



October 2017

John McCrae News



John McCrae Public School

565 Fred McLaren Blvd.

Markham L6E 1N7

Phone: 905-294-9122

Fax: 905-294-8196

E-mail: john.mccrae.ps@yrdsb.ca

Twitter: @johnmccraeps

School Website: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/johnmccrae.ps/Pages/default.aspx>

Principal: Helen Hart

Vice Principal: Krista Keirstead

Superintendent of Schools: Dan Wu - 905-940-7800

School Trustee: Billy Pang - 647-461-9965

Message from the Administrators

Dear Families,



Fall has come, and we look back at what an incredibly busy month it has been for all staff and students! We have had a very smooth start to our school year. John McCrae PS students are refreshing themselves with routines and expectations and for those that are new to John McCrae, learning how things work here. We are pleased to report that no classes in Grades Year 1- 8 required re-organization this year.

With the change in fall colours and cooler mornings, we are quickly reminded that the cold weather is just around the corner. Please remember to ensure that your children are dressed according to the weather - dressing in layers is always recommended as the day may get warmer.

We'd like to extend an invitation to parents and families to come out on October 5th, to our "Meet the Teacher" night. The evening will run from 6:30-8:00 p.m., with a brief welcome in the gymnasium followed by 2 blocks of time to spend in your child's classroom. Please take some time to say hello to all of our staff as you are visiting your children's classrooms. The evening is designed to meet your child's teacher and visit the classroom. Should you require a little more time with the teacher, please make an appointment to meet at another time. Our John McCrae PS staff is dedicated to meeting the needs of each student in their care. A strong relationship between the school and home is a proven benefit for student achievement and well-being. Over the course of the year, we encourage you to feel free to speak to your child's teacher to discuss any questions that you may have.

We look forward to working as partners with you in your child's education!

Helen and Krista



All About Safety!



Punctuality and attendance are crucial to your child being successful in their program. When students are late, they often miss important material being taught. It is critical that you call the Safe Arrival line when your child is going to be absent or late so that the school can ensure all students are safe. If you do not call the school, the school will call home, business, and then emergency numbers provided to ensure your child is safe. In the event that we are unable to contact anyone, it is Board policy that we contact the police.



Families: A great way to keep in touch with things that happen at school is Twitter! Follow us @johnmccraeps and @JMPS_Healthy

Literacy Corner

Welcome and welcome back! It is so wonderful to see so many of our new and returning students and families begin another exciting year here at JMPS! We are looking forward to learning with our students through activities that are both engaging and purposeful. As per our School Improvement Plan, we are supporting our students through our board foci in the three M's - Math, Modern Learning, and Mental Health. We have begun some exciting initiatives! One of these initiatives is the integration of the Learning Commons Makerspace program into many of our classes. This design-based program allows students of all grades to be innovative and creative while integrating essential learning skills and curriculum based content. The Makerspace is one way that we at John McCrae PS are promoting STEM Education (i.e., Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), while adopting current pedagogies and materials. We encourage all of our students to share with you some of the unique and innovative discoveries that they have been a part of through the integration of our Learning Commons Makerspace program. Create! Innovative! Explore!



Weather Update

All students from Year 1 (i.e., Junior Kindergarten) to Grade 8 are expected to go out for every recess unless the Principal or Vice-Principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for the weather and prepared to be outdoors up to 40 minutes after lunch. We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions (e.g. extreme heat/wind chill) we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

As mentioned on the first page, as our seasons change the weather is unpredictable. Please ensure to check the forecast in the morning and dress your child appropriately. Thank you!



Please note: All communication coming from the office will be sent electronically unless we have been notified otherwise. Please regularly check your email :)



School Council 2017 - 2018

Please plan on joining us for the next School Council Meeting, which will be held in the library at **7:00 p.m.** on **Tuesday, October 17th,**

We would like to introduce our new Council. Our Co-Chairs are Helene Ke and Fern Best, our Secretary is Christy Chen, and our Treasurers are Lavina Yip and Deepak Varma. We are looking forward to working in partnership with our Council and families.



