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Milliken Mills PS
February 2017

A Message From the Administrative Team

Dear Families,,

It is hard to believe that the first month of 2017 is already behind us. January was a busy month as our Grade 8 students began to prepare 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. Please contact the subject teacher directly if you require specific information on a mark/comment.

This time of year also marks the beginning of planning for the next school year— 2017/2018. 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 and Padmini Padiachy

Message from our Trustee

We are now halfway through the school year. This is a good time to reflect on all that your child has learned and to look at setting goals for the rest of the school year. Our Board believes that student well-being and achievement go hand-in-hand. 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."

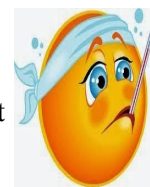
The Ministry of Education has recently identified [four priorities for well-being](#): positive mental health, safe and accepting schools, healthy schools, and equity and inclusive education. As a Board of Trustees, we will continue to further work in all of these areas to support student well-being in line with these priorities.

There are many resources on the Board website to help support student well-being, including tips for [talking about mental health](#), [managing stress](#), [packing healthy lunches](#) and [addressing incidents of bullying](#). Creating a healthy, safe and welcoming learning environment is key to helping our students reach their full potential. All of us have an important role to play in creating an environment that enables our students to thrive.

I wish you all the best for a healthy, happy and successful 2017.

Ill Students

If your child is unwell, please keep her or him at home as rest will help your child recover more quickly and this will help prevent the spread of flu and viruses to classmates and staff. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that there is an emergency contact that the school can call to have your child picked up. Thank you to everyone who follows our school rule that states that if you are too sick to go out for recess, you are too sick to attend school. Please note that supervision is not available for students to remain in classrooms nor at the office during recess times if they are ill. If your child attends school, he or she will be expected to go outside at both morning and lunch recess.



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.

Protecting Instructional Time

To limit interruptions to your child's learning we ask for your cooperation as follows:

- Please ensure that your children are at school before the 8:15am bell. Students arriving late interrupt classroom instruction already underway
- Please schedule appointments for your child outside of class time whenever possible. If a student needs to leave early for an appointment, please send a note to your child's teacher with the details thus eliminating the need for the office to have to call into the classroom and disrupt the class. Where possible, arrangements should be made ahead of time.
- Please communicate any changes regarding your child's routine including pick up details with them before school.
- If your child forgets their lunch, homework, shoes, etc. please put your child's name on it and leave the item on the counter in the lobby. We try not to interrupt the class to let them know you have brought these things in for them. **All students should know to check this table for forgotten items. Please remind them of this procedure.**



Extended Absences

If you are taking your child(ren) on vacation please be sure to inform the school. Please send a letter to your child's teacher or directly to the office indicating your child(ren)'s name(s), the date(s) of the absence and the reason for the absence. If your child will be absent from school for 15 consecutive school days or more due to a vacation, you are required to complete a "Notification of Expected Return to School" form in order to keep your child on the school's register.

Parents often ask: "Is it okay for us to take our child out of school for a week? We are going on vacation." The Education Act (the laws which govern education in Ontario) states that "...every child...shall attend an elementary or secondary school on every school day from the first school day in September...until the last school day in June." There are some approved reasons for student absences such as illness, cancelled busses, religious holidays but vacations during school time are not government approved.

Often parents ask to be provided with work that will be missed. The work package created by the teacher is often incomplete when the child returns and may inadequately mirror the activities the class engaged in during the vacation period. Teachers' plans change in response to student progress so predicting the nature of future lessons is difficult. What takes place in the classroom can rarely be replicated with a paper and pencil task. Please understand that teachers are not responsible for re-teaching or assessing students on learning missed.

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



Our board is committed to celebrating the diversity of our communities as part of the Ministry's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy. Our students and families enjoy these events and they help to build community at MMPS.

We are proud at MMPS to have our annual Lunar New Year Celebration

WHO: Student performances and volunteers from Mr. Hanson's, Mme Rosca's, M. Jean Pierre's, and Mme Herman's Class, Markham Chinese Senior Citizen performances, Chinese Instrumentalists, Parent volunteers with Craft activities and Community Partners

WHAT:

Our Lunar New Year celebrations will consist of 2 parts. We will have hallway activities and displays according to grade groups and a whole school assembly in the gym. We have tentatively planned Traditional Lion Dancing, Martial Arts demonstrations, Folk Dancing, Instrumentalists, Senior Citizen Traditional Costumes, Photo booth, Chinese Tea station, Chinese Seed Station, Rooster Drawing Contest, and various Paper Art stations.

