



February 2015

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Yorkhill Newsletter

www.yorkhill.es.yrdsb.edu.on.ca February 2015

Administrators' Message

Yorkhill Elementary School,
350 Hilda Avenue, Thornhill, ON
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On **February 10, 2015**, the First Term Report Cards will be sent home. As you read your child's report card you should be able to get a clear idea of your child's strengths and areas for improvement. The report card indicates the next steps that should be implemented to further improve your child's achievement. Use these next steps as a focus for setting realistic and attainable goals with your child. You may want to talk to the homeroom teacher or the subject specific teacher to clarify learning strengths and needs. Remember, academic success and personal well-being are achieved through the setting, monitoring and refinement of goals. Take time to support your child or children with setting goals and accomplishing them. The report card has a tear off section for both student and parent comments. We ask that you share the goals you have set with the homeroom teacher by recording them in this tear off section and returning it to you child's homeroom teacher. On-going communication between yourself and your child's teachers is essential.

We would like to remind all of our families that unless we experience extreme cold weather, all of our students go outside for morning and lunch recess. As such, please ensure your child is dressed properly for the weather. Dress in layers, wear a hat, gloves, scarves, boots, warm jackets and snow pants, particularly for our younger students. Playing outside in the winter is great fun if you are dressed for the occasion.

Lastly, we would like to thank all those families for joining us on January 22, 2105 for the Winter Wonderland Concert. It was an entertaining evening for the students, teachers and families of Yorkhill Elementary, as we proudly watched our students perform songs, dances and skits they had prepared through their Arts Programs. The students' excitement, while they waited to go on stage to perform for their families, was a joy to see. We believe this is an evening they will always remember! Thank you to Ms. Yu who organized this Winter Wonderland Concert, all the teachers who supported her and the students who so willingly volunteered their time to assist with setting up the technical equipment for the evening and ensuring the students moved promptly from their class to the stage and back. Well done Yorkhill!

Sincerely,

Nereo Bonomo
Principal

Karen Birnie
Vice Principal



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration began on January 16, 2015 for the 2015-16 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2015, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

Yorkhill Elementary's

Welcome to Kindergarten

Evening for Parents

will be held

Thursday, May 21st, 2015

6:00-7:30 pm



Online French Immersion Registration

Grade 1 French Immersion registration is between January 16 and February 13, 2015.

In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2015, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Yorkhill Elementary School to **register between January 16 and February 13, 2015**. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enroll. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

The French Immersion Open House
for students and parents attending the FI program at Yorkhill Elementary
Thursday, May 21, 2015
1:30-2:30 pm

Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellations

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Bus Cancellations will be made by 6:00 a.m. Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO

590 AM	640 AM	680AM	860AM	1010AM	1050AM	
1540AM	1580AM					
88.5FM	89.9FM	92.5FM	93.1FM	94.9FM	95.9FM	97.3FM
98.1FM	99.1FM	99.9FM	101.1FM	102.1FM	104.5FM	100.7FM
107.1FM						

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

*A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the **YRDSB** on twitter.*

School bus charters will not operate when home to school bus service is cancelled.

Please note the following:

- ◆ A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- ◆ Unless otherwise stated, **schools will remain open** and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon.** Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.





Eco Team @ Yorkhill Elementary School

Litterless Lunches

Our Eco-Team has started tracking classes each Tuesday to see which class has the most amount of litterless lunches. The top two classes will win “The Golden or Silver Garbage Can Award”. Don’t forget to pack your child a litterless lunch on Tuesday (or any day of the week).

