



Roaring Wildcat News



German Mills Public School

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December 2015 and January 2016

Principal
Krysten Cameron

Head Secretary
Jennifer Whitfield

Secretary A
Lory Bicic

Caretaking Team
Brent Marshall
Rhonda Allen
Josh Hernandez

Superintendent of Schools
Rashmi Swarup
(905) 764-6830

Trustee
Susan Geller
(905) 763-8682

A Message from the Office...



Handwritten signatures: K. Hoyer, M. Tichman, M. Bendahan, Shirley Gao, M. Filler, A. Frohlinger, D. Kopatsek, Pam Zeldow, K. Fenari, David Shuman, A. Anokoung, Al Breaux, H. Chu

Thank you for partnering with us in Education. We are looking forward to a Happy New Year together here at GMPS.

Handwritten signatures: J. Whitfield, R. Adams, J. Baumann, J. Cameron, J. Mauchan, A. Pinetta, J. Jones, M. Baynes, A. Ronan, Molly Li, Nancy Baynes

WINTER BREAK



All YRDSB Schools will be **CLOSED** Monday, December 21, 2015 until Friday, January 1, 2016

Classes **RESUME** on Monday, January 4, 2016

We wish you and your family Happy Holidays and all the best of Health and Happiness for 2016!

School Council

General Meetings
Thursday December 3rd, 2015
Thursday January 14th, 2016
7:00 p.m.

All parents are welcome to attend
German.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca

ORDERING HOT LUNCHES? REMEMBER TO PACK A MORNING SNACK



MILK, PIZZA AND SUB ORDERS are due December 7, 2015.
CURRENT orders go until December 16. NEW orders begin January 5, 2016



Primary Play Program

The Primary Play program began on Tuesday November 24. This program was implemented with two major goals in mind; to promote safe play, inclusion, and cooperation, and, build and instill leadership qualities while developing strong student leaders. Organized activities are run every Tuesday and Thursday during lunch recess. Thus far student enthusiasm and participation has been high. Primary students are enjoying a variety of fun, cooperative activities and Junior and Intermediate students have shown tremendous interest and leadership donating their time to co-facilitate.



Student Leadership Team

A group of amazing students have teamed up to take initiative, and make our school a better place to learn, and to have fun! We are the Student Leadership Team. We have already started on two projects, the Food Drive, and the Clothing Drive. We look forward to the projects to come!



Follow us on Twitter!
@GMPSvoice



Intermediate Girls' Volleyball

The girls team started strong this season, with over 90% of their serves over the net, beating a record for German Mills history. During the season, they faced tough and well trained teams, but they were able to fight through all the way to the finals.

At each exhibition game, the girls cheered each other on and bonded like glue. The team's goal was to make it to area finals, and they accomplished that. Even with a final fourth place ribbon, the girls were blessed with the amazing opportunity to play on the 2015-2016 intermediate girls volleyball team. Many veterans are leaving the school this year, so that leaves it to the grade 7s to lead the team next year. In the end, we will always be a Wildcat family.



Intermediate Boys' Volleyball

This past month, the Intermediate boys played a few exhibition games to prepare for the area semi-final tournament which took place on November 23rd. The boys played exceptional volleyball, and earned a spot in the area final tournament on December 1st where the top six teams competed to be the Best in the West. Our boys finished 3rd overall in the West out of thirteen teams!!! Mr. Shulman and Mrs. Arnokouros are thrilled with the result and with the growth this team showed over the season. They played as a team, and continued to get better and better, rising to each challenge with good sportsmanship, and smart playing. Congratulations boys!!! We are so proud of you.

FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION SESSIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at French Immersion schools on January 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. Click www.yrdsb.ca to visit YRDSB's website in January 2016 to find the FI program location for your elementary school location. FI registration will begin January 15, 2016. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2016, and wishing to enroll in the FI program, can visit or call the school office and request an Office Index Card—short version. The Office Index Card must be signed by the Principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to the designated FI program location to register between January 15 and February 12, 2016. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enroll. The FI program will be offered in DUAL Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.ca.

Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION TO COMMENCE: JANUARY 15, 2016

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 15, 2016 for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2016, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for Kindergarten. A Kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE

It is that time of year when our schools brim with energy and excitement for the many diverse celebrations taking place across our region. I am always happy to join the festivities happening in our schools and appreciate the efforts of our students, staff and community members to bring the holiday season alive.

As we wind down 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and guardians for their support of our students and staff over the past few months. A school community is only as strong and welcoming as the people who make up that community. Our students, staff and community members have continued to demonstrate respect, character and commitment in their work and interactions over the last few months. As a trustee, I consider myself very fortunate to work with such supportive community and staff members.

On behalf of all of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday season.

