

Welcome Back!



Milliken Mills Public School

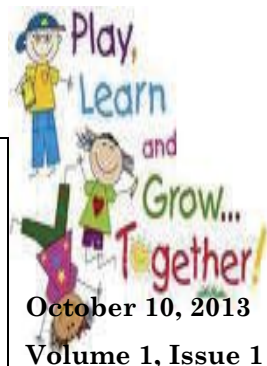
289 Risebrough Circuit
Markham, ON L3R 3J3 (905) 475-8143

Principal: Catarina Burisch

Superintendent: Rashmi Swarup (905) 940-7800

Trustee: Juanita Nathan (416) 885-3479

www.millikenmills.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca



Character Trait of the Month

October—Responsibility

"You must take personal responsibility. You cannot change the circumstances, the seasons, or the wind, but you can change yourself. That is something you have charge of."-Jim Rohn

A Message from the Principal

The return to Fall activities is an especially busy time. The air is crisper, the wind brisker and the colors on the trees brighter, which enhances the excitement of learning. Our EQAO results highlight areas of strengths and some areas of challenge for our students. It is one of the many measures of our cumulative students' achievement and closely reflects our teachers' ongoing assessments. As educators and teachers, we reflect on this information to plan and foster further growth in the areas of achievement and well being for each student. For more detailed results, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca, click on EQAO results and follow the links to Milliken Mills. P.S.

Extra-curricular activities have begun and include hockey, band, volley-ball, walking club, chess and many more. We were pleased to greet so many of you at our Community BBQ on Curriculum Night and thank you for your genuine support and interest to be involved. We welcome your participation and appreciate hearing from you. Our Book Fair and collective DOT activity illustrates how we are leaving a mark in the world in a beautiful way.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this weekend, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and warm wishes of appreciation for the opportunity to be part of this caring and supportive community.

Catarina Burisch

Principal

- ✓ Picture Day: October 3rd & 4th
- ✓ PA Day: October 11th (No Classes)
- ✓ Thanksgiving: October 14th (No Classes)
- ✓ School Bus Safety: October 16th & 17th
- ✓ Free Voluntary Reading Week: October 21st to October 25th:
- ✓ Dental Screening for JK, SK, Grade 2 & Grade 8: October 28th & 29th
- ✓ Report Cards: November 11th
- ✓ Parent Teacher Interviews: November 14th & 15th
- ✓ PA Day: November 15th (No Classes)
- ✓ PA Day: December 20 (No Classes)
- ✓ Winter Break: December 23rd to January 3rd (No Classes)

Cold Weather

The weather is turning windy and cool. Our Canadian winters guarantee it will get colder. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed to go outdoors. Extra sweaters, jackets, etc. may be required. Please make sure all items are labeled clearly with your child's name.

All students are required to go outside for recess in the morning and after lunch.

Children who are ill should remain at home until completely recovered. It is very difficult to accommodate requests for children to remain indoors because appropriate supervision is not available.

A Message From our Trustee

I am pleased to welcome our new and returning families as we start another school year. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and feel refreshed and energized.

There is a lot to look forward to in the first few months of school, and I hope you will find an opportunity to get involved in some way. Partnerships with families are essential, not only to student achievement and well-being, but also to creating a positive, caring and supportive school environment in which students can thrive.

There are many ways you can get involved and support your child's education from communicating with your child's teacher and asking your child about what they are learning to volunteering in school or participating in the school council.

Thanks to your support and the hard work and commitment of our staff, students, families and community partners, we continue to be one of the top performing school boards in Ontario.

As an elected trustee and an advocate for high quality public education, I am committed to ensuring the highest quality public education possible for our students and their families. In the coming year, we will continue our focus on the priorities set out in our Multi-Year Plan: student achievement and well-being, the delivery of effective and appropriate educational programs and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

If you have questions or concerns, contact me at Juanita.nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca or 416-885-3479. If you would like to

be kept informed about various initiatives or topics that relates to your child's education and well being, please send me your email address and I would be happy to keep in touch with you on a regular basis.

