



Yorkview School



86 CAMERON AVE
DUNDAS, ONTARIO
L8H 1P8 905-628-8212

MARCH 5, 2018

OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

- **Always Keep your hands and feet to yourself.**
- **Watch what you say and how you say it.**
- **Respect the safety and property of everyone.**

Dates To Remember

Mar 12-Mar 16— No School
 Mar 19- School Council Meeting 6:30pm-8:00pm
 Mar 30 - Good Friday
 Apr 2 - Easter Monday
 Apr 3 - Depave Meeting 6:30pm-8:00pm
 Apr 5—Dance-A-Thon 10:45am-2:35pm

Principal's Corner

March roared in this year like a lion! Let's hope that the storm we had on the 1st is the last winter storm of the school year. As you know, weather is always tricky and students need to be prepared at school. This means students should continue to bring indoor and outdoor footwear, as well as the appropriate jacket or rainwear. If you find you are missing items from your child's winter wardrobe, please make sure you collect them this week from our Lost and Found located near the main office. Items not picked up by Friday, March 9th will be donated to charity.

The last month was a very busy time at Yorkview. Basketball happened daily and the Eco Club met weekly. 42 cakes were brought in by families for the Valentine's Day Cake Raffle. Students were treated to a "I can't get it wrong!" session of grooving by Groove Education paid for by our School Council. Staff organized a special full-day, school-wide Olympic events to celebrate this year's Winter Olympic Games. The Hamilton Philharmonic sent a highly talented brass quintet to the school, and the grade 4/5 students took a trip to see

Greg LeRoc in concert at Mohawk College. This flurry of extra curricular activity was equaled only by the continued focus on improving academic achievement in the classroom.



Our grade 4/5 students took on leadership roles and visited primary classrooms to teach students how to use concrete materials to represent numbers and solve problems. The grade 3 students have been preparing for the EQAO test., and much work has been done by kindergarten and grades 1 and 2 students to improve their reading. At Yorkview, we are very proud of the efforts of all our students and we hope families get time to celebrate and enjoy time together in the upcoming March Break.

As a community, we have been engaged in trying to find creative ways to improve the state of our building and its grounds. Laura Anderson from Green Venture has been a partner in that endeavor. She has been busy organizing meetings, seeking funding, and trying to find ways to get community support for a depave. Over 130 people completed an on-line depave survey. Thanks for that response! An overwhelming number of you want rid of a section of the asphalt and to replace it with an outdoor learning environment. Our community-based planning committee includes professionals experienced in ecologically-friendly landscape designs. It has heard your voices and is working to develop a design that is both child- and eco-friendly. We are excited and confident funding will come through. Working with members of our School Council's Environmental Stewardship Committee has frequently reminded me not just of the rich talent in our community but more importantly of the good will and positive energy that brings people together for a good cause. Thanks-you!

Sincerely,
M. Degner

March is Safety Awareness Month at Yorkview

We ask all motorists to obey signs posted both on the streets and in our parking lot. We all have a responsibility to keep our students safe.

Thank-you.

Environmental Stewardship at Yorkview

As you some of you already know, this year School Council created several working groups, one of which is the Environmental Stewardship Committee. The focus of this group has been on two areas this year:

1. In the back we are looking at removing a section of asphalt to create an outdoor learning environment with shade for the students.
2. In the north and west side of the school (MacKay and Cameron respectively), we have been trying to reduce vehicle traffic as per the recommendations in our Active and Sustainable Transportation Plan.

If you wish to be involved in either initiative, or perhaps you have another idea to improve our environment, please contact Samantha Cliff or Brian Gauthier.

A Few Reminders...

School Hours

Supervision on our playgrounds begins at 8:10 am. We ask that students not arrive earlier unless a parent is with them. The entry bell rings at 8:25. The dismissal bell rings at 2:45pm.

Signage

Please obey signs in parking lot and

on streets. Thanks.

Milk Program

This program is available every day. Students can buy chocolate or white milk for 75 cents.

Pizza Days

Our Pizza days are usually every Thursday. Pizza can be ordered

using School Cash On-Line.

Nut Safe School

Peanuts/nuts and nut products can cause serious anaphylaxis in some children. We do have children in our school who are allergic to peanuts/nuts. Please be considerate and do not bring these products to school..

Safe

Arrival: Please

notify the school if your child is going to be late or absent for the day. Our telephone answering machine is on 24 hours a day for your convenience.