WHERE:

In our hallways on the main floor and in the gym.

WHEN:

FEB.9th 2017, 8:20am to 12:00pm

We would like thank Mr. Hanson for coordinating this day and Mr. Mio for his ongoing leadership and support with this event, along with Ms. Beharry for her constant support. Families are welcome to join us. Happy 2017, Year of the Rooster.



Black History Month Recognition with Duane Gibson – Stay Driven

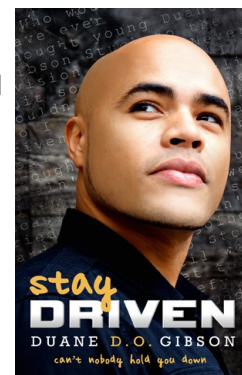
Milliken Mills is very excited to host Duane Gibson. He is a Guinness World Record setting rapper and York University graduate that has been inspiring thousands of youths since 2001. In 2003, he set a Guinness World Record by free styling for 8 hours and 45 minutes. Known as D.O. he has had great success with several chart topping songs on Canadian and U.S. radio. D.O. stands for Defy the Odds.

As a child growing up in small towns across Canada, no one expected that young Duane Gibson would become a rap star. In addition to being a rapper, Gibson is an English major that graduated with an Honors Degree. He earned a spot on the Dean's List after writing an A+ thesis entitled *Rap as a Continuum of African-American Linguistic Practices*.

Gibson became a part time teacher/tutor after graduating, teaching after school English classes in Scarborough, Ontario.

In addition to being a rapper and motivational speaker, D.O. is also a world record holder. D.O.'s message to youth is that setting goals and persevering is the key to success. Growing up in communities where he was the only child that was a visible minority, D.O. learned at an early age what it feels like to be different. He confronted bullies, dealt with racism, and overcame shyness by believing in himself and dedicating himself to his goals.

Stay Driven is a one-hour assembly that combines motivational speaking with live performances.



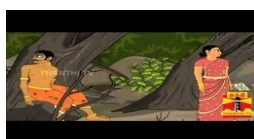
Milliken Mills Public School Presents a Celebration of Tamil Heritage with Special Guest Presenter Dr. Brenda Beck, producer of "The Legend of Ponnivala"



Meet Dr. Beck when she visits Milliken Mills P.S.

Wednesday February 22nd at 9:30am – 2:30pm

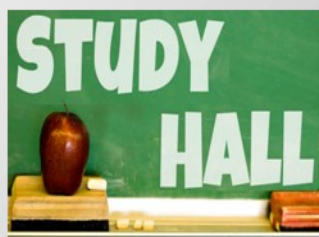
Students, Staff and Parents will have an opportunity to listen to the story and participate in activities which promote and integrate universal family values. Please join us for this exciting learning adventure!



From Mr. Hanson...



The Karate Club had a successful turn out term 1. We had great sessions this year by the junior and intermediate classes! Thank you all for your support. Over the last 5 months we have learned: self defense, basic techniques, character building drills and concepts, and most of all, we had a chance to sample some Martial Arts culture fostering respect, courtesy, and perseverance. The club is now closed for the year. Thank you once again for all of your hard work!



Study Hall has been going great! I have supported mostly the students I teach (both English and French track grade 7 and 8 classes), along with opening it up to other classes in Grades 6-8. Study Hall is open on Day 1, and 2 of our 5-day cycle during 1st recesses, along with various announced lunch recess sessions. The total Study Hall time per week is up to 80 minutes of extra time, which allows them to catch up and be supported in any subject they want! Please encourage them to continue to attend, as Term 2 will bring many demands. Study Hall continues to be a positive workspace for ALL STUDENTS with varying abilities; it's an academic space thriving on fostering good learning skills. Special thanks to Ms. Beharry for supporting our students as well!



