



Nellie McClung P.S.



Administrator's Message

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

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

NMPS Literacy

Reading is more than sounding out the words. Understanding what is read involves making connections between print and the reader's experiences. Good readers use a variety of strategies to make meaning from print. Sounding out words may be difficult for some readers.

Throughout the year, students will engage in reading fiction and non-fiction materials where inferencing skills are practiced and reinforced. Children are asked to explain both explicit and implicit understanding of what they've read. Inferencing can be a challenging reading strategy to master. As you read with your child at home, have discussions about hidden information. Also make realistic predictions to help build your child's inferring skills.

Math Resources

Print Resource

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlymath/index.html#how>

Video Resource

http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_meyer_math_curriculum_makeover.html

Honour Roll Awards

Students who receive 80% or higher in Math or Language are recognized with the Honour Roll award. Students who receive 5 or 6 excellent ratings are recognized with the Learning Skills award. All the students recognized will be announced in the March newsletter.



NMPS Mathematics

Instruction in mathematics must emphasize conceptual understanding and not just procedural knowledge. Students who are assigned activities that emphasize only the rote acquisition of procedures (procedural knowledge) without promoting an active understanding of the concepts underlying such procedures are at a disadvantage, especially in the later grades, when they encounter more abstract concepts. If mathematics becomes nothing but procedures, students attain only a superficial understanding—one that, over time, may disappear completely.

Report Cards

The report card represents evidence of student learning that has been gathered from September to the end of January. Your child's teacher has written clear, personalized comments to provide meaningful feedback about your child as a learner. Space is provided at the bottom of pages three and four to identify steps for improvement together with your child. **Please return the double-sided tear-off form to your child's classroom teacher to go into his/her Ontario Student Record(OSR).**

Board Launches New Mission, Vision, Values and Slogan

Mission: To advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community.

The York Region District School Board is celebrating the launch of its new Mission, Vision and Values statements and slogan – *Inspire Learning!*

The Board last reviewed these statements in the late 1990s. Since that time, education in York Region has been influenced by a number of significant changes, including changes in technology, in our communities and in our learning environments.

Community members, parents/guardians, staff members and students had the opportunity to provide input and share ideas about the ideal future of public education in York Region. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process.

For more information, visit the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca

Snow Day Notifications

Please be advised that any hot lunches and lunch programs that fall on a snow day are automatically cancelled. Please remember to send your child with a lunch.

Feb 3, 2014

Volume 3, Issue 6

Superintendent: J. Parappally

Trustee: Joel Hertz

Make up date for cancelled Jan 7th Sub Day

The Jan 7th cancelled sub lunch will be replaced on Mar 18th



Make up date for cancelled Feb 5th Pizza Day

The Feb 5th cancelled pizza lunch will be replaced on Mar 19th



Upcoming Dates

Feb 11...Anne Frank PS Info Night
7pm Gym
Feb 12.....Report Cards go home
Feb 13.....Night at the Movies
Feb 17.....Family Day (No School)
Feb 26..... School Council Mtg
Mar 7.....PA Day
Mar 10-14.....Winter Break



**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
Integrity**

**Courage
Optimism**

Fairness

is our Character theme for the month of February

Through our eyes we appear different, but deep down we're all the same.



Scent Free Environment

Children and staff work in a close environment all day at school and when someone walks into the school with perfume, cologne or even scented hand sanitizers, this lingers in the hallways and causes allergen reactions. As the older children start wearing scented deodorant this also causes such reactions. Please be **scent aware** to help us work in a scent free environment.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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

**Cookie Sales are back
February 26th - March 1st**



Spirit Wear

Just a reminder to order your spirit wear.
Deadline is Feb 10th



French as a Second Language Programs

Recommendations based on YRDSB's [French as a Second Language \(FSL\) review](#) are being implemented to allow YRDSB to continue to offer its total early FI program while also accommodating the growing number of students who wish to participate. These recommendations will also enable our Board to strengthen its Core French program to provide more active and authentic learning. One of the recommendations was to establish consistency among elementary FI schools in terms of the hours of French instruction and the subjects taught in French. Regardless of where students attend a YRDSB French Immersion program, they will have access to the same number of hours of French instruction. All subjects will be offered in French in Grades 1 to 3. Starting in Grade 4, English will be introduced as a subject, math will be taught in English and a portion of the Physical Education, Health and Arts subjects will also be taught in English. Starting in Grade 6, the program will be shared equally between French and English instruction. We've also developed an [accommodation plan](#) to ensure we can continue to welcome all students who wish to enrol in the French Immersion program and provide long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region. Implementing the recommendations from our FSL review will allow YRDSB to continue to offer high quality, sustainable FSL programs throughout the Board.

Indoor Shoes

Students must have footwear that can be reserved for indoor wear only (usually running shoes). This will help keep feet dry and warm and the classrooms clean during the winter season.



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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 Grade 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. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com

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.

Exceptions are made on an individual basis for children who may need to remain indoors for an extended period of time because of a physical condition or recovery from a serious illness or accident. In such cases, a letter from the doctor is required.

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.

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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.

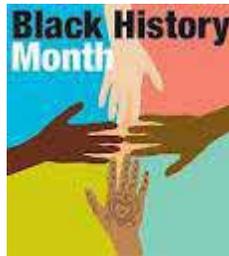
The school administration keeps a close eye on weather conditions, including wind chill. When conditions necessitate, students will remain inside for recess. When conditions allow, reduced outdoor recesses may take place.

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.

February is African Heritage Month

Celebration of Black History/African Heritage Month has been a part of Canadian society since the 1950's. Lieutenant Governor Hal Jacman declared February as Black History month in Ontario in 1993 and the same declaration was made in the House of Parliament in Ottawa in 1995. It is an opportunity for Canadians to understand the role that the Black community has played in our history, a role that has been too often forgotten in our history books.



African Heritage Writing and Spoken Word Contest

Inclusvie School & Community Services is hosting the annual **Writing Contest** in Celebration of **African Heritage Month**. This year's theme; Celebrating the life, work and lessons of Nelson Mandela.

“Nelson Mandela freed not just the prisoner, but the jailer as well.” - Barak Obama, 2013

For more information, please visit the Board's website. **Contest deadline for entries is Friday, February 28, 2014**

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February 2014

FAIRNESS: Through our eyes we appear different, but deep down we're all the same



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BUS ROUTES HOTLINE
 1-877-330-3001
www.schoolbuscity.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 						1
2	3 PA Day	4	5 Raising Resilient Children Presentation 7pm-9pm (Library)  	6	7	8 
9	10	11 Anne Frank PS Info Night—7pm @ Nellie McClung PS  	12 Report Cards go home 	13 Night at the Movies	14 	15 
16	17  FAMILY DAY	18  	19 	20	21	22 
23	24	25  	26 School Council Mtg 6:30—Library Cookie Sales 	27 VIP—Grades 3, 7, 8	28	