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Milliken Mills PS
April 2016

A Message From the Principal

Dear Milliken Families:

Happy spring! It's hard to believe it's April already! We would like to thank all of our families who took part in the **Global Earth Hour** initiative. It is extremely important for us to do our part to protect and care for our Earth! Now as the warmer weather continues, why not encourage your children to continue the effort by **walking or wheeling to school**? The health benefits of this are significant and so are the benefits to our Earth!

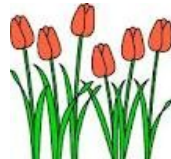
March was a busy month at Milliken, and April promises to be even busier. I would like to appreciate all Milliken staff for the work they do to engage students in **activities beyond the classroom**. Our secretarial, caretaking support and teaching staff all provide opportunities for student involvement and leadership, which our students find extremely beneficial. Merci, Milliken staff!

Our teaching staff will continue to work on professional development in the areas of **Math, Modern Learning, and Assessment & Evaluation**. Look out for rubrics and various evaluations over the next few months, which will indicate how your child(ren) are being evaluated. As always, please contact the subject teacher directly for additional information.

I would like to thank all families for their cooperation with the drop-off and pick-up procedure at Milliken. Thank you for helping us keep the children safe at all times!

We are looking forward to learning and growing together over the next three final months of school!

Yours in education,
Nandy Palmer



Eat, Make, Grow: A Healthy Eating Event for K-3

Our school will be running our second annual "Eat, Make, Grow" - Healthy eating event on the evening of **April 28th, 2016**. It is an evening WeCare Café and welcomes Grades K-3 students and their families from **5:30 pm-7:30 pm**. The event's intention is to promote healthy balanced meals, learning about the four food groups, as well as encouraging children to participate in creating healthy meals. There will be hands on cooking activities and lots of family fun! Families will make a delicious and nutritious lunch to enjoy the next day! Flyers will be sent home. Please RSVP by April 13th, 2016.

HEALTHY
EATING!!!



Music Alive



SCHOOL HOURS

First bell: 8:15 a.m.
School Starts: 8:20 a.m.
Recess: 10:00-10:20
Lunch: 12:00-1:00
Dismissal: 2:40 p.m.

Music Alive 2016 was a great success! Milliken Mills musicians performed in the Music Alive Festival during the month of March. The Music Alive Festival celebrates the joy of music and showcases the talents of students from across York Region. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to form a community of musicians, striving to gain experience and knowledge in performing for other audiences outside our community. The Music Alive Festival is a non-competitive festival where ensembles are rated on a performance standard. They are adjudicated by a professional musician who leads a master class session afterwards. This is an enriched learning experience when our students are recorded and given immediate feedback. This festival celebrates the joy of making music and opens the door to personal growth.

Congratulations to the students who participated in this year's festival. There were 97 students from Grades 4 to 8 who committed their time to self-practise at home, practising with friends on their own initiative and also in large group rehearsals. These exceptional students exhibited perseverance, determination and great courage as they performed for adjudicators and various schools. They were daunted with the task of learning challenging music but everyone overcame their fears as they played with great enthusiasm and professionalism.

Here are the results of our accomplishments:

Intermediate Band – **Gold**

Junior Band – **Gold**

String Ensemble – **Gold**

Recorder Ensemble – **Gold**

A huge thank you to Ms. Hwang for dedicating numerous hours to band practices.



YORK REGION ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT BAND

Congratulations to **Rahul V.** who successfully auditioned for the York Region Enrichment Band! The Enrichment Band is a unique opportunity for motivated students to participate in an enrichment music program. Successful applicants participate in a three day music camp where they rehearse high calibre repertoire, interact with other musically talented students and perform for large audiences. The Enrichment Band is under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds, associate professor from the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. Bravo, Rahul! We all look forward to hearing about your experience!



Honor Roll Assemblies

We are excited about celebrating success at MMPS! Since Term 1 report cards have now gone home, we recognized students at an assembly, on April 1st in the following ways:

Character Awards: one student per month per trait

Learning Skills Honor Roll: students with a total combined points of 20 or more (Grades 1-8)

Academic Honor Roll: students with a combined average of 80% and higher (Grades 4-8)

Thank you to the families of the recipients for attending the assemblies.

I shall pass through this world but once. Any good that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

~ Mahatma Gandhi

Board Policies and Procedures

Policies and procedures govern the operation of the Board and our school. To ensure they remain current, the Board reviews policies and procedures on a regular cycle. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process.

All policies available for comment are sent to school council chairs, and are posted on the [Board website](#) along with information about how to provide feedback. The policies currently available for comment include:

Student Accommodation Review (comments due by April 25)

Anaphylactic Reactions (comments due by August 25)

Respectful Workplace and Learning Environment (comments due by August 25)

Environmental Responsibility (comments due by January 2, 2017)

Appointment of Community Members to Board Committees (comments due by January 2, 2017)

To learn more, visit www.yrdsb.ca/aboutus/policy/.



