



BEYNON FIELDS P.S.
Community Newsletter
April 12, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

You're the Chef - Call for Volunteers

We're excited to announce Beynon Fields will be running nine *You're The Chef* cooking sessions for the grade 8's during the month of May.

You're The Chef is a hands on cooking program that teaches students to:

- Practice safe food-handling and kitchen safety
- Prepare healthy recipes
- Learn different ways to include vegetables and fruit in meals and snacks

Sessions will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursdays as follows:

Time: 11:30pm to 1:30pm
Week 1: May 7, 8,9
Week 2: May 21, 22, 23
Week 3: May 28, 29, 30

Parent/guardian volunteers are needed to run this program. Volunteers will be supervising a group of 3 or 4 students while they wash, chop, and cook! You are then invited to join the class for lunch and sample the meal prepared.

If you would like to volunteer for one (or more) sessions please [click here](#) to sign up.

Spring Book Fair - May 6-10

Beynon Fields will soon be holding the spring book fair, from May 6-10. Please see [the poster for more details](#).

Save the Date: May 1st Beynon Clean-up Green-up!

Student Council is organizing a school wide community clean-up during the afternoon of Wednesday, May 1st (*Rain Date - May 2nd*). Gloves will be provided to all students. In an effort

to reduce waste, if you have sturdy gloves at home (i.e. such as garden gloves), please send your child to school with those to use. We look forward to an awesome afternoon full of school spirit!

Understanding the Ontario Education Systems - Part 2

The second SEAS “Family Engagement Evening” event is supporting families and caregivers to develop a deeper understanding of the Ontario Education System.

This session will be discussing report cards, assessment and evaluation, at both elementary and secondary levels.

Presentations will be available in English, Mandarin, Korean and Cantonese.

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024

Time: 6:30 - 8:00pm

Location: Markville Secondary School, 1000 Carlton Road, Markham, ON L3P 7P5

Please use this link to [register](#) by Monday, April 23, 2024

Please see the pdf version for [this flyer](#).

Sikh Trails in Canadian Landscapes - April 27

Please join us to commemorate our Sikh Heritage Month Celebration with the Sikh Educators Voice Alliance and Sikh Student Association.

Our focus is on Sikh Trails in Canadian Landscapes. At this event, the Sikh Educators Voice Alliance (SEVA) and Sikh Student Association (SSA) will provide time and space to highlight and promote Sikh histories, language and identity and to build unity through community.

Exhibits:

- Keynote Speaker: Kulvir Singh Gill
- Artifacts
- Artwork / Spoken Word by YRDSB Students
- Gatka Performance
- Bhangra Performance
- Community Partners and Vendors

All are welcome to come learn, celebrate, and grow with us.

When: Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 1- 4 p.m.

Where: Middlefield Collegiate Institute

525 Highglen Ave, Markham, ON L3S 3L5

This event is an opportunity for parents, families and YRDSB staff members to network, share, and learn about ways to affirm and create positive spaces for students of Sikh identity.

Light refreshments will be served. Please fill out the [Registration Form](#) by April 22, 2024

If you wish to view this memo translated into Punjabi, please see the [Sikh Trails in Canadian Landscapes Punjabi flyer](#).

Summer Institute Registration

Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for six weeks during July and August. It is offered at nine school sites around York Region. For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the [Summer Institute webpage](#).

Registration opens March 27, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Families can register online.

Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

Student Mental Health and Addictions is pleased to provide monthly newsletters that focus on various pertinent mental health topics. Feel free to share each newsletter or portions of the newsletter with the school community.

[April 2024 - Connection Between Physical and Mental Health](#)

[March 2024 - Time for a Break!](#)

[February 2024 – Supporting Your Mental Health Through the Winter](#)

Korean Community Engagement Night - April 11

Connect with experienced Korean educators to ensure effective support for your child's academic journey and future success. For more information, please [see the flyer](#).

