

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



1000 Carlton Road
Markham, Ontario
L3P 7P5
Principal: Patricia Obadia

Tel: (905) 940-8840
Fax: (905) 940-8895
Email: markville.ss@yrdsb.ca



December 17th, 2021

Please keep in mind any information provided in this bulletin is subject to change and is accurate at the time of distribution.

Principal's Message

Dear families,

It is hard to believe that December is already here, and the holiday season is about to start. These past months have been very busy at Markville, with classes, extra-curricular activities, and a number of other events. Our students have participated in competitions in Mathematics and Computer Studies, our Grade 11 students completed the Literacy Test, and we observed Remembrance Day to list just a few activities. In addition, our student leaders organized a good number of events for the enjoyment of all.

As a school we have now moved our classes to a four-period day, as announced by the Ministry of Education. This means students are in their four classes every day for 75 minutes each. We have also started to plan for the de-streaming of other Grade 9 courses in addition to Mathematics. More information about this will be shared with you at a later date.

The Board has initiated the "Change the Cycle" Free Menstrual Equity Program. Our washrooms will be equipped with free menstrual hygiene products. The purpose of this program is to foster a welcoming and safe learning environment where all students feel included.

Unfortunately, sometimes not everything works the way we would like. Generally speaking, our students are great ambassadors of Markville. Many times we receive great accolades from members of the community about their character and merit. Lately, however, we have been sadly informed about unsafe actions in the community involving some of our students. We have also become aware that a few students are using social media to infringe on the privacy of others. Recently, our own property has been vandalized, more than once. These acts are quite distressing, as not only do

they not represent who we are as a school, but some of these behaviours are extremely dangerous or hurtful to others' well-being. We have made announcements to the entire school community, warning those students who seem to think that engaging in these activities is fun that someone may get hurt and, in some cases, there may need to be police involvement. I am hopeful that these disturbing behaviours will stop and our students will continue to be regarded as who they are, respectful members of our community.

Finally, let's not forget the health and safety of our students and staff. With the pandemic still among us, it is more essential than ever that everyone continues to work to protect themselves and others against COVID-19. Please review below some friendly reminders about what is expected of everyone in our building, staff and students:

Daily Screening - please be aware that starting on January 3rd, 2022, students will again be required to confirm the completion of the Ontario screening tool: [COVID-19 school screening](#) prior to entering the classroom. A positive answer to any of the questions on the tool indicates that the student/staff may need to stay home. More information is shared in the tool itself.

Masks and Physical Distancing - everyone is expected to wear masks appropriately, covering the nose and mouth. Masks should be worn at all times while in the building, and should only be removed while eating or drinking, at which time, a 2 meter distance needs to be maintained.

Eating and Drinking - eating is not permitted during class. If a student needs a drink of water, they must put on their masks immediately after drinking.

Hand Sanitizing - hand sanitizer is available throughout the building; we encourage everyone to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer often.

COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Screening Kits - by now you may have received a box with 5 testing kits you may choose to use to have your children tested during the winter break. This will help schools to remain safe as we return in January.

Traveling during the Break - please continue to check travel advisories if you are traveling. Upon returning, make sure you adhere to all Public Health requirements to protect the health of all students and staff.

We know these are difficult times for everyone, but our partnership with home has helped us to be able to continue with the teaching and learning process, and the support we provide to our students and to each other. We are so grateful for our Markville community!

Please enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday season, spend time with your families and take time to rest and rejuvenate.

Happy Holidays to you and your families!

Sincerely,

Patricia Obadia
Principal

HOSA Magazine Spotlight

Happy Winter Break Mavs!

Your Markville HOSA Club has put together two issues of the HOSA Magazine for your reading pleasure over the break. ☐☐

Along with informative pieces, these issues include exclusive interviews and a fun crossword.

Wishing you a restful break,
Markville HOSA Club ☐

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K8jfK3AFM3aBxMEIq4wmV5vbMti_QMnB/view?usp=sharing

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OufH_O8P0G-aE4K06OqeuLjWqQuIEWVz/view?usp=sharing

Yearbook



THE 2021-2022
YEARBOOK

IS NOW READY FOR ORDER!

AVAILABLE ON
SCHOOL CASH ONLINE
FOR \$35

*IN LIMITED QUANTITY

FOR MORE INFORMATION,

Follow @mssyearbook2022 on Instagram

Email mssyearbook2122@gmail.com



Peer Tutoring

Do you need extra help with your courses? Are you looking for a dedicated peer to help you stay focused and motivated with course work? Markville's Peer Tutoring Club is back and ready to support YOU!

Students can **drop-in** when help is needed or request for a **weekly 1-to-1 peer tutor**. Peer tutoring sessions will be **virtual, after school Monday-Thursday from 3:30-4:30 pm**.

- To request a **1-to-1 peer tutor**, students must submit this application form: bit.ly/1to1peertutor. Students will receive an email confirmation of their peer tutor match once the request is processed.
- No application is needed for **drop-in** peer tutoring—just join via Zoom when you need help! **See schedule and Zoom links below.**


All Peer Tutoring information including sign up form, schedule, and Zoom links can be found at bit.ly/msspeertutorinfo.