The York Region District School Board **Summer Institute** offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Programs are offered at in Richmond Hill, Markham, Stouffville, Newmarket, Woodbridge, Vaughan and Georgina from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Summer Institute Locations Map.

YMCA Before and Aftercare Registration; programs available at all locations

Weekly Sessions July 4, 2016 to August 12, 2016

For registration information and to see what types of exciting programs are being offered this summer, please visit www.yrdsb.ca and select programs and services.

Aldergrove S.I.	150 Aldergrove Drive, Unionville
Armadale S.I.	11 Coppard Ave., Markham
Crosby Heights S.I.	190 Neal Drive, Richmond Hill
Discovery S.I.	120 Discovery Trail, Maple
Lakeside S.I.	213 Shorecrest Road, Keswick
Lake Wilcox S.I.	80 Wildwood Ave., Richmond Hill
Maple Leaf S.I.	155 Longford Dr., Newmarket
Milliken Mills S.I. (located at Highgate PS)	35 Highgate Dr., Markham
Oscar Peterson S.I.	850 Hoover Park Drive, Stouffville
Sixteenth Avenue S.I.	400 Sixteenth Avenue, Richmond Hill
Unionville Meadows S.I.	355 South Unionville Ave., Markham
Woodbridge S.I.	60 Burwick Avenue, Woodbridge

~ TRANSITIONING INTO 2016/2017 ~

In May and June, current teachers, in consultation with receiving teachers and the school principal will work to develop balanced classes for September 2016, that strive to best meet the needs of all our students. All class placement decisions are made after extensive planning, preparation, and discussion on the part of many people. Our primary goal is to develop balanced classes that reflect the diversity of our community, and allow the variety of skills, interests and talents of our students to emerge. After working with your child over the course of this year, teachers have a very good understanding of your child's abilities and needs, both academic and social. Each new year brings opportunities for all students to meet new friends and expand their circle of acquaintances. For this reason, class placement decisions based solely on friendships will not be considered. **Please be aware that we do not accept requests for specific teachers and/or for particular groups of students to remain together.**

How Can Parents Help? The teachers, staff and administration at MMPS strive to provide the best possible learning environment for all students. Open dialogue between parents and teachers helps us to accomplish this and has a direct and positive influence on your child's learning. If you have information about your child that may have an impact on his/her ability to learn effectively, **you are encouraged to share that information with his/her teachers at the beginning and throughout the school year.** If there is information that you would like us to consider with regards specifically to class placements, that does not include specific requests for teachers or for partnering particular friendships, and is helpful to our process, we would invite this information **in writing and sent confidentially to the office, to Madame Palmer's attention, by April 29, 2016.** All information will be considered in the process but, as mentioned above, the MMPS team will be making the final decisions and we ask that you trust our decision. Should you have any questions regarding class placement, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

