

Silver Pines Parent **POST**

January 15, 2013



Calendar of Events – Important Dates

Jan. 23-24	Dental Screening Program
Feb. 11	Term 1 Reports go home
Feb. 12	Dance-a-Thon Fundraising Event
Feb. 17	Family Day—no school
Mar. 7	P. A. Day—no school
Mar. 10-14	March Break—no school
March 25	Gr. 7 Hep B & Meningitis & Gr.8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female immunization

School Council 2013-2014 Meeting Dates:

February 3, 2014
April 7, 2014
May 5, 2014

Silver Pines P.S. Contact Information

Phone: 905.508.7303

Fax: 905.508.7351

Website: www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca



Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Deidra McPhail
Secretary: Mrs. Betty Jalali

Admin Message

Dear Families,

It has been a cool wintery start to January! Thank you for your support by sending your child ready for possible outdoor recesses: hats, scarves, mitts, boots and snow pants go a long way! We also thank you for keeping very sick kids at home. We will continue to encourage our students to wash their hands and to follow proper hygiene to ensure minimal spread of germs this season. Students too sick to go outside for recess are too sick to be at school.

Students this month are busily engaged in many culminating activities as term 1 is coming to an end. The learning is buzzing all around the school as students are learning with and from each other and are sharing their successes with their teachers and peers. Students are also learning to be reflective and to set realistic and measurable goals as they transition into term 2. Report cards will be distributed on February 11th.

Please take the time to discuss the reports with your child/ren. Remember that the Learning Skills part of the report card is just as important, if not more so, as the subject area part of the report card. Learning skills are life skills. They are part of what makes a child grow up into an adult who's a responsible, collaborative and contributing member of society. Please review that section of the report card carefully with your child/ren and discuss next steps and plans ahead.

On February 12th, we will hold our 2nd annual Dance-a-thon, fundraising for technology for our school. Please remember to send your child with their pledge form and money on February 12th and not before. A special thank you shout out to our amazing school council for all their volunteer work organizing this event and many other student and parent engagement events for our school! We have an amazing student and parent body!

At this time we would also like to formally welcome Mrs. Betty Jalali to our office team. Mrs. Jalali will continue to replace Ms. Shelli Gould until the end of the school year, while Ms. Gould is on leave. Thank you parents for the warm welcome that you've extended to our new office team, and for being patient with both Mrs. Jalali and Mrs. McPhail as they get to know students, siblings and families. They've already become part of our Silver Pines family and we look forward to wonderful months ahead working together and learning from and with each other. We will continue to work hard to service our community with professionalism and with care.

Best regards,

Aneta Fishman

Principal

Sherry Zarif

Vice Principal

BE A LEADER~BE A LEARNER~HAVE A VOICE~HAVE FUN!

Silver Pines is Awarded \$1000!!



Congratulations, Silver Pines students—Silver Pines P. S. has been awarded a \$1000.00 grant from the Metro Green Apple School Program! By taking the initiative to encourage healthy eating habits at school, the Silver Pines snack program will be sponsored in part by Metro. Encourage your students to continue to take part by enjoying one of the fresh fruits provided during snack time or by bringing a healthy snack from home to enjoy in the company of friends.

Moving?



If you are moving, please inform the office in writing. Include the last day of attendance and the school your child(ren) will be attending. This will help to facilitate the transferring of your child's records and update our files. Also, if you know of a family

who will be moving into the Silver Pines P.S. area, please advise them to call the school as soon as possible for registration information (all grades).

Locked School Doors

Beginning February 3, all school doors, including the front doors, will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell. The doors will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone arriving at the school after that time must buzz in and sign in at the main office.



- To access before and after care programs, we ask you to use the childcare entrance. YMCA will be communicating with parents more details of the plan for pick up from different rooms.

- If you are dropping off lunch and/or items for your child during the school day, you will need to buzz in.

