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Friday, September 07, 2018

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE

Welcome back. I hope everyone is feeling refreshed following the winter break, and that you had a happy and safe holiday season. While the weather may be colder, I also hope that you had time to enjoy this beautiful season in Ontario.

It is my honour to serve as your school board trustee and to uphold the [values](#) of York Region District School Board. The new [Board of Trustees](#) was sworn in on December 3, following the October municipal elections. Together, we look forward to moving forward the four priorities outlined in the [Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#):

- Foster well-being and mental health
- Build collaborative relationships
- Champion equity and inclusivity
- Empower ethical leadership

There are a lot of exciting things happening in our schools and classrooms to foster and support student well-being and mental health. Ask your child what's happening in their school, and how they take care of themselves. As adults, we often focus on the health and well-being of the children in our lives, but it's also essential that we take care of ourselves. Taking time to do the things we enjoy and nurture our own health is also important and helps to model a healthy and active lifestyle for our children.

An important part of my [role as a trustee](#) is to listen, and I look forward to connecting with members of our school community in the coming weeks and months. We will continue working to build collaborative relationships with our communities and to keep you informed about the things happening in the school board. I wish you all the best as we enter 2019.

Ron Lynn

Trustee – Markham Wards 2, 3 and 6

ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

In an effort to support our students and families in Mental Wellness, please [click here](#) to access an informational document outlining various signs, strategies, and community Mental Health resources. Of course, please always feel free to connect with a Caring Adult at MSS for support, as

wellness in ourselves and our loved ones 'takes a village.' This document is also available on our school website under [News & Events](#).

EXAM SCHEDULE AND GUIDELINES

We have posted the [exam schedule](#) and [guidelines](#) for Semester 1 exams on our website under the [News & Events](#) tab. Updates to the exam schedule have been made with a couple of room changes and the latest version, updated on January 17th, is posted on the website. Exams begin on Thursday, January 24th and end on Wednesday, January 30th. Exam feedback day is Thursday, January 31st, following a modified schedule. Friday, February 1st is a PA Day. Semester 2 begins on Monday, February 4th.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

LIBRARY RESOURCES DUE

All Library resources were due to be returned on Wednesday, January 16th. Please remind students to return all Library resources as soon as possible.

STUDENT SUPERVISION DURING PARENTAL ABSENCES

If a parent / guardian needs to leave the country for an extended period, another adult here in Ontario must be given authority to act on their behalf regarding their child's school matters by notifying the school in writing with this updated information. If the absence is to be longer than a month, an Educational Services Agreement, available at the school, must be completed prior to leaving.

ARTREPRENEUR YOUTH PROGRAM

Exciting news! The York Region Arts Council (YRAC) is thrilled to launch the [Artrepreneur Youth Program](#), a one-week intensive for high school students in Grades 9-12 interested in entrepreneurship and the arts.

In this one-week program, youth will learn how to ideate creative solutions for problems through design thinking, and turn their ideas into a business through business plan training. After the five-day in-class sessions, the fellows will present their newly created business to friends and family at the Expo. The program serves York Region based artists working in all artistic disciplines such as, though not limited to, visual arts, dance, theatre, film, music, jewellery, fashion, augmented reality, and game design. Our curriculum is blended with workshops, in-class working sessions, and peer-to-peer learning. By the end of the program, fellows will have a business plan, allowing them to launch their business through various grants programs such as Summer Company.

We have just opened up applications for the [Artrepreneur Youth Program](#), which will take place at the Aaniin Community Centre & Library in Markham or Maple Public Library in Vaughan.

The deadline for applications is February 18th 2019 by 11:59pm.

Details about the program and instructions on how to apply can be found at the following links:

Apply to Vaughan: artrepreneurprogram.com/youth-vaughan

Apply to Markham: artrepreneurprogram.com/youth-markham

drpreneur

TWEET OF THE WEEK



@Markville YRDSB

Markville SS Retweeted

✓ [Volunteer YorkRegion](#) @VolunteerYR

#RichmondHill Winter #Carnival February 2-3
#volunteer to help * lots of fun duties available
<http://www.wintercarnival.net/get-involved-volunteer/> ...



DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

NEW COMMUNICATIVE APPROACH FOR FSL/INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

Thank you for taking the time to read about what we are doing in the French and International Languages Department at Markville. We are pleased and happy with the implementation of the new curriculum at Markville. The new communicative approach encourages students to speak the target language be it French or Spanish through building a strong base in vocabulary without just focusing on the grammar. Students are encouraged to develop their language skills through, speaking, listening, writing, and reading. The new curriculum also emphasizes that students learn about Francophone and Latin/Spanish culture. This is very important as it will aid our students to be global citizens and appreciate other cultures in a genuine way. Please enjoy!

PARTAGEONS:

In Grade 9 French, students are working on building their ability to participate in conversations in French. We encourage students to communicate with each other in French at all times during French class. As they practice, their ability and confidence increase. The Grade 9 Gifted classes take this a step further and devote one period a week to activities where they have to communicate in French without referring to texts, notes or the internet. These activities are a lot of fun. Here, students are playing a version of Duck, Duck, Goose. They have to describe the other person in French before racing around the circle. (see picture below)

INTERACTIVE IDEAS:

The French classes have been focused on infusing spoken interaction into all aspects of our classroom work. From minds-on activities that prompt students to discuss a variety of unit related content, to theme days such as a "Francophone Café Au Lait" complete with crêpes, students are engaged in various spontaneous speaking tasks. For instance, the period 2 class recently participated in a "Minute to Win It - Minute Pour le Gagner" challenge complete with four different stations of interactive, kinesthetic activities requiring them to make predictions and write comparisons. Moreover, the period 1 class is currently practising their conversation skills by planning the "perfect celebration" while also

enjoying an online tool called Quizlet that helps them practise unit vocabulary and concepts in a video game like challenge.



EUROPE 2019

The FSL/International Languages Department will be taking over 100 students accompanied by teacher chaperones to Europe in less than two months during the March break. This year's Europe trip is going to Switzerland, Italy, France, and Spain.

These trips take many hours of planning and prepping but it is totally worth it as the students get to see a different part of the world. Not only do the students learn about the historical and cultural elements of the countries listed below, they get to experience the language and food. Students are encouraged to speak Spanish and French when applicable. These trips help create memories for a lifetime for our students.

Below are a handful of destinations that we will be visiting on our once in a lifetime trip!



ECO CLUB – GARBAGE AUDIT

On November 22nd, the students in the EcoClub and Environment sector of the SHSM program conducted a school-wide waste audit. Waste was collected over a 24-hour period and analyzed to check for issues in contamination and diversion.



When digging deeper into our school's garbage, students found 47% of potentially recyclable items and 20% of potentially compostable items in our garbage. This means that 67% of our waste could have been diverted into recycling and compost containers.

77% of recyclable items was found to be in the school's recycle bins. The other 23% was composed of what should have gone into the garbage and compost bins. The school board allows for a maximum rate of 10% contamination in its recycling bins. Thus, all the school's recyclables would have been treated as garbage and sent to the landfill.

Students found 93% garbage in the school's compost containers. Only 7% of the items found in the compost bins were actually compostable.

Our aim is to increase waste diversion and decrease contamination. If unsure of what goes where, visit the Markham website and use the Lookup tool, or [click here](#) to access it.

WHAT GOES WHERE? ITEM LOOK UP TOOL

Enter a waste item below and click the "Lookup" button to discover how that item should be discarded. (Tip: You can type just part of a waste item's name).

Didn't find what you are looking for? Send us a waste item at customerservice@markham.ca and we will add it to our list.

Enter the name of a waste item



LOOKUP

Upcoming Events

DATE	School News	Student Life	Arts	Sports & Clubs	Academics
MONDAY, JAN 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locker Cleanout – Period 1 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council Meeting (7:15pm – 8:30pm) in the Library
TUESDAY, JAN 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colin Clarke Masterclass with the Symphonic Band (4:00pm – 6:00pm)
WEDNESDAY, JAN 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Semester 1!
THURSDAY, JAN 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Period 1 Exams (9:30am – 11:30am)
FRIDAY, JAN 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Period 2 Exams (9:30am – 11:30am)

Looking for Volunteer Opportunities? Come visit the Guidance Office, or check out these helpful links:

	Student Volunteer Opportunities		Volunteer Opportunities
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Lunch Time Tutoring – Library Learning Commons, Mondays and Wednesdays – Periods 3 and 4

After School Tutoring – Room 345, Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00pm – 4:00 pm

If you have any questions, please email your child's vice-principal: michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca for students with surnames A – LIM, or kathy.mcalpine@yrdsb.ca for students with surnames LIN– Z

Please visit our website at <http://markville.ss.yrdsb.ca>