

## R.L. Graham P.S.

Principal - J. Macpherson  
Vice Principal- S. Dickson

By Phone:(905) 476-9295  
By email: <http://www.r.l.graham.ps.yrdsb.ca/>  
By Fax:(905) 476-8598



Superintendent – D. Hawkins  
(905) 895-5155

Trustee – Nancy Elgie  
[nancy.elgie@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nancy.elgie@yrdsb.ca)

## OCTOBER's Character Matters- RESPONSIBILITY

### Administrators' Message

Our school year has started off very positively with students and staff working hard to establish classroom and school routines. We value our learning environment and the respect that we have for each other. Our staff and students show that every day in all that they do.

Thank you to everyone who attended our school's BBQ and Open House. The halls and classrooms were filled with excitement as the hard work of our students was on display for all to enjoy. We were able to raise over \$1500.00 from the BBQ and Bake Sale. All the money raised, along with other school funds will continue to be used to enhance learning through the purchase of much needed technology. The Scholastic Book Fair was also a huge success with sales of over \$3000.00. The school will be able to purchase \$1400.00 worth of books with our share of the book sales. A special thank you goes to our School Council for their work in organizing his event. Your tireless commitment to the school is really something special.

Jane Macpherson, Principal

Susan Dickson, Vice Principal

### Monthly Newsletter Delivery

Please ensure that the office has your correct email address if you would like to receive notification once the newsletter has been posted for the month. If you are unable to access the newsletter via a computer and would prefer a hard copy, please inform the office. If you have missed a newsletter, please check our school website for current and past editions: <http://www.r.l.graham.ps.yrdsb.ca>

### Breakfast Program

Our **Breakfast Club** program continues to grow. A nutritious breakfast is available in the lunch room from **7:50 a.m. until 8:15 a.m.** Students are encouraged to come and enjoy a healthy meal and good company.



**There is no cost to attend thanks to** the following organizations' generous support:

**\*Breakfast Clubs of Canada   \*Food for Learning   \*The Grocery Foundation**

### Pick Up/Drop Off & Parking

Thank you to all of the students and their families who are walking to school. It is a great way to get exercise and fresh air! We would like to ask that our families refrain from parking over at the high school. Please pick-up and drop-off your children using the kiss & ride at our breakfast club doors. Staff supervise this area 15 minutes before and after school. To help keep drop-offs running smoothly, parents are asked not to park in this area. Our staff will help your children to get in or out of the car. If you feel the need to personally walk your child to the school, please park on the road. A reminder that the bus loop is not to be used for this

purpose and vehicles must not be parked in this area at any time as it is a designated Fire Zone. The York Region Fire Department has been monitoring all schools in the area and is issuing tickets to offenders.

As a part of our healthy schools initiative, we would like to remind the community that we are a smoke-free area. Of special note, by-law officers have been in the area ticketing individuals who have been smoking on Board property. This has included individuals smoking inside their vehicles. Thank you for your support.

## Honour Roll

R.L. Graham students continue to work hard to achieve excellent results! To be on the Academic Honour Roll, students must achieve an average in all subjects of 80% or higher. To be on the Learning Skills Honour Roll, students must achieve an Excellent in at least 5 of the six categories, with a mark no lower than a G. Keep up the hard work!



## Safe Arrival Program

Please call if your child is not coming to school or will be late.



### Important Information

Email: <http://www.r.l.graham.ps.yrdsb.ca>

**School Phone Number:** 905-476-9295

**Call before-** 8:15 a.m.

**Leave a phone message -** Answering Machine available 24 hrs a day

## Attendance and Punctuality

Did you know that regular attendance and punctuality are a strong indicator of school success? Regular attendance and punctuality are a vital part of learning and are directly linked to student success. Students who attend school regularly have better grades and are more engaged with school. You can support your child by ensuring they are at school everyday and on time for class.

**School begins at 8:15 a.m. Please ensure your children are on time everyday!!**

## Healthy Snacks/Lunches/Birthday Celebrations

R.L. Graham is a nut/peanut safe school. To support a safe and positive school for all, parents are asked NOT to send food containing peanuts and peanut related products to school with your child. Parents are asked to please consider healthy, nutritious snacks and birthday treats such as fruit, veggies and dip, cheese and crackers instead of donuts, cakes and candy.