- Students who leave the property for lunchtime need to continue to sign out in the office. Students are asked to give themselves enough time to get back to school so they can enter the school from the back / side doors with the rest of the students (as opposed to the main doors which will be locked.) They do not need to sign back in at the office, as attendance will be done in classrooms.

Our school continues to be a safe place where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.

SNOW RULES

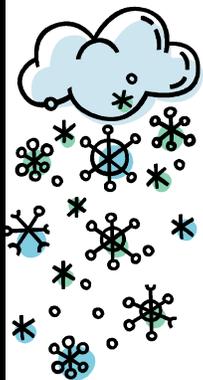
The time has come to review some of the rules around safety involving snow. Packed snow poses many hazards including embedded grit and loose debris which can cause injury, heavy packed snow can also result in injury. Our expectations/rules are few and simple:

1. All snow stays on the ground (no snowballs at all)
2. Snow can be moved to create snow forts, snow people and other snow structures.
3. The construction of the aforementioned structures will be respected by all and no knocking down or destruction by others.

These expectations/rules are repeatedly reviewed on the announcements, by the classroom teachers and school assistants.



Weather Watch



All students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal or vice-principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors up to 40 minutes after lunch. **We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions e.g. wind chill; we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.**

We sometimes receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.

Exceptions are made on an individual basis for children who may need to remain indoors for an extended period of time because of a physical condition or recovery from a serious illness or accident. In such cases, a letter from the doctor is required.

Inclement Weather Days

Should the weather become so severe that the Board cancels buses in the morning that information will be conveyed through the local media, TV or Radio stations.

CBC (740 AM)	CJEZ (97.3 FM)	CHIN (1540 AM)	SRC (90.3 FM)
CKFM (99.9 FM)	AM (640)	CHUM (1050 AM)	CFRB (1010 AM)
NEWS (680 AM)	CITY TV	CJCL (590 AM)	CKDX (88.5 FM)
CHAY (93.1 FM)	CHFI (98.1 FM)	CHUM (104.5 AM)	

If buses are cancelled, the school will still remain open. It is at the discretion of the parents whether or not to send their children to school. If the buses do not run in the morning, they will not run in the afternoon. AT ALL TIMES students should be aware of an alternative place to go should bus service be cancelled or delayed or should schools be forced to close due to an emergency. ***If you drive your child to school when buses are cancelled you must also pick them up.***

A Message from the Learning Commons



The big question that has been asked by many students at Silver Pines is, “*What is a Learning Commons!? I thought it was called a library!?*”. Sparked by this natural curiosity, students are being asked to define their space. When they open the doors: **What do they see? What do they hear? What do they feel?** I hope that by opening up this dialogue and allowing the students share their observations and ideas about the space, they will also be able to take ownership of it.

The Learning Commons is a space where students are able to collaborate with one another, as well as with teachers and support staff. It is a space that makes information accessible so that students can explore their ideas and develop answers to the many questions that they pose about the world around them. This information is not just found in the books that line the shelves at Silver Pines, but in the people that fill the space and the technology that is available. As we continue to transition from a library into a Learning Commons, students will be better able to access information through technology such as computers and iPads. This technology also provides students with a new means of collaborating with one another (for example: through GoogleDocs, social media, and podcasts). A fantastic website that students can access at home as well as at school is Open Culture (www.openculture.com), a website devoted to free cultural and educational media. This is just one of the many examples of websites that students use to research in the Learning Commons.

I welcome you to come and visit the Learning Commons at Silver Pines PS. and share what you see, hear, and feel when you walk into the space. For more information about the Ontario School Library Association’s definition for “Learning Commons” please take a look at the document *Together for Learning* (www.accessola.org).

Lost and Found



Please check that your child brings home his/her belongings on a daily business. Please remind your child(ren) to look periodically

in the lost and found box for misplaced hats, boots, shoes, sweaters, coats etc. Labeling clothing with your child’s name is always a good idea. Any small items like rings, watches and valuables are held at the office. Any items remaining in the lost and found will be sent to charity.

