



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

Nov. 1, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 5

Superintendent: Sharon List

Trustee: Joel Hertz

October has certainly been a busy month! Thank you to all the families that participated in our Meet the Teacher Night last month. We had a great evening with a presentation from one of our community representatives, Kinnark Family Services who shared information with us around upcoming Parent Workshops. Students were able to impress their parents with their work while showing off their classrooms.

Congratulations to the very first members of our School Council Executive. Our School Council is already underway in organizing fundraising initiatives. We look forward and welcome parents and community members at any future meetings.

The traditional parent-teacher interview night will look different as our students take on a greater role in the process. Our students will be leading the discussion through the process of Student Led Conferencing. The staff will be working with our students to develop their self assessment skills to encourage students to become responsible for and engaged in the learning process. Students will be able to identify and articulate their strengths, needs and goals for improvement. Please find more information regarding Student Led Conferencing in this newsletter.

Progress Reports will be sent home on November 23rd. Our Student Led Conferencing will take place the evening of November 24th and during the day on November 25th. A letter will be sent home shortly so that you have an opportunity to book a time for your child's conference. Please remember to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding their progress and how you might support their learning in the home.



As a staff, we will continue to work together in a professional learning community focused on the areas of assessment and critical thinking as well as in creating an equitable learning environment where all students can learn. It is our goal that all students will become more engaged in their learning and will be able to articulate goals for academic achievement.

W.Thompson
Principal

C.Schlosser
Vice Principal

2011-12 NMPS School Council

Co-chairs

Mark Jacobs
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 14th, December 7th, January 16th, March 26th, April 25th, May 14th, June 4th

All meetings in Library at 6:30pm

Upcoming Dates

Nov. 3.....Triple P Seminar
Nov.11.....Remembrance Day
Nov.14.....School Council
Nov.25.....PA Day

**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
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**Courage
Optimism**

Student-Led Conferencing

There are many advantages of engaging students in the process of self-assessment. Some of those advantages are as follows:

- Students who gather and examine samples of their work helps them to develop and practice organizational skills, take ownership of their work and to understand their learning styles.
- Students who are able to show and articulate evidence of their learning help their parents to understand the learning process and become partners in their learning.
- Students can use the evidence of their learning to show parents and teachers what they know and what they need to learn. This helps students to more clearly understand their own learning and progress.

How Parents Can Support Their Children During the Student Led Conference?

Active Listening

Active listening requires focused attention on your child and what is being said. You need to know what you are listening for and should be able to retell what you've heard. Asking questions for clarification is part of active listening.

Supporting and Encouraging

You can provide your child with support in several ways. By making positive comments and asking pertinent questions at appropriate intervals you will provide your child with the confidence he/she needs to continue. Encouraging smiles, positive body language and ongoing indications of interest all help to create a comfortable atmosphere.

Sample Questions or Comments for Parents to use during the Conference

"I'm really proud of the work that you have shown us."

"I can see that you are getting better at..."

"I can see that you tried very hard."

"I'm so impressed with the way you conducted your conference."

"I can really see growth in your ..."

"I'm amazed that you know how to..."

"I can see that you are really organized and ready to begin your conference."

"I know that you are very talented. Today I have seen many examples of your talents."

"Now that we have seen your work, what do you think you should work on next?"

"What can I do to help you reach your goals?"

"Are these goals possible? Is your timeline reasonable?"

"How will you know when you have reached your goal?"

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Character Matters!

Respect
Responsibility
Courage
Understanding
Optimism
Initiative
Honesty
Fairness
Integrity
Perseverance

Courage

... is our Character theme for the month of November.



Courage is the ladder on which all the other virtues mount.

-Clare Booth Luce

Creativity requires the courage to let go of certainties.

-Erich Fromm

Peanut Free Halloween Treats

We realize that while children and treats are a reality for this time of year, we are requesting that moderation be the practice in what students are allowed to bring to school for snacks. As always, our first priority is the emotional, intellectual and physical well-being of our students and staff. With this in mind, we work to reinforce healthy eating practices all year round.



Also, please choose products which are safe for children who are allergic to peanuts/nuts. We continue to be diligent about airborne allergens and our sensitive students. , our students.