## R.L. Graham School Council – 2016-2017

### Executive:

**Chair:**

**Corinne D'Angelo**

**Treasury Liaison:**

**Staci Bassie**

**Secretary:**

**Lee Canavan**

### Members at Large:

Amanda Hislop, Gerald Meade, Ingrid Roberts, Kara Skripnikova, Karen Hellier, Melanie Boland, Melissa Hames, Samantha Oxley, Sharon Poulter, Terence Boland

**Next School Council Meeting: Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

Meeting Agendas will be shared with the community at least two days before the scheduled Council meeting. Please feel free to attend anytime. Your input is always valued.



## Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox Run held on September 30<sup>th</sup> was a tremendous success. Thank you to the community for your generous support and congratulations to all the students who took part in this worthy cause. **We raised \$1000.00** to support cancer research! Thank you to Mrs. MacLeod for her dedication in coordinating the event. Thank you to Ms. Beal and Mrs. O'Brien for taking part in an extreme make-over, Mr. Salhani for his colourful hair and nails, Mr. Jensen and Mr. Dunlop for their food eating competition, Mrs. Macpherson for her crazy dance moves, and Mrs. Dickson who looked great in her fancy dress when she and Mrs. Dionne kissed their handsome friend "Frankie" the crocodile. Special thanks to Lee Parker from Reptilia for bringing Frankie to RL Graham for a visit and Ms. D'Ambrosio, our DJ extra-ordinaire.

## Helping Your Child Read

Reading aloud to your child is the most important thing you can do with your child to help them develop their reading skills.

Some tips to help you and your child:

- Read with your child every day. Make it a priority and make it a fun time.
- Read books that you and your child both enjoy. Talk about what's happening in the story or your favourite parts. Ask questions as you read to make sure your child is understanding what is happening.

For more information, check out the following links:

[http://pbskids.org/lions//parentsteachers/activities/literacy\\_tips-reading.html](http://pbskids.org/lions//parentsteachers/activities/literacy_tips-reading.html)

[http://abclifeliteracy.ca/files/Family\\_literacy\\_strategies.pdf](http://abclifeliteracy.ca/files/Family_literacy_strategies.pdf)

## Helping Your Child with Mathematics

The York Region District School Board recognizes the importance of mathematics as a critical life skill for students. All students will strive to be confident problem solvers who use mathematical knowledge, skills and processes to be prepared for math in a changing world. At RL Graham we will be implementing the boardwide math strategy and the best chance of success for all students is a strong partnership between home and school. To learn about how you can support mathematics at home go to:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Math/Pages/Supporting-your-child-in-Mathematics.aspx>

## EQAO

EQAO results for the 2015-2016 school year are now available. To view the results for RL Graham PS, click the link above or go to <http://www.eqao.com/en> and scroll down to Find Results for School and School Boards.

## Halloween Celebrations

Hallowe'en activities will take place on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Students will be able to wear their costumes, take part in fun activities in their classrooms and have snacks. Simple rules to follow for Halloween costumes:

- Under the Province Safe Schools Legislation students may not bring toy guns or replica weapons of any kind.
- Guns, knives or fake blood cannot be worn as accessories on your child's Halloween costumes at school. Such items may cause fear, anxiety or misunderstanding and must be kept away from the school. This applies to students at all grade levels.
- Students cannot wear masks to school as these interfere with clear sight lines.
- Students cannot wear capes while outside at recess as these have the potential for choking.

- **Only nut-free/peanut free treats can come to school for snacks.**

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the administration.

### **Halloween Safety Tips for Children Before Trick or Treating**

- Wear a properly fitted costume that is bright and non-flammable
- Use reflective tape on your costume so you can be seen in the dark
- Use face make-up or enlarge the eyes on your mask so you can see well
- Visit the front door of well-lit homes and never go inside
- Have a trusted adult check your treats before eating them
- Go out with an adult or a group of friends



We look forward to having a safe and enjoyable Halloween.

## **International Baccalaureate Program Information Evening**

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is student-centred with a focus on developing intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills for students who live, learn and work in a rapidly changing world. The program emphasizes critical, compassionate thinking, community involvement and intercultural understanding. It is founded on international standards and assessment. Students who complete the program earn both an Ontario Secondary School Diploma and an IB Diploma.

