

# THE STONEHAVEN STAR

Inspire Learning!

Stonehaven Elementary School  
875 Stonehaven Avenue  
Newmarket, ON L3X 2K3  
Phone: 905-898-2077 Fax: 905-898-3762



Principal: Mr. Neil Gunathunge Vice-Principal: Ms. Susan Wansbrough

October 2, 2015

## A MESSAGE FROM MR. GUNATHUNGE & MS. WANSBROUGH

September has been a wonderfully busy month at Stonehaven. Our students have been learning the routines and expectations for our school. We had a primary and junior/intermediate assembly outlining school expectations related to behaviour, technology and appropriate dress.

Our Terry Fox Run/Walk is going to take place on Monday October 5, rain date Tuesday October 6. This event will take place on Stonehaven School property. The kindergartens will walk/run around the field from 9:00– 9:30 am, and the grades 1-8 will run around the field, play structure and basketball courts from 10:45– 11:15am. Our student announcers are making announcements about Terry's dream, creating a sense of empathy for others. Many teachers read books about Terry Fox as a way to deepen their understanding that we can all make a positive difference in the world, especially when we work together for a common goal. We have a goal of reaching \$5,000.00 by the students, staff, families and friends of Stonehaven E.S. Parents are welcome to join us on the walk.

## SAFETY WEEK

The York Region District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students. The week of September 25—October 2 is designated Safety Week in our Board. All public elementary and secondary schools across York Region featured activities and events that highlight various facets of safety at school and in the community. Students participated in activities intended to increase awareness of safety hazards and how to avoid them.

Schools need to be prepared to respond to events that may place students and staff in harms way. As part of our preparedness, we practice fire drills, lockdowns and hold and secure drills. We are all very familiar with fire drills; however, terms such as "lockdown" and "hold and secure" are not as well known. The term "lockdown" is used when there is a major incident or threat of violence within the school. During a lockdown, students remain in their classroom and stay out of sight until the lockdown is over. The term "hold and secure" is used when we need to secure the school due to an ongoing situation outside of the school. In this situation, the school continues to function normally, with the exterior doors being locked until such time as the situation near the school is resolved.

## A FEW REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE:

### Forms

If you have not already done so, please make sure to sign and return all the forms that were handed out the first week of school (i.e. Lunch Permission; Safe and Caring Schools and Acceptable use Agreement for Information Technology.

### Absences and Lates

Parents, please remember to call the office when your child is going to be absent or late. The answering machine is on from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. so messages can be left at any time.

Trying to get in touch with parents unnecessarily is time consuming and could take time away if a child has really gone missing on route to school.

### Update your child's Information

It is important to inform the office of any changes to your contact information so that we can update our records.

### Before and After Care

Please remember if your child is not going to attend Before and/or After Care on any given day, THEY need to be notified by you. The daycare is housed at Stonehaven but calling your child's absence into Stonehaven or signing them out early does not get communicated to the daycare staff.

### Office Telephone

The phone at the front desk in the office is to be used in emergency situations only. Please ensure that your child comes to school with everything necessary for the day (i.e. lunch, books, water bottle, after school arrangements, when they need to be in the office for appointments, etc). It is very disruptive to have students leaving the class to make phone calls or having office staff having to interrupt the class.

### Medications

If your child needs to take medication during school hours, please obtain the necessary form for the administration of medication from the office. For legal and safety reasons, written permission is required for **ALL medication**, including **inhalers, Advil and Tylenol**. **We request that medication be kept in the office.** Please ensure that the medication is brought directly to the office.

### Volunteers in our School

If you would like to Volunteer in the classroom or on field trips we ask that you obtain a Police Vulnerable Sector Check. Please ask the office for your volunteer letter and a Confidentiality Agreement Form. Thank you for Volunteering!

Trustee: Martin VanBeek: (905) 830-6776

Superintendent: Drew McNaughton: (905) 895-5155

**Parent Volunteers Needed**

I am looking for parent volunteers who would like to join “**Our Parent Reading Program**”. This program helps struggling readers in our early primary grades. The commitment needed is one day per week for an hour or two. Your time will greatly benefit our students and it is such a rewarding experience for everyone as we witness these students blossom into fluent readers.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like some additional information about the program, please contact Debbie Milner at 905 898 2077 ext. 109 or email me at [debra.stevens-milner@yrdsb.ca](mailto:debra.stevens-milner@yrdsb.ca). Please respond by October 9th. Following that, I will set up a meeting where we can discuss reading strategies to use with the students you will be reading with. If you are interested in this great opportunity, please leave me your name, your child’s name and teacher, as well as a phone number or email where I can reach you.

