

InspireLearning!



## Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

#### YRDSB Survey for Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians are invited to participate in a survey **before Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent/guardian voice. Results will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being.

The English version of the survey was available online beginning **Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/yrdsb2017ParentSurvey>.

Paper surveys are available in English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Sri Lankan Tamil, Urdu and Vietnamese. Please contact the school to request a paper copy.

We value your input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information you provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Information was sent home with students on Monday. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

### TWEET OF THE WEEK



[@Markville\\_YRDSB](https://twitter.com/Markville_YRDSB)

Leadership class at work. S's [#yrdsbBreakTheStigma](https://twitter.com/yrdsbBreakTheStigma) with grade 9's during lunch & learn activity. GREAT role models!



### DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Markville Music Department has recently completed a very busy, exciting, and successful music festival season. In February, Markville Music ensembles competed in the Kiwanis Music Festival of Greater Toronto and the OBA Concert Band Festival. This was followed by appearances in the York Region Music Alive Festival during the months of March, April, and May. All Markville Music ensembles achieved top honours, winning six first place awards, twelve platinum ratings, six gold ratings, and five scholarships for outstanding performances. In addition, Markville Music received eleven invitations to compete in the MusicFest National Competition, and the Symphonic Band and Symphonic String Orchestra were selected to compete in the OMFA Provincial Championships.



In April, senior music students traveled to Orlando, Florida to participate in the Disney Performing Arts Program. In addition to getting the opportunity to enjoy the many attractions at Walt Disney World, Markville students participated in workshops led by world-class clinicians and performed for an audience made up of visitors from all over the world.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program at Markville Secondary School has been successfully running for over 15 years. In the past 5 years we have expanded our courses to meet the needs of our students in grades 11 and 12. Next year Markville will have 3 Pre-AP courses (English, Math and Economics) and 6 AP courses (Calculus, Chemistry, English, History, Geography, and Microeconomics). Students applied for entry into these courses during course selection time in February. Final decisions will be posted outside of guidance this month.

#### **What is AP?**

AP is an internationally recognized program administered by the College Board in the U.S. It involves students taking senior courses that cover first year university curriculum in addition to their regular grade 12 curriculum. Students write an AP examination in May. All students worldwide will write the same exam on the same date and time.

#### **Who is an appropriate student for AP?**

The AP student must have very strong academic expertise within that subject. The actual grade to be admitted to an AP course varies from year to year and admission is quite competitive. However, if a student has difficulty managing time and/or has anxiety or stress related to school work or other areas of life, we do not recommend that they take an AP course. We value the mental health and wellness of our students first.

#### **Will AP courses help my child to get into university?**

If a student is taking an AP course and exam in their final year of high school, their AP result will not be available during the application process to university. Results of the AP exam become available in July. However, a student who is filling out a supplementary application for a university admission can certainly indicate the higher level of learning they are receiving in an AP classroom. If a student achieves a Level 4 or 5 on the AP exam, then they are able to have the College Board send this grade to a university in Canada. Many universities offer "advanced standing" for this grade level on an AP exam. This means that they will be granted a credit at university for this achievement. The student will then take one less course at university (saves \$\$ too). Most universities in



The annual “**Markville Pops**” concert series will be held on **Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** and **Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>** at Markham Theatre. This year’s theme is “**Songs from the Small Screen**”, and will feature performances of many well-known themes from current and classic television shows. Our concert season comes to an end with “**Jazz a la Mode**” on **Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** in the Markville cafeteria.

The Markville Music Department’s annual Music Banquet will take place on **Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Pickle Barrel at Markville Mall. This semi-formal event is an end-of-year celebration of the Music Department’s accomplishments that will include a buffet dinner, an awards ceremony, and a dance.

For further information about Markville Music performances or activities, please contact the Music Department (905-940-8840 ext. 131) or visit the Markville Music website at

Canada that do offer advanced standing will only do so for a maximum of 2 courses.

If a student is applying for admission to a U.S. university, AP courses are held in high regard. It is definitely in the student’s best interest to apply to take 1 or more AP courses within their area of expertise if possible.

