

CARRVILLE MILLS NEWS

Caring  Courageous  Compassionate  Capable

SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year at Carrville Mills. To all the new families joining us and to all of our returning families, we hope that your summer was both refreshing and re-energizing. During this school year, we will continue to focus on improving student learning and fostering well-being, while building positive and professional relationships with parents and community members. On behalf of our entire staff, welcome back.

As an administrative team, we will continue to build upon our work by focusing on our school board priorities in the areas of Mathematics, Mental Health, Modern Learning, and Equity. In the area of Mathematics, we will continue to foster students' passion of mathematical knowledge and understanding by engaging students in meaningful problems, fostering growth in both skills and concepts, and by developing the use of math talk to explain their thinking. In the area of Mental Health, the Zones of Regulation will continue to be fostered, along with the development of coping and self-regulation strategies that support their own wellness. In the area of Modern Learning, our work will focus on developing student engagement through the use of meaningful and personalized tasks. Also, at various points within the years, students will be engaged in various inquiry-based projects. Lastly, in terms of Equity, we will collectively continue to create learning spaces and a school environment where differences are valued and heard. There will be a special focus on developing our knowledge of First Nation, Metis, and Indigenous knowledge.

To support a successful year, please ensure to allocate some time reviewing the school start-up package and YRDSB Handbook. The package and handbook house important student and school information. In addition, there are a number of pages that require parent signatures and need to be returned to your child's teacher. Please take the time to **review, sign and return** all applicable forms by **Tuesday, September 13th**.

Also, we would like to take a moment to extend a huge thank you to our caretaking staff, who worked very hard over the summer to ensure that our school is ready to go. Our office staff, Ms. Incitto, Ms. Litvack and Ms. Mackinnon worked diligently to ensure that all students have been registered and that the start-up packages were in the hands of our students and parent(s). Finally, we want to thank the teachers, educational assistants and designated early childhood educators, as they have been planning, preparing and working very hard so that intentional and meaningful instruction begins promptly during the opening week.

Our first School Council Meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 26th at 7:00 pm** in the library. Please note that during this meeting elections for our executives and members-at-large will take place. Please refer to your school start-up package for additional school council information. All parents are encouraged and welcome to attend and join our school council. We hope to see many new and returning faces!

In closing, we wish everyone a smooth transition into the 2019-2020 school year and please contact us should you have any questions.

D. Rossi
Principal

M. Appiah
Vice-Principal

Staffing Changes

We would like to welcome the following staff back to Carrville Mills: Ms. Saig, Ms. Wong, and Ms. Azin; who are all returning from various personal leaves. Also, please welcome back Mr. Castiglione who is returning as one of our temporary Designated Early Childhood Educators. Furthermore, please welcome Misbah Khan, temporary Designated Early Childhood Educator, to our Kindergarten team. Finally, as shared, via email, at the end of August, Mrs. Julia Waiser, who was placed as Vice Principal at Carrville Mills for September was transferred during the July Board meeting to Elder's Mills, effective September 3rd. As a result, our new Vice Principal is Mrs. Marlie Appiah, who is an experienced vice principal from a neighbouring school board. Over the coming weeks, please be sure to welcome our returning and new staff to our school.

Curriculum Night

We would like to invite our students and their families to our 2019-2020 Curriculum Night. This evening will provide families with an opportunity to meet staff and gather information about teaching and learning in classrooms. Please join us on **Thursday, October 3rd from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Details about this evening will be distributed shortly.



Creating Safe and Healthy Schools for Children with Allergies

School staff and parents are responsible for creating safe and healthy environments for students. Our school has a number of students and staff with food allergies, some of which can be life-threatening. While we take every step to create a risk-free environment, school staff and parents can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions. It is especially important that **parents communicate** a life-threatening allergy to the school as soon as they are aware of it. Please notify the office and your child's teacher, so that we take the steps to create accurate records and inform staff of the established protocol. Parents will also be required to fill in a **medical form**. Several of our students have severe allergic reactions if they come in contact with certain allergens. Even a trace amount or airborne particles can trigger a reaction. As a result, **do not send any food items** to celebrate a birthday, as they will not be distributed. This practice also aligns with the healthy schools policy. Thank you for your cooperation.

Medical Forms

If your child is required to take medication while at school, please contact the office where you will be required to fill in a Request for Administration of Medication Form, that must be signed by the parent before medication can be given. With the exception of puffers and epi-pens, **Students may not keep medication with them** in their desks, lockers or school bags.

