



MUSTANG NEWS

OCTOBER 26, 2012

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for coming out to our **"Meet and Greet"** Evening at the beginning of the month. It is so important that our students see that the staff and parents are communicating and working together. Repeatedly we have examples of immediate improvement of student achievement and well-being with a simple phone call or meeting between teacher and parent. Another excellent communication tool is the agenda. Parents should be checking the agenda each night to see that their child has completed all tasks assigned for homework.

Teachers of students identified with exceptionalities have been preparing **Individual Educational Plans**; these plans have gone home to consult and inform parents about the accommodations and in some cases modifications to the Ontario curriculum for their children.

Teachers are contacting parents about developing **Growth Plans** for their child to support their success in certain subject areas. **Growth plans** are also prepared for students who have significant areas of need in the area of "Learning Skills" and "Work Habits". Those areas would include: Responsibility, Organization, Independent Work, Collaboration, Initiative, and Self-Regulation. See page 2 for the YRDSB K-12 definition of each of these above mentioned skills. We are dedicated to meeting the needs of each child in our school. With your support we will work together so that your child will be successful socially, emotionally and academically.

Progress reports will be going home on November 22, 2012. Parent Teacher interviews will be held on Thursday November 23rd afterschool and evening and on Friday November 23 during the day.

Secondary School Parent information nights have already begun for our grade 8 students. See page 7 for the list of evening sessions at the various schools. Our John McCrae students in our mainstream program are designated to attend Bur Oak Secondary School. Our students in our gifted learner program are designated to attend Markville Secondary School. All students can consider applying to the following programmes: Healthy Active Living and Sport School at Bill Crothers SS, Arts Unionville at Unionville H.S. or the IB programme at Bayview SS. If interested in any of these regional programmes please attend the information nights and get applications in on time.

Our next school assembly is scheduled for Monday October 29th at 11:15 (for all Full Day Kindergarten Classes, as well as grades 1 and 2 students); at 12:00 (for all grades 3 – 8 students). The focus of the assembly: Healthy Living and Being an Upstander!

See you soon!

Lori Hall

Would you like to volunteer with school-related activities this year at John McCrae P.S.?

See page 4 for details.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct. 29	Grade 3s Healthy Living Focus Assembly
	Unionville High School Arts Open House for parents and students 7:00 pm
Oct. 30	FDK classes to Whittamore's Farm
	Bayview SS IB program Open House ,6:30 pm
Oct. 31	Grade 1 trip to Safety Village
Nov. 7	Grade 8s visit Bur Oak Secondary School
Nov. 9	Remembrance Day Assembly—Grade 1 and 2—9:00am—9:50am
	Grades 3—8 9:50am—10:40am
Nov. 12	Grade 3s to Black Creek Pioneer Village
Nov. 14	Immunization Grade 8 girls only HPV
Nov. 15	Picture Re-take Day
Nov. 21	Progress reports go home
Nov. 22	Parent-Teacher Interviews, afterschool
Nov. 23	Parent-Teacher Interview day
Dec. 17 / 18	Vivian Trip Grade 2s
Dec. 19	Vivian Trip Grade 4s
Dec. 20 / 21	Vivian Trip Grade 7s
Dec. 24-Jan. 3	Winter holidays



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.edu.on.ca

Principal: Ms. Lori Hall
Vice Principal: Ms. Robin Cockburn
Office: Mrs. Whitefield/Mrs. Dunlop

Superintendent of Schools:
Mr. Daniel Wu : 905-940-7800

School Trustee:
Mr. Allan Tam : 416-898-9607

School Council Chairs
Ms. Margaret Mao ; Mr Roy Pedropillai



தமிழில் விபரங்களை அறிய அழையுங்கள்:

தொடர்பு பெறத் தொடர்புபிள்ளை: (416) 917-3108

மொத்தின் ரமணன்: (647) 977-4905

For a Mandarin translation of this newsletter,
please contact Margaret Mao

Email: longarmding@yahoo.com

Home: (905)471-7098

Cell: (416) 258-6525

YRDSB K-12 Working Definitions of “Learning Skills and Work Habits” Fall 2012

Responsibility refers to a culture where students are respectful of themselves, others, and materials. By being accountable for fulfilling commitments, completing and submitting assignments based on agreed upon timelines, and managing behavior in acceptable ways, a student exhibits responsibility. A student who is responsible shows respect for others, recognizes needs of others, and accepts responsibility for consequences resulting from actions, behaviours, and contributions.

