

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



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

Milliken Mills PS
January 2016

Dear Families,

We would like to extend our most sincere wishes to all our families for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year! The staff would also like to thank all of the parents and students who sent best wishes for the holidays. We truly appreciate all the kind words, thoughtful cards and generous gifts. The Milliken community is wonderful, and it continues to be our pleasure to serve our students and their families.

As we move into another year, we have much to look forward. Our staff members are involved in a variety of on-going professional activities - from planning classroom activities, to examining student data from ongoing assessments and evaluations and setting goals for our School Improvement Work Plan, to arranging exciting opportunities for our students for the remainder of the school year. Our students continue to be involved in all aspects of school life—be it assisting with fundraising efforts, athletic events, spirit days etc. We are constantly discussing new and innovative ways of involving our students in all facets of school life.

As we move into a time during which many people make resolutions, we are asking you to please help us to reduce the number of students arriving late to school. Please note that teachers are on duty at 8:05 a.m., students are allowed to enter the building at 8:15 a.m., and students need to be **in their classrooms ready to learn by 8:20 a.m.** We continue to have many students arrive late, and we thank you for helping us in this area.

We would also like to thank all parents who drive their children to school for adhering to the Kiss and Ride and parking lot rules. Your continued support and positive feedback is much appreciated as we strive to meet the needs of our students.

Yours in education,
Nandy Palmer



Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, February 25th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Our staff will be hosting a Family Math Night so help you better understand how Math is taught at MMPS.

We will be selling pizza and water at this event, and all funds raised will be used to purchase resources for our children's classrooms as per our School Fundraising Plan.

We hope to see you there!



Kindergarten registration will be on **January 15, 2016** for the 2016-17 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2016, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten at MMPS. An information session for parents is being planned for this spring.



Term 1 Report Card

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Re: **Understanding the Elementary Provincial Report Card (Grades 1-8)**

During the **week of February 12th**, you will receive your child's Term 1 Report Card. The report card describes how well your child has achieved the overall curriculum expectations for each subject and how well your child has demonstrated the development of learning skills and work habits essential to succeed in school and daily life. This report card represents evidence of student learning that has been gathered **from September to the end of January**.

Your child's teachers have written clear, personalized comments to provide meaningful feedback about your child as a learner. Teachers use their professional judgement to decide which aspects of learning, strengths, and next steps are most important to highlight for your child in a particular subject. Specific suggestions for how you can support your child's learning at home may also be provided.

For some subjects, the N/A box will be checked to indicate "no instruction for subject/strand for this reporting period." This means your child's achievement in some subject areas (e.g., Mathematics, The Arts) may appear blank for this reporting period. A letter grade or percentage mark for these areas will be provided on the June report card.

Although the homeroom teacher's name appears on the report card, subject-specific teachers have not been identified. Please refer to the November Elementary Progress Report Card or ask your child for this information.

We encourage you to review and discuss the report card with your child and take the opportunity to celebrate your child's accomplishments. Space is provided at the bottom of pages three and four to identify steps for improvement together with your child. Please complete and return the double-sided tear-off form to the homeroom teacher by **February 20th**, as it will be placed in your child's Ontario Student Record (OSR).

Should you have additional questions regarding the new report card, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

It's time to remind children about being safe online.

This is a good time for parents to learn about and review ways to keep their children safe online. Children today have access to the world at their fingertips. But with this access, there are risks. It's important for parents to talk to children about the importance of their personal information and stress that they should never disclose personal details that would allow someone online to contact them in real life.

Here are 10 tips provided by York Regional Police to promote safe online behaviour:

- Children should never give anyone their name, address, telephone number, computer password, or any other personal information on the Internet without parental or guardian consent
- Children should stay out of all chat rooms and websites that are not first approved by their parent or guardian
- The computer should be in a central place in your home where you can supervise their online activities
- Don't allow a webcam in a child's bedroom
- Reinforce that people online may not be who they say they are
- Consider using parental controls like Internet filters or blocking software
- Remind children that everything said online stays in cyberspace forever, whether or not it is deleted
- Talk to your children about Internet safety and clearly define your rules
- Remind children that photos sent over the internet or with cell phones are not private and can be easily shared with the general public

Remember danger could be just a keystroke away

For more information on this subject, contact the York Regional Police by e-mail at info@yrp.ca or visit www.yrp.ca.

Helping your child create New Year's Resolutions is the beginning of teaching your child the importance of setting goals. Goal setting is an important skill your child can take all the way in to adulthood. Here are some resolutions your kids can adapt to get started:

- 1. I will practice good hygiene.** This includes brushing my teeth after meals, washing my hands after going to the bathroom, covering my nose and mouth when I sneeze and cough, and keeping my nails clipped and filed. Proper hygiene is important for good health.
- 2. I will make it a point to eat healthier.** I will eat a fruit and vegetable every day while limiting my sweets. After all, "an apple a day keeps the doctor away!" I will also drink more water and milk while drinking less soda and juice. I will be taking better care of my body by watching what goes in to it.
- 3. I will be responsible when using the computer.** I will not give out any personal information like my full name, birth date, address, phone number, or name of the school I currently attend. I will review Internet safety with my parents and abide by their rules.
- 4. I will volunteer at my local church or in the neighborhood.** I could give my old clothes and toys to kids in need. I could help serve dinner at a soup kitchen. I could clean the litter off the beaches or help out at an animal shelter.
- 5. I will keep my bedroom organized and my bed made.** I will put my dirty clothes in the laundry basket and hang my towel up in the bathroom. When I am done with one toy, I will clean it up before taking out the next one.
- 6. I will work on being polite and not responding to my parent's requests with a smart tongue.** I will remember my please, thank you, your welcome, and excuse me's. I will never say curse words. I will show respect for my elders with my words.
- 7. I will do my best in school.** I will hand in my homework on time and not wait until the night before my science fair project is due to start working on it. If I need extra help with a subject, I will ask for it.
- 8. I will be kind to all kids.** If I see someone who is sad, I will try to cheer him or her up. If a new kid comes to our school, I will show them around. I will not make fun of any kid, but rather say things that are great about that person.
- 9. I will get proper exercise.** I will join sports I like such as soccer, t-ball, basketball, or volleyball. I will walk, jog, or ride a bike if it is not the season for the sport I like. When possible I will get outside and enjoy the fresh air.
- 10. I will limit the time I spend watching television and playing video games to one to two hours per day.** I will stay away from shows and games that promote violence or unhealthy living. I will only watch movies that have a rating appropriate for my age group.

