



# Dr. Ross Tilley Public School Newsletter

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Todd Bishop

Vice Principal

Adrianna DiRenzo

Administrative Assistants

Julia Harris

Paula Whitney

Superintendent

Joe Tompkins

Trustees

Cathy Abraham

Sarah Bobka

School Council Chair

Dawn Lipop

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## February 2017

Dear Students, Parents, Staff and extended Community members of Dr. Ross Tilley Public School,

As you are now aware, and have had time to digest, the news about Mr. Bishop's transfer, I would like to say a few words. I am certain I speak for each and every one of us when I say that we, too, collectively feel mixed emotion with the news.

In my almost two years as his colleague, I have certainly come to know the impact he has had on this community. I am certain that each student, parent, grandparent, teacher, secretary, custodian, early childhood educator, educational assistant, child and youth worker, (the list could go on and on) holds at least one positive and entertaining memory when they think of their interactions with Mr. Bishop. I am also confident in saying that he has taught many of us many amazing things!

Personally and professionally, I feel blessed to have been placed to work as a part of the amazing team we have here under his leadership. My transition into the role of Vice-Principal, into the Tilley community and into KPR has been nothing but positive because I could not have asked for a better mentor to guide me on my own journey. His insight, humour, and true passion for the well-being and success of all he serves is inspiring, and has even further motivated me in my own passion for our beloved education system.

Although it is difficult to say "see you around" to Mr. Bishop, we must not be selfish. Mr. Bishop has his own personal and professional journey to continue, and this change will help him to continue to grow. Mr. Bishop has been an educator for 21 years, and in those 21 years he has given almost 7 years to Tilley (nearly a third of his career). Proportionately, that speaks volumes when you think of his dedication to this community! We all know that change is hard but it helps us to grow and learn. Mr. Bishop, being a true educator, has been both reflective and proactive in his decision making, and thorough in his thoughts and actions. I wish him only the best in his future endeavours.

That leaves us with our own positive and growth mindsets. I am excited to welcome Mrs. Maclean to our amazing community here at Dr. Ross Tilley Public School. I have had the pleasure of getting to know her in the past year and a half during our monthly Vice Principal meetings, and have come to admire her positive determination and her passion and vision for the work we do in our schools. Mr. Bishop is well aware of the many other fantastic qualities she possesses as a leader, as he had the pleasure of being her instructor in the Principal's Qualification Course.

I can also say with confidence that Mrs. Maclean is excited to join us. Therefore, next month, I will respectfully ask our new Principal to open our monthly newsletter. In the meantime, please turn (or scroll) to page 2 for more awesome things happening at our school!

Adrianna DiRenzo

Vice-Principal



## Cold Weather Guidelines

The Winter months often bring severe weather conditions. When it is  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  or colder (with the wind chill), we will have indoor recess.

Exercise and fresh air are important for successful learning and parents are asked to ensure that all children come to school dressed for the weather. Even when it appears that the conditions would warrant indoor recess students should still be dressed appropriately—keeping in mind that the ears, nose, fingers, and toes lose heat the fastest, and that a large portion of body heat is lost from the head. Children should use mittens instead of gloves, and wear snowsuits to protect from the wind. Children who come to school are expected to fully participate in the school program which includes recess breaks. Fresh air is not likely to worsen a mild cold if your child is dressed properly. If the cold or illness is severe, we respectfully suggest that the child not be sent to school.



### P.A. Day

**Friday, February 3, 2016**

Term 1 Assessment and  
Evaluation of Student Progress.

There will be no school  
for students on this day.

## Reporting to Parents for First Term

Teachers will be writing Report Cards on the upcoming P. A. Day, February 3rd. Reports will be sent home on February 22nd. Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place at either parent or teacher request. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to discuss your child's report card.

