

OCTOBER, 2016



- **PRINCIPAL**
Yvonne Chan
- **VICE-PRINCIPAL**
Shelley Jones
- **SUPERINTENDENT**
Erik Kilji
- **TRUSTEE**
Billy Pang

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/unionville.ps

Email: Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca



Follow us on twitter: @StonebridgePS

A Message from the Administration

It has been a very busy September at Stonebridge Public School. In mid September, we were faced with the need to go through a minor reorganization of our Kindergarten and Primary classes to create Ms. Seal's SK/1 class and Ms. Leung's 3/4 class. Thank you to all staff, students and families who helped us to make these changes as comfortable and stress free as possible. All of our students are now settled in their classes and teachers are enjoying getting to know their learners and building a learning community in their classrooms where all students can thrive.

Safety is always a priority at our school. As a board we are committed to providing safe learning environments for all students. On the PA Day in September all staff were involved in safety training ranging from general health and safety to anaphylaxis and epi-pen training. On October 5th we participated in iwalk - the International Walk to School Day and it was a great success with over 75% of our students walking, biking and rolling to school. Again, we would like to thank families for following our drop off and pick up routines and the parking signs on Stonebridge Ave. We do ask that if you park your car on a side street, that you walk to the nearest corner in order to cross safely with your children. Crossing Stonebridge Ave. or Wilfred Murison Ave. in the middle of the road is dangerous, particularly between 8:40-9:00 and 3:25-3:45. Please take the time to walk down to the corner where a crossing guard can help you to cross safely.

The leaves are beginning to change colour and despite the warm weather we know that we have entered a new season. With fall upon us, the weather will be changing and getting cooler. Please make sure your child(ren) are dressed according to the weather. All of our students go out to play for 30 minutes in the morning and 40 minutes after lunch. Parents are encouraged to check the weather report on the radio, television or online to ensure that their children are dressed to be comfortable playing outdoors. If your child is too unwell to play outside then it is best that he/she stay home for the day until feeling well enough to participate in school activities.

Our Curriculum night on Thursday, September 29th was a great success. It was nice to see so many families came out to meet their children's teachers and see where each child is learning every day. We would like to thank our Teachers, Early Childhood Educators, Education Assistants, Secretaries and Caretakers who ensured that our school and classrooms were ready for your visit. We would also like to thank our families for coming to the school in the evening, as being involved in your child's education is very important to their academic success and well being.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Chan and Shelley Jones

A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council meeting was held on Monday September 19th, 2016. The new elected School Council for 2016/17 school year are :

Co-Chairs: Siva Mylswamy and Garth Morris

Treasurer: Wendy Wei Sun

Upcoming Events

- The School Council will be running the Pizza Days this year from Oct 2016.
- The Direct Donation Fund Raiser will start end of October to raise funds for school resources, athletics, arts, books and technology. Look for an information letter and donation form going home with the students.
- As well, a series of workshops will be presented. They will be related to the Parent Reaching Out Grant related to our theme of Helping Children Reach Their Potential.
- Also the school council is hoping to run a Fun Fair this year.

School Council meeting dates for the 2016-17 school year are as follows:

October 5th, November 7th, December (no meeting), January 16th,

February 6th, March 6th, April 3rd, May (no meeting), June 5th

Meetings take place on Mondays from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm in the Staff Lounge. We look forward to seeing you there.

As always, the council can be contacted via our email address stonebridge.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

STONEBRIDGE CROSS COUNTRY

The Stonebridge Cross Country Team trained 4 times/week for several weeks.

Our team of over 40 athletes showed incredible dedication and Stonebridge spirit!

On September 29th, 18 of our Cross Country athletes travelled to Milliken Mills Park to compete in the Area Meet. All of our runners did an incredible job. They showed perseverance, grit and remarkable sportsmanship!

