



Yorkhill Newsletter

www.yorkhill.es.yrdsb.edu.on.ca DEC2016



Yorkhill Elementary School,
350 Hilda Avenue, Thornhill, ON
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Administrators' Message

DECEMBER TOUCHSTONE : We encourage each other to live out our goals, hopes, and dreams.

DEC 2016

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It is hard to believe that the December break has arrived. Yorkhill has been filled with excitement and anticipation of this upcoming school break. **Our recent holiday concert showcased the Primary children's sparkling eyes, smiles and joyful voices to the delight of a full house of parents.**

Student Council successfully organized a food drive, a door decorating contest and a holiday sing-a-long for the entire school. Thank you Student Council!! We look forward to future initiatives.

At Yorkhill, we celebrate the human potential of each of our students on a daily basis as our students engage in powerful learning and achieve many milestones in their classrooms.

At this coldest and darkest time of year, our Touchstone reminds us that with mutual understanding, we can create a sense of warmth and light, to help us work through past challenges and ring in an even better New Year.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our students and their families a safe and peaceful holiday! Take the time to pause and spend time with those dearest to you.

See you back at school on January 9th!

Principal
Catarina Burisch

Office Staff
Morag Wright
Maria Cortes

Superintendent
C. LaTouche
905-764-6830

Trustee

Catarina Burisch



Message From Our Trustee

As we near the end of 2016, I hope everyone has had a great school year so far and found opportunities to get involved with the life of the school.

It is wonderful to have opportunities to see not only what our students are learning, but to see how they are learning – collaborating and problem solving, using technology in exciting new ways, and engaged in hands-on activities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff members, students, families and community members across our Board. Thanks to all of the great people we have in our system, we continue to advance student achievement and well-being.

Our Board continues to have a strong commitment to creating welcoming, inclusive learning environments that enable **all of our students to thrive. Engaging families in your child's education and the school community is in an important** part of creating that environment.

There are resources for families available on our Board website at www.yrdsb.ca/parents, including information on Board **programs and supports, and tips for parents to support your child's learning at home and at school.**

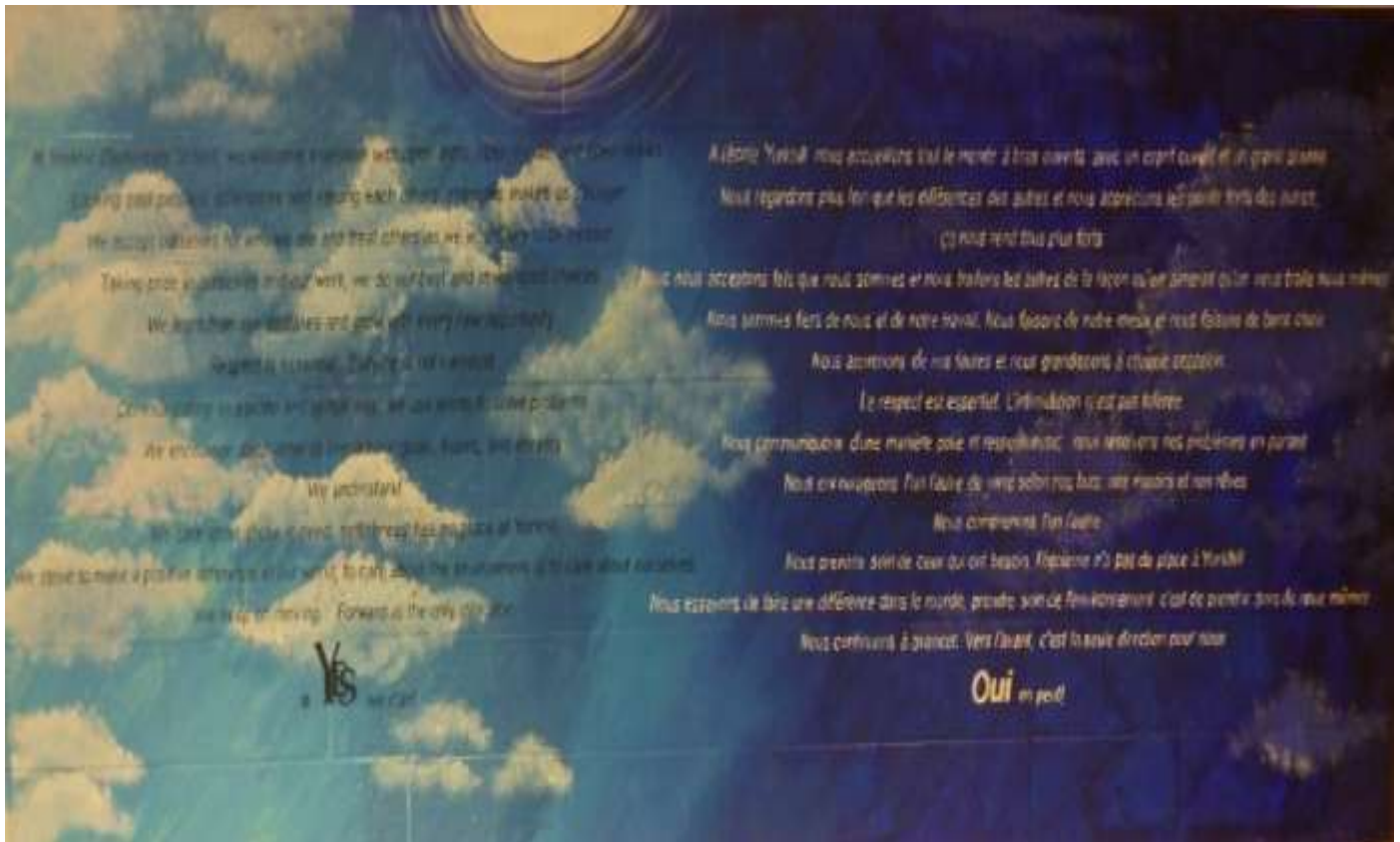
Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful start to 2017. I hope you are able to enjoy time with family and friends.