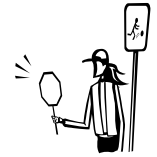
Important Information for Parent Volunteers



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.

School Safety Zone

The rush of cars, buses and children arriving at school can create many dangers.



Both children and drivers play a vital role in ensuring the safety of children coming and going to school. We encourage our families to practice safety while around vehicles and children.

Mike Dokman, Supervisor of Traffic Engineering for the Town of Vaughan, has now informed us that stop signs at Lebovic Campus and Thomas Cook Ave will only be installed once presented at the "Committee of the Whole" on November 15th and then approved by Council at their meeting on November 29th. Mrs. Thompson has been trying to work with the Town to proactively attend to safety measures at this intersection since September. If/once approved on Nov. 29th, the four-way stop will not be installed before January.

School Safety

Board's Right to Search and Seizure

In accordance with the Principal's responsibilities under the Education Act to ensure a safe and orderly learning environment, the school has the right to search school property, such as lockers and desks, without notice to or permission of any person. From time to time, the police may be invited onto school property to conduct their own searches and these searches may be conducted without notice or permission of any member of the school community as per our Joint Board and Police Protocol. When conducting a search of school property, the police are responsible for conforming to all legal requirements with respect to searches. Staff of the York Region District School Board take the matter of student safety very seriously. Conscientious staff vigilance combined with appropriate security features have contributed to a very positive safety record in York Region Schools.

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Safe and Caring Schools

ECO TIP

Support us towards achieving GOLD status for our



Eco-Schools certification! Order your very own *Nellie McClung* stainless steel water bottle today for just **\$10.00!**

Order forms have been sent home and they are posted on our website.

*Proceeds to go towards funding recess play equipment

Did you know?



- Plastic bottles take 700 years to begin composting
- 90% of the cost of bottled water is due to the bottle itself
- 80% of plastic bottles are not recycle
- Use a refillable bottle for drinks—it's cheaper and children can save drinks for later

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.

No Child Without

There is a new free medical identification service for elementary school children called No Child Without. This program is funded by the Canadian MedicalAlert Foundation. With the rise in childhood diabetes, asthma and allergies, thousands of children have a medical condition that should be communicated to school staff, friends, and medical personnel in an emergency.

For more information please visit www.medicalert.ca/nochildwithout

Remembrance Day

Nellie McClung P.S. will be having a Remembrance Day assembly in the gymnasium at 10:45 a.m. on Friday, November 11, 2011. If you are planning on attend, please understand that we have guest seating for 40.



Reports Go Home:



Wednesday, November 23, 2011.
Most interviews will be the evening of Thursday, November 24th and morning of Friday, November 25th.

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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. This month, we had 2 trees donated to us and planted for shade, as well, we are starting to sell reusable water bottles!

ECO TIP: Save energy by turning off lights and computer monitors when not in use!



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.



BOOK FAIR

Our Scholastic Book Fair will take place:
Dates: November 21st, 22nd, 23th & 24th
Times: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Location: Library @ Nellie McClung P.S.

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|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
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Teaching Kids to Love School

Some kids love school, while others seem to dread every minute of the school year.

What can parents do to help their children develop a love of learning and really enjoy their school experience? Parents can do a lot to help their children feel good about school and about themselves. Here are some helpful suggestions:



- Avoid being a source of pressure.
- Share how proud you are on a regular basis.
- Keep the lines of communication open.
- Work with them to find solutions to their difficulties.
- Keep the lines of communication with the teacher open.
- Encourage their independence.
- Show your enthusiasm in what they are learning

(Borrowed in part from the September edition of "The Month Ahead.")

Healthy Schools – Healthy Kids

We all need to ask ourselves some important questions with respect to maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Are you:

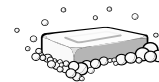
- 1) Getting enough sleep (7-9 hours/night);
- 2) Eating breakfast (pop tarts don't count – the wrapper has more nutrition);
- 3) Eating 3 reasonable-sized meals a day, encompassing all of the essential food groups, with intermittent nutritious, healthy snacks;
- 4) Enjoying "sometimes" foods (sweets, treats, etc.), only occasionally – hence the "treat" and "sometimes";
- 5) Exercising daily with an increased heart rate (making your bed is only a start);
- 6) Gauging your emotional health, taking care of your emotional needs – spending time with family, friends, and participating in recreational activities?



