

YES
We Can



Yorkhill Newsletter

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

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

Administrators' Message

On behalf of the staff at Yorkhill Elementary, we are excited to welcome everyone back after a well deserved December break. We hope you had an opportunity to rest, relax and spend time with family and friends. We would like to extend our warmest wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year in 2015!

A round of applause is in order for the Yorkhill Elementary School Community! Thank you to all those families who donated non-perishable food items, toys, hats, mittens and scarves to the school's winter holiday drive. Your willingness to give to those less fortunate is greatly appreciated and demonstrates your desire to build a strong community that values all its members.

Please mark Thursday, January 22, 2015 on your calendar. We will be opening our doors to all of our families and their friends, for an evening of musical fun and celebration, at the Winter Wonderland Concert. Our students, with the guidance of their teachers, have worked very hard to bring a variety of songs and musical theatre performances to their families. Although the winter snowstorm cancelled our original performance date, our staff and student's enthusiasm has not been hampered. We are so proud of your children's accomplishments! Get ready for a fantastic evening!

Sincerely,

Nereo Bonomo
Principal

Karen Birnie
Vice Principal



January 2015

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Principal

Nereo Bonomo

Vice-Principal

Karen Birnie

Office Staff

Morag Wright
Maria Cortes

Superintendent

C. LaTouche
905-764-6830

Trustee

Susan Gellar
905-763-8682



Secondary School Information Evenings

Please find all dates and times at <http://www.yorkhill.es.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/> under *Announcements and Events*.

Among the schools highlighted are:

Thornhill SS Erin Carr SS Maple HS Stephen Lewis SS Thornlea SS Vaughan SS Westmount CI
Arts Program at Westmount CI Woodbridge College

Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 16, 2015

Kindergarten registration will commence 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 and Information Evening

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Yorkhill ES on January 15, 2015 at 7 p.m.

FI registration will begin January 16, 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 (FI) Open House for next year's Gr. 1 students attending the FI program and their parents will be held at Yorkhill Elementary School on

Thursday, May 21, 2015

1:30-2:30 pm

Would your child enjoy 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. Students currently in grades four and five may apply for the arts@baythorn Program, where they will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music while meeting the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum for grades five, six, seven and eight.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, students and their families are invited to attend an information evening at [Baythorn Public School](#) on **Thursday, January 15, 2015** at 6:30 p.m.

Applications will be online via the school website and available after **January 16, 2015**.

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

Kate Kurek
Principal

Jennifer Rosenberg
Vice-Principal



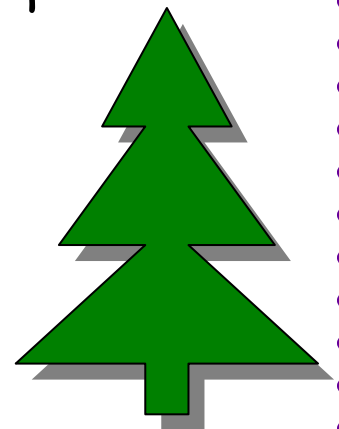
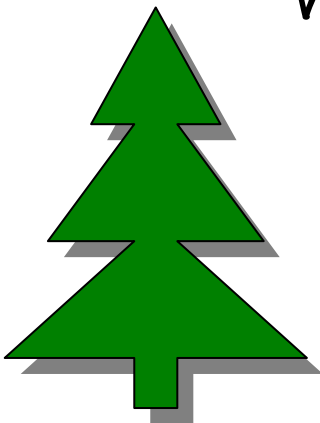
You are cordially invited to
Yorkhill Elementary School's

Winter Wonderland Concert

Thursday Evening

January 22, 2015

6:30 p.m.



The staff and students at Yorkhill Elementary are very excited to share their songs and musical theatre performances with their families and friends!

Yorkhill School Council and other News

2014—2015

Yorkhill School Council

Co-Chairs

Alan Morris and Kim Sparks

Treasurer

Secretaries

Lina Vaxman and Natasha Parsotam

Fund-raising

Robyn Badner & Sharon Rosenzweig

Community Representatives

No one nominated or acclaimed

Communications

Natasha Parsotam

Teaching Staff

To be determined by staff election

Administration

Nereo Bonomo

Karen Birnie

Member at Large

Janice Niss, Jason Swaye,
Jennifer Lui, Liv Corriero,
Tewfik Zitouni, Shakufe Virani,
Louise Lewis



Yorkhill School Council

Meeting Dates:

2014—2015

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

Wednesday, June 3, 2013



If you wish to propose an agenda item for a future School Council meeting, please contact the Chairs (Kim Sparks & Alan Morris), or Mr. Bonomo, at least one week prior to the meeting date.

