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Milliken Mills PS

February 2016

A Message From the Principal

Dear families,

It is hard to believe that the first month of 2016 is already behind us. January was a busy month as our Grade 8 students prepared their high school applications and teachers prepared Term 1 Report Cards. I know that all of our teachers strive to let you know how your child is progressing in a variety of ways, all year long. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful staff at MMPS! I would like to acknowledge the many hours of dedication and skill that it took to prepare those reports. Bravo!

As you read your child's Term 1 report card, I hope that you receive a clear indication of your child's strengths and areas for improvement. Please take some time to sit down with your child and set goals for Term 2. The report card has a tear off section for both student and parent comments. Students are required to identify their strengths and to set goals for improvement, and parents can include their comments as well. I encourage students and parents to identify *specific* and *challenging* goals for Term 2 and to monitor these goals throughout the term.

This time of year also marks the beginning of planning for the next school year—2016/2017. As a result, we are working towards getting an accurate projection of enrolment for September. Therefore, **if you are planning to move, please let the office know as soon as possible, as this will help us prepare for next year.**

Each day, we strive to promote a sense of family at MMPS in each classroom and in the school as a whole. As Family Day approaches, I wish each of you love and laughter with family and friends.



Yours in education,
Nandy Palmer



Trustee Greetings

Although winter still feels far from over some days, we are now halfway through the school year. With report cards coming home, this is a good time to review progress and celebrate what your children have learned both inside and outside of the classroom. This is also a good time to set goals for the months ahead.

One of our goals set out in the Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Plan is to "continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture of caring and learning." Developing this supportive culture includes engaging parents/guardians and other members of the school community in public education and working together to create safe and supportive school environments that enable students to thrive.

As parents/guardians, there are many ways you can get engaged in your child's education and support their learning, including talking with them about school, communicating with teachers, attending school events or school council meetings, and volunteering in the school. However you get involved, know that you are making a difference.

Additional Elementary and Secondary P.A. Days

As a result of provincial labor negotiations, a P.A. Day has been added for all York Region District School Board elementary schools on Friday, May 6, 2016 and secondary schools on Friday, June 3, 2016. You can see the full updated school year calendars on YRDSB's [website](#).

These additional P.A. Days are mandated by the Ministry of Education. On these dates, teachers will be taking part in professional development on provincial education priorities identified by the Ministry of Education.



SCHOOL HOURS

First bell: 8:05 a.m.
School Starts: 8:20 a.m.
Recess: 10:00-10:20
Lunch: 12:00-1:00
Dismissal: 2:40 p.m.

Martial Arts Club

Attention Grade 5-8 Parents! The Martial Arts club is expanding!! There has been much demand for this club after our very successful OPUS community cultural celebration. So within the next 2 weeks, Mr. Hanson, our resident Karate Sensei and grade 7/8 teacher, will start recruiting students who are serious about learning Karate. Karate is an amazing Martial Art that teaches you discipline, character, and co-ordination, along with self-protection. Looking forward to reaching out to our new students. *Bow.



Math Study Hall

Math Study Hall is here! Every day 1 and 3 during 1st Recess and 2nd Recess, Mr. Hanson provides a free Tutoring Service for Grade 7/8 English Track Math students. Come ready with questions and hungry to learn. It's a collaborative environment where Mr. Hanson provides assistance with current homework, classwork, and also provides enrichment opportunities to further your Math Critical Thinking Skills. Learn cutting edge Intermediate Math from the University of Waterloo and gain extra perspectives on strategies learned from different textbooks and the Internet. See you soon!



Bus Cancellations

Please remember that in inclement weather parents should check the news on television or the radio to see if buses are cancelled. If buses are cancelled in the morning, they are cancelled in the afternoon. If you drive your child to school in the morning, you must pick her/him up promptly at 2:40 p.m. Please note that we do not have supervision after 2:55 p.m. Please do not drop your child off prior to 8:05 a.m., as we do not have supervision until then. Please remember to call and leave a message if your child will not be coming to school.



*"Let me tell you the secret that has
led me to my goal. My strength lies
solely in my tenacity."
~ Louis Pasteur*

Lockers

Lockers are provided for all students in grades five, six, seven and eight. We strongly encourage students to purchase locks in order to keep their belongings safe. Students are responsible for keeping their combination numbers private and providing the homeroom teacher with the combination. Students will have the opportunity to use lockers before and after school, recess and at lunch. It is the expectation that all students' belongings be kept in the locker and that the locker be closed at all times. Students who are unable to keep their locker clean and organized may lose locker privileges. School staff may have access to lockers when necessary. The principal has the right to search school property, such as lockers and desks, without notice to, or permission of, any person.



Cupid's Party

The Student Leadership Team is planning a Valentine's Day Party. Cupid's Party will be held on the entire afternoon of February 12th in the gym for grade 7 and 8 students. We are framing this year's Valentine's festivities as a "party" as it will not only incorporate music (DJ) / Dance but furthermore a variety of games and activities for all students to participate. Also unlike previous years, we are encouraging all intermediate students to participate (so no game room/ study hall) and have thought of every student interests, including the extroverts and introverts alike. We are hoping it will be a fun filled event for all participating students and staff!



Global Warming

Global warming has been around for centuries. It has been melting ice caps and glaciers, destroying forests and polluting the air. The causes for this crisis are mostly because of human actions. If we don't take any action now, it can be a threat to the entire world.

