

# Milliken Mills Public School Newsletter

## February 13, 2014



Principal: Catarina Burisch

Superintendent: Rashmi Swarup (905)940-7800 Trustee: Juanita Nathan (416)885-3479

[www.millikenmills.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.millikenmills.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

### Character Trait of the Month

#### ***February—Initiative***

We act without being prompted by others. We are eager to do what needs to be done without having to be told to do it. We take the first step towards the achievement of a goal.

*"Watch your thoughts; they become words.*

*Watch your words; they become actions.*

*Watch your actions; they become habits.*

*Watch your habits; they become character.*

*Watch your character; for it becomes your destiny."*-

Aesop

### A Message from the Principal

This year we have much to celebrate. The Winter Olympics have captured everyone's imagination and hope. At Milliken Mills Public School we had our own school wide winter celebration. Everyone participated and experienced smiles of all kinds. The sun, snow and warmer weather will be leaving us soon and we wanted to be sure to have enjoyed them.

We have just celebrated the 100th day of school and Term 1 has come to a close marking a successful five months of learning! The report cards communicate how well students have achieved the overall curriculum expectations for each subject and how well students have developed the learning skills and work habits. Although there are no formal interviews scheduled you can always contact your child's teacher if you have any questions. We are looking forward to the next five months as students consolidate and extend their learning in various areas.

February marks the celebration of Black History/African Heritage Month when we deliberately reflect upon the legacy of African history in its various forms, and join all Canadians in celebrating Black History/African Heritage month. All month various activities will be occurring.

On Thursday February 20th, we will be hosting an interactive math evening for parents and their children from JK to grade 8. We look forward to seeing many of you.

We wish everyone a beautiful Valentine's Day on Friday and Family day on February 17!

### Message from our Trustee

This is an exciting time for our Board. We recently launched our new Mission, Vision and Values, and the Board's first slogan - Inspire Learning!

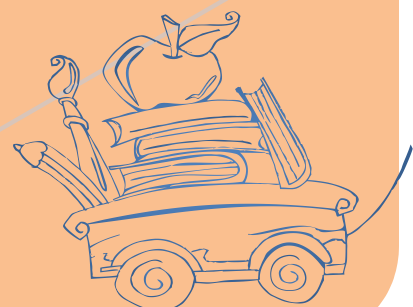
Our new mission statement - to advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community - will help to guide our work and move us forward in the months and years ahead.

Thank you to everyone who shared their input. We look forward to bringing these statements to life in our school communities.

We are now halfway through the school year, a good time to celebrate all that your children have achieved and to set goals for the rest of the year. I encourage you to speak with your child not only about what they are learning, but also how they are learning. There are so many exciting and innovative things happening in our schools.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at [Juanita.nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:Juanita.nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca) or by phone at 416-885-3479. If you would like to be kept informed about various initiatives or topics that relates to your child's education and well being, please send me your email address and I would be happy to keep in touch with you on a regular basis. Best wishes for an enjoyable and successful second term.

Juanita Nathan  
Trustee | York Region District School Board  
City of Markham - Ward 7&8  
416 885 3479  
[Juanita.Nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:Juanita.Nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca)





## Black History Month and Chinese New Year



February is recognized as Black History Month and Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese New Year begins on January 31st. Both cultural groups contributed significantly to the development of our country in its earliest years, as well as during the last two centuries. We take time each year to note the contributions of these groups. We celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black and Chinese/Korean/Vietnamese Canadians. It is an opportunity for us to learn about the experiences of Black and Chinese/Korean/Vietnamese Canadians in our society and the vital role this community has played in our history. This year we had a parade and made dumplings for Chinese New Year.



## Tamil Heritage Month



January is Tamil Heritage Month because the first month of the Tamil calendar falls in the middle of January, and it coincides with Thai Pongal, a widely-celebrated festival amongst Tamils around the world. Held on January 14, Thai Pongal Day gives thanks for the blessings of the past year and look forward to the start of a new year. We celebrated with announcements from Kaavya and Kaarunya from Mr. Iozzo's class.



## Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten registration commenced on January 17, 2014 for the 2014-15 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB website: [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca). Children who were born in 2009 (SK) and 2010 (JK) (turn four or five years old during 2014), live within the school boundary, and whose parents are public school tax supporters; will be eligible to register for kindergarten.



## Locked School Doors



Beginning February 3, all school doors, will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell. The doors will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone arriving at the school after that time must buzz in and sign in at the main office. Our school continues to be a safe place where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.



## Snow Days



What does a Snow Day mean? Snow days are often declared early in the morning. Parents can find out via the radio, TV or through the YRDSB website at <http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/page.cfm?id=BT0000001> if the inclement weather is severe enough to warrant a snow day. If a snow day is declared, busses are cancelled however school is open for instruction. On snow days, teachers endeavor to provide students who do come to school with a viable and worthwhile program as they do every instructional day.

Parents are encouraged to use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school. Busses do not run in the afternoon even if the weather improves. Parents are asked to make arrangements to have their child picked up at the end of the school day. If you choose to keep your child home on a Snow Day, please follow the school's safe arrival procedure by calling the office at (905) 475-8143 to note an absence.



## Important Dates



February 17th: Family Day (no classes)

February 20th: Math Night

February 21<sup>st</sup>: Grad Photos

March 7<sup>th</sup>: PA Day (no classes)

March 10<sup>th</sup> to March 14<sup>th</sup>: March Break

June 23rd: Grade 8 Graduation

June 26th: Final Report Card Day

February

CUT BACK







## 2014 Summer Institute Registration Information



### How to Register?

2014 SUMMER INSTITUTE PROGRAM INFORMATION PACKAGES AND REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD AT [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca) ON **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014**.

Registration will be accepted in person at the regional Summer Institute office located at Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning, 36 Regatta Drive, Richmond Hill beginning March 5, 2014.

Completed registration forms, one for each child, with payment can also be dropped off at the Summer Institute school site in the drop box provided. Please allow time for pickup and delivery of the registration forms to the Regional Office.

Please note; registration forms are date stamped once they are received in the regional office.

### Weekly Session Program Registration Fees

*No programs on Tuesday, July 1 or Monday August 4*

For York Region District School Board students:  
Base fee: 4 day week - \$100; 5 day week - \$125

For Non York Region District School Board students:  
Base Fees: 4 day week - \$125; 5 day week - \$150

### Method of Payment

Cheque or Money order payable to:  
YRDSB Summer Institute

Credit Cards:

Mastercard or Visa accepted at regional office only:

Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning  
36 Regatta Avenue, Richmond Hill

### Regional Summer Institute Office Hours

- Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
- Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
- Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm beginning Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> till Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday & Thursday evenings 6:00pm to 8:00pm, beginning Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> until Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

REGISTRATIONS AFTER PROGRAM START DATE, JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> WILL BE ACCEPTED AT SUMMER INSTITUTE SITE LOCATIONS ONLY.

### Regional Summer Institute Office contact information:

E-mail: [performanceplus.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:performanceplus.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca) or Telephone: 905-884-2046 ext. 240.

*PLEASE JOIN US*

*For an interactive one hour math evening  
for parents and children from JK to Gr. 8*

*Thursday, February 20th*

*6:30 – 7:30*

*Milliken Mills Public School Gymnasium*

Socialize over food

with friends

*5:30 – 6:30*

Sponsored by your School Council

& the Parent Reach Out Grant (PRO)

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If you are planning to join us for our PRO Math Night, please complete this tear-off form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher by Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2014.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

# of family members attending: \_\_\_\_\_



**YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**GRADE 7 & 8**  
**SUMMER SCHOOL**  
**JULY 2 – 25, 2014**

MARKVILLE SECONDARY SCHOOL • BUR OAK SECONDARY SCHOOL  
 KESWICK HIGH SCHOOL • RICHMOND HILL HIGH SCHOOL  
 EMILY CARR SECONDARY SCHOOL • NEWMARKET HIGH SCHOOL

