



Silver Pines public school

A Message from Administration...

Dear Families,

We had a first spirit day today and enjoyed seeing kids in their silly hats. It has been a busy week here as the excitement of the holidays draws near.

Grade 8 classes have been engaging in rich discussions around social justice and will be sharing their findings about current issues that they choose to bring to their classmates' attention. The primaries have been learning about different holidays during this season. We all continue to work on spreading kindness and compassion for others.

As a staff, we have just completed our professional learning on **Assessment and Evaluation**. Each summative task will be accompanied by a rubric. Please be sure to ask your children to see their rubrics so you understand how they are graded, and please speak to the subject teacher if needed.

My last week at Silver Pines will be next week. Ms. Small will continue to serve as vice-principal, and as soon as we are informed about the new principal, we will let you know. I thank all families for your warm welcome of me in September, and wish all of you the best always. I will miss the incredible students at The Pines.

We wish you all a fantastic weekend. Staff and students alike are looking forward to the winter break.

Yours in education,

Nandy Palmer & Shauna Small

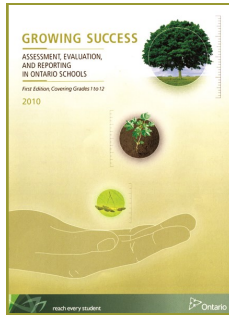


Principal: Nandy Palmer | 905.508.7303
Vice Principal: Shauna Small | 905.508.7303
Superintendent: Liz Davis | 905.884.4477
Trustee : Simon Cui
<https://twitter.com/silverpinesps>
<http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>



New Reporting Policies for Ontario

As of September 2010, all assessment, evaluation and reporting in Ontario schools is based on the policies and practices described in *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting In Ontario Schools, First Edition, Covering Grades 1 to 12*.



This Ministry of Education policy emphasizes the significance of developing learning skills and work habits in our children. It is expected that teachers will work with students and their parents to ensure that they understand learning skills and work habits and their importance. Students benefit when teachers model the skills and habits and explain how they will be assessed and evaluated.

Learning Skills & Work Habits

The development of learning skills and work habits needed to succeed in school and in life begins early in a child's schooling. As students move through the grades, they develop and then consolidate their learning skills and work habits in preparation for post-secondary education and the world of work.

In many subjects and disciplines in Grades 1 to 12, the development of the learning skills and work habits is further strengthened through the achievement of the curriculum expectations.

Learning Skills & Work Habits

Teachers will work with students and their parents/guardians to help them develop the following six learning skills and work habits:

- Responsibility
- Organization
- Independent Work
- Collaboration
- Initiative
- Self-Regulation

Each learning skill and work habit is evaluated on the report cards using the following scale:

- E = Excellent
- G = Good
- S = Satisfactory
- N = Needs Improvement

Please refer to our *Elementary and Secondary Report Card* brochures for more information.

Strong learning skills and positive work habits are often an indicator of future success in school, at home, and in life in general.

Learning skills and work habits will look different in individuals as they grow and mature. Teachers will work together with students to develop the criteria used to assess learning skills and work habits.

The following are **sample** behaviours which are designed to help identify strengths and support growth of those learning skills and work habits.

Responsibility

Consider how well your child:

- fulfills commitments in learning environments;
- completes and submits class work, homework, and assignments according to agreed upon timelines; and
- manages his/her behaviour.

Independent Work

Consider how well your child:

- monitors, assesses, and revises plans to complete tasks and meet goals;
- uses class time appropriately to complete tasks; and
- follows instructions with minimal supervision.

Collaboration

Consider how well your child:

- accepts various roles and an equitable share of the work within a group;
- responds positively to the ideas, opinions, values, and traditions of others;
- builds healthy peer relationships;
- works with others to resolve conflicts and builds consensus to achieve group goals; and
- shares information, resources, and expertise to solve problems and make decisions.

Learning Skills & Work Habits

Organization

Consider how well your child:

- creates and follows a plan to complete work and tasks;
- establishes priorities and manages time to achieve goals; and
- gathers, evaluates and uses information, technology and resources to complete tasks.

Initiative

Consider how well your child:

- acts upon new ideas and opportunities for learning;
- demonstrates a willingness to take risks;
- demonstrates curiosity and interest in learning;
- approaches new tasks with a positive attitude; and
- recognizes and advocates appropriately for the rights of self and others.

Self-Regulation

Consider how well your child:

- sets his/her individual goals and monitors progress towards achieving them;
- seeks assistance when needed;
- assesses and reflects critically on her/his strengths, needs and interests;
- identifies learning opportunities, choices, and strategies to meet personal needs and achieve goals; and
- perseveres when facing challenges.



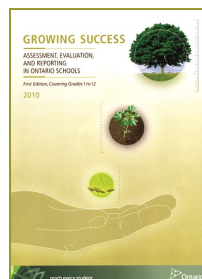
Partners Working Together to Support Student Learning and Achievement

You and your child are important partners in the learning and assessment process. Teachers will help students to:

- understand what they are expected to know and be able to do in order to successfully demonstrate these learning skills and work habits;
- set goals for growth; and
- build on strengths, use learning preferences, and focus on areas of need to achieve success.

