



The PRIME

April, 2018

Volume 6 , Issue 6

Kathy Lott
Principal

Tara Wagg
Vice Principal

Debbie Wong
Office Administrative
Assistant

Mary-Lena Gruppuso
Secretary

Rose Ferruzzo
Secretary

Peter Tse
Superintendent
of Schools
905.940.7800

Billy Pang
Trustee
647.461.9965

SCHOOL DAY
TIMES
For all Students JK-8

7:50-8:05 a.m.
Yard Supervision

7:55 a.m.
Entry Bell

8:05-9:45 a.m.
Learning Block-1

9:45-10:15 a.m.
Recess

10:15-11:55 a.m.
Learning Block-2

11:55 a.m.-12:55 p.m.
Lunch (all students
outside from 11:55 a.m.-
12:30 p.m.)

12:55-2:35 p.m.
Learning Block-3

2:35 p.m.
Dismissal

Sir John A. Macdonald Public School
45 Murison Drive, Markham, ON, L6C 0J4
t. 905.888.5777 f. 905.927.2082
www: <http://sirjohnamacdonald.ps.yrdsb.ca/>
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twitter: @sjamps



Administrator's Message

From May 1 to May 31, 2017, all parents/guardians of students in grades K to 12 were invited to participate in the YRDSB School Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians. Results from this survey are used to inform Board and school improvement planning to support student achievement and well-being, and create more equitable and inclusive school environments.

The HIGHLIGHTS from the School Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians ~ Modern Learning section are below here for your reference and reflection -

Wondering what "MODERN LEARNING" is?



In education today, in the YRDSB, MODERN LEARNING is defined as authentic, relevant, deep learning that enables learners to create, to connect, to communicate, to share their learning with the world to be future ready.

As your SIAM staff we are working together to provide authentic, relevant and deep learning activities for all of our students. Our goal is to engage our students and guide learning that allows all students (K-8) to create, connect, communicate and share their learning with the world and to be future ready. Ask your child(ren) at home what they are learning – and how they are learning. Students at all levels should be able to tell you the answers to these 2 questions. Our staff work together to create classroom activities that are built within a safe and collaborative culture of curiosity and risk-taking – with a focus on having a growth mindset. Education today is a very exciting place!

April 5th - Grade 8 Graduation Photo Day

Grade 8 graduation photos will be taken between
8:30 am and 11:55 am



2017-18
Professional
Activity &
Training Days
(No School for
Students)

Monday, June 4, 2018

Thursday, June 28, 2018
11:05 a.m. DISMISSAL
FOR ALL STUDENTS

Friday, June 29, 2018

2017-18
School Holidays
(School Closed)

Good Friday
Friday, March 30, 2018

Easter Monday
Monday, April 2, 2018

Victoria Day
Monday, May 21 2018

Administrator's Message Cont'd

Is it spring time yet?! YES IT IS! The spring weather brings many opportunities to further increase the active participation by all students while outside on recess breaks. Thanks to the many families who support their child/children riding their bikes to school! We look **forward to the days ahead once again when we see our bike racks full of children's** bikes. Please remind your child to wear their bike helmet at all times when riding for their safety. As a safety reminder, students are asked NOT to ride their bike on school property. Bringing a lock for your bike is strongly encouraged as well.

Once again, every Wednesday throughout the month of April, we will be encouraging families to walk, bike or park a block away and walk to school. You will be helping to reduce traffic, improve air quality, be active and will be able to enjoy some social time with your children and neighbourhood friends! As always, thank you for your continued support in our school initiatives at SJAM. In this newsletter you will read more about our Eco-school initiatives throughout the month of April and you will see the SJAM Dance-a-thon has returned this year to be held on Thursday, April 12th!

Please join us at our final SJAM School Council meeting – Tuesday, April 3rd at 6:30 PM in our SJAM Staff Room. You are all invited – no RSVP needed!

April also marks VOLUNTEER MONTH and as such, the return of our Annual SJAM Volunteer Appreciation Tea. All school volunteers are invited to join us on Friday, April 27th from 9:45 – 10:30 AM following our April Character Assembly for an opportunity to recognize and thank you! A personal invitation will be sent to all students through the homeroom teachers.

