

NOVEMBER, 2018



# The Stonebridge Story

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Website:

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## A Message from the Administration

- **PRINCIPAL**  
Kevin Merkley
- **VICE-PRINCIPAL**  
Nada Aoudeh
- **SUPERINTENDENT**  
Camille Logan
- **TRUSTEE**  
Allan Tam

### 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

In October our students were engaged in Student Government Campaigns where students had the opportunity to let our school population learn about important reasons why they should be part of the cabinet. Students from grades 6 to grade 8 were involved in the campaigns and were engaged in deep learning and thinking throughout the process. This is another great opportunity for leadership and demonstrates how we value student voice at Stonebridge. Voting took place on Friday November 2nd putting our 11 ministers in place. There will be a process facilitated by classroom teachers to select 2 senators that will represent their classes which will take place in early November.

In addition, our Grade 7 and 8 students have volunteered to become Peer Mediators. These students will be trained on how to support students navigate disagreements supported by our support staff outside at lunch recess. These students will help continue to make Stonebridge a safe and caring learning environment for all students.

There are many exciting events that are on the horizon. Please join us for our Remembrance Day Assembly which is a solemn time. Our Remembrance Day assembly will take place on Monday November 12th. Our Junior/Intermediate performance is at 10:50, so please feel free to join us if you are able to on November 12th to honour those from the past who have made a sacrifice and have given us the freedoms we are privileged to enjoy as Canadian citizens.

In November, you will be receiving Progress Report Cards from your child's teacher which informs you of how they are doing in connection to Ontario Curriculum expectations and Learning Skills. You will also have the opportunity to schedule the interview/Student-Led Conference with your child's teacher. Details will be provided closer to the date for November 22nd and 23rd, the dates that are available to discuss your child's progress. Families will be able to book times through EDSBY for interviews. If you have not already accepted the invitation for EDSBY, please accept so that you can book a time and stay connected with the school and your child's teacher through EDSBY.

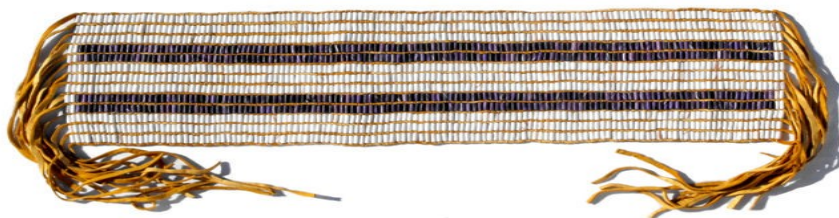
We hope that you will continue to share with us celebrations that our students should be learning about. Our Grade 4/5 class created a display to share their learning about Islamic Heritage Month. If you would like to work with the school to share your traditions, stories or the origins of Diwali or other celebrations, we would love to hear from you.

If you need to reach us you can contact us at [kevin.merkley@yrdsb.ca](mailto:kevin.merkley@yrdsb.ca) or [nada.aoudeh@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nada.aoudeh@yrdsb.ca), your partners in education.

Nada and Kevin

## Treaty Recognition

Did you know that the first week of November is officially Ontario's Treaty Recognition Week? During the week of November 5 - 9, 2018, we recognize the importance of treaties and bring awareness to the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the province. There are 46 treaties in Ontario and we all have a responsibility to honour the treaties. Please listen to [Hayden King](#) discuss Treaties.



What Are Treaties?

Treaty and agreement making processes were not new to First Nations. Oral histories indicate Indigenous peoples negotiated treaties to end land disputes, disagreements between each other and for trading purposes before the arrival of the Europeans. One of the earliest recorded treaties was the Great Law of Peace of the Haudenosaunee, which dates back to 1100 AD making it the second oldest continuous democratic government in the world. This treaty spoke of governing relationships and the code in which to live by.

When looking at treaty negotiations between the Canadian government and the Indigenous peoples involved, it is important to look at the "spirit and intent" of the treaties. Although both groups sat together at the same table during negotiations, they brought different perspectives with them, the major one being the understandings around land ownership and usage. These differences affected the outcomes of the treaties signed.

To learn more, please listen to [Hayden King](#) discuss Treaties.

## Holocaust Education Week

The week of November 1-8 marks the 38 annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW). The focus of this year's Holocaust Education Week is *Illumination the Shadows: Untold Stories of the Holocaust*. With millions of pages of historical documents, photographs and film recorded by perpetrators, victims and rescuers, along with thousands of hours of recorded testimony from survivors as well as perpetrators, it is incumbent on each of us to educate ourselves and ensure our students understand this history.

During this week we also want to acknowledge those who were also targeted by this regime as a result of their social identities. People of colour, the Roma (commonly referred to as Gypsies), people with physical disabilities, and those who identified as LGBTQ were also subjected to intolerance and persecution in Europe. We encourage educators and families to discuss the Holocaust of World War II, the many different people who stood for social justice for all, and also the many genocides, world-wide in the past and present, as means of working towards the end of intolerance, discrimination and hatred.



## School Council Direct Donation

Stonebridge PS School Council is excited to let you know that our Direct Donation initiative is going strong. From the support and generosity of our Stonebridge School families, 100% of the money raised last year went directly into purchasing several school resources and supporting several initiatives such as:

1. Purchase of a musical keyboard, or instruments and other equipment to enhance the school music programme.
2. Funds provided to hire supply teachers enabling regular staff to provide supervision and support for area and regional events for our sports teams and clubs.
3. To provide relief for our students from the hot weather in the classrooms, additional fans were purchased.
4. The cost of the Senior Kindergarten graduation and partial expenses for the grade 8 graduation were covered.
5. As mentioned in the last letter, funds went towards the completion of Phase 1 of the Learning Commons transformation.
6. Ministry of Education was able to match and maximize our technology purchase efforts.