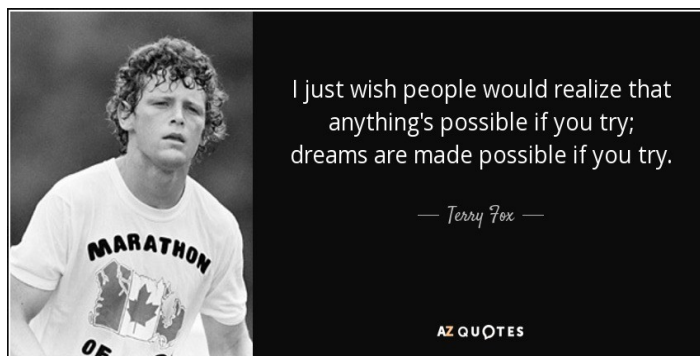
Five (5) of our runners will be moving on to the Regional Cross Country Meet on October 19th at Bruce's Mill.

Ms. Hall-Kemp and Ms. Hamilton are very proud of the entire team! Congratulations on a short, yet successful season!

TERRY FOX RUN

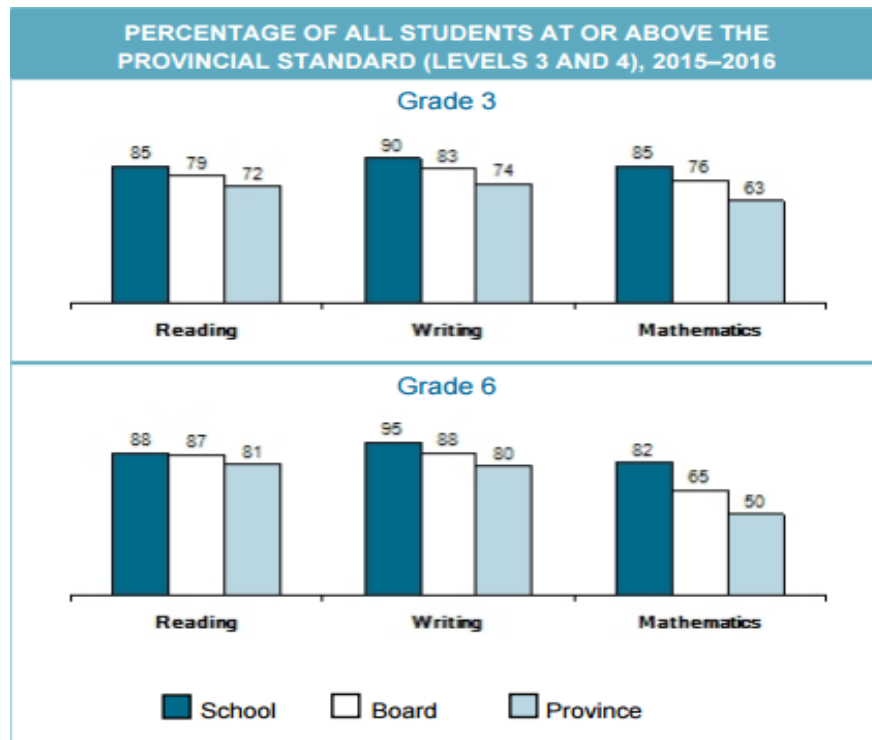
On Stonebridge PS students participated in the Terry Fox Run at school on **Thursday, September 29th**. All students went outside and ran were encouraged to bring in a small donation.

Stonebridge PS raised over one thousand dollars. The money was donated to the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research. Thank you for your support of this meaningful activity that helps our students to understand one of the ways that they can make a difference in the world.



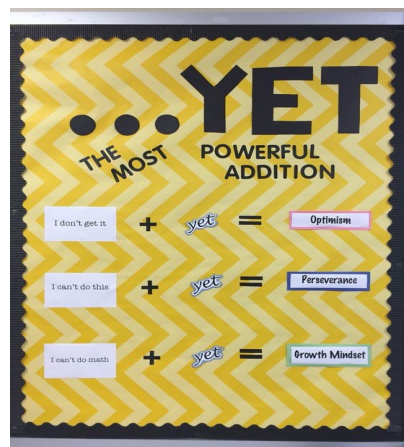
Stonebridge's Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

During the 2015-2016 school year, the Grade 3 and 6 students from across Ontario participated in a provincial assessment of reading, writing, and mathematics. This assessment was conducted by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), an independent agency whose mandate is to ensure greater accountability and help improve the quality of education by providing clear and timely information about student achievement in Ontario schools.