Spring into Spring

Now that Winter is over and Spring has arrived, we are encouraging students to get back into walking! One of our goals at SJAM is to promote an active and healthy lifestyle. Every Wednesday throughout the month of April, we will be encouraging families to walk, bike or park a block and walk to school. You will be helping to reduce traffic, improve air quality, be active and will be able to enjoy some social time with your children and neighbourhood friends! On Wednesday April 18th, we will be handing out ballots to all students who walk to school. If you walk to school you will have a chance to win some exciting prizes! As always, thank you for your continued support in our school initiatives at SJAM.



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2018-19 Class Placement Process

This is the time of year that school staff begin the collaborative process of class placement meetings. Classroom teachers, in cooperation with support staff, administration, and parental input work diligently to create balanced classes for the upcoming school year. School staff consider the academic, social, and emotional strengths, needs and interests, and more of each student when preparing class lists. The ultimate goal of class placement is to support and enhance the learning of all students. We welcome any **input you wish to share about your child's strengths, needs, and learning styles. However,** requests for specific teachers will not be considered. The responsibility for final decisions lies with administration. **Please send any information you would like considered about your child's placement for next year, in writing, to Mrs. Lott no later than April 27th.**

Welcome to Kindergarten Program

The Welcome to Kindergarten program is a unique experience for new JK students and parents who will be joining SJAM in September! The program creates the foundation for positive relationships between children, parents and the school community. The orientation is aimed to provide resources and the support that is necessary to make early learning activity and play a priority in the home. This will help prepare the child for a fun and successful first year in school. Throughout the evening there will be a variety of key messages communicated such as:

- The parent is the child's first and best teacher.
- Make time for play and discovery.
- Use talk (speaking and listening) as you play and discover together.
- Recognize and celebrate your child's successes.

Welcome to Kindergarten will take place at SJAM on Tuesday May 8th, 2018 from 4:00pm–6:00pm. This evening is intended for children starting JK in September 2018, and who have registered for school in our main office. If possible, please make alternate arrangements for siblings. See you there!

Kindergarten Registration Continues

Kindergarten registration for the 2018-19 school year is ongoing.. Registration **forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca.** Children who turn four or five years old during 2018 live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this May 8th. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact our school.

EQAO for Grades 3 and 6

All students in Grades 3 and 6 will be participating in the 2018 Provincial Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics this Spring. Please avoid withdrawing your child for holidays or making out of school appointments for your child between May 22nd and June 4th, 2018. We will communicate further information regarding the assessments to families of students in Grades 3 and 6 in the near future.



Stem-a-thon by Stem Minds

We just wanted to let you know about an exciting event community event coming up!

The First Annual STEM-a-thon hosted by STEM MINDS is launching on Saturday, May 5th! This is a completely free community event designed to get kids ages 4-12 involved in the world of STEM!

There are a variety of challenge events in the style of ‘STEM Olympics’ that kids can sign up for, including robotics, LEGO building, 3D Design, digital media, and more! This provides a fun and exciting opportunity to try new things and put their skills to the test as they compete to win awesome prizes!

STEM MINDS is so excited to be able to launch this event in our community and look forward to having you participate! If you are interested in getting involved, you can register for your FREE spot at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/first-annual-stem-a-thon-tickets-42507684629>

You can learn more via the attached flyer or you can contact STEM MINDS at info@stemminds.com

We hope to see you on May 5th!

SAVE THE DATE! Grade 8 Graduation
Thursday, June 21st, 2018



Are You Moving?

Are you moving before September, or have you recently moved? Families who are planning to move before the start of the next school year are asked to please contact the school office as soon as possible. Families in York Region are eligible to attend specific schools based on their residential address. School staff can **help you locate your child's new school and also can assist you with the student transfer process.** In addition to **helping make your child's transition to a new school a smooth and hassle-free process**, by informing the school of your plans to move, you are helping us ensure that our school is organized for September with the most up to date information. Thank you for your cooperation!

Band at Music Alive

On Thursday, March 22 the SJAM band participated at Music Alive at Cosmo Music. The other band SJAM competed against was from Teston Village Public School. This year, the SJAM band consists of 18 players and they all practiced **very hard and gave it all they had at Music Alive. They played two pieces, "Daydreams" by Rob Romeyn and "Swansea Town" by Michael Story.** Overall, the judicator gave SJAM silver and it was a fun experience for the SJAM band. **The SJAM band will also be playing at our school's spring concert on May 1.**

By: Divij D. and Ashley L.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to SJAM!! The fair will be in our school library the week of April 30th- May 4th! **This mini traveling bookstore brings the latest and greatest children's books right to our school.** It is an exciting **opportunity for families to access engaging reading material and inspire children's love of reading.** As an extra bonus, every book purchased at the Scholastic book fair helps put new books in our school's library collection. Information **will be sent home closer to the fair date informing you when your child's class will be visiting the fair to browse and purchase books.** I like to encourage families to take this as an opportunity to talk about money and making responsible choices with money at school. It is a great chance for students to learn how to be accountable for their own learning and how to manage their money. I look forward to see all our students and families at the fair!

