



Silver Pines  
Public School

## May/June Calendar of Events

### May

- 1st - Jump Rope for Heart Kickoff assembly
- 2nd/9th/16th - Swim to Survive for Gr 3
- 3rd- Immunizations for Gr 7 Students and Gr 8 Girls
- 9th/10th –A Kid’s Life Play @ 7pm
- 17th - Track & Field for Special Needs
- 17th –Kindergarten Orientation @ 6pm
- 19th-Spring Photo Session
- 22nd –Victoria Day NO SCHOOL
- 26th –Jump Rope for Heart



### June

- 1st—Track & Field @ Langstaff SS
- 1st –Fun Fair
- 2nd –PA Day NO SCHOOL
- 8th/15th/22nd -Swim to Survive for Gr 7
- 14th –Arts Night
- 27th - Graduation for Gr 8
- 29th - Last day of School - Early Dismissal

### YRDSB Survey for Parents/Guardians

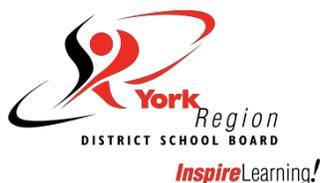
Parents/guardians are invited to participate in a survey before May 19. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent/guardian voice. Results will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being.

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.

**Principal: Lindsey Diakiw | 905.508.7303**  
**Vice Principal Trish Yeates | 905.508.7303**  
**Superintendent: Rita Russo | 905.884.4477**  
**Trustee : Corrie McBain**

<http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>  
**SILVER PINES is on TWITTER @pines\_ps**



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

### 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](http://www.yrdsb.ca) and select programs and services.

For additional information please email [performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca](mailto:performanceplus.si@yrdsb.ca) or call 905-884-2046 ext. 241.

<a href="#">Armadale S.I.</a>	11 Coppard Ave., Markham
<a href="#">Crosby Heights S.I.</a>	190 Neal Drive, Richmond Hill
<a href="#">Discovery S.I. located at Teston Village PS</a>	80 Murray Farm Lane, Maple
<a href="#">Lakeside S.I.</a>	213 Shorecrest Road, Keswick
<a href="#">Lake Wilcox S.I.</a>	80 Wildwood Ave., Richmond Hill
<a href="#">Maple Leaf S.I. located at Glen Cedar PS</a>	915 Wayne Dr., Newmarket
<a href="#">Milliken Mills S.I. located at Highgate PS</a>	35 Highgate Dr., Markham
<a href="#">Oscar Peterson S.I.</a>	850 Hoover Park Drive, Stouffville
<a href="#">Sixteenth Avenue S.I.</a>	400 Sixteenth Avenue, Richmond Hill
<a href="#">Unionville Meadows S.I.</a>	355 South Unionville Ave., Markham
<a href="#">Woodbridge S.I.</a>	60 Burwick Avenue, Woodbridge



## *Message from Administration....*

In the coming two months we will be busy. We have our Kid's Life production and Kindergarten Information Night for our new parents. We have Arts Night as well as our Fun Fair Day. Our Grade 3 and 6s will be involved in writing EQAO and our Junior intermediates will be competing in Track and Field. May and June are always the busiest months of the school year as we plan for next year while continuing our work to achieve academic success and well being for our students.

Our staff have been working on addressing our challenge of practice. We have been engaged in building a comprehensive math program across grades. Our focus for our learning has been spatial reasoning. Teachers have been collaboratively planning units in Geometry and spatial sense. We opened our Math Studio which has games and puzzles that promote Spatial Reasoning and it has been a success. Did you know that skill in spatial reasoning predicts mathematics performance later on? **"The development of "number sense" and spatial thinking are closely tied, and early spatial intelligence predicts a child's performance in mathematics (Newcombe et al 2015; Verdine et al 2014).**

Our Fun Fair on June 1st will be a community building event and be a lot of fun. Come, bring your family and friends. Food and fun for all ages!!

As the weather gets warmer encourage your child to walk or ride their bikes to school. Exercise improves their physical and mental health.

If you have any requests for class placement for your child please let your child's teacher know in writing.

Please remember to be sun smart in the coming two months as we get warmer and sunnier days ahead. Have a wonderful spring!

Best Regards,

*Lindsey Diakiw*

Principal

*Trish Yeates*

Vice Principal

**SILVER PINES is on TWITTER**

**@pines\_ps**



We will be tweeting as often as possible Tweets will keep you informed of upcoming dates and reminders as well as interesting information and daily events happening at school. Follow us on twitter

# The Importance of Spatial Reasoning



Spatial reasoning is the ability to mentally manipulate shapes and orientate ourselves in everyday environments. These skills are an essential part of learning math, science and engineering. Engaging toddlers early in activities like puzzles may help improve spatial reasoning skills over time.

