

289 Risebrough Circuit  
Markham, Ontario  
L3R 3J3  
T: 905.475.8143  
F: 905.889.6287

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



Website: [www.milliken.millsps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.milliken.millsps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)  
Email: [milliken.mills.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:milliken.mills.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca)  
Twitter: @MillikenMillsPS

# Milliken Mills PS

## November 2015

## A Message From the Principal

Dear Families:

It is hard to believe that we are already in November! We have had a busy start to the school year and have enjoyed some events already. This month, we are beginning work with the Student Leadership Team. Thank you to Ms. Karimian for working with the Student Leadership Team. Ms. Hwang has the Intermediate Band and the String Ensemble practicing, and Mr. Mio and M. Sainte are coaching the Boys' and Girls' volleyball team. I am delighted to be working with a dedicated staff who work to provide valuable experiences for our students.

This year, we will be focusing on the following three areas as part of our School Improvement Plan:

### Mathematics

We will continue to engage students in meaningful, high quality interactions and problem solving in the math classroom. We will continue to foster a growth mindset in mathematics and support risk taking, collaboration and higher level thinking. Learning through inquiry in the math classroom will continue to be an area of focus for educators and students.

### Modern Learning

We understand that the world keeps on changing and that we all must continue to learn in order to keep up. We (educators, students, and families) are all learners. Modern learning includes a focus on the digital dimension as well as the interpersonal attributes which are critical to being a successful citizen of the world of tomorrow.

### Mental Health

We recognize the importance of noticing people, listening to each other and connecting with each other. We know that resilience is key to success and that we all have a role in fostering and developing resilience in our students. At Milliken Mills P.S. we strive for equitable and innovative practice to help support mental health.

As Remembrance Day approaches, I am reminded of how grateful I am to be living in Canada, and am thankful to my parents for bringing my sisters and I to this great country. It is our goal at MMPS to honor and respect the diversity that exists in our country and in our community by providing equitable and inclusive experiences for our students, staff and families. Thank you for helping us to do this!

Yours in education,  
Nandy Palmer



## Remembrance Day

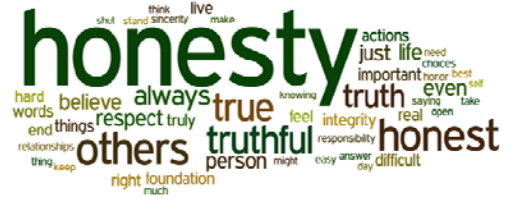
Milliken Mills P. S. will be honouring Remembrance Day (Le jour du Souvenir) with a school assembly (Grades 1-8) on **November 11th at 10:30 a.m.** We will have student presentations as well as a guest speaker. Parents are welcome!

## Character Trait for November

### Honesty

"Honesty is the best policy. If I lose mine honor, I lose myself."

~William Shakespeare



### SCHOOL HOURS

Supervision: 8:05 a.m.  
Entry: 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.

## Behavioral Expectations

At MMPS, we believe in a HANDS-OFF policy. Students are expected to keep their hands and feet to themselves and avoid activities that involve aggressive play and/or touching. Activities that are not acceptable include "play-fighting", wrestling, piggy-backing, tripping, pushing, shoving, body-checking, poking, punching, and other forms of rough play in classrooms, stairwells, hallways, and on the play-ground. During recess breaks, students may play organized games such as basketball, soccer and foot hockey as well as activities such as skipping and tag. TACKLING is not allowed at any time.

## Cold Weather Reminder

As the cooler weather approaches, we ask that you ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately. All students are expected to go outside during morning and lunch recesses. When severe weather conditions threaten the safety of our students, the School Board informs radio stations about bus cancellations by about 6:45 a.m. Cancellation of bus service does not mean that schools are closed. Buses cancelled in the morning will not be running in the afternoon. Parents who drive their children to school in the morning must also pick them up at 2:40 p.m. On days when school buses have been cancelled, it is up to parents to decide whether or not to send their children to school.



"Education is a social process. Education is not a preparation for life; education is life itself." ~ John Dewey

## Attendance

Please notify us as soon as possible if your child will be away from or late for school. A message can be left on our voicemail at any time by calling the school at (905) 475-8143.