**What is it?**

Summer school is an opportunity to

- Reinforce essential skills
- Enhance literacy and math skills
- Increase confidence and develop a positive attitude for learners

**How does it work?**

This engaging approach to summer school

- Blends language and mathematics learning with the arts
- Focuses on students' own interests in an inquiry-based classroom

**Who would benefit?**

Students who

- Continue to work to meet the Provincial standard in literacy and mathematics
- Are experiencing some disengagement

**Is this for your child?**

Find out more at  
**yrdsb.ca**  
 under Summer Programs



**Inspire Learning!**

yrdsb.ca @YRDSB  
 60 Wellington Street, West Box 40, Aurora, Ontario L4G 3H2  
 905.727.0022

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## New Mission, Vision, Values and Slogan

Mission: To advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community.

The York Region District School Board is celebrating the launch of its new Mission, Vision and Values statements and slogan - Inspire Learning!

The Board last reviewed these statements in the late 1990s. Since that time, education in York Region has been influenced by a number of significant changes, including changes in technology, in our communities and in our learning environments.

Community members, parents/guardians, staff members and students had the opportunity to provide input and share ideas about the ideal future of public education in York Region. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process.

For more information, visit the Board website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

## New Notification Service

Milliken Mills Public School is pleased to announce our subscription to School Connects Automated Notification Service provided through Synrevoice Technologies Inc. School Connects can deliver a wide variety of messages by phone, and email families. It will help to enhance communication within our school community. In order to ensure we are ready for its use, please make sure that your contact phone numbers and email addresses are up-to-date and notify us promptly whenever your contact phone numbers or email addresses change.

## Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day was January 27. We had many activities promoting literacy in the Library all day long. In 1999, ABC Life Literacy Canada developed this day to promote adults and children reading and learning together, and to encourage families to spend at least 15 minutes a day enjoying a learning activity together. For more information and suggestions on the many ways that families can develop and use literacy skills together, please visit [www.familyliteracyday.ca](http://www.familyliteracyday.ca).

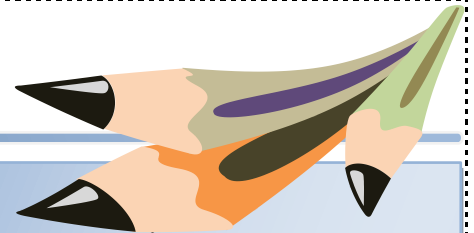
## MMHL – Mid Season Report

Things are going great as we have just past the mid-season point of the 2013-14 Milliken Mills Hockey League (MMHL). Rivalries are heating up as our top three teams continue to jostle for top spot. Every win moves a different team back into first place as they all try to win the coveted "Kastner Cup".

This intermediate, co-ed league continues to be extremely popular with over 45 students playing on 7 teams and many staff members playing on the teachers' team. Weekly games are played during lunch with not only skill being taught but the importance of team work being stressed. These games also continue to attract large audiences as students come out to cheer their friends (and boo the teachers).

Who will be victorious this year? Only one team can. May the best team win!

Mr. Kastner



## WeCare Café for K-3 Parents and Caregivers 愛心茶室K-3的家长 and 照顾者

### February

My child doesn't eat much. What should I do?

I need some tips about simple-but-yummy lunch ideas.

I want to know about the relationship between food choices and children learning.

Traditional math? Problem-solving math? Inquiry math? What are the differences? Which one is better?

I just don't know how to help my child with math? What can I do at home to support my child?

**Purpose:** To improve student achievement by building school-family partnership

Highgate Public School  
Time: Thursday 1:45pm - 2:45pm  
Place: Library

Milliken Mills Public School  
Time: Wednesday 8:20am - 9:30am  
Place: Room 103

Week One: What to cook for my child? Part 1  
Week Two: What to cook for my child? Part 2  
Week Three: How to help my child learn Math? Part 1  
Week Four: How to help my child learn Math? Part 2

Remember to bring a parent!