"Wash Your Hands" Campaign

With the flu season around the corner, the York Region District School Board is launching its first ever hand washing campaign.

We want to ensure that all of our students understand how important it is to properly wash their hands in order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.



Washing your hands thoroughly and often may reduce your chances of getting sick.

- Use soap and warm running water.
- Wash hands at least five times a day.

There are other precautions you can take to help prevent getting the flu and spreading it to others:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you sneeze or cough.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve - not into your hands.
- Put used tissues in the wastebasket immediately.
- Avoid sharing food, eating utensils, towels or handkerchiefs.

Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

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Please join the **York Region District School Board Student Services Department** for:

An Evening Presentation for **PARENTS**

ADHD: Progress and Hope

with **Dr. Umesh Jain**

Student Services is very pleased to offer an evening presentation for PARENTS, with Dr. Umesh Jain, on November 21st, 2011.

Dr. Jain is well known for his work in the area of ADHD. He is the Director of Adolescent and Adult ADHD Research Service at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. This session offers Parents/Guardians:

- ◆ practical strategies for parenting;
- ◆ new research on ADHD; and
- ◆ how executive functioning impacts on learning.

When: Monday, November 21, 2011

**Where: Riviera Parque Convention Centre
2800 Hwy. #7 West**

(Hwy. #7 & Creditstone Road/ between Keele and Jane, North Side)

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

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.

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

Comments:

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

Parent's Name

Child's Name

Grade Teacher

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GRADE 8 NEWS

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You and your children are likely beginning to explore secondary school options and may have an interest in applying for a specialized secondary program. Below is some information, available on the York Region District School Board public website that will help you navigate the process and gain information about specialized secondary programs available in our board.

Go to www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca > Programs and Initiatives > Pathways Programs

The following is some information on specialized secondary programs.

Bill Crothers Secondary School

For students interested in a specialized athletics program there is Bill Crothers Secondary School:

Open House Information Sessions: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. In the school cafeteria
November 1st – West and North Schools
November 3rd – East Schools
November 8th – Central Schools

Applications available online November 10th, 2011.

Application deadline November 24th, 2011.

For more information, visit the Bill Crothers Secondary School Website:

<http://www.billcrothers.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/default.htm>

High Performance Athlete (HPA)

High Performance Athlete (HPA) is a cooperative education program, for students who are competing at the provincial, national and international level. The focus is on long term career objectives while accommodating competitive needs with individually tailored Co-operative Education Courses.

Gr. 9-12 criteria for acceptance:

of hours committed to the training needs of the student
level of competition
training season

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.....*GRADE 8 NEWS continued*

For more information and to obtain an application, contact the Co-operative Education departments of the following participating schools:

Thornhill S.S.

<http://www.thornhill.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/Links/co-operative-dept-intro.htm>

Stouffville District S.S.

http://www.stouffvilledistrict.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/cgi-bin/sdss_index2005.pl

Newmarket H.S.

<http://www.newmarket-highschool.com/athletics.htm>

Markham District H.S.

<http://www.markhamdistrict.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/links/coop-dept-intro.htm>

Richmond Green S.S.

<http://www.richmondgreen.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/dept-guidance-career%20ed/hpa.html>

Sir William Mulock S.S.

http://mulock.sharpschool.com/departments/co_op/

King City S.S.

<http://www.kingcity.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/links/athletics.htm>

Bill Crothers S.S.

<http://www.billcrothers.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/default.htm>

The Secondary Arts Program

The Secondary Arts Program is a four-year intensive arts program for artistically talented students in York Region.

Specialized Arts programming is available at four sites throughout the Region:

Alexander Mackenzie High School, Richmond Hill

Huron Heights Secondary School, Newmarket

Unionville High School, Markham

Westmount Collegiate, Vaughan

Program details, attendance boundaries, audition requirements contact information and applications are posted at respective school websites.