Debra Stevens-Milner  
SERT/Reading Recovery

**Bill Crothers Secondary School**

Bill Crothers Secondary School (BCSS) is a system-wide school with a focus on healthy active living and sport. The school is open for Grade 9 to 12 students. Students and parents from across the region are invited to attend an information evening. Information will be shared regarding the vision, mission, schedule, programs, the transfer policy, and application process.

All information sessions will occur at Bill Crothers Secondary School, 44 Main Street, Unionville, Ontario, L3R 2E4 from 7 – 8:30 in the cafeteria.

**Wednesday October 7, 2015 – Students in the West & North Region**

**Tuesday October 13, 2015 – Students in the East Region**

**Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Students in the Central Region**

Due to building capacity regulations, we request that only students and parents interested in attending BCSS for the school year 2016 - 2017, attend one of these evening. Parking is limited so we ask that parents car-pool or park at the GO Station. Markham By-law officers regularly enforce the parking regulations on school property, so please abide by the posted parking regulations.



Newmarket Cares for Kids is a local non-profit organization. It provides programs, in a variety of activities, at no cost. Programs are available for children ages 3-18 whose parents would otherwise not be able to afford them.

Newmarket Cares for Kids is also a link to other support services that fund arts and recreational activities in Newmarket. In some cases, transportation through a local taxi company may be offered.

Call (905) 716-1447 for more information.

**Halloween Dance**

On Friday, October 30th each grade will have the opportunity to participate in a dance in the Gym for a scheduled period of time. This will replace their scheduled physical education class for the day. Students may wear costumes to the dance but they must be appropriate for school (no pretend guns or knives). If you have any questions about whether or not a costume will be appropriate please speak with your child's teacher. The cost of the dance is \$1 per student. Please note that no child will be excluded for monetary reasons. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items towards the Thanksgiving Food Drive.

**Costumes**

On Friday, October 30th, many of the students will be arriving dressed up in their costumes. This is a reminder that there are very strict guidelines regarding costume accessories. Please be advised that costume accessories including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc. are in non-compliance with the York Region District school Board's Safe School Policy #668.0. These items fall under the category of "weapons and replicas" and are not allowed in schools. Please note that this policy applies to all students at all levels, including JK/SK. We would also ask that masks not be worn to school for often they are too scary for many of our primary students to handle. Please leave them at home for the day. Your attention to these matters and cooperation is greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing how creative students can make their costumes!

**Treats**

Please remember that Stonehaven E.S. is an Allergy Aware School. In order to protect many students and staff with life-threatening allergies to nuts, we ask that no products containing peanuts or other nuts be sent to school. Any treats that come to school that say "may contain traces of nuts" will remain unopened and be returned home with your child. We are also continuing our work towards becoming a more Healthy School and would therefore also ask that you are conscientious of this when thinking about sending in any treats with your child. In our classrooms, we work with the students around healthy eating and making healthy choices and we'd still like to encourage this during Halloween. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Download the YRDSB App!**

Did you know that you can download the York Region District School Board app, *YRDSB Mobile*, using your iPhone, Android or Blackberry 10 device?

*YRDSB Mobile* provides parents and students with up-to-date news, access to student resources, school maps and contact information. Users are able to access the *Report It* tool, school year calendars, transportation information and much more.

To download the free app, search for "YRDSB" in your app store

**Reading With Your Primary Student!**

Learning to read is an important skill and your child needs to feel supported and praised through each step and stage of the process both at school and at home. First, set aside a special time where your child will have your full attention. Listed below are a few ideas to help make reading at home a fun, interactive and positive experience;

**Before Reading**

- Before you read the book, take a few minutes to talk about the front cover and the title of the story.
- Remind him or her of a time they had an experience like the one in the book.
- For early readers, take a picture walk through the story. Look only at the pictures and talk about what they see.

- Remember we are reading for meaning so it is important to understand the context of the story.

**During Reading**

- Let your child hold the book and ask them to read.
- Notice and praise him or her for all of the attempts and the wonderful skills they are using when reading this new book.
- Be supportive and positive and offer help when they need it.

