



# The Fairwood Flyer

April 2014



**Principal:** Elizabeth Davis  
**Vice-Principal:** Christine Smith  
**Superintendent:** Dianne Hawkins, 905-895-5155

**Telephone:** 905-476-5447  
**Fax:** 905-476-4345  
**www.fairwood.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca**

**Trustee:** Nancy Elgie: 905-476-4184

## School Plan For Continuous Improvement

### *Curriculum Implementation*

Deliver Effective Literacy and Numeracy Instruction Across the Curriculum

### *Family and Community Engagement*

Build Partnerships to support academic, social and emotional growth of our students

### *School and Workplace Climate*

Promote Student/Staff Engagement in a Safe, Healthy, and Respectful Workplace

### *Learning Network Goal:*

Making Thinking Visible

## Dates to Remember

April 2	World Autism Awareness Day Assembly 10:40-11:40 (parents welcome)
April 7	The Lego Movie GEM Theatre
April 10	<b>Day of Pink</b> —wear pink to support anti-bullying initiatives and attitudes!
April 18-21	Easter Weekend-school closed
April 24	Community Open House Evening 6-8pm

## **From the Administrative Team**

Is Spring finally here? The calendar says “yes” but, unfortunately, the weather is remaining stubbornly wintery. Hopefully the weather and the calendar will match soon!

We have been continuing to work on the goals identified in our School Improvement Plan. In order to monitor our school improvement, we need to collect data to give us a better understanding of our student achievement in reading and their strengths and needs. In March, staff spent time reviewing the strategies identified in our School Improvement Plan to determine their impact and make needed mid-course adjustments. The focus for our next level of work is ensuring that students all receive rich opportunities to talk, receive feedback and participate in small, guided instructional groups. These High Yield instructional strategies will help them to improve their critical thinking skills in all areas of the curriculum. Our staff have also been looking at effective mathematics instruction. Through team planning with our curriculum consultant, they are developing inquiry-based learning opportunities that encourage our students to think and communicate like mathematicians.

Last, but not least we have had a continuing focus on “manners’ and politeness and have been pleased with the way our students have stepped up. Parents can support this by having conversations at home to remind students of the importance of speaking and acting in respectful ways to all of our community.

*Liz Davis*      *Christine Smith*  
Principal      Vice Principal

## **Student Busing Eligibility**

Did you know that students’ busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter’s eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board’s Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca). For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter’s eligibility please visit: [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

**Character**  
*Matters!*

## **Integrity**

*We make good choices...even when no one is watching!*

## Getting Involved With Mathematics Homework

Parents often want to know how much they should help their child with homework.

The extent of your involvement will depend on the activity. For example, it is perfectly acceptable for the whole family to be involved in game playing and discussions about mathematical discoveries. On the other hand, homework designed to reinforce a procedure that has been explored in class should be largely an independent activity.

While students are engaged in mathematics homework activities, you should ask probing questions rather than provide answers. You may ask questions such as:



- “What do you know?”
- “What do you need to know?”
- “What do you need to find out?”
- “What can you try to do to solve this problem?”
- “How can you show your work?”
- “Do you think that your plan is working?”
- “Is there anything else that you need to do?”
- “Do you think that your answer makes sense?”
- “Is there any other way to solve this problem?”

Parents should encourage their child to use objects or manipulatives, use numbers, draw diagrams, and/or write down his or her ideas while exploring a problem. Have your child talk to you about math while solving a problem. Questioning can provide a prompt for the child and give the child a starting point for exploring an idea or justifying his or her thinking. Writing and talking help children to clarify ideas and think about their next steps and can give you clues about when to start helping or when to extend your child’s thinking.

## Graduation Committee

Parents!  
We will have our first graduation committee meeting in the library at Fairwood.

April 16th  
6:00pm

Please join us if you are able to help!



## Council Corner

Next School Council Meeting:  
April 8th 6:45

**Upcoming Fundraiser!**  
**Vesey’s Flowers**

Order some bulbs, seeds or plants for your garden or buy a few for gifts!



