

JUNE 2017



The Stonebridge Story

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Follow us on twitter: @stonebridgePS

A Message from the Administration

Stonebridge has been a busy place throughout the month of May. At the beginning of the month we staged the musical titled “Guys and Dolls” with over 50 staff and students involved. The staff and students worked very hard on this production and spent hundreds of hours in rehearsal learning lines, songs and dances. Their work paid off and the performances were spectacular. We would like to thank everyone involved in this production with a very special thank you to Ms. Archer – the acting coach, Mr. Neve – the music director, and Ms. Vallee – the costumes and dance coach as well as Ms. Teixeira who joined the team in February. Our whole school enjoyed the music and dance of that iconic moment in popular culture history!

Our athletes have also been hard at work! Thank you to Ms. Hislop for organizing our school track and field event! She will also be taking a team of over 100 students to our Area Track and Field Meet on Tuesday, June 6th. During our own Track and Field event held on several days in May, students at Stonebridge showed their athleticism in running, jumping and throwing. We also witnessed students work hard, try their best and persevere even when they were hot and tired.

We are very proud of all our students for their hard work and dedication to their academics and learning skills while working to achieve personal goals set from the first term. All of students have demonstrated an outstanding amount of positive character and have represented Stonebridge well both in and out of the school on trips, sports events and community adventures. Our new mural in the front atrium is representative of the various learning journeys our students have been on this year.

As we approach the end of the school, we have gratitude for all who make Stonebridge an amazing place to learn and work. We would like to thank our incredible School Council for their support and organization of many events. Our First Annual Fun Fair, organized by the School Council was held on May 18th, and despite elements out of our control, our families who came out for the event had a wonderful time. We look forward to our fun fair becoming an annual event. We are also very grateful to have teachers such as ours who are committed to student achievement and well being. Our teachers are truly working hard to engage our students in critical thinking especially in the areas of math. They are also using modern learning strategies that build collaboration and communication skills among students. And finally, we would like to thank you, the families of Stonebridge for your support of all of the learning that happens at our school every day. Thank you to those of you who completed the parent survey. We value your input and will use the information provided in school planning.

Yvonne Chan and Shelley Jones

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

Understanding Numbers with Your Child

Research tells us that in mathematics, higher achieving students have a stronger flexibility and understanding of the relationships between numbers. In classrooms, educators are working with students to build skills with understanding and connections, to help develop their sense of number as well as learning and remembering facts. This helps them when problem-solving.

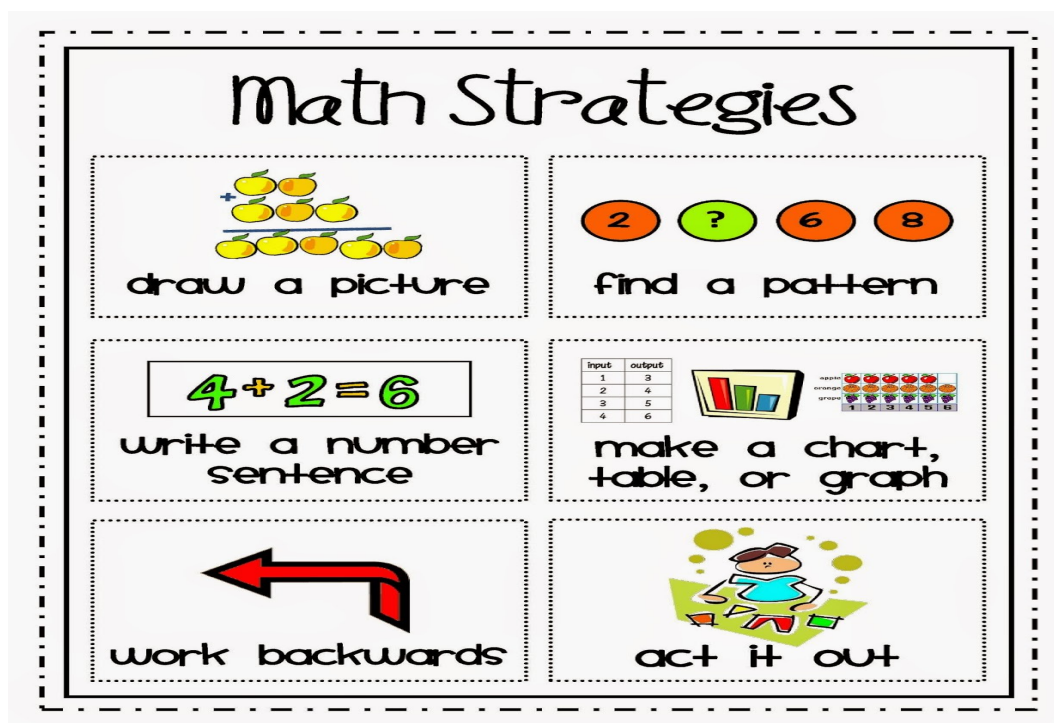
Think about knowing $4 + 7 = 11$ simply as a memorized fact.