School Assistants Wanted for 2019-2020 -Paid Position

CMPS needs you! Are looking for part time work? Do you like to work with children? Do you want to give back to your community? You can do this by becoming a lunch assistant. We are hiring lunch assistants for the 2019-2020 school year. If interested in becoming a school lunch assistant, please call the office for details. 905-709-2646.

A Message from Our School Council

We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer! As our children gear up for another great year at Carrville Mills, School Council is also preparing for the upcoming year. Our first meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the CMPS Library.

School Council is an advisory body that can make recommendations to the school and school board and in return the principal and school board will consult with school councils on matters that impact student achievement and well-being. In addition to being an advisory body, school councils also work hard to plan events and fundraisers that engage the community and provide additional funds for items that can enhance student achievement and well-being. For example, school council raised funds from the 2018-2019 school year that went towards Mathletes (a full day “hands on” math event), outdoor recess equipment, additional technology, musical instruments, and books for the library.

At the first school council meeting, you can meet our administration, as well as hear about our upcoming goals. Additionally, elections for the executive voting positions will also be held. CMPS School Council consists of 9 executive voting members, consisting of 2 Co-chairs, 1 treasurer, 1 secretary, and 5 members at large. The Co-chairs are responsible for being the liaisons between the parents and school administration. They take the lead on facilitating communication between all members of the CMPS community as well as setting the agenda for the school council meetings. They often oversee the organization of committees that operate throughout the year such as fundraising, year-end Carnival, and safety. The treasurer works closely with the school office to keep records of all financial transactions for school council throughout the year. The treasurer updates the council at every meeting on the status of the budget. The secretary records the minutes at each meeting and is responsible for distributing the minutes to the community within a timely manner. While the members-at-large do not have a specific task for each meeting, they are voting members which means they are able to vote on issues such as how school council spends the money earned as well as have a say in what the goals of the council are for the year. Members-at-large can play an active role on council by being involved with planning events and assisting at various times throughout the year. Lastly, you do not have to hold an executive position to attend council meetings or provide recommendations and voice concerns. There are still opportunities for involvement in any form and we encourage you to take a role and get involved in your child’s education by attending or joining school council.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the first meeting on **Thursday, September 26th!** If you have any questions about School Council, please contact carrville.mills.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca.

2019-2020 School Year Organization

Staff Name	Homeroom	Staff Name	Homeroom
O.Agoritsas & Y. Chong	FDK-A	C. Ceolin	5A
K. Regan & M. Lad	FDK-B	S. Hampton	5B
N. Saig & M. Khan	FDK-C	M. Treger	5C
S. Siu & F. Castiglione	FDK-D	S. Goodman	6A
C. Pasternak	CCAC	S. Jalali	6B
E. Chudy	1A	G. Mourgelas	6C
M. Dvir	1B	M. Accardo	7A
E. Grinstein	1C	J. Ganz	7B
A. Azin	2A	J. Janackov	7C
R. Figliuzzi	2B	J. Fong	8A
P. Papadimitriou	2C	S. Stagno	8B
L. Cole	3A	M. Tilman	8C
M. Khalil	3B	A. Lam, R. Lachowicz	Prep
T. Park	3C	A. James, M. Lee, J. Ganz & M. Stoikos	SERT
C. Davis	4A	H. Hawes	Lib.
D. Chickrie	4B	C. D'Souza	ELL/prep
D. Persaud	4C	M. Lipman	RR
C. Decicco, F. Ghobadi, H. Gordon-Zak, C. Keetch, S. Mukherjee, S Bentley, K. Shoub	Support Staff	E. Gazmen, S. Wong, M. Zollota	French and Prep

This is our tentative school organization for the 2019-2020 school year.
Please note that due to enrolment changes and Ministry of Education class size compliance,
we may need to reorganize classes later in September.

Wellness

In today’s society the need for social and emotional wellness and a healthy balance are very important aspects for one-self and families. In efforts to support wellness and mindfulness, our school will be providing you with some resources and tips in our newsletter. Here is our first wellness resource that focuses on self-care.

