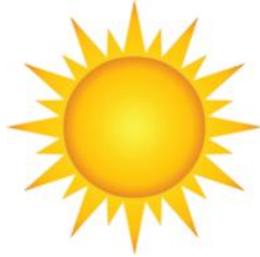




Yorkhill Newsletter

www.yorkhill.es.yrdsb.edu.on.ca
MARCH 2017



Administrators' Message

Yorkhill Elementary School,
 350 Hilda Avenue, Thornhill, ON
 T 905-764-5292 F 905-764-5294

MARCH 2017

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March 10, 2017

March is a great time, more daylight and gentler weather are here to lift people's spirits as we patiently wait for spring.

Student achievement and well-being were celebrated at our school wide Term 1 assembly this week and we reflected on Yorkhill's Touchstone messages through the "raps" that the Junior classes presented.

Yorkhill students continue to willingly engage in meaningful learning through rich tasks throughout the grades from our very young kindergarten students through to our leaders in grade 8. Teachers, with a focus on Math, Modern Learning and Mental Health are consistently supporting each student to reach their potential. The joy of learning is evident in every classroom ranging from students delighting in hands-on science activities supported through our vibrant School Council; participating in explorations with parent volunteers sharing their expertise and interests; creating beautiful art; interacting with peers in small and large groups; editing and publishing interesting pieces of writing; communicating effectively in another language; solving a math challenge; just to name a few. The partnership between home and school through regular communication is important and greatly appreciated!

The months to come will continue to be busy and filled with new experiences and relevant and meaningful learning.

We wish everyone a relaxing and safe March Break. Enjoy and come back refreshed!

Catarina Burisch

Principal

Catarina Burisch

Office Staff

Morag Wright

Maria Cortes

Superintendent

T. Dungey

905-764-6830

Library News



The **Forest of Reading Program** is in full swing! This year's nominated books are a real hit with students and staff alike. It is wonderful to have the opportunity to read so many Canadian books from both new and well known authors. Primary and Junior students are participating in the **Blue Spruce** program and **Le Prix Peuplier** program through read alouds, inquiry activities related to the nominated books, and voting. Intermediate students are reading, sharing, and discussing, books from the **Red Maple** selections.

Voting will take place at the end of April in the library, and award winners will be announced in May. Way to go, Yorkhill readers! Your vote counts!

Literacy Day and National Read Aloud Day were enjoyed by all! Theme displays this month in the library include a 'picnic' display for **Nutrition Month**, hosting many delicious French and English books about healthy eating, making good food choices, and food from a variety of cultures; **March 'Graphic' Madness**, showcasing our students' love of graphic novels; and **'You Go Girl'**, with biographies and stories of significant women in celebration of **International Women's Day/Month**.

On March 22, the Junior division will welcome **Michael Wade**, author of the favourite, **'And Then It Happened'** series, for a much anticipated author visit.

We are also looking forward to our Scholastic Spring Book Fair which will take place the week of May 1st-5th.

Book exchange, read alouds, independent reading, inquiry activities, on-line research and projects, studying, and library assistants busy at work, make Yorkhill library a bustling literacy hub!

You can follow us on twitter @350YES

Reading aloud can make a significant impact on the literacy achievement of all children, even those who are already independent readers.

Primary Update



On March 1, 2017, the primary division enjoyed a performance by The Little Red Theatre titled The Coat. The story is about a boy who suffers a loss and struggles to move on and adjust to a new home in a new city. The plot fit very well with our Board and School focus around mental health. Many primary classrooms have implemented lessons and strategies to help students self regulate by being aware of their feelings and finding strategies to help them be calm and solve problems. The boy in the story is able to get past his anxieties and develop resiliency through his love of hockey and the kindness of new friends.

A program that many teachers are embracing is called The Zones of Regulation. (www.zonesofregulation.com)

What are The Zones of Regulation?

