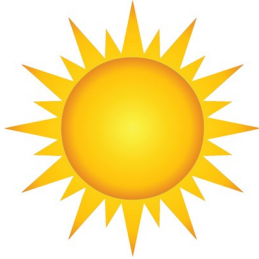


**YES**  
We Can



SEPTEMBER



**Principal**

Josie O'Hara

**Office Staff**

Morag Wright

Maria Cortes

**Superintendent**

Chris Sarellas

905-764-6830

**Trustee**

Susan Geller

905-763-8682



warm  
to our

# Yorkhill Newsletter

welcome  
new stu-  
dents and

[www.yorkhill.es.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yorkhill.es.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

## Administrators' Message

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

The staff at Yorkhill E.S. would like to welcome back our returning students and extend a warm welcome to our new students and families. We hope that you have had a wonderful, relaxing summer and that your children are glad to be back at school. September is always an exciting and busy time at school and we thank staff, parents, and students for their support in helping the school year get off to a positive start.

The beginning of a new school year means many things for our students and parents. For some, this is a new adventure-their first year in French Immersion, their first year at Yorkhill, for others this is a graduating year, and for all it is a special time where relationships form and **lessons are learned.**

We are excited about the new school year and look forward to collaborating with you in order to maximize the learning opportunities for all our students. Your support and involvement are encouraged and very much appreciated. By working together we can help all students have a positive school experience in order to achieve success. Please join us for our Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night on October 3, 2018 6:30 P.M-7:30 P.M

**Bienvenue tout le monde! We wish you all a happy, safe, and successful school year!**

**Josie O'Hara**  
**Principal**



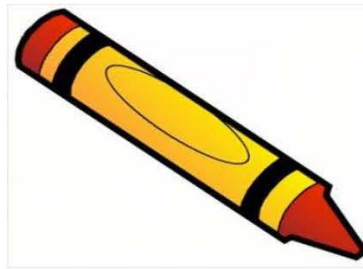
### *Message From Our Trustee*

I am pleased to welcome all of our students and families to the start of the 2018-2019 school year. This is an exciting time of year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is looking forward to the months ahead.

York Region District School Board is committed to advancing student achievement and well-being. The Trustees' new [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#), developed based on feedback from the community, outlines four priorities that will guide this work: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, Build Collaborative Relationships and Empower Ethical Leadership. Thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts.

Our schools are stronger when families are engaged. There are many different ways families can support their child's learning and get involved in life at the school, and I hope that you find opportunities to get engaged.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming school year.



Yorkhill Elementary  
School  
Curriculum Night  
Wednesday October 3,  
2018

6:30- 7:30 PM

Program

6:00-6:15 Welcome Principal O'Hara  
Gym

6:20-6:45 1<sup>st</sup> Session Homeroom Teachers  
Classrooms

6:50-7:20 2<sup>nd</sup> Session Homeroom Teachers  
Classrooms



## CARING AND SAFE SCHOOLS

During the past couple of weeks, our students and staff engaged in conversations around caring, safe and inclusive school environments. In a school assembly, we discussed the elements that would support the academic achievement and well-being of all students, including:

Demonstrating positive character attributes (such as empathy, courage and respect for human rights and inclusivity)

Items and behaviors that are not allowed on school property

What happens in situations of discipline

Standing up for each other in bullying situations, including methods of reporting incidents of bullying:

- P Tell a caring adult
- P Use the YRDSB's ["Report It Button"](#) (located on our school website)
- P [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868)

For more details on each of these items, please read the Start-Up Guide. You can also visit the [YRDSB's Caring and Safe Schools](#) website for details and resources for families to continue the conversation. We thank you for supporting our safe, positive and inclusive school community.



## **Hot Dogs, Pizza and Subway Lunches**

The Yorkhill School Council is pleased to offer hot dogs, pizza and sub lunches as a school fundraiser and help busy parents save time on preparing lunches in the morning. These lunches are only available by pre-order through School Cash Online. Orders for this session run from week of October 9th to the end of January 2019, and you must order for the entire session.



**Hot dogs - Tuesdays** starting Oct 9. Options of chicken or veggie hot dog with a cookie

**Pizza - Wednesdays** starting Oct 10. Cheese pizza slices only.

**Subway sandwiches – Fridays** starting Oct 12. Options of Pizza Sub, Turkey Sub, or Veggie Sub with a choice of apple or orange juice. All subs come with lettuce, tomato, cucumber and cheese.

**Please make sure you place your order by Tuesday October 2.**

Hot lunches can also be ordered on Monday and Thursdays from Kids Kitchen.

