

# Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti Vice-Principal: Kim Tavares Vice-Principal: Anthony Hu December 21, 2017





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# MESSAGE FROM VICE-PRINCIPAL

Dear Families and Community Members,

We hope you are well and are ready to enjoy the winter weather and holiday season which are fast approaching!

There is a lot happening at the school as we switch over from our fall sports schedule to our winter sports schedule. All Thornlea students are encouraged to join a team or an activity at school, as social development and physical wellness are just as important as academic growth.

On Wednesday, December 13, Thornlea's swim team competed at the YRAA championship meet, facing off against all the swim teams in York Region. Everyone put forth a great effort, and in the end, seven of our athletes moved on to the provincial championships, to be held in Windsor at the end of February. Congratulations to Parsa Azizi, Ivan Chiu, Darren Huspeka, Vince Lai, Gloria Lo, Phillip Lutin, and Suhwan Park. Swim team 2018-2019 will begin tryouts next September. Everyone is welcome! Gooooo Thunder!

Congratulations to Ms. Dawe and the Physical Education department for participating in an amazing 5K Santa Shuffle on Saturday December 2! As a fundraiser for the Salvation Army Gateway Program, students and staff were able get active and support a worthy cause. Well done!

Good luck to our Prep Boys Basket Ball team as they head to Springfield Massachusetts for the 2017 BasketBowl Hoops Fest Invitational! Thunder UP!

In the world of Arts, our annual winter music concert took place on December 6<sup>th</sup> and our Art show took place on December 20th. Both were wonderful displays of the musical and artistic talent here at Thornlea! Congratulations to the music students, art students, Mr. Chan, Ms. Bern, Ms. Gilkes, Mr. Ackerman and Ms. Lerman for fantastic events.

Finally, congratulations to Mr. Stone, Ms. Villenneuve and the 2 casts from our hit Thornlea Production *Leaving Iowa!* We hope you were able to make it out to see just a wonderful theatrical presentation; it was a wonderful, heart-warming show!

Until the new year, when school reopens on January 8<sup>th</sup>, we wish you a Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Good Yule, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year!

Warmest Regards,

**Kim Tavares** 

# **December 2017 – Trustee Greetings**

#### Message From Our Trustee

In November, about 1,000 students, staff members and community partners came together from across the Board to form a <u>Ring of Peace</u> and stand together against hate, discrimination and intolerance. The student speakers at the event shared meaningful messages about the importance of feeling welcome, valued and respected.

At York Region District School Board, we are committed to listening to the voices of our students and communities. We will continue working with our school communities to ensure our schools provide safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for everyone.

Last month, our annual <u>Quest conference</u> brought together educators from across Ontario, Canada and around the world to share, learn and discuss how to foster wellbeing in schools. Some of the themes covered included equity and inclusivity, and safe and caring environments.

It was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about some of the positive things happening in our own schools and other districts. In recent months, we have had several international visitors come to our system and schools to learn more about the work in our system to support student achievement and well-being, including Qatar, the Netherlands, Texas and the United Kingdom.

We are pleased to have these opportunities to continue highlighting and sharing the great things happening in our schools thanks to our outstanding students, staff members, families and community partners. Your engagement makes a difference in our schools and I encourage you to continue getting involved in the life of your child's school.

As we enter the holiday season, I am once again impressed by the generosity of our school communities and our students' commitment to helping others.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful start to 2018.



York			MERACY	
BISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	STUDENT R	EGIST	KATION	FORM
PLEASE PRINT ALL INFO			ARED.	
	510021		MDLN	
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**Continuing Education Services** 

## Happy Holidays from the Guidance Department!

The Guidance Team this year consists of Ms. Lovleen Rai (ESL Counselor/Literacy Lead), Ms. Viviane Estafanos (French Immersion Counselor/AP Co-oridnator, F.I. Teacher), Ms. Julie Scott (Student Success), Ms. Kathryn Pantazopoulos(Student Success for ESL students). Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance (Counselor) and Ms. Gail Burdett (Guidance Secretary).

We also would like to announce the new process for making guidance appointments. **First**, please see Mrs. Burdett, our Guidance Secretary. If any student would like to make an appointment with their "area" identified counselor (French Immersion, ESL, Other), they should come to the Guidance Office before school starts (8:30 to 8:45), during their lunch (11:30 to 12:30), or after school (3:00 to 3:30) to make their appointment.