**After Reading**

- It is important to talk about the story.
- try retelling the story
- relating the story to your own experience
- talk about vocabulary that you found in the book
- think of a new ending for the story
- make yourself a character and describe what would you have done in that case.

This important time spent reading together will help your child discover the world of reading and help foster a love for it!

**Message from School Council**

Thank you to all parents who attended our first Stonehaven School Council meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>. We are pleased to announce this year’s 12 School Council parent members: Shameela Shakeel (Chair), Teresa Jacobs (Secretary), Cherylynn Hunt (Treasurer), Barb Whelpley, Mary Beth Mercier, Trish Bethell, Cathy Miles, Roni Silbershatz, Nadila Zaravinos, Julie McWilliams, Gloria Lee and Abby Kassar.

We encourage all parents/guardians to attend the School Council meetings this school year. Tentative dates include Wednesday, November 4; Monday, January 11; Wednesday, March 9 and Tuesday, May 17.

On **Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**, our students will participate in concerts with Errol Lee, who is an award-winning singer, songwriter, children’s author and motivational speaker. All concert presentations are multi-sensory and use music, movement, media and visual communication strategies to appeal to all kinds of learners. Errol’s Caring Kids’ Concerts appeal to students of all ages, with song lyrics supporting positive behaviour, collaborative learning and inclusive education. We are tentatively scheduling an evening performance for families later in the term.

On **Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**, our students will have an opportunity to enjoy a Halloween Dance with a DJ in the school gym. Students will come to the gym with their classes and teachers for about 45 minutes during the school day. School Council members and parent volunteers will be selling cookies and other treats so please send some loonies and toonies with your kids. We are looking forward to seeing all of the fantastic costumes!

Just a reminder...you can order online for hot lunches through [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca). We offer Made in Mexico lunches on Mondays and Il Bistro pizza and pasta on Fridays. Also, popcorn order forms can be found on our website or in the school office anytime.

We welcome parent volunteers! Please join us at School Council meetings, volunteer for ongoing initiatives and events, and keep communicating with us. We also welcome high school students who would like to complete volunteer hours by helping at events. Please contact Shameela at [chair@stonehavencouncil.com](mailto:chair@stonehavencouncil.com) and checkout the School Council website: [www.stonehavencouncil.com](http://www.stonehavencouncil.com) for more information.

**It’s Time to Remind Children About Walking to School Safely**

This is a good time for parents to remind their children about pedestrian safety. York Regional Police has provided the following safety tips on their website to help keep students safe on their way to and from school:

- Walk on available sidewalks
- Always cross at intersections
- Obey crossing guards
- Stop before stepping into roadway
- Be visible and indicate crossing intentions
- Look and listen for traffic in all directions
- Make eye contact with drivers
- Cross safely when the roadway is clear
- Walk. Do not run or cycle across roads
- If possible use the buddy system

For more information, visit [www.yrp.ca](http://www.yrp.ca).