PEER TUTORING
1-on-1 OR Drop in
BOTH ARE OFFERED!

MONDAY-THURSDAY
3:30-4:30PM
via Zoom

To request a 1-on-1 tutor, visit:
bit.ly/1to1peertutor

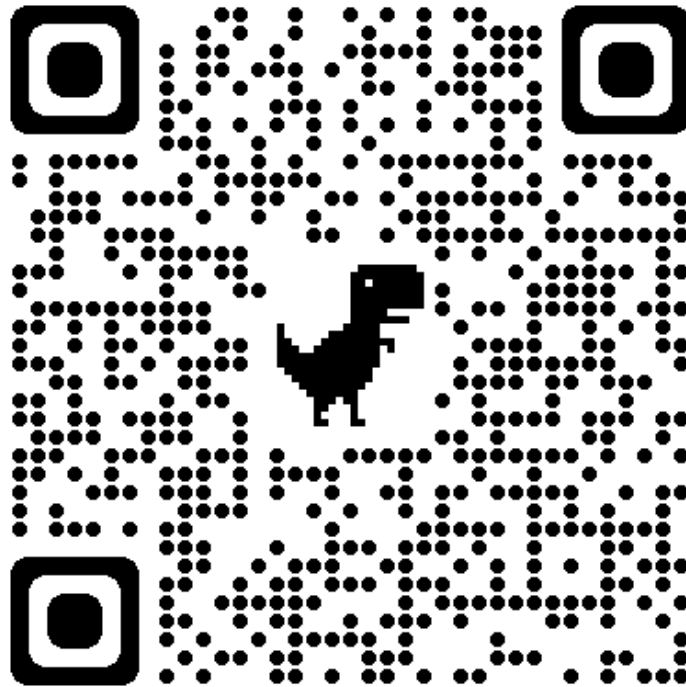


For drops ins, just join via Zoom when you need help!

School Notices

Welcome to
Markville Secondary School's
Virtual Grade 8 Open House!

[Click here to enter the MSS Open House Website!](#)



<https://bit.ly/mssgr8openhouse>

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markville.ss/NewsEvents/Pages/default.aspx>

Upcoming Dates

Dec. 20-31	Winter Break (School Closed)
Jan. 3	School Resumes

Tweet of the Week

York Region DSB Retweeted



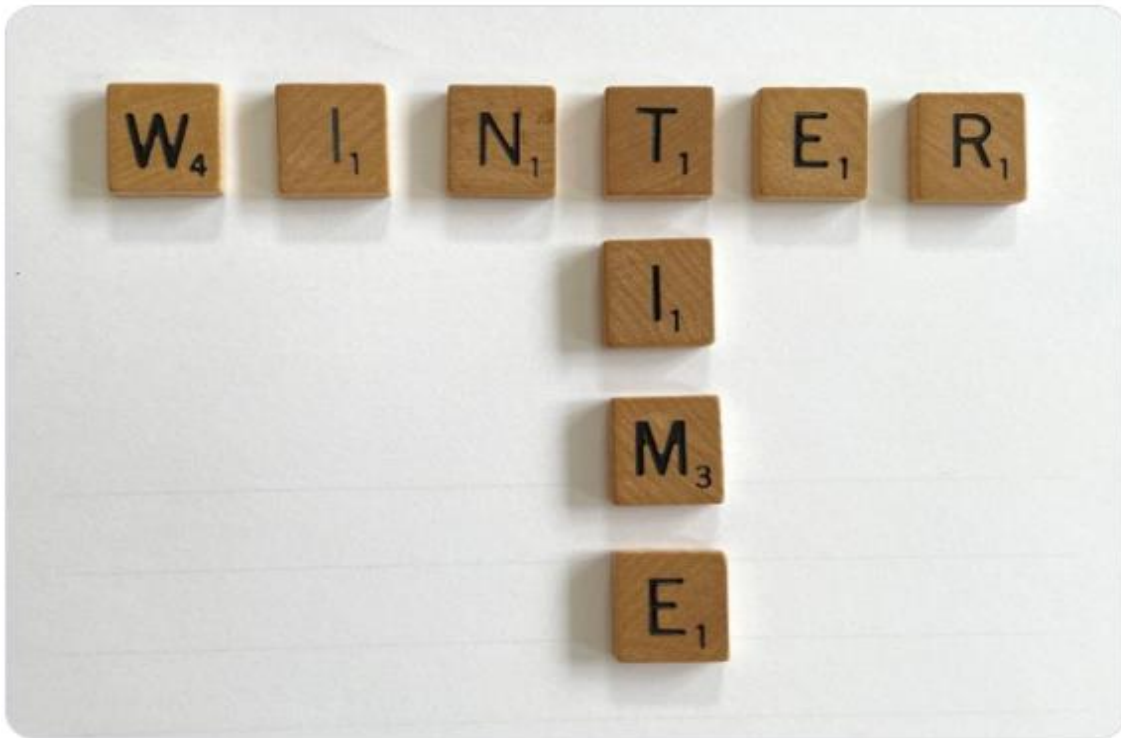
YRDSB_SS
@YRDSB_SS



Over the break, we have a challenge for you! How many words can you make using the letter tiles in the word 'WINTER TIME?'

