



THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 2017



Principal: Jennifer Burt
Vice Principal: Melissa King

Northern Lights Public School
40 Bridgenorth Drive
Aurora, Ontario
LG4 2Z4

Superintendent: Becky Green

Admin. Support: Josie Altieri
Fiona Gamble

Phone: 905-727-3845
Fax: 905-727-3845

Trustee: Peter Adams-Luchowski

Message From Your Administrator

Over the past month we have had numerous exciting activities going on at Northern Lights. On Friday April 28th we participated in our Race for Autism. We had a fantastic day with the sun shining and students participating in 1 km, 2 km and 5 km distances. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped make this event a success and our staff for your dedication in organization. I am very proud of all the students as they challenged themselves to run longer distances and cheered each other on as they crossed the finish line.

We have also been very busy with extra-curricular activities such as basketball tournaments and music performances. Upcoming events such as a Road Hockey Tournament, class trips, Jump Rope for Heart, Family Dance Night and our Rock & Roll Extravaganza to name a few are still to come.

During the upcoming month, the school will be busy with EQAO assessments for our grade 3 and 6 students. Assessment will begin May 24th and will be completed by June 1st, 2017. Results of these tests will be made available by the EQAO office in the fall. Staff also continue to gather data at the other grade levels through the completion of work samples and assessments.

Also, if you could please take a moment to read the dress code (see in newsletter) with your child. As the weather warms up we would like to ensure all students follow this dress code at school and for all school related events on and off school property, as they are representing Northern Lights PS.

Yours in partnership,

Jennifer Burt
Principal

Melissa King
Vice Principal

YRDSB Survey for Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians are invited to participate in a survey before May 19. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent/guardian voice. Results will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being.

The English version of the survey is available online. Paper surveys are available in English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Sri Lankan Tamil, Urdu and Vietnamese. Please contact the school to request a paper copy.

We value your input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information you provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

Jennifer Burt
Principal, Northern Lights Public School

YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD VALUES

Inclusivity, Relationships, Innovation, Engagement, Responsibility, Optimism.

Please visit our website frequently for updates: <http://northernlights.ps.yrdsb.ca/>

POW-WOWS ETIQUETTE

Pow-Wow's are social events, but are also sacred. During the pow-wow ceremonies, songs and dances will be performed from time to time.

1. People should stand during all ceremonies and remove all head gear.
2. Pictures and videos should NOT be taken during Veterans songs, Flag songs, prayers or any other time announced by the Master of Ceremonies. If you wish to photograph a dancer in regalia, ask first. If the picture is for publication or commercial use, that should be explained before the picture is taken.
3. Respect all elders, drummers, singers, dancers, pow-wow staff and committee.
4. Dancers wear regalia, not costumes; please do not touch the regalia.
5. Do not hold children while dancing in arena, the child may be construed as a gift to the creator.
6. If you see a lost feather, do NOT pick it up. Notify the MC or Arena Director.
7. Donations are graciously accepted.
8. Intertribal- are songs which belong to no particular nation. Anyone can dance to these songs. This is the time to join in!

We Love our Children!

Please watch & take good care of your children at this event

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2017-2018

As we begin the process of organizing classes for September 2017, it is valuable for parents to understand the procedure used in student placement decisions. The ultimate goal in all our efforts at Northern Lights P.S. is to enhance student achievement and well-being. We attempt to place students in the most positive learning environment possible; given each individual pupil's skills, knowledge, attitudes, and work and social habits. A great deal of time is spent ensuring that each student's academic and social needs are met. Classes at each grade level are formed using the following criteria:

- Class sizes consistent with Ministry and Board guidelines;
- A gender balance in each class;
- A range of performance levels within each class;
- Promoting positive social relationships while minimizing unproductive associations

As we get closer to the end of the school year, decisions will be made based on the aforementioned criteria. It is important to recognize that while we try to place each child in the optimum learning environment, all final decisions regarding pupil placement remain the responsibility of the school principal. If you have any information about your child that you feel would be pertinent in the placement process (e.g., learning styles, twins' placements), please inform the Principal, Jennifer Burt (jennifer.burt@yrdsb.ca) in writing by May 19, 2017.

Teachers work diligently to balance each classroom to provide the best learning environment possible. Class placement is an important and complex process that takes many hours of thought and discussion. Please do not consider your input confirmation of a particular class placement. Final class placement will be available on the first day of school.