The Zones is a systematic, cognitive behavior approach used to teach self-regulation by categorizing all the different ways we feel and states of alertness we experience into four concrete zones. The Zones curriculum provides strategies to teach students to become more aware of, and independent in controlling their emotions and impulses, managing their sensory needs, and improving their ability to problem solve conflicts.

By addressing underlying deficits in emotional and sensory regulation, executive functions, and social cognition, the curriculum is designed to help move students toward independent regulation. The Zones of Regulation incorporates Social Thinking® (www.socialthinking.com) concepts and numerous visuals to teach students to identify their feelings/level of alertness, understand how their behavior impacts those around them, and learn what tools they can use to manage their feelings and states.

The Four Zones: Our Feelings & States Determine Our Zone

The **Red Zone** is used to describe extremely heightened states of alertness and intense emotions. A person may be elated or experiencing anger, rage, explosive behavior, devastation, or terror when in the Red Zone.

The **Yellow Zone** is also used to describe a heightened state of alertness and elevated emotions; however, one has some control when they are in the Yellow Zone. A person may be experiencing stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, the wiggles, or nervousness when in the Yellow Zone.

The **Green Zone** is used to describe a calm state of alertness. A person may be described as happy, focused, content, or ready to learn when in the Green Zone. This is the zone where optimal learning occurs.

The **Blue Zone** is used to describe low states of alertness and down feelings, such as when one feels sad, tired, sick, or bored.



Grade 3 Students
Skating at Garnet Williams Community Centre



Junior Update—Mathematics



As Yorkhill continues its focus on mathematics the grade 3s are completing their math unit on measurement where they are able to explore many topics such as length, time, temperature, mass, and capacity. The students were able to explore the weight of a variety of classroom objects using scales. They were able to estimate an object's weight, measure it, and compare and order the weights of various objects.

The students also conducted an experiment on capacity where they needed to order various containers from greatest to smallest capacity just by sight. This experiment allows the students to understand how the shape of a container affects its capacity.

A great way to reinforce the measurement unit at home is to bake with your child. Baking as well as cooking allows students to measure and weigh a variety of ingredients as well as practise their ability to follow step-by-step instructions. You can also enjoy a yummy treat afterwards!

Intermediate News

The Junior/Intermediate Drama Club has been practicing “Adventures in the Savannah”! We are performing on Wednesday April 5th and you should come watch us!!! There will be special appearances from Mufasa, Sarabi, Simba, Zazu and Scar! Many dances were created by the grade 7 students and are a great source of entertainment! The play is suitable for kids of all ages. The play starts at 6:30 p.m. at the City Playhouse Theatre located at 1000 New Westminster Drive. It ends at 8:00 p.m. with a short intermission. Tickets are only \$12.00 each, but if you purchase 4 or more, the tickets are only \$10.00 each. These tickets can be purchased online at “School Cash Online”. Tickets will only be on sale until Wednesday March 29th, and can also be purchased in the front lobby on the night of the show. We hope to see you there!!!

By: Toby Ho and Emily Zelkowicz

The intermediate teachers attended a Thornhill Transition Cross Panel Learning Workshop in Mathematics, where we collaborated with teachers from various schools, including Thornhill Secondary School. Our goal was to be aware of student strengths and needs and use this information to inform how we build success for our intermediate learners. As a cross panel team, we assessed results from the grade 6 and 9 EQAO data to determine what learning and achievement gaps may exist. Our day was filled with hands-on interactive math activities and rich dialogue about how we can best support our students. We look forward to our next meeting to continue our learning as educators.

In the month of February, the intermediate boys and girls basketball team had an opportunity to represent Yorkhill Cougars at the Area Tournament. The teams demonstrated great sportsmanship, pride and effort. Congratulations to the boys for advancing to the Area Finals. You did a great job representing our school with respect and integrity, and we are very proud of you. GO COUGARS!!!