## RECESS RULES

**Due to the large volume of students coming to the office with "injuries" in the last few weeks, we are asking that parents review the following recess rules with their children:**

- **Students are not to slide on the ice or the hills**
- **Students are not to throw ice or snow**
- **Students are to stay away from all ice patches**

**While we recognize how much fun it can be to participate in such activities, student safety is our first priority, and as such, playing in this manner is discouraged.**



## SCHOOL COUNCIL

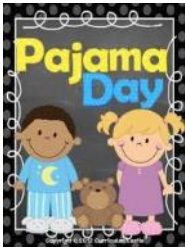
The next School Council meeting is set for **Monday, February 27** at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. All are welcome.

## Welcome Ms. Bond to Grade 7

We would like to welcome Kelly Bond to Tilley! Kelly is replacing Ms. Amber Sanders who has begun her maternity leave. We wish both ladies all the best!

## Student Council Corner

January had the Student Council organize a comfy Pajama Day where students read with buddies.



Coming up in February, there will be door decorating for Valentine's Day beginning on February 6. There will also be a Valentine Dance on February 14. Thank you to our student leaders for organizing these events for their peers!

Congratulations to Tilley's recent Heroes of the Week!

- ♦ Grade 5 student Tyler B... When a classmate was very upset he approached the situation with care, and after some time and patience, he was able to help his friend feel better.
- ♦ Grade 5 student Madison S... is a faithful Kindergarten helper at lunch (and often recess). She is incredibly patient with the students as she helps them follow rules and encourages their independence in dressing themselves.
- ♦ Grade 5 student Charlie M., Grade 4 student Mackenzie M., and Grade 2 student Zach M., spent an hour at a local park, not playing, but collecting all the garbage that had blown there after garbage day. They filled a huge and heavy bag and carried it home. Awesome way to take care of our community and the environment!

**Friday, March 10, 2017**

– the Friday before March Break – is now a designated holiday. All KPR schools are closed.

**March Break**

**March 13-17, 2017**

**Classes resume on  
Monday, March 20,  
2017**

**Daylight Savings Time**

Sunday, March 12 2:00 a.m.

Move your clocks forward one hour!!



## Are You Moving?

If you know your family is moving out of the Dr. Ross Tilley Public School boundary, we would like to know! Each year a number of families move away and it helps for our planning purposes to know whether students will be attending our school. Please know that you must live within our boundaries in order to attend our school.

## FAMILY DAY - FEBRUARY 20

There will be no school on Monday, February 20, 2017.

Please enjoy this day with your family.



## Reading at Home

Friday, January 27 marked Family Literacy Day in Canada. We celebrated by coming to school in our pajamas, and building awesome reading forts in our classrooms. You are reminded that as a parent/guardian, you are a powerful influence on your child's success in reading. Reading with your child conveys a critical message that reading is both important and enjoyable. It is essential to plan reading times when there will be minimal distractions and interruptions. Your child can learn that reading together at home is a priority. Reading with your child can open the door to a life long interest in stories and books!



## Reading Club

by Mrs. MacNaughton

This winter's Reading Club for grades 3-8 runs on Day 2 at first break. Students are welcome to bring lunch and read. Thanks to School Council we have the Forest of Reading Books available. These are the newest Canadian books nominated by the Ontario Library Association for the students to vote on in April. We have Silver Birch (grade 3-6) and Red Maple (grade 7-8) for students to read independently. The Blue Spruce (K-2) books are read during class time by the teacher-librarian and the teachers. It's great to see so many Tilley students who love to read and love books!

## Library Learning Commons

by Mrs. MacNaughton

Our library is in transition to becoming a Library Learning Commons. Since we changed from desktop to laptop computers in our spacious library we are now using the space differently. There are building projects going on for some science classes. There are also drama and dance activities happening. We are working together as a school community to develop our wish list of furniture and shelving that will make our library learning commons a comfortable and adaptable place for all ages to learn and grow. Please stay tuned for more updates on our Library Learning Commons.