905-628-8212

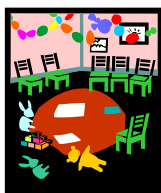
A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our annual Dance-A-Thon will take place on Thursday April 5. All students will have a chance to come into the gym and enjoy a glow in the dark dance party. The students love this fundraiser and it is a great opportunity for School Council to raise funds to re-invest in equipment for our school's physical education program. Some of the money raised from this fundraiser will also go to support the Ronald McDonald House. Look for pledge forms in your children's agendas after March Break. If you are interested in volunteering at the Dance-A-Thon for either the morning of the afternoon please email megan.medlock@gmail.com to find out how you can get involved.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING FOR MARCH

March 19, 2018 6:30 pm—8:00pm

Please call the school ahead of time to request child minding.



KINDERGARTEN SEPT 2018

We are now taking registrations for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. If your child will be 4 years of age or older by December 31 of 2018, you may enroll your child for attendance this September. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions concerning our Kindergarten Program.

A special welcome to Mrs. Barrieau who is filling in for our office administrator, Mrs. Cochlin, until after the March Break.

How do You Get Kids to Walk to School?

Many of us can recall from our childhood walking block after block to our elementary school. But today many kids are in the back seat of a car as their parents drive them to school. So why the change?

Despite the frustration experienced by parents in kiss and ride zones and the congestion found on many streets during school arrival and departure times, many parents continue to believe they are being dutiful by getting their child as close to the school doors as possible.

Metrolinx data from the Greater Toronto Area found in 1986, only 12 per cent of 11 to 13-year-olds in and around Toronto were driven to school. By 2011, that number had risen to 31 per cent. Put another way, the number of students who walked to school declined from 56% to 39%. That is 17% fewer who enjoy the fresh air, get their blood flowing, and become more alert by the time they arrive at school.

meet the minimum physical activity requirements of 60 minutes per day of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. Also, 32% of Canadian children are overweight and 12% are obese. Just walking an additional 15-20 minutes per day to school can significantly improve the health of a child.

It also improves a child's safety. In a recent meeting with Kelly Scott from Public Health a group of concerned parents and myself learned that there is a greater chance of a child being injured riding to school in a car than there is in walking to school. I was so amazed by the statistic I had to seek clarification twice! Indeed, it is statistically safer for a child to walk to school than it is for them to ride in a car. The message here is simple: cars and kids don't mix well and we need to get more kids walking and biking to school.

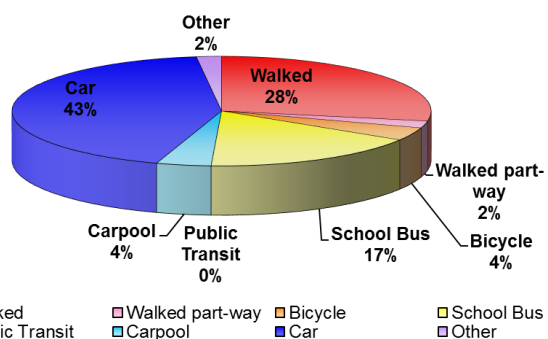
“about **91 additional cars** at the school site during arrival and dismissal ... will be a key target group as the school moves forward with their school travel plan.”

(Yorkview ASTP)

So what will it take for parents to give up the car as the main way for getting students to school each morning? On the one hand, there is a need to get information out to parents about the healthier and safer choice of kids walking or biking to school each day. Along with that comes the readiness of the school and City to support such a change: bike racks, sidewalks, signage, identification of safe crossing points, etc. On the other hand, parents need to lessen car use and actively teach their children to use those sidewalks, to cross at safe points, to learn bike safety, and to walk in pairs or groups. We are a strong community and we must work together to improve our children's health, safety, and well-being.

M. Degner, Principal

Figure 4—Student Hands-Up Survey: Total Travel Mode TO School Over a Week



Only a big city phenomena you say? Not so, last year Yorkview completed an Active and Sustainable Transportation Plan (ASTP) with Public Health and the City of Hamilton. Its findings echo the trend found in the Metrolinx study. In a hands-up survey ASTP documented just 30% of Yorkview students walked to school at least part of the way during the week of April 24th.

The convenience of driving students to Yorkview also comes at the expense of the children's health and safety. ASTP noted that just 8% of Canadian