

- **Principal:**
Mr. Matthew Biemiller
- **Vice-Principal:**
Mrs. Annette Livi
- **School Office Admin Assistant:**
Mrs. Lisa J. Wilson
- **Admin Support:**
Mrs. Janitha Samarasena
- **Superintendent of Schools:**
Mrs. B. Green,
(905) 884-4477
- **Trustee:**
Mr. Bob McRoberts

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Principal's Message

Is it December already? The beginning of the school year has certainly passed quickly. It was wonderful to see so many parents come into our school during our parent-teacher interviews to meet their child's teacher and discuss how we can work together to support your child's learning. We hope you will continue to communicate with our staff as to how we can best support your child and their learning.

Teachers have been speaking in class with their students about the importance of our Learning Skills (Responsibility, Organization, Independent Work, Initiative, Collaboration, and Self Regulation). We know the critical role these skills play in success both inside and outside of the classroom. We would ask that you speak with your child about this and about their own goals for improvement in this regard. We will once again award Learning Skills Honour certificates to students in Grades 1- 8 following the Term 1 Report Card in mid-February.

The Every Student Counts Survey has been extended until December 14th. We are encouraging all students to participate. This survey will provide our school with valuable information to help support your children in the future. Students in Grades 7 & 8 have completed the survey online during class time. For children in Kindergarten to Grade 6, a letter was sent home with your child with a specific login code for you to complete the survey. If you haven't already done so, please complete the Every Student Counts survey and if you have lost your code, please contact the main office.

We are all looking forward to a well-earned break. The Winter Break begins on Monday, December 24th with students returning to school on Monday, January 7th. This year, we are trying something different, and will have a celebration of talent with a Winter Variety Show in February, rather than in December. The Winter Variety Show is currently scheduled for Thursday, February 21st. Students will be engaging in a variety of winter holiday celebrations through several activity days and events in final week before the winter break. Whether you're celebrating Kwanzaa, Chanukah, Maunagiyaras, the Winter Solstice, Christmas or you have another means of recognizing this important and wonderful festive season, we hope that you are have the opportunity to spend time with family and friends, and wish you all the best of the holiday season.

Mr. Biemiller

A Big Highview Thank You!

Highview P.S. and the Healthy Schools Committee would like to thank the Healthy Kids Community Challenge program for their generous donations to our Healthy Snack program. We would not be able to offer the program without their support. We appreciate the commitment and support of our Community partners in making Highview P.S. a better place.

**Thank
YOU!**



School Assistants Needed

We continue to have a need for occasional lunch assistants to work as needed for this school year. This is a paid position which runs from 12:20-1:35 p.m. daily. This is a great opportunity to be involved in the school and support our learners during the day. The responsibilities include supervising students in the class while they eat lunch, and while they are playing outside in the school yard. If you are only able to commit to one or two days a week please let us know. If you are not able to commit to a regular day, but are willing to help out when available, we are also looking to add to our list of "on call" assistants who can fill in when a regular is away or unavailable. If you are interested in this opportunity, please speak to Mrs. Wilson or Mr. Biemiller in the office. The office number is 905-727-6642.



SAVE THE DATE!

**Our Winter Variety Show
is taking place on
Thursday, February 21st!**



Aurora Lions Holiday Campaign



The Aurora Lions' Club is once again conducting their Holiday Campaign collecting donations of toys, children's pyjamas and food throughout Aurora and York Region. All donations collected are distributed to families in Aurora and York Region!

Please bring in non-perishable foods, NEW pyjamas and NEW unwrapped toys to the collection boxes in the front lobby. Donations are being accepted until **Monday, December 10th.**

Thank you for your generosity, Highview!



Winter Break Reminder

Please note that the students' last day of school is Friday, December 21st and that the Winter Break runs through to Friday, January 4th. The first day of school in the new year is Monday, January 7th, 2019.

If your family will be extending this break period, please inform your child's teacher and the school office in writing at your earliest convenience.

Thank you!