Recipient of the North Star Award YRDSB

Congratulations to Ms. Morris, our Reading Recovery, SSCA/SERT teacher for receiving the North Star Award

The North Star recognizes the contributions that teachers make to the well-being of their peers and the morale of their workplace. Thank you Ms. Morris for your dedication and hard work.





Yorkhill ES 's Touchstone

At Yorkhill Elementary School, we welcome everyone with open arms, open minds, and open **smiles**. **Looking past people's differences and valuing each others' strengths makes us stronger**. We accept ourselves for whom we are and treat others as we would like to be treated.

Taking pride in ourselves and our work, we do our best and make good choices. We learn from our mistakes and grow with every new opportunity. Respect is essential. Bullying is not tolerated. Communicating in a polite and gentle way, we use words to solve problems. We encourage each other to live out our goals, hopes and dreams. We understand. We care about those in need; selfishness has no place at Yorkhill. We strive to make a positive difference in our world; to care about the environment is to care about ourselves. We keep moving. Forward is the only direction.

YES, we can!

On Friday December 23, we held our Touchstone School Assembly. We celebrated student's achievements as we recognized their efforts to follow our Touchstone Code. We celebrated this event with sing along songs which was enjoyed by all and expressed excitement and anticipation as we look forward to a new year at Yorkhill Elementary School.

LITERACY IS ALIVE AND WELL AT YORKHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOOK FAIR 2016



Our first Book Fair of the year was a great success! The selection was awesome, with a variety of books of different genres. From fiction and non-fiction, activity packs, learning resources and arts and science kits – there was something for everyone! Half of all the proceeds come back to the school so we can continue to build our literacy resources and our bilingual library collection. Thank you so much, parents, for supporting this fundraiser!

HOLIDAY HEROES FOOD DRIVE
YORKHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2016