Self-Care for Families

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>emotional</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ watch a good movie ___ write each other positive notes ___ verbalize and talk about feelings ___ draw self portraits ___ Say "I love you" ___ spend time writing ___ have a sing-a-long ___ tell jokes ___ try a new craft 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>physical</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ dance party ___ go for a walk ___ family bike ride ___ take a hike ___ play kickball ___ tag ___ roller skating ___ go to the pool ___ jumprope ___ kids yoga ___ wii fit games 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>spiritual</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ a gratitude list ___ go outside ___ talk about forgiveness ___ write thank you's ___ volunteer ___ spend time outside or with nature ___ practice positive self-talk ___ plant a tree
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>mental</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ read together ___ draw or write stories ___ kids meditation ___ find shapes in clouds ___ practice belly breaths ___ go on a walk to find new things ___ make vision boards ___ try Headspace for kids ___ create mandalas ___ make mindfulness jars ___ play mind strength games like memory 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>practical</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ clean up ___ declutter old toys ___ assign chores ___ make a grocery list together ___ learn about money ___ make a weekly budget check-in ___ make a weekly cleaning check-in ___ homework/study ___ have a morning & night routine 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>social</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ play in the park ___ call or visit relatives ___ have family dinner ___ play boardgames ___ host a sleepover ___ invite friends over ___ plan a bbq ___ join a team ___ do a neighborhood food drive ___ have talks about friendship and how to be a friend.

just stay curious

Kiss and Ride

For all parents and/or guardians accessing our front ‘kiss-n-ride’, please ensure that you review the following driver expectations. Doing so will not only promote safety, but it will also increase the efficiency of the morning drop off. **Our parking lot will be closed off from 8:45 a.m. to 9:05 a.m.** Also, you are encouraged to set up a regular walking routine for your child(ren), rather than driving them to school.



Kiss-n-Ride Etiquette:

1. **Close the gap** -move up along the curbside prior to stopping to unload.
2. **Unloading** -have child(ren) unload curbside.
3. **Be Ready** -have your child(ren) ready with their backpack before stopping to unload.
4. **No Parking** -vehicles cannot be left unattended.
5. **Arrival Time** -there is much less congestion at 8:40 a.m., rather than after 8:50 a.m., so arriving at 8:40 a.m. will alleviate traffic and improve efficiency in the loop.
6. **Going Green** -parents are encouraged to walk to school with their child(ren).
7. **Alternate Drop off** -driving and dropping off close to the school and walking will save time and reduce congestion.

Arriving on Time

Setting your child up for success means having them be punctual on a daily basis. Our morning **supervision begins at 8:40 a.m. and classes start at 8:55 a.m.** Getting to school on time starts the day calmly for students and provides them with time to get ready for the day ahead.

Dismissal

Kindergarten students will be dismissed from their closed-in pen areas directly by an educator. Kindergarten students attending Kids Come First will be collected by the daycare staff and will remain inside the building at the end of the day. Students in grades 1 to 8 will be dismissed by their classroom teachers and will be expected to exit the building using the same doors they arrive in the morning. There will be staff supervising the doors between 3:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to ensure a safe dismissal. Students are not to use the front doors to exit the building.

Parents and caregivers must make arrangements to meet their child(ren) at their assigned exit doors. We encourage you to establish a consistent meeting place. Please speak to your children about coming to the office if the arranged person is not there or if your child is unsure of the pick-up arrangements for the day. In addition, if you have difficulty locating your child after school please visit the office and we will be happy to assist you. Student safety is a priority for all of us.

School Day Organization	
8:55-3:15	
8:40 am -Supervision starts outside (except on inclement weather days) Students enter at assigned doors.	
8:55 Entry	
8:55 - 10:45	Instructional Time
10:45-11:05	Recess
11:05-12:25	Instructional Time
12:25-1:25	Lunch
1:25-3:15	Instructional Time
3:15 Dismissal	

Attendance and Safe-Arrival Procedures

Reporting your child's absence: If your child is absent it is important to report the absence online using Edsby. Navigate to <https://yrdsb.edsby.com/p/BasePublic/> in order to login to your Edsby account or download the Edsby app. to report your child's absence by 8:55am. Alternatively, call the attendance line at 905-907-0002 before school begins and leave a clear message on the answering machine, stating your child's name and class. Please spell your child's first and last name.



If your child is to be absent or late for class due to a medical or dental appointment, or if you wish to have your child leave school before regular dismissal time for such an appointment, please use Edsby to put a note on your child's profile or write a note in your child's agenda prior to the absence. In order **to protect instructional time, we encourage you to make appointments outside of school hours when possible.**

When it is necessary to pick your child up for an appointment or because of illness, we ask that you come into the office so that your child can be signed out. In order to avoid classroom interruption, and to ensure the security of all students, parents are *not* to go directly to the classroom. **Please note, your child will only be called down to the office, once you arrive to pick them up.**

Any student who arrives at school late must report to the office, be signed in, and obtain an admit slip, which must then be presented to the classroom teacher.

IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT AT SCHOOL AND IS NOT ACCOUNTED FOR, THE SCHOOL WILL FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- 1) Call home to speak to a parent(s) or guardian,
- 2) Call the parents at work,
- 3) Call the emergency contacts provide,
- 4) As a final step, **we will then telephone the York Regional Police, as per safe arrival policy.**

Please note that our school voicemail service is available outside of our regular office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You may leave a message at any time. In addition, EDSBY is available to report an absence 24 hours/day.

Bring Your Own Device: What Parents Need to Know

The possession and use of a variety of electronic devices is definitely part of today's fast paced society. Students must sign a waiver with their homeroom teacher if they would like to use a device to help them with their school assignments. The responsibility for this device lies solely with the student and the school cannot be responsible for theft or damage.

At Carrville Mills the use of cell phones during the school day to make phone calls, text or use social media for personal purposes is **not allowed**. If your child needs to contact you during the day, they may come to the school office and request the use of the landline. Should your child bring a cell phone to school, it must be **turned off or silenced upon** entering the building and may only be used for online access under the direct supervision of the teacher for educational purposes. Please refer to our technology expectations, chart for additional details.

Technology Expectations

1. To be used for Educational purposes **ONLY**
2. Only use approved programs & Websites
3. Treat technology with respect



If the above expectations are not followed:

1. Provide one verbal warning
2. Loss of the device for the learning block
3. Teacher will contact Administration and device will be sent to the office



Being Prepared - Helpful Tips

Here are some additional items that are very helpful for parents to consider:

- Send an inexpensive pair of indoor shoes to be kept at school and to ensure your child's feet are dry and clean. This will also assist in maintaining cleanliness of the school.
- For Kindergarten and Primary Students, send an extra set of clothing (i.e., undergarments, pants and tops) in a labelled, clear bag. This goes a long way in the event of accidents or wet weather.
- A bag or backpack (large enough to fit a binder) and reusable lunch bag will allow your child to bring important school notices and homework back and forth to school in good condition.
- Labelling your child's clothing and supplies would be helpful. Our lost and found is often full with unclaimed items. Lost items are kept in our Lost and Found box in the front hall. At certain times throughout the year an effort will be made to return labelled items.

Visitors to the School

We welcome visitors and volunteers to the school. All visitors and volunteers must start their visit in the office. All visitors and volunteers are required to wear a "visitor" or "volunteer" sticker while in the school. If you are bringing an item for your child or picking up your child for an appointment, please come to the school office. A staff member will contact the classroom and ensure the item is delivered, or direct your child to the office if you are picking up your child. If possible, try to arrange appointments after school hours so that your child does not miss valuable class time.



Please notify us in writing or by telephone if someone other than the parent/guardian will pick up your child. We will only release children to adults listed as emergency contacts. If you wish to arrange a meeting by phone or in person to speak with your child's teacher, please call the school ahead of time to arrange a convenient time. We cannot ask teachers to leave their classrooms during the instructional day to take a phone call or meet with a parent.

2019-2020 School Holidays

The following dates have been approved by the board for school holidays. There will be no school on these days.

Labour Day - Monday, September 2, 2019
Thanksgiving Day - Monday, October 14, 2019
Winter Break - Monday, December 23, 2019 to Friday January 3, 2020
Family Day - Monday, February 17, 2020
Mid- Winter Break - Monday, March 16, 2020 to Friday March 20, 2020
Good Friday - Friday, April 10, 2020
Easter Monday - Monday, April 13, 2020
Victoria Day - Monday, May 18, 2020



Professional Activity Days for 2019-2020

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

Monday, September 23, 2019
Monday, October 21, 2019
Friday, November 15, 2019
Friday, January 17, 2020
Friday, January 31, 2020
Monday, June 1, 2020
Thursday, June 25, 2020-Early Dismissal
Friday, June 26, 2020

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, September 26th -School Council Meeting @ 7pm
- Thursday, October 3rd Curriculum Night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, September - Lice Checks (order on school cash)
- Thursday, October -Grade 7 Vaccination (Hep B and HPV)
- Tuesday, October - Photo Day (K-8)

Future Communication----Important Information to Review

Please note, in order to reduce our school's carbon footprint, this is the only edition of the Carrville News that will be sent home to all students in hard copy format. All future communication will be electronic via our school blog, EDSBY, email, and our twitter account. For all families, who received email notifications from the school last year, no additional steps need to be taken. If you are new to our school or have changed your email address since last school year, please visit our school website at:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/carrvillemills.ps/Pages/default.aspx>, where you can subscribe to receiving emails, newsletters and other important information from the school. Please note, your email address will not be shared with anyone.

If you wish to receive a hard copy of school notices and newsletters, please complete and return the bottom portion to the school by Friday, September 6th.

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Parent(s) Signature: _____