The number of students arriving late for school in the morning is also on the rise. Please help your child be successful by ensuring that he/she arrives at school on time and prepared to learn. Being punctual is an important life-long skill to possess.



## Ask Your Child: “How was school today?”

How can you ask your child “how was school today” without asking “how was school today”? Check out these varied questions from Simple Simon & Co. that are sure to draw out all the details kids tend to hold on to:

- #1. *What was the best thing that happened at school today? (What was the worst thing that happened at school today?)*
- #2. *Tell me something that made you laugh today.*
- #3. *If you could choose who would you like to sit by in class? (Who would you NOT want to sit by in class? Why?)*
- #4. *Where is the coolest place at the school?*
- #5. *Tell me a weird word that you heard today. (Or something weird that some-one said.)*
- #6. *If I called your teacher tonight what would she tell me about you?*
- #7. *How did you help somebody today?*
- #8. *How did somebody help you today?*
- #9. *Tell me one thing that you learned today.*
- #10. *When were you the happiest today?*



## Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

Ontario has designated November 15th to November 21st Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week. This annual event raises awareness in our students and staff around bullying and the impact it has on individuals and the broader learning environment. We recognize this time as a valuable opportunity to raise awareness in parents and the local community. It is important to note that everyone has a role to play in bullying prevention.

### Street Wise Assembly

On October 29, 2015, Constable Julie Thompson and Principal Nandy Palmer hosted an assembly on road safety. One week ago at David Suzuki Secondary School, a horrible incident took place. A 4 year old girl was killed and a seven year old girl was hospitalized. Their mother was standing on the front porch and saw the accident.

With Halloween coming up, Constable Thompson and Mme Palmer wanted to make sure kids are safe while trick-or-treating. They put together a slideshow presentation to educate students from Grades 4-8 about safely walking where there are moving vehicles and many safety hazards.

Key messages:

- Look both ways when you cross the street
- Do not assume a driver is paying attention
- Do not stand too close to the curb.
- Do not listen to music
- Always be aware of your surroundings when you are a pedestrian.

By: Michelle & Sweta



# Council Corner..



## Invest in Students Donation Campaign

On behalf of our students, the MMPS school council would like to extend a HUGE merci to all families who donated cash or cheques to our Invest in Students fundraising campaign. To date we have raised \$365.00. **We are still accepting donations!**

The money will be used to purchase resources to support classroom experiences. Thank you again for your support!

## Snack Program

Each Thursday morning, a group of dedicated school council members and parent volunteers work together to create a snack bin with healthy snacks for all of our students.

We receive a grant through Children and Youth Services which helps to cover the cost of the snacks. We also receive a grant from the *Metro Green Apple* program to subsidize cost.

## We Care Café

Please join us **every Wednesday morning at 8:30** for our family engagement café. Join us for a couple of hours of tea and snack, and learn about how to support your child's learning at home. Our café goal is to build school-home partnership to improve student achievement and well-being. This month's topics are:

Supporting my child with homework - November 4th

Communicating with my child - November 11th

Supporting my child's learning if I speak a different language - November 18th

Q&A: French Immersion - November 25th

We hope to see you there!

## Volunteers Needed

We are in desperate need of parent volunteers to help with our fundraising activities.

We would like to continue our subway lunch fundraiser, but do not have parent volunteers to help with this. Please call the school if you are able to volunteer for this program.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with our snack program every Thursday morning. Please call the school if you are able to volunteer for this program.



**MERCI!**





# Cyberbullying

## A Guide for Parents and Guardians

---

***To enhance learning and empower our students, we all need to be skillful users of the tools related to information technology.***

***All users need to recognize the challenges of information technology as it applies to cyberbullying.***

### Education

We will maintain safe learning environments by developing both intervention and prevention programs.

#### **What is cyberbullying?**

It is the use of electronic communications tools to antagonize and intimidate others.

Some common forms of this are:

- spreading hurtful comments about a person through e-mail, instant messaging, postings on a website and/or online diaries; or
- using cell/camera phones to send hurtful text, photos or video.

