

InspireLearning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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[Friday, May 29, 2020](#)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

I hope you continue to stay healthy and safe during this time. Markville's ongoing work providing learning opportunities and support to your children, our students, continues. Teachers continue to provide both asynchronous and synchronous instruction to meet the various learning needs of our students. Mental health and well-being has also been a daily concern, especially with students who may not be as engaged with the learning as we would like to see. We know that there are many different circumstances in everyone's life, which may have an impact in students' ability to engage. Please continue to reach out to classroom teachers, Guidance counsellors, Student Success teachers, SERTs, and/or to us, your administration team, for support. As each day passes by, we feel the void; we miss our students and wish we could return to our face-to-face learning environment. We know this will come in time, when it is safe to do so, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone, engaging in our daily activities, and enjoying students' interactions with their peers and teachers. This coming week we are holding a virtual School Council meeting. I would like to thank you for emailing us your questions and comments. Please see instructions about how to access the meeting, below. We will be sending out an agenda today, and hope you will join us. In the meantime, enjoy the weekend and be well.

Patricia Obadia



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

SAC (STUDENT ACTIVITY COUNCIL) ELECTION RESULTS

After 3 days of a voting frenzy, the results for our SAC 2020/2021 election are in!!! Congratulations to all the elected council members. We look forward to a new and exciting year together, full of fun events and celebrations. A heartfelt thank you to all applicants for their hard work and initiative in seeking leadership opportunities. We encourage you to continue showing your spirit and striving to grow.

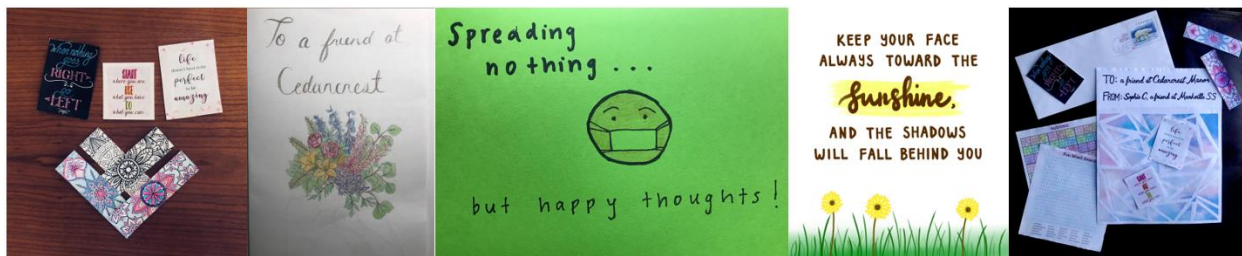
Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Guo • Stephanie Liu • Salim Mohamed • Bonnie Wen • Elise Wong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron Guo • Sandra Mo • Jeffrey Su • Kelly Szeto • Pranav Varma • Timothy Yuan • Bryant Zheng 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyler Lau • Esther Ma • David McGuire • Araad Shams • Abishake Sivakumar • Lavan Sumanan • Sharon Sun



Grade 10 Business students have been participating in two online challenges this spring. The Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge, which runs until June 12th, and the Junior Achievement Titan Challenge. For the J.A. Titan Challenge, students take on the role of CEO and make various decisions about Research & Development, Marketing, Pricing, etc., to run a company. We are thrilled to announce that Jerry Wu has won the J.A. Titan Challenge this year! Jerry will receive a \$500 post-secondary scholarship from Franklin Templeton who sponsors the contest. Well done Jerry!

STUDENT VOICES

Students in the Compassionate Schools group have been designing and sending cards to residents at Cedar Crest Manor in Markham. These cards are sure to brighten anyone's day.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Markville SS will be holding our first virtual School Council Meeting on June 1st from 7:00pm – 8:00pm and we would like you to join us! We will be using the GoToMeeting platform. It is not necessary to download the app in advance; you will be directed to the meeting after a short pause. If you would like to familiarize yourself with the settings in advance there is a link below for the app.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/245325829>

You can also dial in using your phone.