**Personal Thoughts on the Benefits of AP**

An AP course will help students be better prepared for the university environment. The course will encourage them to engage in study and work habits that will be necessary in university. They will learn to manage an extremely demanding workload. They will also have greater confidence in university when they take a course where they have an AP background. If a student has a strong expertise in a subject area and can achieve high grades without too much effort, an AP course can motivate and stimulate their learning at a higher level. These students thrive. My only caution is to pay close attention to stress and anxiety concerns. AP will be too much for many students. These students are advised to focus on achieving in our regular university stream (also demanding) and will likely be more successful without the added pressure of AP. (H. Wager – Head of Guidance)

**A Few Statistics:**

- In May of 2016, 46 of Markville’s students wrote 55 AP exams
- Level 5 (the highest grade possible) was achieved on 46% of those exams
- Level 4 was achieved on 33% of those exams
- Our mean score on all 55 exams was Level 4.18 (the mean score for Ontario was 3.52)
- Of particular interest: Markville’s AP English mean score was 4.5 (means score for Ontario was 3.34); Markville’s AP Calculus mean score was 4.19 (mean score for Ontario was 3.49)

**Markville Students who were AP Scholars 2015-16**

**AP Scholars (Level 3 or higher on 3 or more AP exams)**

Congratulations to: **Jennifer Li, Kevin Pei and Lancy Wang**

**AP Scholar with Honors (Level 3 or higher on 4 or more AP exams)**

Congratulations to: **Nicole Zhao**

[www.markvillemusic.com](http://www.markvillemusic.com)



**AP Scholar with Distinction** (Level 3 or higher on 5 or more AP exams)

Congratulations to: **Mohammed Nasir and Lillian Zhang**

*Mohammed and Lillian were also awarded the very prestigious “National Scholar (Canada)” for receiving Level 4 or higher on 5 AP exams.*

**This year, 49 students will write 61 AP exams. AP exams occur this month and we wish all of our AP students great success.**



**Upcoming Events**

DATE	School News	Student Life	Arts	Sports & Clubs	Academics
MONDAY, MAY 8 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAC Applications Due by 3:00 pm</li> <li>• SAC Applications Due by 3:00pm</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-op Career Fair (8:20am – 3:00pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SHSM GPS Training (8:30am – 3:30pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-ed Volleyball – Teams A &amp; B – Home Game (8:30am – 3:00pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Girls Rugby (2:45pm – 5:30pm)</li> </ul>				
TUESDAY, MAY 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AP Calculus AB Exam (8:00am – 12:20pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 11 French AGO Trip (9:50am – 5:15pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ultimate Tier 2 (2:45pm – 4:45pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varsity Girls Soccer – Home Game (2:45pm – 5:00pm)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Markville Pops</a> at Flato Markham Theatre (7:30pm – 9:30pm)</li> </ul>				
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AP English Language and Composition Exam (8:00am – 12:20pm)</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Lawrence / Kensington Market Trip (8:45am – 3:00pm)</li> <li>• Grade 7 Day (9:00am – 11:00am)</li> <li>• Sustainable Development Leadership Conference for ELLs (9:30am – 2:00pm)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Markville Pops</a> at Flato Markham Theatre (7:30pm – 9:30pm)</li> </ul>
THURSDAY, MAY 11 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slo-Pitch (7:45am – 4:00pm)</li> <li>• Track and Field (8:20am – 4:00pm)</li> <li>• PAF Ninjaz Trip (8:30am – 11:45am)</li> <li>• Grade 7 Day (9:00am – 11:00am)</li> <li>• Girls EmPOWER Workshop (12:20pm – 1:30pm)</li> <li>• Chem 13 News Exam – Grade 12 (12:25pm – 1:40pm)</li> <li>• Varsity Girls Soccer – Home Game (2:45pm – 5:00pm)</li> <li>• SAC Interviews (after school)</li> </ul>
FRIDAY, MAY 12 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 9 French Culminating Task #1</li> <li>• AP Human Geography Exam (8:00am – 12:20pm)</li> <li>• AP Microeconomics Exam (8:00am – 12:20pm)</li> <li>• CC Canada's Wonderland Trip (9:00am – 2:30pm)</li> <li>• South Asian Celebration (11:05am – 1:40pm)</li> <li>• AP European History Exam (12:00pm – 3:30pm)</li> <li>• Guest Speaker – World Vision Youth Canada (1:45pm – 3:00pm)</li> <li>• SAC Interviews (after school)</li> <li>• Dragon Boat (3:00pm – 5:00pm)</li> </ul>