WAYS TO ADDRESS CYBERBULLYING: A PARENT'S GUIDE

Report cyberbullying to your internet provider, by forwarding copies of the correspondence. If cyberbullying occurs on a social media site, you must also report the occurrence to the provider. Anonymous cyberbullying should be reported to the police. Contact the police immediately if threats occur. Disable all social media accounts. If the cyberbullying is taking place via cell phone, make sure to change your child's number to an unlisted one.

Be aware of how your child is feeling. Children who have been cyberbullied may feel unsafe, overwhelmed and depressed. Seek counselling for your child if they are struggling with cyberbullying. Avoid taking technology away. Technology is a lifeline for most youth. Taking away all forms of technology is a way to further isolate your child from his/her peers that are able to support during this difficult time.

*Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum
No. 144 and from a PREVNet document entitled,
"What Parents Need to Know about Cyberbullying."*



IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

In the 2017/18 school year, York Region Public Health will visit all elementary schools to provide school immunization clinics to Grade 7 students. The clinics offer vaccines for Hepatitis B, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Meningococcal A, C, Y, W-135 at no cost.

Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act, meningococcal vaccine is required for school attendance, unless an exemption is filed with public health. Hepatitis B and HPV vaccines are recommended, but not required for school attendance.

Parents of students entering Grade 7 in fall 2017 will receive consent forms in the mail in June. Please complete the consent form and return it to York Region Public Health to allow your child to participate in the immunization clinics. Detailed instructions can be found on the forms and accompanying letter. If the consent form is not completed, your child will not be able to receive vaccines at the clinic.

Parents and guardians who do not consent should still complete the forms and return them, indicating that you do not authorize York Region Public Health to immunize your child.

Visit york.ca/immunizations and click on School Immunization Clinics for more information.

ARE YOU MOVING THIS SUMMER?



Please help us plan ahead by informing us of your plans for next year. If you know that you will be moving and your children will be changing schools, please let the school office know (in writing) as soon as possible. This will help us be more accurate when determining staffing and preparing the 2017 class lists.



SPRING FLING FAMILY DANCE!!

Due to the wonderful feedback we received from the last dance, Parent Council had decided to hold another Family Dance for you to share a night with your kids - and it's even free! It will be a great night with a DJ, lights and your kids! The dance will be held on: **Thursday May 4th. from 6:30pm to 8:00pm** everyone is welcome - all ages and all parents! Parents, let's show those kids that we really know what we're doing on the dance floor! Then from 8:00 to 9:00 pm, it will be a dance for grades 6 - 8 only (sorry no parents!) Student Council will have a snack stand set up to sell light refreshments. **We will be looking for 4 or 5 volunteers to help out on the evening of the dance. If you are able to help, please email Denise at denisedodds@hotmail.ca.**

We hope to see you all there!

DRESS CODE

Northern Lights is a place for learning and growing. To be a successful student, children must be able to keep their focus on school-related endeavours. It is important for them to have clear standards and policies to ensure that their daily “workplace” provides an environment for learning. This Dress Code Policy has been developed to achieve this.

Compliance with the Appropriate Dress Policy is mandatory.

THE FOLLOWING ARE DEEMED TO BE INAPPROPRIATE:

1. Clothing that portrays alcohol, tobacco or other restricted substances.
2. Clothing that portrays profanity or sexually explicit symbols.
3. Clothing that portrays written language, pictures and symbols that directly or indirectly demeans an individual's race, religion, culture, gender or ability.

IN ADDITION:

- Torsos and undergarments will remain covered at all times (both front and back).
- Shorts must be an appropriate length and undergarments must be covered.
- Sheer or low cut clothing (tops, shorts) that reveal undergarments are not permitted.
- Tank tops and sundresses with wide shoulder bands that cover undergarments are permitted (*three finger rule*).
- Clothing and accessories, such as jewelry or tattoos, depicting violence or death or reference to gangs must not be visible.
- Only religious and medical related head coverings will be permitted to be worn inside the school.
- Footwear, with non-marking soles, must be worn at all times.
- To show respect and sensitivity to others, students will not use heavy body fragrances and scents at school that may promote allergic reactions.
- Only sunglasses for medical reasons may be worn inside the school.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT COMPLYING WITH THE APPROPRIATE DRESS POLICY:

Students who choose not to comply with this policy may be asked to:

- Turn the clothing inside out.
- Wear something over the non-complying clothing.
- Change into something else or remove the accessory.
- Give the non-complying item to the teacher, Principal or Vice-Principal (the item can be returned to the parent).
- Go home, after a parent is contact and the situation is discussed.

The consequences for habitual or serious non-compliance with the Appropriate Dress Code Policy will be consistent with the Northern Lights Code of Conduct and the YRDSB Safe Schools Policy.