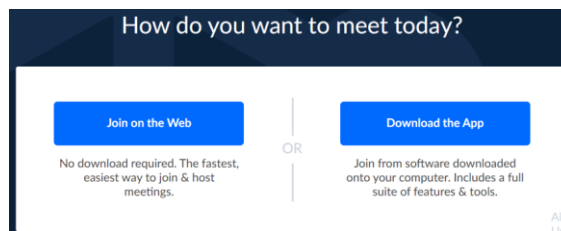
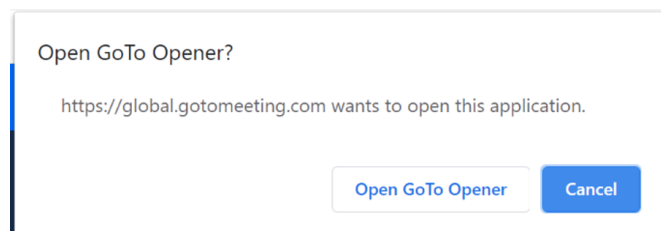
Canada: [+1 \(647\) 497-9391](tel:+16474979391)

Access Code: 245-325-829

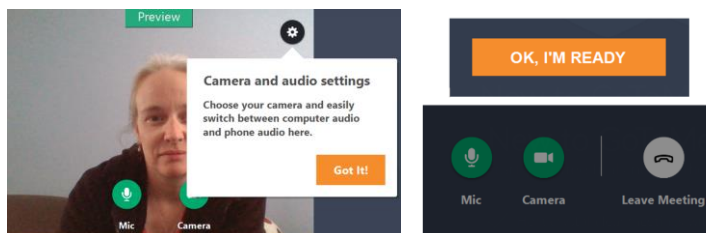
New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/245325829>

Once you click on the link to join the meeting, a new window will open, and two choices will appear.



Clicking on Open GoTo Opener will take you to the next page asking if you would like to sign up for a free trial. Without clicking anything, just wait and the meeting will open. You will see a preview of how you appear on camera and some basic settings. Once you are ready, click on the Ok, I'm Ready button to join the meeting. When the meeting is over, move the mouse on the screen and locate the Leave Meeting icon. If you are calling in, you will be able to enter the access code and join the meeting. The meeting will start at 7:00pm, so try getting into the meeting 10-15 minutes before to make sure everything is working. We are looking forward to 'seeing' you soon!



GRADUATION STAFF & COMMUNITY AWARDS APPLICATION

Markville's graduation ceremony is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of our grads, including earning all credits necessary to graduate, school spirit, shining characters, and exceptional achievements. This year our ceremony has been postponed due to current events and we hope to celebrate our grads in the fall. Once we learn more information regarding what this celebration can look like, we will share the information with our grads and their families.

In the meantime, we are continuing to prepare for graduation, which includes designating special awards to deserving students. [This link](#) has a list of "Staff & Community Award" descriptions and application forms. This document has also been shared on the Graduation Google Classroom for your child to access and can also be found under the [News & Events](#) tab on our website. The deadline for students to apply for these awards is June 5th.

ATTENTION GRADE 11 & 12s!

On-line Dual Credit Summer courses are currently being offered by some of our College partners for students to take in July. All courses are being offered using an online delivery model. Priority for the summer program will be given to students currently in Grade 12 who need one or two credits to

graduate. However, any current senior student who faces challenges in graduating or who is in a SHSM (Specialist High School Major) or OYAP (Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program) can also apply (NOTE: SHSM and OYAP students will be placed on a waitlist before being approved). See the flyer [here](#) for information on summer courses, dates, FAQs, etc. Students can apply here: <http://bit.ly/yrdsbsummerdc> using their Gapps email, however, if interested, please reach out to a Guidance Counsellor before applying.

GRADE 12 UNIVERSITY DEADLINE REMINDER!

Reminder that Monday, June 1st is the deadline to accept University offers! Be sure to accept your offer on [OUAC](#) (Ontario University Application Centre) and follow any other instructions provided by the institution. Please note - when you accept an offer, it does not cancel your other applications. You can still receive second round offers; however, you may lose a deposit if you change your mind after accepting. First round offers of admission were presented by May 27th. If you have any questions at all, please book an appointment with Guidance via TeachAssist.

GRADE 11 SHSM BUSINESS AND ICT STUDENTS!

In collaboration with York University's Yspace, YRDSB is pleased to offer: *Innovation Course IDC4U/40* again this summer!

Space for this unique opportunity is limited. Click [here](#) for more information and registration instructions. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Guidance Department.

SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

YRDSB is following current Public Health guidelines and their Summer Learning program will be offered online this year. Students in Grades 9 to 12 who wish to take a summer school course this summer, must still register through [My Pathway Planner](#) by June 26th. The sessions will run from July 6th – July 29th. Students are encouraged to contact the Guidance Department before enrolling. No further action is required if summer school registration has already been submitted on My Pathway Planner.