We are pleased to announce the expansion of York Region District School Board's IB Program offerings. In addition to [Bayview Secondary School](#)'s IB Program, YRDSB has four candidate school sites for the Diploma Program:

- [Alexander Mackenzie High School](#)
- [Dr. GW Williams Secondary School](#)
- [Maple High School](#)
- [Milliken Mills High School](#)

Current Grade 8 and Grade 9 students and families interested in YRDSB's IB Program are invited to attend an information session to learn more about the program and application process. No registration is needed.

### **IB Information Evening – Wednesday, October 26, 2016**

Location: Le Parc

8432 Leslie Street, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 7M6

Hall: to be announced

Times:

Families living EAST of Yonge St.                      6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Families living WEST of Yonge St.                      8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Students eligible for Grade 9 and Grade 10 in September 2017 may apply.

### **Assessment Dates – Saturday, November 19 or Tuesday, November 22, 2016**

Admission to the York Region District School Board IB programs includes an assessment. At the time of application, students will select to write in either the a.m. or p.m. on Saturday, November 19 or in the evening on Tuesday, November 22.

There is a \$35 fee to apply to this program. For additional information, please visit [www.yrdsb.ca/IB](http://www.yrdsb.ca/IB).

## Bill Crothers Secondary School

Information night for students currently in grade 8 who think they may want to attend Bill Crothers Secondary School for the 2017-2018 school year is **Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in the school cafeteria.

Bill Crothers Secondary School is a unique, system-wide program that provides an inclusive and engaging learning environment for students who are motivated by healthy active living and sport while achieving academic success. The school operates on a Balanced School Year (early August to mid-June) schedule which support the diverse needs of student-athletes. Interested families are strongly urged to attend the information session. More information can also be found at <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/billcrothers.ss/Pages/default.aspx>

## Drop Zone (Gr. 6-8)

We still have a few places available for students who are interested. For more information, please contact the school at 905-476-9295.

COMMUNITY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM  
**For students in grades 6 to 8**  
Program includes sports, art, snacks, homework help,  
cooking, games and much more!  
**RL Graham Public School**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**  
**2:45 p.m. to 6 p.m.**  
**FREE**



## Fight the bite!

Protect yourself against  
**West Nile virus**



### What is West Nile virus?

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne virus that can be passed to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito.

### What are the symptoms of West Nile virus?

Most people infected with West Nile virus have no symptoms or have flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches and fatigue. Sometimes West Nile virus can cause severe illness including meningitis and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

Symptoms usually develop between two and 15 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

## Fight the bite!

### What you can do...

#### Clean up

The best way to keep mosquitoes away is to clean up areas of standing water where mosquitoes like to breed.

Here are some tips:

- Clean up and empty containers where water collects (old tires, tin cans, flower pots, etc.)
- Change water in bird baths weekly
- Remove water that collects on pool covers
- Turn over items such as wading pools, wheelbarrows and small boats
- Clear eavestroughs and roof gutters
- Unclog drainage ditches
- Drill holes in the bottoms of containers so water can't collect
- Check that door and window screens are tight-fitting and in good repair

#### Cover up

Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites.

- Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts and pants
- Use insect repellent containing DEET when outdoors; apply according to manufacturer's instructions

For more information about West Nile virus or to report standing water, contact York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit [york.ca/westnile](http://york.ca/westnile)





# October



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 Day 4  Pizza orders due	4 Day 5	5 Day 1 Pizza Day 	6 Day 2 Area X Country@ The ROC <b>School Council Meeting</b> 	7 Day 3  Sub orders due	8
9 	10 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>  <b>Sub orders due online</b>	11 Day 4	12 Day 5 Sub Day   <b>MOVIE NIGHT PETS!</b> Pay with food bank donation 6:30@GEM	13 Day 1 Dental Screening	14 Day 2 Dental Screening 	15
16	17 Day 3 Photo Day!   <b>Community Class SWIM</b>	18 Day 4 Bill Crothers SS Info Night for Grade 8's – 7:00 pm	19 Day 5 Pizza Day   Regional Cross Country	20 Day 1	21 Day 2 Immunizations (Gr. 7&8) <b>School does not manage the paperwork. Please contact York Region Health if you did not get forms by mail.</b>	22
23	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26 Day 5 Sub Day   <b>IB Info Night for Grade 8's-6:30 pm</b>	27 Day 1 MATHLETES!	28 PA DAY NO SCHOOL	29
30	31 Day 2 Happy Halloween! <b>Community Class SWIM</b> 	November 1 Day 3	2 Day 4	3 Day 5	4 Day 1	5