

## Calendar Events – Important Dates

September 3	First Day of School
September 3	Welcome Assemblies – Focus on Bully Prevention & Community Building
September 23	P.A. Day – No School
September 24	Grade 7 Hep B Immunization
	Grade 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female Immunization
September 30	Safety Week Begins
October 2	BBQ/Curriculum Evening
October 7	School Council Meeting & Elections
October 10	Photo Day
October 11	P.A. Day – No School
Nov. 8	Grade 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female immunization
March 25	Grade 7 Hep B & Meningitis
	Grade 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female Immunization

## School Council 2013-2014 Meeting Dates:

October 7, 2013 (Election of new council)

November 4, 2013

December 2, 2013

February 3, 2014

April 7, 2014

May 5, 2014

## FOOD POLICY @ SILVER PINES P.S.

**All students and staff are entitled to safe and healthy learning environments in YRDSB schools.**

This position constitutes a major challenge in those cases where a student has a life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis). There are three key categories to consider in providing a safe environment for anaphylactic students:

- information and awareness for the entire school community;
- avoidance of the allergen that causes anaphylactic reactions;
- an emergency response procedure in case of accidental exposure.

We have many anaphylactic students at Silver Pines P.S. We have confirmed the following foods are banned and may **NOT** be brought to Silver Pines. Please assist us with avoiding these foods being sent to school in snacks and lunches.

1. Peanuts and peanut products
2. All Tree Nuts and nut products

### REMINDER:

**FOOD ITEMS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED FOR SHARING - EVEN FOR BIRTHDAYS! PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING A BOOK TO THE CLASS IN HONOUR OF THE CHILD'S BIRTHDAY INSTEAD.**

## Welcome Back

Welcome back to school! We hope that you and your family had a restful and an enjoyable vacation. We look forward to working with you this year as we embrace our continued journey making Silver Pines P.S. the great school it is!!!

A special thank you and welcome goes out to our incredible caretaking staff: Mr. Lamont, Mr. Paganos, Mr. Wetharal and Mr. Wood, caretakers extraordinaire, working their magic throughout the summer getting the classrooms and school grounds ready for us.

We thank Mrs. Zafran and Ms. Gould for preparing the office for a smooth September transition! The office has been a busy place already!

We thank all the teachers and educational assistants for working together to prepare for the first day of school! We have the most amazing staff at Silver Pines and we look forward to a great year learning and working together. New to our staff this summer is Ms Tatone (Educational Assistant) ~ Welcome to our team!

Last but not least, we thank the wonderful Silver Pines parents and School Council for supporting us as we begin the 2013-2014 school year! Thank you for your trust and collaboration! We look forward to another great collaborative year focusing on developing an inclusive environment, furthering our instructional programs and enhancing parent engagement and involvement!

As always, if you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact us. We will continue to work with you in the best interest of your children. We are only an email or a phone call away.

We look forward to seeing you at our Community BBQ / Curriculum Night on Wednesday, October 2nd, 2013.

**Warm regards and best wishes for a successful 2013-2014 school year! ☺**

*Aneta Fishman*

*Shannon Philp*

**Mrs. A. Fishman**  
Principal

**Mr. S. Philp**  
Vice Principal

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

## Dress Code

School is a place of learning, and to be successful, students must focus their attention and energy on school-related matters. For this reason, it is important that students dress and groom themselves appropriately for the task of learning. Our dress code defines the standard of dress for all students and provides clear guidelines to ensure a safe and respectful environment for teaching and learning. It is in effect while at school, on field trips and during any other school related activities or events. **Compliance to the Appropriate Dress Policy is mandatory.**

### Specifically:

- ◆ Language or graphics on clothing will not display provocative, obscene, sexist or racist slogans, or refer to drugs, alcohol, smoking or sex. Clothing which contravenes the Human Rights Code in any way is unacceptable.
- ◆ Students will not wear clothing to school that is revealing or provocative. Midriffs and undergarments will remain covered at all times and shorts will be mid-thigh in length. Tube tops, halter tops, and other tops with narrow shoulder straps or “spaghetti” straps are unacceptable.
- ◆ Clothing and accessories/paraphernalia depicting violence or death or that identify or promote cults or gangs are unacceptable.
- ◆ Head coverings of any description will not be worn inside the school. (Exceptions will be made for religious or medical reasons.)
- ◆ Pajamas, or clothing which look like pajamas, are not to be worn at school.
- ◆ Students will wear appropriate clothing for gym. (shorts, t-shirt, socks, running shoes).
- ◆ For obvious safety reasons, shoes must be worn at all times. “Flip-flops” or “Crocs” are not to be worn at school.

