

289 Risebrough Cir.
Markham, Ontario
L3R 3J3
T: 905.475.8143
F: 905.475.3264

Principal: Nandy Palmer
Superintendent: Erik Khilji
Trustee: Jaunita Nathan



Website: www.milliken.millsps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca
Email: milliken.mills.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca
Twitter: @MillikenMillsPS

Milliken Mills PS
December 2015

A Message From the Principal

Dear Families,

I am always amazed at how involved our teachers and students are in a number of co-curricular activities. We are a growing community of leaders at MMPS!

It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of another calendar year, and that the winter holidays are almost upon us! Please remember that the last day of school before the Winter Break begins is **Friday, December 18th**. Please note that instruction continues up to and including Friday, December 18th, and will resume right after the winter break, on **Monday, January 4th**.

Much of what we celebrate is due to the efforts and contributions of our excellent staff, parents and students. We are also fortunate, as a school, to have remarkable volunteers and a school council who give so much of themselves each day to further the learning and positive educational experiences of all our students.

As we enter a season of celebration, I would like to wish all of you much joy as you spend time with family and friends!



Yours in education,
Nandy Palmer

Trustee Greetings

It is that time of year when our schools brim with energy and excitement for the many diverse celebrations taking place across our region. I am always happy to join the festivities happening in our schools and appreciate the efforts of our students, staff and community members to bring the holiday season alive.

As we wind down 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and guardians for their support of our students and staff over the past few months. A school community is only as strong and welcoming as the people who make up that community. Our students, staff and community members have continued to demonstrate respect, character and commitment in their work and interactions over the last few months. As a trustee, I consider myself very fortunate to work with such supportive community and staff members.

On behalf of all of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday season. All the best for 2016!

EQAO Resources

A video for parents about EQAO Tests and Results: About Ontario's Province-Wide Tests is available online at www.eqao.com.

No Nuts!

Please remember that we are a nut/peanut safe school. Do not send food containing peanuts, nuts and any nut related products. This includes substitutes such as "Wow Butter". Thank you for your cooperation.



School Website

Remember to check our website www.milliken.mills.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca for newsletters, important dates, highlights, etc. Thanks for helping us reduce our carbon footprint.



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.

*"Always walk through life as if
 you have something new to learn
 and you will."*

Vernon Howard

Snack Program Volunteers

Thank you to all our volunteers who provide their time, skills and expertise to our students and staff. We are fortunate to have many parents, guardians and community members who volunteer their time and talents in a variety of settings to support our school. Our Snack program is run by our volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please contact the school.



Parking at the School

In the interest of student safety, parents are asked NOT to park in front of the school. If you need to enter the school, please park in the parking lot. The Kiss and Ride is a *fire route* and as such, you could be fined if you are parking in this area. Do not drive in one way lanes, or park in no parking spots or the fire route. All other rules and regulations also apply.

Milk Bag Program

MMPS is starting a Milk Bag Program. We are collecting your old clean milk bags. They are used to create mats sent to emergency zones world-wide as temporary sleeping and surgical mats, providing critical resources to families in need.

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

Ontario designated the **third week of November (November 15th- 21st) as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week**. During this designated week many different events and initiatives took place at M.M.P.S. in relation to the theme of bullying and promoting a safe and inclusive school environment! The intention of these initiatives was to heighten awareness of bullying and its impact, promote our character education, as well as encourage a safe, inclusive and equitable school climate. **The entire school participated in a "Caught you caring Campaign", signed a pledge to stop bullying, creating a visual display of what respect looked like in their classroom, watched the movie "Ant Bully", made a human peace sign at recess, and wore blue on Friday in solidarity to stop bullying.** Also, many students from all grades participated in a Bookmark and Poster contest and submitted fantastic artwork that is currently on display! Bullying awareness goes beyond this week. It includes students and adults working together throughout the school year to be effective. It is important to talk about bullying regardless of your child's age. Let's keep the conversation going!

MMPS Google Visit

On November 4th, Mr. Hanson (grade 7/8 Teacher) invited Google Product Manager, Mr. Winston Mok to come and share with the grade 8's his experience being in the world's leading IT company and top employer. They lead the kids in a Mathematical Inquiry where they had to discuss estimation and design type questions. Winston taught them that what is important is not the answer, but rather, it's the thinking process and how you show your design to the world. We learned about the company, it's location in California, and most importantly, Winston taught us that failing is part of success and that perseverance and respect are the most important characteristics to live by.

Remembrance Day Assembly

On November 11th, 2015 our school held a Remembrance Day assembly. The assembly started with our two Grade 8 MC's making an introduction to Remembrance Day. Then Mr. Thomas wore his uniform and walked into the gym with a grade 8 student who is part of Cadets for the flag bearing during O' Canada. Primary classes such as Mme Momeni and Mme Ng's class performed poems. A student sang a song, Mme Herman's class shared a PowerPoint presentation and our MC's performed Flanders's Field. Trumpet players to play "Last Post" followed by a moment of silence to appreciate the people who have sacrificed their lives for our country. Mme Palmer ended our assembly with some closing words. —Written by: Jennifer, Jane and Jessica



Grade 3 Gifted Testing

Students in grade three will participate in system wide screening for possible identification as a Gifted student. Please ensure that your attends from **December 9th to the 11th**. For stage one of the testing. If your child qualifies for Stage Two, you will receive a 'Consent for Intellectual Screening' form in the first week of February.