Our first family fun night was a huge success! We had a wonderful turnout of families to come and enjoy activities in the gym. Please note - a parent or guardian must come with the children, students are not to be dropped off as it is a time to play together as a family. Our next Family Fun Night is Thursday October 26th from 6:30-8:00pm.

International Walk to School Day is Wednesday October 4th and we will be tallying up how many students from each class walked or rode their bikes/scooters to school. The class who has the most participation will win a prize!! And while we encourage our students to take an active method of travel every day, we will be doing tallies in each class on every Wednesday and the classes at the end of each month who have the most participation will receive our golden and silver shoe awards!



Please join us for our
Family Fun Night

on Thursday, October
26th, 2017

from
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

*Students must bring a family member to
supervise them, as well as a pair of indoor shoes.

In September, our students and staff engaged in conversations around caring, safe and inclusive school environments. In a school assembly, we discussed the elements that would support the academic achievement and well-being of all students, including:

- Demonstrating positive character attributes (such as empathy, courage and respect for human rights and inclusivity)
- Items and behaviours that are not allowed on school property (such as e-cigarettes and scented products)
- What happens in situations of discipline
- Standing up for each other in bullying situations, including methods of reporting incidents of bullying:
 - o Tell a caring adult
 - o Use the YRDSB's "Report It Button" (located on our school website)
 - o Kids Help Phone (1-800-668-6868)

For more details on each of these items, you can visit the YRDSB's Caring and Safe Schools website for details and resources for families to continue the conversation.

Attention Grade 8 Parents!

Information Nights at: Bill Crothers Secondary School, 44 Main Street, Unionville, Ontario.

Tuesday October 3rd, 2017

Information sessions will be from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the school cafeteria and/or Gym A

Applications will be available from the Bill Crothers school website: Friday, October 13th, 2017

Applications are due: Friday, November 3rd, 2017



Helping kids eat well and perform better.

OCTOBER 2017 UPDATE

Autumn is officially here. *A time to give thanks.*

We are excited to bring back our first annual seasonal lunch this month along with other favourites.

It is never too late to order. The Kid's Kitchen hot lunch program is fully flexible and convenient. Place orders at any time for as many days as you like that suits your lifestyle.

Please visit www.kidskitchen.ca to view our full menu.

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL LUNCH

Our popular Thanksgiving Special is available for the month of October only!

Roast Turkey Slices with gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas and carrots with a Mini homemade pumpkin spice cupcake.

Don't delay, place your orders today at www.kidskitchen.ca.

The Thanksgiving lunch is available each day we service your school for the month of October.



OCTOBER SPECIALS

Each month, we feature new specials and combos to bring you even more variety!

For the month of October your child can enjoy:

**Salisbury steak with steamed veggies or
BLT sandwich on a Kaiser bun (with turkey bacon)**

These are available as an entrée only or as a combo.

Our October specials are only available till October 31st. Place your orders today!



Now available - fresh baked pumpkin pies and pumpkin spice cupcakes!

Our in-house nut free bakery The Sweet Dish is currently featuring fresh pumpkin pies and pumpkin spice cupcakes.

Order for your Thanksgiving celebrations with family & friends. These goodies and more are nut-free and baked fresh to order!

Need something different to wow your guests? Ask about our novelty cake jars and push pops!

Call us to order for your next event.

905.604.6447 | thesweetdish.ca

mytreats@thesweetdish.ca



Made from scratch every day.

Your child(ren)'s lunches will always be made fresh in the morning. If we can't make something, we only use suppliers that share our passion for high quality food.

Stay in the know! Don't miss any important lunch updates.

Be sure to subscribe to Kid's Kitchen emails for specials, reminders and account updates.

Create your account or sign in at www.kidskitchen.ca. In your Account Profile, check the box "Send me lunch reminders and details for specials."

Ordering is easy!

Login to place your orders at www.kidskitchen.ca

Orders are accepted until 10am the previous business day (on Friday for Monday orders).

Spend more quality time with your kids. Leave the lunches to us!

905.944.0210 | www.kidskitchen.ca | information@kidskitchen.ca