Organization involves creating and following a plan by prioritizing tasks, setting goals and revising the plan to complete a task on time. A student enhances their readiness and ability to learn and/or engage in an activity by having all resources available to complete a task.

An independent learner is a self-directed student whose thoughts, energy, and time are managed to successfully complete a task within a reasonable time frame. When working independently, students understand and follow the academic, personal and community expectations that have been established. Independent students identify, manage, and respond to the challenges that arise (e.g., time, next steps) when working towards achieving learning goals and expectations. They adjust plans and/or access resources (e.g., learning tools, strategies, people) to support their success.

Collaboration supports collective learning among students. It is the ability to relate well to others, to cooperate, to contribute and work in teams, cohesively with mutual respect. Students engage in critical thinking to build consensus, solve problems, make decisions, and resolve conflicts. Students who demonstrate collaboration can work interdependently, engage others, actively listens, constructively contributes, respectfully challenges ideas, thinks strategically and is open to new ideas.

Initiative is evidence of a student's internal drive to do what they believe needs to be done to improve their learning and/or the learning of others. Their actions are productive and may include risk taking, curiosity, innovation and advocating for themselves and others.

Self Regulation refers to how students think about their thinking and their learning (metacognition), how they take strategic action to learn (self-assessment) and how they engage socially and emotionally in learning (engagement). *Ministry of Education.*

At first glance our students are doing very very well when looking at our EQAO results:

You can read the detailed report at : www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/w/eqao/12/458-12.pdf

Once again we saw significant improvement of our students achievement in grade 6 from their performance in grade 3. We are very pleased with the performance of our students with learning disabilities and language impairments. They were able to access the curriculum through their assistive devices and in most assessments reach the standard. On our recent PA day, we examined the data and noted the following needed areas for improvement.....

focus on reading materials that will engage boys

-increase the use of manipulative and technology to solve mathematical problems

-work on building confidence in math among all students

Classroom Safe and Supportive Visits -- Article written by Ms. Hall

In order that students can achieve, they need to feel safe. It is the ongoing work of our school staff to create learning and working environments that are positive. Ms Cockburn and I have taken considerable time these last few weeks to visit classrooms to share with students some key messages and to hear from the students about how they will help our school to have an even more positive and inclusive environment. Classroom Safe and Supportive

For our Grades 1 and 2 students, we focused the message on the following:

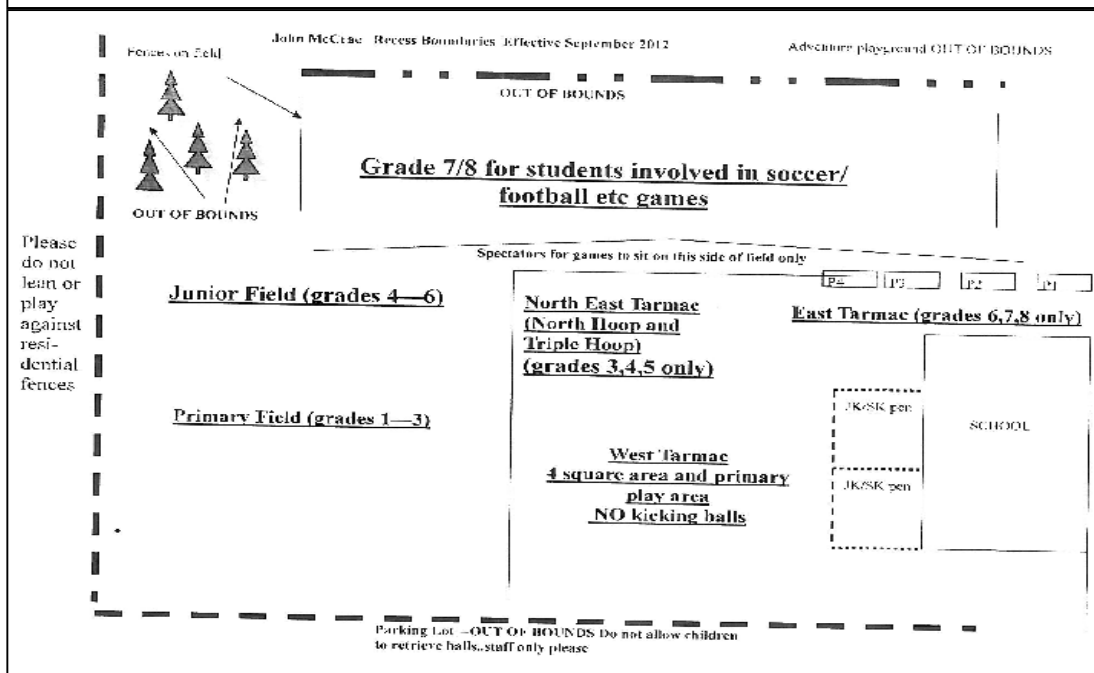
- **Boundaries** – please see the map below so that you can remind your children that they need to stay in their specified location during recess
- Children are only to play with other children in their own grade or **one grade up or one grade below**
- When a child comes up to another child to ask if they can play, our students need to say **“Yes you can play”**
- Keep working on walking on the **right side of the hallway**
- Continue to use the **exit and entrance B1**
- **No trading** of items
- Be sure to **dress appropriately** for the weather (parents are advised to see the YRDSB message regarding extreme weather on page 9)
- When we build something outside in the sandbox or the snow it is simply there for the particular recess period, **we do not own it**
- **Second Chances** – we all deserve a second chance. All children need to be welcomed and should not be isolated.