Studies show parents can do simple tasks to [foster math skills in preschoolers](#). Similarly, parents can also nurture spatial skills in a child. Here are tips to remember next time you play a puzzle or blocks with your toddler.

## Use the right words

[Preschool children](#) who hear their parents use spatial terms to describe the size and shape of objects, and then use those words themselves, perform better on tests of their spatial skills. Spatial terms are:

- words that describe shapes, such as "round," "square," "corner," and "straight edge"
- words that describe spatial concepts, such as "over," "under," "little," and "big"

Choose activities that require you to use spatial terms, such as blocks or puzzles. These activities give a child more opportunity to talk about spatial shapes and features.

You can also use spatial terms in daily activities, such as when cutting vegetables while preparing a meal.

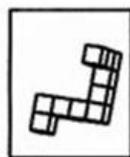
## Use gestures

Providing a gesture along with the spatial word helps children improve a child's understanding of the word. For example, when describing the spatial word "straight," move your hand straight up and down. Or trace what a corner looks like in the air. Using gestures gives children clues to the meaning of these words.

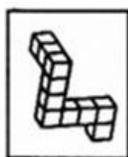
## Praise efforts, not results

Many studies show praising a child's efforts nurtures a child's internal motivation to learn. While engaging with your child, give the appropriate type of praise. Do not say "You are good at puzzles." This type of praise focuses on performance and implies that [success is the result of innate ability](#), not effort. Eventually, the child will find a puzzle she is not good at, and may become discouraged. Instead, say "You did a good job building that castle!" or "That puzzle looked really hard, but you kept trying and you did it!"

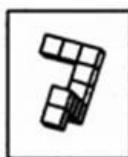
Original:



Two of these four shapes match the original.  
Which ones match?



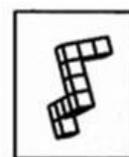
A



B



C



D



Welcome to Kindergarten (WTK) is a wonderful opportunity for families, schools and community partners to come together and celebrate active early learning. Active early learning ensures a smooth transition to school for every child. [Welcome to Kindergarten for All Children](#) shows that WTK Family Orientation sessions are for every child.

*Talk Read Sing Play every day!*



Welcome to Kindergarten (WTK) has partnered with Chirp Magazine to provide a special WTK Chirp edition in our WTK bag of family resources this year. Chirp has also partnered with CBC to provide a series of [Online Chirp Episodes](#) that are very appropriate for children's viewing.

These online episodes are wonderful for families to view together with their children. They also provide wonderful opportunities for follow up with fun art, dress-up or simple science related activities. This type of family engagement that creates play-based activity and conversation is at the root of children's healthy, optimal growth and development.

*Talk Read Sing Play every day!*



Welcome to Kindergarten (WTK) programming provides a wonderful opportunity for families to engage with their new school and celebrate active play based learning that is the foundation for children's healthy, optimal growth and development.

That initial WTK family and school engagement starts a relationship that needs to be nurtured in supporting children throughout their school experience. Dr. Michelann Parr, from Nipissing University's Schulich School of Education, shares anecdotes, experiences, and practices related to family and school engagement in her most informative blog: ["engaging families, engaging schools"](#).

*Talk Read Sing Play every day!*



## Planning on Moving??

Each year at this time we begin to plan our staffing and classes for the upcoming school year. It is important for us to know how many students to expect for September at Silver Pines grades JK to 8. If your children (grades JK to 7) will not be returning to our school in the fall, please inform the office as soon as possible

## **Class Placement Process**

At the end of May, current homeroom teachers, in consultation with receiving teachers, appropriate support staff and the school administration, work to develop balanced classes that strive to best meet the needs of all our students. All class placement decisions are made after extensive planning, preparation, and discussion on the part of many people. Our primary goal is to develop balanced classes that reflect the diversity of our community and allow the variety of interests and talents of our students to emerge. To this end we consider gender, academic ability, interest, talent, behaviour, and ethno-cultural background when developing our student lists.

After working with your child over the course of this year, your child's teachers have a very good understanding of your child's strengths and needs, both academic and social. Each new year brings opportunities for all students to meet new friends and expand their circle of acquaintances. For this reason, class placement decisions based on friendships will not be considered.

Please be aware that we do not accept requests for specific teachers and/or for particular groups of students to remain together.

If you have information about your child that may have an impact on his/her ability to learn effectively, you are encouraged to share that information with his/her teachers at the beginning and throughout the school year.

Your active support in helping your child remain positive about the new challenges ahead is important for a smooth transition to the new class.