The Ministry of Education is also working to expand its [Learn at Home](#) website to outline the key learning that takes place in high-demand and pre-requisite secondary courses. This optional, non-credit summer learning is designed for students to prepare for the next level in a course. For example, a student enrolled in Grade 12 Physics for next year, can review the key concepts of Grade 11 Physics and refresh their learning, so they can feel confident entering the 2020-2021 school year.

Students may also wish to volunteer during the summer. There may be local community organizations advertising for help, or students can visit the [SPARK Ontario](#) website, the province's first bilingual volunteer hub connecting volunteers with community organizations.

YRDSB - SUPPORTING ONLINE LEARNING

While schools will remain closed for the rest of the school year, we will continue to support your child's learning and well-being. We know that learning at home looks different for each family. The Board has developed a number of resources and tips to help students and families, including:

- [How to log in and use online learning platforms](#), including Google, Edsby, and D2L. Short videos are also available.
- [Tips for families to support online learning](#).
- [Student Tech Help Form](#) for support with student technology provided by the Board and accessing online learning platforms.
- [Mental health](#) and [community resources](#) for students and families.
- [Resources](#) for students with special education needs.

To learn more about our Learning and Caring Plan, and to access these resources and more, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/covid19. Google Translate is available on our website. YRDSB has also sent out an anonymous [survey](#) this week for input on the Learning and Caring Plan. Please share your thoughts and experiences; both students and parents / guardians may complete the survey.

MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEMORY JOURNAL PROJECT

To help capture the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Markham community, we are calling for submissions of stories, thoughts and experiences that describe how the pandemic has changed your day-to-day lives. The goal is to capture real-life experiences to help us remember the effects of the pandemic on our daily lives. Submissions are welcome in a variety of formats, including, but not limited to journal entries, photographs, memory accounts, blog posts, poems, social media posts, audio recordings, video blogs, hand-written notes, etc. Your submissions will help us remember the experiences from the pandemic, both good and bad, by recording history “as it happens.” No experience is “too boring” or “too important,” as the goal is to preserve everyday stories of life during a pandemic. While we yearn for a return to “normalcy,” it is important to acknowledge the feelings of discomfort and uncertainty that we are currently experiencing together.

If you would like some inspiration to get you started, consider your thoughts and feelings on the following:

- Social and physical distancing
- Working and schooling from home
- Acts of kindness
- New hobbies
- Shopping conditions
- General feelings caused by the outbreak
- Struggles of family and friends infected with the virus
- Daily experiences & encounters that have changed because of the pandemic

Journaling is a known “stress reliever” as it helps get rid of negative thoughts. Not only will it help you process your emotions, but it will also help the community understand that everyone is going through a confusing and difficult time. The preservation of these moments and memories is a way of healing and sharing your stress and anxiety with others. Remember, you are not alone. Please invite your child(ren) to submit their stories as well. It will be important in the future to have the teen demographic represented.

Share your story [here](#). To view existing stories, visit the virtual exhibit [here](#).

FOREST OF READING CELEBRATIONS

The Forest of Reading is thrilled to announce that there will be a virtual festival after all, this year. On Tuesday, June 16th in a new partnership with [CBC Books](#), winners will be announced during 40-minute ceremonies for each category. Authors will be on hand to celebrate on their digital platforms. Markville SS has participated in the [White Pine](#) reading category for over a decade. The ten books chosen this year are available through [SORA](#), our eBook platform. Students must enter a 0 before their student number for access. Join the free celebration for a literary filled day for all ages of students. Voting for your favourite White Pine title is [open](#) until Monday, June 1st.



Forest of Reading[®]

by the Ontario Library Association

ONLINE SAFETY WEBINARS FOR PARENTS / GUARDIANS AND SCHOOL LEADERS

The Ontario Principal's Council, in collaboration with the Healthy Relationships Project, is offering some online safety webinars for parents / guardians to share strategies in response to cyberbullying and cyber violence in schools and on social media. These webinars are free, but do require you to register.

- [Online Safety for Grades 3-6: Guidelines for Parents and Guardians](#)
 - June 2nd, 2:00pm – 3:00pm OR June 4th, 7:00pm – 8:00pm
- [Navigating Cyberbullying and Cyberviolence for Parents/Guardians of Grades 7-12 Students](#)
 - June 9th, 2:00pm – 3:00pm OR June 11th, 7:00pm – 8:00pm

MARKVILLE SS RANKS 1ST IN YORK REGION AND 2ND ACROSS ONTARIO

The Fraser Institute has released its annual rankings for schools in Ontario for 2019 and Markville SS is second across the entire province! 3 York Region schools made the top 10, with Markville at the top. Read the article [here](#). Way to go Markville!