To provide more opportunities for families to visit the book fair, it will be open during the following days/times:

- Monday April 30th: 2:50-3:30 pm
- Tuesday May 1st : 5:30 pm - 7:45 pm
- Thursday May 3rd : 2:50-3:30 pm

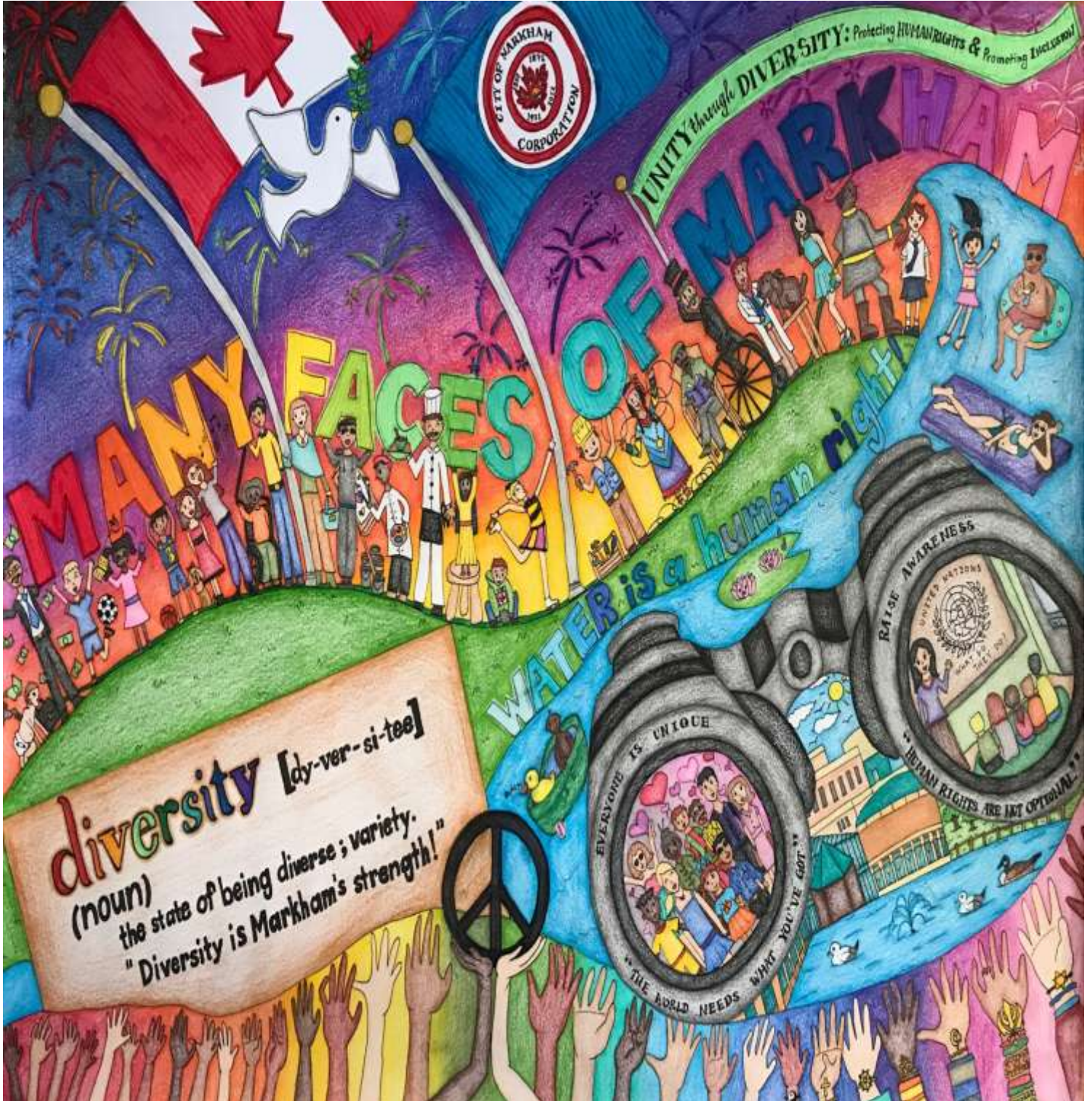
Me to We

SJAM's Me to We Social Justice Club has some exciting upcoming events! On April 6th, there will be a documentary screening for students & staff in honour of UN World Health Day. Entrance fee will be \$2, and the money raised will go to support our chosen Me to We Pillar, which is Health Care in Kenya. On April 24th, we will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast at morning recess! Stay tuned for order forms & more information regarding this event! On April 27th, SJAM will once again take part in the WE campaign, We Are Silent. Students & Staff will be taking a vow of silence to support those who are voiceless around the world. We will be hosting a Silent Staff vs. Student Volleyball Game at lunch recess that day. Entrance fee for that will be \$2, and again go to our fundraising efforts for Health Care in Kenya. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our global outreach efforts. SJAM's Me to We group is full of dedicated, inspired students who aim to make a difference in their own communities and globally!

“The Many Faces of Markham” Contest

Recently the City of Markham held a contest called “The Many Faces of Markham” and called upon students to help promote unity, inclusion, diversity and human rights through art, videos or writing. We are excited to announce that **one of our very own SJAM Jaguars WON FIRST PLACE!** A Huge congratulations goes out to **JULIA S.** in Ms. Moore’s class for her beautiful, and winning submission! **Julia created a beautiful poster for this year’s theme which was Unity Through Diversity: Protecting Human Rights and Promoting Inclusion.** Julia was honoured at an award ceremony on March 24th for her work. We are so proud of you Julia and truly impressed by your artwork and vision!