Math Moment

One of the most powerful words we can use in our math classes and as we work with our students on math at home is the word **“Yet”**. We often hear, “I’m not good at this.” “I can’t do it.” “I don’t understand this”. “I’m not a math person.” Whenever we hear statements like this we need to help our children add that very important word: yet. **“I’m not good at this...yet.” “I don’t understand this....yet.”** This is the first step on the way to building a positive mathematical mindset. How we talk about math and ourselves as math people is very impactful. Encourage your students to think about ways to change their words to encourage a positive and open mindset when they face challenges! Check out <https://www.youcubed.org/think-differently/> to learn more about how our mindset impacts learning.



LIT(ERACY) BIT

What is a Community Circle?

You may have heard your child say they had a “community circle” at school. This is a meeting time the teacher organizes to build a trusting and safe learning community. Community circles are usually 15-20 minutes in length and can happen each day, every other day, or once a week depending on the class needs and preferences. The subject material varies greatly but usually revolves around fostering ethical student behavior and sharing of students’ feelings. A popular theme this week before the Thanksgiving holiday might have been, “I’m grateful that...”. Each student around the circle has the opportunity to speak and complete the thought. A few ground rules are taught at the beginning including “appreciation of others (i.e. no put-downs, listen attentively, respect everyone, and the right to pass”, which enhance the feeling of safety and trust. This idea is adapted from the popular book called **TRIBES** by Jeanne Gibbs and is popular in our Stonebridge learning community. You might want to ask your child if they had a circle discussion today...and what he or she shared with the group! This might open up a conversation in your family.



ECO TEAM NEWS



This month our ECO Team is encouraging all students to walk, wheel and roll to school.

Why Walk or Bike to School?

IT's FUN!

Walking and bicycling brings a sense of joy and independence to our children.

HEALTHIER HABITS!

The trip to school is a chance for children and adults to get the physical activity they need.

CLEANER ENVIRONMENT!

Replacing car trips to school with walking or air-polluting emissions.

bicycling can reduce congestion and

Our ECO team would like to thank all of the families who have been sending litter-less lunches to school. We continue to encourage everyone to utilize reusable containers in their children's lunchboxes as it helps us to reduce our waste at school. We hope that our 'boomerang' program, where all uneaten food is returned home has helped you to know what your child likes to eat and to pack their healthy lunch with this in mind. A reusable water bottle is a very important item to send to school as we have a re-filling station and students can fill



HALLOWEEN AT STONEBRIDGE

HALLOWEEN AT SCHOOL

A reminder that as Halloween approaches, students are not allowed to bring any replica/toy guns, knives, sticks, swords, etc. to school even if they are part of the costume. Make-up is preferred over masks to ensure that students can see properly. Jokes that include spray cans of silly string, fake blood, etc. should be kept at home for Halloween evening as they are often misused at school. Individual teachers will communicate specifics about Halloween activities in their classes.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN

- Wear a properly fitted costume that is bright and non-flammable
- Use reflective tape on your costume so you can be seen in the dark
- Use face make-up or enlarge the eyes on your mask so you can see well
- Visit the front door of well-lit homes and NEVER go inside
- Have a trusted adult check your treats before eating them
- Go out with an adult or a group of friends
- Only nut-free/peanut free treats can come to school for snack.



LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH



**Don't DIS
my ABILITY**

Imagine the difference it could make if we focused on the strengths of people with **learning disabilities** instead of their weaknesses?



OCTOBER is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month.

Help stop the stigma and realize the **ABILITIES!**



ldayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region

The right to learn, the power to achieve

 **ldao** • Learning Disabilities
Association of Ontario
The right to learn, the power to achieve

905.884.7933 www.LDAYR.org

International Baccalaureate Program Information Evening

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program 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 program emphasizes critical, compassionate thinking, community involvement and intercultural understanding. It is founded on international standards and assessment. Students who complete the program earn both an Ontario Secondary School Diploma and an IB Diploma.

We are pleased to announce the expansion of York Region District School Board's IB Program offerings. In addition to [Bayview Secondary School](#)'s IB Program, YRDSB has four candidate school sites for the Diploma Program:

[Alexander Mackenzie High School](#)

[Dr. GW Williams Secondary School](#)

[Maple High School](#)

[Milliken Mills High School](#)

Current Grade 8 and Grade 9 students and families interested in YRDSB's IB Program are invited to attend an information session to learn more about the program and application process. No registration is needed.