# HYDRATION: A KEY TO GOOD HEALTH

Drinking more water is one of those things that we all know we should do, but did you know that staying properly hydrated is equally as important as eating healthy foods?

Ensuring that you are well hydrated aids in the removal of toxins from the body, the delivery of oxygen to your muscles and can help lower your body temperature when working out. While drinking enough water is a key method to ensure proper fluid intake for hydration, the amount of fluids you consume in a day can be counted from: water, ice cubes, milk, juices, broths, soups, popsicles, teas and coffee.

Health officials recommend you limit your intake of fruit juices (avoiding punches or fruit cocktail beverages) and popsicles on a daily basis due to higher sugar content. Teas and coffees, contrary to popular belief, when consumed in moderation are not found to be dehydrating.

## So how much fluid does each of us need and what does it really do for us?

In the past experts have expressed that for the average person, 8 glasses of water per day is the optimal amount. Health Canada conducted a review of data on fluid intake needs as part of the Dietary Reference Intake process and found that “there are a wide range of intake amounts compatible with normal hydration,” and an individual’s body weight and height can become factors when calculating daily intake needs.

The Dietitians of Canada and Eat Right Ontario recommend aiming for a daily fluid intake of approximately:

With the summer approaching, remember that the more you sweat, the more water you should be consuming to properly rehydrate your body.

The same goes for exercising. If you don’t consume enough fluid it’s difficult to produce enough internal sweat to regulate your temperature, which can lead to serious conditions such as heat stroke.

children 1-3 years old	3 cups	girls 14-18 years old	7 cups
children 4-8 years old	5 cups	boys 14-18 years old	10 cups
children 9-13 years old	7 cups		

You also need fluids to help your kidneys function properly. The kidneys are one of the most important organs in the human body as they remove toxins from the blood and body. Ensuring that you are consuming water on a day-to-day basis helps to promote internal kidney health.

Dehydration is serious business, and nothing to mess around with. Signs and symptoms that you are becoming (or are) dehydrated include, but are not limited to feeling sleepy, sluggish, hot, irritable, thirsty and hungry.

### Here are a few suggestions on how to be mindful of your water intake throughout the day:

Keep a Post-It-Note or notepad on your desk and write down how many glasses you have in a day, or alternatively write 1-10 and cross off each number after each glass.

Carry a reusable water container. Keep water with you as a reminder to take a few sips throughout the day to help reach your target.

There are many helpful phone apps like, Waterlogged or MyFitnessPal, that help you track your water intake.

Did you know that even sometimes when you think you feel hungry, you are actually just thirsty? As a helpful tip, when you feel like you want to start snacking, try having a glass of water first and then waiting 5-10 minutes to see if your hunger dissipates. If you find you are still hungry, then continue on to a healthy snack or meal.

Looking to elevate the flavour of water? Try adding in cucumber slices & lemon, or raspberry & mint leaves, or lime & peach slices, or strawberry & basil leaves.



## DR. BETTE STEPHENSON CENTRE FOR LEARNING INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES PROGRAM

### INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES PROGRAM- SECONDARY CREDIT PROGRAM 2017-2018

#### Why Study International Languages at High School?

Language is our connection with our community and the world. Through language we identify the world around us, express our concerns and hopes, and share our experiences and ideas.

**So what are you waiting for?! Now is the time to take advantage of this opportunity and register for a YRDSB International Language CREDIT course of your choice! We offer CREDIT courses in 15 languages at 4 high schools.**

#### Learning another language...

- can enhance intellectual functioning
- strengthens first language skills and facilitates learning additional languages
- creates pride in one's own cultural background and better understanding of other cultures
- enhances career options (source: <http://www.ilea.ca> 03/11/15)

COURSE	Level 1 (Grade 9/10)	Level 2 (Grade 11)	Level 3 (Grade 12)	SCHOOL LOCATION			
				MIDDLEFIELD C.I.	RICHMOND HILL H.S.	THORNLEA S.S.	UNIONVILLE H.S.
		Prerequisite: Level 1	Prerequisite: Level 2				
ARABIC	LYA BD	LYA CU	LYA DU		Saturday		
CANTONESE	LKC BD	LKC CU	LKC DU	Saturday		Saturday	Tuesday
FARSI	LYF BD	LYF CU	LYF DU			Saturday	
GERMAN	LWG BD	LWG CU	LWG DU		Saturday		
GREEK	LBG BD	LBG CU	LBG DU		Saturday		
GUJARATI	LIG BD	LIG CU	LIG DU	Saturday			
JAPANESE	LKJ BD	LKJ CU	LKJ DU			Saturday	Tuesday
KOREAN	LKK BD	LKK CU	LKK DU		Saturday		
MANDARIN SIMPLIFIED	LKB BD	LKB CU	LKB DU	Saturday		Saturday	Tuesday
MANDARIN TRADITIONAL	LKM BD	LKM CU	LKM DU	Saturday		Saturday	
MANDARIN SIMPLIFIED ADVANCED PLACEMENT			LKB DUE	Saturday			
PUNJABI	LIP BD	LIP CU	LIP DU	Saturday			
RUSSIAN	LRR BD	LRR CU	LRR DU		Saturday		
SPANISH	LWS BD	LWS CU	LWS DU		Saturday		
TAMIL	LIT BD	LIT CU	LIT DU	Saturday			
URDU	LIU BD	LIU CU	LIU DU	Saturday			

