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Milliken Mills PS

October 2015

A Message From the Principal

Dear Families:

The first month of this school year is over, and routines are being put in place - back to doing homework, early bedtimes and packing lunches! I am so pleased with how smoothly everything has gone thus far. I would like to congratulate our students, parents and staff on such a great beginning to the year! I would also like to extend my appreciation to all families for the warm welcome they have extended to the new staff and students joining the Milliken Mills team this year.

Thank you to all families impacted by our reorganization for your understanding and cooperation. We are fortunate to have teachers at Milliken Mills PS who differentiate instruction, assessment and expectations based on each student's strengths, needs and interests.

September was a busy month. We have participated in assemblies and safety week drills (fire, bus safety, lockdown, hold and secure), and we have had the Terry Fox Walk/Run. The month of October promises to be equally full of interesting opportunities and challenges for students and staff alike. School Council and our volunteers are kicking into high gear, and students and staff are engaging in learning.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I would like to express my gratitude to you for your warm welcome to me as your new principal. I feel truly blessed to be a part of this community!

As autumn gets into full swing, the leaves change colours and we celebrate fall, the Milliken Mills staff would like to wish all of our families only the best for the season!

Yours in education,
Nandy Palmer



360 After School Program

The 360°kids After School Program (360ASP) provides Grades 6 to 8 students with activities that promote healthy and active lifestyles. Its objective is to encourage active and healthy lifestyles among kids in both mind and body. The program includes a variety of physical activities and sports, cooking classes, a daily healthy snack, guest speakers, some reading and homework help, along with self-esteem building activities. The After School Program is now accepting registrations for the 2015 – 2016 school year! The program runs on Monday, Tuesday and Friday after school until 6:00pm. For more information or to register for the After School Program please call the Program Coordinator at 416-873-8004. You can also register at <http://www.360kids.ca/programs-and-services/after-school-program/after-school-program-registration/>.

Character Trait for October

Responsibility: "You must take personal responsibility. You cannot change the circumstances, the seasons, or the wind, but you can change yourself." ~Jim Rohn



SCHOOL HOURS

Supervision: 8:05 a.m.
Entry: 8:15a.m.
School Starts: 8:20 a.m.
Recess: 10:00-10:20
Lunch: 12:00-1:00
Dismissal: 2:40 p.m.

"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."

Robert Maynard Hutchins

Homework Expectations

As per board policy #320, homework is described as those learning activities which occur outside the normal classroom time and enable students to practice skills, consolidate knowledge and skills, and/or prepare for the next class.

Homework:

- supports the development of literacy skills;
- supplements and supports student achievement through related out-of-class activities;
- encourages the development of learning skills and work habits;
- promotes positive and enthusiastic attitudes towards independent study and lifelong learning;
- addresses individual students' strengths, needs, and interests;
- aligns with Individual Education Plan (IEP) accommodations and modifications;
- assists students in preparing for subsequent planned learning activities;
- involves parents with their child's learning; and
- creates effective partnerships between home and school.

Feedback for homework takes different forms for different grades, program areas and student needs. Feedback does not mean that homework will receive a score or grade. Feedback on homework may include but not be limited to, teachers addressing homework with individual or groups of students, acknowledging completion either verbally or in writing, or writing comments on the homework.

The amount and frequency of homework will vary with the grade and/or program of each student. The time it will take to do the homework will depend not only on the grade but also on the curricular learning goals and independent learning skills and work habits of the student. It is understood that there will be some variation in the amount of time required to complete daily class work.

Homework will not be assigned over school holidays or on significant faith days. Homework will be assigned to a maximum of 4 nights per week.

Kindergarten to Grade 2
Grades 3-6
Grades 7-8

approximately 10-30 minutes
approximately 30 – 60 minutes
approximately 50 – 90 minutes

The staff at Milliken Mills recognizes that families provide valuable support for student learning by taking an interest in school work, and we thank all families for supporting their children's academic learning at home.

Halloween

Each year, our students celebrate the long-standing tradition of Halloween. Students celebrating this occasion in costume at our school must comply with the Safe School's policy. Costume accessories including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc. are not in compliance with York Region District School Board's Safe Schools Policy #668.0. Please note that this policy applies to all students at all levels, including Kindergarten. Thank you for your understanding. We look forward to having a safe and enjoyable Halloween.

7 Tips for Children Trick-or-Treating This Halloween

1. Wear a properly fitted costume that is bright and non-flammable. Use reflective tape on your costume so you can be seen in the dark.
2. Use face make-up or enlarge the eyes on your mask so you can see well. When wearing a mask, push it up on your head while walking.
3. Visit the front door of well-lit homes and never go inside.
4. Plan a route close to home and a time to be home.
5. Have a trusted adult check your treats before eating them.
6. Go with an adult or a group of friends.
7. If you need assistance, speak to a police officer or go to a Rogers Cable van.