I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you all the best for 2013



Juanita Nathan

Music Matters

Welcome to a brand new school year! Milliken Mills P.S. continues to be a strong supporter of the arts. Students are enthusiastic to begin their music-making. Music is a fun and exciting opportunity that enhances children's growth and learning potential. It's not an added frill that makes life more pleasant but an essential part of daily living. It is a complete human experience where lin-

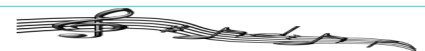
guistic, mathematical, kinesthetic and musical abilities are simultaneously involved.

We're excited to start our music-making year with our Grades 7/8 Intermediate Band and Grades 4-8 String Ensemble. Rehearsals are underway. Intermediate Band rehearsals are Wednesdays after school in the gym while String Ensemble rehearsals are Thursdays, after school in the Music Room. Intermediate Band and String En-

semble offer opportunities for students to play repertoire, improve their proficiency on their instrument and showcase their talents with performances throughout the year.



There will be more ensemble opportunities involving our Junior music students. Stay tuned for future Music Matters



MMHL Update



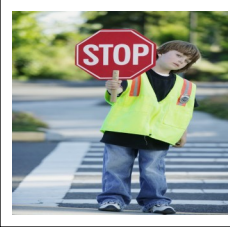
The Milliken Mills Hockey League (MMHL) has returned again for its 6th season with excitement and enthusiasm. Students from grades 6, 7 and 8 signed up and were placed on one of seven student teams. They play organized floor hockey in the gym once or twice a week at lunch against each other or the staff team. Statistics and team records are kept with the ultimate goal of winning the "Kastner Cup". May the best team win!

Did you know? The game of hockey, as you recognize it today, was invented in the mid-1850s by British soldiers on duty in Canada. Later, in 1879, some students at McGill University in Montréal gave the game a set of rules. By the late 1880s, many amateur clubs and leagues had sprung up.



Remind Children About Being Safe

It's a good time to remind children about personal safety. They should know:



when the adult is asking them to do something wrong or feels uncomfortable.

- To always tell parents where they will be and to never enter someone's home without their parent's permission.

should run home or to a public place. If someone grabs them, they should try to get away, yelling and screaming while doing so.

- It's important to play in safe areas, never take shortcuts and stick with a buddy when possible.

- Their name, age, telephone number and address.

- How to contact their parents, by memorizing cell or work numbers.

- How and under what circumstances to call 911.

- To never approach or enter a stranger's vehicle. A responsible adult wouldn't ask a child for directions or other questions.

- Make sure they know they can say "no" to an adult, especially

- If home alone, never admit it when answering the phone.

Never answer a knock at the door or speak through it. Teach them to call you if there is a knock at the door and if they fear for their safety, teach them to call 911. Make sure they know police officers are there to help and would not get mad if it were a false alarm.

- If they think they are being followed or are in danger they

It is never too early or too late to teach children the importance of personal safety. Common sense, communication and consistency are the keys. Remind children to alert a responsible adult if something strange happens that makes them feel uncomfortable. For more information, visit www.yrp.ca.

Food Bites: Generation X Parents

Do you feel like life is passing by at 1000km/hr? It's whizzing past so fast that if you blink you miss something. Almost every parent we speak to with school-age children is in a similar boat.

From the day our kids are born we are determined to give them every opportunity to be healthy, successful and happy. Many of us are Generation X parents that saw the rise in two income families and became independent at an earlier age. We were intro-

duced to digital technology before entering the workforce and have seen more advances in the last 2 decades than the past 200 years.

We take it all on and are driven to do our best. Here comes the supermom and super dad mentality. We want it all—a challenging career, to make a difference in the world, give the best opportunities to our kids, take care of our parents, be fit, have a nice home, feed our families, have all

the latest gadgets, the list goes on and on. This is the world we live in.

Next month we'll explore how to navigate and bring some balance and joy to our lives and our families. Kid's Kitchen serves hot lunches at school.

For more details visit www.kidskitchen.ca or call 905-944-0210.



Making a Mark



An activity promoting the love of reading is happening in our foyer. Students are making their 'mark' to see where it takes them, by displaying their 'dot' on the walls.

Thanks to all students and parents for contributing to our display and sharing their creativity, courage and collaboration. Participants will receive a certificate acknowledging their support in collaborative creativity.