Modern Learning



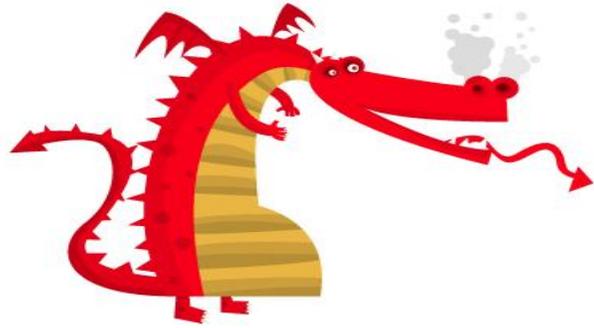
MODERN LEARNING

One of the areas of focus within YRDSB and Yorkhill ES is “Modern Learning.” This vast area of learning that our students are engaged in is fun for everyone and includes some great practical activities for parents and students to do at home, namely in the area of **computer programming**. Today, proficiency with computer is becoming more and more prevalent and just about every profession and field of study requires the employee or learner to be comfortable with using a computer. Computer programming is one of the fastest growing industries that is in need of skilled personnel in just about every profession or trade.

To help you and your child to develop this most useful skill and have a lot of fun learning, try going to the **code.org** and **scratch.org** websites. These are 2 great sites that give short 2 to 3 minute tutorials on how to write short codes to make characters and objects do certain tasks. To make it engaging and exciting the tutorials feature famous personalities like Chris Bosh, Mark Zuckerberg, Jens (the developer of Minecraft) and many other celebrities and the workspace where you create your code has characters of popular movies and games such as Star Wars, Frozen and Moana.

Learning is fun and computer coding is much easier than you think and these 2 websites will help you and your child learn this skill faster and easier than you could imagine. Give it a try and have a great time!

Chinese New Year Celebration Dragon Parade at Yorkhill ES



Students in Grades 1-6 learned through the Earth Rangers Presentation





Yorkhill Elementary School
350 Hilda Avenue Thornhill, Ontario L4J 5K2
Tel: (905) 764-5292 Fax: (905) 764-5294



Dear Parents/Guardians,

March 2017

School Council is hosting a **Spring Market** on:

Thursday, May 4th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm

At the **Spring Market**, parents and children are invited to participate in activities and visit various booths and learn about services and products available in our community. In addition, we will be hosting a BBO, and a Scholastic Book Fair will be running in the library. We look forward to an opportunity to connect with the community and raise money for school activities.

Our fundraising efforts in the past have supported and provided programs and supplies, benefiting all of our children. This year there are many projects which the School Council hopes to support; however, we cannot continue to do so without your help. 100% of the money generated from this event will go toward student-centred programs, including:

- ✓ New technology and electronic equipment
- ✓ Classroom supplies
- ✓ Athletic programs
- ✓ Performance arts programs
- ✓ Outdoor playground upgrades
- ✓ Recess equipment

An exciting part of the **Spring Market event** is the **Raffle**. We hope you will consider participating; either by donating a prize or purchasing some tickets. We will draw ballots for the prizes during the Spring Market evening. On the second page of this letter, there are some examples of donations we hope to have as part of the draw. Participation is voluntary and all donations will be kept confidential.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 7 for \$25.

To purchase raffle tickets, please access your [School Cash Online account](#) and receive a [Tax receipt!](#)

The deadline for advance tickets is *Monday May 1st*. Please note that there will be a limited amount of tickets available for cash purchase at the Spring Market event. All donated money will be carefully spent. We look forward to a successful **Spring Market Event & Raffle** and to providing continued educational and social opportunities for our students.

Thank you for your support in this campaign!