## Junior Co-Ed Volleyball

By Miss Willis, Mrs. Lomax and Mrs. Wade

We would like to extend a huge congratulations to the Junior Volleyball team for their stellar performance at the tournament hosted here at Tilley on January 18<sup>th</sup>. They gave it their all, demonstrated amazing sportsman-like behavior, and made our school proud! Way to go: Abby, Emily, Madison, Jodiene, Blake, Jared, Cameron, Ethan, Mickey, Bryce, C.J., Albert, Seth, Melanie, Angelica, and Carl. Special thanks goes out to all of the Intermediate students who helped to referee the games, keep score, and clean up the gym afterwards (Kayla, Brandon, Alexis, Nolan, Nathan, Camryn, Aman, Stefan, Abbey, Gabe, Gabrielle, Chloe, Tolu, Liam, Regan, Natalie, Sean and Ben).



## Ski Club Update

By Ms. Colangelo

The snow may be scare, however the Tilley spirit is huge on the slopes at Brimacombe. Tilley Ski Club has begun with 29 eager participants. January 25<sup>th</sup> marked our third week at the hill. Students are having a great time taking skiing and snowboarding lessons. Following each lesson we enjoy some practice time for the rest of the evening. A big thank you to the staff volunteers who have given time to make these nights safe and enjoyable – Mr. Crawford, Ms. Harper, Mrs. McCready, and Mrs. Canonico. Families are getting a great value participating in the school program and we hope to see even more faces on the hill next year. Thank you for showing your support for this program. The students are truly enjoying their time on the hill.

## Safety Concerns for Parents

Student safety is, and always will be, a top priority in all KPR schools, including ours. Several areas of concern have been noted particularly during the beginning and the end of the day here at Tilley.

Please be reminded of the following:

- ◆ Pets are not permitted on KPR school properties.
- ◆ The KPR Code of Conduct (which applies to parents as well) states that we must all treat each other with respect. Therefore, the use of profanity and/or inappropriate gestures will not be tolerated.
- ◆ Vehicles are not to be abandoned in front of the pylons when the parking lot is closed for busses. If you do not make it to the parking lot prior to it being closed, please find a spot to park on the road.
- ◆ There is no parking allowed in the designated fire routes.
- ◆ Unfortunately, Tilley does not have a Kiss and Ride Drop off. The reason for this is that there is no safe place to put one. Stopping your car in front of the pylons, and getting out of your vehicle to let your children out is a very dangerous practice putting both you and your child in a potentially harmful situation.
- ◆ Excessive idling is occurring while students are being dropped off or picked up. We respectfully ask that our environment (and the air your children breathe) is considered.
- ◆ The driveway at Tilley is one way. Entrance is on the south side, and exit is on the north. Please do not enter through the exit. We have seen many close calls involving pedestrians, other vehicles, and even the school buses.
- ◆ J-walking is not acceptable and not safe. Please use our crossing guard.

We fully recognize that parents are busy, and have places to be, but you must understand that receiving and dismissing over 500 students in a timely and safe manner requires some cooperation. If you cannot participate in carpooling, or promote that your children walk, bike, etc. to school, then please take the extra few minutes to exercise your patience and keep the safety of everyone at Tilley a priority.

## In case you missed it... NEW SAFE ARRIVAL

At Dr. Ross Tilley Public School, student safety is our highest priority. This includes making sure all of our students arrive safely at school, every day. With this in mind, we are introducing a new system that will make it easier for you to let us know when your child will be absent due to sickness or other reasons. It also will allow us to identify children who are absent, and ensure they are safe and accounted for, more efficiently and quickly.

As of January 30, 2017, we have begun using a new absence reporting system called **Safe Arrival**. It allows you to report your child's absence quickly and conveniently, in any one of the following three ways:

- By calling **1-866-740-2902** toll free
- By logging into the Parent Portal website at **kprdsb.schoolconnects.com** to set up the ability to report absences online, or
- By downloading an app onto your iOS or Android device, to report absences.

You are able to use whichever of these methods you prefer to report your child's absence, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You are also able to report future absences at any time.

As an added feature, we have started using the automated telephone system used by high schools to contact parents who have not reported their child absent. Safe Arrival will continue attempting to reach multiple contact numbers, for a predetermined amount of time. If the automated system has not been able to reach someone in that allotted time frame, our office staff will follow up.

By using the toll free number, website or app to report your child absent before our morning bell time, you will NOT receive a call.

