

Adrienne Clarkson News

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Principal: Nadia Russiello

Superintendent: Lois Agard

Vice Principal: Bryan Gerson

Trustee: Cindy Liang

Administrators' Message

The month of February has flown by and we had a wonderful week of Carnaval fun for our Grade 1s, 2s and 3s. We have also been highlighting Black Excellence during February which is Black History Month. At ACPS, we continue the learning beyond the month of February and in this newsletter you will see some examples of displays that were created by our staff and students.

Students were also able to learn about Indigenous culture and dance with a presentation about tribal dances. Students learned about Pow Wows and the types of dress worn there. March will bring more opportunities to learn about other cultures through presentations coming to our school sponsored by our School Council.

We're looking forward to spring which we hope will come soon. Please keep in mind that inclement weather and cold temperatures are very common in March and April. To assist in keeping your child safe and comfortable at school, we are encouraging families to send their children to school dressed appropriately for the weather, and to remind children to continue to wear appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear during recess times. March is also the month where we start to see a change in the weather. The snow begins to melt and the schoolyard becomes wet and muddy. As a result, we want to remind families that it is important that students have a change of clothes and socks in case they get wet. They also need a pair of indoor and outdoor footwear.

Teachers are working with students towards meeting curriculum expectations for the second term. We encourage families to continue to keep in contact with their child's classroom teacher as we work in partnership to support student learning.

We appreciate everything you do at home to support your child's learning at home.

Your partners in education,

Mme Russiello et M. Gerson



- Mar 3** ~ Pizza lunch
- Mar 6** ~ Pizza and Sub orders due
- Mar 7** ~ Mr Sub lunch
- Mar 9** ~ Njacko Backo performance Gr 1-6
- Mar 10** ~ Pizza lunch
- Mar 12** ~ Daylight Savings Time
- Mar 13-17** ~ Mid-Winter Break
- Mar 17** ~ St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20-21** ~ Fano Saro performance Gr 7/8
- Mar 20** ~ Girls Inc.
- Mar 21** ~ Mr Sub lunch (new session)
- Mar 22** ~ School Council meeting 7 pm
- Mar 23** ~ 2B and 2s from 2/3B Swan Lake (RESCHEDULED)
- Mar 23** - Ramadan Begins
- Mar 24** ~ Pizza lunch (new session)
- Mar 27** ~ Girls Inc.
- Mar 28** ~ Mr Sub lunch (new session)
- Mar 31** ~ Pizza lunch (new session)

Please visit our [website](#) to view our full Calendar.

Grade 8 Graduation - Save the Date

Our Grade 8 graduation is booked for Wednesday, June 21st at the Richmond Hill Country club. Details to follow but for now please save the date.

Celebrating Black Excellence

Our students are exploring and celebrating stories of black excellence throughout the month of February and beyond. Some of their work is being displayed in our front entrance so that all of our students can be inspired by and benefit from reading and seeing their work.





Centre for Black Student Excellence Mailing List.

As part of our commitment to dismantling anti-Black racism, YRDSB is **launching the Centre for Black Student Excellence Mailing List.**

Family members subscribed the mailing list will receive information about:

- Updates and programs from the [Centre for Black Student Excellence](#)
- Information about Board programs that would benefit Black students, families with Black children
- Community flyers and programs that would benefit Black students and families with Black children

Families can sign up for the mailing list using this [subscription form](#), available at www.yrdsb.ca/blackexcellence, and can unsubscribe at any time.

The mailing list is one of the key commitments outlined in our [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#). For more information please visit the [Centre for Black Student Excellence](#).

Daylight Savings Time

Clocks “Spring” forward one hour on Sunday, March 12 @ 2:00 am



Are You Moving?



If you will be moving by September 2023, please let us know as soon as possible. We are currently projecting our student enrolment for September 2023. These numbers help us hire sufficient staff and support personnel. It is important that we know as soon as possible if your child will not be attending Adrienne Clarkson PS in September. This does not apply to our Grade 8 students. Thanks for your assistance in preparing for the next school year. Please call our office with any information: 905-709-3554.

YRDSB Podcast



Did you know that YRDSB has a podcast? From in-depth discussions on issues affecting education to practical conversations for families, Tune In YRDSB helps you stay connected to what's happening in education.

Check out some of our latest episodes, available on most podcast platforms. Don't miss our monthly wrap-up episodes sharing the latest news and upcoming events each month.