For our Grades 3 - 8 students In addition to the above.....

- Exit/entrance A1 for the following classes: Mr. Skilling, Ms. Cusimano, Ms. Choy
- Exit/entrance B1 for the following classes: Ms. Hoffenberg, Ms. Ducheck
- Exit/entrance C1 for the following classes: Mr. Kassam, Mr. Cheung, Ms. Bragan, Mr. McGouran
- Exit/entrance D1 for the following classes: Ms. Wong, Ms. Gorgey, Ms. Ukposidolo, Ms. Grandbois
- Exit/entrance at portable for the following classes: Mr. Brandt, Ms. Barnes, Ms. Baj, and Ms. Cherbel
- **Students are not to bring knives of any type to school** – if a knife is discovered we are expected to notify the Superintendent immediately. An automatic 20 day suspension could result with an automatic expulsion hearing.
- **No tackling** – many students are interested in touch football but there is to be no tackling
- **Seek adults for assistance** – unlike the younger students, these students will often wait a little too long before seeking adult assistance; encourage students to seek adult assistance early before the small issue becomes a big issue
- **Our School Improvement Plan focus:** recognizing that each student has different strengths and needs and those needs may require accommodations and modifications. And that all children repeat strengths or needs are important members of our John McCrae school community.
- **Key Elements of Bullying:** power, targeted and typically repeated

If you have any questions about anything above, please contact us or your child's classroom teacher. We would be happy to discuss the points more fully with you. Please see be;pw for the field picture of boundaries and page 9 for YRDSB extreme weather message.

Student Play Areas at Recess



Dear Parents and Students,

We are very pleased to inform you that the 2012 /13 JMPS Council and its executive team have been elected as per the voting outcome at the October 19th meeting. This year, quite a few new members joined the School Council.

The new council will continue to provide full support with the programs such as pizza/sub lunches, healthy snacks, and many others. The pizza/sub order form which covers the whole school year will be sent to students by October 26th (this Friday). The pizza/sub lunch will start from November 15th. The healthy snacks, strongly led by Ms. Tracy Choy and several voluntary parents will start on November 5th.

The council represents you and welcomes your inputs. Please take this great opportunity and be part of the great JMPS community. With your support and contributions, our school, our kids and our community will be even BETTER!

Our Next Meeting will be: Wednesday, November 14th at 7:00 pm.

Best Regards,

Roy Pedropillai (Co-Chair)/Margaret Mao (Co-Chair)/Deepak Varma (Treasurer)
on behalf of the School Council

All parents new to volunteering in school-related activities **at John McCrae P.S. must have a Vulnerable Sector Screening (VSS) conducted by the Police Department before they can volunteer in any capacity at John McCrae P.S.** Once you have received the VSS, bring it to the office and we will keep it at the school on file. In subsequent years you will need to sign the Annual Offence Declaration form at the school only. **The cost of the VSS if you are a volunteer is \$20.00.** You will not have to incur this cost in any future years that you intend to volunteer because you will complete the Annual Offence Declaration at the school at no cost.