Register online via *Career Cruising* commencing May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

- Once you have registered, print a sign-off sheet and get your parents to sign for parental approval
- Students who have pre-registered in class will not need to register again in September
- Attend the first class according to the above schedule and bring your signed Career Cruising Sign-off Sheet
- Course locations will be posted in the foyer of the International Languages school on the first day of class



## The Amazing Race Math Night

By: Arielle and Anahita

We came to math night on Wednesday April 19th with our whole families. We started out at the front foyer and we got a clue card to lead us to the first activity. There were 6 different activities to do: Blindfold Walk, Three Views, Math Studio (Games), Breakout, Build It and Math Video. One of our favourite activities was the Blindfold Walk because we got to blindfold our parents! We learned how to navigate (find your way) through a course and clearly describe to our parents how to move (example: 3 steps to the left, 2 steps right). It was a challenge for some of us because we weren't sure how many steps to tell our parents to take, so we had to make reasonable estimates. At the end of the race, each student won a small prize to take home and a chance to win a board game. We were some of the lucky winners who won "Blokus" and "Rush Hour". We hope that the math night next year will be as much fun as this year!



# How To Solve YOUR Problems

Written by Joanna and Jasmine (Grade 3)

Remember we had an assembly that taught us about "little problems" and "big problems"? We discussed how to solve problems and how your reaction should match the size of the problem. Little problems are situations that might be annoying, BUT you can solve them on your own. Here are some examples of little problems: someone steps on your foot, a person shouts at you, someone takes something from you or your friend isn't interested in playing the game you want to play. A BIG problem is something that makes you very upset and it can't easily be fixed (for example: ongoing bullying). If you have a BIG problem, then should ask an adult for help.



**Well, we are here to give you some tips/advice on how to make sure your "little problems" don't become "big problems". Try some of these ideas:**

If you made a mistake, then be honest and try to say "sorry" and explain WHAT you are sorry for

Don't include a friend or someone else into your problems (it's like spreading rumors)

Be careful of HOW you say something (tone, volume)

Watch your language because saying 1 rude word can lead you into a problem

Try to calm yourself down (politely walk away, read, sing, draw, do anything that cheers you up!)

Someone bumps into you or hurts you in some way ....try to WAIT a few seconds before reacting because they might say sorry. Try to talk through your problems FIRST! Use "I feel \_\_\_\_\_ because " sentences to let people know what you are feeling and why you feel that way.



On Pink Shirt Day people at our school were trying to stop bullying! This day started 10 years ago when a boy went to school wearing a pink shirt and people were making fun of him. So some of his classmates decided to try to get as many people as they could to wear pink to school to support him. Now the Pink Shirt Day has become a symbol for the fight against bullying.

I used to think that different colours were for boys or girls, but now I've changed my mind. I know that people can like whatever colour they want and it isn't something they should be bullied for. – Ortal, Grade 3

After our Pink Shirt Day, I found a song called, "True Colors" and I made a lot of connections with Pink Day. So I shared this music video with my class and we had a meaningful discussion on how to treat other people.

# **A KID'S LIFE: COMING SOON TO SILVER PINES! TICKETS ON SALE NOW DON'T MISS OUT!**

When going to play rehearsal, I feel so excited! Nowadays I need to practice every day to memorize lines perfectly. I love how I can be in a school production instead of watching from the audience, yet I'm still only in Grade Five! Experiencing this has been so much fun! Singing, acting, putting together choreography, it's just amazing!

I would really like to thank Mrs. J-L, Mr. Scarlato, Miss Fassel, and the tech crew, and my fellow actors and actresses for letting me be a part of such an amazing performance! Now I'm not the best at singing, but this has been one of the best experiences ever! I have learned a lot about choreography and how hard it is to conduct a show, but with "Shark Week" being this week and all the excitement, I think that we will do amazing!



## **Music Newsletter**

Click on the link below for the latest newsletter.

<https://www.smores.com/sh1as>