



# CARRVILLE MILLS NEWS

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**February 2019**

## **Message from Administration**

At Carrville Mills we have been off to a great start in 2019! We began the year with our first book swap and read-a-thon. A special thank you to the School Council for organizing these two events. Our students are working hard on culminating activities as Term One comes to an end. First Term Report cards will be distributed on Thursday, February 14th. You are encouraged to spend time reviewing your child's report card and then setting up time to review successes and areas of growth. Keep in mind that the Learning Skills and Work Habits section of the report card is just as important, if not more so, as the subject area part of the report card. Learning skills are life skills. They are part of what makes a child grow up into an adult who is a responsible, collaborative and contributing member of society. You are encouraged to review the number of absences and lates documented on your child's report card. Please note, that research results illustrate that more than 2 absences per month has a potential for creating gaps in learning which can lead to future academic challenges. Please review the report card carefully with your child/ren and discuss next steps in order to set goals for term two.

We were pleased to receive such positive feedback about our Wellness Fair that took place on January 30th. Students and staff participated in a number of activities that prompted a deeper understanding about mental health and well-being. Students also participated in a presentation run by Youth Speak. It's an organization that has reached over 200 000 students, parents and teachers since its inception in 2003. Their mandate is to share personal stories of positive mental health and bullying prevention. It was great to see so many parents join us for a continuation of our work in the evening of January 30th. Thank you to our presenters Youth Speak who shared a presentation specifically for parents and to Helen Elraheb, our YRDSB social worker. In order to continue our work on wellness we would like to invite everyone in our CMPS community to continue the conversations and learning that either began or continued during this Wellness Fair.

Although we are only at the mid-point of the school year, initial planning for September 2019 has begun! In order to support this process, we are reaching out to our community for some support. If you are aware of any families moving into the area or thinking of joining the YRDSB for September, remind them to contact the office for registration information. In addition, if you are planning to move for September, please inform the office.

Lastly, although information was shared mid-January, we want to wish Mrs. Grossinger all the best at her new school. She will be missed here at Carrville, where she has been an advocate for student learning and well-being, strong instructional practice, supporting all learners and being passionate about equity. Lastly, Mrs. Grossinger has built many professional bonds with parents and community members, with the focus always being on our students. In the coming weeks, please be sure to welcome Mr. Bansal to our school community.

Dennis Rossi  
Principal

Sumir Bansal  
Vice Principal

### **Message From Our Trustee**

Welcome back. I hope everyone is feeling refreshed following the winter break, and that you had a happy and safe holiday season. While the weather may be colder, I also hope that you had time to enjoy this beautiful season in Ontario.

It is my honour to serve as your newly elected school board trustee for Vaughan Wards 3 and 4 and to uphold the [values](#) of York Region District School Board. The new [Board of Trustees](#) was sworn in on December 3, following the October municipal elections. Together, we look forward to moving forward the four priorities outlined in the [Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#):

- Foster well-being and mental health
- Build collaborative relationships
- Champion equity and inclusivity
- Empower ethical leadership

There are a lot of exciting things happening in our schools and classrooms to foster and support student well-being and mental health. Ask your child what's happening in their school, and how they take care of themselves. As adults, we often focus on the health and well-being of the children in our lives, but it's also essential that we take care of ourselves. Taking time to do the things we enjoy and nurture our own health is also important and helps to model a healthy and active lifestyle for our children.

An important part of my [role as a trustee](#) is to listen, and I look forward to connecting with members of our school community in the coming weeks and months. We will continue working to build collaborative relationships with our communities and to keep you informed about the things happening in the school board. I wish you all the best as we enter 2019.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair  
Trustee - Vaughan Wards 3 and 4

## **School Council Update**

Our next **School Council meeting** will take place on **Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the school library, but we can be reached at any time. If any parents or guardians want to help us with these great events or share your thoughts and ideas on school-related matters, please email us at: [carrville.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca](mailto:carrville.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca).

**Our CMPS School Council will be hosting**



**Thursday, April 11th, 2019**  
**6:30pm - 8:00pm**

## More information to come

### Math News



### Why Are Math Games and Puzzles Important?

Math games and puzzles give students meaningful, enjoyable contexts for doing math.

While playing, students deepen understandings, develop new strategies and increase computational fluency. Math games and puzzles help students in several ways:

- By developing mathematical ideas or strategies about a certain topic
- By giving students experiences to play cooperatively or competitively
- By giving students opportunities to practice thinking as opposed to only speed

Math games and puzzles provide student with purposeful practice of mathematical skills and concepts as practice is more than reviewing to memorize – it is about increasing fluency and identifying relationships and mathematical ideas. Math games and puzzles provide students with fun and interactive ways to develop skills, problems solving and thinking.