If you are considering volunteering at the school **ask your child's teacher to send home the VSS application as well as a letter from our school indicating that you wish to volunteer here.**

Go to the police station in Aurora located at 47 Don Hillock Drive — completed in approx 1 week; or go to the police station at Hillcrest Mall, Richmond Hill — completed in approx 3—4 weeks.

If you have volunteered in past years, you need to complete the Annual Offence Declaration and Confidentiality agreement at the school prior to resuming volunteering in this school year.

WANTED PARENTS FOR JMPS PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH STUDENTS AND STAFF
TO ORGANIZE ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE
PARENT ENGAGEMENT HERE AT JMPS

MEETING WILL BE DEPENDENT ON MEMBERS AVAILABILITY



PLEASE CONTACT ROBIN COCKBURN, VP AT 905 294 9122 EXT 183



DONATION RESULTS

Thank you to those who gave a donation back in September. We would like to advise that we raised \$2760.52 that will be used towards enhancement of programming at JMPS. We will consult with the school council and staff before the spending of these funds. We will keep you informed of our decisions.

A focus for School Improvement at John McCrae P.S. is recognizing that each student has different strengths and needs and those needs may require accommodations and modifications. We all need to keep in mind that all children despite strengths or needs are important members of our John McCrae school community.

Artistic Talents of a Student with Learning Disabilities

This is a demonstration of the abilities and skills of a student with a LD. Remembering that students with LD, have average to above average intellect, often, possess a talent or skill and have an area of strength that is above average. In this case, this student exhibits incredible strengths in visual-spatial ability and visual-spatial memory!

Learning Disabilities Association –
York Region (LDAYR)

For information, community and parent programs and much more – visit LDAYR @
<http://www.ldayr.org>



LDAYR AND EVOKE LEARNING PRESENT:



Workshop Information:

Saturday, November 3, 2012
10am-12pm

Cost:
\$65 non-LDAYR members
\$50 LDAYR members

LDA-York Region
11181 Yonge Street
Richmond Hill, Ontario
(905) 884-7833 EXT. 23



www.evokelearning.ca

Workshop fees are transferable
but non-refundable.

Parenting the Child with Executive Function and ADHD Challenges

Life with a child with ADHD and/or executive function challenges can be frustrating and overwhelming, but as a parent there is a lot you can do to help control and reduce the symptoms. You can help your child overcome daily challenges, channel his or her energy into positive arenas, and bring greater calm to your family. The earlier and more consistently you address your child's challenges, the greater chance they have for success. Children with ADHD often have deficits in executive function: the ability to think and plan ahead, organize, control impulses, and complete tasks. As a parent, this means you may need to provide extra guidance while your child gradually acquires executive skills of his or her own.

This workshop will answer many questions parents have about executive function and ADHD and help parents understand:

- what exactly is ADHD and executive function and how they are connected
- current ADHD and Executive Function research
- the myths and facts about ADHD and executive function challenges
- how ADHD and executive function deficits impact academic performance
- the social and emotional impact of ADHD and executive function disorder
- ADHD, executive function challenges and your child's IEP
- strategies that help

Email: info@ldayr.org

www.ldayr.org

'Meet and Greet' Parent Engagement Feedback.

We were very pleased with the number of parents and family members that came out to our Meet and Greet evening. We have spent the last few weeks collating the feedback from our 4 corner activity, below are just a few of the responses we received.

Family Participation in Decision Making

- more parent engagement in the school
- ideas around engaging student in environmental issues
- well being and healthy eating
- field trips



Building Relationships and Effective Communication

we have a list now of parents wanting to come in and share their professions and hobbies.

If you will like to offer sharing your hobby or profession to some of the students please call

Robin Cockburn at 905 294 9122

A Culture that includes every Family

- parent networking night, a potluck, family activities,
- some family activity may help us to get more involved
- community involvement meetings, should happen on weekends if possible , on weekdays parents too busy to be involved with anything
- involve in council meetings to share other parent's thoughts
- fundraising (walks, musical events, concerts, student participation in a musical or dramatic performance)
- web based parent community
- robotics club

Empowering Every Family

- workshop to help kids in specific areas such as better organizing skills, presentation skills, safety.
- workshop to teach parents how to teach their kids and help them improve without doing work for them
- picnics
- educational workshops
- communication in native language will help
- involve parents in fundraising drives

Thank you to all the parents that offered their suggestions.