Eco Team Recycling Initiative

Can tabs - waste that continues to fill our landfills. One can tab in the landfill may not make much of a difference but once you have multiple, it creates a big problem. Instead of piling up the landfills, Highview is politely asking you to send them to school with your child. Whether you have two can tabs or 2,000, everything makes a difference. Collected can tabs will go towards making wheelchairs for kids. Plastic water bottle caps are another major issue. We are also collecting and recycling water bottle tops.

Batteries, cell phones, and printer cartridges are other major issues in the environment. Everything decomposes eventually. But when "eventually" means after millions of years, we're creating more and more build up. There are harmful chemicals in the above which can lead to air pollution. Please take a few minutes out of your day and donate can tabs, water bottle tops, batteries, printer cartridges, or cell phones to the Highview Eco Club. Boxes will be placed in the front foyer in **January** for items to be dropped off. Thank you!



School Bus Cancellation Information

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following:

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- When bus service is cancelled, all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.**

The YRDSB operates many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.

Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon.**

Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.

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

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM	1540 AM
1580 AM	88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM	95.9 FM
97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM	101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM
100.7 FM	105.9 FM	107.1 FM				

TELEVISION

CITY TV	CTV Barrie	CTV Toronto	CP24	GLOBAL NEWS
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A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB on Twitter.

Winter Weather

Winter tends to arrive like a lion. Please ensure that your children are prepared for the winter weather when coming to school. Supervision during the recesses is *outdoor only*. On severe weather days with extreme wind chill temperatures or a cold weather alert, we use judgement to shorten the length of time spent outdoors. You should anticipate that your child will be outside for recess everyday throughout the winter. An extra pair of mittens or a hat are a good idea in the younger grades, as snow play often creates very wet children and outdoor clothes don't always have time to dry thoroughly between recesses. As well, please ensure that your child has **indoor** shoes to wear. This is necessary both for comfort and safety as children must have footwear on at all times in case of a fire alarm.

Please be sure to listen to the radio (or watch television news in the morning) on bad weather days to see if school busses have been cancelled. **Remember - if busses are cancelled in the morning, they are cancelled for the day.** Students who are dropped off at school in the morning need to be picked up by 3:05 p.m. promptly as we do not have staffing for after school supervision.

Too Sick to go Outside?



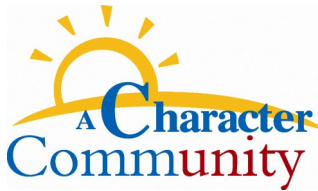
Then you are too sick to attend school. It is an expectation at Highview P.S. that if your child attends school then they must go outside at the recess breaks. Supervision is not available in classrooms or the office during these times of the day.

Kindergarten Registration - 2019

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 18, 2019 for the 2019/20 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2019, 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 the office at 905-727-6642.



Character Matters



Our Character Trait for the Month of December is **Honesty**.

“Honesty means being truthful to others, being truthful to yourself, doing what’s right regardless of who’s around, and being someone others can trust.”

Character Calendar

**Respect, Responsibility,
Empathy, Honesty,
Fairness, Initiative,
Perseverance, Integrity
Courage, Optimism**

Math Minute



Parents often ask how they can support their child’s math learning of math skills at home. Technology provides us with a number of websites and tools that support parents in reinforcing and understanding math concepts. At times, parents state that they would like to help their child with a math concept, but they do not understand or remember the concept from when they were in school. A number of resources are available to help students with math:

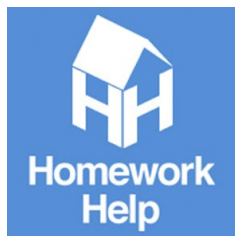
The Khan Academy

(www.khanacademy.org) is a free resource, that provides both instruction and practice in a wide range of math skills ranging from simple arithmetic to high school and university level modules.