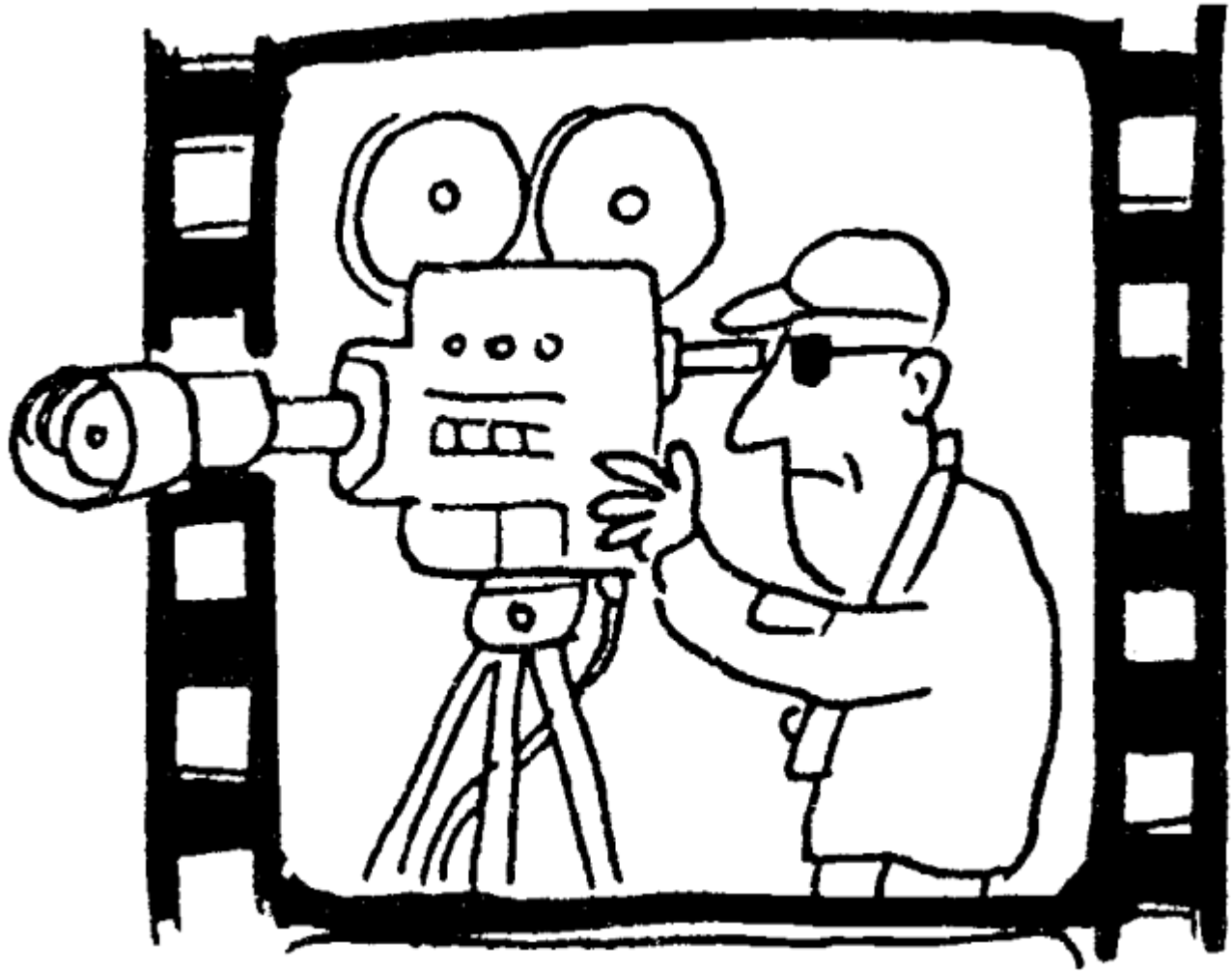
Since the launch of Holiday Heroes in 2008, York Regional Police has raised more than \$1 million in monetary donations, new toys, new children's clothing and food. As always, all donations raised in York Region, stay in York Region! These goals could never have been achieved without the generosity and support from the public!

As always, 100 per cent of donations directly support the children from our community who are in need. Our collaborative efforts will provide holiday cheer to the thousands of families who have registered for assistance through the local [Salvation Army](#) programs and [Victim Services of York Region](#).

Yorkhill's Holiday Food Drive

This year, Yorkhill Elementary School had a holiday food drive to donate food to people who are less fortunate. It started in early December. Students generously donated non-perishable food items. This includes canned food items, pasta, crackers, noodles, etc. Thank you to all of our Yorkhill students, families and staff for their contributions.

-Iman and Lucy from Ms.Meldung's Grade 7 class



Director's Cut- Lights, Camera, Action!

On December 12th and 13th the grade 7 and 8s had the amazing opportunity to shoot a short music video. This workshop supported media literacy and the music curriculum.

The preparations began a few weeks before the Do-It-In-A-Day workshop. We were put in groups of up to 5 people according to our choice of song topic. To begin with, we had to come up with our own lyrics and music. Each group also discussed the filming of the music video and details including the number of scenes, props, and/or costumes.

Finally, the big day arrived! After learning about the history of music videos and what made them so successful, we got to fill out a storyboard explaining where and how we would shoot each scene. Once we were ready, each group got to use professional cameras while shooting each scene several times- each time from a different angle.

Finally, came our last task of the day; to edit the music video (on macbooks) and to add sound. The editing was especially time consuming since it involved a series of complex steps, including watching all the clips, cutting them and pasting them together in the right order and adding special effects. When we went home at the end of the day, we got a USB and a passcode which was used to watch not just our video, but our classmates' videos too. Since each music video was completely different; (from a goodbye song to Harambe, to a love song, to a song about winter) watching them all was entertaining, to say the least.

