

JUNE 2017



**PRINCIPAL**  
Yvonne Chan

**VICE-PRINCIPAL**  
Shelley Jones

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Erik Kilji

**TRUSTEE**  
Billy Pang

**Secretaries**

- Mrs. Fernandez
- Mrs. Khan
- Ms. Shum

**School Day Schedule**

8:45 am Entry

8:55-10:35  
Learning Block

10:35 - 11:05  
Recess

11:05- 12:45  
Learning Block

12:45-1:45  
Lunch

1:45-3:25  
Learning Block

3:25  
Dismissal

# The Stonebridge Story

168 Stonebridge Dr., Markham L6C 2Z8

Website: [www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stonebridge](http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stonebridge)

Email: [Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca)



Follow us on twitter: @stonebridgePS

## A Message from the Administration

The 2016-2017 school year is winding down and the last day of school will soon be upon us. The year's end always brings with it a tremendous sense of achievement. So many things have been accomplished this year. Our students have been involved in an extraordinary number of activities from the Terry Fox Run at the beginning of the year to the Talent Show on the second last day of school and everything in between. You just have to flip through our yearbook to see the wide variety of activities that took place in and outside of the classroom at Stonebridge this year. Of course, we cannot forget the tremendous amount of learning which has taken place all through the year. You, as parents and guardians, are to be congratulated for a job well done. You should be proud of your children!

The last days of school mark significant transitions and milestones. We proudly say farewell to our grade 8 graduates and hello to the three and four year olds who will be joining us in September for year one of Kindergarten. Last week we congratulated our Senior Kindergarten students who have graduated the Full Day Kindergarten Programme and will be entering grade one in the fall, ready to play outside in the big yard. We are thankful for our time spent with these graduates and we are excited about the young learners who will begin their journey in education with us at Stonebridge.

As the school year draws to a close, we have a number of staff members we would like to thank for their contributions, as they leave Stonebridge and embark on new adventures. Best wishes to Ms. Vallee, who has worked at Stonebridge for the past three years, but with the YRDSB for many, many years as she moves to a less structured day. We wish her all the best in her retirement. We also say goodbye to Ms. Gangbar as she will be moving to Little Rouge PS. She has contributed a great deal to Stonebridge Public School and will be missed. Thank you and all the best to Ms. Badal and Ms. Kahlon who were both filling in as long term occasional teachers this year! Thank you also to Jeff Hamilton and Amanda Taylor who were at Stonebridge as a long term occasional Education Assistants this year. Allyson Khan, a member of our office staff, will be moving to Castlemore PS, and we will miss her dedication to our school community. We welcome Mini Dawar from Beckett Farm Public School, she is an experienced teacher who we know will support Stonebridge's commitment to academic success and well being.

Once again, we would like to thank our students, staff and school council for an amazing year. We wish you all a wonderful summer with family and friends! Remember Silver Wolves, have fun, stay safe and learn something new each day.

Yvonne Chan and Shelley Jones

For those families who will be leaving us, we wish you all the very best. Farewell and all the best to Ms. Jones as she moves to her new schools. For everyone returning to Stonebridge Public School in September, Ms. Padiachy, our New Vice Principal and I look forward to working with you in the new school year. School begins on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Chan

**Stonebridge Public School Office is closed during the months of July and August.**

**Parents who need to register your child in York Region Public School for September 5th, 2017 should contact the Community Education Centre to set up an appointment. They are open Monday to Thursday in July and August.**

**Community Education Centre—East  
1000 Carlton Road, Markham**

**Slime 4 SickKids—Huge Success!**

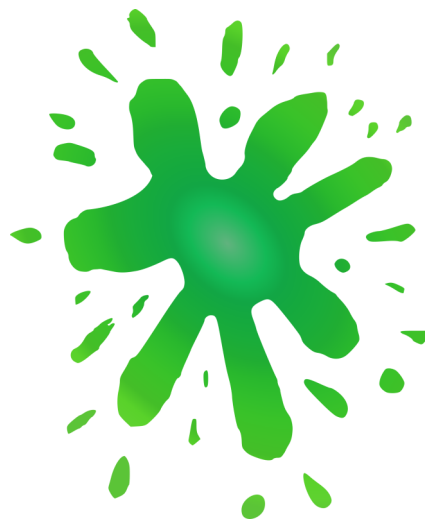
**(905) 940-7800**

**Our school office opens again on August 28th.**

With the growing popularity of Slime among Stonebridge students two students in Ms. McMillan's Grade 6 class saw an opportunity to do something great! Inspired by the NGO's they have been learning about in Social Studies Wendy L and Grace A approached their teacher with a fundraising idea.

