

# Markham Gateway

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Home of the Titans



**PRINCIPAL**  
**GARY YOUNG**

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**VICE PRINCIPAL**  
**PADMINI**  
**PADIACHY**

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**SUPERINTENDENT**  
**OF SCHOOLS**  
**ERIK KHILJI**

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**SCHOOL TRUSTEE**  
**JUANITA NATHAN**

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## Important Dates

- April 14 - Good Friday.
- April 17 - Easter Monday.
- April 27 - Pizza Lunch.  
K/1  
Transition - parent  
Session 2&3.  
School Council  
Meeting.  
Move-A-Thon.
- April 28 - Student Success  
Assembly @ 1:30  
p.m.

**Courtesy**

**Cooperation**

**Consideration**

**Commitment**

April 2017

## Message from the Administration

March was an exciting month at Markham Gateway! Students and staff were busy with many new events and special experiences that were planned. As part of the YRDSB Foundational Practices of Equity, Leadership and Innovation, students and staff led initiatives which focused on raising awareness of Human Rights, with recognition, appreciation and respect for our culturally diverse community. Innovative learning experiences helped students explore important themes of acceptance, equity and anti-discrimination, as represented by the cultural mosaic of our community of learners and community partners who visited the school.

Early in March, we hosted students and special guests from Milliken Mills P.S. who performed at the Lunar New Year Assembly, followed by learning stations. All classes visited these various stations, participating in Martial Arts, Paper Design and Origami, Calligraphy. Finally, each class had a class picture taken at the photo booth. Before we closed for March break, students, staff and community celebrated Black History, Heritage and Culture with an assembly and a "Move-a-thon". Special Guest, Ms. Josette Leader taught everyone about the history of the steelpan and the evolution of steelpan music today. Students reflected on the important messages from Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela, followed by poetry from Maya Angelou. They learned about the resilience and perseverance of leaders such as Harriet Tubman and were inspired by her "Dreamer" quote. The assembly wrapped up to the

beat of D.J. Joshua who played global sounds and took everyone on a "Global Rhythmic Tour"!

To further our learning of Equity as a foundational practice, we brought in a display and presentation to promote Culturally Relevant Pedagogy and Resources to our Learning Commons. This was set up with 2 TV Monitors (English & Tamil) to show the ancient legend of Ponnivala, produced by Dr. Brenda Beck, Associate Professor of UFT. The Legend of Ponnivala is a story that traces back to ancient India, and follows one family, through three generations. Students all took turns visiting the Learning Commons with the classmates to attend a presentation by Dr. Beck. She talked about cultural identity, universal themes, cross-curricular connections and rich critical inquiry to support critical thinking, and promote personal connections. Finally, students presented classical arts and culture in the Tamil Heritage assembly.

We were proud to host two dynamic events which wrapped up the month of March. The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was a collaboration between staff and students of Markham Gateway P.S., Milliken Mills P.S., Cedarwood P.S., and E.T. Crowle P.S. This event was attended by many Community leaders and Advocates for Social Justice. YRDSB Director Parappally attended with Superintendent Erik Khilji, and both brought greetings and perspectives on Equity, Innovation and Leadership in their respective messages to the audience and school community. Deputy Mayor Heath brought greetings from the Markham City Council. Important themes and concepts of Social Justice were at the forefront of critical inquiry on Human Rights.

Students understood the significance of human rights in everyday work and play, and have become strong advocates for social change, equity and inclusion. Students paid tribute to First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities by launching our "Ribbons of Reconciliation" Campaign, in honor of the survivors of the Residential School System in Canada. They pledged to work and advocate for a changing society served by foundational, universal values. Students and staff are excited to continue this journey of inquiry, learning and advocacy.

The second event, "Family Math Night" was coordinated to share valuable strategies on how families can organize math games, puzzles and problem solving in their homes. Stations were set up around the school and families participated in various stations. The event was a great success, and now many students and their families will enjoy learning math at home, and spend time thinking about and solving problems. Student leaders facilitated the sessions with staff, and all families were inspired to practice the games and math strategies in their homes.

April will bring rich new learning and engagement for our school community. We remind families to slow down when driving into the drop off area in the morning and afternoon. Students are also reminded to get to their pick-up area as soon as possible after the bell rings in the afternoon.

## Next School Council

Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

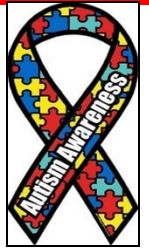
6:00—7:00 pm in the Library





APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup> IS ...

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY



April 2<sup>nd</sup> is World Autism Awareness day. One in sixty - four children are diagnosed with ASD. Individuals with Autism may experience social and communication challenges and may have repetitive behaviours. At Markham Gateway P.S. we have 2 Community Classes to help support ASD students in our community. In honour of our students and World Autism Day, we will be selling one-of-a-kind key chains, zipper pulls, bookmarks and bracelets, all for \$3.00 each! We will also offer rubber bands for \$2 each. These items are currently on display in the school showcase in front of the office for you to take review. The sale will be held from Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 during the lunch hour. Choose from a pre-made selection, or you can come and create your own! Please support our ASD students and also help raise awareness and acceptance on their behalf. Thank you MGPS families!!!