JMPS STUDENT CHOSEN FOR THE LEGISLATURE

Parnika, a grade 8 student in Ms. Gorgey's class recently completed a 6 week term serving as a Legislative Page at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. Originally, her term of duty was expected to be four weeks long, however Parnika was one of the few pages to be called in to help out when the Legislature was called back two weeks early. According to Parnika, "This was my first job and I absolutely loved it. I was incredibly fortunate to be selected for this once in a lifetime opportunity to work in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. It is an excellent way to learn more about how our province is governed." She enjoyed every moment of her time in the Chamber and was particularly fond of Question Period. Parnika had the opportunity to observe all the debates firsthand and meet with party leaders such as Hon. Dalton McGuinty (Liberal), MPP Tim Hudak (PC) and MPP Andrea Horwath (NDP). One of Parnika's most treasured experiences was the opportunity to meet with Dr. Helena Jaczek, MPP for Oak Ridges-Markham, over lunch at the dining room in Queen's Park. "It is always a pleasure to meet with bright, high-achieving students like Parnika," says Dr. Helena Jaczek, MPP, Oak Ridges – Markham. The Legislative Page Program provides a great opportunity for young people to experience how government works and I encourage students to apply." During her term as a Legislative Page, Parnika served as a messenger on the floor of the Legislative Chamber and learned firsthand about Ontario's parliamentary system of government. One of her first tasks was to study, memorize and learn the faces, names, seats and ridings of all the 107 Members of Provincial Parliament. Pages such as Parnika play an important role in the Ontario Legislature. During a typical day in the program, Pages arrive at Queen's Park at approximately 8:00 a.m., dressed in their uniforms and then prepare the Legislative Chamber for the morning's debates. As the day progresses, Pages are involved in a number of activities including delivering messages and water for the MPPs in the Chamber and meeting with key legislative players such as the party leaders and the Speaker of the House. Pages are taught the legislative process and receive various assignments to develop their language skills. Most pages also have the opportunity to participate in a mock debate. They are also tutored in mathematics, and on Fridays, Pages participate in special educational activities or field trips. Parnika has become more independent as she has learned to use public transit during her daily commute from Mount Joy Station in Markham to Queen's Park. "I believe I've improved my leadership and team working skills. I've also gained valuable experience for jobs in the future," says Parnika. She cherishes the amazing field trips with fellow pages and has made many great friendships. She strongly recommends the Page Program and encourages other students to apply so they can have an amazing experience outside of the standard elementary school curriculum.

For additional information please contact the Legislative Page Program at 416-325-7457 or at page_program@ontla.ola.org.

SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT MEETINGS

Unionville HS Arts Unionville¹	October 29, 2012 (@ The Markham Theatre)	7:00 pm	
Bayview S.S. International Baccalaureate (IB)¹	October 30, 2012	6:30pm	
Bill Crothers SS Healthy Living and Sport¹	November 8, 2012	7:00 pm	
Markville SS²	November 28, 2012	7:00 pm	
Pierre E Trudeau HS³	January 14, 2013	7:00 pm	
Bur Oak SS³	January 15, 2013	7:00 pm	
Stouffville DSS³	January 16, 2013	7:00 pm	

¹ An area/regional program that has an application process. Only students accepted into the programme may attend.

²The designated school for JMPS students that are identified as gifted and that wish to continue in a Partially Integrated Placement for students that are identified as gifted learners

³Students that live within the school boundaries of this secondary school may attend this school

JMPS CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country is a sport which helps build endurance, perseverance, and character through long distance running. The distances vary for all grades, ranging from 1200 metres in 4th grade to about 2600 metres in 8th grade. Although it may seem like a challenge, the results will surely pay off. All 120 participants from McCrae ran a good race, and some of them even made it to Regionals.

This year, Cross Country was organized by Mr. Cheung and Mr. Doucet, with the help of a few students. The field was measured and the distances were calculated to help the runners practice. Training was held at recesses this year, and many of our runners put in a lot of time and effort to receive the best results.

The Area Meet was held at the Markham Fairgrounds on October 15, 2012. Unfortunately, the weather was poor, with a low temperature and gusting winds. Our athletes arrived early and did a walkthrough before the first races. Despite the poor conditions, our runners did very well.

The following runners received ribbons at the Area meet:

Yu Tien, an amazing 4th grader who had an awesome run and gave John McCrae our first ribbon from a 4th grader which was also our first ribbon, coming in 10th place.