The two girls created slime in multi colours and textures and sold to a few classes in the school with the intention of donating every penny to the SickKids hospital for SickKids Hospital for Sick children.

In two days of sale the girls were able to raise **\$229.00!** Ms. McMillan is unbelievably proud of her students and their philanthropic attitude and idea. Way to go girls!



# Ways to Support Children's Mental Health During the Summer.

Summer is a good time to keep in mind some simple skills to improve mental health and resiliency before the business of September arrives again. Here are 5 tips to maintain positive mental health in kids this summer:

**Engage in a variety of activities.** Variety is the spice of life. Variety stimulates brain activity, creates a well-rounded individual, and encourages social and emotional development. If a child engages in a variety of activities on a regular basis, they have more of an opportunity to develop a wider range of interests. Having a wide range of interests is something that can make finding and keeping friends easier. It also is a great way to cure boredom. Choose an activity from each of the following categories:

**Cognitive:** reading, math, mind exercises, trivia games, crossword puzzles, geography games, science experiments)



**Physical:** exercise, sports, bike riding, skateboarding, walking, hiking, swimming



**Creative:** arts and crafts, imaginative play, dancing, acting, music, singing

**Reflective:** time planning, visiting a



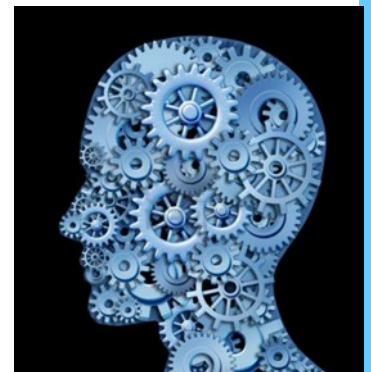
spent in nature, spiritual, talking with others, goal setting and museum

**Promote balance.** Creating a balance between school, leisure activities, sports, family, friends, chores and all the other areas of life can be challenging for a child and their parents. One of the biggest challenges parents have is helping their child engage in other activities besides their preferred activity. Video games and social media seem to be the most common preferred activities and the biggest source of conflict and disagreement. Balance helps us maintain good mental health as well as physical health. Teaching this skill early and modeling it consistently are two important ways to get kids to make it a part of their routine. Have children change activities at least every 2-3 hours; alternate between sedentary activity and movement activities. Also, alternate between solitary activities and those that involve engagement with other people.

**Maintain a healthy sleep schedule.** Just because kids and teens CAN sleep in and stay up late because they don't have to get up early for school doesn't mean they SHOULD. Keeping a regular sleep schedule and maintaining good sleep hygiene will contribute to a more even mood pattern and lower the likelihood of tantrums/outbursts/meltdowns, as well as make the transition to a new school year easier.

**Learn a relaxation strategy.** Learning to relax is a skill that benefits children, teenagers and adults. Deep breathing is a healthy way to reduce stress and anxiety. Begin by breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth. Breathe from your diaphragm. Count to 3 slowly as you breathe in. Count to 5 as you breathe out. Do at least 10 breaths each time you practice.

**Join a group or camp.** Summer is a great time to practice social skills like taking turns in conversations, recognizing social cues, conflict resolution and working with others. Summer is packed with opportunities to attend a camp or sign up for a group.



# SUMMER READING TIPS FOR FAMILIES

By: [Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities](#)

Efforts should be made during the summer to help children sustain reading skills, practice reading and read for enjoyment.

Reading builds visualization, thinking and language abilities. Taking the time to read with your child can help you evaluate your child's reading skills. If you discover that your child is having trouble with reading, he or she may have a learning disability. 80% of children with a learning disability have difficulty with basic reading and language. But early identification of such a disability gives a child the chance to develop ways to learn how to read effectively, and skills to lead a successful and productive life. A recent National Institutes of Health study showed that 67% of young students at risk for reading difficulties became average or above average readers after receiving help in the early grades.

Parents should remember that children need free time in the summer to relax and enjoy the pleasures of childhood. So summer reading should be fun. Following are a few tips to make reading enjoyable for your children this summer:

## 1. Read aloud together with your child every day.

Make it fun by reading outdoors on the front steps, patio, at the beach or park. Also, let your children read to you. For younger children, point out the relationship between words and sounds.