Some of the causes of global warming are cutting down trees, making factories, use of gasoline, transportations and trash. It's time to change our actions. We can all start small, like turning off the lights that we don't use or walk to places that are closer to us. Every little bit counts and one small change CAN change the whole world.

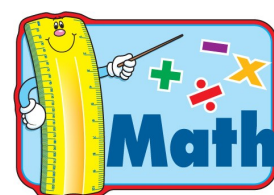
February 4th is Sweater Day at YRDSB. Please remind your child to wear a sweater to help keep warm while we try to save our earth.—

Andrea Gong & Joshua Jettoo



Council Corner...

- We will be hosting an interactive Family Math Night on Thursday, February 25th
- from 6-8 p.m. School Council members will be selling pizza and drinks from 5-6pm. We will start with a PowerPoint presentation in the gym, followed by stations around the first floor. There will also be items for you to take home. This school
- wide interactive Family Math Night. Will empower teachers, students and families to learn together and have fun. Don't forget to return your math night form!



Free
babysitting

Milliken Mills Public School
presents

~ Learning Math with My Child ~
... a family engagement evening...

Take-away
resources
for parents

Pizza and water
for sale from
5:00 -6:00 pm

February 25th @ 6 p.m. in the gym



Please complete this and return to school by Tuesday Feb. 16th.

Name of student attending: _____

Homeroom Teacher & Grade: _____

Number of Adults attending: _____

Names and ages of children who will require babysitting:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Number of cheese pizza slices required @ \$2.00 each _____

Number of pepperoni pizza slices required @ \$2.00 each _____

Number of bottles of water required @ \$1.00 each _____



What Tips Can I Use to Help My Child?

Be positive about mathematics.

- Be positive, and talk about the ways you use mathematics every day. Sharing negative experiences (by saying, for example, “I was never good at math”) will not encourage your child to engage in mathematics and be confident about taking risks as he or she solves problems. Instead, try statements like this: “Okay, we can solve this if we work it out together. What are you thinking?”
- Let your child know that you think mathematics is important.
- Point out the ways in which different family members use mathematics in their jobs and at home.
- Let your child know that *everyone* can learn mathematics.
- Praise your child when he or she makes an effort and understands something for the first time, and share in the excitement when you and your child solve a problem together.
- Encourage your child to be persistent when a problem seems difficult.

Make mathematics part of your child’s day.

- Point out to your child the many ways in which mathematics is used throughout his or her day.
- Encourage your child to tell or show you how he or she uses mathematics.
- Include your child in everyday activities that involve mathematics – making purchases, measuring ingredients, counting out plates and utensils for dinner, measuring and calculating the area of a room.
- Play games and do puzzles with your child that involve mathematics. Such activities may focus on direction or time, logic, reasoning, sorting, classifying, and/or estimating.
- Work with your child to solve mathematics problems such as the ones in this guide. Problem solving helps your child develop mathematical thinking and reasoning.
- In addition to mathematics tools, such as a ruler and a calculator, use household objects, such as toothpicks, a measuring cup, and containers of various shapes and sizes, when doing mathematics with your child.





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) —Family Literacy —Feb. 3rd

Tea and Talk (all grades)—Looking Closely at Report Cards—Feb. 10th

Tea and Talk (all grades)—Communicating with My Child's Teacher—Feb. 17th

Tea and Talk (all grades)—Addressing Student Concerns— Feb. 24th

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

School Cash Online provides the following benefits:

- A convenient fee payment option that saves time
- Reduces paper
- No more need to send cash or cheques to school
- A quick way to register. It takes less than 5 minutes to register.

Parents that opt to participate will receive notification via email of student fees owed (both required and optional), and can make secure online payments by credit card or Interac and receive a receipt.

To view a presentation about the program, go to <http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies/ParentRegEnglish/>.

Follow the easy steps on the next page to register and get started!

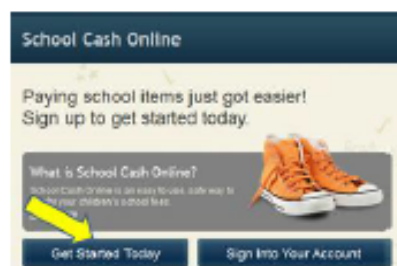


Step 1: Register

- 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.

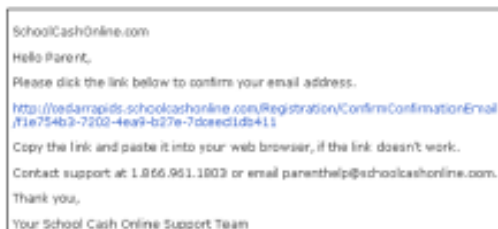
- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps

***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.

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

Find Student

1. Type in the School Board name and select one from the list

York Region District School Board
☐ Change school board name.

2. Select a school

Select school

3. Enter student information

Student Number

Last Name

(No students? [Click here](#))

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select "Add Another Student" option and repeat the steps above. 5 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@schoolcashionline.com.

FEBRUARY



phillipmartin.info

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 	2	3 8:20 to 9:30am 	4 	5 	6
7	8 CHINESE NEW YEAR 	9 	10 8:20 to 9:30am  	11 Nelson Mandela Performance 	12 Cupid's Party  	13
14	15 family Day! 	16 	17 8:20 to 9:30am 	18 	19 	20
21	22 Dental Screening 	23 Dental Screening 	24 8:20 to 9:30am 	25 5:00 to 8:00pm 	26 	27
28	29					