SUMMER INSTITUTE CANCELLATION

YRDSB's [Summer Institute](#), which provides academic, athletic, and recreational programs for students from Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 has been cancelled this year. Refunds for any registrations will be processed by June 1st; anyone who has not received a refund by June 1st may contact: performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca. This does not affect Summer School for high school students, which will be offered through an online model.

[COVID-19 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES](#)

YRDSB has put together a page on their website dedicated to resources to support the mental health of students and their families. If you have concerns about the mental health of your child(ren) or yourself, please do not hesitate to reach out for help.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

[KIDS HELP PHONE](#)



Text

Get support right now through our texting service

[LEARN MORE →](#)



Phone

Call us for support through our phone service

[LEARN MORE →](#)




Resources Around Me

Find a youth program near you

[GO NOW →](#)

SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH ONTARIO



Do you have questions about how to support student mental health during the COVID-19 response? We've put together some answers.

[Learn More](#)

COVID 19 GOVERNMENT OF CANADA RESOURCES

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19): BE PREPARED



Canada's health system is ready to respond to cases that arise in Canada, but it is important that individuals and communities are ready if there is widespread illness here at home.

Plan ahead

Take time to consider what you will do if you or a family member becomes sick and needs care. Think about:

- ▶ What food and household supplies you need for you and your family
- ▶ What medicines you need, including renewing and refilling prescriptions ahead of time

Discuss your plans with your family, friends and neighbours, and set up a system to check in on each other by phone, email or text during times of need.

Get prepared

Have supplies on hand so you do not need to leave your home if you become ill. Add a few extra items to your grocery cart every time you shop. This places less of a burden on suppliers, and can help ease financial burden on you as well.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT – SELF ASSESSMENT

Take this self-assessment if you are worried you were exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms. You will get a recommendation on what to do next. You can also take it on behalf of someone else. The

self-assessment is only meant as an aid and cannot diagnose you. If you have medical questions, consult a health care provider or your [local public health unit](#).

Start self-assessment

CANADA EMERGENCY RESPONSE BENEFIT

The Canada Emergency Response Benefit provides \$2000 per month for Canadians who have lost employment, have significantly reduced hours of work, or are unable to work due to COVID-19. Eligibility requirements have changed over the past few weeks, opening up to many more people. Check the link above if you are eligible to receive this benefit. The CERB is taxable income, however, no tax will be taken off at the time the payments are distributed.

CANADA EMERGENCY STUDENT BENEFIT

The federal government has officially passed the new [Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act](#) into legislation. Students attending post-secondary, or who have recently graduated from post-secondary, and students who graduate secondary school in 2020 who have applied and intend to begin post-secondary by Feb., 2021, will be eligible for \$1250 per month from May – August or \$2000 per month for students with dependents or a disability. Students must be willing to and looking for work, but unable to find a job due to COVID-19, The federal government has also increased funding to the Canada Student Summer Jobs program, which will provide 100% of funding for 76,000 student jobs this summer. Students can [apply](#) through their CRA My Account starting today, May 15th. **High School students who will be eligible to graduate in June, may apply for the benefit for July and August.**

STRESS RELIEF

FREE BACKYARD CAMP NEWSLETTER

As more camp and recreation programs are being cancelled, parents are coming together in innovative ways to help each other out. A group of parents has put together a Free Backyard Camp Newsletter with activities to keep kids occupied all through the summer. You can select an age group and specific interests for your kid(s) and will receive a weekly newsletter with activities. Visit www.backyardcamp.ca for more details and to sign up.

WATCH PLANTS GROW

Springtime has brought some warm weather, some rain, and lots of sunshine recently. Perfect conditions for plants to grow. If you are looking to relax a little, or can't get outside to watch the plants grow live, enjoy this [time lapse video](#) of plants growing.



SPACEX LAUNCH

On Saturday, May 30th, SpaceX will launch the first humans into space from the United States since 2011 (weather permitting). In cooperation with NASA, SpaceX is preparing to launch the Crew Dragon to dock with the International Space Station. This is the first privately owned spacecraft to take humans to the space station. Watch the launch and learn about SpaceX by visiting [SpaceX.com](https://www.spacex.com).

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>