Our Media club is fully alive and functioning now. We meet weekly to discuss how we can raise awareness to upcoming school, community, and worldwide events/issues. I engage the kids in Inquiry/Modern Learning activities where the kids independently research and develop ideas based on self generated questions. It is run like a company where we have 4 departments: Newspaper/ Writing, Podcasts/Announcements, Art Design, Movie Maker departments. Students have created some projects already, for example:

- Weekly Morning Announcements/Commercials

- Radio Show featuring morning music

- Art and posters

- Newspaper articles – latest one was about Lunar New Year and Tamil Heritage Month

The club is managed by myself, Ms. Padiachy, Ms. Beharry, and along with Ms. Palmer who oversees the entire operation. I am very proud of this group, as they are all very excited to make change around the school. Thank you parents for your support!

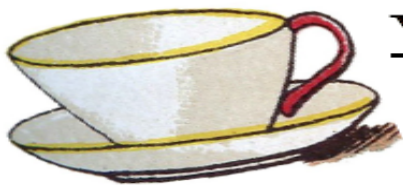
CURRICULUM CORNER

- Staff and students will continue working on Critical Thinking and Higher Order Thinking Skills at Milliken Mills PS. Whenever possible, teachers will pose questions to students and provide opportunities to students to engage in critical, meaningful and accountable talk with each other.
- At home, you can use the verbs listed to the left when having conversations with your child. We encourage you to have debates with your child or to discuss different perspectives on issues, such as current events, with your child.

Action Verbs Organized by Achievement Chart Categories

Knowledge/ Understanding	Thinking/Inquiry	Communication	Application
Ask Calculate Check Classify Compare Complete Compute Connect Contrast Correct Decide Define Detect Differentiate Distinguish Estimate Evaluate Generalize Identify Interpret Justify Label Locate List Organize Prioritize Rate Recognize	Analyze Appraise Ask Assess Challenge Classify Collect Compute Conclude Conduct Contrast Decode Decide Derive Differentiate Establish Examine Experiment Explore Find Gather evidence Inquire Inspect Investigate Monitor Predict Prioritize Pursue	Articulate Challenge Clarify Compare Decode Describe Discuss Engage Explain Express Give reasons Induce Instruct Interact Justify Present Propose Reflect Respond Teach Write	Adapt Adjust Apply Combine Connect Correct Create Demonstrate Develop Devise Display Estimate Evaluate Exhibit Help Incorporate Integrate Invent Make Modify Participate Perform Prioritize Produce Represent Retrieve Revise Show





WeCare Café

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

Bi-weekly at 1:30 pm

Café Goal

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

Time: 1:30—2:30 pm

Place: Room 103

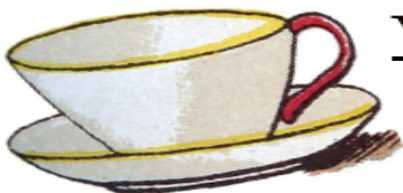
Languages: English (Chinese translation is available)

Upcoming WeCare Café Topics & Events

Tea and Talk: A Closer Look at the Canadian Curriculum - Jan. 25th

Tea and Talk: Understanding the Report Cards - Feb. 8th

Tea and Talk: Supporting my child with Homework - Feb. 22nd



WeCare Café

誠意邀請本校所有年級的學生家長、祖父母和家人，前來參與我們學校的周三家長茶座。

目標：

幫助家長對加拿大的教育體系和社會資源有更深入的了解，分享陪伴和培育孩子健康成長的實踐技巧，令家長可以更輕鬆培養兒女成才。

時間：隔周三下午1:30-2:30

地點：103課室

（現場特別配有中文翻譯）

2月家長茶座系列話題

2月8日

解讀孩子的成績單。成績單裡面這麼多信息，評定孩子是不是好學生的如果不是分數那應該是什麼？有的科目用了字母代替成績那是什麼意思？老師的評語該怎樣讀才知道我的孩子需要注意什麼？如果你也有同樣的疑問，我們一起來聽聽老師怎樣解答！

2月22日

有家長說“我的英文水平不是太好，不知道怎樣教孩子做功課”。如果你也這樣想，請來和我們一起探討，其實有很多方法你是可以做到的。



the
writers'
community
of york region



WCYR YOUTH
Writers' Community of York Region, Youth Chapter

**"Find your voice;
have your say"**

***Young Writers of York Region
join WCYR's Youth Chapter, WRITE NOW***

***if you are in grades 7-12 and wish to work with a published
writer and teacher, this is for you***

YOUTH FORUM

DATE: February 11, 2017
TIME: 2 - 4p.m.
**PLACE: NewMakelt, 1310 Kerrisdale Blvd,
Suite 200**