Now think about knowing that $4 + 7 = 11$ because it is a $3 + 7$ and 1 more (linked to knowing that 10 is an important number).

The understanding of this relationship can help a student to think flexibly about $64 + 27$. In the same way, it can be thought about as $60 + 20 +$ the 10 (that was made by the understanding of $4 + 7$) and 1 more = 91

As a parent, you can support your child in thinking flexibly about how numbers are related:

- What other numbers or facts is this connected to? Example: $6 + 7 = ?$ This is like the double I know of $6 + 6$ and then 1 more.
- What do you know that might help you get there? Example: $7 \times 4 = ?$ I remember that $5 \times 4 = 20$, so then I have to add on two more 4's, which is 8, to get 28.
- What is another way that you can know that? Example: $4 \times 25 = ?$ I can think about money and know that 4 quarters is \$1.00, so $4 \times 25 = 100$



Coping with Stress



Stress affects everyone regardless of age and is a normal part of everyday life. Limited amounts of stress can actually motivate us to achieve our goals, but excessive stress can have overwhelming and debilitating effects on our lives. This is why it is so important to have the right tools to positively cope with life's stressors.

Tips to help parents and children positively cope with stress:

- Spend time with your children and try to understand how they are feeling
- Do activities as a family; physical activity is an excellent way to burn off stress
- Give children a chance to calm down; teach them different breathing and relaxation exercises
- Implement a bedtime routine to help children wind down at the end of the day
- Ensure children get the recommended amount of sleep based on their age; tired children get stressed easier

Other great tips to cope with stress:

- Talk to a friend or trusted adult
- Deep breathing
- Physical activity
- Play with a pet
- Get creative; play music, paint, draw or dance
- Stay on top of schoolwork and prioritize workloads
- Ask for help



For more information please visit york.ca/healthyschools

This material is provided by York Region Public Health.

Positive

Brief increases in heart rate,
mild elevations in stress hormone levels.

Tolerable

Serious, temporary stress responses,
buffered by supportive relationships.

Toxic

Prolonged activation of stress response systems
in the absence of protective relationships.



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.

PIZZA DAY & POPCORN DAY

Pizza day runs until Thursday **JUNE 15th**.

Please ensure that you send a lunch for your child on June 22nd and 29th, as there will not be any pizza on those days.

Popcorn will continue to be delivered until Tuesday **JUNE 20th** for those who paid on School Cash Online.

Early Dismissal—June 29th

Thursday, June 29, 2017 Early Dismissal in Elementary Schools

All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to improving student achievement and well-being. On **Thursday, June 29, 2017**, an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan as well as year-end and transition activities that support student success.

As has been our practice in the past, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 29, 2017 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at **11:55 a.m.**. Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bused to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents/guardians whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule.

