



Ramer Wood Public School
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Administrator's Message

December 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

With December upon us (and November behind), we reflect on many Multicultural traditions and celebrations within our community that offer us the opportunity to celebrate the richness of our diverse community, and share in the beauty of family and religious traditions. Thank you to School Council and all of our Community Members for supporting the activities we have had this past Fall at Ramer Wood each year.

During the winter months it is very important for children to come to school appropriately dressed for snow, slush, wind-chill and icy conditions. We have some children (especially in grades 6 - 8) who come to school without proper footwear, scarves, gloves, snow pants or lined jackets. Please discuss the importance of winter clothing and footwear with your child. We need to plan for whatever Mother Nature may send our way. Children must always be prepared to go outside for morning and lunch recess. Only in severe conditions will outdoor activities be shortened or cancelled. Arriving at Ramer Wood P.S. before the 8:45 a.m. entry bell each morning, without rushing or speeding, will also ensure a safe arrival by all.

We would like to thank our families for your participation with your child in our Progress Report interviews and Student-Led Conferences. Ramer Wood is a school with 300 students, and the academic and social success of each student is very important to all of us. Continuing the suggestions made by the teachers during the Interviews and Student-Led Conference is your way to support your child: using your child's agenda, encouraging your child to read each evening, reviewing completed or assigned homework, participating and sharing input on progress, goals and home support helps each child realize that their strengths and needs are important and special.

Our Winter Concert is December 19th, at 6:45 p.m. We hope to see families out this evening celebrating our diverse traditions.

"nothing is more beautiful than seeing the joy of learning in a child's eyes"

~ Anonymous

We value the relationships we have fostered with our parent partners. It is always exciting to look forward, but it is also a joy to reflect on the great work we have done together for each child.

School resumes January 7th, 2019.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable Winter Break, Holiday, and a Happy New Year!

Mrs. C. Pink

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Winter Break

December 24, 2018 to
January 4, 2019

The school will be closed during the break **reopens Jan. 7, 2019**

Ramer Wood Public School Presents...

Winter Concert 2018
featuring
Ramer Wood Students
on
Wednesday, December 19, 2018
at 6:45 p.m.
in the
Ramer Wood Gymnasium



A Note From School Council

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!!!
 Our next meeting will be January 16, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. meeting in the library.

We are always looking for parents to come to the meetings to lend your support and volunteer where needed.

We are looking for volunteers to help from January to June. Your commitment would be one day a month for an hour or every other month depending on how many volunteers we have to help out with our activities.

If you are able to help please email Sandra Aldcorn at ramer.wood.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca please do so by December 21, 2018.



Holiday Food Drive

Ramer Wood Student Leadership Team will be organizing this years food drive for families in need. We will be collecting nonperishable foods and other items until December 19, 2018.

Please forward canned foods, dry goods, jarred items, toiletry and household items to the school, checking for all expiry dates.

Don't forget to bring a nonperishable item to our Winter Concert.

Thank you for supporting our Markham community.



Indoor/Outdoor Recess Decisions

The decision to send students outside for recess or to stay indoors is made at the time of each recess and depends upon temperature, wind chill, sun/cloud conditions, and wind velocity.

Students can avoid feeling uncomfortable during cold weather by dressing in layers and by wearing hats, scarves, and gloves/mittens. It is always a good idea to keep a spare pair of mitts and a change of clothing for your child at school or in your child's backpack.



School Council Mitten Tree

It's time for the annual Mitten Tree! This holiday season, we are asking for donations of new mittens, socks, gloves and hats in varying sizes. We will be collecting these items from December 4 to December 19.

During the month of December, the hats, mittens and gloves will be hung on the holiday tree in the front foyer. These items will be donated to a charity in our neighbourhood.

Thank you for supporting School Council.



Lost and Found

Please remind your children to check the "Lost and Found" box located on the main floor by the caretakers office on a regular basis for misplaced hats, boots, shoes, sweaters and coats.

Labelling your child's clothing with his/her name is always a good idea. Any small items found like rings, keys, watches and valuables are held in the office.





Begins at Ramer Wood on January 18, 2019 (P.A. Day)

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 18, 2019 for the 2019-20 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2019, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this Spring.

For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

Nutrition News

Ramer Wood Public School is excited to offer Kid's Kitchen Lunch program on Fridays!

Kid's Kitchen, is a catering company, that supplies nutritious lunchtime meals directly to the school on Fridays. Parents have the opportunity to order directly through the *Kid's Kitchen* website; your child's pre-ordered lunch will be assembled and served fresh on-site! Please remember that *Kid's Kitchen* lunches are not ordered through School Cash Online.

For further information please contact 905-944-0210 or www.kidskitchen.ca.



Punctuality

At Ramer Wood Public School, we consider regular attendance and punctuality important and necessary life skills for academic success. Elementary school children are developing habits and patterns which they may carry with them to secondary school and then into their work environment.

Parents, guardians and teachers are asked to be consistent in encouraging these good habits. By law, children must attend school regularly until the age of 18.

