



Nellie McClung P.S.



Administrator's Message

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

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(905)303-8113

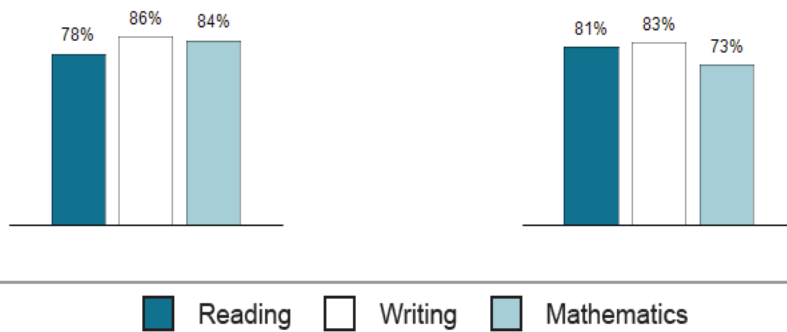
The first month of school has gone by quickly and the students have hit the ground running with their learning.

As all of you are aware, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) released our school's results for 2012/13 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 made significant improvements in all 3 areas in the Primary Assessment and in math in the Junior Assessment, which exceeded Board and Provincial averages.

Students at or Above the Provincial Standard (Levels 3 and 4)

Grade 3

Grade 6



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. After careful scrutiny of EQAO data as well as other data sources, our School Improvement Plan for 2013/14 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, 2013

Volume 3, Issue 2

Superintendent: J Parappally

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.

2013-14 NMPS

School Council

Co-chairs

Mike Kemper

Maria Shtemberg

Treasurer

Keith Isaac

Secretary

Roman Kanter

Parent Members

John Kennedy, Mark Jacobson, Neil Grunberg, Rob Ephraim, Gayla Ber, Avi Vaxman, Darren Greenspoon, Melissa Glogauer, Larissa Rajmoolie, Avery Zeidman, Fun on the Run.

School Council Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Tuesday, November 5, 2013

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

All meetings in Library at 6:30pm

**Respect
Responsibility**

**Honesty
Empathy**

**Fairness
Initiative**

**Perseverance
Integrity**

**Courage
Optimism**

Why Character Matters!

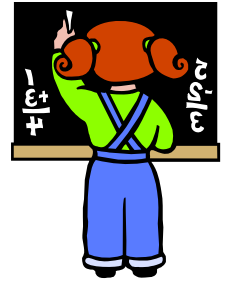
- * If we lived alone, we wouldn't need the virtues of fairness and compassion.
- * If children could raise themselves, we wouldn't need the family virtues of commitment and fidelity.
- * If wealth could simply be found, we wouldn't need the virtues of initiative and industry to create and sustain wealth.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

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

Halloween Dance on October 31st! Students are asked to bring a toonie for entry. Toonies will be collected starting October 28th.

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!



Terry Fox Foundation

On Thursday, September 26th the entire school participated in the Terry Fox Run. Students have been collecting donations of nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies throughout the week. To date, we collected almost \$920 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 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.



Curriculum Night
October 9th
6:30pm-7:30pm Parents Only

Please see the note in your child's communication bag or agenda on Friday Oct. 4th for complete details.

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Lunch/Afterschool Programs at Nellie McClung 2013-14 Term 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Kindergarten			Great Minds Computer Program Oct 2—Nov 20 12:00pm-12:50pm (library)		Camp Green Acres Junior Sport Oct 12-Dec 14 12:00 pm-12:50pm (gym) no class Nov 15. & Camp Green Acres Dancercise Oct 12-Dec 14 12pm-12:50pm (gym) No class Nov 15.
Grades 1 – 4		Karate Kids Oct. 29—March 18 ,2014 12:50-1:50 (Gym)			Chess and Other Games of Strategy Oct 18-Dec 13 (Library)
Grades 1 – 5			Young Rembrandts: Drawing Classes Oct 9-Nov 27 12:50-1:50 (room 200 & pod))	
Grade 1-5			Young Rembrandts: Drawing Classes Oct 9-Nov 27 12:50-1:50 (room 200 & pod)	Mad Science Oct 10-Nov 28 12:50-1:50 (Rm 200 & Pod)	
Grades 1-8		Act One Productions Grease Grade 1 –8 Sept 24 - Dec 10 12:50-1:50 (Gym or Rm117)			Red Cross Babysitting. Grade 6-8 Oct 18- Dec 13 Rm 200

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

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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/>

KARATE KIDS CLUB



We are excited to announce that the *Karate Kids* program will be returning 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 29th until March 18th**. Enrolment flyers containing full details were distributed to the students in September. 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.

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 getting 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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