Admission to Grade 9 through an audition and/or portfolio presentation process in January each year
Applications for all Secondary Arts Programs due in early December each year – see information below

Arts programs include: Dance, Drama, Music (vocal, band) and Visual Arts

Students applying for Piano apply at Unionville H.S. only.

Students applying for Strings can apply at Alexander Mackenzie and Unionville H.S. only.

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.....*GRADE 8 NEWS continued*

Arts Alexander Mackenzie Program <<http://www.alexandermackenzie.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/index.html>>

- Information Evening: Monday, November 21, 2011 at the Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts at 7:00 p.m.
 - Applications Due: 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 2, 2011
 - Audition Information sent out by December 23, 2011
- Auditions January 26–February 1, 2012

Huron Heights

<<http://www.huronheights.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/artsHuron/main.htm>>

- Information Evening: Saturday, November 26, 2011 at Huron Heights S.S. Auditorium at 1:30 p.m.
- Applications due 4:00 p.m., December 21, 2011
- Auditions January 30 – February 2, 2012

The ARTS UNIONVILLE program

<http://www.artsunionville.com/>

- Information Evening: Tuesday, November 1, 2011. Tickets must be reserved by calling Markham Theatre Box Office at: 905-305-7469 (after October 1)
- Application Deadline: Friday, December 2, 2011 (guaranteed audition)
- Please note: applications will continue to be accepted until auditions begin, however an audition cannot be guaranteed after the application deadline.**
- Auditions: January 26-February 1, 2012

Arts Westmount

<http://web.me.com/artswestmount/Arts_Westmount/Info.html>

- Information Evening: Tuesday, November 8, 2011; 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Vaughan City Playhouse.
- Application Deadline: 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 16, 2011
- Auditions: January 26-February 3, 2012
- For General Program Enquiries Please Contact: Mrs. Di Pasquale at 905-882-0277 Ext: 283

If you have specific questions about the various specialty programs available across the region, please contact your area secondary school Guidance Department, Arts Department, or Co-op Heads.

The Intermediate Team of Nellie McClung P.S.

Respect	Honesty	Fairness	Perseverance	Courage
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.....**GRADE 8 NEWS** *continued*

Intermediate Transitions Contacts,

Many of your students are beginning to explore their secondary school options and have an interest in applying for a specialized secondary program. Below is some information, available on the York Region District School Board public website that will help your student navigate the process and gain information about specialized secondary programs available in our board. Please see the information below so that you can help support your students with their secondary school options.

Go to www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca > Programs and Initiatives > Pathways Programs

1. For students interested in a specialized athletics program there is Bill Crothers Secondary School:

Open House Information Sessions: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. In the school cafeteria

✦ November 1st – West and North Schools

✦ November 3rd – East Schools

November 8th – Central Schools

Applications available online November 10th, 2011.

Application deadline November 24th, 2011.

For more information, visit the Bill Crothers Secondary School Website:

<http://www.billcrothers.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/default.htm>

or contact Shirley DiFebo

2. In addition to the programming available at Bill Crothers S.S., the following schools also provide specialized programming for the high performance athlete.

High Performance Athlete (HPA) is a cooperative education program, for students who are competing at the provincial, national and international level. The focus is on long term career objectives while accommodating competitive needs with individually tailored Co-operative Education Courses.

Gr. 9-12 criteria for acceptance:

- # of hours committed to the training needs of the student
- level of competition
- training season
- completed application

For more information and to obtain an application, contact the Co-operative Education departments of the following participating schools:

- Thornhill S.S. <<http://www.thornhill.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/Links/co-operative-dept-intro.htm>>
- Stouffville District S.S. <http://www.stouffvilledistrict.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/cgi-bin/sdss_index2005.pl>
- Newmarket H.S. <<http://www.newmarket-highschool.com/athletics.htm>>
- Markham District H.S. <<http://www.markhamdistrict.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/links/coop-dept-intro.htm>>
- Richmond Green S.S. <<http://www.richmondgreen.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/dept-guidance-career%20ed/hpa.html>>
- Sir William Mulock S.S. <http://mulock.sharpschool.com/departments/co_op/>
- King City S.S. <<http://www.kingcity.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/links/athletics.htm>>
- Bill Crothers S.S. <<http://www.billcrothers.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/default.htm>>

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