Yorkhill E.S. School Council

EXAMPLE RAFFLE PRIZES

Ba-Li Laffa Restaurant (7117 Bathurst Street) - Qty. 4 gift cards (value \$25 each)

Centre Street Deli (1136 Centre Street) - Qty. 3 gift cards (value \$10 each)

Energy Karate (Dufferin and Clark location) - Qty. 1 free birthday party - Qty. 1 month of karate lessons

Global Furniture Group (www.globalfurnituregroup.com) - Qty. 1 Loover office chair (value \$692)

Just Bounce Trampoline Club (3731 Chesswood Drive) - Qty. 1 gift basket plus a free session of class

Marble Slab Thornhill (11 Disera Drive, Unit 160) - Qty. 1 free large ice cream cake

Moksha Yoga (Yonge and Glen Cameron location) - Qty. 1 pass for 10 yoga classes

Pizza Nova (valid at all locations) - Qty. 1 free large 3-topping pizza

Rainbow Imagine Cinemas (Promenade Mall location) - Qty. 2 free movie passes

Regino Pizza - Qty. 2 gift cards (value \$25 each)

Shoppers Drug Mart (Hilda and Clark location) - Qty. 2 hand-held Bicycle playing card devices

Sonsuh Educational Supplies (448 McNicoll Ave) - Qty 2 Melissa & Doug puzzles

Subway (10 Disera Drive, unit #110) - Qty 5 lots of 4 free 6" Regular subs

Thornhill Community Centre (7755 Bayview Avenue) - Qty. 1 fitness 1-month membership

Walmart - Qty. 1 gift card (value \$10)

Bulk Barn (Bathurst and Centre location) - Qty. 4 gift cards (value \$5 each)

City of Vaughan - Qty 5 lots of 4 free admission passes for recreational skating (valid at all Vaughan skating rinks)

Gallanough Resource Centre (Arnold and Brooke Street) - Qty. 1 annual Family Membership

JD Sunglass - Qty. 2 pair of Quark sunglasses (value \$60 each)

Kelsey's Richmond Hill (8715 Yonge Street) - Qty. 5 gift cards (value \$10 each)

Mastermind (Bayview Village location) - Qty 2 colouring puzzles

Ontario Science Centre (courtesy of Power Mode Inc) - Qty 4 admission passes (value \$88)

Painting Edge (9625 Yonge Street) - Qty. 4 free passes for 1-hour of painting

Reptilia - Canada's Largest Reptile Zoo (2501 Rutherford Road) - Qty. 2 sets of 2-free admission passes

Second Cup (Hilda and Clark location) - Qty. 1 gift certificate (value \$18)

Skyzone Indoor Trampoline Park (2839 Rutherford Road) - Qty. 5 free 60-minute passes

Starbucks (2880 Major Mackenzie) - Qty. 2 gift baskets

The Thornhill Club (7994 Yonge Street) - Qty. 2 fitness facility 5-day passes - Qty. 1 day of summer camp on the golf course and tennis court

ViBE Dance and Fitness Studio - Qty. 1 free birthday party

What a Bagel! (Bathurst and New Westminster location) - Qty. 6 free 1-dozen bagels

For Illustrative Purposes Only



Trustee Message

With spring approaching and the hours of daylight increasing, now is a good time to enjoy the outdoors and our natural environment. Did you know that our Board has five [outdoor education centres](#), and students have opportunities to visit them and other outdoor learning spaces throughout their schooling? This is part of our commitment to giving students an opportunity to learn in and about the natural world. This learning supports students in gaining a deeper appreciation for nature and the importance of environmental sustainability.

“Modelling continuous environmental sustainability” is one of the goals outlined in our [Board of Trustees’ Multi-Year Plan](#). We believe that we all have a role to play in reducing waste and protecting our environment. Our students, staff members and families continue to show leadership when it comes to supporting student learning and initiatives to reduce our ecological footprint.

Spending time outside as a family also provides a great opportunity to support and enhance your child’s learning outside of school. Whether visiting a park or museum, reading with your child in your home language or asking questions about their day at school - know that there are many ways you can support their education and that you are making a difference.

I hope you all have a happy and safe March Break and enjoy the warmer weather ahead.

Join the excitement at the Bathurst Clark Resource Library!

