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Vice-Principal
Orlie Soroka

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FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear Families,

As winter is well underway, we look towards the beginning of Term 2. Parents will receive Term 1 report cards on February 18th, 2015. Be sure to read the comments with your child for both the learning skills and academic areas. This is a wonderful opportunity to set goals together. There is an opportunity for students to reflect on their Term 1 evaluation on Page 3 of the report card. As well, parents have an opportunity to comment on Page 4 of the report card. Parents, please sign and return the tear-off portion as soon as possible, along with the report card envelope.

This month, we are excited to again participate in Jump Rope for Heart. Students will stay active while raising funds for the Heart and Stroke foundation. As well, our junior and intermediate students will participate in learning activities around Le Carnaval, which will culminate in a special day on February 20th.

Next month, we anticipate our first Book Swap and Read-a-thon! Start collecting your gently used picture books, novels and non-fiction books. Students will count the number of books they bring in, and then will be able to choose other gently and/or like new books brought in by others. Also, just prior to the March Break, school council will be organizing the Read-a-thon portion, where students will be encouraged to read daily and earn ballots for reading books or collecting money. Stay tuned for more information about these two awesome events!

We wish all of our families a wonderful Family Day Weekend Feb 14-16. Be sure to take time together to connect and reflect!

Mr. D. Rossi
Principal

Mrs. O. Soroka
Vice-Principal



Ms. Milligan's Class studied the history of our First Nations People and designed these communities to depict the key elements of historical village life.

Student Achievement

Growth Mindset and Failure : Math (Edugains)

In general, a growth mindset is the belief that intelligence and 'smartness' can also be learned and that the brain grows from experience and effort. The opposite, a fixed mindset, is the idea that you are smart, or you are not. In math, that translates into "some people are good at math, and some are not." Did you know that praising efforts rather than intelligence or results can impact your child's ability to persevere in challenges?! The goal is to have children thrive on challenges and see failures, not as a sign of low intelligence, but as a learning opportunity. Brain research tells us that making mistakes actually wires more connections into the brain! When a person has a growth mindset, they accept challenges, see their efforts as worthwhile, and are open to learning from mistakes. Students with a growth mindset achieve at higher levels than those with fixed mindsets.

How can you help? Some simple ways:

- Adding "yet" when they claim they are "not good at this" (Respond: "You are not good at this yet.")
- Ask questions that focus on their effort and choices and get them to reflect on satisfaction of that effort (e.g. *What did you learn today? What mistake did you make that taught you something? What did you try hard at today?*)

What Can I Say To Myself?

Instead of:	Try thinking:
I'm not that good at this.	What am I missing?
I'm awesome at this.	I'm on the right track.
I give up.	I'll use some of the strategies we've learned.
This is too hard.	This may take some time and effort.
I can't make this any better.	I can always improve, so I'll keep on trying.
I just can't do maths.	I'm going to train my brain in maths.
I made a mistake.	Mistakes help me learn better.
She's so smart. I'll never be that smart.	I'm going to figure out how she does it so I can try it.
Plan A didn't work.	Good thing the alphabet has 25 more letters.
It's good enough.	Is it really my best work?

Wrong Answers, Great Learning (Edugains)

Making mistakes is a natural part of all learning. Those who we consider to be "great" are clear that mistakes lead to learning. The latest research on mathematics shows that mistakes are a very important part of learning math! When a person makes an error in math and they have the opportunity to learn from it, they actually develop a much stronger understanding. In fact, the research states that students learn more from making mistakes than from getting all the right answers. When your child makes an error, it offers insight into what understanding your child has about a mathematical idea. It allows parents and teachers to talk to the child about what they know, and ask questions to stretch their thinking around where they are currently developing their understanding. Parents can ask "How do you know that? What was your thinking here? Is there another way you could solve that? How did you think about X (an element they may be missing or have misunderstood)?" This conversation helps to develop the crucial skills of reasoning and communication and is therefore more helpful than simply showing a child how the math is done. When you support an attitude that values learning from mistakes, you are telling your child that mistakes are a valuable and natural ingredient in learning and lead to deeper understanding. Research shows that this attitude supports stronger achievement!

Thomas Edison said that he did not fail at making the light bulb one thousand times, but rather that "the light bulb was an invention with 1,000 steps."

"I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot... and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. That is why I succeed." (Michael Jordan)

School Council/Parent Information

School Council

Here's what we're planning...

- Read-a-thon (March)
- Book Swap (March)
- Special Hot Lunch Days

**Join Us for our next meeting on
February 25, 2015
7:00pm!**

Grad Photos!



SK and Grade 8 Graduation Photos
will be held on February 26th!



Reminder: Food Policy

Please be reminded that in order to ensure the safety of all our students and to support our Healthy Schools initiatives, parents/guardians are asked not to send food to share for Valentine's Day, birthdays or other celebrations/occasions. Students will have the opportunity to purchase a candy gram to send to a friend.



Michael Cranny Book Swap and Read-a-thon Coming Soon!

Do you have gently used picture books, novels or non-fiction books at home?

Looking for a fresh set of wonderful books?

Be ready to send in your gently used books and select new titles during our

Book Swap!

Send in books: March 2-4 Select Books: March 9-11
More information to follow!



From March 13-27th, school council will host our first

Read-a-thon!