## **Pizza Volunteers Wanted**

We need parents or family members to help out with pizza distribution from 11:45 to 12:30. There's no need to make a large commitment. Even one or two days over the course of the school year is appreciated. Volunteers also receive a slice of pizza for helping out! To sign up in advance, please fill your name out here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yxgrrl0SsL9bF8s3OSksc9NiIHmIVEK198wNcp42sek/edit?usp=sharing>

## **Parent Council Meeting Dates**

Missed the first council meeting? Please mark your calendars, come, and join us for the upcoming School Council Meetings. All parents are welcomed. Meetings start at 7pm in the library.

October 10, 2018

November 5, 2018

January 8, 2019

February 4, 2019

April 8, 2019

June 6, 2019

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the council, please email us at [yorkhill.council@gmail.com](mailto:yorkhill.council@gmail.com)



## BUS SAFETY



### PICK UP AND DROP OFF ROUTINES

We ask all parents to support us in ensuring the safe arrival and departure of all our children. We encourage all students who qualify for bussing to use bussing in order to eliminate unnecessary congestion and traffic around the school. We would like to point out that the loop at the front of the school is a fire route. Only busses and those requiring wheel chair access parking spots have priority to enter the school. For the safety of all our students, if you are driving your child to school, please park on a side street and walk your child to school. Please do not park and leave your car in the loop as it will block others from using this service. For parents picking up walkers, please come to the back of the school to the designated pick up area by the primary doors.

We appreciate your support as we establish our safety routines at our school. Also, if you plan to pick up your child early from school, you must send your child's teacher a note and come to the office to sign out your child as well. If you call the office, we may not get this message until much later so a note to the teacher is preferable.

**\*\*\* bus switches are not permitted due to safety reasons\*\*\***



### Walking or Cycling to School

As we start the 2018-2019 school year, we would like to remind and encourage families to consider **walking or cycling with children to and from school.** There are many benefits to walking and cycling to school. It:

Improves student academic performance by making children more alert and better prepared to learn.

Contributes to the daily goal of 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous activity for children, improving their health and overall fitness.

Reduces traffic congestion and improves safety for everyone in school zones.

Promotes life-long habits that foster independence and active lifestyles, preparing children for their future.

For those who can't walk or cycle to school every day, choosing active travel once, twice or a few days a week can still provide benefits. You can also consider parking a block away from the school and walking the rest of the way. Include active travel as part of your daily routine!

## PERSONAL PROPERTY & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students who bring valuable personal property to school do so at their own risk. The school has no storage facilities for valuable items and we cannot take care of these items for students. The School Board or school will not assume any responsibility for lost or stolen items. We ask that all valuable items are left at home.



Electronic Devices such as cell phones, smart phones and other personal communication devices are **NOT** permitted to be used in the school building at any time during the instructional day except with the clear permission of the classroom teacher. The school is not responsible for personal items that go missing at the school. Any student using an electronic device that connects to the YRDSB's wireless network must follow Board Policy #194.0 - Appropriate Use of Technology. Please complete the Information Technology Agreement and return it to the school.

For emergency or urgent situations, students may use the phone in the office or calls can be made with direct teacher supervision from each classroom. Students should not be texting each other or parents during school hours. Students are not allowed to bring, nor are they permitted to use, cameras, cell phone cameras, camcorders or any other type of audio or video recording devices on school property at any time unless they have been given direct permission from the school staff to use such a device for instructional purposes.

### Yorkhill Spirit Wear has arrived!

This year, students and staff will have the opportunity to order Yorkhill hoodies and show their school spirit! Hoodies will be grey with blue printing, and are available in youth and adult sizing S-XL.

If you are interested in ordering a hoodie, please do so by Friday September 28. The hoodie will be available on School Cash Online, at a cost of \$30.00.





### PAID LUNCH TIME PROGRAMS

Parents have the option to sign their child up for different paid lunch time programs such as Art, and Mad Science. Please note that these programs are on a first come first serve basis and fill up very quickly. Be on the look out for the registration packages coming home soon.

The York Region District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students. During the year, we will have several practice fire evacuation drills and lock down drills. To further support this endeavour, the week of September 24 to September 28 has been designated YRDSB Safety Awareness Week. All public elementary and secondary schools across the region will be featuring activities and events that highlight various facets of safety at school and in the community. As part of the Safety Awareness Week activities, all schools in the York Region District School Board will be conducting emergency preparedness exercises. To ensure that all members of the school community are familiar with the emergency procedure, we will be conducting practice drills. In advance of the drill, we will review protocols and expectations during an emergency with all students, staff and affected partners

### LUNCHES AND ALLERGY AWARENESS

Nutrition is very important. Please help your children make good food choices for their lunches. We discourage sharing of lunches because of food allergies. We continue to need your cooperation in keeping **the school a nut-safe area**. As we have explained in the past, we are doing all we can to protect the lives of some of our students who have life threatening allergies to peanut and nut products. We need your help and vigilance in assisting us in providing a safe and healthy environment for all. In keeping with this policy, **please do not send food to school with your child to celebrate his or her birthday**. We will acknowledge birthdays by announcing them on the morning announcements.

### FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING

Please make sure your child has a pair of **indoor shoes** for school.

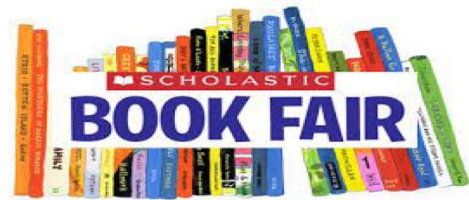
Outdoor shoes track in mud and dirt and it can be very uncomfortable for the children to wear wet shoes and socks all day. Every student **must** have a clean pair of running shoes, with non-marking soles, for their physical education classes, which they can also wear as indoor shoes. Some primary teachers may also ask students to bring in a change of clothing in the event they need clean/dry clothes during the day..





# Library News

## Yorkhill Learning Commons



Welcome back to the Yorkhill Library! Primary students have had their orientation, and most have received their new book borrowing bags.

Students are learning about using the library space, choosing books, good book borrowing habits, and book care.

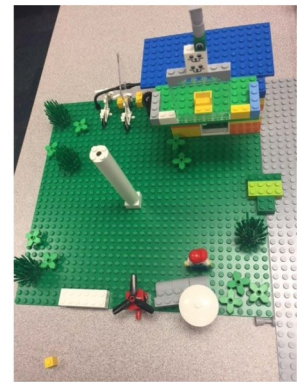


The Junior and Intermediates are learning about library expectations, organization, online resources, and will soon be introduced to the new ebook resource, Sora, which allows full access to our collection on line. The 'Reading Without Walls Challenge', which promotes diversity by exploring books of different voices, genres and formats, will be a focus for these grades. Students in Gr. 5-8 also have the opportunity to be part of our our Library Leadership Team.

It is the goal of teacher-librarians - in partnership with families - to empower students to become enthusiastic readers, as we help them develop not only skills, but the lifetime love of reading!

We have an amazing collection of book in various genres to meet students' information and recreational reading needs.

As the hub of the school, learning in the library is enhanced with many opportunities to read, think, discover and inquire. Our collection continues to grow, and new books (French and English), and STEM and Makerspace activities/materials have been purchased to promote our culture of critical thinking.



This year we will begin our transformation from library to Learning Commons. Design plans are being developed, and we hope to have new shelving and seating areas in the very near future.

We are beginning to see our library transform into a more accessible learning space – our goal over the next few years. HAPPY READING!



## Terry Fox National School Run Day

Dear Parents/Guardians,

September 2018

### Yorkhill is participating in the Terry Fox National School Run/Walk Day

**When:** Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> (rain date Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>)

**Who:** Yorkhill students and staff! On this day we will be joining millions of Canadian school children as we walk together in the effort to raise awareness and funds for cancer research.

**Where:** Grades **JK-4** Yorkhill school yard / **Gr. 5-8** community walk

**How to donate: There are 2 ways to donate!**

1. Bring in 'Toonies for Terry' (or more!)
2. On-line, by visiting our school fundraising page

<http://www.terryfox.ca/YorkhillESThornhill>

**Goal:** This will be Yorkhill's 16<sup>th</sup> year participating in the Terry Fox Run! Our school goal is \$2000.

Thank you for supporting this important cause.

**Y.E.S. WE CAN!**



A single dream. A world of hope.  
The Terry Fox Foundation



### National Terry Fox Run School Run Day

For the 16th year, Yorkhill will be proudly participating in the Terry Fox National School Run Day! On **Thursday, September 27th**. We will join thousands of schools across Canada as we walk and run in support of this worthy cause. This year, our goal is to raise \$2000 through on-line donations and our 'Toonies for Terry' campaign.

On September 17th, the entire school gathered in the gym for an amazing Terry Fox Kick-Off Assembly. We learned about Terry's Marathon of Hope, and the characteristics of determination, empathy and courage that we all strive to emulate. We are proud of our participation banners hanging in the gym, and our Terry Fox display in the foyer.

*Please join our school community and support this worthy cause, click:*

*<http://www.terryfox.ca/YorkhillESThornhill> to be taken to our school's fundraising page at [terryfox.org](http://terryfox.org). The Terry Fox Foundation has a great reputation with 82 cents of every dollar going directly to cancer research." Thank you for joining us in the fight against cancer."*

## Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math, Grades 1-8

The Ontario government recently released a [parent fact sheet](#) and a [teacher's guide](#) on *Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math in grades 1 to 8*. In the guide, teachers are asked to focus attention on expectations from the Number Sense and Patterning strands of the current math curriculum and are also asked to focus on student understanding and sense-making before formal methods, such as using traditional formulas, are introduced.

