

# Markham Gateway

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## Home of the Titans



### PRINCIPAL

**PAUL BATTLER**

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### VICE-PRINCIPAL

**DALIA OSMAN**

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### SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**CAMILLE LOGAN**

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### SCHOOL TRUSTEE

**JUANITA NATHAN**

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### Important Dates

- March 16 - 20  
March Break
- YRDSB Schools closed to students from Monday, March 16th to Friday, April 3rd.
- At this time, schools will be opening back up again on Monday, April 6th for students. Please watch the news for verification as that date approaches.

Courtesy

Cooperation

Consideration

Commitment

### Message from the Administration

Please visit [Google Translate](#) to translate the contents of this message.

It certainly has been an interesting and different kind of winter so far, to say the least. Aside from the various external factors that have been impacting the school, community and school life, the temperatures have generally been milder than the past few years. Having said that, we have had quite a number of snowfalls over the past few months which has made driving conditions less than ideal when dropping off and picking up our students.

We continue to encourage drivers to put safety before convenience and to be patient and follow our established pick up and drop off rules when on and around school property. It is by working together that we can keep our students safe! Part of keeping students safe is to make sure you leave early enough in the morning to clean off your cars of snow and frost so that you can see clearly in all directions. It also allows you to drop off your children in a timely manner so that they can get to class on time.

On that note, we have recently been reviewing our student attendance patterns for regular and punctual attendance at school, as it is an important expectation that students attend school regularly and that they be on time each day. Recognizing that it has been a very unusual year in terms of attendance at school, the research tells us that a key factor to student success, both academically and socially, is consistent and punctual school attendance. We ask that families please ensure that they bring their child(ren) to school on time. We may be connecting with individual families in the near future if our attendance records indicate a high rate of lates. Please remember that our morning entry begins at 8:05 am, that students are expected to be in the school by 8:20 am and morning announcements begin promptly at 8:25 am. Students are marked late if they are not in the classroom by the time announcements begin. Having said that, we ask that you continue to use good judgement when it comes to student illnesses. If your child is sick, they should stay home until they are feeling better.

In terms of school life, the month of January was a busy one for students despite the ETFO job action, as our wonderful teachers continued to do as many extra-curricular activities that they were allowed to do considering the mandated sanctions by their union. The month ended with a Student Success Assembly where students received their Terrific Titan Awards, and both Tamil Heritage Month and the Lunar New year were recognized and celebrated. The day of the assembly was also Bell Let's Talk Day and important information about mental health issues was shared with students, as was the importance of conversations when it comes to supporting mental illness.

It was about the time of the assembly that the sanctions increased further and all extra-curricular activities needed to stop. During the month of February though, the staff who were able to, continued to offer opportunities for our students such as Swim to Survive for the grade 7's, boys and girls clubs for certain grades and student council initiatives that promoted spirit and fun. It was also Black History month and beyond the focused daily learning in the classrooms, Black excellence was recognized and celebrated through the use of daily announcements, multiple displays in the front foyer, a daily trivia contest and presentations at the Student Success Assembly at the end of the month.

As we prepare for the March break, we have been focusing on a few important areas and are hoping for support from our families. We have noticed, as of late, that some of our older students are using technology and social media inappropriately. Social media, as we know, can be an incredible tool to share, learn and stay connected with others. It can also, unfortunately, be used to spread negativity and/or hateful messages. As such, we continue to focus on respectful and appropriate usage of social media and urge our families to monitor technology use on a daily basis, particularly as the break approaches.

In partnership with York Region Public Health, we have also been engaging in a focused Hand Hygiene campaign. All teachers are embedding regular opportunities for hand washing throughout the day, including before meal / snack times. Caretaking is ensuring a constant supply of soap and paper towels in our classrooms, wash-rooms and common areas. Teachers are actively teaching students proper handwashing techniques along with cough and sneeze etiquette. As we begin our March break, we urge all of our families to continue practicing healthy hand hygiene as you mingle within the greater community.

We wish all of our families a safe, healthy and active March break.