International Dot Day is a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration. *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds, is a story of a caring teacher who dares a doubting student to trust her own abilities by being brave enough to "make her mark". What begins with a small dot on a piece of paper becomes a breakthrough in confidence and courage, igniting a journey of self-discovery and sharing, which has gone on to inspire countless children and adults around the globe.

Library Information Centre

October is **International School Library Month**. The theme is **Libraries: Doorways to Life**. Milliken Mills School Library Information Centre is celebrating this event by opening the doorways to life through fostering the love of reading.

We hosted our first **Book Fair** and had a wonderful response from the community and school. Thank you for supporting this and helping the library increase its collection of books. We raised \$2100.00 and were able to purchase \$800.00 worth of French books for the Library!



Our second event is **Free Voluntary Reading Week**. The Library will be open to all students who would like to participate from 7:15am to 8:15am the week of October 21st to Friday October 25th. Students will be able to sign up from October 9th until October 15th. Parental permission is required.

We would like to thank the following students and their families for donating books: Abby Paputsis, Daniel Cameron, Isaiah Holder, Aaryan & Arman Patteril. These books have found good homes in our classroom libraries as well as our main library. We always welcome donated books that are in good condition.

From the Office

Bonjour and welcome back! We are looking forward to a great year.

Treatment regimes should be adjusted to avoid administering medication in school. If this isn't possible, send the medication to the office labeled with your child's name and the dosage in its original package. It will be administered by school staff only after a form for the administration of medication is completed. They can be obtained through the office.

All visitors should report to the main office upon entering the school. This will assist us in securing a comfortable and safe environment. Please remember, to **use the correct entrances and exits** when picking up or dropping off students.

We stamp the agendas of late students. Please remember the importance of being on time.

For information on bus routes, stops, times, cancellations, eligibility and registering a complaint

contact **Student Transportation services of York Region** at **905-713-2535** or www.schoolbuscity.com.



Marathon of Hope



In 1980, Terry Fox faced considerable challenges while running the equivalent of a marathon a day for 143 days during his 3,339 mile Marathon of Hope. Fox was a distance runner and basketball player for his high school and University. He also played wheelchair basketball in Vancouver, winning three national championships. His right leg was amputated in 1977 after he was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, though he continued to run using an artificial leg.

The annual Terry Fox Run, first held in 1981, has grown to involve millions of participants in over 60 countries and is the world's largest one-day fundraiser for cancer research. More than three decades after the Marathon of Hope, Fox continues to inspire thousands who have taken on his quest to raise funds for cancer research. Milliken Mills Public School participated in The Terry Fox National School Run Day on September 26th. To date, the Terry Fox Run has raised more than \$600 million for cancer research.



THE COMMUNITY CORNER

What Is WeCare Café?

WeCare Café is an opportunity to build on school-family partnership. Every week parents and caregivers are welcome to join us as we discuss ways to improve student achievement and issues that are important to you!! We have translation in Chinese for those parents, grandparents or other caregivers who need it. We offer workshops and discussion forums on various topics!

WeCare

Café 是一个机会，建立学校与家长的合作伙伴关系。欢迎家长和照顾者加入我们的行列，我们讨论如何提高学生的成绩和问题，重要的是你！我们有中文翻译，我们提供各种主题的研讨会和论坛！

Parent Engagement is Building Student Success

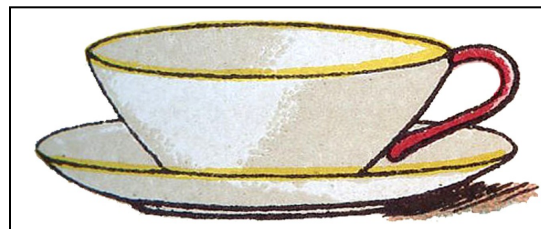
As a parent or caregiver, you have a strong influence on your children's attitudes toward school learning and future success. Parent engagement means making learning an important part of a child's day, supporting students at home and at school, as well as participating in the life of the classroom, school, and community.

Here are some ways students and parents benefit when parents are involved in their child's learning:

- ◆ **Improved student achievement**
- ◆ **More positive attitudes about school**
- ◆ **More success with homework**
- ◆ **Fewer behavior problems**
- ◆ **Opportunities for parents to become involved in the life of the school and community**

When parents or caregivers are involved in their child's education everyone benefits— students, parents, teachers, schools and communities.

