

# Nellie McClung P.S.



## Administrator's Message

Principal Mrs. W. Thompson Co-Principal Mr. B. Bob

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

With the advent of March, we are rapidly approaching the last stretch of the 2011-2012 academic year. Final reports will go home at the end of June. Please take the time to continue to review Term 1 reports with your children and take the opportunity to set goals and work with your child around next steps. By reviewing the Learning Skills, Next Steps and General Comments sections of the reports, parents and teachers alike can continue to work on common goals.

**Honesty is  
March's  
character trait  
and is  
defined as:**

*"the quality or fact of being honest; uprightness and fairness."*



**NMPS** is excited to present our first school wide **Arts Electives** day happening on Thursday **March 8th, 2012**. On this day the staff and students of Nellie McClung will celebrate the Arts through a series of activities that will showcase music, visual arts, drama and dance. To kick start the day, all students will join together in an assembly to experience the story telling of Sandra Whiting. Since this will be an active day, students are encouraged to wear comfortable clothes keeping in mind that they may get dirty throughout the day.

### About our presenter:

*Sandra Whiting has been at the epicenter of activity and change in Toronto's African Canadian community for over twenty years. She has worked with the Ontario Black History Society, Jamaican Canadian Association, the Caribbean Cultural Committee and was awarded the Harry Jerome Award for Community Leadership in 2002. As a keynote speaker and storyteller, Sandra uses the arts as a vehicle for positive social change. She will be at Nellie McClung on Arts Electives day to share her stories with us!*



**Mar. 1, 2012**

**Volume 1, Issue 8**

**Superintendent: Sharon List**

**Trustee: Joel Hertz**

### Daylight Savings

Sunday March 11th, 2012

### March Break Begins

Fri Mar. 9th - Fri Mar. 16th

All parents are welcome to our next **School Council Meetings** scheduled for Monday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

**EQAO Testing for  
Grade 3 students  
May 23rd - June 6th**



### Upcoming Dates

Mar.1...Triple P Parenting Workshop  
Mar.2...Diversity in Action (Gr. 6/7)  
Mar.9...first day of March Break  
Mar.19...back to school  
Mar.23...Intermediate Field Trip  
Mar.26...Performance Arts Field Trip  
Mar.26...School Council Meeting  
Mar.28...Intermediate Field Trip  
Mar.29...Character Assembly "Honesty"  
Mar.29...Friendly Battle of Books  
Mon/Wed/Thurs...Milk Days

**Respect  
Responsibility**

**Honesty  
Empathy**

**Fairness  
Initiative**

**Perseverance  
Integrity**

**Courage  
Optimism**

## Character Matters!

Respect  
Responsibility  
Courage  
Empathy  
Optimism  
Initiative  
Honesty  
Fairness  
Integrity  
Perseverance

## NMPS Character Committee



Thank you to Mr. Birenbaum (right), new vice principal at Forrest Run P.S., for working with us to create our Touchstone.

## NMPS School Touchstone

At Nellie McClung our voices are heard

Multiculturalism and diversity sculpt the face of our community

Through our eyes we appear different, but deep down we are all the same

We are responsible for our actions, words, and learning

The world is our home; we treat it with kindness and respect

We are a second family and accept people for who they are

Bullying is not an option

We are global citizens, believing one school can make a difference

Setting our own standards and striving to surpass them is our road to success

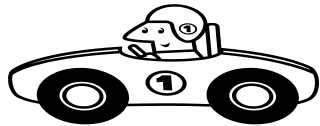
We cherish all the possibilities

There are no limits

Like Nellie McClung, we believe in standing up for what's right

WE ARE THE MAVERICKS!!

## Do you drive your child to or from school?



Please continue to slow down and be respectful of one another in the parking lot. **It is not acceptable to block others in, take up multiple spaces or park in a way that prevents the safe passage of other people or cars.** A gentle reminder safety is ALL our responsibility, so please report any concerns or potential hazards to the office immediately.

## Honesty

1. Being truthful to others
2. Being truthful to yourself
3. Doing what's right regardless of who's around
4. Being someone others can trust

## Honesty

We behave in a sincere, trustworthy, and truthful manner.



## Thank You From the Office

Thank you to all those who continue to phone the school when your child is ill or will be late. This allows us to concentrate on those students who are absent without notification. As we know you will agree, every second counts when a child is missing!