From the ESL room

The ESL room is open to students each morning, and it has become a busy hub for the English language learners (ELL) attending Silver Pines. While in the ESL room, students take part in lessons and activities focusing on a number of English language skills, including developing vocabulary and improving oral and written communication. The ESL teachers (Mrs. Pathak and Mrs. Ages) are also there to offer extra support with work that students are completing from their regular classrooms. This year, we also have started to implement use of the school’s iPads to develop English language skills by playing vocabulary building games and for translation purposes. Students are really enjoying getting to use this technology in their learning.

We have been so excited to see the excellent progress that many of our students have made in their English language skills over the first part of this school year. We have seen an increase in students’ self-confidence have seen relationships build between students. This has led to more and more students starting to speak regularly in class, sharing ideas and asking questions. It’s really wonderful to see!

From,

The ESL team



Please join us for Silver Pines Public School's

Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday May 21, 2014

6:00—7:00 P.M.

This is a parent and future Silver Pines kindergarten student event.

*****Please bring your child with you.*****

- ◆ Participate in early literacy interactive centres
- ◆ Get ideas about resources to support early literacy development
- ◆ Meet our present FDK educators
- ◆ Meet School Council members
- ◆ Learn about the Full Day Kindergarten programme
- ◆ Opportunity to ask questions
- ◆ Meet the Principal / Vice Principal

Please RSVP at (905) 508-7303

We look forward to meeting you and starting an exciting journey together!

Mrs. A. Fishman, Principal, Ms S. Zarif, Vice Principal, and Kindergarten Educators



Math in the Home

Your home is full of opportunities to explore math with your child and, at the same time, build his or her self-confidence and understanding of mathematical ideas. This is a chance for you and your child to “talk math” that is, to communicate about math while discovering relationships between numbers. Being able to describe mathematical patterns and relationships, such as those between “addition and subtraction” or “odd and even numbers,” is important to later success in math.

The activities below use items that can be found in your home. While doing the activities, keep in mind that an understanding of math and a sense that math is enjoyable will help children develop skills that they will need for success their entire lives.

Fill It Up Grades K-2

What you'll need

A measuring cup, 4 glasses of equal size, and water

What to do

1. Pour water at different levels ($\frac{1}{3}$ cup, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup and 1 cup) in each glass. Put the glasses next to each other. Ask your child: Are all the water levels the same or different?
2. Ask your child questions to encourage comparison, estimation, and thinking about measurement. Which glass has more water? Which has less? How many glasses of water do you estimate it will take to fill the container?
3. Pour more water into one of the glasses to make it equal to the amount of water in another glass. Move the glasses around so that the glasses that have the same amount of water are not next to each other. Ask your child: Which glasses do you think have the same amount of water?
4. As your child begins to understand more, do activities using different-shaped containers that hold the same amount of a substance (water, rice, and popcorn kernels). This helps your child see comparisons, as well as the various capacities of different-sized and -shaped containers.

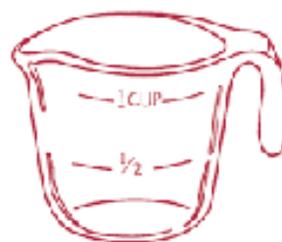


Illustration by © 2009 by Linda Ward Beech, Scholastic Teaching Resources



$\frac{1}{3}$ cup full $\frac{1}{2}$ cup full $\frac{3}{4}$ cup full 1 cup full

! Filling empty containers provides opportunities to explore comparisons, measurement, volume, estimation, and geometry.

The Ministry of Education website is a great place to explore all areas of our curriculum, find helpful hints and answers to frequently asked questions.