For Scholarship information, please make an appointment to see Ms. Rai in the Guidance office. We also have a handout in the Guidance office.

Three great websites to find out more information on scholarships are:

http://www.studentawards.com/

www.electronicinfo.ca/scholarships

www.scholarshipscanada.com

We would also like to remind our learning community that there is a new process in place for Community Service Hours. All students must complete 40 community hours to obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The Guidance department must approve your community service opportunity before you start your hours. Please see your counselor for approval. Your service must be for a Not-For-Profit organization/event.

We also would like to announce a new initiative to all our grade 9 students. Grade 9 students that complete their 40 community service hours in their grade 9 year will receive a special certificate of completion.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, please come down to the Guidance Office and pick up a Community Service Hours form and please take a look at our "Volunteer Bulletin Board" for current opportunities to fulfill this Ministry of Education requirement.

# A reminder to all grade 12 students; that they should hand in their community service hours by January31st<sup>h</sup>, 2018. Before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission.

Note: Our Guidance Department will upload your grade 12 Marks in early February. No marks will be submitted to OUAC until that time.

The Deadline for your University Application is January 17, 2018 (recommend to pay on-line with a credit card)

The next OUAC University grades transmission is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

# The "Equal Consideration" Deadline for your College Application is February1st, 2018 (recommend to pay on-line with a credit card)

The next OCAS College grades transmission is scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

#### **University Applications:**

You can select as many University programs as you would like (\$50.00 each), but, you can only choose a **maximum of 3 programs** per University. For example: Only 3 choices can be used for all University of Toronto campuses, for example (St. George, Scarborough, Mississauga) can have one program each <u>or</u> all 3 at Scarborough or any combination adding up to 3.

Waterloo University, you could only select a maximum of 3 programs. If you wanted to add a 4<sup>th</sup> you cannot.

If you need clarification on this process or have questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's counselor after the University Application Seminar takes place. Thank you.

#### Message from OUAC:

The OUAC is officially closed for the holidays from December 22, 2017, to January 1, 2018, inclusive. The OUAC website and online applications will be available during this time. To reduce the chance of delays and slower online response times, encourage your university-bound students to complete and submit their 101 application well in advance of the January 17, 2018, deadline. Extended Applicant Services hours will be available before the 101 application deadline: Monday, January 15 to Wednesday, January 17: 9 am to 7 pm (ET) Applicant Services Phone: 519-823-1063 Thank you, The OUAC Secondary School Division

#### If students are planning on making a request for a timetable change for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, they should make an appointment with their counselor today or ASAP.

Night School Course registration starts Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> – register through Career Cruising <u>www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Night-School-Credit-Courses.aspx</u>

Night School E-Learning Course registration starts Jan. (Only if you have 3 or less courses on your Timtable)

http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Night%20School%20e-Learning.aspx

Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education

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# "40" Niner Club



We would like to congratulate 18 grade Ten students that have already completed their Graduation Requirement of 40 Community Service Hours, last June 2017. They have earned status and our now a member of the "40" - Niner Club. They have given back to various community organizations, such as Clubs at Thornlea, Camps, Community Festivals, Community Sports, Religious Centres, and other Not-For-Profit organizations.

Shourob Banerjee Ellen Cen Alec Finkelstein Austin Fromhold-Treu Niloo Gheshlaghi **Cansiny Jiang** Noura Khajehnouri Rebecca Lachmansingh Shayla Lazanik Anna Le Hoang Audrey Lee Lauren Mckenzie Margarita Ogarkova Lucy Park Alissia Rugina Davinah Seguin Kevan Shah Krish Shah



# "40" Niner Club



We would like to congratulate our first group of seven grade 9 students that have already completed their Graduation Requirement of 40 Community Service Hours. They have earned **VIP** status and our now a member of the "40" - Niner Club. They have given back to various community organizations, such as Clubs at Thornlea, Camps, Community Festivals, Community Sports, Religious Centres, and other Not-For-Profit organizations.

Naomi Buju Addison Chan Tandis Javaherian Anglea Kang Rianna Khaki Nusha Moosavipour Max Presement

Congratulations grade 9's! Go Thunder!