The above are just some of the ways through fundraising that School Council has supported the enrichment of our children's learning environment and well-being.

For those parents who have donated already, we thank you. For those who have not had the time, it's not too late. The last day to donate is **Friday November 9th**. Remember that any donation \$25.00 or over will qualify for a tax receipt.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity,

The Stonebridge PS School Council

## ***Edsby Update***

### Parent-teacher interviews for Progress reports

Did you know, booking of Parent-teacher interviews for Progress reports will take place using Edsby? That process will start around November 15th.

If you haven't already accepted the invite to join Edsby, please contact the school office at (905) 887-2427 or email us at [Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca), so we can re-invite you.

### Regular Communication with parents

As of January 2019, the school office will only be communicating with parents via Edsby.

If you haven't already accepted the invite to join Edsby, please contact the school office at (905) 887-2427 or email us at [Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca), so we can re-invite you.

As well, if you know of a family in the community who is not signed up or due to language-barrier or other is unable to sign-up in Edsby please ask them to contact the office so we may assist them in using the Google Translate option on Edsby.

## ***A Message from the Stonebridge School Council***

The School Council will be holding a raffle ticket sale from November 19th to December 6th for a computer device. Details of the prize will be announced later.

Raffle tickets will go on sale on November 19th. Tickets will be 1 for \$5.00 and 3 for \$10.00. The Class that sells the most tickets will again be rewarded with a pizza lunch. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Christmas concert.

## ***Every Student Counts Survey***

In November 2018, all York Region District School Board students in Grades 7 to 12 and parents/guardians of students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will be invited to participate in a system-wide census entitled, the Every Student Counts Survey (ESCS).

This census is part of our Board's commitment to create equitable and inclusive learning environments to meet the diverse needs of our students and families. Copies of the census will be sent home with students in Kindergarten to Grade 6, to be completed with a parent or guardian. Students in Grades 7 to 12 will be invited to complete the census at school.

The confidential and voluntary census will be available online or in paper format. Postcards have been sent home to families to ensure you are aware of the importance of this survey/census. Further Information is also be available on the Board website.

# FLU SEASON IS HERE



## Get the flu shot as early as possible

The first and best step to preventing the flu (or influenza), is to **get the flu shot every year**. The flu spreads quickly and easily from an infected person to others and anyone can get it. Getting the flu shot can protect you, your family and those around you.

Students may be at higher risk of getting the flu as they come together in close public spaces including the classroom, gymnasium, lunch room and library.

The flu shot is especially important for students who have a chronic condition (e.g. asthma, diabetes) or those who live with or have close contact with a pregnant woman, kids less than five years old, or a resident of a nursing home or other chronic care facility since these groups are at higher risk of getting very sick or being hospitalized because of the flu.

Flu shots are **free** and are readily available at:

- Health care provider's offices for people six months of age and older
- Participating pharmacies, for people five years of age and older

In addition to getting the flu shot annually, here are some other health tips that can help prevent the spread of the flu:

- Wash your hands well and often with either soap and water or alcohol based hand rub
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze (if you do not have a tissue, cough into your upper sleeve)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Stay home when you're sick
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and shared items

It's important to get the flu shot as early as possible as it can take nearly **two weeks** for the influenza vaccine to take full effect.

To learn more about flu and flu vaccine, visit [york.ca/flu](http://york.ca/flu).

**PUBLIC HEALTH** 1-877-464-9675 TTY 1-866-512-6228 [york.ca/flu](http://york.ca/flu)

## Eco Theme November - What's In/What's Out

Staff and students are encouraged to **Rethink** their actions before disposing of an item. That is, stop and consider the impact every disposal action will have on the environment and the world around us. It is important to be well-informed about what goes in the Blue Box for recycling, the Green Bin for composting, the garbage bin for landfill. Putting items in the Blue Box or Green Bin that should not be there can ruin an entire batch of recyclable and compostable material that will end up in landfill.

To help staff and students recycle right, please refer to the York Region Bindicator tool at [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca) for standard Blue Box and Green Bin materials and the Board's [Waste Disposal Guide](#) for non-standard/unique materials. To order Garbage, Recycle and/or Green Bin posters contact [Caretaking Supplies](#).

Did You Know?

The [Eco Watch Energy and Waste Website](#) is a great tool for students and staff to learn about energy consumption and waste generation within their own school/building!



Picture Retake Day

Wednesday, November 21st, 2018

# November 2018

Sun

Mon









Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1  <i>1B to Markham Stouffville Hospital</i>	2	3
4 <i>Daylight Saving Time</i>	5 <i>Dental Screening— JK, SK, 2, 7 &amp; 8 Mr. Sub</i>	6  <i>Dental Screening</i>	7 <i>Dental Screening Take Your Kids to Work Mr. Greek</i>	8  <i>Gr.4 to Toronto Zoo 1A to Markham Stouffville Hospital</i>	9	10
11	12 <i>Remembrance Day Assembly at 10:50 Mr. Sub</i>	13 	14 <i>Gr.8 to PETHS Pasta Lunch</i>	15  	16	17
18	19 <i>Mr. Sub</i>	20 	21 <i>Mr. Greek Bus Evacuation Picture Retake</i> 	22   <i>Bus Evacuation Parent/Teacher Interview 3:45— 8:00 pm</i>	23 <i>P.A. Day No School Parent/Teacher Interview AM</i>	24
25	26 <i>Mr. Sub</i>	27 	28 <i>Pasta Lunch</i>	29   <i>Coding Night 6:00-8:00 pm</i>	30 <i>Coding Day</i>	