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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

It has been wonderful to welcome the students back for the New Year. It has been a pleasure to hear about all the exciting activities and wonderful memories that they experienced over the holidays. On behalf of the staff, I would like to extend best wishes for the New Year to all of our families.

Many of you may have taken some time to identify New Year's resolutions and set some personal goals as we welcomed in 2019. January is also a great time to talk about goals with your child. Research has shown the acts of setting, planning and accomplishing goals can have a positive impact on students regardless of their age. Goals can be based on academics, learning traits or personal accomplishments. I would encourage you to share your goals with your child, and help them to set personal goals for themselves for the New Year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of all the Highview staff who give their time to coach our sports teams and run the various clubs we have here at Highview. The wide variety of activities that are offered would not be possible without the staff who generously give their time to coach the teams and run the clubs. Thank you for all that you do!

Finally, I would also like to recognize the work of our caretaking team - Mr. Malynyk, Mr. Maar and Mrs. McConnell - for all their work preparing our classrooms for the new year. The school looks great - thank you for all your hard work keeping our school in top condition!

M. Biemiller



Winter Weather

Winter has arrived! 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.

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 and Friday, February 1st

Trends in Teaching - Growth Mindset

You may have heard your children coming home and talking about having a “growth mindset.” This has been an area of focus for staff learning at Highview over the last few years, and it is something we frequently speak of in school.

The idea of “mindset” is a research-based concept identified by Stanford University psychologist, Carol Dweck. In her research, she postulates that there are two predominant mindsets: fixed and growth. In a fixed mindset, people believe that qualities such as intelligence or talent are fixed and cannot be increased. In a growth mindset, people believe that these skills can be developed and grown through hard work and dedication¹. The overall concept has some similarities to resiliency.

This research has significant implications in our classroom practice and in how we (both adults and children) approach learning situations. Most simply put, it speaks to the idea that we need to approach new situations with an “I can do it” approach, and recognize that sometimes the most valuable learning occurs only after some struggle. We need to create supported situations where a child is challenged in their learning as well as guided and supported through overcoming these challenges. It helps us to foster the ability to persevere in tough situations for our students, and to understand that some struggle is a positive part of the learning process. If you are interested in learning more about this concept, I would recommend Carol Dweck’s website: [www. http://www.mindsetonline.com/](http://www.mindsetonline.com/). Another website with some great ideas on how to foster a growth mindset from a parent perspective is <https://www.mindsetworks.com/parents/growth-mindset-parenting>.

¹ – Dweck, Carol, Ms. “MINDSET.” *Mindset | What Is Mindset. Mindset, 2010. Web. 04 Jan. 2017.*



New Year’s Resolutions (Please Help!)

As many of you have set New Year’s Resolutions, we would ask for your support in assisting us with some of our **school based New Year’s Resolutions**. We have selected several to help us with our routines, particularly in the morning with regard to our entry, to maximize our learning time and to ensure that everybody is safely dropped off and accounted for at school. Thank you for your support with the following:

Getting to School On Time: We recognize how challenging it can be with a busy family to get out the door in the morning. However, it also has a significant impact on student learning when students arrive after the entry bell. Students who enter classrooms late have missed out on our morning routines, need to catch up on learning or instructions they have missed, and often feel uncomfortable arriving after all of their classmates are in and settled. Please ensure that your child arrives at school prior to our 8:30 entry bell, and enters through their assigned doorway with their classmates. Outdoor supervision commences at 8:20 and students are welcome to arrive any time after this.

Use of the Front Entrance: As many of you know, we have a number of special needs students in our school who arrive in wheelchairs or walkers, or who need assistance entering and exiting the building. For this reason, we ask all students to enter through their assigned entry doors around the back of the school with the exception of our special needs students or kindergarten bus students who are escorted off the bus. Your child should always use their assigned entry doors unless they are entering late in which case they should go to the office for a late slip before going to class.

Dropping off Kindergarten Students in Kindergarten Yard: Our Kindergarten students are to be dropped off in the Kindergarten Yard on the east side of the building where staff are on duty to receive them. Please do not bring your kindergarten child through the main entry way and enter the pod from the hallway. If you have arrived late, please go to the office with your child to receive a late slip.

Signing in at the Office: Please note that it is YRDSB policy that all visitors must report to the office, sign in and receive a visitor’s sticker. This ensures that we are aware of who is in the building at any given time and is an important part of our safety protocols. At times, parents wish to go to a child’s classroom to drop off a lunch or special materials. We respectfully ask that you do not do this as it interrupts learning and desensitizes everyone to unauthorized people in the building. If you do need to speak to your child, or have a special circumstance where they need to pick up something directly from you, please come to the office and we will make arrangements for your child to come down to meet you.

Thank you all for your support in keeping our school environment safe and protecting learning time for all our students.



Important Bus Transportation Message

Did you know that students' bussing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your child'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.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.



Sliding Hill Safety

As many of you know, students at Highview enjoy using their magic carpets on the sliding hill during recess and lunch.