## FAIRWOOD YEARBOOK

**Thank you** again to the Bando family for creating our yearbook! If you would like to forward any pictures you have taken throughout the year, please use this address:  
[thefairwoodfalcon@gmail.com](mailto:thefairwoodfalcon@gmail.com)





## April's Healthy Tip

*From your Lunch Lady*

April's Healthy Tip is really a collection of 4 Simple Tips for **Feeling GOOD**

1. **Eat More** good stuff. Instead of worrying about what you are eating now, take action and make fruits and vegetables more available going forward. Baby carrots and apple slices make good snacks for mindless nibbling, are inexpensive and available year round. You'll feel good because your body is getting more of the vitamins and minerals it needs to keep you nourished.
2. **Sleep More.** The body heals and is revitalized when you sleep. If you cannot do 8 hours, just do your best.
3. **Exercise More.** You don't need expensive exercise equipment to turn on some music and dance. It feels good!
4. **Giggle More.** Laughter is the best medicine – Nothing beats a funny movie or a good joke when life is getting you down. Keep some favourite comedies on hand.

## AUTISM AWARENESS

Autism Awareness Week calls attention to Autism Spectrum Disorder and how it affects so many people around the world—not only those diagnosed with Autism, but also their families, friends and others who interact with them. World Autism Day is Wednesday, April 2nd and there will be an assembly from 10:40-11:40 in the gym for grades 1-8. Kindergarten students will have activities in their own classes. Mrs. Shedden's class is honouring this day, and the entire week, by selling bracelets. All proceeds will go to autism research. They would also like to let everyone know how you can help each other:

### “A Friend is a Gift you Give Yourself”

Mrs. Shedden and her class invite their Fairwood Family to learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorders with their classes by reading stories, watching videos, researching on the Internet, sharing with one another, and most importantly, being good friends with their fellow students!



## Parking Lot Safety!

**Thank you to all the Fairwood families who have remembered to follow our Kiss and Ride Program guidelines. The driveways are busy places and safety is our primary concern.**

### Kiss and Ride Guidelines:

- In the morning, pull into the Kiss and Ride lane outside the Kindergarten area and move up as far as possible. Cars CANNOT be left unattended in this spot.
- Your child should exit the vehicle quickly and walk safely to the back of the school on the sidewalk.
- JK/SK will enter the kindergarten yard.
- Please do not leave your cars parked here!
- Proceed out of the Kiss and Ride lane as soon as it is safe to do so

### **REMEMBER!**

**The front driveway is for buses and is only ONE WAY! Please don't block the entrance!**

- Please DO NOT ENTER through the exit driveway as this creates a safety hazard for our children!
- The bus lane is a NO PARKING ZONE AND FIRE ROUTE
- Please find a parking spot if you need to get out of your car

## PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR...

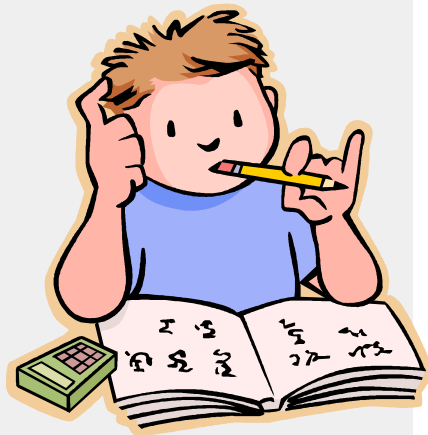
Next month, we will begin to look ahead to next year in our planning. Class lists and placements will be organized during late May and early June. Support staff, teachers and school administration will be involved in class placement discussions. In making class placement decisions, we consider several criteria including; academic ability, learning style, learning partners, class size, work habits and gender ratios.

### How Can Parents Help?

As a partner in your child's education, you may wish to provide input regarding their placement for next year. Any request should reference the criteria mentioned. It is especially helpful if you can provide any information you might have about one or two social relationships that are positive/important for your child.

**Please send this information to Ms. Davis by May 23, 2014 in an envelope marked 'Class Placement Request'.** While we will consider all requests, we must look at meeting the needs of all of our students. A request is not a guarantee.

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



## Primary and Junior Provincial Assessments: EQAO

From May 26 -June 6, grade three and six students throughout the province will be participating in the Education Quality and Accountability Office's( EQAO) Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Students will do a variety of assessment activities in six one-hour sessions designed to allow them to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to reading, writing and mathematics as described in *The Ontario Curriculum*.

