



*Find the light within you  
and let your true colours shine!*



# NORTHERN LIGHTS P.S.

## JANUARY 2015

**Mr. J. Laughlin**  
Principal

**Ms. M. King**  
Vice Principal

**Ms. A. Jadeja**  
**Ms. F. Gamble**  
School Office Assistants

**Mrs. G. Brocklebank-Vincent**  
Superintendent  
CEC Central  
905 884 4477

**Mr. P. Adams-Luchowski**  
Trustee  
905 713 1729

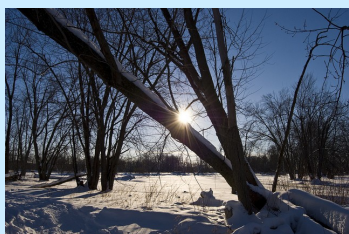
**School Council Co-Chairs:**  
**Ms. D. Dodds**  
**Ms. L. Campbell**

**Website:**  
[www.northernlights.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.northernlights.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

**Email:**  
[northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca)

**Phone: 905 727 4224**  
**Fax: 905 727 3845**

**Address:**  
**40 Bridgenorth Drive**  
**Aurora ON**  
**L4G 7S6**



### Message from Mr. Laughlin and Ms. King

*Happy New Year! We hope that you were able to relax with family and friends and we wish you a new year filled with good health and success. We are delighted to welcome the students back to school so they can focus on their goals for the remainder of the year. We have all been welcomed back to school with some snow and cold temperatures. Winter is finally upon us. Although we have started the year with many indoor recesses due to the extreme temperatures, we remind everyone to ensure their children are coming to school dressed appropriately and prepared for the weather. Thank you again for your support of our Holiday Heroes campaign in December. As a result of your gracious donations, we donated over 1,000 toys! We definitely reached our goal of a 'Toy Mountain'! As always, we appreciate your support and we thank you for your continued partnership.*

*January also marks a time when we begin planning for the next academic year (2015/16). In order to staff the school appropriately, we need to try to accurately project our enrolment for September, therefore, we would appreciate knowing as early as possible, if you plan to move this year. On January 16th, we will be starting our registration for new kindergarten students for September. As well, registration forms for Grade 8 students attending Dr. G. W. Williams are due by February 2nd. During the month of February all Grade 8 students will be involved in selecting their courses for the following the year.*

*The first term elementary report cards will be sent home on February 19th, 2015. This report card will detail the academic achievement and learning skills for your child(ren) this term. Please look for and discuss the first term report card with your child when it is sent home. You are welcome to write a comment on the report card and sign and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Remember to contact your child's teacher at any time if you have questions or concerns about his/her program.*

**Jeff Laughlin**

**Melissa King**

### SHINING STARS

We at Northern Lights believe that good character forms the basis of healthy relationships and is a cornerstone of a civil, just and democratic society. The development of good character is a shared responsibility of students, staff members, families and communities. When all members of society embrace opportunities to model, teach, promote, and celebrate good character, we build and strengthen learning and working communities that are caring, safe, respectful and inclusive. Every month we will recognize our "Shining Stars" on the announcements, on our Shining Star display in the front lobby of the school, and in our monthly newsletter. Students can be caught shining in the areas of; respect, responsibility, honesty, empathy, fairness, initiative, perseverance, courage, integrity, optimism. Our December "Shining Stars" are:

**Respect** – Megan P. (SK), Maya K. (JK), Jace J. (gr.7), Julian D. (gr.7), Hunter E. (gr.7), Jill C. (gr.7), Mark C. (gr.7), Mark C. (gr.7), Jolina B. (gr.7)