Kylie and Tara are both 5th grade runners who received 6th and 12th places in the competition. Both of them put a lot of effort into their runs and pushed themselves past their limit to achieve this feat.

Ceo, from grade 6, once again achieved a place in the Regionals. He improved greatly from last year, going from 13th place to 9th. He also did better than last year at Regionals.

Evelyn from grade 7, ran her hardest, placing in 9th. She beat her previous Regionals score as well. Also from 7th grade, Thenura placed in 5th place, and amazed John McCrae.

Raveen and Ahad from grade 8 both made it into Regionals placing in 2nd and 7th place respectively. Raveen earned himself 13th place in Regionals. Both runners also made it to Regionals last year, and beat their previous scores.

Great job to all our runners. We hope to see you next year! **GO MUSTANGS GO!**

By: Evelyn J. and Jessica L.
(with help from Jonathan A.Y.)



A single dream. A world of hope.
The Terry Fox Foundation
COPYRIGHT © TERRY FOX FOUNDATION

The Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox run on October 5th 2012, was a blast. Kids were streaming through the doors and running around the block of John McCrae. Students had the opportunity to run the school marathon around our school neighborhood while parents and teachers supported us. Everyone was working together to make this day successful. John McCrae is one of the many schools in York Region who helped to raise money for cancer research. Our school's goal was to raise \$3000.00 however, we fell short and managed to raise \$2750.00. Still, an excellent effort Mustangs!

We would like to thank all the parents for helping to raise money for a good cause, and especially those parents who were able to participate. Special thanks go out to those students who volunteered to be "rabbits" for the primary class and to Mr. Doucet, Mr. Cheung, and Charlie who were the "Big Rabbits".

Terry Fox had a lot of determination, and our school had a lot of passion for what we did. Once again, our school has done the Terry Fox run, not only to raise money for cancer research but to keep Terry's dream of finding a cure for cancer alive. Hopefully, next year we will be able to continue to support this wonderful cause.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS



HEY MUSTANGS!

We just wanted to let you know that the healthy schools Crew is back on it's feet. This year, we are concentrating on making a more effective approach by dividing our efforts into four sectors: the Healthy Eating Crew, the Active Living Crew, the Hygiene Crew, and the Communications Crew. Of these, the Hygiene Crew and the Communications Crew are new additions.

The Healthy Eating Crew will be in charge of our Snack Bin program, which will be starting this November. We're also planning on continuing our You're The Chef program, which is centered around teaching kids how to plan and cook nutritious meals for themselves and their families. In addition to this, we hope to provide snack cooking classes and recipes posted online for students, so that they can provide themselves with healthy and easy to make school snacks.

Traditionally, the Active Living Crew's goal is to make our school more physically active by the Pause to Play and IWalk programs. While these programs are great, we feel as a crew that it would be great if we could have more opportunities to get active, especially in the winter time, when it's icy and cold. We are currently planning sports workshops to teach students new kinds of seasonal sports and school wide sports days.


The Hygiene Crew is a very new addition to the crew. It is centered around the idea that healthiness is not just eating well and getting active. The Hygiene sector is working on getting filters for classroom sinks to promote clean water and hand sanitizer dispensers strategically placed around the school for clean hands.

This article has been brought to you by the Communications Crew, a radical new addition focused on getting information from all the other sectors to students and parents. We are in charge of all announcements and posters, but right now we are working on an online bulletin board to keep you updated.

Stay tuned for more information!

By: Joni P.





YORK REGIONAL POLICE

Parent Information Session on Drug Awareness

When	Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 7 p.m.
Where	Markham Civic Centre, The Canada Room 101 Town Centre Blvd., Markham, ON

We invite all community members to join us for a presentation hosted by the York Regional Police Guns and Gangs Prevention Unit. Officers will share important information on drug awareness and Neighbourhood Watch. Interactive drug displays will be available with a question and answer period to follow after.

We will be discussing:

- What you need to know about drugs
- Tips to detect drug use
- What is Neighbourhood Watch
- How to start a Neighbourhood Watch Group

RSVP to Constable Anandvir Gill at 1782@yrp.ca or 1-866-876-5423 ext. 7526 no later than Friday, November 2, 2012.