***come and meet other young poets, bloggers, slammers,
novelists, zinners, sripters, and everything in between***

bring your writing tools, your imagination, and an open mind

We want to read you, loud and clear



Community Action Program for Children – Markham
Program schedule – Winter 2017

Milliken Mills P.S.
289 Risebrough Circuit,
Markham, ON L3R-3J3

Aldergrove P.S.
150 Aldergrove Dr, Markham,
ON L3R-6Z8

Randall P.S.
50 Randall Ave, Markham, ON
L3S 1E2

Wilclay P.S.
60 Wilclay Ave, Markham, ON
L3S 1R4

JANUARY – MARCH 2017					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
ACTIVITY	Play & Learn (Register Dec. & week before start date) Ages 0 - 6	Play & Learn (Register Dec. & week before start date) Ages 0 - 6	Play & Learn (Register Dec. & week before start date) Ages 0 - 6	Play & Learn (Register Dec. & week before start date) Ages 0 - 6	Play & Learn (Register Dec. & week before start date) Ages 0 - 6
LOCATION	Milliken Mills P.S.	Aldergrove P.S.	Aldergrove P.S.	Randall P.S.	Wilclay P.S.
START DATE	Jan. 16	Jan. 17	Jan. 17	Jan. 18	PROGRAM POSTPONED
END DATE	Mar. 27	Mar. 28	Mar. 28	Mar. 29	
TIME	9:30 – 11:30	9:45 – 11:45	12:45 – 2:45	9:30 – 11:00	
# PARTICIPANTS	15 families	10 families	10 families	15 families	

Play & Learn - This drop-in program is for 0 – 6 aged children and their parents, caregivers. The focus is on supporting your child's learning through play. Each week includes an assortment of activities that encourage children to use their five senses and movement to explore and discover. These "hands on" activities help children develop their math, science, and language concepts in ways that are fun and developmentally appropriate. The focus is on supporting your child's learning through play. A snack will be provided. – To register call: (905) 806 - 1895

For online calendars please visit: <http://www.yorkchild.ca>

For more information: Akua Asamoah, CAPC Markham Site Coordinator: (905) 642 – 9965 Email: akua.capc@gmail.com

"Funding for this program is provided (in part) by the Public Health Agency Government of Canada." "Cette publication (ce programme, ce document) a été rendu(e) possible avec le financement (la contribution financière) du Gouvernement du Canada." "The opinions expressed in the publication are those of the program and do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Public Health Agency Government of Canada." "Les opinions exprimées ici ne reflètent pas nécessairement celles du Gouvernement du Canada."



Play and Learn

FREE program for parents/grandparents and their children 0 – 6 years of age



Community Action Program
for Children (CAPC)

Date: January 16 to March 27, 2017
Every Monday morning

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 AM

Location: Milliken Mills P.S. – Rm. 109

- Songs, puzzles, crafts, info. for parents
- A parent or grandparent must attend with child.



REGISTER BY PHONE OR EMAIL starting Dec. 5th

Call – Akua Asamoah, CAPC Markham Site Coordinator: 905-642-9965

OR email: akua.capc@gmail.com

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

NOTE: You must register before attending the program. Thank you!
Priority will be given first to families who have never attended before.

Play & Learn

-这是免费的学前亲子活动

-欢迎父母亲或祖父母带同其两岁半至四岁儿童参加

日期: 二零一七年一月十六日至三月二十七日逢星期一
上午

时间: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

地点: Milliken Mills 小学

内容: *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。

十二月五日起开始接受报名

Call – Akua Asamoah, CAPC Markham Site Coordinator: 905-642-9965

OR email: akua.capc@gmail.com

请提供以下资料: 阁下姓名、联络电话、学校名称、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!!

首次报名的家庭将获优先取录。



Community Action Program
for Children (CAPC)





FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 2/3 Caplan Fire Safety	2 	3 	4
5	6	7 Duane Gibson Black History Month Presentation	8	9  Celebration	10 	11
12	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15	16	17 	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL Happy Family Day! 	21	22 Celebration of Tamil Heritage	23	24 	25
26	27	28				