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Milliken Mills PS
March 2017

A Message From the Administrative Team

Dear Families,

March is a busy, yet short month. Please post the school calendar in a prominent location in your home. March break is from Monday, March 13th to Friday, March 17th. The first day back at school is Monday, March 20th. If you are planning a family vacation that either begins before or after March Break, please remember to inform the office of the days that your child will be absent from school.

Thank you to everyone for the preparation and delivery of program related to Lunar New Year, Tamil Heritage and Black History. We have a dedicated group of staff and student leaders at MMPS!

Here's a reminder about school safety. Whether walking to or from school, or playing out on the yard, the transition to spring may bring about slippery footing. Please take note of the weather conditions! In addition, we would like to remind our families that we have a 'hands off' policy at Milliken Mills P.S. which means no 'play fighting' or 'rough housing'. Please obey the parking lot rules. Our priority is student safety and well being for everyone. Please, do not send your children to school before 8:05 am as there is no supervision.

We wish all of our families a safe and relaxing Break!

Yours in education,

Nandy Palmer & Padmini Padiachy



Trustee Greetings

With spring approaching and the hours of daylight increasing, now is a good time to enjoy the outdoors and our natural environment. Did you know that our Board has five outdoor education centres, and students have opportunities to visit them and other outdoor learning spaces throughout their schooling? This is part of our commitment to giving students an opportunity to learn in and about the natural world. It supports students in gaining a deeper appreciation for nature and the importance of environmental sustainability.

"Modelling continuous environmental sustainability" is one of the goals outlined in our Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Plan. We believe that we all have a role to play in reducing waste and protecting our environment. Our students, staff members and families continue to show leadership when it comes to supporting student learning and initiatives to reduce our ecological footprint.

Spending time outside as a family also provides a great opportunity to support and enhance your child's learning outside of school. Whether visiting a park or museum, reading with your child in your home language or asking questions about their day at school - know that there are many ways you can support their education and that you are making a difference. I hope you all have a happy and safe March Break and enjoy the warmer weather ahead.

Planning for Next Year

If you are planning to move prior to the beginning of September 2017, please let the office know as soon as possible. We are in the process of planning for next year and this information is extremely helpful when we make projections regarding student numbers.

We are a Nut-Free School

This is a reminder that Milliken Mills P.S. is a nut-free zone. Please, for the well-being of our allergic students, make sure to read all food labels thoroughly before sending food to school with your child. Your consideration will be greatly appreciated, as you will be doing your part to help us keep our allergic students safe.



Milliken Mills High School Events

Milliken Mills High School has 2 upcoming events ...

1. Wednesday March 29 - 2 speakers (English and Mandarin, Topic TBD)
2. Wednesday, April 26, 7pm - The topic is : Working to Build Lifelong Resilience/Grit, a Growth Mindset & Optimism in Children and Teens



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.

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.

- Albert Einstein

Semaine de la Francophonie/Francophone Week 2017



International Francophone Week is a worldwide celebration that takes place in March of each year. It was created in 1998 as a way for the 70 states and governments to celebrate French language along with francophone diversity. This month devoted to French language unites 220 million speakers in the world and brings 870 million Francophones together.

Francophone Week, with its many cultural events and a growing number of participating organizations has become, with time, a major event of the Francophone Community in Toronto.

During Francophone Week at Milliken, students with their teachers will be engaged in exciting daily events, contests, music, nominations, concerts, guest speakers, baking sales, spirit days, performances and presentations in French. For further details, check out the calendar displayed in classrooms and look out for all the event posters in the hallways.

The Canadian Association of French Language will provide us with "Mordicus" Certificates in appreciation of students, parents and teachers showing initiative in participating in Francophone Week. This association is a non-profit organisation supporting and promoting French Language Educations and Francophone Communities. They work with many Canadian organisations, including the Ministry of Education of Ontario and will celebrate their 25th anniversary this year.

French spirit is around the corner!

Le français- ça nous rassemble!

Franco-Team 2017/Équipe Franco-2017

Recess

At Milliken Mills P.S., we embrace Canadian weather! Students are expected to go out for recess unless weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for the weather and prepared to be outdoors for up to 40 minutes at a time. We monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions, we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children in-doors because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students indoors. 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.



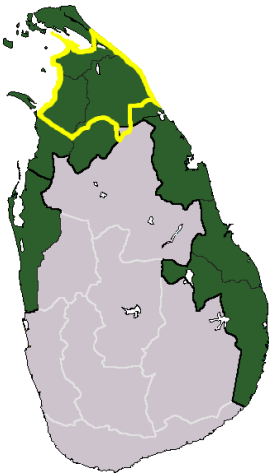
Black History Celebration

All families are invited to attend the Black History Assembly at Milliken Mills on Thursday, March 9th. We will start at 10:30 am in the gym.

10:30 am: Assembly & Presentations in the gym - Families are invited to attend the assembly.

1:30 pm: Errol Lee Presentation for Grades 4 to 8: Errol is a Musician, Singer, Songwriter & Motivational Speaker. He will bring messages of Inspiration on themes of Courage, Optimism, Perseverance and responsibility in his performance.

Tamil Heritage Celebration



Chinese New Year Event





WeCare

We invite all parents, grandparents and caregivers of **K-Grade 8** students

Café Goal

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

Stay tuned for our upcoming evening

Upcoming WeCare Café Topics & Events

To better accommodate our MMPS families we will be running two evening

WeCare Café events in the months of April and May!

Stay tuned for further information!

Ways a Parent Can Help with READING

1

Let your child see you reading!

Have magazines and books in your home.

2

Help your child find appropriate reading and word games online.

Keep a dictionary on hand. Help your child look up new words.

3

Read mysteries with your child and try to figure out the clues together.

4

Movie version coming out?

Read the book together first, then talk about which you each liked better.

5

Set aside a time and place for your child to read -

like a comfy chair and a reading light in a quiet place

6

Visit your public library regularly.

Look for and read together the books that were your favorites when you were a kid.

7

Encourage your child to write -

letters, thank you notes, emails, journals, lists, stories about their own trips, events, and daily life

8

Ask your child questions about what her or she is reading, such as:

- What is the story about?
- Who are the important people in the story?
- Where does the story take place?
- Why do you think that person made that choice?
- What do you think will happen next?
- How did you know about...?
- Would you recommend this book to your friends?

9

Ask your child to draw a comic strip about what happens in the story.

Provide word searches, crossword and other word games and puzzles, or help your child make his/her own



Share with your child about what you're reading... and encourage your child to do the same

March 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 VOICES Outreach Program	2	3 	4
5	6 Gr. 8 Grad  Picture Day	7 Music Alive Festival 	8	9 10:30am 	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 MARCH BREAK!						
19	20	21	22 Milne-Gr 7FI	23 Milne-Gr 7	24 Milne-Gr 4 	25
26	27 Milne-Gr 4FI	28 Milne-Gr 2	29	30	31 ROLAND BIBEAU CONCERT 	
						