STUDENT SUCCESS ASSEMBLIES

**April - Friday Apr. 28, Day 5, (1:30)**

**May - Wednesday May 31, Day 2, (10:30)**

**June - Tuesday June 27, Day 5, (TBD)**



Pizza Lunch Dates



**Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Thursday, June 22<sup>th</sup>, 2017**





The York Region District School Board **Summer Institute** is a program that offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Programs are offered at in Richmond Hill, Markham, Stouffville, Newmarket, Woodbridge, Vaughan and Georgina from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

YMCA Before and Aftercare programs available at all locations

#### [YMCA Before and After Care Registration](#)

#### **Weekly Sessions July 4, 2017 to August 11, 2017**

For registration information and to see what types of exciting programs are being offered this summer, please visit [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca) and select programs and services.

#### **Summer Institute Site**

[Armadale S.I.](#)

[Crosby Heights S.I.](#)

[Discovery S.I. \(located at Teston Village P.S.\)](#)

[Lakeside S.I.](#)

[Lake Wilcox S.I.](#)

[Maple Leaf S.I. \(located at Glen Cedar P.S.\)](#)

[Milliken Mills S.I. \(located at Highgate P.S.\)](#)

[Oscar Peterson S.I.](#)

[Sixteenth Avenue S.I.](#)

[Unionville Meadows S.I.](#)

[Woodbridge S.I.](#)

#### **Address**

11 Coppard Ave., Markham

190 Neal Dr., Richmond Hill

80 Murray Farm Lane., Maple

213 Shorecrest Rd., Keswick

80 Wildwood Ave., Richmond Hill

915 Wayne Dr., Newmarket

35 Highgate Dr., Markham

850 Hoover Park Dr., Stouffville

400 Sixteenth Ave., Richmond Hill

355 South Unionville Ave., Markham

60 Burwick Ave., Woodbridge

For additional information please email [performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca](mailto:performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca) or call 905-884-2046 ext. 240.



### **Simplified Chinese**

约克区教育局的暑期学院是一个提供学术、休闲娱乐和体育活动的课程，它是本着安大略省幼儿园到 8 年級的兒童和青年課程所特意连接开设的。

从 2017 年 7 月 4 日至 2017 年 8 月 11 日，地区内 11 所小学每周都提供课程。

课程计划和注册信息均可在约克区教育局网站

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/summer/si/Pages/Summer-Institute-Registration.aspx> 查看。

如需要更多资料可电邮到 [performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca](mailto:performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca) 或致电 905-884-2046 暑期学院办公室分机 240 查询。

### **Hindi**

यॉक क्षेत्र के जिला स्कूल बोर्ड के शीष्मकालीन संस्थान एक कार्यक्रम है जो बाल विहार से ब्रेड 8 के बच्चों के लिए ओटारियो पाठ्यक्रम के साथ लिंक, शैक्षिक, खेल-कूद और पुष्ट कार्यक्रमों और गतिविधियों को प्रदान करता है।

साप्ताहिक सत्र पूरे क्षेत्र के 11 प्राथमिक विद्यालयों में 4 जुलाई 2017 से 11 अगस्त 2017 को पेशकश किए जाये गे।

शीष्मकालीन संस्थान कार्यक्रम और पंजीकरण के बारे में सूचना YRDSB वेबसाइट पर कार्यक्रमों और सेवाओं के तहत उपलब्ध है।

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/summer/si/Pages/Summer-Institute-Registration.aspx>

अधिक जानकारी के लिए ईमेल: [performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca](mailto:performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca) या 905-884-2046 ext 240 पर शीष्मकालीन संस्थान कार्यालय से संपर्क करें।

### **Tamil**

யோக் பிராந்திய கல்விச்சபையால் முழலையர் முதல் தரம் எட்டு வரையான மாணவர்களுக்கான கோடைகால வகுப்புக்கள். இதில் கல்வி, பொழுதுபோக்கு, மற்றும் விளையாட்டு நிகழ்ச்சிகளுடன் ஒன்றாரியோ பாடத்திட்டத்திற்கமைய நடாத்தப்படும்.

ஆடி 4 2016 முதல் ஆவணி 12 2016 வரையுள்ள காலப்பகுதியில் வாரந் தோறும் 11 ஆரம்பப் பாடசாலைகளில்

இயங்கவுள்ளது.

பதிவு தகவல்களை பெற விரும்பினால் யோக் பிராந்திய கல்விச் சபை இணையத்தளத்திற்கு சென்று திட்டங்கள் மற்றும் சேவைகள் பகுதியை பார்க்கவும்.