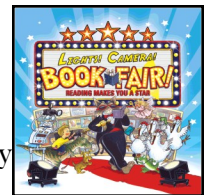
OPUS

OPUS is a great work in progress, emphasizing a hope for world peace and understanding through knowledge and appreciation of our multicultural country, province, community, families and schools. We are happy to announce that this will be our 15th year celebrating OPUS. Students rotate, experiencing multicultural food and activities. Connections to curriculum were made, such as the study of traditions, celebrations, and diversity of our families and communities. Students, staff and parents are invited to dress up in a traditional costume. OPUS is a time to say goodbye to the old year and hello to the New Year with all its hopes and new beginnings! OPUS is a time to engage one another in creating a cohesive bind full of optimism and promise. OPUS is a time for students to see themselves as 'change-makers', citizens contributing to the better understanding of one another – and ultimately to a better world for us all. If you would like to help with this event, please contact the school. **We hope to see you at this event on Thursday, December 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**



Scholastic Book Fair is Coming!

Come join us in the Library/Learning Commons for this year's first Scholastic Book Fair. The Fair will open Monday, November 30, 2015 and continue until Friday, December 4, 2015. We will be open every morning at 8:05 am and close each day at 3:05 pm. During the school day parents are welcome to visit during instructional time with the addition of 2 morning recesses. This will be mostly English books with a limited amount of French books. Just in time for holiday gift giving! Hope to see you there!



Martial Arts Club

Mr. Hanson, Grade 7/8 Teacher and Karate Sensei, is proud to announce that the Intermediate Martial Arts Club is up and running once again! Every Friday, 25 determined individuals will learn the traditional Art of Kempo Karate. Kempo is one of the first mixed martial arts out there that teaches concentration, co-ordination, and character. Students will learn how to de-escalate conflict, control their emotions, and most importantly, they will capitalize on positivity by learning a unique sport and art.

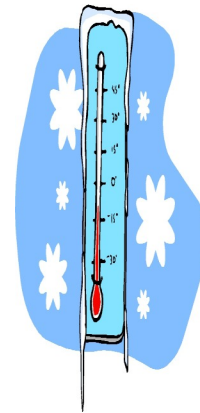


The Holidays

As the holiday season approaches and 2015 draws to a close, we extend best wishes for the holiday season and a happy 2016. We are confident the break will prove to be a restful and pleasurable. Make a craft or do some artwork, read a book or two, do some baking or go outside to play to keep busy.

Weather and School Expectations

All students are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal/designate decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors for up to 40 . We monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions, we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks. **We receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves.** This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of their illness to others. It is advisable for students to **bring extra pants and socks.** A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months.



Kid's Kitchen

With Winter approaching we would like to take this opportunity to clarify our policy on lunch service during inclement weather. During inclement weather, even when school buses are cancelled - Kid's Kitchen will be open for business and we **WILL** be delivering lunches. The standard same day cancellation policy for JK to Grade 8's will apply - by 7am by PHONE ONLY. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at 905-944-0210.

STS School Vehicle Cancellation Procedure

School bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. Since some bussing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m. or earlier, all cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to ensure the safety of our students. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with school bus companies servicing York Region. Decisions are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature and road conditions.

Please note the following: A decision to cancel school bus transportation may be **system wide** (where all buses in York Region are cancelled) **or municipality specific** (where buses in one or more municipalities are cancelled). If school bus transportation in your municipality is cancelled and your child attends school in a different municipality where service is operational, your child **will not** be transported to/from school. If school bus transportation in your municipality is operational and your child attends school in a different municipality where service is cancelled, your child **will not** be transported to/from school. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**



Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO - 590 AM 640 AM 680 AM 860 AM 1010 AM 1050 AM 1540 AM 1580 AM 88.5 FM 89.9 FM 92.5 FM 93.1 FM 94.9 FM 95.9 FM 97.3 FM 98.1 FM 99.1 FM 99.9 FM 101.1 FM 102.1 FM 104.5 FM 100.7 FM 107.1 FM

TELEVISION - CITY TV CTV BARRIE CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001.

When buses have been cancelled and you drive your child in to the school, please remember to be prompt picking up your child by 2:40. Please ensure that your child has a lunch as no pizza will be delivered on a Snow Day. Also there will be no Kids' Kitchen on those days either. We want to be proactive and make sure your child is prepared to have a good day. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

As the holiday season approaches and 2015 quickly draws to a close, the staff at MMPS extends our best wishes for the holiday season and for a happy 2016!