SCHOOL LUNCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED



School Assistants play an important role in providing a safe and comfortable environment for students during the lunch hour. This is a paid position, requiring you to be at the school from **12:15 pm-1:15 pm**. If you are interested in applying for this position, either on a full-time or occasional basis, please contact our secretary Fiona Gamble the office at (905) 727-4224 Ext. 151.

RACE FOR AUTISM



Our Race for Autism was held on Friday, April 28. It was a fantastic day to be outside and being active. Students and teachers ran or walked 1k, 2k, or 5k. Our event was a success thanks to a dedicated group of teacher and parent volunteers, our student council leaders, and the support of our school community. We raised \$420 for Autism Speaks Ontario through bracelet sales. Everyone was able to enjoy a variety of healthy snacks -apples, bananas, watermelon, muffins, and yogurt-which were funded through a Healthy Schools Grant, which included a generous donation from Longo's.

Thank you to everyone for supporting Autism awareness through the month and for making our race a success for a second year in a row!



SPRING SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - COMING SOON!!!



The dates of our upcoming *Scholastic Book Fair* are May 8th - May 12th. The Book Fair will be open throughout the day, recess, and lunch. We will also be open after school until 4pm (with the exception of Friday) and on Thursday evening until 8:30pm.

SPRING FOOD DRIVE

Student council has accepted the challenge to host a spring food drive and we need your help! The *Pinball Clemons Foundation* is hosting the *JUST GIVE Cram-A-Cruiser Food Drive* in partnership with the *York Regional Police* and *LifeCorps Food Share*. This campaign was designed to inspire kindness throughout our communities by filling the food banks for the summer; a time when they are usually empty. We are challenged to collect enough non-perishable food items to cram an entire police cruiser! Our food drive will run from **Monday May 1 to Tuesday May 16**. The school that collects the most food will win tickets to an *Argos* pre-season game! Donations will be picked up on Wednesday May 17th. Once again, we have some recommended items for each grade to bring if possible:

FDK	baby food, formula, diapers, wipes, baby care items
Grade 1 & Grade 8	cans, chili, soup, sauces, jams, jarred items
Grade 2 & Grade 7	new unopened personal hygiene items (toothpaste, floss, toothbrushes, shampoo/conditioner, body wash, feminine products, deodorant)
Grade 3 & 4	paper products (toilet paper, paper towels) & diapers
Grade 5 & 6	pasta, rice, cereal, lentils, beans, nutritious school snacks

* Families are asked to bring a nonperishable food item as entry to the **Rock & Roll Extravaganza on Thursday May 11.**

PREVENT INFECTION BY HAND WASHING!



It is that time of year when many children are getting ill with vague symptoms such as fever, sore throat, vomiting and diarrhea. If your child becomes ill with these symptoms, please keep them home from school until they have recovered. If the symptoms persist, please consult your family physician. Please remember that hand washing is the single most important procedure for preventing infections.

Hands must be washed using soap and water. Recommendations on hand washing:

- before preparing, handling, serving or eating food;
- when hands are visibly dirty;
- after personal body functions, such as using the toilet or blowing one's nose;
- for parents, after changing diapers or cleaning up vomit

MUSIC ALIVE FESTIVAL



Congratulations to the Junior Band for achieving a Gold Standard at the *Music Alive Festival*;
Congratulations to Choir for achieving a Silver Plus Standard at the *Music Alive Festival*;
Intermediate Band for achieving Silver Standard at *Music Alive Festival*.

Ms. Fasan - Music Teacher

The York Region District School Board **Summer Institute** is a program that offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum for children and youth entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Programs are offered at in Richmond Hill, Markham, Stouffville, Newmarket, Woodbridge, Vaughan and Georgina from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm YMCA Before and Aftercare programs available at all locations.

YMCA Before and After Care Registration

Weekly Sessions July 4, 2017 to August 11, 2017

For registration information and to see what types of exciting programs are being offered this summer, please visit www.yrdsb.ca and select programs and services.

Summer Institute Site

[Armadale S.I.](#)

[Crosby Heights S.I.](#)

[Discovery S.I. \(located at Teston Village P.S.\)](#)

[Lakeside S.I.](#)

[Lake Wilcox S.I.](#)

[Maple Leaf S.I. \(located at Glen Cedar P.S.\)](#)

[Milliken Mills S.I. \(located at Highgate P.S.\)](#)

[Oscar Peterson S.I.](#)

[Sixteenth Avenue S.I.](#)

[Unionville Meadows S.I.](#)

[Woodbridge S.I.](#)

Address

11 Coppard Ave., Markham

190 Neal Dr., Richmond Hill

80 Murray Farm Lane., Maple

213 Shorecrest Rd., Keswick

80 Wildwood Ave., Richmond Hill

915 Wayne Dr., Newmarket

35 Highgate Dr., Markham

850 Hoover Park Dr., Stouffville

400 Sixteenth Ave., Richmond Hill

355 South Unionville Ave., Markham

60 Burwick Ave., Woodbridge

For additional information please email performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca or call 905-884-2046 ext. 240.

