

# Markham Gateway

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Home of the Titans



**PRINCIPAL**  
**GARY YOUNG**

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**VICE PRINCIPAL**  
**KURT CHIN**

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**SUPERINTENDENT**  
**OF SCHOOLS**

**ERIK KHILJI**

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

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## Important Dates

- Nov 11 - Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:30 am.
- Nov 12 - School Council Meeting @ 6 pm.
- Nov 13 - Photo Re-take day.
- Nov 19 - Pizza Lunch.
- Nov 24 - Spirit and Character Assembly @ 9:00 am.

**Courtesy**

**Cooperation**

**Consideration**

**Commitment**

November 2015

## Message from the Administration

October was a busy month at Markham Gateway Public School. We recognized Safety Week by reviewing our emergency preparedness as well as reviewing safe crosswalk procedures with all of our Primary students. We also partnered with transportation services to practice the safe evacuation process from a school bus in the unlikely event of an emergency.

Our Cross Country Team represented the school with pride and professionalism at the Area Meet at Milliken Park where nine of our athletes qualified for the Regional Meet at Bruce's Mill. Congratulations to all of our distance runners. Our Intermediate Volleyball Teams are in the middle of their season and are looking forward to upcoming tournaments. Our Student Council has been elected utilizing a

democratic electoral procedure similar to what took place during the recent Federal Election. Our Student Council has already been quite active in support of spirit and student voice.

On October 29, our School Council hosted the first in a planned series of family movie nights. Students in grades JK-3 along with their families enjoyed a night at the movies with popcorn, featuring *The Penguins of Madagascar*. Future movies focusing on our older students are planned for later in the year. We thank our School Council for their continued and ongoing support. Our next School Council Meeting is planned for Thursday, November 12 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in our school library. All members of our school community are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We hold monthly assemblies for our entire school to help celebrate individual and group achievements

and share information about upcoming events. We encourage parents to attend if they are able and we will strive to inform parents ahead of time if their child is receiving recognition or an award. The dates for our monthly assemblies are as follows:



Next School Council  
Thursday, November 12

6:00—7:00 pm in the Library

Council Executive 2015-2016

Lisa Volpe-Brehaspatt—Chair

Ratna Muralitharan—Treasurer

Hema Alageson—Secretary

**Inspire Learning!**

Date	Day in Schedule	Time
Friday, October 2, 2105	3	10:30 - 11:40
Friday, October 30, 2015	2	10:30 - 11:40
Tuesday, November 24, 2015	4	9:00 - 10:00
Friday, December 18, 2015	1	1:10 - 2:10
Friday, January 29, 2016	5	9:00 - 10:00
Friday, February 26, 2016	3	11:10 - 12:10
Thursday, March 24, 2016	2	10:30 - 11:40
Thursday, April 28, 2016	5	1:10 - 2:10
Wednesday, May 25, 2016	3	9:00 - 10:00

November 11 is Remembrance Day and Markham Gateway Public School will recognize this significant day by holding a ceremony in our gym beginning at 10:30 a.m. All members of our school community are welcome to attend. We anticipate that the ceremony, which will include presentations from a variety of classes, will be approximately one hour in length. Please note that the ceremony will strike a tone of solemn remembrance.

By now, most of you will have heard about the recent tragedy at David Suzuki Public School. Two girls were in a traffic accident, and there were grave results. There are no words to describe this loss to the family and the David Suzuki community. Our thoughts go out to the family and all members of the David Suzuki P.S. community.

This tremendously unfortunate situation compels us to address our traffic situation here. While we see many examples of safe driving practices, we do also see some unsafe practices that are dangerous.

Everyone's safety is a shared responsibility. We know the safety of our students is of the utmost importance to all of us. Here are some safe practices to inform our driving behavior:

### **Safe Actions**

**PATIENCE** - *We know the kiss and ride loop can be busy at times, but demonstrating some patience makes it safer for our students.*

**PREPARATION** - *To make the Kiss and Ride section run more smoothly, please have your children's bags ready so they can leave the car in an efficient manner. Students may only exit and enter cars from the passenger side of the car which is adjacent to the sidewalk.*

**PARKING**- *If you feel the need to escort your child to school, you need to park your car. You **cannot** park your car in the loop since this further delays the flow of the Kiss and Ride area*

**MOVE UP** - *in the Kiss and Ride as far as you can (but please don't cross over the crosswalk); this helps to reduce "back-ups" in the loop area.*

**SLOW DOWN!** - *This is especially **important** when cars are entering and exiting our school zone. Remember, children can be unpredictable. The fraction of a second gained through unsafe speed through the parking lot is never worth the possible dangerous outcomes*

**USE THE CROSSWALK** - *While there is an element of danger whenever you are crossing a street, it is a safer option to use our crosswalks. In addition, it is also a safe option to escort your children across the street.*

We thank everyone for their ongoing support of our school community. More information will be sent home shortly regarding dates of Progress Reports as well as any information regarding student led conferences or meetings.

## News from the Markham Gateway Parenting and Family Literacy Centre



### Art @ the Centre in the Markham Gateway PFLC!

Professional artist, Tiziana Guido, will be coming back to the Markham Gateway PFLC to help you and your children create art. She will be in the Markham Gateway PFLC on the following days:

Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Watercolours

Monday December 7<sup>th</sup> – Paper Sculpture (*New*)

Monday February 8<sup>th</sup> – Pastels (*New*)

Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> – Clay

Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> – Environmental Art



Please come to Room 127 and speak to Carlene, the Markham Gateway Parent Worker, about this exciting chance to create your own family masterpieces!

**Parent Worker: Carlene Nembhard**    **Open: Every school day between 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**No cost or registration required**    **Snacks are provided for the children**

## Positive Parenting TIP



### The Power of *Playfulness*

The “motivation to freely and joyfully engage with, connect with, and explore the surrounding world” is one of the keys to promoting wellness and preventing obesity according to Anthony Coombs, Director of Community Playmaking, Life is Good Playmakers. He goes on to say that most children do better when they have healthy, optimistic, joyful adults around them who create environments filled with a sense of *playfulness*.