Bottom Row: C. Statten, D. Ng, A. Hwang, A. Tzemis, D. Singh, N. Palmer A. Pun, A. Tantalo, R. Salvagna, F. Caplan and S. Momeni
































Middle Row: J. Sainte, T. Davydova, R. Leung, V. Pak, B. Herman, R. Beharry, M. Matthew, C. Hanson and D. Tong

Top Row: K. Koukouves, C. Chan, S. Levy, D. Rawana, I. Haranas, R. Santos, S. Thomas, C. Ritchie, C. Mio and S. Sukumaran

Not Pictured: D. Singh-Sharma, E. Fejer, P. Boyd, P. Karimian B. Shields, and P. Boampong



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 CAFE 	3 Snack Day 	4  PIZZA  BOOK FAIR 	5
6	7  Happy Chanukah! 	8  MARKHAM FIRE DEPT FIRE AND RESCUE DIVISION Open House 	9  CAFE  Test Today! 	10 Snack Day  Test Today! 	11 PIZZA  Test Today! 	12
13	14	15	16 CAFE 	17 Snack Day 	18 PIZZA 	19
20	21 Winter Break 	22 Winter Break 	23 Winter Break 	24 Winter Break 	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS  Winter Break 	26 Happy Kwanzaa 
27	28 Winter Break 	29 Winter Break 	30 Winter Break 	31 Winter Break 	 Happy Holidays	





Are you in grades 7 to 10? Need help with math homework? Then why not get live, online math tutoring from an Ontario teacher? It's free and easy to sign up.

Setting up your account

To log in and register, you'll need your Ontario Education Number (OEN), found at the top of your [report card near your name](#).

Note: Homework Help is offered in English and is only available to students at publicly funded schools.

[Sign In or Register for Homework Help at the Independent Learning Centre](#)

Homework Help is run by TVO's Independent Learning Centre with support from the Ontario government.

Live online tutoring

You can log in between 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. ET from Sunday to Thursday for one-on-one tutoring.

You can also join your grade's tutor room to see what questions other students are asking and then watch teachers walk through problems on the group whiteboard.

And since only the tutor sees your username, no one will have to know who you are!



FAIR IS NOT ALWAYS EQUAL.



Kids go to a doctor **with different needs**:

I scraped my knee! My stomach hurts! I think my arm is broken! I have a cough!

What if the doctor said the **same thing** to all of them?

Here's some cough medicine!

A bottle of cough syrup and a spoon with red syrup on it.

Only **one kid** would get what he needs.

And that's **not fair**.

A hand giving a thumbs down gesture.

It's the same thing in a classroom.

Every student has **different needs**:

I have trouble focusing for more than 15 min. I think better when my hands are busy. I can talk about what I know better than I can write about it. I can't grip a pen or pencil.

So **different students** should get **different things** to help them succeed.

Classroom breaks; tests taken over multiple days	Fidget toys and tactile activities	Creating a video instead of composing a paper	Modified writing utensils; writing on a computer instead
--	------------------------------------	---	--

And **that's what makes a classroom fair for everyone!**



Milliken Mills High School



Grade 8 Open House

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

The presentation and tours will be conducted in
English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tamil and Urdu/Hindi

6:30-8:30pm

- Welcome
- Pathways Presentation
- School Tour
- Course/Club Fair
- Refreshments



COMING IN JANUARY!

Our school will soon be accepting online payments through School Cash Online. School-related expenses such as hot lunches, field trips and fundraisers will be online soon for you to make payment. Watch for more information coming soon!

Stay and Play



Community Action Program
for Children (CAPC)

FREE program for parents/grandparents and their children (2.5 & 3 yrs. old)

Date: January 11 to April 4, 2016
Every Monday morning

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Milliken Mills P.S.



- Songs, puzzles, craft, story time, parenting information.
- A parent or grandparent must attend with child.



REGISTER BY PHONE OR EMAIL starting Dec. 7th

Call – Pam May, CAPC York Region: 905-642-9965

OR email: pam.may.capc@gmail.com

Leave a message with your name, phone # & child's name & birthdate.

NOTE: You must register before attending the program. Thank you!

Stay and Play



Community Action Program
for Children (CAPC)

-这是免费的学前儿童活动

-欢迎父母亲或祖父母带同其两岁半至三岁儿童参加

日期：二零一六年一月十一日至四月四日

逢星期一上午

时间：十时半至十二时正

地点：Milliken Mills 小学

*唱歌、拼图游戏、美劳、故事及育儿知识/资讯

*父母亲或祖父母必须携同儿童出席。



十二月七日开始接受电话或电邮报名：

致电留言：Pam May, CAPC York Region: (905)642-9965

或电邮至 pam.may.capc@gmail.com

请提供以下资料：阁下姓名、联络电话、参加子女的姓名及出生日期。

注意：参加这项活动须预先报名。谢谢！



WeCare Café

We invite all parents, grandparents and caregivers of **K-Grade 8** students to come and join us!

Café Goal

Building school-home partnership to improve student achievement and well-being.

Time: 8:20am—9:30am

Place: Room 103

Languages: English (Chinese translation is available)

Upcoming WeCare Café Topics & Events

Tea and Talk (all grades): What if my child is struggling academically?
— December 2nd

Tea and Talk (all grades): Making healthy holiday snacks and Question & Answer Session —December 9th