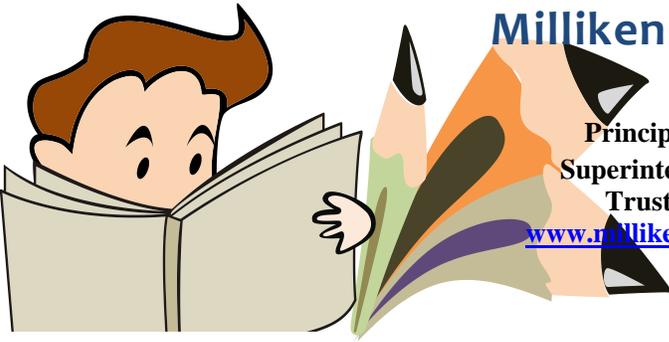


Principal: Catarina Burisch

Superintendent: Erik Khilji

Trustee: Juanita Nathan

www.milliken.mills.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca



Character Trait of the Month *April-Integrity*

“The time is always right to do what is right”. ~
Martin Luther King, Jr.



A Message from the Principal

This is a great time of the year, filled with anticipation as we wait for the April showers to bring May flowers and help lift our spirits as we patiently wait for spring to fully burst into bloom.

The learning of students is exciting to nurture and observe in its many forms. Last night we hosted our school wide interactive Family Math Night. It was empowering to have teachers, students and families learning together and having fun.

Ten of our grade 8 students have been involved in a “Writer in Residence” program to hone their written skills and enhance their natural ability once a week. Author Philip Roy spent an afternoon with our grade 4 to 8 students sharing his passion of reading. Our youngest students have begun Getting Ready for Kindergarten and last week we were delighted to host an experiential Kindergarten pilot program for students who enjoyed learning outside and discovered so much in our diverse green space. The Music Alive competition is showcasing outstanding musical ability once again with our students having brought home two Platinum awards. Our intermediate students are building awareness and skills at the Together We Are Better conference and have been part of the VIP presentations offered by our community police. We marked Earth Day in various ways this year to maintain environmental awareness and foster a responsibility to care for our earth and today our grade 5 & 6 students attended the Environmental Wake-Up screening at MMHS. So much learning requires good nutrition and our Snack Program delivers. The program is growing thanks to parent volunteers who help prepare and provide healthy snacks for our students. THANK YOU!

EQAO

Grade 3 and 6 students will be taking part in the provincial Assessment of Reading, Writing and Math during the weeks of May 25th to June 5th. Please do not book any appointments for your child during these two weeks as students must complete the entire assessment.



Grade 8 Graduation will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2015. Please save the date in your calendar. Further details regarding time and place will follow.



It is important that we always have up to date, accurate information on file for your child(ren). Please notify the office if you have a change in address, new contact information or new medical information pertaining to your child. We require this information so that we can contact you immediately if the situation requires. Please support us in keeping this information current.

Regional Parent Symposium

On April 15th, 800 guests attended The Regional Parent Symposium focusing on Parent Engagement. Two schools in the YRDSB were featured to illustrate Parent Engagement Among them was Milliken Mills Public School’s WeCare Café. Thank you Ms. Leung and Ms. Karimian and the many teachers for the outstanding work you do for our community!



The Summer Institute is a program that offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering SK to Grade 8. For additional information call 905-884-2046 ext. 241 or email performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca.

July 6, 2015 to August 14, 2015

Programs are offered at locations in Richmond Hill, Markham, Stouffville, Newmarket, Woodbridge, Vaughan and Georgina from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm with extended YMCA before and aftercare available [YMCA Before and Aftercare Registration](#)



Our performing season has begun! The Music room is abuzz with rehearsals for the Music Alive Festival. Congratulations to our String Ensemble. With many hours of practising at home, during lunch recesses and after school, they achieved a platinum performance. We're looking forward to continuing the streak of music excellence as our Intermediate Band, Recorder Ensemble and Junior Band perform.

Music Alive is a wonderful opportunity for students to form a community of musicians, striving to gain experience and knowledge in performing outside our community. The ensembles are adjudicated by a professional musician who leads a master class session after the performance. This festival celebrates the joy of making music and opens the door to personal growth.

Congratulations to Claire H. who successfully auditioned for the York Region Enrichment Band. The Enrichment Band is composed of music students from across the board that are selected to participate in the band, attend a week long music camp and perform several concerts to showcase their hard work and talents. Bravo, Claire! We look forward to hearing about your experience!



On April 7th, our grade 6 students experienced a workshop entitled Electricity: Get Charged Matter & Energy. They built a human battery and had the opportunity to investigate the nature of electricity. They designed and built circuits to learn how a house is wired and explored electromagnets, simple motors and generators.



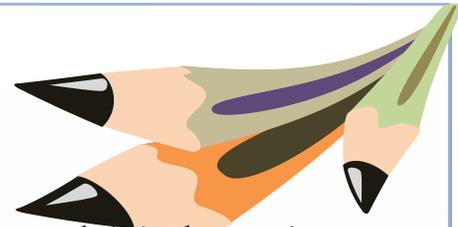
The next School council meeting will be on Thursday, May 21st at 7:00pm in School Library.



Volunteers are needed to help with the Snack Program on Thursday mornings from 8:15am to 8:45am. Please contact massoudmary@gmail.com if you are interested.



Milliken Mills "Makers" have been enthusiastically working in the Makerspace. Bookmarks from last month were laminated and passed on to their owners. Our new activity is Origami. Examples of this beautiful Japanese Art of paper folding are now being displayed in the Makerspace.



Students are welcome to use their 'makerspace' passes during instructional time and morning recess, day 1, 2 and 3, to get their paper folding skills going! Stay tuned for our next activity!

On March 31st, the award winning Canadian author, Philip Roy, presented to our Grade 4 to 8 students. He brought his model submarine and helicopter made from recycled materials with him. Students were eager to use their crucial thinking skills to answer many inferential questions that Philip proposed to them. He talked about his writing process, the importance of recycling and other interesting topics. Students had many questions and were an attentive audience. Book orders will be arriving at the end of the month. If you want to read his work, go to www.philiproyc.ca and start your adventure!!



We were lucky enough to be invited as part of a ministry pilot project for "Inspire Learning Outside" in one of our kindergarten classes. It was put together by Tanya Murray an Outdoor Ed teacher with the YRDSB. We planned two days of activities, an inquiry, and play-based learning all for the outdoors. We began our journey meeting Ms. Murray and took her to all our special outdoor learning places.

When Ms. Murray returned we began our day looking at a variety of county and trail maps. The students' thinking was recorded and we discussed planning out our own large scale map of our school space. We continued to explore our favourite places and place them on the map using mixed media. This map now hangs just outside our door for all to see, and it also reminds us to go outside more often to visit these special places.

Spending time outside has sparked new interests for inquiry within the classroom. We are looking deeper into worms and spiders as the students have several questions about these creatures in our own environment. We have begun to document our learning. Please come take a look and remember to come back often to see our progress.

When asked "how do you feel learning outside?" The responses were "very happy", "I love it", "tired" and "great!" They said they want to spend more time outside for their learning periods and we will ensure this happens.