Attention Grade 8 Families

Bill Crothers Secondary School (BCSS) is a system-wide school with a focus on healthy active living and sport. The school is open for Grade 9 to 12 students. Students and parents from across the region are invited to attend an information evening. Information will be shared regarding the vision, mission, schedule, programs, the transfer policy, and application process. All information sessions will occur at Bill Crothers Secondary School, 44 Main Street, Unionville, Ontario, L3R 2E4 from 7 – 8:30 in the cafeteria.

Wednesday October 7, 2015 – Students in the West & North Region

Tuesday October 13, 2015 – Students in the East Region

Thursday October 15th, 2015 – Students in the Central Region

Due to building capacity regulations, we request that only students and parents interested in attending BCSS for the school year 2016 - 2017, attend one of these evening. Parking is limited so we ask that parents carpool or park at the GO Station. Markham By-law officers regularly enforce the parking regulations on school property, so please abide by the posted parking regulations.

Terry Fox Run/Walk

On September 30th, our students participated in the annual Terry Fox Walk/Run. So far we have raised a bit of money, so we are still accepting a toonie for Terry from each student to donate to cancer research. Thanks for your support!



Council Corner..



School Council 2015-2016

A special thank you is extended to our outgoing School Council (2014-2015). On September 21st, School Council members were elected for the 2015-2016 school year. The members of the School Council Executive are: Anders Rawlins & Adil Nashed (Co-Chairs), Jim Yang (Treasurer), and Tania Fung & Kim Loftus (Secretary). Mary Massoud, Yusino Budi & Jeff Cas are our members-at-large.

Please remember that you do not have to be a council member to attend meetings, and that all parents are welcome.

Please join us at our next meeting on **Monday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the library.**

School Fundraising Plan

Each year, in consultation with staff, school council and the parent community, principals must prepare a fundraising plan for the school year. Our key areas of focus for this school year are:

- **Modern Learning:** To purchase laptops, iPads, SmartBoards, LCD projectors, etc.
- **Mathematics/Teaching & Learning:** To purchase Math manipulatives, books for classroom libraries and the school library, musical instruments, etc.
- **Mental Health/Engagement:** To support our extra-curricular and recess programs (e.g., gym equipment, equipment for kindergarten playground, indoor recess games/puzzles (English & French), outdoor recess equipment, etc.

Our school council and community are and continue to be an integral support to meeting the goals of our fundraising plan. Our 2015/16 fundraising activities to support the plan are as follows:

- ☐ Donation Program ☐ Big Box of Cards ☐ Raffle

I sincerely thank you all for your continued support in meeting our goals! If you have any questions or suggestions, please call me.

Merci,

Nandy Palmer
Principal

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!



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

Open Café (all grades): Tea and Talk— Get to Know Us - October 7th

Open Café (all grades): Tea and Talk—Creating our journey - October 14th

Open Café (all grades): Tea and Talk—Building partnerships - October 21st

Open Café (all grades): Tea and Talk— Establishing after school routines—October 28th



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












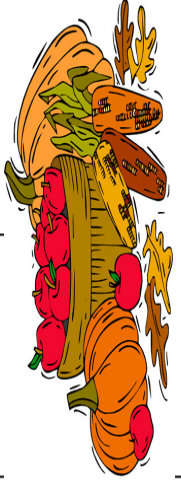
开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－认识我们－10月7日

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－开创旅程－10月14日

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－增強學校與家長们的關係－10月21日

开放式茶室（所有年级）：茶叙－建立课后规律作息－10月28日

October

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Don't DIS my ABILITY

Imagine the difference it could make if we focused on the strengths of people with **learning disabilities** instead of their weaknesses?



OCTOBER is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month.

Help stop the stigma and realize the ABILITIES!



ldayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region

The right to learn, the power to achieve



ldao • Learning Disabilities
Association of Ontario

The right to learn, the power to achieve

905.884.7933 www.LDAYR.org

INCREASING RESILIENCY AND WELL-BEING IN OUR CHILDREN

PARENT WORKSHOP

Learn techniques to assist your children in becoming more resilient

A PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS
OF ALL STUDENTS BUT IN PARTICULAR
THOSE IN GRADES 7-9



Sponsored by

The York Region District School Board Resiliency Committee and
The Learning Disabilities Association of York Region

No cost

Monday November 2, 2015
Richmond Green Secondary School
7:00 p.m.-9:00p.m.

RSVP – chris.mcadam@yrdsb.ca