The Ministry of Education website: www.edu.gov.on.ca



Math Tips for kindergarten to grade 3

1. **Counting can be fun and entertaining.** Sing counting songs such as "One, Two Buckle My Shoe". Your local librarian can recommend fun counting books. Play Hopscotch – it's a counting game! There are lots of games where you count, such as *Snakes and Ladders*, *Dominoes*, *Crazy Eights* and *Candyland*®.
2. **Computers + math = fun.** There are great computer games available for math – ask your librarian or check out your local computer store. Make sure they are "parent approved". There are also super websites that have fun math games, such as [TVOKids](http://TVOKids.com), or do an Internet search for other sites.
3. **Start Easy and Work Up!** Once they have got the hang of counting by 1s, introduce skip counting, such as counting by 2s and 5s.
4. **Use household items for counting practice.** Practise adding and subtracting with objects found around your house like spoons or pots and pans. When they've become good at these skills, move on to simple multiplication.
5. **Tap into your child's curiosity.** Go on a number hunt together and discover places where numbers are used such as a clock, TV, computer keyboard, calendar, telephones and licence plates.

Math Tips for grades 4 to 6

1. **Connect math to daily life.** Let your kids know the importance of math in day-to-day living. Talk about the ways you use math in your job and around the house. Show them a tax form or how you pay the bills. Ask them how they used math during the day.
2. **Practise mental math using coins.** For example, show that a certain item costs a certain amount and ask what coins are needed to pay for it.
3. **Play games together.** Show them math can be fun and exciting. Play family games to add excitement to math activities, like chess or checkers or games in the car such as math bingo or adding licence plate numbers. Lots of board games need math such as *Junior Monopoly*® or play card games such as *Uno*®.
4. **Cooking can be counting fun!** Get older children involved in helping out at dinner time and let them help measure ingredients for dishes or estimate the number of potatoes that are needed to feed everyone.
5. **Play the estimating game.** Ask your kids to estimate measurements, distances, time and grocery bills. Be sure to compare the estimate with actual. Or get them to guess how much the apples you are going to buy will weigh and then take them to the scale in the grocery store and find out.

LEARNING DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION IN YRDSB

了解特殊教育

日期 (Date): January 21, 2014

時間 (Time): 11:00AM-1:00PM

地點/Location: Richmond
Hill Central Library

Meeting Room B (2nd Floor)

Richmond Hill 中央圖書館 二樓會

報名及查詢, 請致電:

Contacts:

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(Chinese) SEPYR
Cynthia Liu 416-509-44429
Pauline Guo 416-666-2929

講座內容 : Content

此次講座將幫助家長了解特殊教育:

- ◆ 什么是特殊教育?
What is Special Education?
- ◆ 評估過程 **Assessment Process**
- ◆ 誰是特殊教育的學生?
Who is the Special Needs Student?
- ◆ 什么是IPRC/IEP?
- ◆ 父母之權利及責任 **Parents' Roles and Responsibilities**

讲员/Speakers and Facilitators:

Cindy Yeung (YRDSB)

楊老師是約克區教育局老師, 她提供支援和指導給中國學生及其父母。

Cindy is a Teacher Liaison with YRDSB and supports culturally relevant supports for Chinese families in York Region.

Renee Flannery (LDAYR)

Renee is a Resource Facilitator with LDAYR who has provided parents with guidance and support for the



**ldayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region**

The right to learn, the power to achieve

In partnership with:
**Inclusive School and Community
Services (YRDSB) and Settlement & Education
Partnership in York Region (SEPYR)**





**The York Region District School Board
And
Early Intervention Services**

Invite

Parents of children with special needs to attend Information Meetings
 - regarding the transition to school for students
 - registering for kindergarten for September 2014

Date: January 22th, 2014, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. (snow date: January 29nd, 2014)
 Location: Centre for Leadership and Learning
 Address: 300 Harry Walker Parkway South, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 8E2
 Phone: 905-727-3141

For further information, please contact:

Margo Allen
 Early Intervention Services
 (905) 762-1282 ext. 2851

Kate Diakiw
 York Region District School Board
 (905) 727-0022 (416) 969-7170, ext. 3219

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION begins JANUARY 17, 2014
 REMEMBER to REGISTER at YOUR CHILD'S HOME SCHOOL

Documentation Required: Proof of child's age (Birth Certificate/Passport) and
 Proof of residency

