Silver Pines Parent POST Sept 8, 2023

Silver Pines PS Contact Information Phone: 905.508.7303 Fax: 905.508.7351 Email: silver.pines.ps@yrdsb.ca Website: www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.ca Administrative Assistant: Susie Morra Secretary: Shelli Gould Principal: Sherry Zarif Vice-Principal: Georgia Petinarelis



Upcoming Dates

September 20-21: Swan Lake Trip (Grade 2s) September 22: PA - No School for students September 26-27: Swan Lake Trip (Grade 4s) October 2: Parent Council Meeting @ 7pm October 9: Thanksgiving - No School October 12: Meet the Teacher Night

Welcome back! 😳

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students for a successful first week as well welcome new and returning students and their families to Silver Pines P.S.

At Silver Pines we are committed to creating and fostering a warm, caring and supportive educational environment for your child. Throughout the year your child will be provided with many opportunities to grow intellectually, emotionally and physically within a framework emphasizing a positive self-concept. As collaborative team leaders, we strongly believe in and value a community school, where the school is an integral part of the community and serves students and their families by providing opportunities for lifelong learning.

The school administration, staff and parents at Silver Pines have worked hard over the years to develop a clear focus and shared values between school and community. We look forward to working with all of you and welcome your input as we develop goals, set priorities, and establish expectations aimed at enhancing student achievement. If you have any questions concerning your child or specific programming concerns, please feel free to contact the school. Early communication between home and school is an important step in assuring that your child gets off to a positive start in his/her educational year.

Please see below important reminders.

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

Daily Entry and Exit Procedures

At Silver Pines, we have an open entry where students can enter the building between 8:15am-8:30am. Supervision will take place inside of the building starting at 8:15am. This means that there will be no supervision outside of the school in the yard. We will continue to have staff in front and side of our building to support with our Kiss and Ride program, Bus and Kindergarten entry.

In order to help us maintain safety and consistency with morning school arrival, we ask that you follow the following morning entry routines:

- Bus students are to enter the school building using the FRONT entrance.
- Kindergarten students use the designated kindergarten gated area. There is no entrance for cars • into the parking lot for our kindergarten families. Families are asked to park on the street and walk their child to the kindergarten gate.

- All other students walking to school or being dropped off at the Kiss & Ride are to use the BACK entrance on the primary tarmac.
- Kiss & Ride Students being dropped off at the Kiss & Ride are to exit the car at the end of the Kiss & Ride lane and enter the building through the BACK entrance on the primary tarmac.
- Have your child(ren) enter and exit the vehicle from the curb side of the loop (exit from the RIGHT side of the vehicle ONLY). Exiting from the driver's side of the vehicle is unsafe due to the cars driving through the loop.
- Children are not to exit the car at the entrance of the parking lot.
- Drivers are not to make U-turns in the middle of the parking lot.
- Never leave your car parked, idling or unattended especially with children inside!
- Please obey the road rules, crosswalks, and speed limits.

Those arriving late after 8:30 am are to use the FRONT entrance as they will need to check in with the office as late. Please note that all other doors will be locked after 8:30am Exit: Students will exit the building from their assigned divisional doors. Older students can meet their siblings at their door outside the school at the end of the day.

Lunch Time Agreement

Students who leave school property for lunch must have parent/guardian permission, otherwise students must stay at school. The School Start-Up Permissions Form must be completed for all students and returned to the school.

Students are expected to stay at school during the lunch time hour unless signed out by a parent or given permission on the school start-up form. If you would like to arrange for your child to walk home for lunch, you must complete the appropriate board forms using the link below <u>https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/</u>

<u>Students are not permitted to sign themselves out for lunch or for any other reason</u>. Please note that if you are dropping lunch off for your child, you can leave the lunch on the table outside of the office with your child's name on it. We will make every effort not to interrupt classes during instructional time. Food delivery services (e.g. UberEats, Skip the Dishes) will not be accepted. Students are reminded not to share food, utensils or drinks.

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.

Agenda/Handbook

The student agenda or handbook serves as a useful way for educators and parents/guardians to communicate. Please check your child's agenda/handbook daily. Agendas are \$5.00 to purchase. You can make your payments online through <u>www.schoolcashonline.ca</u> or send your child to school with \$5.00 if you have not set up an account yet.

As always we appreciate your support.

We wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sherry Zarif	and	Georgia Petinarelis
Principal		Vice Principal

Message from Our Trustee

September 2023

Dear families,

It is my pleasure to welcome all new and returning families to school for the 2023-2024 school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and wish you a positive start to the new school year. I know it can be a time of transition for many, and am grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our school staff for all that they do to support students as they start the new school year, and create a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment in our schools.

The education of your children is a partnership, and we recognize that you are our most important partner when it comes to your child's education. As a family member, there are many ways you can engage in your child's learning, from speaking with your child about school and connecting with school staff to volunteering or becoming involved with the school council. You know your child best and we place great value on the relationship we have with families. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the school year.

As your school trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees has many <u>responsibilities</u>, including making <u>policy</u> and <u>budget</u> decisions, and communicating with the public. Please feel free to <u>contact me</u> if you have any questions or concerns, and I will continue to keep you updated throughout the year on what is happening in the board. You can also visit our <u>newsroom</u>, listen to our <u>podcast</u> and connect with us on social media to stay up-to-date on what's happening in the board.

This year, we are pleased to welcome our <u>new Director of Education Bill Cober</u>, who took on the role on August 1 this year. He brings nearly 30 years of experience in public education in York Region, a commitment to student achievement and well-being, and a strategic and collaborative approach.

Later in the year, we will be undertaking a comprehensive strategic plan review. One of our roles as a board is to set the <u>Multi-Year Strategic Plan</u> that establishes our priorities and guides our direction as a school board. We will be reviewing that plan this year, and engaging with communities is a priority for us. Your input will be important and I look forward to sharing more information with you on this in the future.

I wish you all a great start to the school year and a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

Crystal Yu Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 1, 2 and 4