"Education is a triangle with three legs: parents, child, school and if any of the legs fall, the triangle falls as well." (Harris & Goodall, 2007, p.2)



WeCare Café for K-3

Parents and Caregivers

愛心茶室K-3的家长和照顾者

OUR CAFÉ IS BACK!!!

In order to let more parents and caregivers have a chance to join our café, we will have our meetings on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning (a repeated session) from October 7 to October 18.

为了让更多的家长和照顾者有机会加入我们的愛心茶室，

从10月7日至10月18日，将有两次聚会。

家庭可以周二下午或周三上午参加。

Purpose: To improve student achievement by building school-family partnership

目的：通过建立学校与家庭的合作伙伴关系提高学生的成绩

Time: Tuesday 1:30pm – 2:30pm or
Wednesday 8:20am – 9:30 am

時間：星期二下午1:30 - 下午2:30 或
星期三上午8:20 - 上午9:30

Place: Room 103

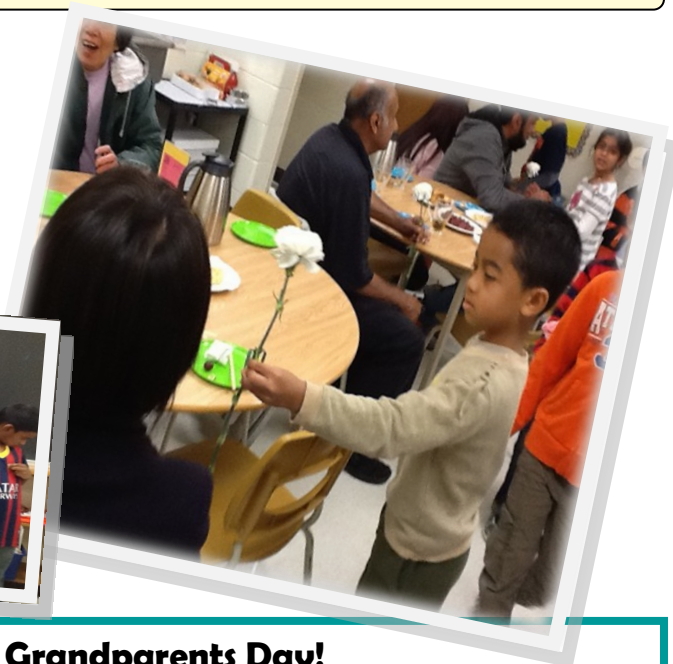
地點：103室

Language: English / Chinese

語言：英文/中文



THE COMMUNITY CORNER



WeCare Café Celebrates Grandparents Day!



Grandparents play a valuable role in offering care, love and guidance to their children and grandchildren. WeCare Café and M.M.P.S. students showed their appreciation for our grandparents by holding a Grandparents Tea on Friday September 13th, 2013. The morning was filled with great information, an energizing exercise, guest appearance by Ms. Pun and amazing musical performances from Ms.Clark and Mme.Pakjou's class. Thanks to all who participated! WeCare Café welcomes all grandparents who would like to join our weekly café sessions!



Promoting Success for Students of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Ancestry

The York Region District School Board provides an opportunity for students with First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry to self-identify. The process is voluntary and the information gathered will be kept confidential.

The self-identification process is the first step in providing:

Culturally specific learning opportunities or activities;

Additional support for academic achievement and well-being, including designated support staff;

Communication between schools, First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education staff, Aboriginal students and their families;

Connections to post-secondary institutions, community groups, service providers and other partners;

More learning opportunities for all members of the school community to develop a greater understanding of Aboriginal perspectives, cultures and histories.







New students can self-identify when they register with the Board. Current students can complete an Aboriginal Self-Identification Form which can be obtained from their school.

For further information, see the Information for Parents and Students with First Nation, Métis and Inuit Ancestry brochure available from the school or speak with the school principal.



October 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Navarati
6 World Communion Sunday	7	8	9 Immunizations 	10	11 PA Day	12
13	14 Thanksgiving 	15 Eid-ul-Adha	16 School Bus 	17 Safety	18	19
20	21 	22 Free	23 Voluntary	24 Reading	25 Week	26
27	28  Dental	29 Screening	30	31 Happy Halloween 