## 2. Set a good example!

Parents must be willing to model behavior for their children. Keep lots of reading material around the house. Turn off the TV and have each person read his or her book, including mom and dad.

## 3. Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it.

## 4. Let kids choose what they want to read, and don't turn your nose up at popular fiction.

## 5. Buy books on tape, especially for a child with a learning disability.

Listen to them in the car, or turn off the TV and have the family listen to them together.

## 6. Take your children to the library regularly.

Most libraries sponsor summer reading clubs with easy-to-reach goals for preschool and school-age children. Check the library calendar for special summer reading activities and events. Libraries also provide age appropriate lists for summer reading.

# Holiday Math: Take advantage of Math in the World.



Summer is a great time to learn how math relates to the real world.

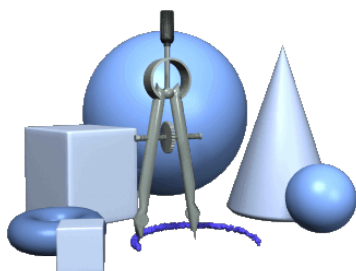
Math is everywhere!

Help your child to prevent summer learning loss by taking advantage of the many great opportunities to practice math naturally.

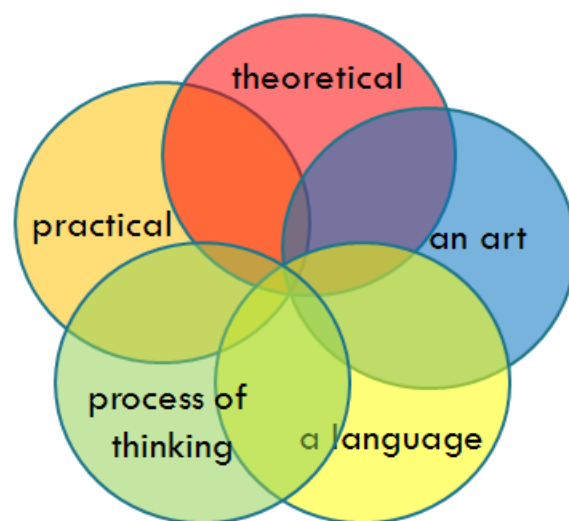
**Below, there are a few ideas to help you get started.**

- Cooking can involve weighing, measuring, ordering, estimating, adding, multiplying
- Restaurants and shopping can involve money, number identification, estimating, adding, subtracting, division ...
- Parties can involve matching numbers of people to plates, cutlery, area of tables, estimation, multiplication ...
- Trips can involve time, distance, budgeting, speed, evaluating various routes, license plate games (e.g. adding or multiplying the numbers on the plate) ...
- Home projects can involve estimation, measuring, multiplication ...
- Gardening can involve measuring, counting, area, division ...

These ideas all demonstrate how much math is involved in our daily lives and will support your child in his or her basic computation and problem-solving skills in natural, fun and real ways.



## Mathematics is ...



*All Newcomers to Canada,  
Returning Residents, Students  
from other Provinces*

*Welcome to York Region District School Board*

*To start the registration process, please  
contact the Reception Centre located at:*

*Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning  
36 Regatta Ave  
Richmond Hill, ON L4E 4R1*

*The Centre will be open in July & August from  
8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. (Mon-Fri)*

*For an appointment, please call:*

**905-918-0080 or  
1-888-811-0229**





## **MOVING AWAY OR TRANSFERRING SCHOOLS?**

If you are moving, relocating or planning to move out of our school area, please send a note to the school office ( Attention: The Principal) and the Homeroom teacher. This information is helpful to us as we are in the process of planning for next year.



If you are leaving for an early family vacation and your child/ren will not be at school on June 29th, please send in a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the classroom teacher and the report card will be mailed to you. Otherwise the report card will be available in the office in September.

### **Stonebridge Public School**

#### **SAFE ARRIVALS**

#### **Student absence reporting**

On the day your child (ren) are absent or late, you need to call the following number or visit the website before 8:45 a.m.