# SANTA SHUFFLE!



On Saturday, December 2nd various students, staff, and community members participated in the annual 5km **Santa Shuffle.** The event was organized by the Health and Physical Education Department to help encourage our school community to stay active and charitable throughout the holiday season.

The run took place at Sunnybrook Park in Toronto and helped raise money for the Salvation Army Gateway program, which provides hot meals, beds and friendship to those living in poverty.



As a school we had over 45 participants. The day was complete with complimentary treats, face painting, a holiday photo booth and visits with Santa. Congratulations to all those who participated. The Health and Physical Education department looks forward to expanding the trip and to have more runners next year.

On behalf of the Health and Physical Education department have a safe and HEALTHY holiday.

### **Co-op Department Update:** The Value of Experiential Learning

The students at Thornlea Secondary School are discovering the great benefits of taking Co-operative Education. A student can enter and explore almost any profession or work environment to earn two or more co-op credits.

# Did you know that two co-op credits may be used towards a student's eighteen compulsory credits or as two of their optional credits needed for a high school diploma? Contact the Co-operative Education Department for more information.

The first semester co-op students have been at their placements for over two months and are realizing the benefits of experiential learning. Student co-op placements cover every sector of the working world, ranging from the medical field, to design, to architecture, to teaching, to auto repair, to computer hardware engineering.

#### The following are journal entries from our current co-op students highlighting some benefits and insights derived by taking the program:

I have been at my co-op placement at *Giant Steps* for more than a month and I think it has been a great experience. I have observed a lot and assisted in many tasks around the school. One thing that I have started to notice about myself, even within the first few days, is the amount of joy that I feel when the children at the school are doing something well, do an activity the right way, or even just have a big smile on their face. When these children come to school, it is often difficult to adjust to the atmosphere and classroom setting because of their different learning styles and thought processes. It can sometimes be discouraging for them to not be able to do things that other children can so when they accomplish something, even if it is really small, it makes me very happy. I have always loved small kids and enjoyed the interaction between myself and them, but I never realized how much of an impact it made on me when one succeeded in something, or even just did something that made them happy. I don't think I ever thought about how these children could make me feel, so when I came to Giant Steps and had kids around me at all times, the realization came to me that the interaction with these little children may be something that I would want to do in the future. In conclusion, I can already tell that I am really enjoying my time here at Giant Steps, and I really look forward to interacting more and more with the children to get a better idea as to whether or not this career path is something I would like to pursue!

#### Elena Gamm – Giant Steps Toronto

After almost two months of being at my placement at Vaughan Physiotherapy Clinic, I have become a lot more comfortable with handling problems, talking to patients and completing chores on my own. One thing in specific that I have started to notice about myself is the amount of satisfaction I receive after finishing a task or after I am thanked by a co-worker or patient. Although to some people, this may not seem like a big deal, but I personally feel a lot more positive after knowing how much I helped

out a person, or how much of a good job I performed that day. Working in a clinic where people who are practically strangers are walking in and out every hour has helped me realize that if I try my best at any kind of work and put in all my efforts, I will be acknowledged and appreciated by someone who practically does not even know me. Nevertheless, I learned that in future jobs and placements some-times my work will be judged by a person which could result in me feeling down and useless. For this purpose, it is crucial to remember that the most important thing to do is work in a way that makes yourself proud and confident. I have learned that one mistake does not decrease your skills as an employee, it only makes them stronger.

#### Jasmin Ezaddoustdar – Physiotherapy Clinic

A day at my co-op placement consists of me sitting in front of two computer screens for three hours. Clearly technology plays a huge role at my placement - in fact, without technology I would have no work to do at all.

Firstly, my biggest task at co-op is to manage the reAdvice blog. This consists of doing online research, summarizing and writing articles and scheduling daily posts using Wordpress. My other biggest responsibility is managing the reAdvice Facebook and Twitter accounts. I schedule tweets using Zoho Social, a social media management software. Another program that I've had the opportunity to work with occasionally is Photoshop. This allows me to do work that is somewhat related to graphic design. I have found this really interesting and I hope to have more opportunities to expand and improve my skills in this area.