We can think of 25 - how about you?

[#winterbreak](#) [#literacy](#)



12:33 PM · Dec 16, 2021 · TweetDeck

2 Retweets 3 Likes

YRDSB Communications

ARE YOU A STUDENT
GOING INTO
GRADE 11 OR 12 NEXT YEAR?

Consider becoming
a student trustee
and representing
students across YRDSB.

APPLY BY JANUARY 21

Learn more at
www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustee

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees/Pages/default.aspx>

Community Events

Free event

ALL ABILITIES
WELCOME

PARA SPORTS TRY-IT DAY

at
MARKHAM PAN AM
CENTRE

16 MAIN ST. UNIONVILLE, ON

Registration not required.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2021
10:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

For more information:
www.markhampanamcentre.ca



Brought to you in partnership..



<https://www.markhampanamcentre.ca/free-event-para-sports-try-day/>

Healthy aging it's your move!



WINTER SAFETY TIPS

One in three older adults fall each year. Slippery streets, icy walkways and heavy snow conditions are winter hazards that could contribute to a tragic fall event even for healthy and active older adults. The good news is that most falls are predictable and preventable!

Safe winter footwear

Safe choices for winter footwear include: Footwear that provides warmth and stability; are waterproof, lightweight and well insulated; and those that have a low, wide heel with wide treads and non-skid soles made of natural rubber. Anti-slip devices can reduce the rate of falling. These devices can be worn over winter footwear when walking over hard-packed snow or ice, providing extra traction/grip. However, anti-slip devices must be removed when walking on smooth surfaces (e.g. tile, concrete or stone) to avoid slipping.

Avoid falls this winter season

- Wear boots or overshoes that have a wide tread, low heel, non-skid soles and fit properly
- Dress in layers to stay warmer for longer so you won't feel cold and be tempted to rush back indoors
- Keep all walkways and steps clear of snow and ice. Store shovels and salt or grit containers within easy reach of entry and exit doors. Consider asking someone to help shovel, if needed
- Watch out for ice! If you do walk on ice, slow down, keep your arms out at your sides, bend your knees a little and take tiny steps with your feet pointed outwards

- Carry a small packet of ice melters such as sand, grit, or cat litter in your purse or bag to spread on icy patches when walking
- Wipe up any melted snow and ice from your entryway so you don't slip
- Make sure steps, walkways and entryways are well-lit at night
- When using stairs, hold on to the handrail
- Wear sunglasses to reduce glare from snow/ice. This will help you to safely choose your next step
- Carry parcels and other large loads by your side so you can see where you will take your next step
- On bad weather days, take a bus or taxi to and from a shopping trip – it could be less expensive than a fall. If your balance is not good, stay indoors on icy days
- When outside, use a cane or walking poles for more balance. Inspect your cane tip to be sure it is not worn out and consider attaching a retractable ice pick-like device to the end of it when walking on ice

PUBLIC HEALTH

1-877-464-9675

TTY 1-866-512-6228

york.ca/healthyaging

18-5618



Winter blues

It is important to stay active and connected during the cold winter months for your mental and physical well-being. When going out, be sure to phone a friend or family member to let them know where you are going and when to expect you back. Consider joining a mall walking group or walking inside your home or residential building with a friend. These tips will help you to stay safe, stay active and stay in touch.

Staying safe and warm during winter

Snowy, cloudy days can make it difficult to see and be seen. Make yourself stand out this winter by wearing brightly coloured clothing or adding reflective material to your clothes. Be sure to cover up and bundle up by wearing warm boots, a brightly coloured winter coat, hat or toque, scarf and mittens (mittens trap heat better than gloves). Dress in layers by wearing multiple layers of thinner, well-fitted clothing, and clothing made of wool that can trap heat better and keep you warmer for longer.

Winter walking

Penguins are experts at safely walking over ice and snow-covered ground. Here is how you can do it too:

- Bend both knees and keep them loose to lower your centre of gravity and give you more balance
- Hold your arms slightly out to the side, away from your body to help keep your balance
- Be sure to point your feet slightly outwards to widen your stance and create a wide base of support
- Walk slowly with your whole foot so more of your foot is touching the ground and you are less likely to slip
- Hold on to handrails, your vehicle or walls, or sprinkle snow or ice melters, such as grit or cat litter, on the ground for grip before taking a step. Avoid icy areas or ask for help

Signs of hypothermia may include any of the following: slowed breathing and heartbeat; problems walking; feeling tired, sleepy, and confused; or cold and pale skin. Signs of frostbite may include any of the following: parts of your body feeling numb; skin feeling hard or waxy; or skin becoming white, ashy or grayish-yellow in colour. Call 911 if you suspect either of these.

For more information or to request a copy of Your Guide to Fall Prevention, contact York Region Public Health.