



# WILCLAY WILDCAT

Wilclay Public School 60 Wilclay Avenue, Markham, Ontario L3S 1R4 Tel: 905 470 1447 Fax: 905 470 1045  
Email: [wilclay.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:wilclay.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca) Website: <http://www.wilclay.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/> Twitter: @WilclayPS

N. Mantle – Principal      S. Dato – Vice Principal      E. Khilji – Superintendent      Trustee: Juanita Nathan

## February 2017

這是重要文件，若不明白，請找人翻譯。

இது ஒரு முக்கியமான பத்திரம். இதை வாசித்து விளங்கப் படுத்தும் கடிமனம் ஒருவரின் எடுத்துச் செல்லவும்.

ہم ایک ضروری دستاویز ہے۔ اسے کسی ایسے شخص کے پاس لے جائیے جو آپ کو اس کے بارے میں سہارا دے۔

هذا الخطاب مهم جدا .. نرجو أن تجد من يشرح لك .

ਇਹ ਡਾਕੂਮੈਂਟ ਬਹੁਤ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਹੈ। ਇਸਨੂੰ ਵੱਡੇ ਟਿੱਕਣ ਦੇ ਵਿੱਚ  
ਦੇ ਕੋਲ ਲੈ ਜਾਓ ਜੋ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੇ ਸਕੇ।

यह एक जरूरी कागज़ है। इसे किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति के पास ले जाएं जो इसे  
आपको अच्छी तरह समझ सके।

## ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

It is hard to believe but half of the school year is over! Term 2 officially begins this month! Term 1 report cards will be sent home on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The report cards will tell you how well your child reached the expected level of achievement at two times during the year (February and June).

Letter Grade	Percentage Mark	Level
A	80-100%	Level 4 – The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with a high degree of effectiveness. Achievement surpasses the provincial standard. This does not mean that the student has achieved expectations beyond those specified for the grade/course.
B	70-79%	Level 3 – The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with considerable effectiveness. This represents the provincial standard for achievement. Parents/guardians of students achieving at level 3 can be confident that their children will be prepared for work in subsequent grades or courses.
C	60-69%	Level 2 – The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with some effectiveness. Achievement approaches the provincial standard. Students performing at this level need to work on identified learning gaps to ensure future success.
D	50-59%	Level 1 – The student demonstrates the specified knowledge and skills with limited effectiveness. Achievement falls much below the provincial standard. Students must work at significantly improving learning in specific areas if they are to be successful in the next grade/course.
R/ Below D	Below 50%	The student has not demonstrated the required knowledge and skills. Extensive remediation is required. Note: A student in Grades 9-12 whose achievement is below 50% at the end of a course will not obtain a credit for the course.
I		Insufficient evidence to assign a letter grade or percentage mark. Note: This only applies to Grades 1-10.

Learning Skills and Work Habits	Sample Behaviours
Responsibility	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fulfills responsibilities and commitments within the learning environment;</li> <li>completes and submits class work, homework, and assignments according to agreed-upon timelines;</li> <li>takes responsibility for and manages own behaviour.</li> </ul>
Organization	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>devises and follows a plan and process for completing work and tasks;</li> <li>establishes priorities and manages time to complete tasks and achieve goals;</li> <li>identifies, gathers, evaluates, and uses information, technology, and resources to complete tasks.</li> </ul>
Independent Work	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>independently monitors, assesses, and revises plans to complete tasks and meet goals;</li> <li>uses class time appropriately to complete tasks;</li> <li>follows instructions with minimal supervision.</li> </ul>
Collaboration	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>accepts various roles and an equitable share of work in a group;</li> <li>responds positively to the ideas, opinions, values, and traditions of others;</li> <li>builds healthy peer-to-peer relationships through personal and media-assisted interactions;</li> <li>works with others to resolve conflicts and build consensus to achieve group goals;</li> <li>shares information, resources, and expertise and promotes critical thinking to solve problems and make decisions.</li> </ul>
Initiative	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>looks for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning;</li> <li>demonstrates the capacity for innovation and a willingness to take risks;</li> <li>demonstrates curiosity and interest in learning;</li> <li>approaches new tasks with a positive attitude;</li> <li>recognizes and advocates appropriately for the rights of self and others.</li> </ul>
Self-regulation	The student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sets own individual goals and monitors progress towards achieving them;</li> <li>seeks clarification or assistance when needed;</li> <li>assesses and reflects critically on own strengths, needs, and interests;</li> <li>identifies learning opportunities, choices, and strategies to meet personal needs and achieve goals;</li> <li>perseveres and makes an effort when responding to challenges.</li> </ul>