Way to go Julia!





Non Profit No. 1599353

No Contact Flag Football



Get Active! Be Healthy! Stay Healthy!
Play with the York Region Lions



- ✓ Learn to play football
- ✓ Get active & stay healthy
- ✓ Boys & Girls ages 6, 7, 8
- ✓ Make friends
- ✓ Equipment provided, funding available
- ✓ Local fields, local coaches
- ✓ Additional development & rep programs available
for players aged 9+

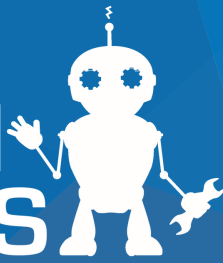
Go to our website to register and for more information

www.yorkregionfootball.com

info@yorkregionfootball.com

**STEM
MINDS**

Science Technology Engineering Math



Held in partnership with



FIRST ANNUAL STEM-A-THON

MAY 5, 2018

10:00AM - 5:00PM

**212 EARL STEWART DRIVE
AURORA, ON**

Be a part of our 1st Annual STEM-a-thon! A **FREE** exciting community event for youth ages 4-12, participants can join in exciting STEM activities including:

- STEM Challenges
- 3D Design
- Robotics
- Coding
- Digital Media

Participants will have fun, learn, and can even win prizes!

* Please note that participation is by registration only

Register at www.stemminds.eventbrite.ca!

Proudly sponsored and supported by:



David Murray, CFP®, CIM®
Investment Advisor and Financial Planner



STAPLES

Register before
March 31st and receive
10% OFF!
With the code:
summercampearlybird

URBAN PARK
PLAYLAND

STEM
MINDS
Science Technology Engineering Math

STEM MINDS SUMMER CAMP

JULY & AUGUST

9AM-4PM | AGES 4-14

212 EARL STEWART DRIVE

\$350 +HST (FULL DAY)

- * half day and extended care options available
- * children will be grouped based on age

 www.stemminds.com

 647-846-3154

 info@stemminds.com

  @stem_minds

SPACES ARE LIMITED!

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.STEMMINDS.COM!