Please help us to keep this activity open and safe for all by reinforcing the following expectations with your child. In order to use the sliding hill, students need to:

- Wait for the staff member on duty to tell you to start sliding (you may not start sliding until a teacher is supervising in this area);
- The staff member will determine how many "slides" are open;
- Follow the instructions of the teacher or lunch assistant on duty – if you cannot do this, you will be directed to leave the area;
- Wear snow pants as well as proper outdoor clothing;
- Slide one at a time, not with multiple people on the carpet;
- Slide feet first;
- When you come to a stop, walk up the side of the hill, not up the slide itself;

By following these rules, we can keep everyone safe and ensure that we can keep the hill open for all to enjoy. Thank You!



Kindergarten Registration for 2019-2020

Registration for **new** Junior and Senior Kindergarten students for September 2019 will begin at Highview on **Friday, January 18, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.**

Children born in **2015** are eligible for Junior Kindergarten; children born in **2014** are eligible for Senior Kindergarten.

If you have any friends or neighbours that have kindergarten-age children, please pass this information along.



Search and Seizure

As per the protocol between the York Region District School Board and the York Regional Police, please be aware of the right of school administration to search school property, such as lockers, desks and backpacks without notice to, or permission of, any person. Also, from time to time, police may be invited onto any school premises to conduct their own searches without notice to, or permission of, any member of the school community other than the school principal.



arts@baythorn Program

Would your child enjoy 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. Students currently in **grades four and five** may apply for the arts@baythorn Program, where they will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music while meeting the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum for grades five, six, seven and eight.

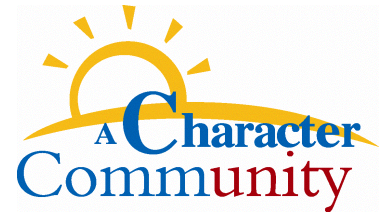
To access on-line applications for the arts@baythorn Program, please click [here](#). They will be available after January 17th, 2019.

If you require further information, please call Baythorn Public School at (905)889-7992. You can speak to Kate Kurek (Principal) or Aileen Matrakoukas (Vice-Principal).

Character Matters

"Fairness is not an attitude. It's a powerful skill that must be developed and exercised." **Brit Hume**

Our Character Trait for the Month of January is **Fairness**. Fairness and equity are very important traits. We encourage you to talk with your child about what fairness means to them.



Character Calendar

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

Healthy Schools



Battle of the Beverages!



Did you know that a 355 mL can of pop has nine teaspoons of sugar and a 474 mL bottle of fruit drink has 18 teaspoons of sugar? Pop and fruit drinks are replacing more nutritious choices in children's lunch bags. Offer milk, water or 100 per cent unsweetened fruit juice. Limit pop, 'drinks', 'punches', 'cocktails', or '-ades'.

For more information about creating a healthy school nutrition environment, visit www.nutritiontoolsforschools.ca

For health-related information call York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca/healthyschools

Message From our Trustee

Welcome back. I hope everyone is feeling refreshed following the winter break, and that you had a happy and safe holiday season. While the weather may be colder, I also hope that you had time to enjoy this beautiful time in Ontario.

It is my honour to serve as your school board trustee and to uphold the values of York Region District School Board. The new Board of Trustees was sworn in on December 3, following the October municipal elections. Together, we look forward to moving forward the four priorities outlined in the Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan:

- Foster well-being and mental health
- Build collaborative relationships
- Champion equity and inclusivity
- Empower ethical leadership

There are a lot of exciting things happening in our schools and classrooms to foster and support student well-being and mental health. Ask your child what's happening in their school, and how they take care of themselves. As adults, we often focus on the health and well-being of the children in our lives, but it's also essential that we take care of ourselves. Taking time to do the things we enjoy and nurture our own health is also important and helps to model a healthy and active lifestyle for our children.

An important part of my role as a trustee is to listen, and I look forward to connecting with members of our school community in the coming weeks and months. We will continue working to build collaborative relationships with our communities and to keep you informed about the things happening in the school board. I wish you all the best as we enter 2019.

Bob McRoberts
Trustee – Aurora and King



Canadian Paediatric Society

Screen Time: The 4 Ms

Minimize

- Under 2 years: not recommended
- 2-5 years: Less than 1 hour/day

Mitigate

- Watch with children
- Choose educational and interactive content

Be Mindful

- Turn off screens when not in use

Model

- Adults' use of screens can influence children
- Develop a family media plan

Media Smarts

January 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
Character Trait of the Month		1	2	3	4	5	
Fairness	7 Day 1	8 Day 2	9 Day 3	10 Day 4 Gr. 6 VIP	11 Day 5	12	
							
	13	14 Day 1	15 Day 2	16 Day 3	17 Day 4 Tropical Day	18 P.A. Day No school today. Kindergarten Registration Begins	
							
	20	21 Day 5	22 Day 1 Jr. Coed Volleyball Area Tournament	23 Day 2	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26
							
27	28 Day 5	29 Day 1	30 Day 2	31 Day 3 Jersey Day	1 P.A. Day No School Today	2	
							
3	4 School Council Mtg @ 7:00 p.m.	5	6 Winter Walk Day	7 Sweater Day	8	9	
							