Stonebridge PS

Stonebridge Chicken Hatching

The eggs are here!!!! The students were so excited when 12 fertilized chicken eggs finally arrived. They learnt how to candle eggs and set up an incubator for hatching. We are hoping for some chicks in 21 days. They are expected to hatch around June 13. The chicks will be returned to the farm on Wednesday, June 21.

You can visit <http://hatching.yrdsb.ca/> to see it "live".





From The Learning Commons
Yours truly from cover to cover,
Mrs. Miyata J



Battle of the Books Final News



Stonebridge had another fun filled year in Battle of the Books. On Friday, April 28, twenty students competed in our In School Battle of the Books competition. This year, our game format was changed up a notch to resemble that of a Jeopardy Game.. The students were placed in four teams each made up of five players. We even had fun buzzers to add excitement to the game! The results were that TEAM ORANGE won first place. The first team won the coveted red ribbon. Congratulations to **Elaine(4F)**, **Yashwini (4Ho)** , **Abbas(6M)**, **Angela (6M)** and **Shion(6M)**.

On Thursday, May 11, Stonebridge sent a rep team to the area finals that took place at Highgate Public School. Our stellar team consisted of **Angela and Jasmine** from **6McMillan**, **Elaine and Selina** from **4Fong**, **Leen** from **4Hislop** and **Haya** from **4 Holmesshaw**. On Friday, May 26, the rep team enjoyed the Celebratory Pizza Party.

Well done, everyone!



We're "Rounding Up" All Library Books



June is a very busy month in the library because we work very hard at ensuring that materials are returned. Parents, please be advised that **students must return all resources by Thursday, June 15, 2017**. Classroom teachers will have bins and boxes of resources available for student use for the remainder of the school year.

Students with books overdue after **June 15** may receive notices which include replacement costs for lost or damaged items. This fee includes the cost of the book, shipping, processing and cataloguing. Receipts are given to parents for any payment received. If for some reason there is a discrepancy and you believe that the book has been returned, please contact the school and we will recheck our shelves.

If a parent has paid for a lost book and the book turns up in good condition at a later date, please know that money is cheerfully refunded. We just want to make sure that our library has adequate resources for our students. Thank you for your help in ensuring that all items are rounded up.



A BIG Thank You to
our Student and Adult Volunteers
in the Learning Commons



It is that time of the year when the word 'thank you' to our volunteers is so often spoken. The Learning Commons is the heart of the school where everyone- students and teachers and parents - benefits from the organization of this hub of the school. Behind the scenes are teams of wonderful, dedicated people with big hearts who volunteer their precious time in order to serve our school's needs. There are student volunteers who give up many recess times to do whatever it takes – shelve books, repair resources, search the shelves for book requests for teachers – out of the goodness of their heart. There are a handful of committed parent volunteers who kindly set aside time each week in their schedules in order to stamp our books with our Stonebridge library stamp, type spine labels, affix barcodes and stickers, type up data for our data base so that they can get books shelf ready. There are also parents who volunteer at special times throughout the year at book fairs, and there are some parents on standby willing to help as the need arises.

Thank you, student and parent volunteers, for your dedication and commitment. Your selfless efforts help the entire school population to gain access to wonderful resources.



Now's the time to Plan for Summer Reading Activities at Angus Glen Public Libraries



Now's the time to Plan for Summer Reading Activities at Markham Public Libraries

With the summer holidays just around the corner, now's the time to find out about the wonderful programs being offered throughout the Markham Public Libraries. There are activities for people of all ages. For more information, please drop by any branch of the Markham Public Libraries or go to the website of Markham Public Libraries at <http://www.markham.ca/mp/> for more details.



We are Counting Down to
Canada 150 on
July 1, 2017!



Hey, Stonebridge Families! We are starting the countdown to Canada's 150th birthday! **As of June 1st**, there are **30 days until July 1st**. Parents, we urge you to join us in reminding your children about this historical and very memorable event that our students will fondly remember in years to come.

