



Silver Pines  
Public School

## March\April Calendar of Events

### March

8th and 9th - Drumming Workshop  
12th to 16th - March Break  
30th - Good Friday



### April

1st - Easter Monday  
9th - Council Meeting (7pm)  
16th - Graduation Photos  
18th - Arts & Film Festival  
23rd - Spring Photos

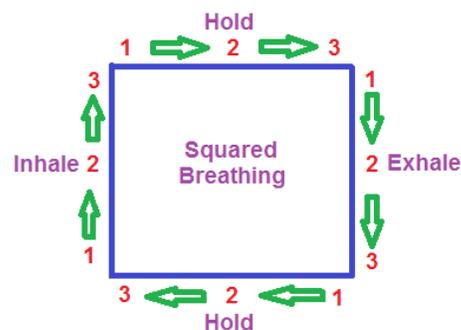
## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

March 12th –16th is the March Break. Enjoy some time with your families and take some well deserved time to have fun and relax. Spring is around the corner. March 30th is Good Friday and April 2nd is Easter Monday. There will be no school on these days.

Please remember that if your child is going to be late or absent, you must report it before 8:30 am on the day of the absence or late using the safe arrival system. either by phone 1-855-203-2994 or online at [yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com](http://yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com)

## Mindfulness Moment

Mindfulness is also good for our kids. There is an emerging body of research that indicates that mindfulness can help our children improve their abilities to pay attention, to calm down when they are upset, and to make better decisions. In short, it helps with emotional regulation and cognitive focus. Do I even need to ask if you want that for our kids? So where do we start? How can we teach these important skills to our children. Try squared breathing for stress and anxiety.



Principal: Lindsey Diakiw | 905.508.7303

Vice Principal Lisa Hascal | 905.508.7303

Superintendent: Rita Russo | 905.884.4477

Trustee : Corrie McBain

<http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>



## *A Message from Administration...*

A Message from Administration... Spring has almost sprung, but before we say goodbye to winter we have some wonderful events and activities worth celebrating. Our ice hockey team played in the Marlies Middle School Meltdown and made it to the quarter-finals! Our girls and boys intermediate basketball teams finished up a great season as well. Our athletics department will start up our boys and girls junior basketball teams and badminton will also begin shortly. In February our school hosted Talent Night Live where our students had the opportunity to showcase our many talents. What a talented group of students! During the show, we introduced our new spirit "Wolf Wear". It has been wonderful to see our staff and students in the halls sporting the new clothing and bringing lots of Silver Pines spirit to the hallways. We continue to accept orders. If you are interested, please contact our office.

As a staff, we are continuing to build our math instruction skills, with a focus on spatial reasoning. In addition, our staff has been involved in a number of collaborative inquiries. This means that our teachers work in teams to study learning challenges our students face and then explore which approach will best support our students. Some of our topics include Math, English as a Second Language, Kindergarten, Modern Learning and the Classroom Environment. The overall goal is to support student well-being and remove barriers to learning.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and enjoyable March Break!

Best wishes,

*Lindsey Diakiw*  
Principal

*Lisa Hascal*  
Vice Principal





### 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 .



This year Earth Hour will take place on Sat., March 24th from 8:30 pm – 9:30pm. In support of Earth Hour, we will participate in our own Earth Hour/ Power Hour (Annual Lights Off/ Monitors Off Hour) on Friday, March 23rd from 2pm to 3pm.

### School Council

Our next School Council Meeting will take place April 9th at 7pm All parents are invited to attend and we are looking for new School Council Members.



The Intermediate hockey team played a very successful tournament at the Ricoh Coliseum in Toronto, while the Intermediate Boys' and Girls' basketball teams finished their seasons this week. Tryouts for the Junior Boys' and Girls' Basketball teams will begin next week and soccer tryouts will be later in the spring.

#### A reminder to parents/guardians who walk their pets to school:

All dogs must be on a leash and kept outside the school. Excrement must be removed by pet owners. Please help keep our property clean and healthy.



## Math is No Mystery

Is that 16oz. can of tomatoes a better bargain than the 12oz. can? You make dozens of calculations in your daily life, from balancing a checkbook to figuring how long it will take to drive to a cross-town soccer game. That's math at work.

**Be positive about math.** Express confidence in your child's ability to do math. Don't stress either your own fear of math or how difficult math is or how much you admire anyone who can do math. Remember, everyone can and does use math all the time.

**Show your kids math at work in their world.** Get your kids used to math by thinking out loud when making calculations. Then, let your children work out some real-life puzzles themselves. For example:

- Let them measure when you bake.
- Ask them to figure out how long of a hose you need to reach from the faucet on the side of the house to the garden.
- Let your child figure out how many miles you'll be driving on your next trip by using the information on a map.
- Sort silverware by knives, forks, and spoons. Sort cards by suit or numbers.

