



# Nellie McClung P.S.



## Administrator's Message

Principal Mrs. W. Thompson Vice Principal Mrs. C. Schlosser

360 Thomas Cook Ave  
Vaughan, Ontario  
L6A 4M1  
(905)303-8113

We were very pleased to see so many families at the interview evening/day. Communication between home and school is extremely important in order to support student learning and student achievement. Communication about student achievement should be continuous throughout the year and should include, in addition to the report card, such things as parent-student conferences, interviews, phone calls, communication through students' agendas, parent signature on assignments and tests, and review of rubrics.

Communication about student achievement should be designed to provide detailed information that will encourage students to set goals for learning, help teachers to establish plans for teaching, and assist parents in supporting learning at home.

Studies show that students perform better in school when their parents are involved in their education. Effective ways in which parents can support student learning include: attending parent-teacher interviews, participating in parent workshops and school council activities, and encouraging students to complete their assignments at home.

Throughout the school year, parents have the opportunity to meet with their child's classroom teacher. Some of these opportunities will be casual, while others will be more formal.

In mid February, your child will bring home his/her first term Provincial Report Card. The Provincial Report Card is only one of several means used by teachers for reporting student achievement to parents and students.

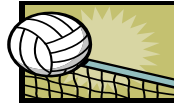
It has been a busy and productive autumn and we are getting close to the holidays.

December is a time of celebration and we are looking forward to seeing you at our Character Assembly in December. On behalf of the staff at Nellie McClung P.S., we wish all of our families a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Whatever you celebrate at this time of year, we hope it is fun and special for you and your family, and we thank you for all of your support thus far.



### Our First Athletic Victory!



Congratulations to our Intermediate Boys and Girls Volleyball teams for their success during the recent volleyball tournament at Herbert Carnegie P.S. Our Boy's team played hard until the end, but lost 19 to 25 in their semi-final game. Our **girl's team** had never won a pre-season match but won 3 out of 5 games at the recent tournament making them **first place winners!** We want to wish our girl's team best of luck as they advance as Zone Champions to play in the Area Finals on December 1st.

A special thank you to Mr. Sevel, Mrs. Kurtz, Mr. Derakhshandeh, Mrs. Short and Mr. Bartolomeo for coaching our teams to achieve success.

**Dec. 1, 2011**

**Volume 1, Issue 5**

**Superintendent: Sharon List**

**Trustee: Joel Hertz**

### 2011-12 NMPS School Council

#### Co-chairs

Mark Jacobson

Jackie Garber

#### Treasurer

Sonia Buk

#### Secretary

Roman Kanter

#### Parent Members

Marjie Fazeli, Leanne Goldshlager, Yaffa Rabkin, Carol Klait, Pooja Gulati, John Kennedy, Mike Kemper, Sheetal Jogie, Zvi Vaxman, David Lui, Gayla Ber

#### Community Representative

Fun on the Run

#### School Council Meeting Dates:

November 14<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup>, January 16<sup>th</sup>, March 26<sup>th</sup>, April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, June 4<sup>th</sup>

All meetings in Library at 6:30pm

#### Upcoming Dates

Dec.7.....School Council Meeting  
Dec.15.....Fundraiser Dance(Jr./Inter.)  
Dec.19...Free the Children speaker(Inter.)  
Dec.20.....Character Assembly  
Dec.26.....Winter Break begins  
Jan.9, 2012.....Back to school  
Nov.30-Mar.7(Wed's only).....Pizza Day

**Respect  
Responsibility**

**Honesty  
Empathy**

**Fairness  
Initiative**

**Perseverance  
Integrity**

**Courage  
Optimism**

## Character Matters!

Respect  
Responsibility  
Courage  
Understanding  
Optimism  
Initiative  
Honesty  
Fairness  
Integrity

*The library would like to thank everyone very much for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair. It has been a great success. Through our sales we have earned over \$2000 dollars to put towards our library collection. Check out our library web site to watch our library grow <https://sites.google.com/site/nelliemcclunglibrary/>*



*“Stop the habit of wishful thinking and start the habit of wishful thinking”.*

*-Mary Martin*

**Empathy**  
*is our Character theme for the month of December.*

## Kindergarten Registrations

Kindergarten registration begin February 1st, 2012. If you or someone you know has a child who will be 4 yrs old before December 31st, 2012, please register for Junior Kindergarten. Spaces are limited and overflow will be bussed to another York Region District School Board school. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Ms. Shatz at the school 905-303-8113. To register, you must provide either a birth certificate or birth registration, passport or immigration documents along with proof of residence.



## Important Information for Parent Volunteers

York Region District School Board procedure requires that all parent volunteers who come to help out in the classroom complete and submit an Offence Declaration form. This is in compliance with YRDSB procedure NP 280-Volunteers in our Schools. The Offence Declaration forms will be maintained in the office.

## Inside Shoes



Please consider footwear that can be reserved for indoor wear only (usually running shoes). This will help keep feet dry and warm and the classrooms clean as we approach the

## Illness and Appointments

Thank you to all parents who call in or send in a note if their child is to be away ill or at an appointment. It is also important that parents with ill children keep them home to avoid spreading any contagious germs. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Girls on the Run® is coming to your school this spring!