## PROTECTING STUDENT PRIVACY UNDER THE MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

At times throughout the school year, your child’s first name and last initial, image or other information may be shared beyond the classroom and the school. This may happen, for example, during special events that attract media attention. Class and school newsletters, website and displays for events such as assemblies and seasonal celebrations are other occasions. **Parents, if you wish to exclude your child, please contact Mrs. Fishman immediately in writing so that alternate arrangements can be made.**

**\*\*\*NOTE:** Parents/Guardians personally recording school events and then publicly posting them on YouTube or Facebook, does not respect the privacy rights of all parents, staff and particularly students whose images they share without their knowledge or permission. These photographs and video clips cannot be controlled by the York Region District School Board nor can it prevent their further distribution or use.

## STUDENT MEDICATION

If your child requires medication in school, please bring the original container to the office labelled with your child’s name and the correct dosage. Medication can be administered by school staff once a parent completes a Board form, “Administration of Medication”. These can be obtained through the school office.

## STUDENT INFORMATION VERIFICATION / EMERGENCY FORMS

It is very important that the office has up-to-date information in the case of an emergency. Please ensure that the Emergency Information Form, being sent home this month, is completed and returned the next day. It is the parent’s responsibility to inform the office of any changes.

## VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

Board Policy requires all visitors (including parents) report to the office upon arrival. The “Sign-In” binder, in the office, is to ensure the safety of your children.

## EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Should an emergency arise which necessitates that staff and students be moved away from the school premises, our alternate location is Father Henri Nouwen Elementary School. A minimum of 6 fire drills are held in the fall and in the spring.

## CHILD ABSENT OR LATE?

### Please call the school.

If your child is going to be away from school for any reason, please give the office a call and leave a message between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. On a busy day with many absences, confirming the whereabouts of every absent child can take quite awhile and could result in a child missing for some time.

**The York Region District School Board has been advised by the police that if a student has not arrived at school and after all steps have been taken, by the school, to contact parents, emergency contacts etc., the police wish to be informed immediately. Therefore, we will contact the police if we cannot reach the family or the emergency contacts.**

*We will be closely monitoring student lates and student absenteeism and we will contact you directly if either is extensive.*

## Lunch Arrangements & Parent Decisions

While most of our students eat lunch at school, some of our students prefer to go home for lunch every day. While we are able to monitor the behaviour and safety of students who remain for lunch, it is impossible to do so for those students who leave the property. We encourage parents to carefully consider any decision to allow a child to leave the school grounds for lunch daily, especially if direct adult supervision is not available. It is the responsibility of the student to return to school prior to the 1:20 bell after the lunch recess. Students who return late must report to the office and parents will be contacted. If a parent needs to drop off a lunch, please bring it to the emergency lunch drop off area outside the office and have it clearly labelled with your child's name and grade.

**Breakfast!** Please ensure that your child eats breakfast and brings a nutritious snack to school each day. Getting into this habit is especially important considering our lunch hour starts at 12:20 p.m. Also, please try to send a litterless lunch. Plastic bags, juice boxes and wrappers end up in our playground and on lawns of our neighbours near the school. Reusable containers for sandwiches and drinks are environmentally friendly. We are a BRONZE ECO SCHOOL!

## Student Busing Eligibility

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680: All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation. All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.

All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation. To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca).

For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

**General Interest Courses - YRDSB General Interest Courses** have experienced a steady decline in client registrations for the past six years. As a result, YRDSB General Interest Courses have operated at a financial loss in 2011-12 and 2012-13. This information was brought forward and discussed at the Board Standing Committee Meeting on May 21. At the June 4, 2013 Board Meeting, the decision was made to discontinue General Interest Courses. Thank you for your past support of YRDSB General Interest Courses, Continuing Education Services

## TENTATIVE ORGANIZATION

Grade	Homeroom Teacher/s
FDK –A	Lily Tierney
	DECE Maria Amenta
FDK – B	Lyndsy Moffitt
	DECE Bahareh Zia
FDK – C	Leslie Jones Lissack
	DECE- Katie Rizik
1A	Katie Sandiford Jody Panzer
1B	Heather Granger
12A	Elizabeth Green
2A	Stephanie Vanderkooy (LTO)
2B	Lolita Carinci
23A	Harry Pappas
3A / Literacy	Trish Dynes Carolyn Ages
34A	Michele Kashef
34B	Tanya Sylver
4A	Nui Leuangthong
45A	Andrew Forrest
5A	Stephen Samuels
56A	Robin Malach (LTO)
6A	Elana Farberman
6B	Robyn Cuddy
6C	Keryn Stein
7A	Heather Elson
7B	Rebecca Zaretsky (LTO)
7C	Christiana Sarich
8A	Daniel Cohen
8B	Bill Radia
8C	Savita Pathak
Grade 1-4 Student Support Centre / SERT	Andrea Kirshenblatt
Grade 5-6 Student Support Centre SSC / J/I SERT/Literacy teacher	Jennifer Arro
Intermediate Student Support Centre / INT SERT	Christina Sarich
SERT (J/I) Resource	Heather Elson
ELL	Savita Pathak
CC - MID	Beth Crew
Science/Prep	Marla Palermo
Prep / Phys Ed	Vicky Paul
Prep / Music	Jeff Densham
French	Agnes Caruso, Maria Torres, Deanna Karametch
RR prep	Elisabeth Hartlieb, Katie Sandiford
Library /Literacy	Julie Leppington