All the best for 2016!
Susan Geller



**X-Dance is coming to GMPS!
January 18-22, 2016**

We are thrilled to welcome the X MOVEMENT team to our school! Instructors will be working with every class throughout the week to help us get active. All of our students will be participating in an X DANCE class.

XDANCE is an interACTIVE dance Xperience which addresses the Dance and Health & Physical Education curriculum. All our programs integrate **Movement**: physical activity that makes you feel good irrespective of ability, **Mateship**: loyalty, equality and friendship, and **Mindfulness**: becoming aware of yourself, others and the world around you.

To view videos and learn more about the X DANCE program, please visit www.xmovement.com or find them on instagram at @xmovementofficial_ #xdance.

GRADE 8 PARENTS

High School registration is well underway. Students will be selecting courses in mid-January. Please watch for information coming home.

Upcoming Dates of Note:



Parent information night for Muskoka Woods trip, February 18, 7:00 PM
(Grade 8 trip is scheduled for June 8-10)



Graduation, Tuesday, June 21, 2016
Thornhill Golf and Country Club

SAVE THE DATE!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 7:00 PM

To wrap up our week with X-Dance, we invite Everyone to come out and dance as we showcase what we learned. You and your family are invited to come and discover dance in an energizing and inspiring way. More details will follow!

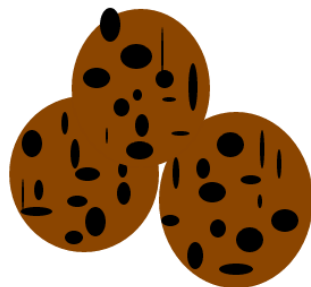
German Mills School Council Cookie Fundraiser

School Council would like to send out a big thank you to all German Mills students and parents for making our very first Cookie Dough Fundraiser a success .

Our school sold a staggering 455 tubs of cookie dough!! Mrs. Adams' class sold 71 tubs making them the winners of the pizza party lunch. Congratulations! Your orders will be available for pick up on Thursday, December 10th. We will be sending more information closer to the date.

Warmest Regards,

GMPS School Council



German Mills School Council

School council's social committee will be hosting a Movie Night on Thursday, December 10th, and we invite all of our German Mills families to join us.

School Council's next meeting is this Thursday, December 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the library. We encourage you to come out and join us. In the New Year we will be meeting on January 14th.

Upcoming topics for council include: re-writing the constitution, organizing parent education events, community engagement events and fundraising to support learning at GMPS.

Everyone is always welcome and we encourage you to come and bring a friend.

GMPS School Council

WEATHER ALERT Please be sure to dress your child for the variety of temperatures we are experiencing.

Inclement Weather Morning Entry

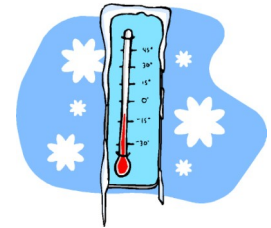
At times, it becomes necessary for students to come in from either the rain or extremely cold weather. German Mills PS begins daily supervision at 8:45a.m. If it is raining or extremely cold, we will call for indoor supervision. When it is indoor supervision all students will enter the school through their usual doors. Each door will be supervised by a staff member, who will direct students to their supervised location inside. Portable students come into the main floor hallway and wait until the 9:00 a.m. bell to proceed to their classroom.



To maintain safety, it is absolutely imperative that parents and other adults do not enter the hallways! Thank you for your cooperation.

ENJOYING THE FRESH AIR

All our students will be expected to be outside before, during and after school in all weather conditions. Students need to come to school dressed to play outside during recesses. If a student is too sick to go outside they are to sick to come to school. It is advisable for children to keep extra pants and socks at school in case they get wet. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found Bin, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Please remind your child about the importance of actually wearing the warm clothes you send at morning recess and lunch recess.



WANT TO KNOW THE WEATHER AROUND OUR SCHOOL? Check out this direct link!



<http://www.theweathernetwork.com/forecasts/school-day/canada/ontario/german-mills-public-school>



BUS CANCELLATIONS

If the condition of the roads necessitates the cancellation of bus service, local radio stations will be informed as early as possible and will broadcast this information to the community. Please be advised that if buses are cancelled in the morning they will not run after school—regardless of the weather. Review your plans as to what your children will do in the event of late buses or cancellations.

The following radio stations announce cancellations:

AM 640 AM 680 FM 88.5 FM 90.3 AM 1010 AM 1540 FM 92.5 FM 93.1 AM 1050
FM 97.3 FM 98.1 AM 1530 FM 100.7 FM 104.5 FM 107.1 AM 590 FM 99.9

Alternatively, go to www.schoolbuscity.com for info.



Character Matters...

@GMPS



This Month's award winners were acknowledged for their **HONESTY.**



EMPATHY

The Character Matters Trait for the month of December is Empathy.