Letter grades are given for students in grades 1-6 and percentage marks are given for students in grades 7-8. Grades or percentage marks are given for each subject and the teacher comments focus on your child's strengths and next steps for learning improvement.

The report cards also report on the six essential learning skills and work habits students need to succeed. Each skill is reported as Excellent (E), Good (G), Satisfactory (S) or Needs Improvement (N). The charts explain how each letter grade, percentage and level are related to one another and the learning skills descriptions.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE

We are now halfway through the school year. This is a good time to reflect on all that your child has learned and to look at setting goals for the rest of the school year.

Our Board believes that student well-being and achievement go hand-in-hand. One of our goals set out in the [Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Plan](#) is to “continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture of caring and learning.”

The Ministry of Education has recently identified [four priorities for well-being](#): positive mental health, safe and accepting schools, healthy schools, and equity and inclusive education. As a Board of Trustees, we will continue to further work in all of these areas to support student well-being in line with these priorities.

There are many resources on the Board website to help support student well-being, including tips for [talking about mental health](#), [managing stress](#), [packing healthy lunches](#) and [addressing incidents of bullying](#).

Creating a healthy, safe and welcoming learning environment is key to helping our students reach their full potential. All of us have an important role to play in creating an environment that enables our students to thrive.

I wish you all the best for a healthy, happy and successful 2017.



## SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

Students in Grades 5 to 12 at the York Region District School Board will be invited to participate in a survey between **March 20 and April 28, 2017**. **The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential**, and will take place at school.

The YRDSB survey fulfills the Ontario Ministry of Education's requirement for schools to conduct student surveys and is aligned with the YRDSB's Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being. Survey questions will address topics related to Math, Modern Learning, Mental Health and Well-Being, Equity and School Safety.

This survey provides an opportunity to hear directly from students and the results will be used to identify student needs and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

If you do not wish your child(ren) to participate in the survey, please contact the school by March 10, 2017.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Our next School Council Meeting is on Monday February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 6pm. All parents are welcome.

*parents, get involved!*

### School Council Meeting



## EXTENDED SCHOOL ABSENCES

This is a friendly reminder to all parents to inform the office of **ALL** student absences. When a family is away on Vacation, the school needs to know the exact dates the child will be away, so ensure student safety. Please come into the office to complete a form that looks like this...



WILCLAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

40 Wilclay Avenue  
Markham, Ontario  
L3R 1R4

Tel: 905.475.1447  
Fax: 905.475.1043

Notification of Expected Return to School

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

First Date of Absence: \_\_\_\_\_

The above named student will be returning to school on: \_\_\_\_\_

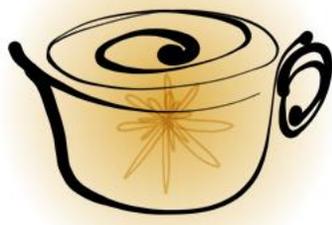
Signature of Parent/Guardian

## CHAI & CHAT

**When:** Wednesday February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Wilclay Public School – Gym

**Topic:** *“Help – My Child is Out of Control! How to Help Kids Manage Their Emotions*



*Chai Chat*  
@Wilclay

# LUNAR NEW YEAR

We would like to wish all of our Staff, Students and Families a Happy Lunar New Year!