In the last few days, we have contacted you at the email address you provided, inviting you to log into the Parent Portal and activate your account. If you have changed your email address, please contact the school office to have your contact information updated. **As of January 30, 2017, all absence reporting goes through the Parent Portal website or toll free number.** Please do not contact the school directly to report an absence.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this transition period, to better ensure the safety of all our children. Please do not hesitate to call the school should you have any questions.



On January 23, invitations to join Edsby were sent to all parent email addresses on file with the office. We are proud to say we have had 146 parents join to date. If you are one of them, thank you! If not, please get connected. Feel free to call the school if you have any questions!

# Be a Math Role Model

You are an important part to your child's success in math. It's true! Your encouragement, interest, and positive attitudes about math can go a long way to helping your child.

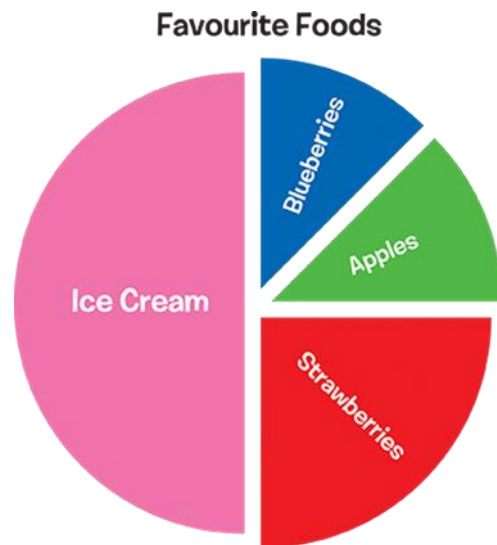
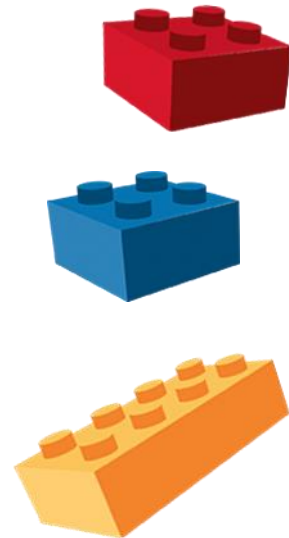
## What can I do to support my child's math learning?

**Encourage your child.** Help your child to not get discouraged when learning a concept or skill proves harder than was hoped. Remind your child that success comes from hard work and perseverance, and that making mistakes is part of learning and growing. Be genuinely curious about what your child is thinking and learning.

**Be positive about math!** Avoid saying "I was never good at math" or "I never liked math." Show that you think math is important and interesting. Use numbers when you discuss daily activities, sports, and so on. Look for opportunities for math to be a natural part of your conversations.

**Ensure your child keeps up with his/her math homework.** Make sure that your child catches up if any days at school were missed, because math concepts build on one another.

**Be available to talk with your child about his/her math work.** But don't do your child's work for him/her. Give your child time to figure out the answers on their own. When your child needs support, ask questions instead of showing your child directly how to do it. Allow your child to share the method used in class. If you aren't familiar with the method, ask your child to explain it to you. This will help your child to understand it better as well. 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/she knows best. Help your child make connections to math in everyday activities. Make available the tools your child needs to do math. For example, ruler, graph paper, protractor, etc. Ask your child's teacher to suggest ways you can help your child with math.



## Support for Problem Solving

If your child is struggling with a problem, remind your child that problem solving takes time. It also takes perseverance.

Encourage your child to use problem-solving strategies he/she is learning in school. For example:

- consider starting with the simplest part of the problem
- make a model or draw a diagram
- make a table, chart, or list
- guess, check, and revise
- look for a pattern
- use a formula
- work backward



Use question prompts to help your child discover a solution. For example:

- *What information are you given? What are you asked to find?*
- *What is happening in the problem? Can you draw a picture of the situation to help you solve it? What other ways could you represent the problem? (e.g., make a model, act it out, write a number sentence or equation, organize the data in a table, etc.)*
- *What do you know by looking at the diagram?*
- *What strategies have you used before that you might try here?*
- *Is there another way you might have solved this problem?*

**Encourage your child to always check the accuracy of his/her work.** By checking, your child will practise skills, build understanding, and become more self-reliant. Ask your child to explain why the solution is correct or incorrect.