- [Shine episodes](#) featuring Black voices and celebrating Black excellence in its many forms.
- [Introduction to Special Education](#). Learn more about how students are identified, what to expect, how we work with families to support students and more. We also invited students to tell us how their IEP helps them.
- [Adult Learning](#). Two students sit down with adult learning educators to share their stories and talk about the benefits of adult learning. Find out how it works, what to expect, and why students feel “at home” here.
- [Tamil Heritage Month](#). Staff, students and family members speak about Tamil Heritage Month, Tamil identity and how we can create learning and working spaces that affirm Tamil identity.

· [Yad Vashem](#). Join YRDSB educators as they sit down with staff from Yad Vashem to discuss the importance of Holocaust education in Canada.

News, Tips and Resources for Families

Looking for the latest news, tips and resources for families? Some of our departments put out monthly newsletters that provide helpful updates and resources for families.

Visit our [newsletters page](#) to see them all, or check out the latest from:

- [Centre for Black Student Excellence](#)
- [Math](#) and [Math Problems of the Month](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Parent, Family and Community Engagement](#)

· ["The Special Edition"](#) Exceptional Learning Strengths and Needs Newsletter

Virtual Learning Update

Elementary and Secondary Virtual School in 2023-2024

The Ministry of Education (MoE) mandated for the 2022-2023 school year that school boards were to provide a virtual learning option for students. While we continue to await specific direction from the MoE, we plan to proceed with a virtual learning option as this continues to be in the best interests of our students, families and staff. This will also align us with the decisions of other boards. For the 2023-2024 school year, YRDSB will continue to offer Elementary Virtual School (EVS). For secondary students, we are currently assessing the viable options in how to best offer virtual learning, taking into account the projected enrolment.













Elementary Virtual School (EVS)

- Please note that due to limited enrolment, French Immersion programming will not be offered in EVS in 2023-2024.
- Families currently enrolled in EVS are being asked if they wish to remain enrolled next school year.
- Students currently attending in-person schools may contact their home school to request a transfer to the Elementary Virtual School for the entire 2023-2024 school year.

Secondary Virtual School (SVS)

- YRDSB is investigating virtual learning options for secondary students for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Please note, due to the limited number of students expected in SVS it is possible that the virtual school program may include more asynchronous classes and fewer synchronous offerings.
- Families who have students presently enrolled in SVS have been sent a survey, asking for their preference of learning model for next year (in-person or virtual) with a response deadline of March 6.

- At this time, students in in-person schools are currently unable to choose to transfer to the virtual school for the entire 2023-2024 school year. Details will be shared once a process regarding the transfer to SVS is finalized

March's Holidays and Observances	
 Bahá'i Faith	Mar 2 ~ 'Alá' Mar 2 ~ 19-day Fast begins Mar 20 ~ 19-Day Fast ends Mar 21 ~ Naw-Rúz Mar 21 ~ Bahá
 Buddhism	Mar 10 ~ Birth of Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva Mar 14 ~ Memorial of Shan-tao/Zendo Daishi Mar 17 ~ Festival of Higan-e Mar 20 ~ Spring Ohigan
 Christianity	Mar 3 ~ World Day of Prayer
 Hinduism	Mar 7 ~ Holi Mar 22 ~ Navvarsha Mar 22 ~ Ramayana Week begins Mar 30 ~ Ramanavami
 Indigenous Spirituality	Mar 1 ~ Half Days Moon (local Oneida)
 Jainism	Mar 28 ~ Aymbil Ori (First Half) begins
 Judaism	Mar 6 ~ Eve of Purim Mar 7 ~ Purim
 Islam	Mar 6 ~ Laylat al Bara'at (Niṣf Sha'bān) (beginning at sunset to sunset of the next day) Mar 21 ~ Nowruz Mar 23 ~ First of Ramadan
 Shinto	Mar 20 ~ Shunbun-no-hi
 Sikhism	Mar 8 ~ Hola Mohalla Mar 14 ~ Sikh New Year's Day
 Wicca	Mar 20 ~ Ostara
 Zarathushti (Zoroastrianism)	Mar 16 ~ Ghambar Hamaspathmaedem begins Mar 20 ~ Ghambar Hamaspathmaedem ends Mar 21 ~ Nowruz

	Mar 26 ~ Birth Anniversary of Prophet Zarathustra
Other Events This Month	Mar 8 ~ International Women's Day (UN) Mar 12 ~ Daylight Saving Time begins (Canada, USA) Mar 20 ~ March Equinox