



LANGUAGE FRIENDLY SCHOOL PORTRAIT

# Silver Creek Public School

Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

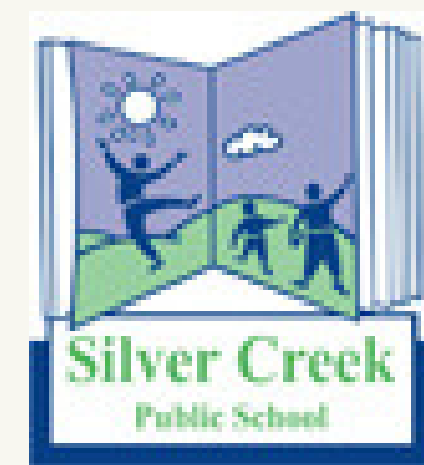




# Overview

## SILVER CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

- Location: Mississauga, Ontario, Canada
- Type of school: Primary School, Public
- Number of students: 320
- Number of staff: 25
- Languages spoken in school community: (see language breakdown below) top 5: English, Urdu, Arabic, Telugu, Tamil
- Language Friendly certified since: 2020



Language Friendly School 2020

# Motivation for becoming a Language Friendly School

## THEIR STORY

The principal of Silver Creek Public School, Roberto Di Prospero, felt motivated to become a Language Friendly School because of his own experience as a student in the 1980s. Roberto, a first-generation Canadian and the son of Italian immigrants, recalls, “I went into school with two languages and I left with one. This is the exact opposite of what education should do; it should add things not take away things”.





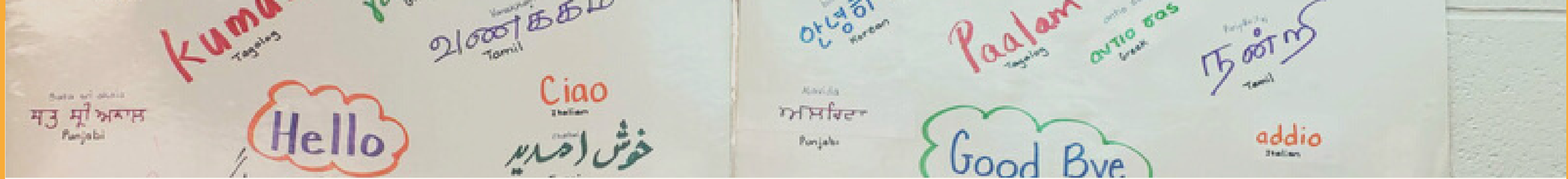
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**EDUCATION SHOULD ADD THINGS NOT  
TAKE AWAY THINGS**

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ROBERTO DI PROSPERO





# Language Friendly Activities

## TOP 3 FOR SILVER CREEK

### IDENTITY TEXTS

Identity texts are works created by the students to share information about their cultural identity. Roberto saw these texts as “a good place to start because you get concrete products and a huge bang for your buck”. He also explains that “Identity Texts are useful because when parents see their kids being successful, they are more likely to become part of the school in a positive way and increase their engagement”.

### ONE WISH

One Wish from Parents to their Children is a collaborative art installation composed of messages written by school parents to their children. Each message, written in the parent’s home language, express a wish that they have for their child. Together, these messages form a mural of multilingual positivity!

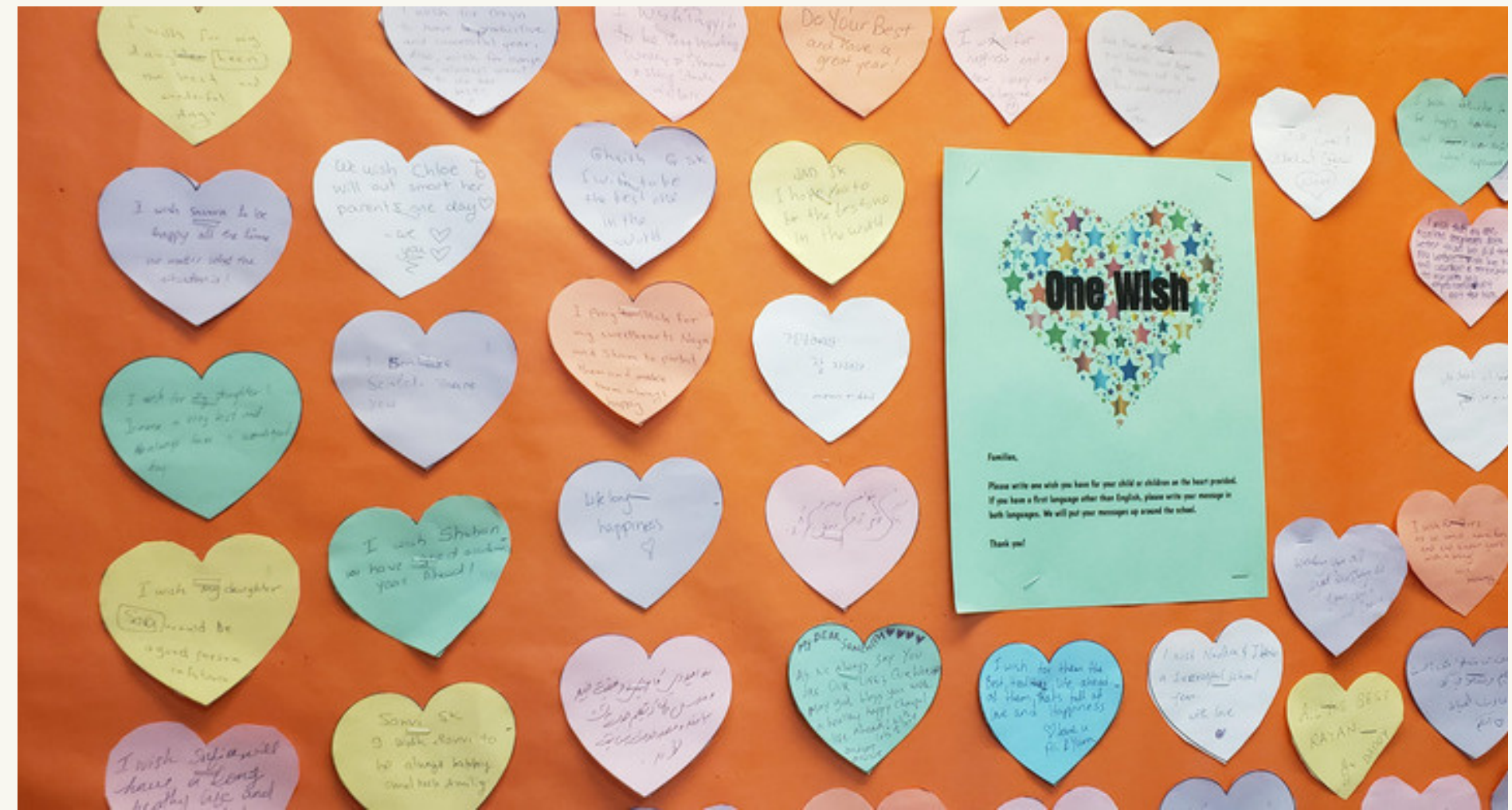
### LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS

Language Ambassadors are students who are able to welcome new students into the school community because they speak the same home language. Ambassadors are encouraged to speak their home language whenever appropriate to expedite the new student’s transition into the new school community.

# Benefits

## BENEFITS OF BECOMING A LANGUAGE FRIENDLY SCHOOL

Since Silver Creek Public School has become a Language Friendly School, there has been an increase in community involvement. Furthermore, the students have become happier and more enthusiastic. Working with The Language Friendly School supported Silver Creek in creating a clear plan which was key for helping all teachers to develop a unified vision.





TIPS FOR SUCCESS

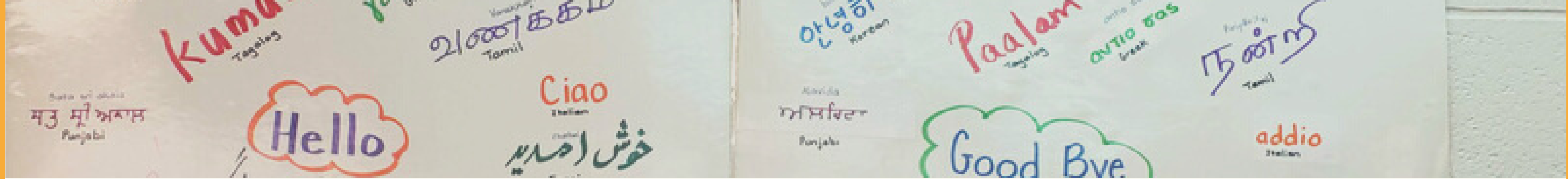
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**FOR A LANGUAGE FRIENDLY SCHOOL TO BE SUCCESSFUL, EVERYONE NEEDS TO SEE THEMSELVES REFLECTED IN THE VISION; IT CAN'T ALL COME FROM THE PRINCIPAL.**

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ROBERTO DI PROSPERO - PRINCIPAL





# Plans for the Future

## SILVER CREEK

### FOSTER & CELEBRATE

To continue fostering and celebrating the use of home languages at school with the use of school wide, as well as classroom activities (e.g. The Ambassadors Club, Multilingual announcements, the reading and creation of multilingual books, Language of the Month, sharing of curricular knowledge in any language, exploration of identities) in order to affirm the value of every student.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To continue educating staff on the research behind Language Friendly Schools and the benefits for students and families

### INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

To involve families in the sharing of knowledge about their languages and cultures in order to create an inclusive community

### FOCUS

To have a focus on Anti-Black Racism and Indigenous perspectives to ensure black and indigenous lives and perspectives are valued and honoured



# Useful Links



[Website Silver Creek Public School](#)

# LANGUAGE BREAKDOWN

## TOP 5 ARE HIGHLIGHTED

Albanian: 5

Amharic: 1

**Arabic: 62**

Bengali: 2

Bosnian: 1

Dari: 2

**English: 110**

French: 1

Greek: 2

Gujarati: 2

**Hindi: 20**

Kannada: 1

Korean: 5

Kurdish: 4

Malayalam: 1

Mandarin: 5

Marathi: 4

Pashto: 1

Farsi: 2

Punjabi: 1

Romanian: 1

Serbian: 2

Somalian: 1

Spanish: 2

**Tamil: 10**

**Telugu: 8**

**Urdu: 22**

Vietnamese: 2

Yoruba: 2



**SILVER CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**INTRODUCTION:**

VIDEO

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LANGUAGE FRIENDLY

SCHOOL

**Contact**

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**RUTU**  
Foundation