2017 is a year of the Rooster according to the Chinese 12-year animal zodiac cycle. Other Rooster years include: ...1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017... If you were born in these years, then you're a Rooster. Each Chinese zodiac year begins on Chinese New Year's Day.

The Chinese New Year Festival is a time:

- To celebrate a year of hard work, have a good rest, and relax with family
- To wish for a lucky and prosperous coming year

Just like in many other holidays, people exchange gifts during the Lunar New Year. The most common gifts are red envelopes. Red envelopes have money in, and are given to children and (retired) seniors. It is not a customs to give red envelopes to (working) adults, except by employers.

**Red** envelopes are used in the hope of giving good luck (as well as money) to the receivers.

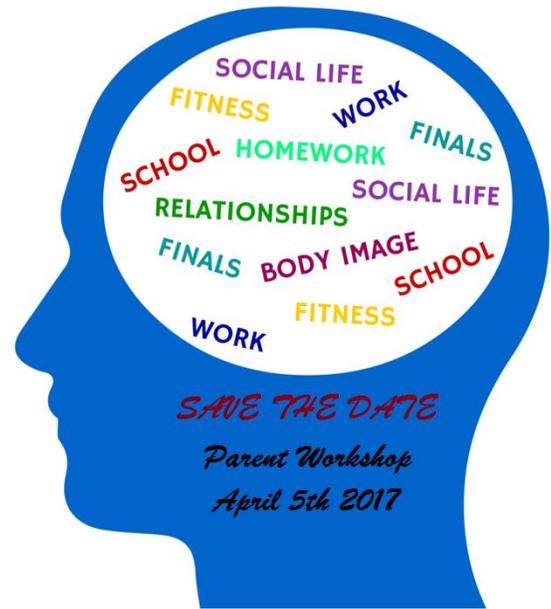




# PARENT ENGAGEMENT ROUND TABLE – April 5<sup>th</sup>

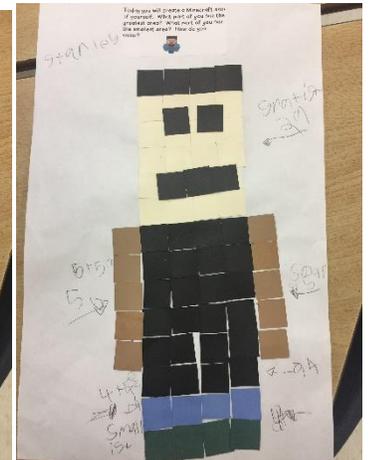
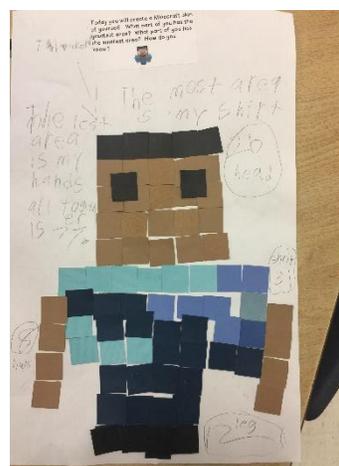
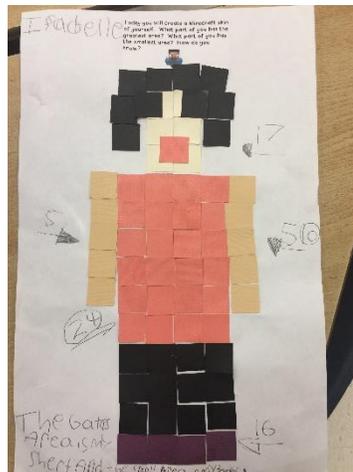
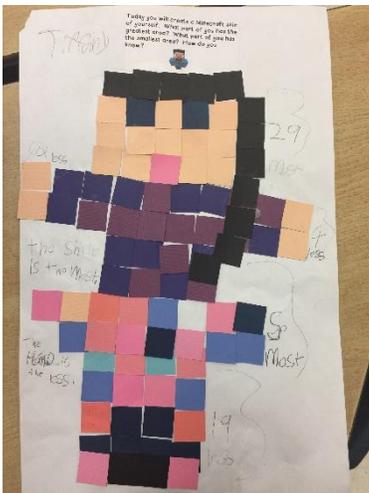
Wilclay is in the process of organizing an evening workshop for our parents. Please save the date on your calendar for this informative evening. We will have therapists coming in to talk about issues facing our children, such as self-esteem, stress, anxiety, social media, bullying, just to name a few.