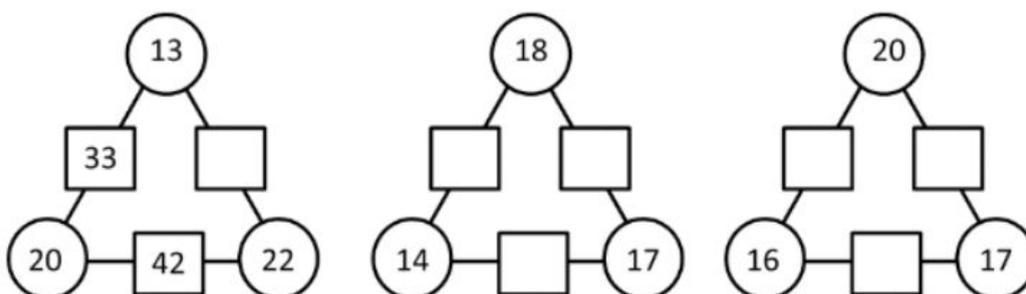
Join us **Wednesday February 27th** for Family Math Night from 6:00 pm -7:30 pm. Families will be given the opportunity to participate in various math games and puzzles that have been planned for students from Kindergarten to Grade 6. A separate email will be sent out in the coming weeks with an invitation for families to RSVP in order to help us plan materials for the evening.

### February Math Challenge

Due Feb. 27th

The numbers in the circles added together makes the number in the linking rectangle. What might the the missing numbers be ?

How do you know?



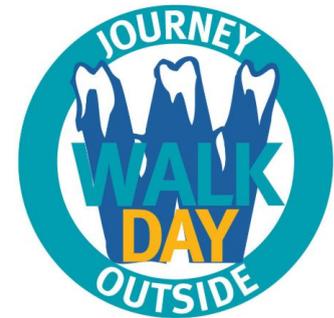
## Kindergarten Registration Continues for September 2019

Kindergarten registration continues for the 2019-20 school year. Registration can be completed online. Children who turn four or five years old during 2019, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for Thursday, May 2nd, more information will follow. For more information about registration please visit the YRDSB website or contact our school office.



### Winter Walk to School Day: Wednesday February 6th, 2019

February 6th, 2019 is **#WinterWalkDay** across Canada. It's the perfect opportunity for parents and kids to get outside together and stretch those legs! Walk to school for daily physical activity, a healthier environment, safer streets, making friends and ... having fun! Walking is the simplest form of exercise and helps kids get those 60 minutes of daily physical activity they need. It's also a great cure for those winter blues and helps students concentrate better in class.



**Keep active this winter and join schools across Canada to celebrate Winter Walk Day. Dressing warmly for a brisk winter walk can be exhilarating and fun – give it a try on February 7!**

#### Winter Walking Tips:

- Keep hands and head covered to prevent heat loss.
- On really cold days wear a scarf over your face and mouth.
- Wear warm, waterproof boots.
- Wear a warm coat that deflects the wind.
- Woolen clothing helps to retain the heat.
- Wear clothing or carry knapsacks with reflective material – it's important to be seen.
- If possible, change wet clothes at school – tuck an extra pair of socks and mitts into knapsacks.

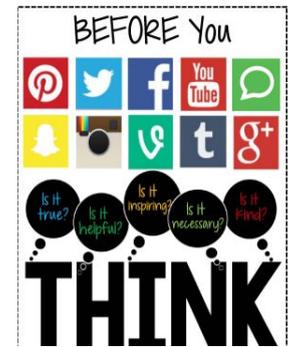
<http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/winter-walk-day> Follow Canada Walks on Twitter (@CanadaWalks) or Facebook for Winter Walk Day news and updates. Event hashtags: #winterwalkday #walktoschool #winterwalkphoto

### Pink Shirt Day -February 27, 2019

The **Pink Shirt Day** movement began in 2007 in Nova Scotia. Two teenage boys and some of their friends organized a protest to wear pink in sympathy for a grade 9 boy who was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. They took a stand by handing out pink shirts to all the boys in their school and learned that two people can stand up to bullying and make a change. Each year their idea has grown to include more participants and fundraising for programs that building self-esteem in youth. Countries across the globe are organizing anti-bullying fundraising of their own.