York Region teachers have always worked to develop strong number sense, computational fluency and automaticity with math facts while supporting student understanding of underlying concepts. All educators in our board continue to support students in becoming confident problem solvers who use mathematical knowledge, skills and processes to be contributing members of a changing society.

In order to support your child with math at home and in day-to-day life, the [math page on our board website](#) lists useful websites, activities and games that you can reference and use. Thank you for the important role you play in the creation of confident problem solvers.

### Math is everywhere!

September is a great time to start building routines at home which can support children in developing a positive disposition towards math. Providing opportunities at home that promote math talk can support a child's mathematical knowledge and understanding. Whether you are, shopping, cooking, playing a game, organizing, taking a walk, or reading, there are many opportunities to highlight math in different ways.

#### Activities:

##### Primary - Grocery Shopping

Ask your child to estimate how many of a grocery item (for example, a type of fruit or vegetable, bread or pet food) your family will need for the week.

Ask, "Why do you think that amount will be needed?"

At the end of the week, have your child count the number actually used.



##### Junior/Intermediate - Budget Challenge

Give your child an imaginary budget to spend at his or her favourite store (flyers or online catalogues may be helpful). Without writing down the amounts, have your child choose items to purchase. He or she will have to use estimation to stay within the budget. Then, have your child add up the actual costs. Did she or he stay within the budget? For a challenge, help your child estimate any taxes.

#### Tips for Math

Build strong, positive attitudes about math.

When children feel positively engaged and successful, they are more likely to stick with an activity or a problem to find a solution.

Begin with activities that meet your child's

level of mathematical understanding. Early success in solving problems will build your child's confidence. Gradually move to activities that provide more challenge for your child.

If you and your child are more comfortable

in a language other than English, use it. Your child will understand concepts better in the language that he or she knows best

*(Doing Mathematics With Your Child, Kindergarten to Grade 6: A Parent Guide)*

To find out what your child will learn in math this year or to find other fun activities that you can do together as a family, please visit <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Math/Pages/default.aspx>. Be sure to also try our [Problem of the Month](#)

Please be sure to open a School Cash on- Line account as all school purchases are done on line. Please follow the instructions below to set up your account. If you need assistance please call the 1-800 number provided below.



[Disclaimer](#)

### **Step 1: Register**

- Click on the School Cash Online button on our school's website at <http://yourschool.ps.yrdsb.ca/> and select the **"Get Started Today"** button.
- Complete each of the three Registration Steps



**\*For Security Reasons your password, requires 8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.**

### **Step 2: Confirmation Email**

A registration confirmation email will be automatically forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account. The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.



### **Step 3: Find Student**

**NOTE: A STUDENT NUMBER IS REQUIRED**

*This step will connect your children to your account.*

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child's Student # and Last Name
- Select **Continue**
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**
- Your child has been added to your account

**Find Student**

- Type in the School Board name and select one from the list  
York Region District School Board  
 Change school board name
- Select a school   
Select school: \_\_\_\_\_
- Enter student information  
Student Number:   
Last Name:

(No students? [Click here](#))

### **Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student**

If you have more children, select **"Add Another Student"** option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **"View Items For Students"** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

### **NEED HELP?**

If you require assistance, select the **GET HELP** option in the top right hand corner of the screen or contact School Cash Online – Parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803 or [parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com).

welcome  
**SEPTEMBER**  
brooklynpress | tumblr

**Up Coming Events**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Monday September 24, 2018   | P.A Day                                       |
| Thursday September 27, 2018 | Terry Fox School Run                          |
| Friday September 28, 2018   | Electrical Safety & Conservation Presentation |
| Wednesday October 3, 2018   | Curriculum Night                              |
| Monday October 8, 2018      | P.A Day (Thanksgiving Day)                    |
| Friday October 12, 2018     | K-8 Presentation with Kim Wheatley            |
| Thursday October 18, 2018   | Gr. 7 Immunization HepB/HPV                   |
| Friday November 2, 2018     | Gr. 1 Wow Workshop                            |
| Friday November 9, 2018     | Gr. 1 Wow Workshop                            |
| Thursday November 22, 2018  | Gr. 8 Scientists                              |
| Thursday November 22, 2018  | Progress Report Interview Evening             |
| Friday November 23, 2018    | P.A Day/Interview Day                         |

**P.A. DAY**

**On Monday, September 24, all the schools in the YRDSB will be involved in professional development activities and reorganization of classes to meet the Ministry class size compliance. There will be no classes for students on this day.**

**PICTURE DAY**

**All students and classes will be photographed on October 12.**