MARCH BREAK

- **Mon. March 13 – MAKE A MOVIE DAY, 11am-4pm**
 - All-ages program, but best for 6+ years
- **March 14 – PI DAY, all day**
 - All-ages math focused activities
 - Puppet show at 2:00 PM
- **March 15 – GAMES DAY, all day**
 - Traditional, life-sized, and digital board games
 - Video game creation workshop
- **March 16 – MAGIC OF SCOTT DIETRICH! 10:30am**
 - \$5 tickets go on sale March 1
 - Drop-in learn-to-juggle workshop at 2pm
- **March 17 – Cereal Box Car Derby, 1pm-5pm**
 - All-ages, likely work best for children 6+ years

VIRTUAL REALITY IN THE LIBRARY – APRIL 2 at 11am

- Participants assemble [Google Cardboard](#) virtual reality glasses and explore selected VR APPS. Participants keep the glasses they assemble.
- Pre-registration required; \$5 admission. Spots are limited.

Vaughan Community Health Centre's 4 Day

SUMMER CAMP

The Summer Camp program is designed to provide children with an opportunity to develop new friendships, gain new experiences, learn basic life skills, and have fun. The program will be held onsite at the VCHC and offsite at varying locations such as parks, recreational facilities, etc.

Please note that VCHC's Summer Camp program is not an accredited camp and is facilitated by VCHC's Community Health Workers.

Tuesdays to Fridays | 9:00am-3:30pm



Session 1

For children 6 to 8 years of age
July 4 - July 21, 2017



Session 2

For children 9 to 12 years of age
July 25 - August 11, 2017

Eligibility Criteria and Registration Requirements

- 1) Child must live in York Region and be between the ages of 6-12.
- 2) Child's household income must be \$70,000 or less (based on a family of 4).
- 3) Parents' Notice of Assessment is required with registration package. If you do not have your Notice of Assessment for the most recent year, please speak with Stacey.
- 4) A commitment of 3 weeks in attendance is required.
- 5) The fee for the summer camp program is \$30.00 per session/ per child. Fees are to be paid in full before the child starts the session.
- 6) If you are interested in having your child participate in this program, please call Stacey at 905 303 8490 Ext. 151 STARTING MARCH 14, 2017 at 10:00am.

Priority will be given to participants who have not attended the Summer Camp Program in the past.

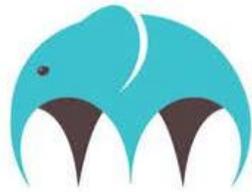
Location:
9401 Jane Street, Suite 106
Vaughan ON
L6A 4H7
www.vaughanhealthcarehc.com

*Please let us know if you need any specific accommodations
This flyer is available in an alternative format*



Funding support provided by:





Parents for Children's Mental Health

SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

Monday, March 13, 2017

PARENTS' Support Group

Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?

Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

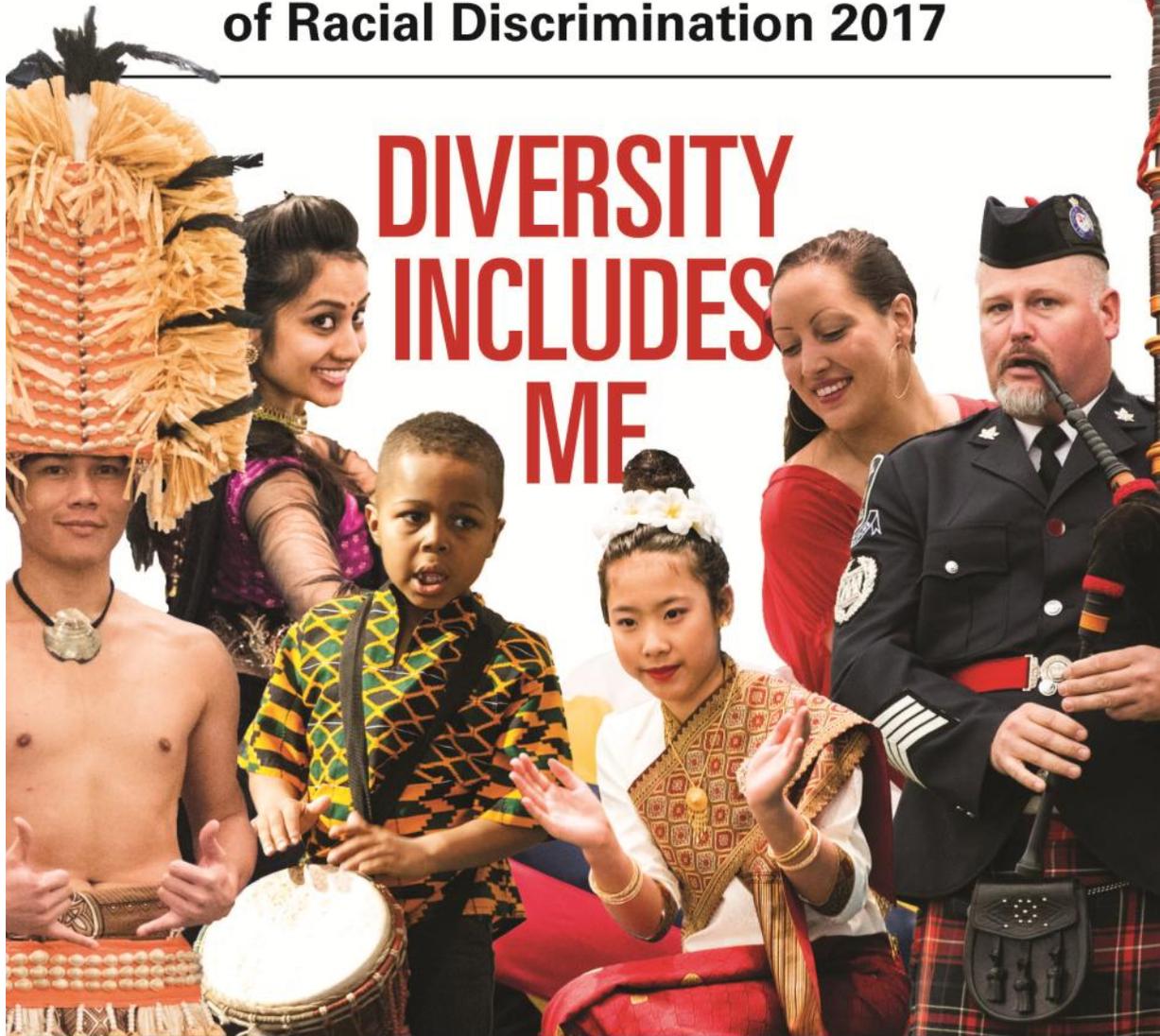
- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
 - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
 - learn how to access resources in the community

When	Second Monday of every month NO pre-registration. Free childcare sign up parentengagement@kinark.on.ca Meetings run every month all year. Chapter leader email york@pcmh.ca	Second Tuesday of every month NO pre-registration info@theyorkcentre.ca Meetings run every month except August.
Time	6:30-8:00pm	7:00- 9:00 pm
Where	Aurora Kinark Office at 24 Orchard Heights Blvd. Unit 101A Aurora. (Entrance is at east side of grocery store) Free parking & very close to Yonge St for public transit.	The York Center at 11225 Leslie Street, Richmond Hill. Free parking.
Next Meeting	Monday, April 10, 2017 Guest Speaker Topic: successfully working with your child's teacher	To be announced

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit www.pcmh.ca.

FREE EVENT, ALL ARE WELCOME!

International Day For the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2017



DIVERSITY INCLUDES ME

WHEN: Sunday, April 2, 2017
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Markham Event Centre
95 Duffield Drive, Markham

Join us for an afternoon of cultural performances, networking, community booths, displays and food sampling, as we showcase the strength and vibrancy of our diversity in the community.

Admission is free and all are welcome!

To RSVP your attendance contact rsvpevents@yrp.ca





give! is a free training program for those who want to volunteer at York Region District School Board. Training sessions are six half-days over six weeks.

Develop skills to support your school community

Research shows that parent and community engagement increases student achievement, wellbeing and success.