Good attendance is directly linked to school success. When students are absent from school, even for part of the day, they miss out on important learning and, as a result, are often unable to make up for the time that is missed and fall behind.

We are beginning to see a pattern of students arriving late, and in some cases, *chronically* late. **Please be advised that all students need to be on time for the start of each school day and after lunch.** We do our best work as a school when students are present, and late arrivals not only miss out on classroom instruction, they often interrupt lessons underway.



Markville Open House—Grade 8 Message

All grade 8 students and their parents are invited to attend Markville Secondary School's annual Grade 8 Open House. It will be held on Wednesday, December 12th at 6:30 p.m. in the evening until approximately 8:30 p.m.

Please note that Markville is closed to transfers so parents and students must reside within our boundaries in order to attend our school. We hope you are able to attend on the 12th and get a glimpse of many aspects of school life at Markville.



MATH CORNER

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 algorithms, are introduced.

York Region teachers have always worked to develop strong number sense and computational fluency 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, this site 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!

Building routines at home, can be started at anytime and they 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 favorite 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

(Taken and adapted from [Doing Mathematics With Your Child, Kindergarten to Grade 6: A Parent Guide](#))

December is an Exciting Time of Year!

The first day of winter falls in December!

Start of School Winter holidays!

Spending time with Family and Friends!

December is also a great time to get outside, have fun in the snow and discover the great outdoors! .

When the temperature drops, it is common for many parents to want their kids to spend time indoors. However, there are many benefits for kids to be active outside in the winter, including:

- Building different muscle groups and improving physical health
- Engaging in creative play
- Being messy and having fun
- Fresh air and sunlight
- Learning first-hand about nature, the weather and the seasons

When children are outside they move more, sit less, play longer and sleep more soundly at night. Being active also helps to improve your self-esteem, social skills and mental health. Here are some December challenges we invite your children to try leading up to the holidays (December 3rd to 21st):

1. Walk to and from school or the bus stop everyday
2. Wish the crossing guard or a classmate on your walk to school a great day
3. On your walk to school make a snow angel
4. On your walk to school complete 10 star jumps and 10 jumping jacks
5. Make someone laugh today
6. Check your local recreation center for fun activities that you and your family can do over the holidays
7. Say something positive to one of your classmates

Active School Travel is a simple way to fit physical activity into your daily routine!

If you live far, consider parking a block away and walking. If active school travel every day is a challenge, choose one, two or three times a week to make a change.

Sincerely,

YRDSB Active Travel Team and York Region Public Health



What parents need to know about the flu

What is influenza (Flu)?

Influenza is a serious, highly contagious, acute respiratory infection that is caused by a virus.

How does the flu spread?

The flu spreads easily from infected people through coughing and sneezing. It also spreads through direct contact with contaminated surfaces, unwashed hands, or objects such as eating utensils that have been contaminated by the influenza virus.



How can you help prevent your child from getting the flu?

- Get your family immunized
- Teach your child to wash their hands with soap and water thoroughly and regularly before meals
- Teach your children to sneeze or cough into their upper sleeve or a tissue, not their hand
- Keep your children at home when they are sick and limit contact with others

For more information on clinic dates, times and locations, visit www.york.ca/flu



1-800-361-5653
TTY: 1-866-252-9933

York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services
Public Health

www.york.ca



6523_07_2014



Community and Health Services
Public Health Branch

Help your kids take a break from screen time

Taking a break from screens (computer, television, video and handheld devices) can be a challenge, but sitting for several hours a day can put children at risk for preventable health problems including type 2 diabetes, obesity and heart disease. Recreational screen time for children should be limited to less than two hours per day.



Tips for parents:

- Talk with your kids about screen time limits and stay committed to your agreement
- Time all screen use. No more than two hours of total screen time a day is recommended for children aged five to 11. Screens include TVs, handheld electronics such as tablets and phones and computers
- Consider no or less screen time rules during the school week and at meal times
- Look at times of the day when your family can do something active together
- Look for more tips at mediasmarts.ca

For more information on physical activity visit york.ca/physicalactivity

This material is provided by York Region Public Health.



December 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Food Bank Donations—December 4—December 19, 2018					1
	Chanukah—December 3—December 10, 2018					
2	3 Grade 3 (Tzogas) Gifted Testing Grade 7 & 8 Markville Career Fair	4 Grade 8 Classes Involved in Hour of Code With Markville S.S. Students 	5	6 	7 Grade 3 (Boghossian) Gifted Testing Grade 6 VIP Program	8
9	10	11 	12 Grade 8 Information Night at Markville S.S. 6:30 –8:30 pm	13 	14 Grade 6 VIP Program	15
16	Spirit Days: Wear RWPS Spirt wear, red, green, blue or yellow clothing this week!					22
	17	18 	19 Winter Concert 6:45 p.m.	20 No Subway Lunches today	21 Leader by Example Assembly @ 9:15 am Grade 6 VIP Program	
23	24 WINTER BREAK	25 Christmas 	26	27	28	29
30	31 WINTER BREAK	Jan. 1	Jan. 2	Jan. 3	Jan. 4	School Resumes Monday Jan. 7/19