



Nellie McClung P.S.



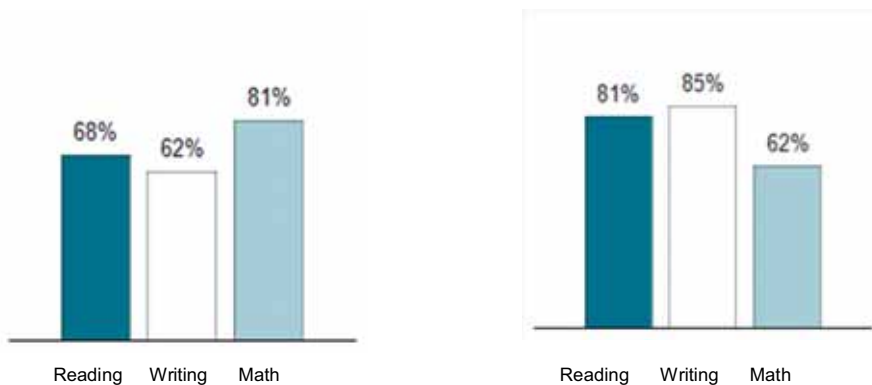
Administrator's Message

Principal Mrs. W. Thompson Co Principal Mr. Berman

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. Most of you are aware of the good news, that our school has reorganized by hiring two additional contract teachers, Mrs. Glasser and Mr. Fleming.

As all of you are aware, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) released our school's results for 2011/12 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 excelled in Primary Math and Junior Literacy, which exceeded Board and Provincial averages.



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. Our School Improvement Plan for 2012/13 will focus on improving students' enjoyment of mathematics, perceiving they are good in mathematics, encouraging parents-students to talk about mathematics, and that they are confident answering math questions as well as thinking about the steps involved in solving a problem and finally checking for mistakes. In Junior Math we will pay particular attention to the number sense and numeration strand. In Literacy, our School Improvement Plan will set goals for students to demonstrate an integrated strategic response when writing for a variety of purposes including open response and multiple choice questions using higher order critical thinking skills. Improvement in writing will be a particular focus in the Primary division. 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, 2012

Volume 2, Issue 3

Superintendent: Sharon List

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.

2012-13 NMPS School Council

Chair

Mark Jacobson

Treasurer

Sonia Buk

Secretary

Roman Kanter

Parent Members

Mike, Adam, Gayla, Darren.

Miriam, Marina, Mike, Jodi, John,
and Keith

Community Representative

Fun on the Run

School Council Meeting Dates:

October 11 & October 29, November 19

December 11, January 14, February 19

April 3, May 6 and June 4.

**Reminder of
Picture Day on Oct. 17
and
NO SCHOOL
on Mon. Oct. 22nd**

**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
Integrity**

**Courage
Optimism**

Why Character Matters!

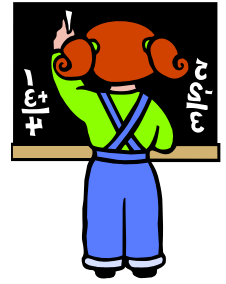
- * If we lived alone, we wouldn't need the virtues of fairness and compassion.
- * If children could raise themselves, we wouldn't need the family virtues of commitment and fidelity.
- * If wealth could simply be found, we wouldn't need the virtues of initiative and industry to create and sustain wealth.
- * 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!

Respect
Responsibility

Honesty
Empathy

Fairness
Initiative

Perseverance
Integrity

Courage
Optimism

October is

Responsibility Month

Three Key thoughts for discussion at home:

If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders.

-Abigail Van Buren

The willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life is the source from which self-respect springs.

- Joan Didion

I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation, every possession, a duty.

- John D. Rockefeller, Jr

Curriculum Night

October 10th

6:30pm-7:30pm Kindergarten

7pm- 7:45pm Gr. 1-8 (Adults only)

Please see the note in your child's communication bag or agenda on Friday Oct. 5th for complete details.

Terry Fox Foundation

On Thursday, September 27th the entire school participated in the Terry Fox Run. Students have been collecting donations of nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies throughout the week. We collected almost \$???, which will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation.

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 new free medical identification service for elementary school children called No Child Without. This program is funded by the Canadian Medical Alert 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 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.



**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
Integrity**

**Courage
Optimism**

**Lunch/Afterschool Programs at Nellie McClung 2012-13
September to December**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Kindergarten			Great Minds Computer Program Oct 15-Dec 3 12pm-12:50pm (library)		Camp Green Acres Junior Sport Oct 12-Dec 14 12pm-12:50pm \$84.75 (gym) OR Camp Green Acres Dancercise with Bounce Entertainment
Grade 1-6	Act 1 Productions: DRAMA Oct 1-Dec 17 3:30-4:35 (library/ stage) \$225 (The Wizard of Oz to be performed at The Yorkwoods Theatre mid December)		Young Rembrandts: Drawing Classes Oct 10-Nov 28 12:50-1:50 \$105+hst (room 200)	Mad Science Oct 11-Nov 29 12:50-1:50 \$105 +hst (Room 200)	
Grades 1 – 4		Karate Kids Oct. 16 (18wks) 1:10-1:50 Info TBA			
Grade 3-5		I-Compute (animation, digital photo, video game design) Oct. 16 (8wks) 3:30-4:30 Grades 4-8			Chess and Other Games of Strategy Oct 12-Dec 14 \$101.70
Grades 6-8					Red Cross Babysitting Oct 12- Dec 14 \$101.70

Co-curricular programs such as volleyball, basketball, badminton and dance club MAY be run voluntarily by staff at no cost throughout the year.

Respect
Responsibility

Honesty
Empathy

Fairness
Initiative

Perseverance
Integrity

Courage
Optimism

Safety Awareness Week—Oct 1st to 5th



In preparation for Safety Awareness Week, Ms. Spilberg from Jewish Family and Child Services met with our Junior students for a presentation around cyber safety and bystander responsibility. A big thank you to Ms. Spilberg for investing time to share valuable messages with our students.

KARATE KIDS CLUB



We are excited to announce that the *Karate Kids* program will be coming to Nellie McClung P.S! This 40 minute class will run during the lunch hour recess in the school gymnasium. It combines fun fitness activity, character education lessons and non-contact basic martial arts movements. The class is designed to build self confidence, self discipline and fitness levels in a non competitive environment. Offered to **grades 1 to 4**, the program will run once a week on every Tuesday starting **October 15th until February 25th**. Enrolment flyers containing full details will be distributed to the students in October. This is a popular program that is currently running in over 85 schools across Ontario. You are invited to visit their website for more detailed information at www.karatekids.ca or call 416 482-8198.

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 _____

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

Honesty
Empathy

Fairness
Initiative

Perseverance
Integrity

Courage
Optimism

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

**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
Integrity**

**Courage
Optimism**