**Responsibility** – Spencer C. (gr.6), Leland B. (SK), Natalie D. (gr.6), Payton H. (gr.2), Versavia A. (gr.7), Jordan G. (gr.6), Lily L. (gr.6), Seija B. (gr.6), Alyssa D. (SK), Etienne M. (gr.4), Tegan B. (gr.6), Alex S. (gr.3), Rashida (gr.2), Aidan (gr.2), Ella (gr.2), Nik (gr.2), Daliana M. (SK), Spencer C. (gr.4), Amelia G. (gr.5), Liberty P. (gr.5), Vanessa H. (gr.5), Rose R. (gr.5), Taylor (SK), Alyssa P. (gr.5), Gabby M. (gr.5), Mehryad B. (SK), Matthew D. (JK), Jazmin B. (JK), Milan C. (7), Bronwyn C. (gr.1), Julian S. (gr.5), Camden (SK), Ryan C. (gr.5), Stephen G. (gr.5), Hamza K. (gr.2), Jordan (gr.5), Olivia (gr.5), Narjess K. (SK), Aryan A. (SK)

**Honesty** – Etienne M. (gr.4), Madison H. (gr.8), Carson M. (gr.7), Joshua R. (gr.1), Nareg G. (gr.6)

**Empathy** – Daliana M. (SK), Samantha W. (gr.2), Meher (gr.1), Xavier (gr.1), Michelle P. (gr.6), Eliana S. (SK), Xavier B. (gr.8), Alex T. (gr.3), Madeline T. (gr.6), Hafsa H. (gr.2), Jessica T. (SK), Jason P. (gr.3), Sasha K. (JK), Justin S. (gr.6)

**Initiative** – Vivian L. (gr.6), Rebekah B. (SK), Julia H. (gr.6), Kareena B. (gr.6), Sanuji L. (gr.6), Seth T. (SK), Russell C. (gr.5), Grayson (gr.1), Evan (gr.1), Lucas W. (gr.4), Yaseen I. (gr.4), Aayan (gr.1), Julia C. (gr.1), Andrew P. (gr.8), Mojtabaali K. (JK), Ben G. (gr.2), Siera Z. (gr.2), Nicole R. (gr.7), Kaylee R. (gr.7), Emma L. (gr.1), Maddy L. (gr.1), Taylor (SK), Helena M. (gr.2), Branden D. (7), Emma C. (gr.3), Cassie J. (gr.7), Ryan H. (JK), Jace J. (gr.7), Jack F. (SK)

**Perseverance** – Graham W. (gr.7), Dylan T. (gr.6), Marley B. (JK)

**Courage** – Mohammed (JK), Kevin W. (JK), Jordyn H. (SK), Beren G. (JK)

**Integrity** – Sasha K. (SK), Elora R. (JK)

# OFFICE REMINDERS

## UPCOMING DATES

**January 16th:** PA Day

**January 23rd:** Grade 8 Graduation Photos

**January 27th:** Family Literacy Day

### **Week of January 26th**

Junior Area Volleyball Tournament

Vivian Outdoor Centre Field Trips—Grades 2, 4 and 7

### **Month of January**

Arts Package: Dance Workshops—Grades K-8

**February 2nd:** PA Day

**February 9th:** School Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm

## 2015-2016 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

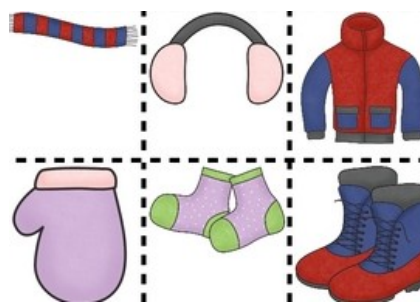
New kindergarten student registrations began at the school on **January 16th at 9:00 a.m.** and will continue moving forward. If you have not registered yet, please ensure you have all of your important documents ready before arriving to avoid any delays. Forms can be completed upon arrival or in advance and brought to the office on registration day. In order for an application to be complete, we must have the following:

- Kindergarten registration form complete with signature
- Proof of child's age (such as a birth certificate or passport)
- Proof of residency in the form of a land tax assessment (final copy) and one utility bill (phone, hydro etc.). If you are new to our area an offer to purchase (house) or lease agreement will be accepted.
- If you have a child entering Kindergarten that has a special need, please ensure you inform the office.