Learn more about:

- Role of the Volunteer
- Equity and Inclusive Education
- Communication Skills
- Human Rights
- Mental Health & Well Being
- Resume Writing



Will help you to:

- Build confidence and develop new skills
- Communicate more effectively with students, staff and parents
- Contribute to student learning and parent engagement
- Gain volunteer experience in a school
- Learn about your school community
- Meet new people

Next session: Welcome Centre, 16655 Yonge St. Unit 26, Newmarket

March 24, 31, April 7, 21, 28, May 5, 2017.

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Oksana Majaski
416-568-2252
Oksana.Majaski@yrdsb.ca

Yasmin Mawani
416-727-8179
Yasmin.Mawani@yrdsb.ca

Martha Samer
905-731-8281 ext.50
MSamer@ccsyr.org

Agnes Manasan
905-731-8281 ext.22
AManasan@ccsyr.org

Alyson Truax
905-830-4444 ext. 72281
alyson.truax@york.ca



JEWISH FAMILY &CHILD

For more information or to register please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 x 6215 or visit our website at jfundcs.com/groups

groups & workshops

MARCH 2017

As with all of our programs, registration is required. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community regardless of cultural, religious and/or racial background and we offer a sliding scale for those who require fee reductions.

BEYOND THE CHUPPAH, BECOMING A COUPLE

A five session Marriage Preparation group for couples who are going to be married in the next year. Topics include: Changing roles and expectations, finances, conflict negotiation and resolution, communication, and Jewish home and family life. This program is offered in partnership with the Rabbinical Assembly- Ontario Region.

Thursday, March 9, 2017
7pm to 9pm
1700 Bathurst St
Beth Tzedec Congregation



March 2017

BEYOND THE CHUPPAH, BECOMING A COUPLE- A five session Marriage Preparation group for couples who are going to be married in the next year. Topics include: Changing roles and expectations, finances, conflict negotiation and resolution, communication, and Jewish home and family life. This program is offered in partnership with the Rabbinical Assembly- Ontario Region. **Thursday March 9 /17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue.**

As with all of our programs, registration is required. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community regardless of cultural, religious and/or racial background and we offer a sliding scale for those who require fee reductions. For more information or to register please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 Ext # 6215 or go to our website at www.jfundcs.com/groups.

Please click on the following attachments for more information
[attachment](#), [attachment](#), [attachment](#), [attachment](#),
[attachment](#), [attachment](#), [attachment](#)



BUILD A BETTER FUTURE!

FREE CLASSES FOR ADULTS



- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Language Instruction for Newcomers (LINC)
- Academic Upgrading and Computer Skills
- Citizenship and IELTS Preparation

Have a question? We are just
one phone call away!
905-731-9557

www.yrdsb.ca



Important Dates

Mid-Winter Break	Monday March 13 to Friday 17 2017
Author Michael Wade Visits JR	Wednesday March 22
Lice Squad	Wednesday March 22
Scientist in the School Gr.3	Friday March 24— Friday March 31
Turtle Island Play	Friday March 31

Upcoming Events

Autism Awareness Day	Monday April 3
Primary Play	Tuesday April 4
J/I Play	Wednesday April 5
Swan Lake Grade 2	Monday April 10
Swan Lake Grade 2	Wednesday April 12
Swan Lake Gr. 7	Tuesday April 18
Good Friday	Friday April 14
Easter Monday	Monday April 17
Swan Lake Gr.4	Tuesday May 2
Theatre Presentation Gr. 1-3FI	Wednesday May 3
Spring Book Fair	Monday May 1 to Friday May 5
Pioneer Village Gr. 3	Monday May 8
Victoria Day	Monday May 22
Heritage School House	Wednesday May 24

YRDSB Homestay Families Needed

Did you know that York Region District School Board offers a homestay program for international students attending its schools? Many families in our area host students, and this exciting opportunity is available to you if you qualify. If you want to find out more, visit the website: www.yrdsb.ca/homestay.