

Milliken Mills Public School Newsletter May 28, 2015

Principal: Catarina Burisch Superintendent: Erik Khilji Trustee: Juanita Nathan

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Character Trait of the Month

May-Courage

"Courage and perseverance have a magical talisman, before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish into air."-John Quincy Adams

A Message from the Principal

As we enter the last month of the school year, we feel an increased pace as activities start up and wind down. There is great anticipation that arrives with the warm weather, and renewed demands on our time. For this reason, we remind each other to be aware of the day-to-day moments and learning opportunities that we may brush over due to time constraints.

BOOK FAIR

Our summer book Fair is coming. Mark your calendar from June 15 to June 19 our library will be open from 8 – 3 with an assortment of books to promote summer reading. Be sure to come by!

SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

Our School Council is hosting an evening for parents with PC Thompson on Thursday, June 11 from 6:30 to 7:30 in our library. Useful information will be shared and parents will have an opportunity to ask questions as well. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

TRACK & FIELD

A number of our students will be competing at the area event on Monday June 8 at Bill Crothers Secondary School. Best of luck!

CLASS PLACEMENT 2015 -2016

We are in the process of coordinating class placements for the 2015-2016 school year. Current homeroom teachers, appropriate support staff and the school administration will work to develop balanced classes that strive to best meet the needs of all of our students. All class placement decisions are made after extensive planning, preparation, and discussion on the part of many people. Our primary goal is to develop balanced classes with regards to gender, academic ability and social dynamics.

After working with your child over the course of this year, your child's teachers have a very good understanding of your child's abilities and needs, both academic and social. Each new year brings opportunities for all students to meet new friends and expand their circle of acquaintances.

Open dialogue between parents and teachers is encouraged and has a direct and positive influence on your child's learning. If you have information about your child that may have an impact on his/her ability to learn effectively, you are encouraged to share this information with us throughout the school year.

Parents play a critical role in helping their child make the adjustment to a new teacher and new classmates. Teachers will be working very hard to make sure they create inviting learning environments for all their students. Your active support in helping your child remain positive about the new challenges ahead is important for a smooth transition to his/her new class.

Teaching assignments and school organization for next year will be finalized in September, based on student enrolment during the summer and the Ministry mandate to meet primary class size. Students will be informed of their class placement on the first day of school in September.

MOVING?

If you will be moving before September 2015, please contact the office to let us know for our planning purposes.



We are asking you and your child to check our lost and found clothing items before we take them to charity. There are many clothing articles to be claimed! Be sure to come to the school to claim any items that may be yours.

CLUBS

Ping Pong and Chess club have wrapped up for the year and hockey is in its final games with students from grades 3 to 8 getting together to play during lunch recess. Thanks to all our members who show such great spirit, empathy and respect as they play together in such a friendly and fun manner.



The Milliken Mills Talent Show will be happening outdoors, over several days during the lunch hour in a relaxed setting. Students will share their talents will be held during the week of June $15^{\rm th}$ – Stay tuned!



Grade 8 Graduation will be held on Monday, June 22, 2015 at Milliken Mills High School. Please save the date in your calendar.



Milliken Mills PS is blessed to have many parents, guardians and community members who volunteer their time and talents in a variety of settings. Some serve on School Council, some in the library, others in classrooms, preparing our snack bins, and in many other unsung ways. In every case, volunteers make a huge difference to our school community, and we honour and appreciate their contributions. All volunteers were recognized at our annual Volunteer Tea this past Thursday, May 21st. thank you all for coming out and celebrating with us.

BASKETBALL

Boys and Girls Junior basketball wrapped up at the end of April. Both teams practised and played hard, showing impressive improvement. Both our squads participated in their respective area tournaments and represented out school with pride, respect and a high degree of sportsmanship. Our boy's team, placed 12th overall, and finished off their day in fourth place! Congratulations to all our players on a great season!

GAUSS CONTEST...

The Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) develops and administers many internationally recognized contests to help inspire the next generation of students to develop an interest in and love for mathematics and computer science. The Gauss Contest was an opportunity for students to have fun while developing their mathematical problem solving skills by competing with other students across the province. Questions were based on common curriculum. Hats off to everyone that participated and well done winners.



All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to improving student achievement and well-being. On Thursday, June 25th, 2015 an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan as well as year-end and transition activities that support student success.

As has been our practice over the past four years, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 25th, 2015 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at 11:20. Arrangements will be made for students who are normally bussed to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents whose children attend after school child care should make arrangements to address this change in schedule.



Music Alive 2015 was a great success! Congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's festival. There were 107 students from Grades 4 to 8 who committed their time to self-practise at home, practising with friends on their own initiative and also in large group rehearsals. These exceptional students exhibited perseverance, determination and great courage as they performed for adjudicators and various schools. They were daunted with the task of learning challenging music but everyone overcame their fears as they played with great enthusiasm and professionalism.

Here are the results of our accomplishments:

String Ensemble – *Platinum* Recorder Ensemble – *Gold* Intermediate Band – *Platinum* Junior Band – *Gold*

STUDENT MEDICATION

Parents are reminded that student medication (inhaler, epipen, etc.)will be sent home on the last day of school. Complete the medication form for next year and return it along with the medications on Tuesday September 8th.

DRESS CODE REMINDER

We need to remind students of our dress code during warm weather. Clothing can be relaxed and comfortable, but should not detract from the learning atmosphere. Appropriateness of clothing will be determined according to age.