



Nellie McClung P.S.



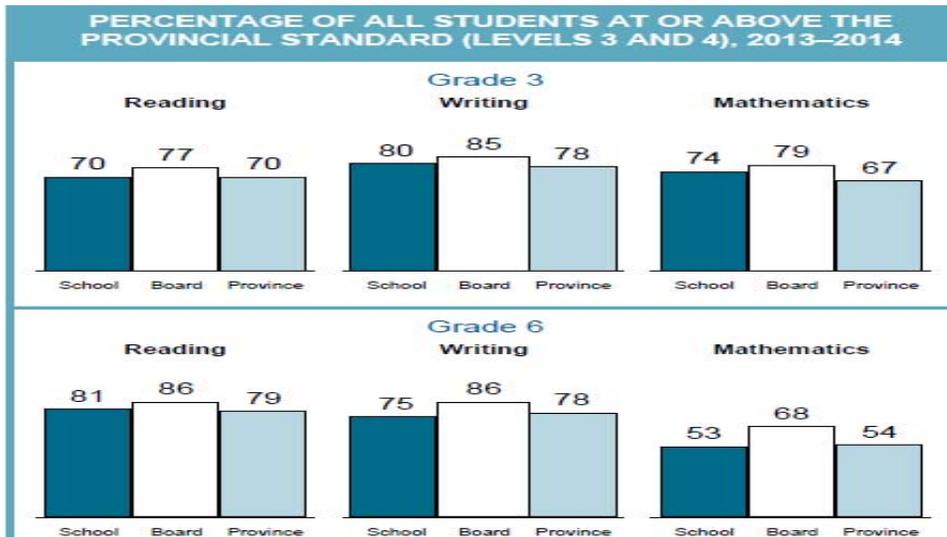
Administrator's Message

Principal Mrs. W. Thompson Vice Principal Mrs. B. Stone

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

The first month of school has gone by quickly and the students have hit the ground running with their learning.

As all of you are aware, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) released our school's results for 2013/14 along with Individual Student Reports (which have been sent home to last year's grade 3 & 6 students/parents). This data indicates that we have maintained achievement in all 3 areas in the Primary Assessment and in literacy in the Junior Assessment.



Our staff will be diligent in their practices across all grades to ensure that we are continuing what is working well and adding strategies in the areas that require improvement (i.e., Mathematics). After careful scrutiny of EQAO data as well as other data sources, our School Improvement Plan for 2014/15 will focus on improving students' performance in a strategic way. We will also continue the development of a supportive environment that is healthy, safe, and environmentally responsible within the classrooms and school. We continue to be proud of the wonderful cross curricular efforts of our students, parents, and staff!



Oct. 1, 2014

Volume 4, Issue 3

Superintendent: C. LaTouche

Trustee: Joel Hertz

School Hours:

9:10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Supervision begins at 8:55 a.m.

First bell at 9:05am

Instruction begins at 9:10 a.m.

Recess 10:50 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.

Lunch 12:50 a.m. to 1:50 p.m.

2014-15 NMPS School Council Chair

Maria Shtemberg

Treasurer

Keith Isaac

Secretary

Roman Kanter/Avery Zeidman

Members at Large

Mike Kemper, Lynne Axmith, Heather Moskoske, Neil Grunberg, Rob Ephraim, Zvi Vaxman, and Darren Greenspoon.

School Council Meeting Dates:

Monday October 6, 2014

Thursday, November 6, 2014

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Monday, January 19, 2015

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

All meetings in Library at 6:30pm

**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
Integrity**

**Courage
Optimism**

Tips for kindergarten to grade 3

1. **Counting can be fun and entertaining.** Sing counting songs such as "One, Two Buckle My Shoe". Your local librarian can recommend fun counting books. Play Hopscotch – it's a counting game! There are lots of games where you count, such as *Snakes and Ladders*, *Dominoes*, *Crazy Eights* and *Candyland*®.
2. **Computers + math = fun.** There are great computer games available for math – ask your librarian or check out your local computer store. Make sure they are "parent approved". There are also super websites that have fun math games, such as [TVOKids](#), or do an Internet search for other sites.
 1. **Start Easy and Work Up!** Once they have got the hang of counting by 1s, introduce skip counting, such as counting by 2s and 5s.
 2. **Use household items for counting practice.** Practise adding and subtracting with objects found around your house like spoons or pots and pans. When they've become good at these skills, move on to simple multiplication.
 3. **Tap into your child's curiosity.** Go on a number hunt together and discover places where numbers are used such as a clock, TV, computer keyboard, calendar, telephones and licence plates.
 4. **Use everyday activities.** Your child's world is filled with everyday math problems that can be solved. For example, "There are four people in our family and we each need a knife and a fork to eat dinner. How many knives and forks do we need to set the table?"
 5. **Kitchens can be math zones.** Bake some muffins or cookies and ask your child to help you measure out the ingredients. It may be a bit messy but it's fun family time and there's nothing like a fresh cookie as a reward. Have math fridge magnets available so children can start making number patterns and doing simple math problems.
 6. **Predict and compare.** Start to measure and estimate things like how far it is from the driveway to the house or how long a trip will take and then measure and compare the actual time it takes.
 7. **Talk about time.** The concept of time can be hard to grasp. Talk to your kids about minutes and hours. Then get them to try counting days and weeks – for example how many "sleeps" until the weekend or a visit to a friend or relative.
 8. **Identify geometric shapes and sizes.** Play "I Spy". Instead of looking for words beginning with a letter, look for different colours or shapes and count the number you find in the room.

Tips for grades 4 to 6

1. **Connect math to daily life.** Let your kids know the importance of math in day-to-day living. Talk about the ways you use math in your job and around the house. Show them a tax form or how you pay the bills. Ask them how they used math during the day.
2. **Practise mental math using coins.** For example, show that a certain item costs a certain amount and ask what coins are needed to pay for it.
3. **Play games together.** Show them math can be fun and exciting. Play family games to add excitement to math activities, like chess or checkers or games in the car such as math bingo or adding licence plate numbers. Lots of board games need math such as *Junior Monopoly*® or play card games such as *Uno*®.
4. **Cooking can be counting fun!** Get older children involved in helping out at dinner time and let them help measure ingredients for dishes or estimate the number of potatoes that are needed to feed everyone.
5. **Play the estimating game.** Ask your kids to estimate measurements, distances, time and grocery bills. Be sure to compare the estimate with actual. Or get them to guess how much the apples you are going to buy will weigh and then take them to the scale in the grocery store and find out.
6. **Perform time calculations.** For example, make up a sentence and ask your child to recite it as many times as possible in 15 seconds. Then ask how many times it could be repeated in 1 minute, 5 minutes, 10 minutes, etc.
7. **Use common toys to understand math concepts.** Build a tower from blocks. Count the blocks. Then talk about the need for a base of the right size and the stability it creates.
8. **Sports and math.** There is a lot of math used in sports: batting averages, points per game, save percentages – these are math terms that a sports enthusiast will love. If you watch a game with your child, read the newspaper report together sometime the next day and talk about the math concepts.

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Why Character Matters!

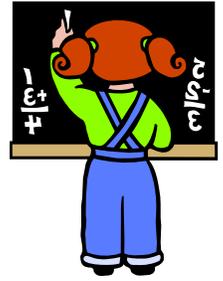
- * If we lived alone, we wouldn't need the virtues of fairness and compassion.
- * If children could raise themselves, we wouldn't need the family virtues of commitment and fidelity.
- * If wealth could simply be found, we wouldn't need the virtues of initiative and industry to create and sustain wealth.
- * If our society were homogeneous, we wouldn't need the virtues of tolerance and respect for legitimate differences.
- * If our political institutions were authoritarian and a few of us were fit to direct the lives of the rest of us, we wouldn't need the virtues of personal responsibility and active citizenry.

Child Care

Before and after school child care is provided by **Fun on the Run**. For more information: funontherun.nelliemcclung@rogers.com or call Fun on the Run at (905)265-7458