#### **Facts to consider:**

- 25% of Canadian children claim they have been e-mailed with hurtful content about someone.
- 44% of Canadian children have e-mail accounts their parents do not know about.
- 70% of parents say they know a great deal about the websites their child visits; 55% of their children disagree.
- 45% of kids use instant messaging; one third of these students use it every day (source: [www.media-awareness.ca](http://www.media-awareness.ca)).

### Legal Implications

- In conjunction with the Ontario Code of Conduct, York Region District School Board Policy #668 - Safe Schools clearly identifies that misconduct carried out over the internet may be subject to school discipline whether carried out at school, home, or elsewhere.
- Under the Criminal Code of Canada, it is a crime to communicate repeatedly with someone if your communications cause them to fear for their own safety or the safety of others.
- It is a crime to publish a "defamatory libel" (writing something that is designed to insult a person or likely to injure a person's reputation by exposing him or her to hatred, contempt, or ridicule).
- Acts of cyberbullying may violate the *Canadian Human Rights Act* if a person spreads hate or discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or disability.

***Meeting the challenge to ensure that our schools remain safe, secure and supportive places for learning.***

---

## Supporting Your Child

Children cannot solve bullying issues without adult support and intervention.

Research shows there are possible long-term negative effects of bullying for both victims and bullies; both victims and bullies need help.

### **The student who is being victimized should:**

- tell the adults they know and trust; help is available through the Kids Help Phone line at 1-800-668-6868;
- not reply to the messages; bullies feel empowered when they cause fear;
- keep the messages as evidence;
- in consultation with an adult, inform their internet service provider;
- set up a new e-mail address and be cautious about who you share it with; and
- in consultation with an adult, call the police when persistent and serious cyberbullying is ongoing;

## What Parents Should Do

### **The parents of a cyberbullied child should:**

- not accept the bullying behaviour; reassure your child that there are many adults who will be supportive in solving this problem;
- report concerns to your internet service provider; refer to [www.cyberbullying.ca](http://www.cyberbullying.ca) for a contact list;
- report any threats directly to the police: 1-866-8POLICE and ask for the complaint taker;
- discuss your concerns with your child's principal; and
- visit the Board website for further information ([www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)).

### **The parents of a child who is being a cyberbully should:**

- Hold your child accountable for their actions and help them change their behaviour;
- Remind and teach your child that anonymity is only a perception;
- Discuss your concerns with your child's principal; and
- Consider the benefits of short term professional counseling.

### **Preventative Measures for Parents & Guardians**

- 1 Maintain open lines of communication with your children.
- 2 Teach children to stop immediately if they see or read anything that upsets them.
- 3 Locate the internet access computer in a high traffic area of the home.
- 4 Restrict access to the internet when there is no supervision available.
- 5 Consider drafting a contract with your child for the privilege of using the internet.
- 6 Take a course on internet use or have their child teach them.  
Make it a family activity.
- 7 Be sensitive to the actions of your child - "signs to watch for":
  - spend long hours on the computer;
  - close programs on their computer when you enter the room;
  - be secretive about internet activity;
  - exhibit behavioural changes (e.g., sudden disinterest in computer); or
  - always doing homework on the computer but getting behind with school work.

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 	5	6  	7
8	9	10 	11  	12 	13 	14
15	16	17	18 	19	20 	21
22	23	24	25 	26 	27 	28
29	30					



# 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): Supporting my child with homework - November 4th

*Tea and Talk* (all grades): Communicating with my child—November 11th

*Tea and Talk* (all grades): Supporting my child's learning if I speak a different language - November 18th

*Open Café* (all grades): Q&A: French Immersion—November 25th





# 爱心茶室

我们邀请所有幼儿园到八年级学生的家长们、  
祖父母们及照顾者来参与

## 我们的目标

增强学校与家長们的  
关系以提高学生学习  
成果及身心健康

时间：8：20 am - 9：30 am

地点：103 教室

语言：英文（现场提供中文  
翻译）

## 主题及活动预告

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－輔導孩子家庭作業－11 月 4 日

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－與孩子溝通－11 月 11 日

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－如果我說不同語言如何幫助孩子學習－11 月 18 日

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－法語教育提問 - 11 月 25 日



# Crossing the Street

## *How to teach your child to cross safely*

### You & Your Child

The street is a dangerous place for young children.