Highlights of all School Council Meetings will be posted on the Community Bulletin Board inside the front doors of the school. They will also be posted on the Yorkhill School Website.

Are You Moving?

Please let us know if you are planning a move for next year and therefore not returning to Y.E.S in September 2015. This information helps us immensely when planning for next year. Please notify the school office, or send a note in with your child as soon as possible.

Reporting Your Child's Absence



If your child is away from school, you **MUST** call the school. We have a 24 hour absence reporting line (905-764-5292) where you may leave a message for the office staff. Clearly state and **SPELL** your child's name, their teacher's name and the reason for the absence (illness, a medical appointment, an injury, a vacation or parent withdrawal). If we do not know where your child is, and we cannot contact you or your emergency contact, we have no alternative but to call the police. Please help us ensure that all of our students are safe and accounted for. *Thank you for your cooperation.*

Student Lates



Several of our students continue to be late this past month. We understand that there are valid reasons, such as medical appointments, which may prevent your child from arriving to school on time. Barring that, we want to stress the importance of punctuality. When students are late, they lose valuable learning time, interrupt a lesson in progress, and therefore the learning of others, and make it difficult for our secretaries to monitor absences. Our school day begins promptly at **8:50**. Please help us in reducing the lates at Y.E.S. and reinforcing the life skill of punctuality for your own child.

Too Sick for Recess Means Too Sick for School!

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. It is advised that students with heavy colds, which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, remain at home until their condition improves. This will help to prevent the spread of illness to others.

Safe Schools

The staff at Yorkhill wants to remind everyone that, when you enter the school, for whatever reason, you are not allowed to go into the instructional areas of the school unless you have been given permission from office personnel. If we give you such permission, we will give you a visitor badge which you must wear for all staff and students to see. By you obtaining permission and a visitor badge to enter the instructional areas of your child's school, you are helping students feel safer.

Pediculosis (head lice)

Each year, cases of pediculosis (head lice) are found throughout our schools. In an effort to reduce the numbers of cases found and decrease the inconvenience to parents/guardians and students, the York Region District School Board requests your assistance.

As your child is now returning to school after the holidays, please inspect his/her hair and scalp for pediculosis. Periodic inspections during the year will help prevent the spread of head lice.

Head lice are tiny (1/8" or 3mm long) wingless insects with flattened bodies. They cling to the hair by means of six legs. They live mostly behind the ears and at the nape of the neck. The female lays tiny, yellowish-white eggs called nits. They resemble dandruff but are attached to the hair by a cement-like material and are very difficult to remove. It is usually the eggs that are noticed first. If head lice are found, do not return your child to school until treated. This will prevent the spread of pediculosis. Children are only allowed to reenter the class when all the nits are removed from the hair.

For more information, please call the Public Health Nurses at York Region Health Services *Health Connection* line, 1-800-363-5653, (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.). If you would like another copy of the York Region Health Services Department pamphlet "The Facts of Lice", you may request a copy at the school or find the document at: www.cps.ca or at www.healthcare.ubc.ca/lice/intro.

Eco Team @ Yorkhill Elementary School

This has been a busy month for the eco-team. Our first campaign was energy conservation. Students watched a short video about how to conserve energy and discussed why conserving energy is so important. Here is the video if you would like to watch it again with your child or learn ways to save energy and money at home.

https://outlook3.yrdsb.ca/owa/redir.aspx?C=M0EfqIX_g0GWL8gEQHjvAGFN1k4o6NEIaS1FGHAPIbND0DV6t58oazskBaln4JL8kSSCNV V2klU.&URL=https%3a%2f%2fwww.youtube.com%2fwatch%3fv%3dycdke8MTSCI

For the week, students were challenged to conserve energy in any way they could at home. Their efforts were recorded on charts that were then displayed in the front foyer. Our week culminated in “wear a sweater and tuque day” to show that you can conserve energy by turning down your thermostat and wearing a sweater.