**Make math a game.** Math games are fun and inexpensive. They are a wonderful way to get your kids to enjoy working with numbers, as well as improve their number skills. Here are a few suggestions:

- Many games that we take for granted are excellent math lessons. "Go Fish" teaches counting and grouping in sets. Games that use play money teach how to make change. Board games that use dice teach addition and counting. Backgammon teaches addition, subtraction, and strategy.
- Beans, stones, or marbles can be used to play number games. Let your child develop his or her own games by sorting beans into different sizes or types, setting up the rules for a counting game, or using different types of pasta to make a picture.
- Give your children a geometry lesson by letting them create a collage of circles, squares, and triangles. Challenge them to come up with as many different shapes as they can using only triangles.
- Play store with the items in your cupboard.

A pan of water and some jars or cups of different sizes will amuse a child for hours while teaching capacity and volume.

### Math Tips for Parents: Beyond 1, 2, 3, 4...

Encourage creative problem-solving. Problem-solving is the basis of good mathematical thinking, and the problems don't have to involve numbers.

- "How many different ways are there to walk to school?"
- "What's another way to arrange the furniture in this room?"
- "How many different ways can I measure flour to get half a cup?"

Try to come up with more than one solution for everyday problems.

**Choose gifts that develop problem-solving skills.** Blocks, building sets, geometric tile sets, puzzles, board games, weather stations, maps, puzzle books, calculators, strategy games, scales, and origami are just a few of the gifts that will give your child pleasure and knowledge at the same time.



## The Arts At Silver Pines

What a great start to our year! Many students shone on February 7th, in Talent Night Live! We had fantastic singers, dancers, a martial arts master, and musicians all show what well-rounded students they were. Thank you to the families who braved the snow to support our entertainers.

Junior/Intermediate students were treated to a theatrical performance called "The Secret Life of Riley K." on February 27th. The two-person show focused on what it's like to struggle with anxiety disorders, and how to cope with the daily challenges it brings about.

RhythmWorks drumming is coming to Silver Pines P.S.! RhythmWorks teaches students how to use objects such as buckets to create music. Students in Grades One to Eight will be treated to performances by the drummers, and then Junior/Intermediate classes will attend workshops throughout the last couple of days before March Break. We're going out with a BANG!!

The Avengers of Oz rehearsals are going so well! Actors and singers are expected to be "off book", which means know their lines and songs after March Break. This way, rehearsals can proceed without students having to look at their scripts. Please spend some time listening to your child read their lines and sing their songs! The show is only TWO months away and it's going to be AWESOME.

Thank you!

## Electives

This year, our students have the opportunity to participate in Electives at Silver Pines. Electives are a fun, free activity that they can participate in at school. Each student has been signed up for an Elective of their choice. The workshops will begin Friday, March 2nd and run after lunch. Students will then attend the same workshop for a Friday afternoon in April and May. Hopefully your child will learn a new skill that they can then practice at home! Choices for the Electives include: Cooking, Making Slime, Origami, Mask Making, Volleyball Clinic, Sports, Sketching, Making Comics, Makedo (building with cardboard), Outdoor Survival, Yoga, Stop-Motion Animation, Role Playing Game, Finger Knitting, Crochet and Needlepoint.

## Wolf Wear is here!

It is great to see students and teachers show their school spirit! Sample sizes are available in the office.

*Prices are as follows:*

- Hoodies: \$25
- T-shirts: \$12 (in grey only)
- Pants: \$25
- Beanies: \$10

There are both Youth and Adult sizes available. Go Wolves!



## **An Announcement from Our Virtual Learning Commons**

We are pleased to introduce Overdrive, an online library that is free to use for Silver Pines Public School.

French and English eBooks, AudioBooks and Picture Books can be borrowed for 14 days, or more, through renewals.

### **Overdrive Link:**

[Yorkregionca.libraryreserve.com](http://Yorkregionca.libraryreserve.com)

Students can login by putting a 0 in front of their username/student number (e.g., 0349XXXXXX)

Google Slides Presentation Explaining How to Use Overdrive (Requires a GAPPs account).

<http://bit.ly/2FpzdW>

*For Android, Chromebook, iOS, Kindle Fire, Kobo eReaders, Kobo Tablets, Mac, NOOK eReaders, Nook Tablets, Windows, Windows Phone*



# JEWISH FAMILY &CHILD

For more information or to register please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 x 6215 or visit our website at [jfandcs.com/groups](http://jfandcs.com/groups)

## groups & workshops

### MARCH 2018

As with all of our programs, registration is required. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community regardless of cultural, religious and/or racial background and we offer a sliding scale for those who require fee reductions.

#### HIGH CONFLICT DIVORCE

A workshop for parents wanting to develop strategies and techniques to deal with a High Conflict situation and help to lessen the impact of that conflict on their children. This workshop is not for individuals in an abusive situation.

Wednesday, March 7, 2018  
7:00pm to 9:00pm  
4600 Bathurst St  
Lipa Green Centre

#### EFFECTIVE PARENTING

A four session group to help parents learn what they can do to raise a happy, motivated and well behaved child. For parents of children ages 2 to 10 years. Topics include: how to nurture self-esteem; encourage problem solving; increase communication and set appropriate limits and discipline.

Tuesday, March 27, 2018  
7:00pm to 9:00pm  
9600 Bathurst St  
Lebovic Community Campus



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