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

After many weeks of training, the Intermediate Girls Volleyball Team has now been chosen. It was a tough process with all of the girls who tried out showing great determination, talent, and positive attitude, but in the end, we have decided to go with 12 girls. Congratulations to the 12 girls, and a big thank you to all of the other girls who tried out. This looks like it's going to be a promising season.

Good luck girls!

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

All students are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal or vice-principal decides that weather conditions are such that it would be detrimental for students to be outdoors. Students are to come to school dressed for outdoor play and prepared to be outdoors up to 40 minutes after lunch. Weather, including temperature, wind chill, sun/cloud conditions and wind velocity, is continuously monitored and in extreme weather conditions, recess breaks may be shortened or students kept indoors.

During the cold months of winter, students should be dressed appropriately for weather conditions:

- Bring a change of clothes, including socks, in case a change is needed due to wet and cold weather
- Dress in layers of loose-fitting clothing
- Cover and protect exposed skin from the harsh elements
- Boots, hats, scarves, snow pants and mitts or gloves will help make recess an enjoyable time

During the hot sunny weather, students should protect themselves by:

- Seeking shade or creating their own
- Wearing a hat and suitable clothing to cover their skin
- Putting on sunglasses (that provide UV protection) to protect their eyes
- Applying sunscreen 20 minutes before exposure to the sun.

Parents sometimes request their children be kept indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Students with illnesses 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 also benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

If road conditions force the cancellation of bus services, the following stations will be informed as early as possible, and will broadcast pertinent information to the community.

RADIO

640 AM	CHAY 93.1 FM	NEWS 680 AM	CHIN 1540 AM	CJEZ 97.3 FM
CJBC 860 AM	CHUM 104.5 FM	CHFI 98.1 FM	CFRB 1010 AM	CKDX 88.5 FM
CKFM 99.9 FM	CHUM 1050 AM	CBC 99.1 FM	CHIN 100.7 FM	JACK 92.5 FM
Q107 107.1 FM	Z103.5 FM	CJCL 590 AM	CJKX 89.9 FM	95.9 FM

TELEVISION

CFTO TV CITY TV GLOBAL NEWS A-CHANNEL THE WEATHER CHANNEL

You can also visit www.schoolbuscity.com or contact the York Region Student Transportation Services School Bus Information Line at 1-877-330-3001 for bus cancellation information. Parents and students should plan an alternative place to go should bus service be cancelled or delayed, or should schools be forced to close due to an emergency. Related Information:

[Extreme Hot and Cold Weather and UV Protection Guideline](#)

[Inclement Weather and Emergency Conditions Policy](#)

[Student Transportation Services](#)

[Environment Canada Wind Chill Information](#)

DECISION MAKING

TALKING TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT DECISION MAKING



Talking to Your Children about Decision Making

It happens every day... we make decisions from the moment we wake to the moment we fall asleep. Because we are bombarded with decisions every minute of every day it is easy to take for granted the processes we use to make those decisions. Worse still we often forget that our children have the resources and are capable of making good decisions provided that they are equipped with the skills to identify choices and weigh each before acting.

The Importance of Involving Children in Decision Making?

Children need to see themselves as competent, confident beings. If we are unable to see them in this way it is likely they will not develop the confidence needed to make decisions as well as we might like them to. Children need the opportunities to challenge themselves, test their ideas, make mistakes and learn from them. Learning how to make decisions is an important life skill but just like any other skill it takes time to master. As parents how we engage our children in this learning process can make the difference between a competent, confident individual and one who lacks the confidence and/or ability to take responsibility for their own success.

Helpful Hints:

1. With your child identify the choices that needs to be made and the options that are available. As your child's skill in identifying options develops let them take the lead in defining the options available.
2. Work with your child to gather information about each choice.
3. Help your child identify and evaluate the positive and negative outcomes of each choice.
Can the decision be reversed? What can be learned from the experience of others who have had to make similar decisions? Are there options to be considered?
4. Let your child make the decision.
5. Evaluate the choice. Did things work out as expected? If not, what is the next step?

The following mnemonic might be helpful as a reminder for children of a systematic approach to decision making:

- I - Identify the problem/decision to be made
- D - Describe the problem/decision
- E - Evaluate the pros/cons of the various options
- A - Act by making a choice
- L - Learn from the decision

Did You Know...

The average person makes over 1000 decisions each day.

Source: Wikipedia

To learn more about decision making and other social-emotional and academic learning skills visit www.mindtools.com