**Talk aloud as you solve everyday problems of all kinds.** Discuss alternative approaches and solutions with your child. Modelling how to solve a problem with your child will give your child more ideas and strategies.



Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board Presents

# KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION SESSIONS

**Who should attend?** Current Kindergarten families, as well as families with children who will be entering Kindergarten in September, 2017.



- Find out about the changes in the Kindergarten Program
- Learn more about a new Provincial Kindergarten Report Card
- Meet with community agencies and partners
- Take away tips, tricks and tools to support your child in Kindergarten
- Free child minding is provided for participants

**Choose one of the four regional information sessions:**

**February 8th, 2017** – Roger Neilson Public School (Peterborough)

**February 9th, 2017** – Brighton Public School (Northumberland)

**February 13th, 2017** – Harold Longworth Public School (Clarington)

**February 15th, 2017** – C.R. Gummow Public School (Northumberland)

*A light dinner and community information booths will be available from 5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.*

*Information session and roundtable discussions from 6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. in the library*

**REGISTER  
NOW!**



**For more information or to register visit  
[www.kprschoools.ca/kindergarten](http://www.kprschoools.ca/kindergarten)**



## Welcome to Kindergarten!

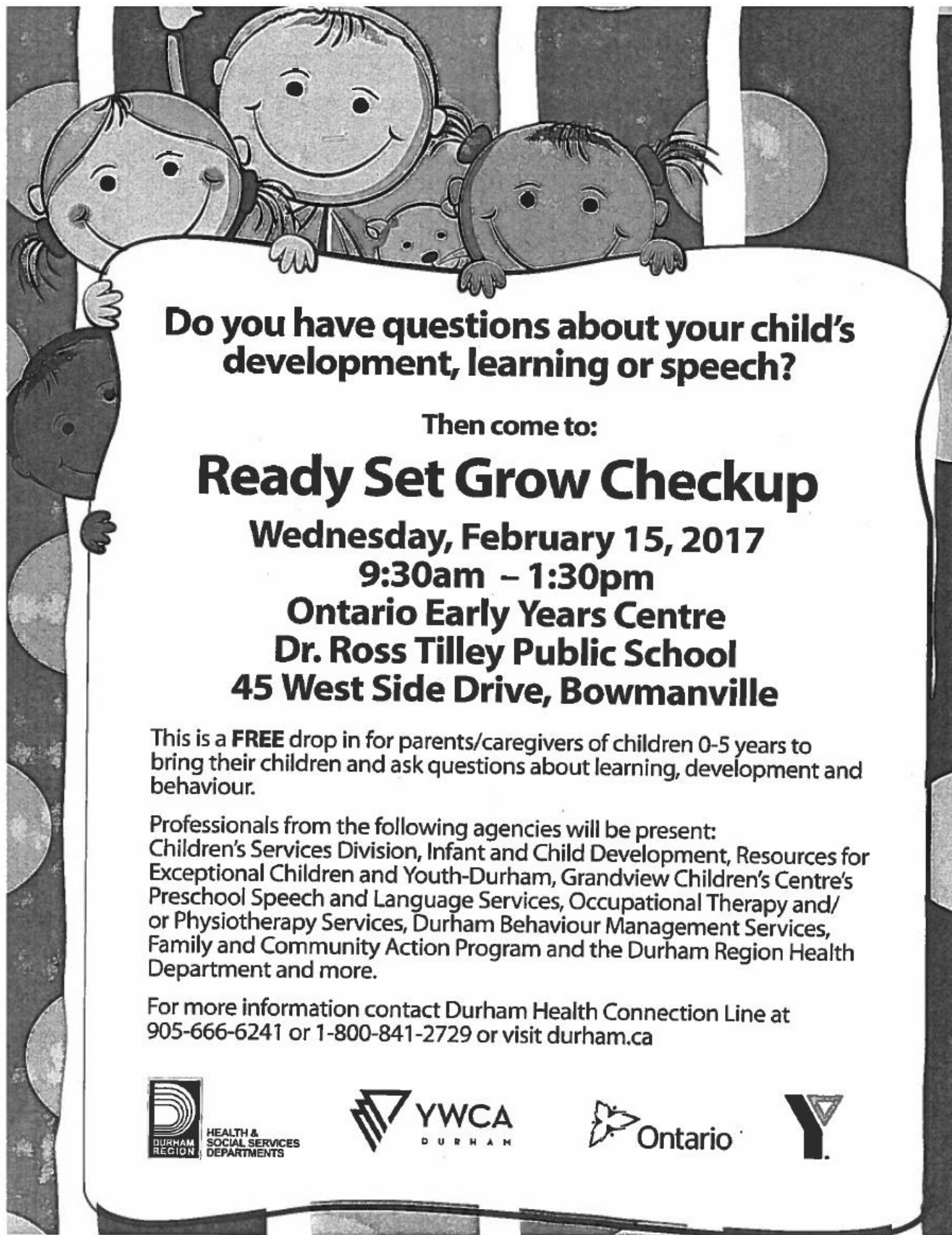
If your child will be four years of age by December 2017, now's the time to register for Kindergarten starting in September 2017! Our schools are stimulating, caring environments with a broad range of programs to help students excel in learning, succeed in life, and enrich our communities.