These province-wide tests are developed by Ontario teachers and assessment experts and resemble the work children do in class every day. EQAO has developed a Parent Bulletin to give you more information about the assessments and an understanding of what to expect. The bulletin is available in over 20 languages on the EQAO web site ([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)) under "Parent Resources."

While EQAO is not the only measure of how our students are doing, **it is an important piece of data** for us and we do use it to help us determine areas we need to work on with our students.

Your active support in helping your child understand the importance of 'doing their best work' is appreciated. For this reason, we are again asking that parents refrain from scheduling any appointments outside of school during the assessment in order to maintain the continuity of writing for our students. Thank you!



# Triple P

## Triple P Tip of the Month ~APRIL ~ Stealing

Many parents are faced with the problem of money and other items going missing at home. Many children will experiment with stealing at some time; however most do not develop a persistent pattern of stealing. Stealing can lead to problems at school and in the community.

### KEY STEPS:

- Supervise your child and involve them in activities that have adult supervision
- Let your child earn pocket money for doing chores and encourage them to save
- Discuss with your child what stealing is and why it is a problem
- Talk about consequences for stealing
- Give your child opportunities to show they can be trusted
- Praise your child for being honest and trustworthy
- Act immediately if you suspect your child of stealing
- Tell your child to return what was stolen and apply a consequence for it

**Triple P offers strategies that encourage positive behaviour in children.**

**Everyone can help, whether you are a parent, coach, teacher or family member by using the same positive messages with children and youth.**



**Join us for a free workshop about:**

## Understanding Learning Disabilities

**Monday April 7, 2014**

**6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Keswick High School - 100 Biscayne Blvd - Keswick

### learn about:

- what learning disabilities are
- advocating for a child/youth with LD
- supporting a child/youth to gain self-advocacy skills
- parent rights within the school system
- supporting a child/youth with transitions into secondary and post secondary learning

*Presenters: Renee Flannery & Stephanie Gatti*

*from the Learning Disabilities Association York Region (LDAYR)*

Renee Flannery is a Resource Facilitator with LDAYR and has provided support and guidance to parents for over 20 years.

Stephanie Gatti is a Program Coordinator with LDAYR.

**free event – meal provided**

**free child minding is available upon request**

translation services available in *Tamil, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu*

**please register for this event**

This event is in partnership with **York Region District School Board**

- Inclusive School and Community Services

To register for this event or more information contact:

LDAYR - 905 884-7933 ext 23 or [info@ldayr.org](mailto:info@ldayr.org)

Pauline Costello YRDSB - 905 895-5155 ext 144 or [pauline.costello@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:pauline.costello@yrdsb.edu.on.ca)





# Lakeside Summer Institute

Ride the summer adventure with us!



AVAILABLE AT THIS SITE  
\* Lakeside Public School  
\* Lakeside Middle School  
\* Lakeside High School

During the literacy block, students are engaged in fun and enriching learning activities that address reading, writing, media and oral communication expectations from the Ministry of Education curriculum documents under the supervision of YRDSB Teachers and Administrators.

During the activity block, students are engaged in purposeful, intentional learning which is embedded within the following electives:

- Actor's studio
- Archery
- Ball Hockey
- Basketball
- Dance
- Digital Creative Design
- Digital Photography
- Lacrosse
- Mountain Biking
- Ready, Set, Cook
- Rock Band
- Rock Hounds
- Tech World
- Tournament of Champions
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Video Filming
- Visual Arts
- Wacky Science World
- Wet & Wild Water Fun



Weekly out trips for all students at no additional cost!  
Regular trips to the ROC for students in Skills 1 and 2.



### Contact Information:

Lakeside Public School  
Phone: 1-877-280-8180 ext. 240 (before June 30)  
Phone: (905) 476-8369 (after June 30)  
Email: lakeside.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

### Cost for YRDSB student:

**\$100 to  
\$115  
per week**



## Grade 7 Summer School Keswick HS

February, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Once again this summer, the York Region District School Board is offering a summer school program for current year Grade 7 students. Under the YRDSB Summer Learning Strategy, this program is designed to provide students with a dynamic and engaging learning experience. Through an inquiry based model, students will be given an opportunity to develop their literacy and math skills. Participating students will also be accessing the technological food lab at Keswick HS. Students must be committed to achieving their best, modeling good behaviour and attending for the entire length of the program.