**BULLYING  
STOPS  
HERE!**  
[www.pinkshirtday.ca](http://www.pinkshirtday.ca)

This year's **Pink Shirt Day** focus is on cyberbullying. With social media everywhere children are interacting, communicating and even bullying on line. With photos and information being shared immediately, there are often mean things said and done. Kindness requires no manipulation, focusing on positives and goodwill. It's simply being kind. We want to encourage students and adults to THINK: before the post - THINK is it True, Inspiring, Necessary, Nice and Kind. **Please wear PINK on February 27, 2019; we encourage everyone to practice kindness to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying.**



### Arrival Time

We wanted to remind our community that instructional time begins at 8:55 a.m. and that staff are on duty at 8:40 a.m. The benefits of being on time are for your child as it gives them time to calmly prepare their belongings and materials for a successful day of learning. We are noticing an increase in students being late for class. Namely, 20% of our students have been arriving after our first 'two-minute' warning bell. This has resulted in traffic bottlenecks and having students arriving late to class. During wintery weather, please plan to leave a few minutes early to ensure your child(ren) can begin their day on time.



### Kiss and Ride and Parking

We understand how busy our parking lot and kiss and ride can be very busy at arrival and dismissal times. With the winter months upon us we would like to review our procedures around students being dropped off and picked up. Our priority is safety for all students, staff and community members and we need to work together.

In order to improve traffic flow during drop off and pick up times we would ask for your continued support with the following:

- Please drive carefully around the school. We ask that all drivers approach the school patiently and with consideration to those walking, other drivers and the staff on duty.
- When dropping off a child or children, drivers are asked to pull into the furthest available curbside spot. Our goal is to fill the Kiss and Ride loop with as many cars along the curb so that students can unload as efficiently as possible to keep the flow of traffic moving.
- We ask that all drivers remain in their vehicles so that vehicles can pull away from the Kiss and Ride as quickly and as safely as possible. To assist with making this an efficient process, students should have easy access to their school bag. Once arriving in the Kiss and Ride students can easily open the vehicle door and take their belongings with them. Having backpacks in the trunk of vehicles creates significant delays in our drop off procedures.
- **At no time should a vehicle be left unattended or parked in the Kiss and Ride.** If you want to get out of your vehicle, please park along Apple Blossom Drive or on an adjacent street.
- The staff parking lot will continue to be closed at 8:40 a.m. and re-opened at 9:00 a.m. If you are inside the parking lot at this time please do not open the gates as this poses a safety risk for students and staff.
- We would like to remind drivers to avoid distractions such as texting or using their phone while driving.



- At pick up time, remind your children to cross at the designated walkway and to look both ways before crossing. We are noticing children running in front of cars and running into the driveway.

We will continue to work with our partners at the York Regional Police and our City of Vaughan By-Law officers who help us monitor and improve the flow of traffic during drop off and pick up times. As always, we remind parents that walking to school is a healthy alternative to driving, the best way to reduce the traffic congestion and keep our Kiss and Ride moving efficiently and safely.

### Important Dates to Remember

**EQAO** is a provincial assessment for students in grades 3 and 6. This year's assessment will take place between Tuesday May 22nd - Monday June 4th. Please avoid booking appointments or vacations during this time.

Family Day - Monday, February 18, 2019  
 Mid- Winter Break - Monday, March 11, 2019 to Friday March 15, 2019  
 Good Friday - Friday, April 19, 2019  
 Easter Monday - Monday, April 22, 2019  
 Victoria Day - Monday, May 20, 2019

### Professional Activity Days for 2018-2019

The following dates have been approved by the school board for professional activity days for staff. There will be no school on these days for students.

Friday February 1, 2019  
 Monday June 3, 2019  
 Friday June 28, 2019



### Upcoming Events

- February 1st - PA Day
- February 4th - Last Day to submit Read-A-Thon Pledges
- February 6th - Winter Walk to School Day
- February 7th - Read-A-Thon: students select draw prizes
- February 8th - Read-A-Thon: Prizes announced!
- **February 14th -Report Cards Sent Home**
- February 18th - Family Day (no school)
- February 27th - Family Math Night 6:00pm-7:30pm
- February 27th-**Pink Shirt Day**

## Planning for September 2019!

The initial planning process for the 2019-20 school year has begun. As the winter and spring months unfold, we are continuing to monitor our enrollment to ensure that our numbers are current and accurate.

If you are moving and/or **your child will not be attending Carrville Mills the next school year (2019-2020)**, please send the following information to our office as soon as possible.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Moving to: \_\_\_\_\_ (city or new school name if known)

Thank you for your support!