Sounds like a very good list of resolutions, right? Now, the next task is helping children keep them. Remember to always be encouraging and tracking their progress. Experts say that it takes 21 days for a new activity to become a habit, and 6 months for it to become part of your personality!



FI Registration and Information



SCHOOL HOURS

First bell: 8:15 a.m.
School Starts: 8:20a.m.
Recess: 10:00-10:20
Lunch: 12:00-1:00
Dismissal: 2:40 p.m.

An information session for French Immersion (Grades 1 and 2), will take place on January 15th, 2015 at 7:00 pm at Coppard Glen PS. Registration will begin the next day, on January 16, 2015 at Coppard Glen PS. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2016, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, can request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to the designated FI program location to register between January 15 and February 12, 2016. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register. YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. education. community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward a long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

Book Fair

We had a very successful Book Fair. We raised \$3800.00 and that translated into \$2000.00 worth of books for our Library! A big thanks to staff, students and the community! The French Scholastic Book Fair will take place the week of February 9th to February 15th.

OPUS



Students rotated from room to room, the morning of Thursday, December 17th, 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 were invited to dress up in a traditional costume. Thank you to all of our wonderful parent volunteers for helping.



Milne

In December our Grade 2, 4 and 7 students went to the Milne Outdoor Education Centre. It is ideally situated on the doorstep of the Milne Dam Conservation Park. Students explored a 120 hectare urban wilderness that contains a remarkable diversity of plants and animals. The Rouge River bisects the park from east to west and represents Milne's most significant natural feature. Milne's hands-on educational programs are connected to expectations of the Ontario Curriculum and provide students with the opportunity to learn in outdoor settings. A student from Mr. Thomas' class said "We learned about natural resources, how to survive in the woods, animals and natural disasters." Another student from Mme Salvagna's class said she "learned about the process of how different products are made" and that "Milne was very educational and the students had a lot of fun."



*Success is not defined by
getting everything you
want, but by appreciating
all that you have.*

School Bus Transportation Companies

If your child's bus is late in arriving to your stop, please contact the numbers listed below. Please save the number for your child's bus in your cell phone. We hope this will help to alleviate worry in times when the bus is late in arriving to your stop. For information on bus routes, stop locations, times, late arrivals, cancellation, eligibility, registering a complaint, safety and general information, please visit www.schoolbuscity.com or contact the York Region Student Transportation Services School Bus Information Line at 1-877-330-3001, accessible 24 hours a day.

Bus Company

Phone Number

Stock Transportation

905-294-5104

First Student

905-888-1938



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

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. (Typically on those days your travel time will be increased and the school will be closed at 3 p.m.). 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. Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately to play outside in all that soft, fluffy snow! We want to be proactive and make sure your child is prepared to have a good day. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Tobogganing and sledding safety

Tobogganing and sledding are fun, popular winter activities; however, every year hundreds of children are injured on toboggans. Here are some tips to keep your children safe!

- Parents should always actively supervise children at the toboggan/sled hill
- Dress children in warm layers of brightly coloured, waterproof clothes and boots
- Use a neck warmer instead of a scarf, and cover children's head, ears and hands
- Teach children to toboggan/sled down the middle of hill and use the sides to walk to the top
- To prevent head injuries, children should wear a hockey or ski helmet; they are designed to protect the head in all directions in icy conditions
- Toboggans/sleds should be sturdy, easy to control and in good condition
- Remind children to sit on a toboggan/sled, face forward and avoid lying on their stomach — no sledding head first
- Choose a hill with a gentle slope and enough room to stop. The hill should be free of hazards (e.g., trees and rocks) and be well lit to see any potential dangers and to be seen by others
- No jumping in front of toboggans/sleds going downhill and make sure only the recommended number of children ride the toboggan/sled



For more information, visit www.york.ca/healthyschools



1-800-361-5653
TTY: 1-866-252-9933

York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services
Public Health

www.york.ca



6523_07_2014

WOULD YOU ENJOY COLLABORATIVELY LEARNING THE ONTARIO CURRICULUM THROUGH THE ARTS?

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an **Elementary Integrated Arts Program** at **Baythorn Public School**. If you are currently in grades **four or five**, you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Applications will be available at bit.ly/arts_application2016 online after January 13th, 2016.

If you require further information, please call us at
Baythorn Public School
(905) 889-7992.

Kate Kurek
Principal

The Arts Team

Meytal Daniels
Vice Principal



JANUARY



MARTIN

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 	2
3	4	5	6	7 CHRISTMAS (Eastern)	8 	9
10	11 	12 Gr 1, 2 & 3 	13 	14 	15 JK/SK Registration PA Day	16
17	18	19 Gr. 7 & 8 	20  Gr 3 FI 	21	22 	23
24	25	26	27 	28	29 	30
31	<p>Character Matters!</p> <p>January's Attribute is Fairness: We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights.</p>					