Waste Free Lunch Tips

- Get children to help pack their lunches with healthy foods
- Only pack as much food as your child will eat
- Use a reusable lunch bag/box for carrying a lunch
- Use a refillable bottle for drinks
- If you choose to use a single serving container, please make sure it is recyclable
- Put sandwiches, muffins, etc. in reusable containers, instead of in plastic bags. Label them with your child’s name so they have a better chance of coming home
- Avoid pre-packaged, single-serve portions of snacks
- Put re-usable napkins in your child’s lunch box
- Prepare extra food at dinnertime and use leftovers for lunches. Minimize the morning rush by packing lunches the night before and refrigerating overnight

Yes Please	No Thanks
Reusable lunch container	Single use paper or plastic bags
Reusable containers (Tupperware, plastic, stainless steel, thermos)	Disposable plastic wrap, foil, wax or styro-foam
Reusable drink bottle or thermos	Single use, and non-recyclable containers
Cloth napkin to wash and re-use	Paper napkins
Cutlery/silverware to wash and re-use	Plastic forks/spoons

Lights Out

We are also trying to reduce our energy consumption at school. Every Monday, students from the eco-team will be tracking which classes have switched off their lights, smartboards etc, when they exit for lunch recess. If anyone is still in the class they have been challenged to use only one light at this time. Each month, winning classes will be entered into a draw to win a prize.

You can practice this at home. Save the environment and your money by switching off any lights or appliances when you exit a room.

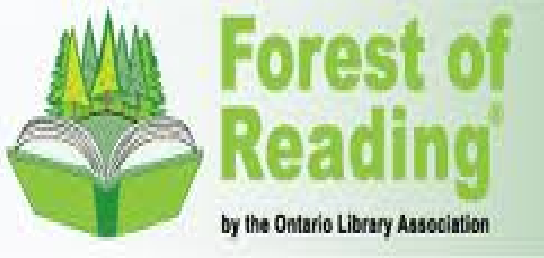
Stay tuned for more eco-tips and news.

The Eco-Team

Library News

February will be a busy month in the library!

Look for book displays on themes including Black History Month, Lunar New Year and Valentine's Day. There are many wonderful books, both fiction and non-fiction, for students to read and sign out, and for teachers to use in their classroom. Feel free to come in and look at our great collections!



This year, Yorkhill will be participating in **The Forest of Reading®**, Canada's largest recreational reading program! This initiative of the Ontario Library Association (OLA) offers reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. The **Forest of Reading®** helps celebrate Canadian books, publishers, authors and illustrators. We have purchased the books (both English and French) and students will have the opportunity to listen to and read them, and vote for their favourites.

Last month we began a 'Library Pass' system, where students from grades 4-8 may use the library at morning recess to read, do research, complete homework, or work on other assignments. This system is working out very well. Students are respecting the pass system, and are focused and productive in the library at recess time.



A select group of grade 6-8 students volunteer their time each week (and sometimes more!) to work in the library. These students sign books in and out, collect books from classrooms, shelve materials, and organize the collection. Their ongoing dedication is invaluable. Thanks library volunteers!

THE YEARBOOK IS COMING!

The Yearbook Committee is up and running, and has already begun planning this year's edition. With the supervision of Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Angel and Ms. Meldung, the committee will be meeting weekly after school until the final product is ready for submission in early May. Last week, the committee met with a representative from the yearbook company who gave a tutorial on the design program the students will be using.

Everyone is very excited!

Yearbook order forms will be sent home the week of February 23rd.

The cost will be \$20.00.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD OR TEEN



EMILY CARR SECONDARY SCHOOL 4901 Rutherford Road Woodbridge, ON L4H 3C2

EXPERT GUEST SPEAKER SERIES PANEL

PRESENTATION AND Q & A SESSION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Reserve your spot online by February 17th at <http://emilycarr.ss.yrdsb.ca/>

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.— 8:30 p.m.



Meylin Champion
*Certified Parent Coach
Director of Champion
Parent Coaching*

<http://www.championparentcoaching.com>

Do you ever feel like parenting should be more rewarding and fun? Come find out how Parent Coaching can bring peace and enjoyment to your home. Understand this new and exciting family support system that uses your own family's strength to create lasting positive changes. Come meet Meylin Champion, a certified Parent Coach, and learn how Parent Coaching can empower you to be the best parent you can be.



