had a busy month in the Library Resource Centre this month! Many primary classes have been visiting to share winter stories and learn about animals in winter.

Ms. D'Adamo's Grade two students read the story, Over and Under the Snow. After reading this picture book, we looked at animals that are active in the winter and animals that hibernate under the snow. The students created wonderful picture to share their learning.

Ms. Sivarajah's class read a picture book that focused on snowflakes. Back in class, the students created colourful snowflake art.

Our Grade Eight students came to the Library Resource Centre to hear about the fiction books that have been nominated for this year's Red Maple Awards. The Red Maple Reading Club is now meeting every Monday morning to read and discuss the books in this year's collection. Students will vote for their favourite book in May!

Family Literacy Day was on January 27, 2013. Here is the official website for Family Literacy Day <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/fld/family-literacy-day>. It is not too visit the site for great, family reading ideas.

Enjoy reading with your children!

Roots of Empathy

Our Roots of Empathy baby, Ivy is now 8 months old and is moving around more and there is a greater need in keeping her safe. Ms. Yiu has been child proofing the house to ensure Ivy and Kyla are safe. Cupboards need child proof locks and all cleaning materials or medicines need to be placed out of reach. It is exciting to see that she has reached this new milestone. Who can predict what her next milestone will be?

Ms. Neal



School Assistants

School assistants are needed from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., to supervise students during lunch time in the classrooms and outside on yard duty during lunch recess. Parents if you are interested please contact office at 905-294-9455

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FRONT DOORS LOCKED



Beginning **Monday, February 3, 2014**, York Region District School Board elementary school doors will be locked 15 minutes after the school bell rings in the morning and will stay locked for the remainder of the school day. All visitors, including parents/guardians, couriers and board staff, will be required to use the buzzer at the front door and to sign in at the main office.

Kinder Café

At Ellen Fairclough P.S., we are delighted to build partnerships with our families to help their children be successful in school. On January 22th. Kindergarten parents joined us in the library to share in conversation on supporting their children with early learning. They completed surveys to help us plan for six weeks of workshops. Here are some of the topics we are planning to cover on Wednesdays starting with:

January 29th. Session 2: Early reading stages and how to help your child with the reading process.
February 5th. Session 3: Inquiry based learning: Play is the work of Kindergarten!
February 12th. Session 4: Healthy Eating and Healthy Living
February 19th. Session 5: ESL, Oral language and creating a climate for conversation
February 26th. Session 6: Helping your child to be Confident and Independent
March 5th. Session 7: Introducing new resources for loaning. (Games, literacy kits, and books)

This is a tentative schedule only. We may change the order of topics as workshop leaders are available. All kindergarten parents are welcome. Please feel free to bring younger children and babies. If you have further questions, please contact Mrs. H. Lowry, Ms. H. Kaur, or the Kindergarten teachers.



CUT THE SALT!

Children are getting too much salt (sodium) in many of the lunch foods they are eating. This puts them at risk for high blood pressure as adults. To reduce unhealthy salt and fat limit deli meats such as corned beef, hot dogs, pepperoni or salami. Instead, pack leftover chicken legs or cubed roast beef, or make sandwiches with sliced turkey, hard cooked eggs or canned fish.



Visit Canada's Food Guide online at www.healthcanada.gc.ca/foodguide



February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 P.A Day	4	5 Pizza Day  Kinder Café 	6	7	8
9	10	11 Grade 2D'Adamo Milne	12 Grade 2Sivarajah Milne Pizza Day  Kinder Café 	13 Grade 4 D'souza & Crawford @ Milne	14 Electives	15
16	17 Family day	18 Monday Schedule Grade 7's @ Milne	19 Fire Safety Visit Gr 2 Kinder Café 	20	21 Electives	22
23	24	25	26 Kinder Café 	27	28	