Sir John A. Macdonald Public School

School Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday April 3, 2018

Staff Room



| | | | | Estimated Time |
|----|---|--|--|---|
| A. | Call to Order | Time: | | 6:30pm sharp |
| B. | Roll Call and Regrets | Attendees: Co-Chairs: Katie Sears and Christina Wong Treasurer: Pouneh Biazarikari Communications Officer: Simone Francis Parent Members and Participants: School Representatives: Kathy Lott and Tara Wagg, Debbie Wong, Dori Koutlemanis | | 3 minutes |
| C. | Approval of minutes from last meeting | | Approved via email and posted on School Website | 1 minute |
| D. | Discussion Carried Forward from Previous Meeting | ITEMS 1. Annual BBQ | ACTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Sub-Committee Meetings that took place on February 6th and March 6th • Overview of BBQ Planning Document • BBQ to take place on June 5th, 2018 • Overview of Advertising (Sandeep and Simone) • Overview of Raffle (Bin) • Arts & Crafts Ideas (Karen) | 20 minutes |
| E. | Financial Update | | Financial review (Pouneh) | 10 minutes |
| F. | New Business (as submitted to Council Co-Chairs and Approved for Discussion by Co-Chairs and Principal) | ITEMS: 1. Highlights from Movie Night 2. Administrator Report 3. Teacher Report 4. Teacher Appreciation Event 5. Preparation for next year | ACTIONS: Ideas? Budget? Date Suggestions? 4A. Review slate of officers needed for SJAM Council Executive 4B. Set Date for fall 2018 Election, first Council Meeting | 3 minutes 5 minutes 5 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes |

| | | | | | |
|----|-------------|--|---|-----------|------------|
| | | Upcoming Town Hall | 4C. Invest in Education Planning for 2018/19 : (Oana) | 2 minutes | |
| | | Connecting with the Community | 4D. Pro Grant | | |
| | | | Open to SJAM Community | | 10 minutes |
| | | Additional Items | Choose dates/locations | | 10 minutes |
| G. | Adjournment | 1. Motion to Adjourn by: 2. Seconded: 3. Time: | | | |
| | | | | | |



Dance-a-thon Fundraiser



Sir John A Macdonald School Community,

The SJAM Staff is excited to announce our Dance-a-thon fundraiser event, to be held at the school on **Thursday, April 12th, 2018**. Every student in the school will be participating and will have the opportunity to dance for 50-60 minutes during the day. To help us shake off this long winter, we are creating a Hawaiian theme, so come dressed in your best Hawaiian outfits. There will also be Glow products (bracelets, sticks etc) for sale for \$1 to \$3 to add to the occasion.



As this is a fundraiser for the school, students who raise funds by obtaining pledges from family, relatives and neighbours (we are not encouraging door to door soliciting) become eligible to win some great prizes. These may include gift cards for Chapters, Starbucks, Dollarama, Toys 'R' Us, iTunes, etc. For every \$10 raised, students will receive a ballot and entered for draw prizes. The grand prize will be a **\$50.00 gift card of your choice**. The more funds raised, the better the odds of winning!

Students will bring home a pledge envelope in which to collect funds. Rather than pledge per minute of dancing, sponsors are asked to donate a lump sum for the entire period. In order to be eligible for the **EARLY BIRD DRAW**, we are asking that completed envelopes be returned to the school by **Friday, April 6th 2018**. Everyone that returns their envelope by this date will be entered in a draw for "Family of Four Movie Night Package". All other envelopes are due at the school by **Tuesday, April 10th 2018**. When returning to the homeroom teacher, please remember to include **your child's name and class** on the form. The class with the most participation will be awarded with a class pizza party.

We want to thank you in advance for your support. We are raising money to support enrichment activities/ presentations to put towards our healthy, active school plan.

Partners in Education,

Your SJAM Dance-A- Thon Organizing Team



OUR COACHES

Our tennis coaches are certified by Tennis Canada and the Ontario Tennis Association and are members of the Professional Tennis Association.

Our professional coaching staff are dedicated to providing you with the foundational skills needed to quickly get you playing and enjoying the game of tennis. The benefits of learning proper technique will greatly enhance your skills and put you on a path to enjoy the exciting sport of tennis for a lifetime.

RICHMOND HILL LAWN TENNIS CLUB

The Richmond Hill Lawn Tennis Club is a community-based, non-profit organization offering affordable tennis programs to the Richmond Hill community.

Our mission is to make organized tennis available to residents of all ages and skill levels. We are committed to enriching the lives of our community through the game of tennis.

www.RHLTC.ca

161 Newkirk Rd, Richmond Hill

Tel: 905-252-2277

Email: lessons@rhltc.ca

**RICHMOND HILL
LAWN TENNIS
CLUB**

TENNIS LESSONS

Registration
Now Open!

RHLTC.ca/Lessons

\$141.60
plus HST

**KIDS & YOUTH
AGES 5-17**

ADULT LESSONS

**SMALL
CLASS SIZES**





Flaviu Dinca,
President

WELCOME

to the Richmond Hill Lawn Tennis Club. We are extremely proud to offer you the opportunity to learn the game of tennis while you enjoy healthy exercise, social interaction and fun competition. Our programs are designed for all ages and skill levels and we encourage you to bring your whole family out to discover the exciting world of tennis.