JUNIOR GIRLS' & BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAMS



Congratulations to the Northern Lights Ice Cats Junior Girls' and Boys' Basketball teams of 2017! The tournaments were held on April 18 and 19 at Wellington Public School. All of the athletes showed determination and perseverance throughout the long day during the tournament. They also showed commitment to their team through their attendance at practices, exhibition games and on the day of the tournament. We appreciate the athletes' hard work and the parent support throughout our season.

Ms. Vanessa Guizzetti; Ms. Kim Allen; Ms. Daniella Scetto

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS OPEN !

Kindergarten registration is open for the 2016/2017 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2016, live within the school boundary and whose parents/guardians are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents/guardians will take place on Thursday, May 18th at 6:00–7:15 pm. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact the main office at 905-727-4224.

Dear Northern Lights Families,

The safety of our students is very important to all of us; therefore, we ask for your support as we make some necessary minor changes to the Kiss & Ride and bus loop areas. We are very lucky to have a wonderful Kiss & Ride area within our parking lot. If we all work together to make these minor changes this area can be much safer for our students and your children.

The Kiss and Ride program is intended for parents who are dropping off or picking up child(ren). It is not intended for individuals who want to leave/park their vehicle to walk child(ren) to the playground or to assist their child(ren) to leave the car. If you want to accompany your child to the playground, you must park your vehicle in a designated space and walk your child to the school yard.

In an effort to make **kiss and ride** drop-off and pick-up as orderly and safe as possible we ask that drivers respect the following guidelines:

1. Have your child(ren) enter and exit the vehicle from the **curb side of the loop** (exit from the **RIGHT** side of the vehicle **ONLY**). .
2. The Kiss & Ride area is a **single lane** only. Cars should enter single file and not drive past vehicles ahead.
3. Your child(ren) should have their backpack on their lap to enable them to exit the vehicle quickly. Never leave your car parked or unattended in the Kiss & Ride.

In addition, our **school bus loop** is off limits to any cars between the times of;

8:15 – 8:45 AM

3:00 – 3:30 PM

We need to keep the bus loop clear of any cars at the above times. It needs to be clear so that buses can efficiently and safely drop off/pick up students. We do have staff outside on duty from 8:30 - 8:45 AM each morning, so any students arriving before 8:45 can enter with their class at the back of the building. If students are arriving late (after 8:45 AM), they may enter the front doors and proceed to the office to get a late slip.

We realize that drop-off and pick-up can be challenging and therefore we would like to provide some alternative transportation suggestions:

- Choose an active means to get to school such as walk or bike.
- Carpool. Arrange to help each other out with pick-up and drop-off.
- Discuss pick-up and drop-off routines with your children and be flexible with solutions.

Park a block away and walk the last block to school with your child(ren).

Without your help and cooperation this initiative cannot succeed. Thank you in advance for assisting us to keep all our students safe.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation,

Mrs. J. Burt
Principal

Ms. M. King
Vice Principal

Aurora's First-Ever INDIGENOUS FESTIVAL

*The New
Beginnings*
**POW
WOW**
in Aurora

Saturday, June 3, 2017 • 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Lambert Willson Park, 135 Industrial Parkway North

FREE ENTRY

POW WOW

Featuring traditional
dancing and drumming

FOOD FESTIVAL

Featuring traditional food
and classic favourites

MARKETPLACE

MULTICULTURAL PERFORMERS

Host Drum: Little Creek Singers
Co-Host Drum: Cold Water Ojibway
Arena Director: Mr. Mawla Shawana
Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Bob Goulais

SCHEDULE

12 p.m. Grand entry
1 to 5 p.m. Festivities
5 to 7 p.m. The feast
7 to 9 p.m. Festivities and
closing ceremony

No dogs permitted, service animals accepted. Thank you for your cooperation. We reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.



#AuroraPowWow

aurora.ca/powwow

905-726-4762



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



SAVE THE DATE!!

FOR OUR ANNUAL END-OF-YEAR

FUN FAIR

brought to you by your NLPS Parent Council

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017
5:00PM-8:00PM

AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for planning committee volunteers and day of volunteers. If you want to help, please email Lindsay Brewda at lbrewda@rogers.com.