Girls on the Run is a program that recognizes that every girl is special, that every girl is strong, and that every girl is a winner! It involves running (or walking), but it also teaches girls in grades 3 through 5 about health, friendship, body image, self-esteem and community service.

The 20 lesson curriculum, run twice a week after school, combines training for a 5k run/walk event on Sunday June 17, 2012 with lessons that promote physical, emotional, and social development. At Girls on the Run, girls will learn about standing up to peer pressure, values, cooperation, healthy decisions, and more! The program will run at Nellie McClung P.S on Tuesdays and Thursdays

## Remembrance Day

*Thank you!!*



*A huge thank you to all who contributed to our very sensitive and thoughtful 2011 Remembrance Day ceremony. Special thanks to each class for their artistic contributions in the form of a poem, song or Remembrance Day art.*

Respect  
Responsibility

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### **ECO TIP**

As part of our initiative to be certified as an Eco School, we will be adding in an eco tip and some information about some eco things we are doing at Nellie.

We are selling reusable water bottles!

***ECO TIP: It takes a lot of energy to produce bottled water! Drink tap water instead.***



### **THINK RECYCLE**

Nellie McClung has just developed a partnership with a company called Think Recycle. Think Recycle recycles unwanted electronics including cell phones and inkjet cartridges. We receive compensation for each item we recycle.

As well, for every 24 qualifying items that we recycle, the company plants a tree in our school's name.

Bring in your old ink cartridges and cell phones to our school and drop them off in the box near the office. Our goal is to be an environmentally friendly school. Through this initiative, we will be saving the landfill from these items, earning money for our school and helping the environment.



## **COOKIE GRAMS**

Throughout December, the Nellie McClung P.S. fundraising team will be selling Board approved healthy snacks. Each recess and lunch students will be able to purchase cookies for themselves and even cookies with a personalized message to be delivered to their friends' classrooms on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Money raised will go towards the various charities supported by our junior and intermediate students as well as grade 8 graduation celebrations. Please remind your children to bring their loonies and toonies to school starting December 5<sup>th</sup> to purchase the yummy healthy snacks!

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## Cold Weather Guidelines as the Temperatures Drop

*Students need to come to school dressed to play outside during recesses (i.e., hats, scarf, gloves/mittens, boots, etc.). It is advisable for children to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet. Being physically active during late fall and winter is an essential part of a healthy lifestyle.*

*The school administration keeps a close eye on weather conditions, including wind chill. When conditions necessitate, students will remain inside for recess. When conditions allow, reduced outdoor recesses may take place.*

**If a student is well enough to attend school, then they will be expected to go outside for recess.**

*We would ask that parents be sensitive to the demands placed on our secretary and not call the school to inquire about indoor recess, but rather that parents send their children dressed for outdoor winter play.*

## SNOW RULES

The time has come to review some of the rules around safety involving snow.

Packed snow poses many hazards including embedded grit and loose debris which can cause injury, heavy packed snow can also result in injury.

Our expectations/rules are few and simple:

1. All snow stays on the ground (no snowballs at all)
2. Snow can be moved to create snow forts, snowmen and snow angels
3. The construction of the aforementioned structures will be respected by all and
4. no knocking down or destruction by others.



These expectations/rules are repeatedly reviewed on the announcements, by the classroom teachers and school assistants.



## **Stay on Your Feet This Winter!**

Now that winter is almost here, it is critical that staff be particularly vigilant on icy and snow-covered pathways and parking lots and on wet floors.

To stay on your feet during inclement weather, the following techniques are suggested to reduce your chances of slipping:

- wear slip resistant footwear, appropriate for the weather. Leather soled shoes and high heeled shoes or boots are especially hazardous in winter.
- When getting in and out of a vehicle, always keep at least one hand on the handle or grab bar so you can catch yourself if you start to slip
- Don't hurry when conditions are likely to be slippery (take short steps)
- Check the bottom of your feet every time you enter a building and dry them in doormats at the entrance
- Don't carry items that will obstruct your vision

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## Weather Watch

All students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal or vice-principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors up to 40 minutes after lunch. **We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions e.g. wind chill; we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.**

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. 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 this illness to others.

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.

**Wind chill - Minutes to Frostbite for exposed skin (Environment Canada)**

The following are approximate values								
Temperature (°C)	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45	-50
Wind (km/h)								
10	*	*	22	15	10 ❖	8 ❖	7 ❖	2 ❖❖❖
20	*	30	14	10 ❖	5 ❖❖	4 ❖❖	3 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖
30	*	18	11	8 ❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
40	42	14	9 ❖	5 ❖❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
50	27	12	8 ❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
60	22	10 ❖	7 ❖	5 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
70	18	9 ❖	5 ❖❖	4 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖
80	16	8 ❖	5 ❖❖	4 ❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	2 ❖❖❖	1 ❖❖❖

The wind speed, in km/h, is at the standard anemometer height of 10 metres (as reported in weather observations).