Tahira Simmons
*Mental Health
Facilitator*

<http://www.360kids.ca>

360 Kids will be sharing information about recognizing and supporting mental health issues in children, youth, and teens.



Yasser Hussein
*School Resource
Police Officer*

<http://www.yrp.ca>

York Region Police will be sharing information and tips on cyber safety, texting safety and drug awareness.

A TOONIE DONATION AT THE DOOR FOR OUR ECSS TOTEM AWARD WOULD BE KINDLY ACCEPTED FOR THIS EVENT.

JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD

groups & workshops

FEBRUARY 2015

EFFECTIVE PARENTING

A four session group to help parents learn what they can do to raise a happy, motivated and well behaved child. For parents of children ages 2 to 10 years. Topics include: how to; nurture self esteem, encourage problem solving, increase communication and set appropriate limits and discipline.

Tuesday, February 10, 2015 | 4600 Bathurst St. | Lipa Green Centre | 7 pm to 9 pm

HIGH CONFLICT DIVORCE

Workshop for parents wanting to develop strategies and techniques to deal with a High Conflict situation and help to lessen the impact of that conflict on their children. This workshop is not for individuals in an abusive situation.

Thursday, February 12, 2015 | 4600 Bathurst St. | Lipa Green Centre | 6:30 pm 8:30 pm

WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEPARATE: WHAT TO TELL THE KIDS

A workshop for parents about to separate or in the early stages of separation. How and when to tell the children as well as ideas and strategies to best meet your child's needs will be discussed.

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 | 9600 Bathurst St | Lebovic Jewish Community Centre | 6:30 to 8:30 pm

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

As with all 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 reductions.

- Feb. 2 PA Day— No School
- Feb. 4 Sub Lunches
- Feb. 6 Pizza Lunches
- Feb. 9 Operation Lifesaver Presentation (Grade 5-8)
- Feb. 10 Report Cards sent home today**
- Feb. 11 Subway Lunches**
7pm: School Council meeting in library
- Feb. 13 Pizza Lunch
Last day for French Immersion Early Registration
Valentines dance-a-thon all day in gym
- Feb. 16 Family Day Provincial Holiday (No school)**
- Feb. 17 Strings Presentation for Grades JK-6
Skills Ontario Presentation for Grade 7 and 8 students
- Feb. 18 Sub Lunches
- Feb. 19 <> Lunar New Year
Mathémagie workshops for all FI classes
- Feb. 20 Pizza Lunch
Carnival Day at YES
- Feb. 24 Grade 8 and SK Grad photos
- Feb. 25 Sub Lunches
- Feb. 27 Touchstone Assembly 11:00 am
Pizza Lunches
- March 4 Sub Lunches
- March 6 Pizza Lunches
- March 11 Sub Lunches
Electricity Safety Presentations on gym

March 13 Professional Training Day
NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

March 16 to March 20 Mid Winter Break

- March 25 Sub Lunch
Chef à l'école for Grade 6/7 and Gr. 7/8 classes
- March 27 Pizza Lunch
- April 1 Hep B (Gr. 7s) and HPV (Gr. 8 girls) spring vaccination clinic
Sub lunches
6:15 pm: School Council meeting in Library
7:00 pm: Parent Presentation in gym (topic: *Childhood Worries and How to Help Your Anxious Child.*)



FEBRUARY

To care about the environment is to care about ourselves

Home Connections

What do the Touchstone statements for February and March mean to your child/children?

What do they mean to you?

How have you demonstrated these qualities and attitudes?

Why are the above traits important?

MARCH

We take pride in our work



February is designated as Black History Month. Black History Month remains an important moment for us to celebrate the achievements and contributions that black Canadians have played in Canada and in the world.



www.tumblebooklibrary.com

Username: Yorkhill Password: books

Please spend time reading with your child every day. This website is highly recommended by teachers and parents.

Please note that sometimes, due to unforeseen circumstances, the date scheduled for an event may require changing. We will communicate any such changes to you as soon as possible.