From the Learning Commons, **What we think...**









Welcome to another question from **What we think.**

What we think is a place for students to share what they think about questions posed to them about Canada, being Canadian and Canada 150. They are invited to write their thoughts and we shall be placing some of their thoughts in our newsletter.

This month's question is "**What is the cuisine of Canada?**"

Below are some of their answers received.

-  hot dogs
-  maple syrup and pancakes
-  pizza
-  samosas
-  butter chicken
-  sushi
-  timbits

-  dim sum
-  Jerk chicken
-  Milk
-  Canadian cheddar cheese
-  Chinese take-out food
-  roti

Message from Interim Director of Education



Message from Interim Director of Education

I am pleased to be joining York Region District School Board this week as Interim Director of Education.

Since joining the Board on Wednesday, I have had numerous calls and the opportunity to meet with some trustees and staff members. I want to thank everyone who so warmly welcomed me. This welcoming attitude says a lot about your kindness and caring – two attributes I strongly believe in.

As an educator for nearly 40 years, I have a firm commitment to creating safe, nurturing and inclusive learning environments that meet the needs of all our students. I believe in having a collaborative educational environment that invites educators, parents and community members to work together to create an educational system that reflects the needs of all our students.

I began my career as a Grade 2 teacher with the Simcoe County District School Board; an experience that shaped my admiration for the complexity of teaching and individualizing learning. I also taught in a secondary school and was a secondary administrator. I was privileged to then serve as a Superintendent and Director of Education with that Board.

Importantly, I am also a mother of three sons, three daughters-in-law, and 10 wonderful grandchildren. Family is a very special part of my life.

In the weeks ahead, I am planning to visit schools and workplaces across the region to talk with students, staff members, families and community partners, and to see some of the great programs happening across the district.

York Region District School Board has long had a reputation for excellence in education and I look forward to working with you in our school communities to promote trust and confidence in the Board.

As we move forward, I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely

Kathi Wallace

Interim Director of Education

Inspire Learning!



Message from our Trustee



Message from our Trustee

As we near the end of the school year, I want to thank you for all that you do to strengthen our schools and communities. This is a good time to celebrate your child's achievements over the past year.

One of our goals in the [Trustees' Multi-Year Plan](#) is to "continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture and caring and learning." That includes a culture that emphasizes engagement and positive relationships among all the members of the school community – students, staff members, families and community members.

You, as parents/guardians, are our most important partners when it comes to education. The support you have provided to your child throughout this past school year will help to strengthen our schools and make a difference to your child's learning.


I encourage you to continue engaging your child in learning throughout the summer, and to help them to see the connections between what they are learning in school and the world around them. There are so many opportunities to do this over the summer, whether that's planning a budget with your child, enjoying the natural beauty in York Region, reading a book or visiting local sites. Whatever your plans are this summer, I wish you all a successful end to the school year, and a safe and enjoyable summer.

Billy Pang

Trustee

InspireLearning!





"I love that feeling when a student and I are able to accomplish a skill that they originally struggled with!"

Samantha | Volunteer
turned Swim
Instructor

Start Early.
Get Certified.

Train to
become a
Lifeguard or
Swim Instructor
today!

**SWIM HERE.
WORK HERE.**

markham.ca/workhere



JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Popcorn On Tues. and Thurs. Pizza on Thurs.</i>				1 Grade 6 EQAO	2 PA Day	3
4	5 School Council Meeting in Staff Room at 6:30pm	6 Area Track and Field	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 PIZZA LAST DAY	16	17
18	19 Primary Play Day (weather permitting)	20 POPCORN LAST DAY	21 Regional Track and Field	22	23  Kindergarten Graduation	24
25	26 <i>Eid-ul-Fitr</i>	27  Gr.8 Grad	28 Report Cards Go Home	29 Early Dismissal 11:55am	30	01 CANADA DAY 