## WINTER WEATHER

Colder weather is now here and all students from JK to Grade 8 are expected to go out for all recess breaks, therefore everyone should come to school ready for winter weather outdoors for 30 minutes at morning recess and up to 40 minutes after lunch. We always monitor the weather and in extreme conditions e.g. wind chill; we keep the students indoors and/or simply shorten the recess breaks.

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks for wetter conditions. Please be sure to label all articles of clothing (including indoor shoes). Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.



## BUS TRANSPORTATION

Parents, students and staff are always advised to access various radio and television stations for POSSIBLE bus cancellations on inclement weather days.

**OR LOG ON TO ...[www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) IF SCHOOL BUSES ARE CANCELLED IN THE MORNING, THEY WILL NOT OPERATE IN THE AFTERNOON.**

## PARKING LOT AND KISS N' RIDE

Given the size and structure of our parking lot and kiss n' ride, we have decided to make a few changes in attempt to speed up the process of student drop off and pick up. We will be opening up the bus loop/emergency vehicle loop at the front of the school for student drop off starting at 8:35 am (or slightly after) depending on when all buses have left the loop. As usual, please note that supervision before and after school is located at the back of the school only (not at the front) starting at 8:30 am in the morning and ending at 3:30 pm after school. We are hoping that by opening the bus loop as a secondary kiss n' ride option that it will assist in expediting student drop off. In order for this change to be successful and safe, we ask that when accessing this loop that you:

- 1) Access it only after 8:35 am.
- 2) Make sure all buses have left the loop before entering
- 3) You do not leave your vehicle unattended at any time while in the loop (as it is an emergency loop)

It can often be a rush getting students to school in the morning especially on winter mornings however we stress that safety is more important than convenience and advise all parents who drive students to school to exercise the proper amount of caution and patience in our parking lot and our student drop off loops. Signs and staff are available to assist the safe flow of pedestrians before school begins each day. As always, families and students are encouraged to walk to and from school. We will be reviewing the success of this change and will report back in next month's Newsletter. All and any feedback is welcomed.

# ICE CAT CORNER



## January Arts Package Reminders.....

### **Dance Workshops (K-8)**

Instructors from York Dance Academy who specialize in a variety of dance styles will be leading instructional workshops throughout the month of January to all grades. Each workshop is tailored to suit the age group. So far the students have been thoroughly engaged with these workshops!

### **Intermediate Author Visit – Eric Walters**

11:30 – 12:30 - Grade 7s

1:45-2:45 - Grade 8s

AND an evening presentation with Eric Walters, Ted Staunton, and Shane Peacock, for grade 7 and 8 students and families  
PLEASE RSVP by FRI. JAN. 23rd at <http://goo.gl/forms/waOCt9h58A> OR at



### **Student Council**

**January Spirit Day – January 30th – 80's Day!**

## FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Family Literacy Day is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 and held annually on January 27 to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. More than 1.5 million Canadians have already participated in the initiative since its debut. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development. Even just 15 minutes a day can improve a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can help a parent improve their skills as well. Northern Lights P.S. will recognize and celebrate Family Literacy the week this year by hosting our annual Book Swap!

### **ECO Friendly BOOK SWAP JAN. 26<sup>th</sup>**

**@ Northern Lights P.S.**  
**3:30 pm–6:00 pm**

*Have you finished reading many of your current books and would like to exchange them for some new books to read?*

*Are you cleaning and organizing at home too?*

**Our School Library has the answer for you!**

Please bring in any gently used books to the library any day from Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday January 23<sup>rd</sup> for our ECO **Book Swap** on Monday January 27<sup>th</sup>. [Children's books only please.](#)

For every book that is donated to our swap you will receive a credit to exchange for a different book to take home that night.

*Donate one book...pick another book. Donate two books...pick two other books....and so on!*