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/summer/si/Pages/Summer-Institute-Registration.aspx>

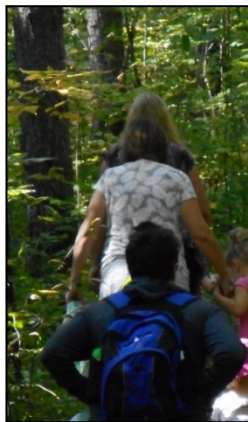
ஏதேனும் கேள்விகள் இருப்பின் மின்னஞ்சல் மூலமாகவோ அல்லது தொலை பேசி மூலமாகவோ தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும் மின்னஞ்சல்: [performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca](mailto:performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca) 905-884-2046 ext. 240.

# News from the Markham Gateway Parenting and Family Literacy Centre



## The Painted Ladies Are Coming Back!

For the sixth year in a row, the Markham Gateway Parenting and Family Literacy Centre will be helping Mother Nature by hatching and releasing 30 Painted Lady butterflies.



The butterflies will arrive at the PFLC as tiny caterpillars the week of April 18th. Next, they will spin a chrysalis before finally turning into beautiful butterflies.

We hope you will come and visit Carlene in Room 127 many times during the months of April and May to watch each stage of this incredible life cycle with your own eyes!

**Parent Worker: Carlene Nembhard**  
**12:30pm**

**Open: Every school day -8:30am-**

**No cost or registration required**  
**dren**

**Snacks are provided for the chil-**

### Positive Parenting tip

April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day! You can celebrate by getting out in your backyard or by taking a walk in a park or forest. Being active in nature can have many health and personal well-being benefits. For more information about the Benefits of Physical Activity in Nature or for information about Earth day celebrations in your community, please go to-  
<http://www.yrnature.ca>



## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration has begun for the 2017-18 school year. Children born in 2013 are eligible for Year 1 kindergarten this September 2017. Children born in 2012 and are currently attending public school are eligible for Year 2 kindergarten in September 2017.

### Documents that are required for registration are as follows:

Proof of child's age - Birth Certificate, if born in Canada.

- Passport, Permanent Resident Card of the child and parents if child is born outside of Canada.

### **Proof of Residency :**

If you own:

- ◆ Purchase Agreement
- ◆ Town of Markham Tax Bill/Utility Bill

If you rent:

- ◆ Landlord/Tenant Lease Agreement

Applications cannot be accepted without these documents . For further information please call the school.



\*\*\*\*\* Please note that hand written letters will not be accepted \*\*\*\*\*

## Exciting news

### Have you heard?

A student from our school won the Happy Hands Art Contest!

A big congratulations to Henry in grade 3!

See it for yourself: <http://www.debgroupp.com/ca/happy-hands>

Thank you to all members of our community who voted



# FOREST OF READING

Dear Families,

We are very excited that our school has been once again participating in the ***Forest of Reading 2017*** program, which is Canada's largest recreational reading program for children and youth! *Forest of Reading* is a voluntary reading program which is designed to promote reading for enjoyment and to increase awareness of quality Canadian literature.

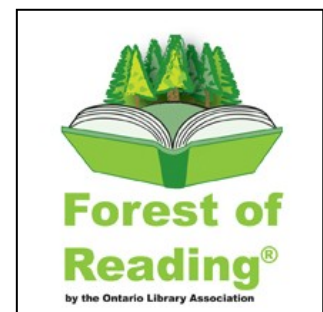
This is how the program works: for each age group (K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8) there is a set of ten books (fiction and non-fiction) written by Canadian authors. Readers must ***read a minimum of five books from February to April*** to be eligible to vote for their favourite book. They may read their books independently, with a family member or a friend. At the end of April, readers will vote for their favourite Canadian title. Based on voting across the country, the most favourite book will be announced and the author will be honoured with a special award at the Festival of Trees!

The various *Forest of Reading* programs that MGPS has been participating in are: **Blue Spruce** (Kindergarten to Grade 2), **Silver Birch Express** (Grades 3 and 4), **Silver Birch Fiction and Non-Fiction** (Grades 5 and 6), and **Red Maple Fiction and Non-Fiction** (Grades 7 and 8). All Kindergarten to Grade 2 students are involved (total of about 160 students) and in Grades 3 to 8 there are over 100 participants who have taken the initiative to join! For K-2, each picture book will be read aloud to their class by different staff members, which we call Guest Readers (administration, teachers, support staff, etc.). There are also many Guest Readers throughout the school who have read the books in the Silver Birch and Red Maple programs. They have made themselves available to ask the students questions about the books they have read and sign their tracking sheets.

To watch a brief parent video about the Forest of Reading programs [click here](#). There are many other resources that you can access on the OLA website (Ontario Library Association). If your child did not join one of the Forest of Reading programs this year, please encourage him/her to join next year!

Happy reading everyone during the final month! J

Ms. Kleiner



## Some Images from Events Happened in March 2017