Stay tuned for more information!

Parent Information

Arts Camp

York Region District School Board Students from Grades 7 through 12 are eligible to apply to York Region Arts Camp. The Camp runs May 23rd – May 30th, 2015 at Camp White Pine, Haliburton, ON.

Application Deadline: February 13, 2015

For more information or to download, print and complete an Arts Camp application, please visit the following link <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/arts/Pages/Arts-Camp.aspx> and submit the application to the school principal for endorsement and submission. Information

- Students require parental/guardian consent and the signed endorsement of their teacher and principal to apply to Arts Camp.
- There is no limit to the number of applications a school may submit provided that each student applicant has met the following 4 criteria:
 - student demonstrates positive character in the school;
 - student does not show significant behavioural concerns in the school;
 - student would benefit from an arts program in an inclusive community; and
 - student is prepared and mature enough to spend a week away from home.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD OR TEEN



EMILY CARR SECONDARY SCHOOL 4901 Rutherford Road Woodbridge, ON L4H 3C2

EXPERT GUEST SPEAKER SERIES PANEL

PRESENTATION AND Q & A SESSION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Reserve your spot online by February 17th at <http://emilycarr.ss.yrdsb.ca/>

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.— 8:30 p.m.



Meylin Champion
Certified Parent Coach
Director of Champion
Parent Coaching

<http://www.championparentcoaching.com>

Do you ever feel like parenting should be more rewarding and fun? Come find out how Parent Coaching can bring peace and enjoyment to your home. Understand this new and exciting family support system that uses your own family's strength to create lasting positive changes. Come meet Meylin Champion, a certified Parent Coach, and learn how Parent Coaching can empower you to be the best parent you can be.



Tahira Simmons
Mental Health
Facilitator

<http://www.360kids.ca>

360 Kids will be sharing information about recognizing and supporting mental health issues in children, youth, and teens.



Yasser Hussein
School Resource
Police Officer

<http://www.yrp.ca>

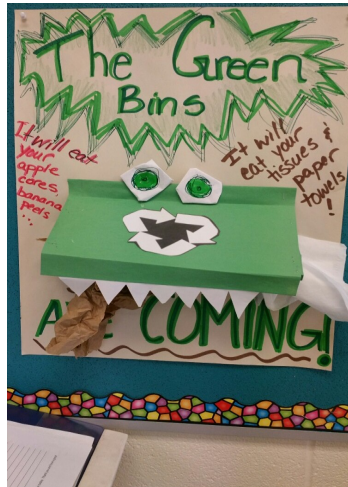
York Region Police will be sharing information and tips on cyber safety, texting safety and drug awareness.

A TOONIE DONATION AT THE DOOR FOR OUR ECSS TOTEM AWARD WOULD BE KINDLY ACCEPTED FOR THIS EVENT.

Positive Climates for Learning

Coming to Cranny - Green Bins!

Students will soon have access to green bins for the disposal of paper towels and food scraps. Large bins will be available in common areas, such as the staffroom and bathrooms, while each classroom will have access to a small countertop bin. Our eco-team and students from each class will be responsible for bringing down the small bin daily after lunch. We encourage students to take home waste, and to use our blue and green bins at school.



Let's work together to do our part in caring for the environment!



World Classroom

STUDENT PROGRAM



Join the many YRDSB students and families who have participated in the World Classroom Program since it began in 2005.

Since then local teachers, students and their families have had the opportunity to learn about another country and culture and made life-long friendships by hosting an international student in their schools and homes.

Host families receive \$225 per week to cover the cost of hosting a visiting student.

We are expecting a group of 25 Grade 7 & 8 students from China, arriving April 10th and departing May 23, and are looking for:

- boys and girls in grades 7 and 8 who will act as buddies to the visiting students
- a 6 week commitment from schools and host families

To find out more, call or email Jennifer: 905 884 2046 ext.254
homestay@yrdsb.ca

Jump Rope for Heart

On Jan 30th students attended a kickoff assembly for Jump Rope for Heart. Last year, our school raised \$1269.75. Over the many years our school has been participating, we have raised \$47,150 for The Heart and Stroke Foundation! This year we would like to remind students of online registration and fundraising opportunities. Every student who registers online will receive a \$5 kickstart towards the first prize level. There will also be many individual and class prizes available to be won leading up to our event on:

February 13th, 2015

Let's set a new record for this year, Cranny!



FEBRUARY 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 PA Day No School	3	4	5 Gr 7 & 8 Kortright Trip	6	7
8	9	10	11 Caribou Math	12	13 Jump Rope for Heart Day	14
15	16 Family Day No School	17 Mahashivaratri	18 Term 1 Report Cards come home Ash Wednesday	19 Lunar New Year	20 Le Carnaval Gr 4-8	21
22 First Day of Lent	23	24	25 School Council 7 pm	26 SK & Gr. 8 Grad Photos Intercalary Days	27	28
	February's Eco - theme: Cut Back Reduce the use of paper towel!					



Coming up in ...

- March 2-11 - Book Swap
- March 13-27 - Read-a-thon!
- March 13 - PA Day - No School
- March 16—20 - March Break - No School



Will your child be late or absent?

Be sure to call the school before 8:15am to let us know.

You can also leave a message anytime at (905) 832-4922 in the attendance mailbox.