In partnership,

P. Battler

D.Osman

Principal

Vice-Principal



### **Pizza Lunch Dates**

Thursday April 21, 2020

## Message from Our Trustee



As we enter another month of winter, this is a good time to be thinking about our health, well-being and the importance of self-care. We know that, like all of us, our students can focus better when they feel better. Our schools play an important role in health and mental health promotion and education, and fostering well-being and mental health is one of our [priorities as a school board](#).

There is a lot of work taking place in our schools and board to create [healthy schools](#) and promote [mental health](#) and well-being, including:

- Providing training and resources for educators on strategies to support mentally healthy classrooms for all students, including holding a mental health conference.

- Hiring identity specific mental health workers and developing partnerships with [community partners](#) to serve the diverse needs of our students.

- Developing a [Student Suicide Intervention Protocol](#) to help keep students safe in the event of suicidal thoughts or actions.

- Educating students about the risks of [substance use and misuse](#), including [vaping](#) and [cannabis](#).

- Providing strategies and supports for students in [preparing for exams](#) and [managing stress](#).

This commitment is also reflected in Board policy like the [Healthy Schools and Workplaces](#) policy and procedures. Setting policy, which governs the operation of the Board, is one of the [roles of trustees](#), and we greatly value the input provided by students, staff members, family and community members. I encourage you to look at the [policies under review](#) and share your feedback.

We have a lot to look forward to in 2020. At the Board meeting in December, trustees unanimously approved the addition of [new permanent Indigenous Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee positions](#). We are committed to Indigenous Education in our Board and it is important that these voices are represented at the table. We hope to fill the positions as soon as possible and will share more information as it becomes available.

A [message from the Chair of the Board of Trustees](#) is also available on the Board website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Juanita Nathan

Trustee, Markham, Wards 7 and 8

## York Region District School Board Summer Institute

# Online Registration Opens on March 10

Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

We are pleased to offer online registration this year. Registration for Summer Institute will open on March 10 at 4:00 pm. You can find information about Summer Institute and registration at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)

Families can also continue to register in person or by mail at Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning, 36 Regatta Richmond Hill L4E 4R1.

For more information about YRDSB Summer Institute, please email [Performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca)

We hope to see you at the Summer Institute.

### Kindergarten Registration

We are pleased to announce that you can register your child for Kindergarten registration which will begin for the 2020-21 school year via [Kindergarten ONLINE](#).

Children born in 2016 are eligible for Year 1 kindergarten this September 2020. Children born in 2015 and are currently attending public school are eligible for Year 2 kindergarten in September 2020.

**Once you register you will be contacted to come to the office with the following documents:**

**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
- ◆ Bank statement/Utility Bill

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

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

## Math Learning at Home

Have you ever realized how much creativity there is in math? The Arts (visual arts, music and dance) are creative mediums that are interconnected with mathematical concepts and reasoning. When children are engaged in the Arts they are developing their artistic skills as well as their mathematical skills in a variety of areas (e.g., spatial reasoning, proportional reasoning and problem solving). Artists work creatively and flexibly with geometric shapes, scaling, patterns, fractions and many more mathematical concepts. The Arts is a playful way to inspire young mathematicians.

**Here are some activities to try with your child:**

### **Paper Folding**

1. Fold your paper into a triangle that does not include any edges of the paper. Convince a skeptic that it is a triangle.
2. Fold your paper into a square that does not include any edges of the paper. Convince a skeptic that it is a square.
3. Fold your paper into an isosceles triangle that does not include any edges of the paper. Convince a skeptic that it is an isosceles triangle.

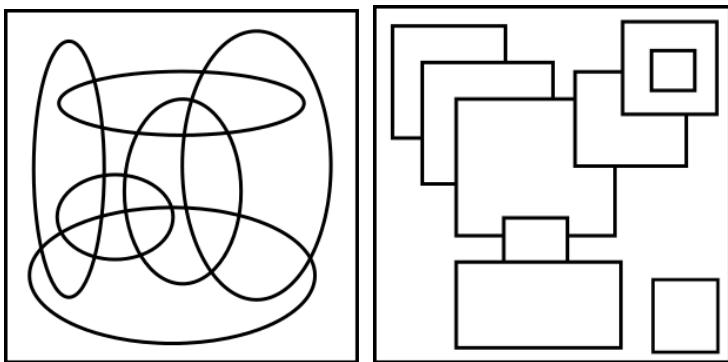
*Boaler, Jo. Mindsets Mathematics: Visualizing and Investigating Big Ideas: Grade 4, 2017*

### Painting by Numbers by nrich

With painting by numbers, a line drawing is split into regions which are to be painted according to the rules that:

1. No two regions of the same colour can share a border
2. Two regions of the same colour are allowed to meet at a point.