Five Tips to Help Your Child With Reading

1. Cuddle up and read. Quiet times together are opportunities to bond...and read. The cuddling can be as important as the reading. Make it exciting: put some drama into your voice or let your child read every other page. As you go, explain any new words or ideas.
2. Public libraries today are worlds to explore so try to go regularly. Your library has great resources – books, computer games, DVDs, CDs, magazines, newspapers and Internet access. There are also terrific in-house programs such as reading circles for little ones and homework clubs for older children. If you have access to a public library, walk to the library ask the librarian about what is available.
3. Make your kitchen part of your recycling and reading zone". Have fridge magnets available so children can start making words and short sentences.
4. Words are everywhere – take everyday opportunities to read with your child. Your child's world is filled with words — on cereal boxes, street signs, stores, posters, subway ads, etc. Wherever you go, you can always find new words and point them out.
5. Games can be such a great learning tool. Board games or card games such as word bingo or memory and rhyming cards can be a fun way to learn about words, letter sounds, and reading. They can help children realize how much fun learning can be. Check out your local fair or second-hand stores for gently used games. You can even create your own by cutting out pictures, writing words on cards and getting your child to match them.



A special note:

Educators agree that literacy skills develop and improve as a result of a wide range of activities.

For example, a child's literacy skills are enhanced when parents who do not speak an official Canadian language read to their children in their native language children will benefit from this reading experience!

*The Character trait for October is
INTEGRITY: Like Nellie McClung we believe in standing up
for what's right.*

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Grade 8 Graduation Fundraising



Our Grade 8s will begin fundraising for their end of year trip and graduation by hosting our first ever

Fall Dance on October 31st! Students are asked to bring a toonie for entry. Toonies will be collected starting later in October.

Students will be invited to the gym by grade division to dance and have fun. Details to follow.

Our grade 8s will also be selling nut free cookies as a part of their fundraising efforts. Stay tuned!



Curriculum Night

October 1st

6:30pm-7:30pm Parents Only

Please see the note in your child's communication bag or agenda for complete details.

Sick Kids Cancer Foundation

On Wednesday, September 24th the entire school participated in the Sick Kids Cancer run. Students have been collecting donations throughout the week. To date, we collected almost \$1400 which will be donated to the Sick Kids Cancer Foundation. Well done Mavericks!

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 co-operation.

No Child Without

There is a free medical identification service for elementary school children called No Child Without. This program is funded by the Canadian MedicAlert 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

Halloween

Halloween is an evolved tradition celebrated by some students in our community on October 31st. **We will not be holding classroom Halloween parties or parades for our students. Students are invited to wear costumes only for the morning of October 31st.** Based on Board policy, masks and weapons are not permitted. Please continue to promote healthy eating habits (balanced) for your child's recess snack(s) and lunch.



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Safety Awareness Week—Sept. 30th to Oct. 4th



The week traditionally incorporates a variety of different local school activities on a broad range of safety related themes (traffic, internet, personal, water, bicycle, etc.). Safety Awareness Week is an opportunity to conduct a required 'lockdown' (formerly Code Red) drill and 'Hold-And-Secure' drills in our schools. Visit the following websites for General Safety: www.safety-council.org www.elmer.ca/ www.riskwatch.org <http://www.safekidscanada.ca/>

Sick Kids Cancer Walk Highlights....



It's time to remind children about walking to school safely

This is a good time for parents to remind their children about pedestrian safety. York Regional Police has provided the following safety tips on their website to help keep students safe on their way to and from school:

- Walk on available sidewalks
- Always cross at intersections
- Obey crossing guards
- Stop before stepping into roadway
- Be visible and indicate crossing intentions
- Look and listen for traffic in all directions
- Make eye contact with drivers
- Cross safely when the roadway is clear
- Walk. Do not run or cycle across roads
- If possible use the buddy system



For more information, visit www.yrp.ca.

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

A good night's sleep—don't leave home without it!

Kids ages 5 to 12 need 10 to 11 hours of sleep each night. But are our kids get-ting it?



Jodi A. Mindell, PhD, says, "Children are clearly not getting enough sleep."

At www.sleepnet.com, we are told that insufficient sleep has been shown to cause difficulties in school, including disciplinary problems, sleepiness in class and poor concentration. Recent research has also revealed an association between sleep deprivation and poorer grades. Students who reported that they were getting C's, D's and F's in school obtained about 25 minutes less sleep and went to bed about 40 minutes later than students who reported they were get-ting A's and B's.

The following effects of too little sleep are listed on www.insomnia-connection.com/sleep-deprivation.html :

Stress and anxiety; anger, irritability and depression; lack of focus and difficulty in concentrating; short term memory loss; and suppression of the immune system, leaving kids vulnerable to colds, the flu and other viruses.