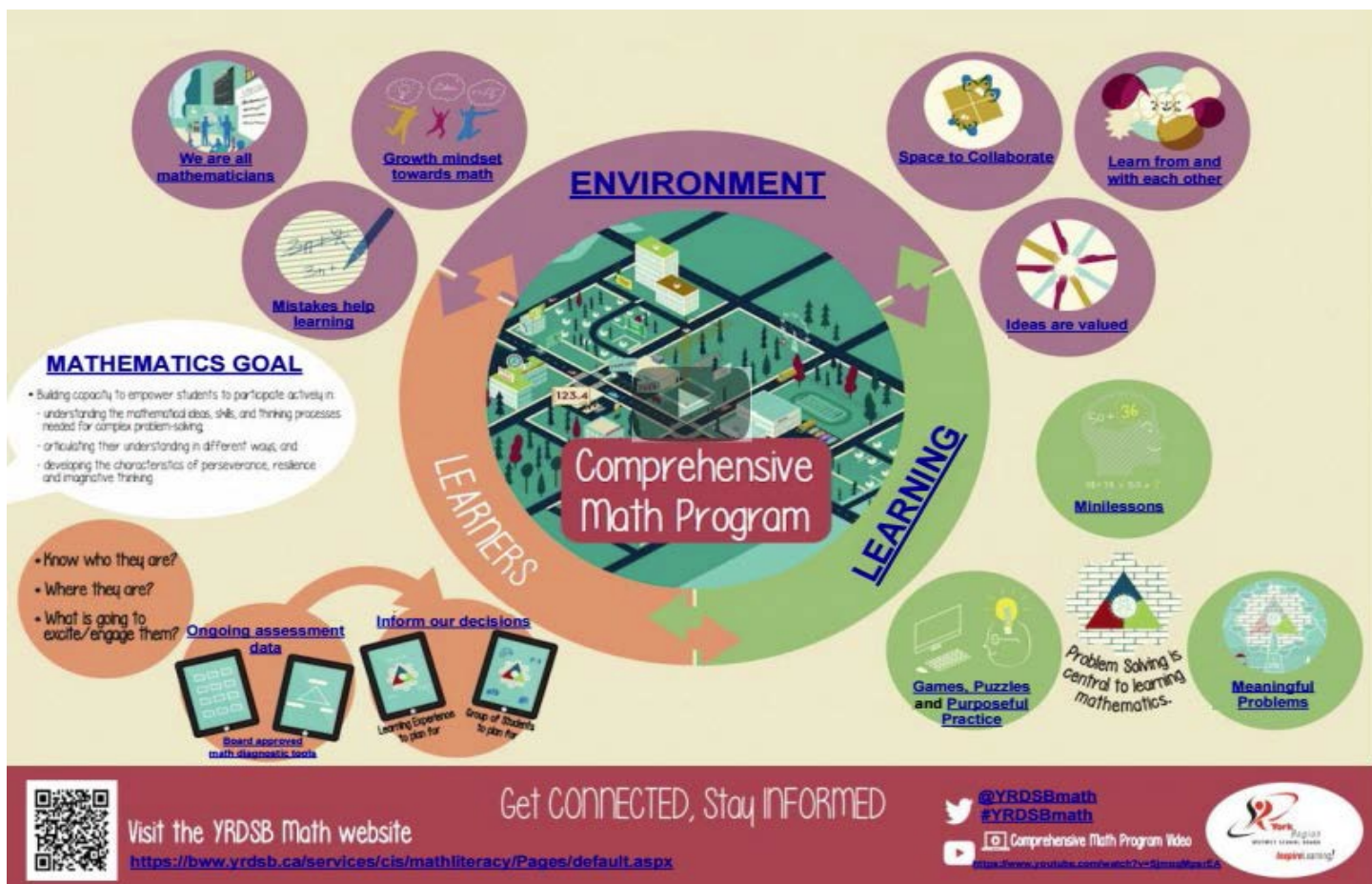


~ EQAO DATES ~

This month, students in Grades 3 and grade 6 continue preparing for the **EQAO** assessment. Please note the following dates for these assessments are from **May 25 to June 8th**. We ask that if you have a child in **Grade 3 or 6**, to refrain from arranging appointments or planned absences for your child during the respective time period as they may not be able to make up missed sections.

We encourage you to visit **www.eqao.com** for more information and great parent tips.





LEARNING



"In order for students to achieve excellence in an area like mathematics, there must be a balance between understanding basic math concepts, practising skills and developing the thinking skills needed for advanced problem solving. These foundational skills remain a focus – and combined with creativity and critical thinking, innovative problem solving, effective communication and collaboration, they lead to excellence." - *Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario, April 2014*

Meaningful Problems

- Have contexts that invite curiosity
- Challenge and have no immediate solution
- Allow multiple entry points
- Support the development of important mathematical ideas, strategies, and models



<http://goo.gl/K2X5Nn>



Games, Puzzles and Purposeful Practice

- Support conceptual understanding
- Develops skills, procedures, problem solving and thinking
- Build confidence and a positive disposition towards mathematics
- Once conceptual understanding has been framed, purposeful practice helps students develop computational and procedural fluency



<https://goo.gl/CUq2R7>



Minilessons

- Provide guided and explicit learning experiences
- Used to develop procedures, explore relationships and/or make connections
- May be a string of related problems, an investigation, a task or a teacher explanation
- Vary in length and can be longer depending on the maturity of the student(s) and the complexity of the math content



<http://goo.gl/eqw9sN>



Teachers plan, strategically sequence, and facilitate learning experiences in response to students' strengths, needs and challenges.

The Mathematical Processes

The process expectations are embedded throughout the learning experiences and support students' mathematical thinking.

- Problem solving
- Reasoning and proving
- Reflecting
- Selecting tools and computation strategies
- Connecting
- Representing
- Communicating

Three Part Lesson Framework

This planning structure can be used for all types of learning experiences – meaningful problems, games, puzzles, purposeful practice and minilessons.

1. Activate prior knowledge
2. Set the context for the learning
3. Ensure students understand the task

2. Students work on the task, often in pairs or groups
- Teachers observe and confer with students as they work
- Teachers use questions and prompts to guide and support the development of mathematical thinking

3. The teacher strategically plans a discussion to draw out the mathematical goals of the lesson
- Students share their thinking and make sense of other approaches and solutions
- The math community analyzes, connects and reflects upon the mathematics

Student Dress Code

As the warmer weather approaches, we ask that families review our student dress code.