We have been busy preparing for our “litterless lunch” campaign that will be starting in the New Year every Tuesday. Please be sure to send your child with a “litterless lunch” each Tuesday. See below for some tips on how to pack a litterless lunch.

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 styrofoam
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

Stay tuned for our future campaigns and tips,

The Eco Team

YORKHILL'S AUTISM AWARENESS RAISE THE FLAG CAMPAIGN

Over the past month, Yorkhill has been supporting Autism Ontario by having students bring in loonies and toonies to support autism research. Our school was hoping to raise \$250 which would allow our school to join in the Raise the Flag campaign. Yorkhill would receive an autism awareness flag to raise on our flag pole and receive educational resources to help educate our students about autism.

Fundraising Results!

We are happy to announce that, because of you and your child's donations, our school surpassed our goal and raised \$623.00. We will be getting our flag and proudly raising it on April 2nd, World Autism Awareness Day!

Principal For a Day

To go along with this campaign, for every dollar that each student brought in, their name was put on a ballot in the hopes of winning to be principal for a day. The lucky winner to take over as Mr. Bonomo was Toby from Mr. Manga's class.

Way to go, Mr. Toby!
Way to go, Yorkhill!

Community Workshops and Information





UJA York Region
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto



save the date

Ask the Experts Discussion Series

Program 2:



Parenting in the Age of Technology

Wednesday, January 21, 2015
7:30pm

Volunteer Boardroom on the 2nd floor
Joseph & Wolf Lebovic Jewish Community Campus,
9600 Bathurst Street, Vaughan, ON.

Moderated and Presented by Joe Rich:

Family Therapist, author and regular guest on
The Marilyn Dennis Show
Expert panel will consist of workers from JFCS, JACS,
York Region Police, JIAS and NBB

Registration: [Register online](#) or
contact [Tanya Levy](#) 416.631.5817

- Jan. 1st: Happy 2015!!!
- Jan. 5 **Welcome Back :**
Pizza and Sub Forms Going Home For Term 2
Birth of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.
- Jan. 6 **Epiphany (Western)**
- Jan. 7 **<>Eastern Christmas**
- Jan. 9 **Pizza Lunches**
- Jan. 13 **Mawlid-un-Nabi Maghi**
- Jan. 14 **Makar Sankranti**
Sub Lunches
7pm: School Council meeting in library
- Jan. 15 **Gr. 1 French Immersion Information Night (7 pm)**
- Jan. 16 **PA Day (No School)**
Gr. 1 FI and Kindergarten registrations begin
- Jan. 19 **Epiphany (Eastern)**
- Jan. 20 **Pizza and Sub Forms Due**
- Jan. 21 **Sub lunches**
- Jan. 22 **Winter Wonderland Concert @ 6:30**
- Jan. 23 **Pizza lunches**
- Jan. 28 **Sub lunches**
- Jan. 30 **Touchstone Assembly 11:00 a.m. in gymnasium**
Pizza Lunches
- Feb. 2 **PA Day— No School**
- Feb. 4 **Sub Lunches**
7pm: School Council meeting in library
- Feb. 6 **Pizza Lunches**
- Feb. 10 **Report Cards sent home today**
- Feb. 13 **Pizza Lunches**
- Feb. 11 **Sub Lunches**
- Feb. 13 **Pizza Lunches**
- Feb. 16 **Family Day Provincial Holiday (No school)**
- Feb. 18 **Ash Wednesday**
Sub Lunches
- Feb. 19 **<> Lunar New Year**
- Feb. 20 **Pizza Lunches**
- Feb. 25 **Sub Lunches**
- Feb. 27 **Pizza Lunches**
11:00 am: Touchstone Assembly in gymnasium

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.

YES Touchstone Focus

Touchstone Focus:

January: We learn from our mistakes and grow with every new opportunity.

February: to care about the environment is to care about ourselves

*****Home Connections: The next time you are together with your child/children, have a discussion about what the above Touchstone statements mean to them and to you? How have you demonstrated these qualities and attitudes? Why are the above traits important?**

Please spend time reading with your child every day. The following website is highly recommended by teachers and parents alike:

e-books
for
e-Kids™



www.tumblebooklibrary.com

Username: Yorkhill Password: books