

# Silver Pines Parent **POST**

November 22, 2013



## Calendar of Events – Important Dates

Nov. 25-29	Scholastic Book Fair
Nov. 28	Gr. 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female immunization
Dec. 20	P.A. Day—no school for students
Jan. 23-24	Dental Screening Program
March 25	Gr. 7 Hep B & Meningitis & Gr.8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female Immunization

### School Council 2013-2014 Meeting Dates:

December 2, 2013	February 3, 2014
April 7, 2014	May 5, 2014

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2014-2015 year is already approaching! **Registration opens up on Friday, January 17, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the office.** Please come ready with supporting documents to ensure that your child is registered. The Board requires the following documents to be submitted at the time of registration:

Proof of child's age (i.e. **birth certificate or passport**).  
Proof of residency (i.e. **current property tax bill, purchase agreement, or a rental/lease agreement for the residence and utility bills**).  
Confirmation of tax support (or fill out a **Direction of School Support form** at the time of registration).



*Please be aware that a child will not be considered registered until all supporting documents are submitted.*

**We look forward to seeing you on January 17th!!**

### Silver Pines P.S. Contact Information

Website: [www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

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## Admin & Literacy Team Message

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

As part of our school improvement planning, our staff at Silver Pines has identified self-regulation as an area of need for our students. We have spent the past several months focusing on learning more about self-regulation and learning how to better help students develop this learning skill that is crucial to their academic success. *Self-regulation is defined by the Ministry of Education, as the ability to set, monitor, and revise plans, attitudes, and behaviours to take strategic action toward the achievement to goals (cognitive, social and emotional).*

We have worked to develop a common understanding of what self-regulation is and what strategies we can put in place in our classrooms to support students to become self-regulating learners. Explicit teaching about how to set learning goals, monitor progress and reflect upon learning are all areas that we have been focusing on.

You can help to support your child at home to develop self-regulation as well. Here are a few simple things to do at home promote this development:

- 1) Ask your child about their day. Simple questions such as, "What did you learn today at school?" can get the conversation going and get your child reflecting on their learning.
- 2) Have your child self-assess the quality of their school work. Whether it's homework or a returned assignment, asking questions about what they felt they did well or what they feel they could improve on, encourage active participation by your child in the learning process.
- 3) Let your child make some decisions about when and where they will complete their homework or at home reading. Encourage them to make smart decisions about limiting distractions and about choosing times when they will not be tired or hungry.

These things will help make your child a more active participant in their learning, and will promote the development of their self-regulation skills.

Best Regards,

*Aneta Fishman*

*Principal*

*Sherry Zarif*

*Vice Principal*

*Literacy  
Team*

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

## Breakfast For Learning Grant

Earlier this year, our school applied to **Breakfast for Learning (BFL)** for a child nutrition grant. We are pleased to inform you that Silver Pines has received a **\$500 grant from BFL** for the 2013-2014 school year. A portion of the grant was provided by the generous support of President's Choice Children's Charity, the National Premier Sponsor of Breakfast for Learning. We are extremely excited as the \$500 will be used to support our current **Healthy Snack Program!**



## Math Instruction

A comprehensive math program involves students trying new strategies to solve problems, and building skills that they may apply to new situations. Some of the ways we promote this at Silver Pines is through problem-solving activities, mini-lessons, real-world investigations, and math games.



When working in math, students are encouraged to demonstrate their understanding in a variety of ways. For example, trying different strategies, making a plan, showing their work (using pictures, numbers, and/or words), and explaining their thinking. **Assessment of student progress in math is based on the both answer they give, and the process they use to arrive at a solution.** You may support your child at home by visiting the EQAO website for practice questions in Grades 3 and 6 ([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)), playing online math games, or prompting your children to explain their thinking and to try more than one strategy when solving a problem.

## Food Drive

### Nov. 25-Dec.6, 2013

At Silver Pines we believe in Social Justice and the need to help others. At this time of year, we focus on the character trait of **empathy** within our community. We are asking for **voluntary donations of non-perishable food items** for our Food Drive; items such as canned meat and fish, dried pasta and rice, and baby food are suggested.

The drive will take place from **Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**. All food items will be donated to local Richmond Hill food banks. We appreciate your continued support.



December 2013

**WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEPARATE: WHAT TO TELL THE KIDS**- A workshop for parents about to separate or in the early stages of separation. How and when to tell the children, how to handle moving day, as well as ideas and strategies to best meet your child's needs will be discussed. **Tuesday December 10/13 at 4600 Bathurst St.- Lipa Green Ctre. from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.**

**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 requires **active participation** and is not for individuals in an abusive situation. **Wednesday December 11/13 at 4600 Bathurst St. – Lipa Green Centre from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**DATING IN MID-LIFE**- a one session workshop for men and women in midlife ( 40+) who have been single for 2 or more years and are looking for information on how to nurture a lasting relationship. Topics include: dating myths and facts, the 5 stages of dating, and the difference between the dating behaviours of men and women. **Thursday December 12/13 4600 Bathurst St.- Lipa Green Ctre.**

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 need. For more information or to register please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 Ext # 6215 or go to our website at [www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com).

## Youth for Voice Conference

**... a message from one of our students:**

"When I was asked to participate in the *Youth for Voice Conference*, I initially thought it would be a review of what I already know about bullying. However, I was proven wrong, as it was much different. This experience gave me valuable insight into real life stories and experiences, in an active and stimulating way. The people at the *Youth for Voice Conference* got all the students involved and moving around with activities, and also had a couple of speakers. The speakers spoke about their own personal experiences with drugs and low self-esteem and how they dealt with them. At this conference I was able to develop a better understanding of self-harm, drugs and disabilities. I'm glad I was given the opportunity to be involved in such a memorable day."

-Christina K., Gr. 8