Call 1-855-203-2994 (Toll free)



OR visit : - [yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com](http://yorkrdsb.schoolconnects.com)

# Busing Information



Student Transportation Services of York Region  
320 Bloomington Road West  
Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1  
905-713-2535  
FAX: 905-713-2533  
Web site: [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

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## **Access to Transportation Eligibility and Route Information for students in Regular, Gifted and French Immersion Programs**

- Parents of students entering Grade 4 and Grade 9 may confirm their transportation eligibility by accessing the Find Your Bus Stop tab at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).
- This tool enables parents/guardians to enter their house number, street address and select their child's school from a drop-down box to determine if they are eligible for transportation.
- Families whose address is eligible for transportation will receive the bus stop location closest to their home, along with applicable service times. Please note staff work throughout the summer to create bus routes for September that reflect new student enrolment. This year parents are able to access this revised route information as of Monday August 21.
- Non-eligible families will be informed of their status.
- If a child is registered at school and is eligible for transportation, no additional registration is required to ride the school bus.

## **Transportation Information for Special Needs Students**

- Per past practice, STS will continue to share bus route and rider information for students with Special Needs with schools via, [www.schoolbuscity.com/mapnetweb](http://www.schoolbuscity.com/mapnetweb).
- Schools are asked to print bus route and rider information from MapNet Web and share it with parents prior to the first day of school.





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## Helpful Student Transportation Tips for Parents/Guardians

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Please consider the following helpful tips and suggestions when preparing for your child to ride the bus to and from school:

- Often parents want to drive children to school on the first day. STS recommends that if you drive your children to school the first day, you also pick them up from school.
- Communicate any changes to daycare locations to your child's school prior to the start of the school year to ensure your child is placed on the correct bus.
- Ensure your grade JK-1 child has a Safe Rider sticker affixed to their backpack to help ensure they are dropped-off at the correct bus stop location.
- JK, SK and Grade 1 students must be met at the bus stop by a parent/guardian.
- Keep current phone numbers and emergency contact details with the school office.
- Record the bus company name and route # for your child and keep in a safe and accessible place.
- Have an alternative arrangement for your child should unexpected circumstances such as traffic delay or any other emergency occurs.

Student Transportation Services of York Region would like to thank you for your cooperation as we continually focus on providing safe, efficient transportation for students.

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## SEPTEMBER SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION NOTICE

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Each summer, Student Transportation Services of York Region (STSYR) makes adjustments to bus route schedules to accommodate new students and new school openings. As a result, some students may experience changes in their bus schedule or route number. Please confirm bus information for September by checking [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) as of August 21. If you are unable to find the information you require, please contact your school.

During the first two weeks of school, students should arrive at their bus stop 10 minutes early. After this, students are asked to arrive 5 minutes early as each bus route develops its regular routine and service times.

### Transportation Eligibility

In accordance with Board policies, transportation is provided for students who live within their designated Home School attendance area and outside their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone. Transportation eligibility changes throughout a student's school career. Please note students currently in Grade 3 and Grade 8 who use school bus service may see a change in their eligibility as they transition to Grade 4 and Grade 9.

#### Eligibility JK - Grade 8

- All YRDSB students in JK - Grade 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.

#### Eligibility Grade 9-12

- All YRDSB students in Grades 9 - 12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

Parents of students entering Grade 4 and Grade 9 may confirm their transportation eligibility by accessing the Find Your Bus Stop tab at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com). Students not eligible for transportation who wish to obtain York Region Transit information should visit their website at [www.yrt.ca](http://www.yrt.ca) or phone 1-866-668-3978.

Save the Date

# Are you interested in the International Baccalaureate Programme?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is student-centred with a focus on developing intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills for students who live, learn and work in a rapidly changing world. The Programme emphasizes critical, compassionate thinking, community involvement and intercultural understanding. It is founded on international standards and assessment. Students who complete the Programme earn both an Ontario Secondary School Diploma and an IB Diploma.

We invite students who will be starting **Grade 8** in September to find their area IB School or Candidate School on the YRDSB School Locator (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/pages/schoolLocator.aspx>) and join us for an information evening to discover what we can offer.



## IB Information Evening

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Students and their families interested in York Region District School Board's IB Programme are invited to attend an Information session at their area school to learn more about the Programme and application process.



## Assessment Days

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Admission to the York Region District School Board IB Programme includes an assessment at your area IB School or Candidate School. At the time of application, students will select to write in either the morning on Saturday, November 18 or in the evening on Tuesday, November 21. There is a \$35 fee to apply.



@yrdsb



YRDSBMedia

For more information, please visit [www.yrdsb.ca/IB](http://www.yrdsb.ca/IB)