The Ministry of Education’s Homework Help program (www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org) is part of the Ministry’s Provincial eLearning Strategy. The Ontario Ministry of Education and the Independent Learning Centre launched a new project called **Homework Help**. All Ontario Mathematics students enrolled in Gr. 7 – 10 have access to this resource, which includes *many new features and online resources*. Students log on to Homework Help and using an interactive chat room, they can obtain personalized tutoring from a certified Ontario Mathematics teacher. Chats take place Sunday to Thursday evenings from 5:30 – 9:30 pm.

Homework Help is no cost, live, and anonymous. In order to register for this program you will need your child’s Ontario Education Number (OEN), which is found at the top of their progress report, or can be obtained from school.



Healthy Schools & The Jingle Bell Walk

It’s back by popular demand - the "Jingle Bell Walk"! Everyone mark your calendars for the upcoming Walk to School Wednesday "Jingle Bell Walk". The date is **Wednesday December 12th**. You must walk to school to get the jingle bell bracelet.

Remember parents: you may drop your children off and have them walk a block or two to school - that still counts! We will have Healthy School team members out in front of the school handing out the bracelets. For those students who take the bus, they will be given the opportunity to walk during morning recess so they can earn a jingle bell bracelet. If the weather is cold, the walk will still be on.

GO HIGHVIEW GO! Let’s get walking!

Stay tuned for more activities and news from your Healthy Schools committee.



Upcoming PA Days

Please note the following dates are P.A. Days therefore there is no school for students on these days:

Friday, January 18th

Friday, February 1st

Important Bus Transportation Message

Did you know that students’ bussing 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. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter’s eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.



December is an Exciting Time of Year!

The first day of winter falls in December!

Start of School Winter holidays!

Spending time with Family and Friends!

December is also a great time to get outside, have fun in the snow and discover the great outdoors!

When the temperature drops, it is common for many parents to want their kids to spend time indoors. However, there are many benefits for kids to be active outside in the winter, including:

- Building different muscle groups and improving physical health
- Engaging in creative play
- Being messy and having fun
- Fresh air and sunlight
- Learning first-hand about nature, the weather and the seasons

When children are outside they move more, sit less, play longer and sleep more soundly at night. Being active also helps to improve your self-esteem, social skills and mental health. Here are some December challenges we invite your children to try leading up to the holidays (December 3rd to 21st):

Walk to and from school or the bus stop everyday

Wish the crossing guard or a classmate on your walk to school a great day

On your walk to school make a snow angel

On your walk to school complete 10 star jumps and 10 jumping jacks

Make someone laugh today

Check your local recreation center for fun activities that you and your family can do over the holidays

Say something positive to one of your classmates

Active School Travel is a simple way to fit physical activity into your daily routine!

If you live far, consider parking a block away and walking. If active school travel every day is a challenge, choose one, two or three times a week to make a change.

A message from...

YRDSB Active Travel Team and York Region Public Health



WOULD YOU ENJOY **COLLABORATIVELY** LEARNING THE ONTARIO CURRICULUM THROUGH **THE ARTS?**

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an **Elementary Integrated Arts Program** at **Baythorn Public School**. If you are currently in grades **four or five** you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the **arts@baythorn** program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

Thursday, January 17, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

Applications will be available at bit.ly/arts_application2019 online after the January 17th, 2019 info night.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 9TH, 2019 AT 4:00 PM

If you require further information, please call us at
Baythorn Public School
(905) 889-7992.

Kate Kurek
Principal

The Arts Team

Aileen Matrakoukas
Vice Principal



December 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
Character Trait of the Month						1	
Honesty	2	3 Day 1	4 Day 2 Gr. 6 VIP Program Hometown Hockey Assembly	5 Day 3	6 Day 4 	7 Day 5 	8
	9	10 Day 1	11 Day 2	12 Day 3 Jingle Bell Walk	13 Day 4 Dr. G.W. Williams Guidance @ Highview 	14 Day 5 	15
	16	17 Day 1	18 Day 2 Jr. Volleyball Game @ Aurora Grove	19 Day 3	20 Day 4 	21 Day 5 Pajama & Bring your Favourite Stuffy Day 	22
	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29
	30	31 New Year's Eve				4	5

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!