Don't miss this event and don't worry about the children. Bring them along. Markham Athletics will be organizing engaging activities for the students. It will be fun for the children and a great learning experience for our parents. Translators will be on site to help parents with Mandarin, Cantonese and Tamil. Come prepared with your questions!



## CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS - MATHEMATICS

Students are learning about mathematics in fun and engaging ways. In this activity, students are first using their creativity skills in designing their own minecraft. Next, they are using Numeracy skills to count the areas of each section of their minecraft. Lastly, they are analyzing the results and forming a conclusion about the largest and smallest areas.



# ACTIVE WINTER PLAY SURVEY

Remember the days when children would rush out the door to play with friends and return home only for meals or when the streetlights came on? Childhood today looks very different, with more time spent indoors, in structured activities and in front of screens. There is little time for outdoor play and risk taking.

Whether its summer or winter, children need several hours of active play each day. Active play is unstructured, child-led, spontaneous physical activity. It can occur alone, with friends or with family and it most often occurs outdoors. When children are outside they move more, sit less and play longer.

Outdoor active winter play can include such things as:

- Playing tag or soccer in the snow
- Building a snowman
- Going sledding
- Building a fort
- Exploring the woods



How can parents encourage active play?

- Balance scheduled activities with free play time
- Encourage children to play in natural outdoor spaces, and in a variety of weather conditions
- Allow children to take risks so they can have fun while learning to identify and manage risks in all areas of their lives

How can schools encourage active play?

- Regularly embrace the outdoors for learning, socialization and physical activity in various weather conditions
- Choose natural elements for the school yard over pre-fabricated playgrounds and paved areas
- Examine existing policies and reconsider those that pose a barrier to active outdoor play

You could win a prize! We want to hear from you! Do you live in York Region and have a child between 5-12 years of age? Or do you work at an elementary school in York Region? Tell us how children are active by completing this brief survey and you'll be entered to win a prize!

<http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/yorkregiones/active-play-survey/>

For more information on physical activity and winter play, visit:

[www.york.ca/healthyschools](http://www.york.ca/healthyschools)

[www.york.ca/physicalactivity](http://www.york.ca/physicalactivity)

[www.participaction.com](http://www.participaction.com)

[www.york.ca/extremecold](http://www.york.ca/extremecold)

## UPCOMING DATES

EVENT	DATE
Book Fair	Jan. 30 – Feb. 3
PA Day	Feb. 3
School Council Meeting	Feb. 6
Chai & Chat	Feb. 8
Home Alone Safety Program	Feb. 15
Report Cards Sent Home	Feb. 16
Family Day Holiday	Feb. 20
Grade 2 Fire Safety	Feb. 28
Grade 8 Grad Photos	Mar. 7
March Break	Mar. 11-19

## THE WILCLAY WAY...

At Wilclay Public School

We believe...

- In a safe, secure and healthy environment
- In welcoming, including and respecting everyone
- In learning every day in creative and innovative ways
- In being kind, co-operative and a good friend
- In always doing our best and being proud of our successes

WE LEARN

WE RESPECT

WE CREATE

WE ARE WILCLAY