The York Region District School Board believes that students must focus on achievement and well-being to be successful. It is important that students dress appropriately to demonstrate respect for self and others at all times. Milliken's student dress code promotes a caring, safe and respectful learning environment, and considers the diversity of the community in terms of culture, socioeconomic status, gender and other factors.

Dress Code:

The student dress code applies at school, on field trips and during any other school-related activity or event.

- ◆ Language or graphics on clothes will not display provocative, obscene, sexist or racist slogans, or refer to drugs, alcohol, smoking or sex.
- ◆ Clothing which contravenes the Human Rights Code in any way is unacceptable.
- ◆ Students will not wear clothing to school which is revealing or provocative. Midriffs and undergarments will remain covered at all times, and shorts or skirts will be mid-thigh in length. The following items are not acceptable: short skirts and shorts, tube tops, halter tops, and tops with narrow shoulder straps or 'spaghetti' straps.
- ◆ Clothing and accessories which depict violence or death or identify or promote cults or gangs are unacceptable.
- ◆ Head coverings of any description will not be worn inside the school. Exceptions are made for religious or medical reasons.
- ◆ Pyjamas or clothing which look like pyjamas are not to be worn at school except on Pyjama Spirit Day.
- ◆ For obvious safety reasons, weather appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. It is essential that all students have both indoor and outdoor shoes.
- ◆ Students will wear appropriate clothing for gym class, as indicated by Phys. Ed. teachers.

Parent Notification:

Parents will be notified when a student is not dressed appropriately for school. A student may be asked to:

- ◆ Turn the piece of clothing inside out
- ◆ Wear something over the inappropriate clothing
- ◆ Change into something else
- ◆ Remove the accessory and give it to the teacher, Vice-Principal or Principal

According to Board Policy #635.0 "Student Dress Code", Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are responsible for ensuring their child follows the student dress code, and students are responsible for following the student dress code.

Bill Crothers Secondary School Presents...

The 2016

Return to Learn

Concussion Management Symposium

An informative evening about sport-related concussion management
for parents, students, educators, and coaches.

Featuring a keynote presentation from...

Dr. Neilank Jha - Neurosurgeon and Concussion Expert

Concussion Management Today

additional presentations from...

Cherie Piper, Three-time Olympic Gold Medalist

Concussion Management in Elite Sport

Dr. Frances Flint - Sport Psychologist

Social and Emotional Considerations for Concussion Rehabilitation

Dr. Sari Kraft & Stefanie Moser, Athletic Therapist

Clinical Management of Concussion : From Family Medicine to Athletic Therapy

Rebecca Green - YRDSB Superintendent

Concussion Management Protocol in Our Schools

April 11, 2016 at 7:00 PM

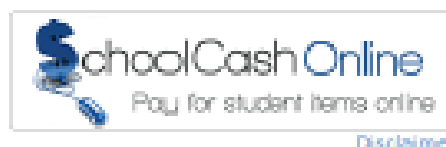
Bill Crothers Secondary School

44 Main Street | Unionville, ON

Admission is FREE, but space is limited.

[Click here to register!](#)

Milliken Mills P.S. is accepting online payments through School Cash ONLINE!



Step 1: Register

- a) Click on the School Cash Online button on our school's website at <http://millikenmills.ps.yrdsb.ca/> and select the "Get Started Today" button.

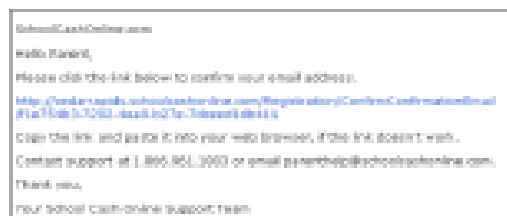
- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps

*For Security Reasons your password requires 8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.



Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be automatically forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account. The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.



Step 3: Find Student

NOTE: A STUDENT NUMBER IS REQUIRED

This step will connect your children to your account.

- a) Enter the School Board Name
b) Enter the School Name
c) Enter Your Child's Student # and Last Name
d) Select Continue
e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select Continue
f) Your child has been added to your account.

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select "Add Another Student" option and repeat the steps above. 3 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select "View Items For Students" option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

NEED HELP?

If you require assistance, select the GET HELP option in the top right hand corner of the screen or contact School Cash Online – Parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803 or parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com.



Sun

Mon

Tue


Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Character Trait for April: Integrity—*We are truthful and sincere. We ensure consistency between what we say and what we do as well as between what we believe and how we behave.* W. Clement Stone said "Have the courage to say no. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys to living your life with integrity."

					1 HONOR ROLL ASSEMBLY 	2
3	4 7pm 	5 <i>Gr 6 ROM Trip</i>	6  Gr 8 PET Visit	7	8 	9
10	11	12	13 	14	15 	16
17	18	19	20  Gr 7 & 8 	21	22 	23
24	25 Gr 3 	26	27 	28 Gr JK-3  5:30-7:30PM	29	30