Using all this new technology and software was a bit of a challenge at first. Although I am familiar with platforms such as Wordpress, I needed to learn how to do things using the methods my supervisor taught me. However, I found it quite easy to learn and I am already very comfortable using all the different types of software that I am required to use. Photoshop is a bit of an exception to that, since there are endless techniques to learn. With every different task I receive that involves Photoshop, I learn something new! I can definitely say I know more now than I did a month ago, or even a week ago. I can't wait to see what I learn in the next few months of co-op! *Emily Krishnasamy – Real Estate* 

Working at a school for a while makes it obvious that attitude is very important. If you don't have a positive attitude about yourself, the teachers and the students, nothing will get done. Personally, I find my co-op soothing and relaxing despite the hectic and chaotic situations going on around me. Most days of the week, I'd rather stay at my co-op and not go back to school. I find that this type of attitude, one that looks forward to the next day and is excited for it, gets me places. When you have a good attitude, the people around you will feel that and show the same towards you. Having a good attitude can be the difference between a positive and a negative experience. Another factor that helps me during co-op is my personality. Whenever I interact with someone, whether it is with the teacher, the students and even their parents, I always try to be myself. The feeling of realness, respectfulness and trustworthiness is what I want everyone to feel when they're around me. Being myself helps me build those feelings I want the classroom teacher and all the other teachers that come in the class to rely on me. Another trait that I know I possess is helping others. No matter what, I always try to lessen the burden for others, a habit that makes my co-op a much smoother experience. I'm always trying to find a way to help the students the teacher to make everyone's life easier, it's something I find joy in doing. This type of attitude is what gets me where I want to be and I'm aware that I have complete control over it. To conclude, no matter where you are, being positive and staying true to yourself is how you succeed while enjoying the experience at the same time.

Media Relations 1-866-876-5423 ext. 2664 email: 1667@yrp.ca, 1899@yrp.ca



York Regional Police would like to make our citizens aware of a recent extortion kidnapping fraud targeting newcomers to Canada.

York Regional Police wants to advise our citizens of a scam that has been occurring worldwide including one incident in Richmond Hill and several in Toronto. Unknown suspects, posing as Chinese law enforcement or government officials contact a victim, typically young Chinese students living here in Canada. The suspects advise the victims they are being investigated or implicated in a crime in China. Victims are told they must go in to hiding and are told not contact the police, friends or family and not to use social media or their cell phones. The suspects then contact the families of the victim in China and advise them that their relative has been kidnapped and demand a ransom.

These types of scams may have several variations. The suspects may use a variety of lies or threats to coerce the victim into co-operating with the demands and to prevent them from contacting local police.

York Regional Police is reminding citizens, especially students, to be aware of this scam. If a situation feels suspicious, trust your instincts. Do not be talked into providing personal information or payments by methods that you are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with and call companies or agencies back to verify their information.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police Corporate Communications Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, ext., 2664 or to report a crime contact the non-emergency line,1-866-876-5423, ext., 7008 or call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com, or text your tip to CRIMES (274637) starting with the word YORK.

Prepared by: Constable Andy Pattenden November 16, 2017 17-305994

Headquarters

47 Don Hillock Drive Aurora, ON L4G 0S7 Headquarters 47 Don Hillock Drive Aurora, ON L4G 0S7



Media Relations 1-866-876-5423 ext. 2664 email: 1667@yrp.ca, 1899@yrp.ca

#### MEDIA RELEASE 警告居民关于虚假绑架勒索骗局

约克区警方希望让市民意识到最近针对加拿大新移民的一种勒索绑架欺诈。

约克区警方希望告知市民一种在全球范围内发生的骗局,其中包括在列治文山发生的一个事件、和在多伦 多发生的多个事件。不明身份的嫌疑人冒充中国执法人员或政府官员联系受害人,通常是在加拿大居住的 年轻中国学生。犯罪嫌疑人向被害人表示,他们正在接受调查或牵连在中国犯罪。受害者被告知他们必须 躲藏起来,不要联系警察、朋友或家人,也不要使用社交媒体或手机。然后,嫌疑人联系受害人在中国的 家属,告知他们的亲属被绑架并索要赎金。

这类骗局可能采用不同的形式。嫌疑人可能利用各种谎言或威胁,胁迫受害人按要求合作,并阻止他们与 当地警方联系。

约克区警方提醒市民,尤其是学生,要意识到这个骗局。如果情况令人怀疑,请相信你的直觉。不要被人说动以你不熟悉或不舒服的方式提供个人信息或付款,并致电公司或机构核实其信息。