**Be active.
Play Tennis.
Have fun.**

JUNIOR PROGRAMS

We are running a Junior House League on Saturday mornings! Participants in our lesson program can join the league at no cost.

Learn to love tennis! We are offering free one-hour lessons on Saturday evenings to introduce kids to the game of tennis. Sign-up required.

Become a member of RHLTC! Kids' memberships are only \$35 this season.

RHLTC.ca/JuniorPrograms

TENNIS LESSONS

First classes: **Week of April 30**

Number of Classes: **8**

For complete lesson schedules and descriptions, visit our website **www.RHLTC.ca**

Assessment Date: April 21 & 28 2:00-4:00 pm



KIDS AGES 5-8

BEGINNER

Wednesday 5 pm
Thursday 6 pm
Saturday 1 pm

INTERMEDIATE

Tuesday 4 pm
Friday 6 pm
Saturday 3 pm

KIDS AGES 8-12

BEGINNER

Tuesday 6 pm
Thursday 5 pm
Saturday 2 pm

INTERMEDIATE

Tuesday 4 pm
Friday 6 pm
Saturday 3 pm

ADVANCED

Saturday 3 pm
Sunday 5 pm

YOUTH AGES 12-16

BEGINNER

Tuesday 5 pm
Friday 6 pm
Sunday 3 pm

INTERMEDIATE

Monday 4 pm
Saturday 4 pm
Sunday 3 pm

ADVANCED

Tuesday 4 pm
Sunday 5 pm

ADULTS 17+

BEGINNER

Wednesday 4 pm
Thursday 6 pm
Saturday 1 pm

INTERMEDIATE

Monday 5 pm
Tuesday 6 pm
Saturday 1 pm

ADVANCED

Monday 6 pm

More times online!
RHLTC.ca/Lessons

Book Now!

141.60
plus HST

***Please register by
April 23th, 2018**

Rates apply to all
Kids, Youth, and Adult
lessons

Spaces are limited. Register today!

www.RHLTC.ca/Lessons

We also offer
Private Lessons and
a Junior Tennis League.

We believe that learning is enhanced when
limited class sizes are combined with the
opportunity for active matchplay.

***Please visit our website for complete
lesson schedules and descriptions.***

For More Information

Email us at **lessons@rhltc.ca**

Call us at **905-252-2277**

Save the Date: Annual School Council Fundraiser BBQ

Let's come together at the BBQ to honour our past, and celebrate our bright future!

Mark your calendar: TUESDAY, JUNE 5 (5:30-8:00)

More details about all the activities and fun coming soon!

Tickets will be available for advance purchase on School Cash Online in May.

Interested in volunteering at the BBQ? Email sir.john.a.macdonald.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca





Awareness Day

**It's time to educate our
community about Autism and
Light it Up Blue!**

Help us raise awareness, promote inclusion and support diversity! On **Tuesday, April 3rd** we are asking all students to wear blue for Autism.



Spring is in the air! To mark the arrival of Spring, we are excited to present our annual Spring Special and also announce our specials of the month.

THE SPRING LUNCH FEATURE

Butter chicken with basmati rice and cucumber raita

Tender chicken pieces in a creamy tomato curry sauce over steamed basmati rice with a side of cucumber raita (yogurt/cucumber).

This item is Gluten-Friendly.



Available on the days we service your school for the month of April.

APRIL SPECIALS

Each month we feature specials and combos to bring you more variety. For the month of April your child can enjoy:

BBQ Chicken with corn niblets

Baked chicken drumsticks in a BBQ sauce served with corn niblets

This item is Gluten-Friendly.



Meatballs (beef) with mashed potatoes

Fluffy mashed potatoes topped with meatballs in a marinara sauce

Available in HALAL and VEGETARIAN options.



These items are available as a combo or entrée only.

These specials are available until **April 30th**. Place your orders today!

Ordering is easy!

Login to place your orders at www.kidskitchen.ca

Orders are accepted until 10am the previous business day (on Friday for Monday orders). A valid credit card is required.

We're here to help!

Live customer service: 8am – 3pm Monday to Friday.

Spend more quality time with your kids. Leave the lunches to us!

905.944.0210 | www.kidskitchen.ca | information@kidskitchen.ca