**Educational Assistants:** Janice Danson, Caroline Goldshmidt, Kristen Kidd, Apryl Matheson, James Price, Elayne Simon, Joanne Tatone.

## STUDENT PICK-UP and DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

Like you, we plan on your child arriving to and departing safely from the school. For this purpose, the Board has provided the school with three separate driveways. **On the west side of the school, is a "Kiss'N Ride" loop for parents.** The parking spaces in the "Kiss'N Ride" loop are for parents, visitors and the office staff. **On the north side of the school, is also the "Bus Loop" for school buses and taxis.** Parents are asked not to use the designated bus loop lane for student pick-up, drop-off or for parking. The parking spaces in the staff parking lot are reserved for staff. The south end parking spaces are for daycare use only. Visitors may park in the front designated parking spaces.

Some students are not eligible for bussing while others are, as they live within the Board mandated walking distances. **We strongly encourage you to walk your child to and from school.**

**If you must drive your child to/from school, for the safety of all, we are asking drivers to adhere to these simple rules for drop-off and pick-up:**

- DROP OFF:** When driving your child to school, before 8:30 AM, please follow the "Kiss 'N Ride" loop, have your child ready to INDEPENDENTLY exit the car, drop your child off and proceed around the loop and back onto Stave Cres.
- Do not double park, or stop longer than necessary in the "Kiss 'N Ride" loop, as it makes it impossible for other cars to pass by and safely drop-off passengers.
- At **PICK UP** time, the Kiss 'N Ride loop can be used for student pick up. However, you will have to park your car in a designated parking area or circulate around the loop a few times until you see your child ready for pick up.
- Do not make a three-point turn in front of school entrances. or anywhere in the school's "Kiss'N Ride" loop.

### Information for Kindergarten Parents:

- Drop Off: Kindergarten parents/ caregivers need to park their car and walk their child to the kindergarten fenced play area at the back of the school. Supervision at the play area will begin at 8:15 a.m.
- Pick Up: Kindergarten parents/caregivers need to pick up their child from the kindergarten fenced play area at the side of the school. Children will be released to designated adults as per the dismissal forms filled out by parents on the first day of school. (See Book of Forms)

**Your cooperation is appreciated. Only together can we maintain a safe pick-up and drop-off plan for your children.**

### Protocol for Communicating with Teachers

If you have a question that is relevant to the classroom – curriculum, student behaviour, etc., please contact the teacher first either by a phone call or by email. Teachers are expected to return communication within a reasonable time frame to ensure student success. e.g. 48 to 72 hours.

## STUDENT ENTRY & EXIT IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

At 8:28 AM, the first bell rings indicating entry. Students are to line-up and enter as follows:

**Grade 1, 2, 3, 3/4 - Primary Doors (downstairs hallway)**

**Grade 4, 5 - Junior Entrance Doors at the back of the school (to go upstairs)**

**Grade 6 - Grade 6 Entrance Doors at the side of the school**

**Grade 7 / 8 — Intermediate Doors (by the kindergarten play area—to go upstairs) - NO LINE UP IS REQUIRED - Intermediate students are to walk in respectfully.**

**Kindergarten—inside the kindergarten fenced play area**

The same entry and exit procedures are in effect for morning and lunch recesses. At the end of the day, **parents are asked that you please pick up your child from their appropriate entry/dismissal door.**

**For the safety of all, parents/guardians are respectfully asked not to wait inside the school or go directly to classrooms when picking-up or dropping-off their child or children.**

## SAFE SCHOOLS

Silver Pines Public School is a welcoming school where we value the importance of a safe learning environment. Over the last few years there has been an increasing need in society to be alert within our schools. The following are some of the procedures that are in place to ensure the safety and security of the students, staff and visitors in our school.

- ◆ All visitors must enter the school through the front door.
- ◆ Parents and caregivers are invited to wait for their children dismissal outside the building. Please do not enter the classroom area of the school.
- ◆ All visitors and volunteers (including parents), must sign in at the office at the beginning of their visit.

### Silver Pines P.S. Contact Information

Phone: 905.508.7303

Fax: 905.508.7351

Website:

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