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## The Child and Family Services Act (CFSA)

*Did you know that...*

- The Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) was amended in April 2000.
- This law requires schools to report concerns regarding children who may be in need of protection.
- The definition of a child in need of protection because of suspected child abuse or neglect has been expanded.
- Every person who has reason to believe that a child is or may be abused or neglected must report his or her suspicions immediately to the Children's Aid Society. School staff do not have a choice if they suspect that a student is or may be in need of protection. They **MUST** report their suspicions to the Children's Aid Society.
- When staff report concerns to Children's Aid, they must also share with Children's Aid any information about the concern which might otherwise be confidential.
- It is not the school's responsibility to investigate suspicions, evaluate the situation or assign blame.
- Staff can be fined \$1000 for failing to report that a student is or may be in need of protection.

Staff has a legal responsibility to report any suspicions to Children's Aid. It is not necessary for staff to be sure that a student is or may be in need of protection. All that is needed is "reasonable grounds to suspect" abuse or neglect. "Reasonable grounds" is defined as being what the average person would suspect given his or her training, background and background and experience.

## SIXTEENTH AVENUE P.S.

### SUMMER INSTITUTE

**400 Sixteenth Ave.**

**Richmond Hill, 905-884-8423 ext. 163**

**Email: [sixteenth.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:sixteenth.si@yrdsb.edu.on.ca)**

**<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/w/pplus/si/2011-16thAvePSRegistration.pdf>**

### ECO TIP

*Save on trees, money and reduce waste by using cloth towels for cleaning and drying items, instead of using paper towels.*



Over the past nine years, York Regional Police in partnership with our community has commemorated International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The event commemorates the Sharpville Massacre in which 69 people lost their lives during a confrontation with South African Police in Sharpville, South Africa on March 21, 1960 after peacefully protesting Apartheid laws.

In years past, partnerships with our communities in these events have provided us numerous opportunities to stand together and collectively speak out against racism, discrimination and hatred in all its ugly forms. These events have also highlighted on stage performances, ethno-cultural community booths, displays, music and food reflective of our connections to various regions of the world while at the same time showcasing our pluralism and the values and principles that unite us as Canadians.

As York Regional Police prepares for this year's upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event themed "Celebrating our Community", we invite you, along with family friends, and staff to join us in celebration. Admission is free and all are welcome.

This year's event will take place on Sunday, April 15, 2012 from 12pm to 4pm at Milliken Mills High School located at 7522 Kennedy Rd, Markham, Ontario.

Please RSVP to the Diversity and Cultural Resources Bureau at 1-866-876-5423 ext. 6028 or email [diversity@yrp.ca](mailto:diversity@yrp.ca), should you require any further information.

We thank you most kindly for your consideration of this request and look forward to seeing you on April 15.

Respectfully,

*Ricky Veerappan*

*Inspector #545*

*Diversity & Cultural Resources Bureau*

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### Planning Ahead

We are now in the early stages of planning for next year. If you are moving or plan to be moving over the coming months, please be sure to let the office know as we are already planning for our students and staff.

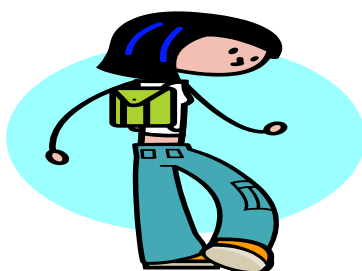
### Emergency Information

If you have a change in home phone number, work numbers or emergency contact information, please be sure to let the school secretaries know so that we can update our records accordingly.



### Need help with homework?

Ask a Teacher offers FREE online tutoring with certified teachers five nights a week and even has a free essay feedback service. Go to this website [www.ilc.org](http://www.ilc.org) and your child can register and receive this free service. The Independent Learning Centre is funded by the Ministry of Education to provide an alternative source of public education in Ontario.



### Parent Corner

**"We would love to help at school but we both work and don't have time. We feel guilty about not being involved"**

You don't have to be a volunteer to be involved in your child's education. Research shows that learning at home is one of the beneficial ways to help your child succeed. **Tips: Show an interest, make everyday an opportunity to learn, work and play together, and help them find math everywhere.**

**I really want to help but I don't understand what the teacher expects. When I went to school we didn't do it like that.**

You don't need to know how to do the homework to help. When teachers and parents are on the same page students do better in school.