Consider these two images, one made from intersecting ellipses and one made from overlapping rectangles (include the outer square boundaries in the image)



What is the smallest number of colours needed to colour these pictures according to the colouring rules? Prove your results clearly.

For more information on this task visit [NRICH's math website](#).



## Terrific Titans - Students of the Month



At the Student Success Assembly on Friday December 20<sup>th</sup>, the following students were recognized for their positive contributions to school life:

<b>K12A Ms. Azar/Ms. Danushi</b>	<b>Monica K, Jayden L.</b>
<b>K12B Ms. Gray/Ms. Kardam</b>	<b>Leslie L, Aminah S, Xinyan L.</b>
<b>K12C Ms. Kerr/Ms. Lee</b>	<b>Will L, Kyle W, Aidan Y.</b>
<b>Gr. 1A Ms. Ranta</b>	<b>Kathy F, Jordan L.</b>
<b>Gr. 1B Ms. Skilling/Mr. Lovatsis</b>	<b>Thanika S, Samarah S.</b>
<b>Gr. 2A Ms. Hayat</b>	<b>Maryam A, Abiha Zafar.</b>
<b>Gr. 2B Ms. Cheung</b>	<b>Maryann L, Zara W.</b>
<b>Gr. 3A Ms. Grisanth/Ms. Baig</b>	<b>Amanda D, Afeefah T.</b>
<b>Gr. 3B Ms. Luke</b>	<b>Maria S, Chloe L.</b>
<b>Gr. 4A Ms. Kitchen</b>	<b>Colleen W, Vaniya Z, Toby Z.</b>
<b>Gr. 4/5A MS. Kurien</b>	<b>Jennifer W, Yusuf S, Saniya S.</b>
<b>Gr. 5A Mr. Babalola</b>	<b>Priscilla K, Ivan H, Aina A.</b>
<b>Gr. 5/6 Ms. Chowdhury</b>	<b>Ivan L, Smreet M.</b>
<b>Gr. 6A Mr. Whitestone</b>	<b>Sahar B, Henry T, Sivaluxsy S.</b>
<b>Gr. 7A Mr. Hasan</b>	<b>Lachhana B, Agasan M.</b>
<b>Gr. 7B Ms. Venamalla</b>	<b>Anuja N, Kavisan R.</b>
<b>Gr. 8A Ms. Sanders</b>	<b>Ibrahim M, Mustafa M.</b>
<b>Gr. 8B Mr. Armoogam</b>	<b>Alvin L, Imtiaz K.</b>
<b>Ms. Gillespie</b>	<b>Frederick G.</b>
<b>Ms. Koumarelas</b>	<b>Nicole Z.</b>

**Congratulations to all! Keep showing that  
Titan spirit!**



## Terrific Titans - Students of the Month



At the Student Success Assembly on Wednesday January 29<sup>th</sup>, the following students were recognized for their positive contributions to school life:

<b>K12A Ms. Azar/Ms. Danushi</b>	<b>Shaheer R, Danny Z.</b>
<b>K12B Ms. Gray/Ms. Kardam</b>	<b>Rattan P, Saad H.</b>
<b>K12C Ms. Kerr/Ms. Lee</b>	<b>Sarah O, Karson P, Hailey C.</b>
<b>Gr. 1A Ms. Ranta</b>	<b>Deepthika T, Anamika K, Sallar A.</b>
<b>Gr. 1B Ms. Skilling/Mr. Lovatsis</b>	<b>Paul K, Shafin U.</b>
<b>Gr. 2A Ms. Hayat</b>	<b>Jevons L, Haniya A.</b>
<b>Gr. 2B Ms. Cheung</b>	<b>Yousaf Qaisar, Jessica C.</b>
<b>Gr. 3A Ms. Grisanth/Ms. Baig</b>	<b>Julia D, Sami U.</b>
<b>Gr. 3B Ms. Luke</b>	<b>Abira S, Anam B.</b>
<b>Gr. 4A Ms. Kitchen</b>	<b>Benny Y, Locelyn L, Harishan D.</b>
<b>Gr. 4/5A MS. Kurien</b>	<b>Keerthana S, Fariha B, Kirithiga S.</b>
<b>Gr. 5A Mr. Babalola</b>	<b>Ved A, Rabiya A, Muawiz L.</b>
<b>Gr. 5/6 Ms. Chowdhury</b>	<b>Paargavi B, Zulkifl M.</b>
<b>Gr. 6A Mr. Whitestone</b>	<b>Mariyah F, Qasim M.</b>
<b>Gr. 7A Mr. Hasan</b>	<b>Xiang L, Zain M, Sarah C.</b>
<b>Gr. 7B Ms. Venamalla</b>	<b>Samuel L, Omar A, Brithiga J.</b>
<b>Gr. 8A Ms. Sanders</b>	<b>Arani R, Wilson Y.</b>
<b>Gr. 8B Mr. Armoogam</b>	<b>Alesha K, Vinusha S.</b>
<b>Ms. Gillespie</b>	<b>Jasraj S.</b>
<b>Ms. Koumarelas</b>	<b>Sheldon S.</b>

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Titan spirit!**



## Terrific Titans - Students of the Month



At the Student Success Assembly on Monday March 02<sup>nd</sup>, the following students were recognized for their positive contributions to school life:

<b>K12A Ms. Azar/Ms. Danushi</b>	<b>Damon M, Hadiya Mariyam P.</b>
<b>K12B Ms. Gray/Ms. Kardam</b>	<b>Maryam G, Ali A.</b>
<b>K12C Ms. Kerr/Ms. Lee</b>	<b>Rashmitha K, Alicia H, Anthony C.</b>
<b>Gr. 1A Ms. Ranta</b>	<b>Yuting C, Lucas C.</b>
<b>Gr. 1B Ms. Skilling/Mr. Lovatsis</b>	<b>Muqueet Abdul S, Ariana A.</b>
<b>Gr. 2A Ms. Hayat</b>	<b>Maryam A, Tommy C.</b>
<b>Gr. 2B Ms. Cheung</b>	<b>Saira J, Eileen W.</b>
<b>Gr. 3A Ms. Grisanth/Ms. Baig</b>	<b>Aswinn K, Lily S.</b>
<b>Gr. 3B Ms. Luke</b>	<b>Musa M, Serena W.</b>
<b>Gr. 4A Ms. Kitchen</b>	<b>Ali H, Aleeza A, Essa N.</b>
<b>Gr. 4/5A MS. Kurien</b>	<b>Sarah F, Kishaanann G, Athisayan Y.</b>
<b>Gr. 5A Mr. Babalola</b>	<b>Rex Y, Justin H, Ayesha S.</b>
<b>Gr. 5/6 Ms. Chowdhury</b>	<b>Hamma H, Zainab K.</b>
<b>Gr. 6A Mr. Whitestone</b>	<b>Rida B, Sambavi B, Satpartap S.</b>
<b>Gr. 7A Mr. Hasan</b>	<b>Ibrahim M, Bilal A.</b>
<b>Gr. 7B Ms. Venamalla</b>	<b>Niven R, Musa M, Lacshiea R.</b>
<b>Gr. 8A Ms. Sanders</b>	<b>Dhushan S, Charishmi K.</b>
<b>Gr. 8B Mr. Armoogam</b>	<b>Lindusan K, Crystal H.</b>
<b>Ms. Gillespie</b>	<b>Saarah S.</b>
<b>Ms. Koumarelas</b>	<b>Kevin Z.</b>

**Congratulations to all! Keep showing that  
Titan spirit!**