Educate yourself and your children about the importance of sleep at the fun and informative website www.sleepforkids.org. Kids can play games and learn about healthy sleep habits, while parents can pick up helpful facts and tips to help the whole family get a better sleep.

It's time to remind children about being safe in our community

This is a good time for parents to learn about and review ways to protect their children from potential dangers.

Here's what children need to know:

- Their name, age, telephone number, address, city and province. This can be done through rhyme or song.
- How to contact their parents at any time, 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 would never ask a child for directions or any other question for that matter.
- Make sure they know they have a right to say "no" to an adult, especially when the adult is asking them to do something they have been taught is wrong or feels uncomfortable. Reminding children of this right is important because children are taught from a young age to respect adults.
- To always tell parents where they will be and to never enter someone's home without their parent's permission.
- If home alone, never admit it when answering the phone. Never answer a knock at the door or speak through it. Adults can be very persuasive. Teach your child 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 that police officers are there to help them and would not get mad if it were a false alarm.
- If they think they are being followed or are in danger they 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 is important to play in safe areas, never take shortcuts and stick with a buddy whenever possible. 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 some-thing strange happens that makes them feel uncomfortable. Remember, crime prevention is everyone's responsibility. For more information on this subject, contact the York Regional Police Community Services Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7980, or by e-mail at info@police.york.on.ca, or visit www.police.york.on.ca

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Lunch/Afterschool Programs at Nellie McClung 2014-15 Term 1

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Kindergarten | | | | Great Minds Computer Program Oct 9 12:00pm-12:50pm (library) | Camp Green Acres Junior Sport Oct 10 12:00 pm-12:50pm (gym) & Camp Green Acres Dancercise Oct 10 12pm-12:50pm (gym) |
| Grades 1 – 4 | Lego Oct. 6 Room 101 | | | | Chess and Other Games of Strategy Oct 10 (Library) |
| Grades 1 – 5 | | | Young Rembrandts: Drawing Classes Oct 8 12:50-1:50 (room 200 & pod) | Mad Science Oct 9 12:50-1:50 (Rm 200 & Pod) | |
| Grade 7 & 8 | | True Basketball Fundamentals Oct 7-Nov 27 1:10-1:50 (Gym) | | | |
| Grades 1-8 | Created By Me Room 200 October 6 | Act One Productions: “Frozen” Grade 1 –8 Sept. 30 12:50-1:50 (101 +/or 105) | | Great Minds Computer Program Oct 9 12:00pm-12:50pm (library) | |
| | | | | | |

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A+ Lunch Tips

Pack those veggies and fruit!



According to a Canadian survey, 7 out of 10 children get less than the recommended servings of five fruits and vegetables per day¹. That's 70 percent of them! 5 servings may sound like a lot, but if you include fruit or vegetables with every meal (maybe a fruit with breakfast and a vegetable with both lunch and dinner), and include veggies or fruit in two snacks throughout the day then bingo, you did it! Fruit and vegetables are packed with vitamins and minerals, as well as fibre. Sending fruit and veggies in your child's lunch bag is a great way to get those servings in.

Here are some ways to make it fun:

- ✓ Kids are in a hurry to get outside and run around at recess, which is a good thing. So if they can eat their snack quickly, they are more likely to. Cut veggies and fruit in bite size pieces so kids can easily eat it without any prep.
- ✓ Go for colour and shape. Part of the taste experience comes from how food looks: if it looks good, kids are more likely to eat it. Bright, colourful veggies and fruit cut in fun shapes will draw them in.
- ✓ **Fruit ideas:** melon balls, apple wedges with lemon (to keep them from browning), orange sections, berries, bananas, grapes, watermelon chunks
- ✓ **Veggie ideas:** diced or sliced red, yellow and orange peppers, carrot sticks, sugar snap peas
- ✓ If your child likes to dip, include a small container of plain Greek yogourt--a good source of protein with a thick consistency that's perfect for dipping.



Devon Peart, RD, Consulting Dietitian

1- Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada Schools and Nutrition Position Statement, heartandstroke.ca

The Lunch Lady is proud to be offering new Smarter Meals at participating schools. Smarter Meals are healthy options that are limited in sodium and fat and are good sources of protein. For more information about the Smarter Meals and our participation in the "Nourishing School Communities" initiative, see our menu or go to www.thelunchlady.ca

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