**Tips: Praise successes, give them the confidence to seek help from the teacher.**

Resource: Council of Ontario Directors of Education

## Earth Hour– Saturday, March 31, 2012, 8:30pm

Now in year three, Earth Hour started off in Sydney, Australia in 2007. In 2008, millions of people in over 30 countries switched off their lights for Earth hour. Last year, about 10 million people in Canada participated.

On March 31, 2012 at 8:30pm, people around the world will unite and switch off for Earth Hour. We can all participate.

Everyone in Canada is encouraged to participate. Let's support the efforts of the Worldlife Fund Canada. Participating in Earth Hour is a simple way to show that you want to be part of the solution. For more information, visit [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).



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## 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.

## ***Your Comments, Concerns or Compliments....***

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

## **Don't Forget -**

### **Magazine Subscriptions Make GREAT 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 account number to ensure we receive the profits from your orders (# 33258).



school

**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.*

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# EARTH HOUR

## Friday March 30



### CUT THE POWER...START WITH ONE HOUR!

Be part of the global campaign to slow climate change.

Our schools can lead the way.

#### Actions to save energy

- Classroom lights off \*
- Hall lights off \*
- Office lights off \*
- Outdoor lights off
- Photocopiers off
- Data & overhead projectors off
- Monitors off
- Computers off \*
- Laptop carts unplugged \*
- SMART boards unplugged
- Heaters off
- Coffee pots unplugged
- TVs, DVDs, VCRs unplugged

\*check with your school board to learn their policy – make sure it's safe to turn off this device!

Based on a resource developed by the Toronto District School Board

#### Activities for Earth Hour

##### AT SCHOOL

*Brainstorm with your classmates & EcoTeam – here are some suggestions:*

- School assembly (music/performance), student created entertainment – skit or play that uses no electricity
- Invite a local storyteller/First Nations storyteller/motivational speaker
- Sustainable energy projects (wind-up flashlight, radio)
- Play educational games, sing songs, play music
- View film with an environmental message
- Go outside - interpretive hike, chalk murals, or eco scavenger hunt (see Celebrating EcoSchools guide)

##### AT HOME

*Take your ideas home for the global Earth Hour Saturday March 26*

- Star-gazing
- Make a green action plan for home
- Tell family stories or make recycled crafts
- Games or singing by candlelight
- Family walk or night hike
- "Campout" with sleeping bags inside



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				<b>Thursday March 1</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>  <b>Triple P Parenting Workshop</b>	<b>Friday 2</b>  <b>Diversity in Action (Gr. 6/7)</b>	<b>Saturday 3</b>
<b>Sunday 4</b>	<b>Monday 5</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 6</b>	<b>Wednesday 7</b>  <b>Pizza Day</b> <b>Milk Day</b>	<b>Thursday 8</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>  <b>Arts Elective</b>	<b>Friday 9</b>  <b>MARCH BREAK</b>	<b>Saturday 10</b>
<b>Sunday 11</b>  <b>Daylight Savings Time</b>	<b>Monday 12</b>  <b>MARCH BREAK</b>	<b>Tuesday 13</b>  <b>MARCH BREAK</b>	<b>Wednesday 14</b>  <b>MARCH BREAK</b>	<b>Thursday 15</b>  <b>MARCH BREAK</b>	<b>Friday 16</b>  <b>MARCH BREAK</b>	<b>Saturday 17</b>
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>Monday 19</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 20</b>	<b>Wednesday 21</b>  <b>Pizza Day</b> <b>Milk Day</b>	<b>Thursday 22</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>	<b>Friday 23</b>  <b>Intermediate Field Trip</b>	<b>Saturday 24</b>
<b>Sunday 25</b>	<b>Monday 26</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>  <b>Performance Arts Field Trip</b>  <b>School Council Meeting at 6:30pm in the library</b>	<b>Tuesday 27</b>	<b>Wednesday 28</b>  <b>Pizza Day</b> <b>Milk Day</b>  <b>Intermediate Field Trip</b>	<b>Thursday 29</b>  <b>Milk Day</b>  <b>Character Assembly “Honesty”</b>  <b>Friendly Battle of Books</b>  <b>Spirit Day: PJ Day</b>	<b>Friday 30</b>	<b>Saturday 31</b>  <b>Earth Hour 8:30 p.m.</b>