



# THORNHILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

## *A note from Ms. Waiser*

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

It is hard to believe that we are quickly approaching our December Winter Break. November was a busy month full of many different opportunities for students to showcase their individuality, creativity, and to find authentic ways to build community amongst classrooms.

November 11<sup>th</sup> marked our very first virtual Remembrance Day Assembly. We thank all parents/guardians who logged in to see our students perform, to see their artwork, and to honour all Canadian veterans. A special thank you goes out to our staff who prepared and facilitated the assembly, and to the teachers who worked with students to contribute to the performances.

On November 14<sup>th</sup> Diwali began, and as a way to celebrate the holiday we had the pleasure of seeing a beautiful display created by one of our own teachers. Housed in our front foyer for all to see was a beautiful Diya (oil lamp), Rangoli patterns, Elephant figurines, and candles to show that Diwali is a festival of lights.

November also gave us quite the range in temperature. We went from 15 degrees to -10 degrees in a matter of two days, and with the cooler temperature came a beautiful snow fall. Thank you to all families for ensuring that your child/children came prepared with the proper outdoor clothing so that they could enjoy the snow and work together to build snow forts and snow people.

## **Important Info**

### **Inclement Weather Days:**

As we approach the winter months, please note that for the 2020-2021 school year, changes to our inclement weather policy have been made. In the event that an Inclement Weather Day is announced, please note that:

- information is communicated through: local media outlets, the Student Transportation Services website, School Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330- 3001, the Board's website and Twitter account and on the Board and school's voicemail recording o to have alternate child care arrangements planned for IW days when schools are closed to students.
- In the event school bus transportation is cancelled, all Face-to-Face (F2F) elementary and secondary **schools will be closed to students.**
- B&A programs will not run, therefore any students who attend Macklin House before or after school must be reminded not to send their child/children to the Before and After School Program.



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- Teachers in elementary schools (including Community Class teachers) will provide asynchronous learning by posting/sharing age, grade, learning appropriate activities and/or assignments aligned with current student learning, while being available to students through the day as per their schedule.

### **Spirit Wear**

#### **Thornhill Public School is thrilled to announce our new fundraising initiative.**

Since November 10<sup>th</sup>, we have been working in partnership with our vendor, Top Uniforms, to sell **Spirit Wear**. All proceeds from the sale of Spirit Wear will help support our 2020-2021 students, and will go towards the purchasing of items such as technology and STEM and Makerspace materials. This year, Spirit Wear items will include choices for t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, and toques.

This year, all Thornhill P.S. Spirit Wear will be ordered directly through the vendor and will not be posted on School Cash On-Line. Due to safety precautions, all items will be shipped directly to families. Please note that there will be a \$9.00 shipping and handling fee per household. To see the items available, sizes and to place your order, please visit: [thornhillps.topuniforms.store](http://thornhillps.topuniforms.store)

We can't wait to see our students and staff proudly wearing our Thornhill P.S Eagles Spirit Wear.

Your support for our school and students is greatly appreciated.

### **Virtual Talent show**

This year, we will be hosting our first ever Virtual Talent Show. We know how talented our students are, and we can't wait to see them perform and show off their talents. Students will be sharing their pre-recorded videos with their teachers who will put together the show to be watched by all. (Please note for safety and security of your child/children, videos will only be shared through our secure YRDSB platform and will not be shared publicly in any way).

Because we value the relationship between school and home so much, we would like to invite parents to our Virtual Holiday Concert/Talent Show! Please join us via **Google Meet Friday December 18th @ 11am**, see link below:

<https://meet.google.com/utd-qhxo-bnb?hs=122&authuser=0>

We hope you are able to join us!

### **Parent info session on how to access and use google classroom and google drive and google meet**

As a school, we understand that there are many times where you might need to access your child/children's Google Drive account or Google Classroom, such as to access report cards, to check in on what is for homework, or to see what work your child is completing.



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In order to support parents/guardians with knowing how to access your child/children's accounts, Ms. Savage has created some videos to support you with this learning.

Videos have been posted to our School Google Site:

<https://sites.google.com/gapps.yrdsb.ca/thornhillps/learning-links>

Topics include: How to navigate Google Apps, Google Classroom and Google Meet.

**Please note: you will require your child's gapps username and password to access the website.**

### Upcoming Thornhill P.S. Town Hall Meeting:

As you know, it is imperative that a strong and trusting partnership exist between the school and home. In an effort to bring the community together and to find ways to better serve the school community, Ms. Waiser will be hosting her first ever virtual Town Hall Meeting. This will be an opportunity to have Ms. Waiser answer any questions you might have, and to inform the participants about what is happening at the school.

In the upcoming week, you will receive a link to a Google Form, which will give parents/guardians the opportunity to pose a question you would like answered by Ms. Waiser, and to help her to determine a timeframe that appeals to those interested in attending.

The Town Hall will occur in the second week of January. A link to the Town Hall will be sent at a later date.

#### *Important Dates:*

*December 4: Crazy Sock Day*

*December 11: PJ Day*

*December 18: Virtual Talent Show @ 11:00 a.m.*

*: Dress in your favourite holiday clothing Day*

*December 21 - January 1: Winter Break (school resumes January 4, 2021)*



# THORNHILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

December 2020 –

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## Message from Our Trustee

Dear families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and well. 2020 has been a challenging year in so many ways, and the global pandemic has affected individuals and families in different ways.

I want to reassure you that we continue to work closely with York Region Public Health and to prioritize the health and well-being of our students, staff members and families. It continues to be important that we adhere to the health and safety measures in place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can learn more about what schools are doing at [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening).

While we have seen cases in some of our schools, we continue to work with public health to respond quickly, identify cohorts that need to self-isolate as a precautionary measure and take all appropriate measures. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their diligence in adhering to the public health recommendations and health and safety measures in place in our schools.

One of our priorities in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) is to foster well-being and mental health. As a result of the pandemic, many of us are facing changes and new challenges that can take a toll on our mental health. It is more important than ever that we check in on one another and practice self-care. There are [mental health resources for students and families](#) on our Board website that address the unique nature of our current situation. You can also find information about our [Mental Health and Addiction Strategy](#) and the [work we are doing in schools](#) to promote positive mental health and provide support for students.

While there are challenges, we also continue to have so many reasons to feel positive. Our students continue to impress us with their kindness, creativity, innovation, resilience, courage and perseverance. Visit us on [YouTube at YRDSBMedia](#) to see just some of these stories.

In the coming weeks and months, many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays, and I wish you all the very best for the season. While we may be celebrating a little differently this year, I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back into our in-person and virtual schools in January.

Fondly,

David Sherman – Trustee, Markham/Vaughan