

Silver Pines Parent **POST** October 25, 2024

Silver Pines PS Contact Information

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Administrative Assistant: Linda Hayworth Secretary: Charmaine Chow

Principal: Sherry Zarif Vice-Principal: Lesa Thomas



Upcoming Dates

October 28 - Hot Lunch Begins This Week

October 28 - Lake St. George Grade 8 Parent Information Night (Virtual)

October 29 - Kindergarten Trip to the Farm

October 31 - Fall Dance-a-thon

November 4 - School Council Meeting

November 8 - Progress Report Cards distributed electronically (beginning Nov. 8th)

November 14 -15 – Parent Teacher Interview Night/Day

November 15 - PA Day

November 18 - 20 - Grade 8 Overnight Trip to Lake St. George

November 25 - Picture Day

Meet and Greet for Newcomers

We would like to thank all the families who joined us this past Wednesday for our "Newcomers Meet and Greet" session. It was wonderful to meet all the families and we thank you for taking the time out of your busy day to come out and support your child and community.

For those who were not able to make it to the session, here are some resources from our Settlement and Education partners at CCSYR. Please don't hesitate to reach out to them should you have any questions. They have translators in many languages that can support all our families.

CCSYR: <https://ccsy.org/>

CCSYR Halloween Event: <https://ccsy.org/events/halloween/>

CCSYR Events for other months: <https://ccsy.org/events/>

Community Navigators: These are the representatives that were at the session. However, there are many others, who speak other languages, that you reach out to. Call the general line at (905) 731-8281 and ask for a Community Navigator in your language for support.

FALL Dance a-Thon – Thursday October 31st

We are very excited to have our students participate in our Fall Dance a-Thon. We will have snacks for sale for \$1 and \$2. Cash only and students are limited to 2 snacks each. Students are invited to wear Fall colours of orange and yellow.

If students choose to wear their Halloween costume. Please note the important message below.

Halloween Costumes

- All students are reminded that costume props, and/or replica weapons including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc., may not be brought to school.
- Masks as part of a costume are not to be worn at school as they present a safety risk, and some masks may even be quite scary to the younger students.
- Costumes should be respectful of the diversity in our communities and therefore should not reflect symbols or objects representative of another person's culture and/or race that may trivialize, devalue, or appropriate any culture or race.
- Costumes that mock social identities through stereotyping are also unacceptable.
- Students are discouraged from wearing costumes that are not appropriate to the moral tone of our school.
- Costumes should be of simple design (to limit personal items being brought to school), and treats cannot be shared.

If students are unsure about their costume idea, they should speak with their classroom teacher and/or administration. We are looking forward to a fun and respectful Halloween for all.

In addition, please note that while the celebration of "Halloween" is not part of Ontario Curriculum, some classes may choose to weave Halloween celebrations and/or traditions as part of the daily work and curriculum expectations for specific grades. Individual teachers may send notes home to inform you of expectations and / or options for wearing a costume. Regular instruction and programming will continue as we take extra care to be inclusive in our practice at school and to ensure that everyone feels safe as per Board policy and protocol. If you have any concerns / questions, please don't hesitate to let your child's teacher know.

Silver Pines is a NUT SAFE School.

Please remember that several of our children will experience anaphylactic shock if they are exposed to even a tiny amount of peanut oil or peanut butter. In fact, some children will go into anaphylactic shock if they even smell peanuts or peanut products. When this happens, the child must be immediately injected with an epi-pen and then transported to the hospital for emergency treatment. If treatment is not given immediately, the results can be fatal.

For this reason the school **MUST** be a **PEANUT AND NUT-SAFE ZONE**. What this means is that no peanut or peanut products of any kind may be brought into the school. We are asking for your assistance in dealing with these children's allergies. Talking about the situation with your children will also help, since the more information they have, the better they will understand the reality of the risk to those children with peanut allergies.

Following Halloween, please refrain from having your children bring candies to school. Aside from the candies not being a healthy snack choice, they also may contain nuts, peanuts or other allergens. Please remember that food items are never to be shared at school. Please check the snack ingredients carefully if you choose to send it to school for your child only. Thank you for your understanding. As always, if you have questions, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the administration at the school.



Food Drive at Silver Pines – October 28 – November 28

We would like to ask for your support in our school's food drive, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill. All food donations collected will be sent to the Richmond Hill Food Bank to help families in need within our community. We are accepting crackers, rice and pasta, juice boxes, canned food, boxes of cereal, coffee and tea bags and hygiene products. Please ensure all food items are non-perishable and peanut free. Your generosity will make a big difference! Thank you so much for your support!



The Fall Scholastic Book Fair is coming! – Nov 11 – 15

Every year Silver Pines hosts the Scholastic Book Fair/Sale in our Library for students and families. Our Fall sale will be held from Monday, November 11th to the morning of Friday November 15th. The library will be open for families to attend after school from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the evening of Parent Interviews (Thursday Nov. 14th) until 8:00 p.m., and the morning of the Friday P.A. Day (Nov. 15). Students will have opportunities to attend with their class during the week.

WANTED: Book Fair Volunteers

Ms. Jones is looking for a few more parent volunteers to help during the school days. Please email her at leslie.jones-lissack@yrdsb.ca if you're interested. We hope to see you there!

Lunch Drop-Off

If you are dropping off lunch for your child, please do so before 12:20pm. You can leave the lunch on the table outside of the office with your child's name on it. We have sticky notes and pens for you to use. Children should not be meeting their parents at the door or outside. We also encourage students to come to school with their lunch already packed. **Food delivery services (e.g. UberEats, Skip the Dishes) will not be accepted.** Students are reminded not to share food, utensils or drinks.

We will make every effort not to interrupt instructional time. Please inform your child in the morning if you are dropping off lunch or other items.

Hot Lunch – will be starting on Monday October 28th. This first phase will be from October 28th to January 30th

Monday – Mr. Greek

Thursday – Subway

Friday – Pizza

Reporting Attendance

Parents/guardians are asked to inform your child's school before 8:30am if your child is going to be absent or late to school. You can do so online by Edsby or calling 905-508-7303 option 1

End of Day - Early Pick-Ups

Though we encourage families to make appointments and other engagements outside of our school hours, we understand that sometimes this is not possible. To limit disruptions to end of day routines in classrooms, we ask that any early pick-ups be **completed by 2:30pm**. The last 30min of the school day is a busy time for students and staff who are engaged in many end of day activities, and we would like to limit any additional disruptions to the learning of all of our students during this time. As always, please try to inform the office **and** your child's teacher by email/Edsby ahead of time.

Become a School Crossing Guard

We are looking for caring individuals to help keep our students safe on their way to and from school. Apply online www.RichmondHill.ca or call 905-771-8800