Empathy is the ability to understand another person's circumstances, point of view, thoughts, and feelings. Empathy can be demonstrated by saying "sorry" when we do something wrong, or when we hurt someone, and by talking and thinking about how our words and actions affect how another person feels.

OPTIMISM

The Character Matters Trait for the month of January is Optimism.

Optimism can be described as hopefulness and confidence about the future or the successful outcome of something. Optimism can be demonstrated by seeing and expecting the best in all situations. Searching for the positives aspects of things, and maintaining a hopeful state of mind.

Each month, a few of our students are acknowledged for their exceptional demonstration of the given Character Matters Trait. Although we acknowledge ALL students and encourage all students to show each trait each month, and all year, the award recipients are those who 'stand out' that month.



**You're Invited to our
German Mills MONSTER Book Fair
Tuesday, December 8 to Friday, December 11**

Our Scholastic Book Fair starts Tuesday, December 8, when students visit the library to preview the books. They may make a wish-list of titles and prices to take home and discuss - and reach a budget - with parents.

On Wednesday, Dec. 8, students will return with their classes at a scheduled time for shopping. Recess shopping will be available too. Further opportunities will take place until the end of the week.

The book fair will also be open to the public after school, from 3:30 to 4, Tuesday through Friday. Parents may visit the book fair at these hours with their children, or without. Family and friends visiting the school on Thursday evening for Movie Night may also drop by the fair after the show.

By visiting the fair and purchasing books, you help us obtain new resources for our school library. When you or your child visit the fair, you may also enter our Family Draw for a chance to win \$50 worth of books for your family and your child's classroom.

Book Fair Hours:

Tuesday, December 8: - preview 9:00 – 3:30
- open to the public after school (3:30 – 4:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 9: - open for class visits during school hours
- open to the public after school (3:30 – 4:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 10: - open to classes and individual students during school hours
- open to the public after school (3:30 – 4:00 p.m.) and
after the evening Movie Night (8-9 p.m.)

Friday, December 11: - open to students only during morning recess
- closed after recess !

Books can be purchased with cash, Visa, MasterCard, debit and cheques (payable to *German Mills P.S.*).

GERMAN MILLS SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTS:



Thursday December 10th ,2015 in the gym at
6:30 p.m.

- ✓ Bring a blanket/sleeping bag/pillow and get comfortable
- ✓ Admission: we kindly ask that you bring one non-perishable food item to be donated to the local food bank. Let's give back to our community!
- ✓ Popcorn , drinks and cookies will be available for sale.
- ✓ All children MUST be accompanied by an adult for the entire duration of the movie.

German Mills P.S. Holiday Food Drive

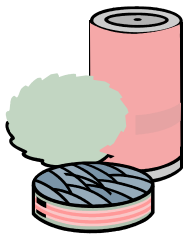
In support of the Thornhill C. A. P.

(The Thornhill C. A. P. is a non-denominational organization that provides food hampers to needy families regardless of their religious affiliation)



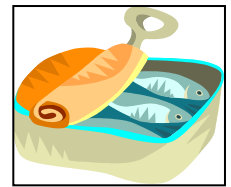
Mon. November 30 to

Fri. December 11



Donate non-perishable food items such as:

Tins of meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, juice, beans, stew, chili



Packages of soup, pasta, rice, sugar, flour, puddings
As well as items such as peanut butter, jam, pickles, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, baby food, cereal, cookies



Let's watch as the boxes are
filled

and the generosity and empathy of the German Mills
Public School community shines through.

German Mills Public School Clothing and Food Drive

Dear Families,

The holidays are just around the corner and the spirit of giving is in the air. This holiday season, we are introducing the German Mills food drive and gently used clothing drive.

Our amazing student representatives have already been asking our students and staff to bring in gently used clothing and non-perishable food items that will be donated to a local charity.

In the meantime, please start sending your child to school with any items that you are willing to donate and fit the criteria below.

Welcomed Clothing Items:

- Outdoor wear (jackets, hats, gloves, snow pants, boots, etc.).
- Pants
- Shirts (all types and styles are welcome)
- Shoes
- Pajamas

Unwelcomed Clothing Items:

- Underwear
- Torn or unusable items
- Items with inappropriate logos, designs or phrases

Welcomed Food Items are any items that are *non-perishable only*.

Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

The staff and students at German Mills P.S.





IT'S MOVEMENT TIME

We will be experiencing:
X DANCE

We will be getting active with dances from cultures around the world
Dance styles including:

**BOLLYWOOD, HIP HOP,
AFRICAN, TANGO, CRUMP,
JIGGING, AND MANY MORE**



xmovement.com



[@xmovementofficial_](https://www.instagram.com/xmovementofficial_)



more social