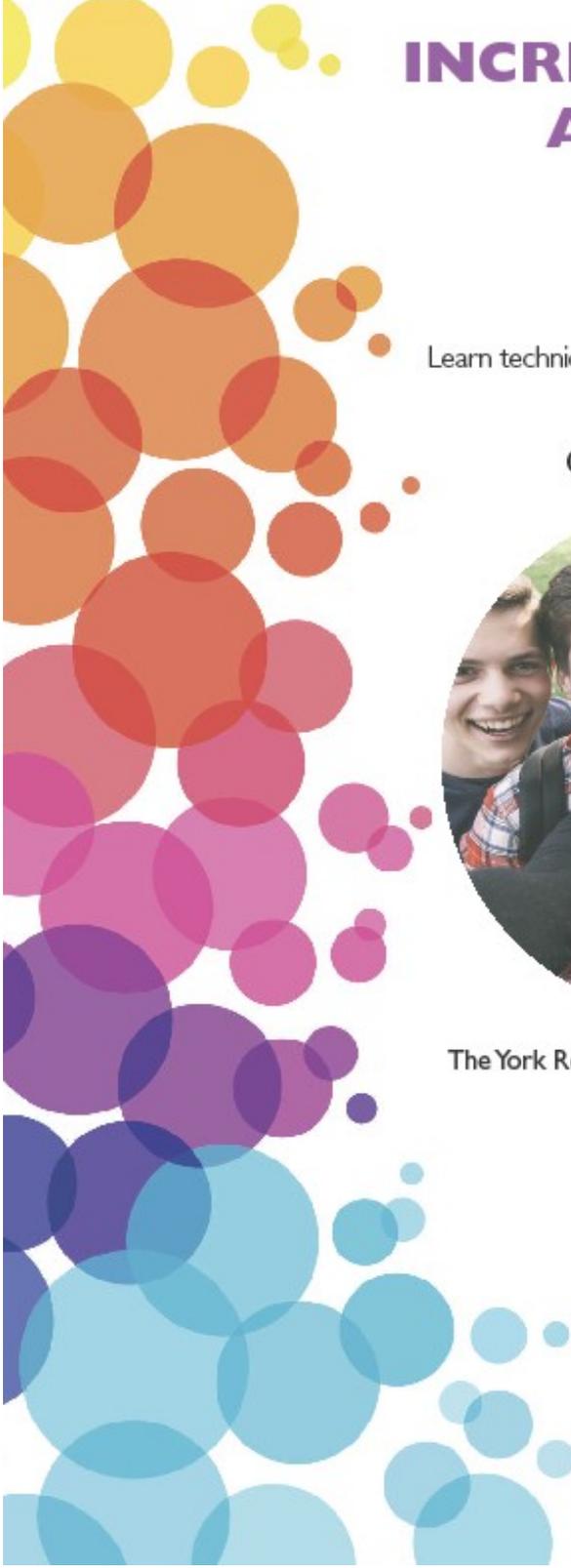


**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 8 Area Cross Country
- 6 Eroll Lee Performances
- 8&9 Picture Day
- 12 Thanksgiving (NO SCHOOL)
- 15 Regional Cross Country
- 26&27 School Bus Evacuation Safe
- 30 Halloween Dance

**Stonehaven Snack/Lunch Programs**

- Monday - Made in Mexico**
- Tuesday and Thursday - Lunch Lady**
- Wednesday -Popcorn**
- Friday– Pizza/Pasta**



# INCREASING RESILIENCY AND WELL-BEING IN OUR CHILDREN

## PARENT WORKSHOP

Learn techniques to assist your children in becoming more resilient

A PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS  
OF ALL STUDENTS BUT IN PARTICULAR  
THOSE IN GRADES 7-9



**Sponsored by**

The York Region District School Board Resiliency Committee and  
The Learning Disabilities Association of York Region

No cost

**Monday November 2, 2015**  
**Richmond Green Secondary School**

7:00 p.m.-9:00p.m.

**RSVP – [chris.mcadam@yrdsb.ca](mailto:chris.mcadam@yrdsb.ca)**





# PA Day and Holiday Programs

Fall + Winter 2015/16



Whether you're at the Recreation Youth Centre & Sk8 Park (56 Charles Street) or the Magna Centre (800 Mulock Drive), great activities will be run by dedicated staff in a safe and fun environment. The RYC program will feature access to the Sk8 Park, gym, and games area. The Magna Centre location will have opportunities to swim, skate and play in the gym. Both programs focus on being active but will also have a variety of more passive activities and games to balance out the day. Register today for as little as \$40 per day!

Fall	Code	Location	Winter	Code	Location
September 28	102523	RYC	January 15	102526	Magna
November 27	102524	RYC	February 1	102525	RYC
December 21	102594	RYC	March 14	102600	RYC
December 22	102595	RYC	March 15	102601	RYC
December 23	102596	RYC	March 16	102602	RYC
December 28	102597	RYC	March 17	102603	RYC
December 29	102598	RYC	March 18	102604	RYC
December 30	102599	RYC			

The program runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. | extended care is available.

8 to 9 a.m. \$5 per day | 4 to 5:30 p.m. \$7 per day

Late pick up fees will apply (\$1 per minute)



[www.newmarket.ca/recreation](http://www.newmarket.ca/recreation)

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# SK8 FOR A STOMACH



**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY  
SK8 AND DONATE**



**NEWMARKET RECREATION YOUTH CENTRE & SK8 PARK  
56 CHARLES STREET**

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**Donate a non-perishable food item when you register for a SK8 session on any of the following dates and you will receive a Complimentary Pass for a future visit.**

- |                        |  |                              |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| · Sunday, September 27 | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (12 & Under/ Family) | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (13+ years) |
| · Sunday, December 6   | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (12 & Under/ Family) | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (13+ years) |
| · Sunday, March 6      | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (12 & Under/ Family) | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (13+ years) |

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[www.newmarket.ca/youth](http://www.newmarket.ca/youth)