Teachers, students and parents/guardians will work together to set goals for developing all of the learning skills and work habits.

For more information, please contact your son or daughter's school.



Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools (Grades 1-12) is available at The Ontario Ministry of website at: www.edu.gov.on.ca

Learning Skills & Work Habits

A Guide for Elementary and Secondary Students and Their Parents/Guardians



www.yrdsb.ca

**Assessment,
Evaluation
& Reporting**
for Parents and Guardians

SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISING

Please support our fundraising efforts:

“Invest in Students” donation program – Make a one-time **tax-deductible donation** (tax receipt issued for donations of \$25 or more) to the school. Please contribute through ***School Cash Online***.

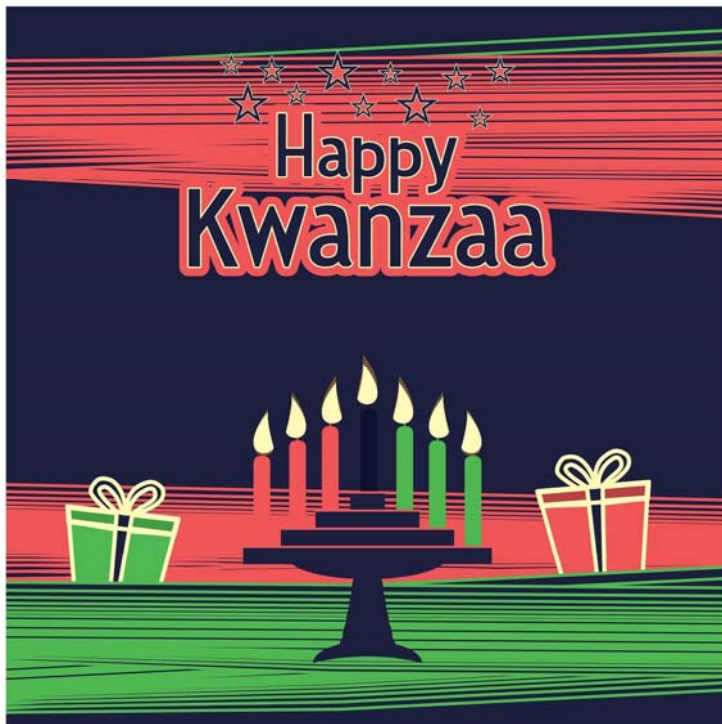
“FlipGive” – Support our school by shopping online. Our school will earn cash with every purchase! Brands on FlipGive pay us a commission whenever you shop on the FlipGive app or website. You can even send electronic gift cards. Simply download the app or go to www.flipgive.com create a user account. Join our Team using the **Team code LZ4TRQ**.



Give a flower Eat lunch with someone new
 Listen with your heart Visit a sick friend
 Clean a neighbor's walk Offer a hug
 Give an unexpected gift Make a new friend
 Pick up litter Say "hello" Open a door
 Plant a tree Help carry a load Share a snack
 Cheer up a friend Thank a teacher or mentor
 Read to a young child Lend a hand Do a kind act daily
 Leave a thank you note Offer your seat
 Cycle courteously BE TOLERANT Let another go first
 Bake cookies to share Give a compliment
 Help a student make friends Donate your gently used items
 Give a balloon away Lend a pencil Respect others
 Celebrate something new every day Do a favor
 Encourage a friend Use a reusable water bottle
 Walk a dog Forgive mistakes Smile at someone



Diversity is our Strength!



Added Event

16 Las Posadas

One of the most popular Christmas traditions in Mexico is Las Posadas (Spanish for 'lodging' or 'accommodation'), a nine day celebration/observance beginning December 16 and ending on December 24. The ritual has been a tradition in Mexico for over 400 years.

Join BFCN for an **end-of-year celebration to learn about Kwanzaa and the importance of cultural traditions** on **Friday, December 18 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Celebrate the start of the holiday break with an evening to remember, hosted by the phenomenal storyteller Sandra Whiting.

We are also excited to welcome Kofi Morris of Holistic Foundations who will teach us about the history of Kwanzaa and practicing traditions, Yolanda Marshall who will do a book reading, and Negus Medhin of Holistic Vibrancy who will share some African drumming.

There will also be games and prizes to be won!

Please share with your friends and family and encourage them to save the date.

The online workshop is free but there is limited space available so please register via Eventbrite ASAP: bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopDecember18

Also, Black students and their families are invited to join us for another online edition of the BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop on Friday, January 22, 2021 from 7 PM - 9 PM.

The workshop is offered free of charge as the goal is to share our collective knowledge so that Black students and their families can make informed decisions about post-secondary education.

Note that the Scholarship Program Coordinator will also be present to answer any questions.

Please share with your friends and family and encourage them to save the date.

The online workshop is free but there is limited space available so please register via Eventbrite ASAP: bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary22

Registration via Eventbrite is mandatory in order to participate for both workshops.

A Zoom link and further details will be sent to all those who register. For more information or to share accessibility needs, please contact us at info@bfcn.ca or 416-566-2731.