By: Ilil and Alysa (grade 7)

Fantastic Beasts And Where To Find Them Competition

By: Emily and Leora

The crazy world of Fantastic Beasts finally entered the grade seven and eight classes at Yorkhill Elementary School. This November, Yorkhill participated in a wand competition to see which class could create the best looking wands. To begin with, we were given lifeless wooden sticks, paint, stickers, markers, and glitter and let our imagination take over. The manufactured sticks were shaped into butterflies and fairies to dragons and fishing rods. Once every wand was invented, we captured a picture including the creative sticks and mailed the pictures to the judges. We waited with hope to win a screening of the movie to watch Fantastic Beasts And Where To Find Them with the whole class. Unfortunately, Yorkhill did not win the tickets however, we won pleasure and enchantment. In conclusion, this was an amazing opportunity and although we did not win we had tons of fun participating.



THE HOUR OF CODE

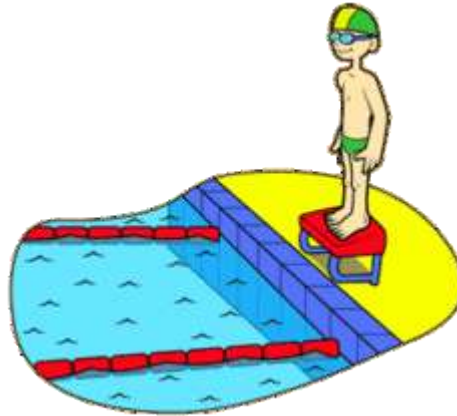
Many students at Yorkhill E.S. participated in the Hour of Code during the week of December 5th. This global initiative included over 100 million students in 180 countries. The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. The students were very engaged and excited to participate. Coding skills promote problem solving, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st century career path (code.org).

Photos of our Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 2 students in action:



Swim to Survive

During the months of November and December, the grade 3 students participated in the Life-saving Society's *Swim to Survive* program. The program provided training in three essential skills needed to survive an unexpected fall into deep water. Students greatly enjoyed the program, the instructors and their 3 visits to the local pool.



Intermediate Girls Volleyball Team

This past November, the Intermediate Girls Volleyball team competed in the regional tournament at Baythorn Public School. They played against teams from Baythorn, Willowbrook, Thornhill and E.J. Sand. It was the first time playing in a volleyball tournament for every player on the team. They came out incredibly strong and it was a very close first match. We had some challenging competition but the girls did well. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication! The team: Rose, Dana, Selena, Aly, Aliyaah, Yana, Maddy, Lily, Yewon, Catherine, Yael and Emily.



WINTER CONCERT
YORKHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2016



WINTER CONCERT



YORKHILL STUDENTS WAITING PATIENTLY FOR THE SCHOOL BUS WITH SMILES ON THEIR FACES DEMONSTRATING THE IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL SPIRIT.



WOULD YOU ENJOY **COLLABORATIVELY** LEARNING THE ONTARIO CURRICULUM THROUGH **THE ARTS?**

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an Elementary Integrated Arts Program at Baythorn Public School. If you are currently in grades four or five you may apply for the **arts@baythorn program**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music in a **cooperative learning environment**.

To learn more about the **arts@baythorn** program, you and your family are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on:

Thursday, January 19, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

Applications will be available at bit.ly/arts_application2017 online after the January 19th, 2016 info night.

If you require further information, please call us at
Baythorn Public School
(905) 889-7992.

Kate Kurek
Principal

The Arts Team

Meytal Daniels
Vice Principal





Important Dates

Winter Break	December 26—January 6
School Re-opens	January 9, 2017
French Immersion Information Evening	January 19, 2017
P.A. Day—no school	January 20, 2017
Dental Screening	January 30, 2017
Immunization Gr. 7 Students	February 7, 2017
Earth Rangers Gr. 1—6	February 27, 2017

Reminder—Public Health

If parents/guardians or students receive a letter from York Region **Public Health requesting immunization information, here's what to do:**

Update York Region Public Health on your child's immunization status in one of the following ways:

Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>

- Fax documents to 905-895-6066 or 1-866-258-2026
- Mail immunization information to Immunization Services, Box 147, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456



JEWISH FAMILY &CHILD

groups & workshops JANUARY 2017

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

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.

MIND, BODY, CONNECTION for Women I

Join us in an 7 session group for women who want to learn the practice of mindfulness and meditation in a safe and supportive group setting. Topics will include: stress and anxiety reduction, connecting with your mind and body, enhancing your self-worth and self-esteem, and learning about general relaxation and happiness.

Monday, January 30, 2017
7:00pm to 8:30 pm
4600 Bathurst St
Lipa Green Centre

SEPARATION 101

Join us for a one session workshop being provided by Gelman and Associates for those who have questions about many of the common issues that arise when dealing with the prospect of divorce. Topics to be discussed include: child custody, spousal support and division of property and assets.

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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.jfandcs.com/groups



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