They are used to running wherever they want to. And they don't really understand the harm that can come to them if they run into the street.

It takes a long time to teach young children how to safely cross the street – many years, in fact, before they really understand the danger and become responsible enough to cross on their own.

But you must teach them, for their own safety, and for your peace of mind.

The best way to teach your child to cross safely is to do it slowly, step by step. Don't hurry your child and don't expect too much of him or her too soon.

And because the street is so dangerous, you need to be very firm about not allowing your child to go into the street.

#### **On Back**

**How you can teach your child to safely cross the street.**



A publication of the University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development made possible with help from the Frank and Theresa Caplan Fund For Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education.

For more Parenting Guides and other information, visit the University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development on the Internet at [www.pitt.edu/~ocdweb/familyissues/guides](http://www.pitt.edu/~ocdweb/familyissues/guides)

**You & Your Child** may be reproduced for non-profit use only.

# How to teach your child to cross safely

## **Keep very young children out of the street**

Very young children – children under 4 years old – should never go into the street at all, unless you are carrying them, holding their hand.

When you carry them, say you are in the “street” so they learn the word. This helps to make it clear that the street is not a place where they ever walk by themselves.

## **Between ages 4 and 6, start teaching them how to cross**

Teach in a way that is clear to children. For example:

- Stand on the edge of the street, hold your child’s hand, and say, “First, we look and listen this way. Any cars coming? Then we look and listen this way. Any cars coming?”
- If a car is coming, say, “Car coming. We have to wait.” Then start the look-and-listen process all over again.
- If no cars are coming, say, “Can we go?” Have your child say “yes,” and then walk – never run – together, holding hands across the street.

## **Insist on crossing with your child holding his or her hand**

Don’t let your child cross the street alone, even if you are watching. It is hard for children to understand when it is okay to cross alone and when it is not okay. Set a simple rule – “You never go in the street alone.”

## **Always follow the rules yourself when your child is watching**

When you cross the street, and your child is with you, look both ways, even say out loud, “No cars coming this way. No cars coming that way.” If you don’t, your child will not understand why it’s okay for you not to look and listen before crossing.

## **Teach your child not to chase a ball into the street**

Even a child who seems to be learning how to cross the street is likely to forget and chase a ball or follow a friend into the street.

If a ball rolls into the street, let it go. Tell your child to stay on the side of the road while you walk – not run – to get it. Look and listen both ways before going into the street to get the ball.

## **When your child is ready to cross alone, practice together**

Between the ages of 6 and 8, your child may be ready to cross the street alone if you have trained him or her.

Practice together.

- Stand at the side of the street. This time, don’t hold your child’s hand.
- Let your child go through the crossing routine, looking and listening up and down the street.
- Watch your child walk across the street. Be sure he or she doesn’t run.
- For a long time, the rule is that your child can only cross when you are watching.
- Practice many times before allowing your child to cross without you being around to watch.

## **Breaking the rules**

If your child breaks a rule, stop him or her, say what was wrong about what he or she did, and practice the right way.

You might even bring your child into the house for awhile and say, “You can’t play outside unless you obey the rules.”





# BUILD A BETTER FUTURE!



# FREE CLASSES

- English as a Second Language/LINC
- Academic Upgrading and Computer Skills
- Citizenship and IELTS Preparation

**Call 905-731-9557 to book an appointment.**

[www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)



@YRDSB



YRDSBMedia



Citizenship and  
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et  
Immigration Canada



Ontario

**EMPLOYMENT  
ONTARIO**







**FREE**  
Programs for Adults  
Call 905-731-9557 to  
book an appointment  
[www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)

**UPGRADE YOUR SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT**

# UPGRADE YOUR SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT

---

Flexible class schedules with individualized support.

Learn how to use email, Google Suite, Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook, Publisher, Access, OneNote and more.

Math, reading and writing classes available for work or academic upgrading (GED, apprenticeship, college, workplace).

---

[www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)

 @YRDSB

 YRDSBMedia

**EMPLOYMENT  
ONTARIO**

 **York** *Region*  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
*Inspire Learning!*