

The Northern Highlights

[School Website](http://northernlights.ps.yrdsb.ca) northernlights.ps.yrdsb.ca
[School Attendance Reporting](http://yrdsb.edsb.yrdsb.ca) yrdsb.edsb.yrdsb.ca
[School Cash Online](http://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com) yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com
[School Bus Info](http://schoolbuscity.co) schoolbuscity.co

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October...	16	Cross Country Regional Meet
	19	VIP Grade 6 (Session One)
	19	NLPS Hosts Area Family of Schools Professional Learning Session
	22	PA Day - NLPS Hosts Municipal Elections
	24	Take Me Outside Day
	25	Fall Family Dance
November...	30	Gr 7 Immunizations (Please make inquiries with York Region Health)
	2	Photo Re-take Day
	5	School Council 7pm
	6	Diwali
	16	NLPS Hosts Quest Conference Workshop for Educators
	21	Progress Reports Go Home
	22	Parent-Teacher Interview Night
	23	PA Day/Parent-Teacher Interview Morning
Extra-curricular opportunities on the go...	Gr 6-8	Student Council with Ms Paivio
	Gr 4-8	Cross Country Team with Mr Higgins
	Gr 7-8	Volleyball Teams with Ms Jackson, Ms Thornley and Mr. Han
	Gr 6-8	Library Leadership Team with Ms McGeorge
	Gr 6	Junior Band (Sign Up) with Ms Brandon
	Gr 7-8	Intermediate Band with Ms Brandon
	Gr 7-8	HW Help/Catch Up/Extra Help (M-Th am recess) with Ms Oppedisano
	Gr 4-8	Healthy Schools Club with Ms DeCarolis
	Gr 4-8	Comic/Graphic Novel Club with Mr Schneider and Ms Adams
<p>Also...thank you to Ms DeCarolis and Ms Oppedisano's classes for running our whole school Snack Program! Bowls are filled throughout the week at convenient locations in hallways and students can take a snack if they so desire.</p>		

News and Updates:

- October's Eco theme: Lights Out!** This month we are challenged to *Rethink* our use of lighting. Simply turning lights off when not in use is one very effective way to reduce energy consumption and help the environment. A significant savings in energy is achieved when lights are turned off in classrooms during recesses and the lunch period. This challenge can easily be achieved in the at home as well!
- Math Resource for Parents** – Please see the math page below for ideas and information on how to support students' math learning at home.

- **Edsby: Booking Parent-Teacher Interviews** – Near the end of the month you will receive further information on booking a Parent-Teacher Interview for your child through Edsby. Stay tuned for more information...
- **Cross Country News** – Congratulations to our Cross Country team for their spectacular commitment to the season and performance at the Area Meet this past week. Our students represented us well and we are proud of their hard work and perseverance. We are excited that 28 students from the team will proceed to the Regional Meet this week! That is a huge accomplishment. Good Luck Ice Cats!

Thank you and looking forward to another great week ahead!



[Orlie Soroka](#)

Principal

[Melissa King](#)

Vice-Principal

See below...

Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math, Grades 1-8

The Ontario government recently released a [parent fact sheet](#) and a [teacher's guide](#) on *Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math in grades 1 to 8*. In the guide, teachers are asked to focus attention on expectations from the Number Sense and Patterning strands of the current math curriculum and are also asked to focus on student understanding and sense-making before formal methods, such as using traditional formulas, are introduced.

York Region teachers have always worked to develop strong number sense, computational fluency and automaticity with math facts while supporting student understanding of underlying concepts. All educators in our board continue to support students in becoming confident problem solvers who use mathematical knowledge, skills and processes to be contributing members of a changing society.

In order to support your child with math at home and in day-to-day life, the [math page on our board website](#) lists useful websites, activities and games that you can reference and use. Thank you for the important role you play in the creation of confident problem solvers.

Math is everywhere!

September is a great time to start building routines at home which can support children in developing a positive disposition towards math. Providing opportunities at home that promote math talk can support a child's mathematical knowledge and understanding. Whether you are, shopping, cooking, playing a game, organizing, taking a walk, or reading, there are many opportunities to highlight math in different ways.

Activities:

Primary - Grocery Shopping

Ask your child to estimate how many of a grocery item (for example, a type of fruit or vegetable, bread or pet food) your family will need for the week.

Ask, "Why do you think that amount will be needed?"

At the end of the week, have your child count the number actually used.



Junior/Intermediate - Budget Challenge

Give your child an imaginary budget to spend at his or her favourite store (flyers or online catalogues may be helpful). Without writing down the amounts, have your child choose items to purchase. He or she will have to use estimation to stay within the budget. Then, have your child add up the actual costs. Did she or he stay within the budget? For a challenge, help your child estimate any taxes.

Tips for Math

- Build strong, positive attitudes about math. When children feel positively engaged and successful, they are more likely to stick with an activity or a problem to find a solution.
- Begin with activities that meet your child's level of mathematical understanding. Early success in solving problems will build your child's confidence. Gradually move to activities that provide more challenge for your child.
- If you and your child are more comfortable in a language other than English, use it. Your child will understand concepts better in the language that he or she knows best

(Doing Mathematics With Your Child, Kindergarten to Grade 6: A Parent Guide)

To find out what your child will learn in math this year or to find other fun activities that you can do together as a family, please visit <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Math/Pages/default.aspx>. Be sure to also try our

[Problem of the Month](#)