Please Join Us!



**Extravaganza
Thursday, May 11th**

First Show - 6:15-6:35pm

Ms. Clubine's Kindergarten Class
Ms. Jones' Kindergarten Class
Ms. Tustin's Kindergarten Class
Ms. Dal Bello-Guizzetti's Kindergarten Class

Second Show - 7:00-7:20

Junior Band
Ms. Walter and Ms. Dyball's Grade 1 Classes
Ms. Holm and Ms. Dunlop's Grade 1/2 and 2 Classes
Mr. Macoritti and Ms. Goldman's Grade 3 Classes
Ms. Chen's Grade 3/4 Class

Third Show - 7:45-8:05

Intermediate Band
Grade 6/7 Choir
Ms. Dawson's Grade 2/3 Class
Ms. Thompson's Grade 5 Class
Mr. Major's Grade 5 Class

Building School Community

As a school, we have been working at improving our audience etiquette during our monthly assemblies. This looks like valuing all presentations and appreciating the efforts of all presenters. We kindly ask that you remain in the gym for the entire sitting that your child is involved in. Our students have spent many hours rehearsing and we would like the last act to have the same number of audience members as the first. Thank you in advance for your help in this matter. In addition, if you would like to take a photo please sure you are taking pictures of your child only.

Coin Drive

Did you know that it costs approximately \$2000 each year to keep our school instrument fleet in good, working order? Our Band Members will be hosting a coin drive with all proceeds going towards instrument repairs and the purchase of new music. If you have any change you are able to spare, please bring it along. We will put it to good use.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, May 11th.

Sincerely,

The Staff and Students of NLPS



Order your yearbook today.

Order online at
ybpay.lifetouch.com



#12738417

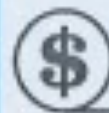
Announcing... The Northern Lights Public School 2016-2017 YEARBOOK

Thank you for supporting our Yearbook! A Yearbook makes a great gift -- order yours today!

Our yearbook is planned to include:

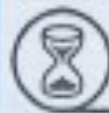
- All-color pages that vibrantly capture school memories
- Sturdy soft cover
- Original cover design that reflects our school's spirit and uniqueness
- School name and year imprinted in foil on the cover

Schools may adjust yearbook features and the final yearbook features may vary.



YEARBOOK PRICING

\$20.00



ORDER DEADLINE DATE

YEARBOOK ORDER DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MONDAY MAY 8TH.



Order Online at YBPAY.lifetouch.com with Yearbook ID Code: 12738417

NORTHERN LIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Upcoming Events

MAY, 2017

- | | | | |
|---------------|---|---------------|--|
| May 1 | Spring Food Drive (May 1 to May 16)
Innovation Assembly at 1:30 pm | May 19 | Grades 1, 2, and 3 - Swimming
(Swim to Survive)
Regional Special Needs Track & Field
(alternate date) |
| May 3 | Regional Junior Girls Basketball | May 22 | VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY—No school |
| May 4 | Spring Fling Family Dance 6:30–8:00 pm | May 23 | School Track and Field Day Grade 4-8 |
| May 5 | Grades 1, 2, and 3 - Swimming (Swim to Survive)
May 5, 12, 19 & 26 (Fridays) | May 24 | EQAO Grade 3 and Grade 6 from
May 24 – Jun 1, 2017 |
| May 8 | Scholastic Book Fair (May 8th - May 12th) | May 25 | Police Officer Visits Kindergartens
Throwback Thursday-Spirit Day
Transition to Kindergarten - Supporting
the Chinese Community 6:30pm – 8:00pm |
| May 9 | Area Badminton | May 26 | Grades 1, 2, and 3 - Swimming
(Swim to Survive)
Track and Field Raindate |
| May 11 | Rock 'N Roll Extravaganza 6:15 to 8:05 p.m. | May 29 | Spring Vaccination (2nd dose) Grade 7's
(Hep B & HPV – boys and girls) and 8's
(HPV - for girls) 9:00 am – 12:00 pm |
| May 12 | Grades 1, 2, and 3 - Swimming (Swim to Survive) | June 2 | PA DAY - No School |
| May 16 | Jump Rope For Heart
Red Maple Awards Harbourfront - Grade 7
and 8 Book Club Members
Regional Badminton | | |
| May 17 | Music Fest-Intermediate Band from May 17 to 19 in
Niagara Falls
Regional Special Needs Track & Field | | |
| May 18 | Welcome to Kindergarten Info Night
at 6:00–7:15 pm | | |