**Legend:**

- Frostbite unlikely \*
- Frostbite possible in 2 minutes or less 2 ❖❖❖
- Frostbite possible in 3 to 5 minutes 5 ❖❖
- Frostbite possible in 6 to 10 minutes 10 ❖

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## Need Last Minute Holiday Gifts?

Don't Forget -

### Magazine Subscriptions Make GREAT Christmas & Holiday Gifts For Family & Friends!

And you can support our school & children at the same time!

Simply go on-line to, [www.QSP.ca](http://www.QSP.ca) and go shopping. Use the account finder to find our school account number to ensure we receive the profits from your orders (# 33258).

A gift of a magazine subscription is like giving a gift every month for an entire year!

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR FAMILY READING MAGAZINE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN!

*Many magazines will begin to arrive over the next few weeks, but some subscriptions due to different publishing schedules may take longer to start. If you have any questions, please contact QSP Customer Service at 1-800-667-2536. They offer a 100% satisfaction guarantee.*

## French Immersion Registration Moves Online

The York Region District School Board continues to offer quality French Immersion for those who wish it. The French Immersion program begins at grade one and is based on the curriculum prescribed by the Ontario Ministry of Education.

To ensure accessibility and equity for all families wishing to register their children for Grade One French Immersion, the Board is introducing a new **online registration** process for the 2012-2013 school year. Online registration will take place from February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 until February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. This replaces the "first-come, first-served" model previously in place. Registrations will be accepted online only, if you require assistance or do not have access to the internet, please contact your child's current school. Staff members at any York Region District School Board site can assist you with the online registration process.

Please note that where demand exceeds capacity, students for the designated attendance area school will be selected using a computerized random ranking process. French Immersion may take place in a single track (French only) or dual track school environment. Students may begin the French Immersion program in one location/track, but may be required to continue in a different location/track as the program evolves.

Parents looking for more information can visit the Board's website at [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

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## **Pizza Day Lunches are here!!!**

Pizza Day lunches will be held every week on Wednesdays. This is a great way for the school to raise money. Pizza will be purchased from "Pizza Pizza", and we will only have the option of cheese pizza. First Term Pizza Day will run from November 30th, 2011 and end on March 7th, 2012. There are 13 pizza days in total and participation is for all 13 weeks.

**The deadline was Thursday, November the 24th, 2011 for the first term run.**

*Second Term Pizza Day will begin after March Break and further information regarding participation will be sent out during March 2012.*

If you have any comments or suggestions about our school, please write in the space below.

**Comments:**

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Please print your name and your child's name in the space provided.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher

## **SAFE ARRIVAL FOR STUDENTS**

It is important that students arrive on time before the bell in order to be in class for attendance. Attendance is taken at 9:10 a.m. and students who are not present will be marked absent and a phone call is made home. If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please **CALL THE SCHOOL AT 905-303-8113 AND PRESS 6 TO LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ATTENDANCE LINE.** Please include the students full name, teacher name, and the reason for the absence. Parents and visitors must report to the office when entering the school. Every visitor is asked to sign-in and wear a visitor's badge. If your child is being picked up by someone else other than parents/guardians, the office requires a note or a phone call with the name of the person coming into the school.

**Respect  
Responsibility**

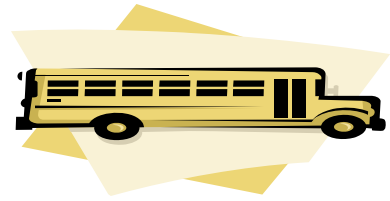
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Dear Parents/Guardians,



**Re: Student Busing Eligibility**

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca). For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).

**French as a Second Language Program Review Online Survey– We want to hear from you!**



The York Region District School Board is conducting a comprehensive review of its French as a Second Language (FSL) Program. The goal of the review is to ensure that the Board can continue to provide high quality and sustainable FSL instruction. York Region offers French as a Second Language instruction through two delivery models, Core and Immersion. Core French is what most students experience. It begins in Grade 4 and is offered as a subject, as part of the regular Ontario Curriculum. French Immersion is a specialized optional program which begins in Grade 1. In French Immersion subjects in the Ontario Curriculum are predominantly taught in French.

As part of this review, the Board has engaged Ipsos Reid to assist with gathering public input. We are asking all parents to fill out an online survey to tell us what they think about FSL. **The survey will be available on the Board's website: [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca), starting Friday, December 16, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., and will close on Monday, January 16, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.** All answers to the survey will be kept strictly confidential; survey answers will be limited to one per household. The review includes a public input process and an examination of best practices from other public education jurisdictions.

**Snack Program**

Due to grants from Breakfast for Learning (BFL) and School Nutrition Program (SNP) we will run a snack program for students. Snacks will be made available to all students in each class.



Ms. Ber is our school council representative who will lead this initiative. If you are available to volunteer mornings for about an hour to organize the snacks, please send an email to our Council mailbox at: [nellie.mcclung.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:nellie.mcclung.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

A menu of the healthy choices has been made in consultation with a nutrition educator from the York Region Food for Learning organization and will be sent home soon.

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