Your child's homeroom teacher has recognized your child as someone who may benefit from attending this summer school program. The Program runs from Thursday, July 3 to Friday, July 25, 9:00 a.m. to 3:19 p.m. at Keswick HS.

Bussing will be provided on a per needs basis, but it will not be door to door service. A bus schedule will be distributed to each student in early June.

Please note that Visa students (students from other countries attending YRDSB schools) are required to pay a fee. Please contact Community and International Education Services to make payment arrangements to the York Region District School Board in order to attend.

All registrations will be done on-line this year using Career Cruising. If you support your child's teacher's recommendation to attend summer school, please follow the on-line registration process on the back of this letter. Registration deadline is May 5, 2014. If you do not have a computer at home, please speak with your school's Principal to arrange a time for your child to register on-line at school.

If you have any questions, please contact Bev Osburne at 905-884-3434 or 1-877-280-8180.

Mohamed Hamid, Coordinator, Elementary Summer School  
Drew McNaughton, Principal, Community and International Education Services





**Grade 8 Reach Ahead Program  
“Discovering the Workplace”**

February, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students entering Grade 9:

This summer we are excited to offer a unique summer program to help students currently in Grade 8 to transition to Secondary School. This program is a **high school credit course** titled, “Discovering the Workplace” (course code GLD20), and will focus on present and future opportunities in the workplace and careers. It is designed to reinforce literacy and numeracy skills with an intentional link to trades and technology. Field trips to local businesses and college/university/trade centres will be available.

Your child’s homeroom teacher has recognized your child as someone who may benefit from attending this summer school course. The Summer School Course runs from **Thursday, July 3 to Wednesday, July 30, 9:00 a.m. to 3:19 p.m.** daily.

This program is available to Grade 8 students in the following elementary schools this summer:

Elementary Schools	GLD Location
Bond Lake, Lake Wilcox, Lincoln Alexander, Redstone, Richmond Rose, Sir John A MacDonald, Walter Scott	Richmond Green SS
Charles Howitt, Red Maple, Sixteenth Ave.	Langstaff SS
Armadale, Cedarwood, Coppard Glen, Ellen Fairclough, Markham Gateway, Parkland	Middlefield CI
Aldergrove, Highgate, Milliken Mills, Randall, Unionville Meadows, Wilclay	Markham DHS
Armitage Village, Clearmeadow, Crossland, Maple Leaf, Rogers, Terry Fox	Sir William Mulock SS
Fairwood, Jersey, Keswick, Lake Simcoe, Lakeside, R.L. Graham, W.J. Watson	Keswick HS
Bakersfield, Carrville Mills, Discovery, Dr. Roberta Bondar, Forest Run, Herbert H. Carnegie, Mackenzie Glen, Michael Cranny, Nellie McClung, Thornhill Woods	Stephen Lewis SS
Black River, Deer Park, Morning Glory, Sutton	Sutton DHS
Blue Willow, Glenn Gould, Lorna Jackson, Pine Grove, Vellore Woods, Woodbridge	Woodbridge College

Bussing will be provided on a per needs basis, but it will not be door-to-door service. **A bus schedule will be sent to each student in June.**

Students who are successful in this summer course will receive an **elective credit for high school**. Students must be committed to achieving their best, modeling good behaviour and attending for the entire length of the program.

Please note that Visa students (students from other countries attending YRDSB schools) are required to pay a fee. Please contact Community and International Education Services to make payment arrangements to the York Region District School Board in order to attend.

**If you support your child’s teacher’s recommendation, please follow the on-line registration process on the back of this letter. Space is limited, registration deadline is May 5, 2014.** If you do not have a computer at home, please speak with your school’s Principal to arrange a time for your child to register on-line at school.

If you have any questions, please contact Bev Osburne at 905-884-3434 or 1-877-280-8180.

Mohamed Hamid, Coordinator, Elementary Summer School  
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**Please see back for Career Cruising Instructions.**