



Principal's Message

Friday April 24th, 2026

Hello George Syme families,

Here are some key messages for this week. Do read this message until the end as there is important information regarding your children.

We look forward to continuing to teach and learn with you and your children. 😊

NEW!! September 2025 Class Placements

As we are preparing for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year, we are building our classes. There are many learning needs and dynamics we consider to appropriately balance the classes. We will try to accommodate placement requests; however, at times, we may be unable to guarantee all placement requests. Students and families will know their teacher in September as there are still adjustments as new students register. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

NEW!! Math Website

Here is a website to practice math. Students and families are invited to use this link for additional practice.

<https://mathify.tvolearn.com/>

NEW!! Geese on George Syme Property

As spring is coming, we may see some geese return to our school grounds. Animal control is working with facilities to put some lights and noises around the school to prevent the geese from staying. They are inspecting twice a week to put additional supports in place.

In the meantime, we are reminding our students to stay away from the geese. This means not to chase them or throw things at them. This is for all members of our community. Thank you for supporting us with this!

NEW!! Construction in Stairwell #2

We are fixing the roof above stairwell #2 and this area will be closed until it is fixed for safety reasons. In the meantime, students in grades 1 – Ms. Ramprasad, Gr. 3/4 - Mr. Stoia, Gr.1/2FI – Ms. Lachapelle and Gr.2/3FI - Ms. Colin will be using door #5 to enter and exit the building until further notice.

NEW!! Painting Lines in the Mariposa Parking Lot

In the next month (the exact date will be determined), the lines in the Mariposa Parking lot will be repainted. This parking lot will be closed for the day. We will give our community notice prior to the parking lot closure. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

NEW!! – Grade 8 Graduation

Do mark your calendars! Our Grade 8 students will be participating in an end of year excursion to Canada's Wonderland on Friday June 19th. There will also have a graduation lunch on Wednesday June 17th and their graduation will be Wednesday June 24th. More information to come!!

NEW!! Junior Kindergarten Registration

We are accepting new registrations for Junior Kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year. Please register online with the TDSB and visit our George Syme website for school information. If your child has special education needs, do visit the office and let us know. We would like to meet with you and your child in a transition meeting. If you have any questions, call our school office at 416-394-2340. We are looking forward to teaching and learning with you and your children next year.

[Junior Kindergarten Registration](#)

Welcome to Junior Kindergarten

We are hosting our **Welcome to Junior Kindergarten even on Thursday May 14th from 5 – 6 pm.** Be sure to register your child online through the TDSB and follow up with your documents at the George Syme office. Families will be receiving an invitation to the information evening and be sure to RSVP to salima.velji@tdsb.on.ca as we are organizing an informative evening for parents and students. There will be a welcome gift as well!

NEW!! – Special Education Supports for Families

Please visit the [following link](#) that will lead to special education supports for families.

NEW!! - EQAO Virtual Session for parents

Join this link for a free live webinar about how EQAO assesses students' skills at key stages of their education. EQAO staff will discuss reading samples and questions from the Primary & Junior Assessments, and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Participants will hear how these reading passages and questions

help assess the skills students are learning in class. Staff will also highlight valuable insights and resources that can help parents and guardians support their child's learning. [Here is the link to sign up!](#)

Safety Practices

During the springtime we practice our safety drills. This spring we will be reviewing our fire drills with our students and proceeding with 3 practices. We will also be reviewing our lockdown, hold and secure and visual scan (bomb threat) procedures. We hope we never need to use these procedures, however, our students and staff will have opportunities to practice just in case they are needed.

In the case of an evacuation, we relocate to our back field where we take staff and student attendance. If there is an emergency in our building and need to relocate our students and staff, our primary relocation site is Runnymede CI and our second relocation site is Lampton Park Community School. In these cases, we will need to take student attendance at the relocation site. Parents can sign students out at our relocation site. Please do not take students home without signing them out as we much take account for every child during any emergency situations. Thank you for your support in this.

George Syme Athletics

Our Badminton season is finishing! We had many students attend the lunch practices and learn about this sport. This week our Track and Field and Run Club is starting. Students are encouraged to sign up for practices and various events. These events will be posted on the daily announcements.

Pizza Day Friday April 24th

Our next school-wide pizza day will be Friday April 24th and the

ordering link on cash online will be open until Sunday April 19th. The proceeds from this fundraiser will be put towards technology, Gr.8 graduation, the arts and Health and Physical Education resources for our students.

Extended Absences

If your child will be away from school, do visit the office and they will give you an extended vacation form to complete. This form needs to be completed as for safety reasons; we need to know where students are. This form may be used for extended vacations or medical.

Valuables

Please remind students to leave all valuables at home. Students are to leave Pokeman cards at home as well. They are not to come to school. Thank you for your support in this.

School Council Meeting Time

Our next School Council meeting will be Tuesday May 26th from 6 - 7 pm in the library. A light dinner and childcare will be provided. All parents and guardians of George Syme students are welcome!

Outdoor supervision and pickups

Just a reminder that outdoor supervision starts at 9:00 am before school and the school day ends at 3:35 pm. All students must be picked up at 3:35 pm.

Families can register for this after-school program using this [LINK](#)

George Syme Code of Conduct

As a school, we are focusing on our school-wide code of conduct. Teachers are reviewing it in classrooms and students are reviewing it in circle times. This document is included in our student agenda as well as our website for students and families to reference.

Please see the following [Code of Conduct](#) as it is a guideline for parents and all community members to follow as well.

Second Floor Reminder

Parents and guardians are welcome at George Syme Community School! When you arrive, please start your visit to the office. If you need to drop something off for your child, do let a secretary know and she will contact the classroom teacher, and an arrangement will be made for the item to be delivered. If you need to visit your child's classroom due to a pre-arranged visit, do check in at the office and you will be given a visitor's badge. For everyone's safety, do not walk throughout the school, especially the second floor without first visiting the office.

Attendance

Families are being asked to use the safe arrival system to phone their child's absence in daily when they are away. This information will go directly to our office staff and to teachers. **The number for safe arrival is 1-833-250-2290. Or you may call George Syme at 416-394-2340 and choose option 1 to report an absence.**

Start-Up Forms

Student Cellphones

When at school **students must turn their cellphones off and they need to be put away in their backpack.** They are not to be used in washrooms or during recess times. Students will be reminded, and, if needed, teachers will contact parents.

Medication

If your child has any medication to take during the day, be sure to fill out the medical form, take the form to your doctor and meet with your child's teacher. For those who came to school last year, student medication and doctor forms were sent home on the last

day of school. Be sure to check their expiry date and bring them back to the office right away. Designated staff are unable to administer any medication without a form signed by a doctor. Students must **always keep their medication on them and not in their backpack. A waist-pouch is an easy way to facilitate this.**

Cash online

All school sales will be done with School Cash Online. Be sure to make sure you have an online account. Refer to this [LINK](#) to set up your account.

Important - Parking Lot Safety

Please remember to avoid walking through the parking lot. We are asking that you use the walkways on school property to get to the sidewalks. This is for safety! It is **difficult for drivers to see small children when backing out of parking spaces.** Pass this message to childcare providers, babysitters, or anyone else who is dropping off or picking up your children.

On behalf of the staff and students of George Syme, we wish you a safe and healthy weekend. See you on Monday ready to learn. 😊