Visit

[www.kprschoools.ca](http://www.kprschoools.ca), and click on School Registration to find your local school with our online maps. See what you need to register – such as proof of age, proof of address and immunization – and complete the registration form online. Check out the wealth of videos and tip sheets we have to help you prepare your child for school.

Questions? Please call our school or call the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board at 1-877-741-4577. We look forward to hearing from you!





**Do you have questions about your child's  
development, learning or speech?**

**Then come to:**

## **Ready Set Grow Checkup**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

**9:30am – 1:30pm**

**Ontario Early Years Centre**

**Dr. Ross Tilley Public School**

**45 West Side Drive, Bowmanville**

This is a **FREE** drop in for parents/caregivers of children 0-5 years to bring their children and ask questions about learning, development and behaviour.

Professionals from the following agencies will be present:  
Children's Services Division, Infant and Child Development, Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth-Durham, Grandview Children's Centre's Preschool Speech and Language Services, Occupational Therapy and/or Physiotherapy Services, Durham Behaviour Management Services, Family and Community Action Program and the Durham Region Health Department and more.

For more information contact Durham Health Connection Line at 905-666-6241 or 1-800-841-2729 or visit [durham.ca](http://durham.ca)



HEALTH &  
SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTS



YWCA  
DURHAM



Ontario





February 1 - Brake at Art Gallery, Lunch Lady, Ski Club

February 2 - Willis at Wilmot Creek, Wise at Art Gallery,  
Sub Lunch

February 3 - PA Day - No school for students

February 6 - 8 - Rocks n' Rings

February 8 - Lunch Lady, Ski Club

February 9 - Pizza Lunch

February 10 - 100th Day of School, Grad Photos

February 13 - Kindergarten Info Night at Harold Longworth Public  
School

February 14 - Valentine's Dance

February 15 - Lunch Lady, Ski Club

February 16 - Band Festival, Pita lunch

February 20 - Family Day - No School

February 22 - National Pink Shirt Day, Provincial Report Cards  
Home, Wise at Wilmot, Lunch Lady, Regional Council at Clarke  
(7:00 p.m.)

February 23 - Pizza Lunch, Family Night (more info to follow)

February 27 - School Council in Library (6:30 p.m.) - All are  
welcome





March 1 - Lunch Lady



March 2 - Sub Lunch

March 3 - Hat and Gum Day for Habitat

March 8 - Lunch Lady

March 9 - Pizza Lunch, Green Day (for St. Patrick)

March 10 - Board Holiday - no school



March 13-17 - March Break

March 20 - Back to School

March 22 - Lunch Lady

March 23 - Pita Lunch

March 24 - Jersey Day



March 29 - Lunch Lady

March 30 - Pizza Lunch