IB Information Evening – Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Location: Le Parc

8432 Leslie Street, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 7M6

Hall: to be announced

Times:

Families living EAST of Yonge St. 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Families living WEST of Yonge St. 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Students eligible for Grade 9 and Grade 10 in September 2017 may apply.

Assessment Dates – Saturday, November 19 or Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Admission to the York Region District School Board IB programs includes an assessment. At the time of application, students will select to write in either the a.m. or p.m. on Saturday, November 19 or in the evening on Tuesday, November 22. There is a \$35 fee to apply to this program.

Birthdays at Stonebridge

For additional information, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/IB.

To best ensure the safety of students and staff members who may suffer from life-threatening food allergies, and to support the religious and cultural values of many of our families, we continue to ask that parents **DO NOT** send food to school to celebrate your child's birthday. For the reasons mentioned above, many students are unable to eat various foods and therefore, too often, food that arrives at school is unable to be shared. We do believe that a birthday is a special day in a child's life so, if you do wish to send something to school on your child's birthday, then please consider some alternatives to food. Colourful and decorative pencils, erasers, book marks and stickers are always well received by children, as are small loot bags containing a few dollar store items. If you are





Information Night for Students and Parents

Are you interested in attending Bill Crothers Secondary School for the school year 2017 - 2018?

Bill Crothers Secondary School is a unique, system-wide program that provides an inclusive and engaging learning environment for students who are motivated by healthy active living and sport while achieving academic success. This school operates on a Balanced School Year (early August to mid-June) schedule which supports the diverse needs of student-athletes. Specialized programming is offered to support our students through our diverse and daily Health and Physical Education and High Performance Athlete Program with contextualized learning in a variety of subject courses. During the school day, we offer an Integrated Learning Instructional Period (ILIP) which provides supervised time for students to achieve their academic goals.

Information Night at: Bill Crothers Secondary School, 44 Main Street, Unionville, Ontario.

Tuesday October 11th, 2016 – Students in the West & North of the Region

Wednesday October 19th, 2016 – Students in the East Region

Thursday October 20th, 2016 – Students in the Central Region Information

sessions will be from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the school cafeteria.

If you have a conflict with your designated evening, you are welcome to attend an alternate evening. The above suggestions are made to assist with seating for each evening's presentation. Thank you.

Admission to Bill Crothers Secondary School is by application and is open to students who reside in York Region entering grades 9, 10, 11, or 12. Students must declare the sport in which they compete at the highest level outside of school and will not be able to compete in this sport for BCSS in the YRAA (York Region Athletic Association) or OFSAA (Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association) league. Alternative competitive options are being explored. Secondly, students who transfer in for grade 10, 11 and 12 are subject to YRAA and OFSAA transfer rules. Please refer to the <http://www.yraa.com>

Due to limited space and building capacity regulations, we ask that **only families with students interested in attending BCSS for the school year 2017 - 2018** attend one of these evenings. Parking is limited so we ask that you carpool or park at the GO Station. **By-law officers will enforce the parking regulations.**

Applications will be available from the website on Friday October 21, 2016.

For further information, contact shirley.difebo@yrdsb.ca



Develop skills to support your school community!

GIVE (Get Involved Volunteer In Education) is a free training program for community members who wish to volunteer in our schools.

Participants will have the opportunity to share and learn about:

- Role of the Volunteer
- Equity and Inclusive Education
- Communication Skills
- Human Rights
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Mental Health & Well Being
- Immigrant Experience
- Employment Standards

All participants will receive a certificate upon completion

Where? Welcome Centre Markham North
8400 Woodbine Ave. #102
Markham ON L3R 4N7

Time? 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

When? Every Friday for 6 weeks starting November 4, 2016 - December 9, 2016.

To Register call or email: Yasmin Mawani, Community Resource Facilitator
Phone: 416-727-8179 Email: Yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca

Space is limited – please register early!

October 2016

Sun

Mon









Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2	3 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	4 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	5 <i>Walk to School Day</i>	6	7	8
9	10  <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	11	12 <i>Yom Kippur</i>	13  Picture day 	14	15
16	17	18 	19	20  	21	22
23	24	25 	26	27 	28 <i>PA DAY</i>	29 <i>Diwali</i>
30	31 