请任何知情人拨打电话 1-866-876-5423 分机 2664 联系约克区警队通讯局(York Regional Police Corporate Communications Bureau),或通过联系非紧急情况电话: 1-866-876-5423 分机 7008、或匿名 拨打 1-800-222-TIPS 电话给灭罪热线(Crime Stoppers)举报犯罪、或在 www.1800222tips.com 网站上留 下匿名线索,或以"YORK"开头,将线索发短信至 CRIMES (274637)。

编写: 警员 Laura Nicolle 2017 年 11 月 17 日 In partnership with Markham Public Library, CICS Immigrant Youth Centre invites you to join

rench for Beginners

Bonjour! Bui!

Want to learn and improve your French language skills?

Join our French program. You will:

Learn the basics of French



Gain appreciation of one of Canada's official languages

Learn ways to obtain support from the public library,

and discover library services and resources

Date: Mondays, January 15 & 22, February 5 - 26, March 5 & 12, 2018 (no class: January 29 & February 19, 2018) Time: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Location: Aaniin Library

Address: 5725-5735 14th Ave., Markham

At no cost for newcomer youth ages 13 - 18 Space is limited; pre-registration is required

For registration and inquiries, please contact: Haruka Yuen Phone: 905-294-8868 ext. 204 Email: haruka.yuen@cicscanada.com







Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada





#### EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANTI-BLACK RACISM SUB-COMMITTEE

#### **Community Consultations**

You are invited to attend a community consultation regarding:

Actions Taken by YRDSB following Ministry Review to Support the Learning of Students of African Descent and their Families

Agenda

- An overview of the Ministry of Education's Review of YRDSB
- YRDSB Current Work and Response to the Ministry's Review on all levels (board, school and community engagement)
- Community Feedback Sessions in small group carousel format What is going well? What are you worried about? What needs to happen next?
  - Board
  - School
  - Community Engagement
- Report Back and Next Steps

Dates, times and locations

Thursday January 18, 2018 6:00pm – 9:30pm Milliken Mills High School, 7522 Kennedy Rd, Markham, ON L3R 9S5 (Refreshments will be provided)

Saturday January 27, 2018 10:00am – 2:00pm Vaughan Secondary School, 1401 Clark Ave W, Thornhill, ON L4J 7R4 (Lunch will be provided)

Registration

Please register online by Friday January 12, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact Freyja Phillips freyja.phillips@yrdsb.ca.



#### EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CLASSISM SUB-COMMITTEE

#### **Community Conversations**

# Are you an advocate for those marginalized by low income and class-based discrimination?

We are seeking passionate youth, families and community members to provide feedback regarding equity and inclusion for students in York Region public schools.

Please attend one of the five community conversations hosted by York Region District School Board's Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee.

January 15	Maple Leaf PS, 155 Longford Dr, Newmarket, ON L3Y 2Y7
January 22	Sutton District HS, 20798 Dalton Rd, Georgina, ON LOE 1R0
January 29	Bayview SS, 10077 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 2L4
February 5	Maple HS, 50 Springside Rd, Maple, ON L6A 2W5
February 12	Milliken Mills HS, 7522 Kennedy Rd, Markham, ON L3R 9S5

All Community Conversations run from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Child-minding will be provided at all locations. If you require child minding, please email Kristine with the number of children and their ages.

For more information or transportation support needs, please contact:

Sub-Committee Chair – Kristine Carbis 905-895-3126 <u>k carbis@hotmail.com</u>



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 25-Jan. 7	Christmas Break
January 8	First day of school 2018
January 10	Last day for field trips
January 15-17	EQAO Math Gr. 9's
January 22	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
January 25-31	EXAMS
February 1	Exam Review Day
February 2	PA Day
February 5	Semester 2 Begins
February 8	Sem 1 Final Report Cards Home
February 15	Semester 2 Photo Day
February 20	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
February 26-March 9	GRAD Photo's (More Info to Follow)
March 8	Interim Reports Home Sem 2
March 12-16	Spring Break
March 28	Awards Ceremony
March 30	Good Friday
April 2	Easter Monday
April 10	OSSLT
April 12	Parents' Night
April 17	Term 1 Ends
April 18	Term 2 Begins
April 23	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
April 26	Mid-Term Reports Home
May 2	Health & Wellness Day
May 3	PROM
May 4	PA Day