Parent/caregiver series supporting students of Chinese Heritage - April 23

The YRDSB Community Care Social Work series will provide a number of parent/caregiver virtual events to build community, support mental health, and promote healing.

The first session in the series is offered for any parent/guardian of students of Chinese Heritage. Parents, caregivers are invited to join this workshop and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school. Tips on ways that help strengthen family relationships and emotional wellbeing will be shared. This will be a free virtual event.

Keep the Door Open (Repeated Session): Understand Your Child's Inner World

April 23, 2024 at 6:00pm-7:00pm [Registration for Mandarin Session](#)

April 23, 2024 at 7:00pm-8:00pm [Registration for Cantonese Session](#)

Please email charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or difficulties in accessing the registration link. Thank you

Supports for Students with Autism and their Families - May 1

This session will support parents, guardians and families with:

- Understanding Autism
- Process for diagnosis
- YRDSB referral process
- School supports
- Community resources

Date: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: [Unionville High School](#), 201 Town Centre Blvd, Markham, ON L3R 8G5

Please [register](#) by Apr. 28, 2024.

This free information session is organized by Inclusive School and Community Services in partnership with Student Services of York Region District School Board. For more information, please email shani.blake@yrdsb.ca or pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca

Please note that Childcare will not be provided.

Small Steps Can Make Big Change This Earth Month

It's Earth Month and there are steps we can all take to help reduce our environmental footprint.

Use active travel. Taking the school bus and walking, riding or biking to school helps reduce pollution and traffic congestion in our neighbourhoods. It's also great for your mental health, well-being and academic performance.

- If you drive, consider parking near the school and walking the rest of the way (obeying all neighbourhood parking rules). Even this small change can make a difference.

- The walk to school is also a great time to connect, look for signs of spring and appreciate the changing season.

Reduce your energy and water use. Turn off lights, TVs, computers, when you do not need them. Turn off the tap when you're not using the water.

Reduce your waste. Using a refillable water bottle for example, helps to reduce the use of plastic water bottles. Bring your own bags to the store. Reuse whatever items you can. Repair items that are broken instead of throwing them away. Recycle wherever possible instead of contributing to the landfill.

Plant a tree, native plant or vegetable garden. Learn about native species and plants that attract birds, bees and butterflies.

Explore the outdoors! There is no better way to celebrate Earth Week than going for a walk. Check out [York Regional Forest](#) to discover nature in your backyard. Want to take your Earth Day celebrations out of the classroom? Why not visit one of Ontario's 290 conservation areas? [Here's a map](#) to help you locate the one nearest to you. Don't forget to check [Whose Land](#) to acknowledge whose territory you are on.

For inspiration on using nature as a classroom, Resources for Rethinking offers a [Step Outside guide](#) that highlights what's happening in nature seasonally

To amplify the effects, turn Earth Day into Earth Week or Earth Month and select a variety of activities to support collective learning and action for a week or month.

Working together, we can all help to take steps to protect this beautiful planet we live on.

York Region Camp Summer Subsidies for Children and Youth

York Region offers subsidies for recreation programs, day camps and youth overnight camps. Recreation programs and day camp subsidies provide children from families with low income the ability to take part in programs offered by the municipal recreation departments. The youth overnight camp funding helps eligible youth ages 12 to 17 attend an approved overnight camp.

The subsidies that are available are:

- Positive Leisure Activities for Youth (PLAY)
- Summer day camp funding
- Youth overnight camp funding

Participate in:

- Recreation programs at your local community centre with qualified recreation staff.

- Arts and crafts, dance, martial arts, sports, swimming, yoga and much more.
- Gym and drop-in programs; memberships and drop-in activities may also be available.

For eligible children and youth ages 4 to 18 and single parents participating in at least one of the following programs:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
- Rent Subsidy (including STAR and Ontario Housing Benefit)
- Child care Fee Subsidy (income below \$43,000)

Free Summer Camp 2024

For eligible children ages 4 to 12 of families participating in at least one of the following programs:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
- Rent Subsidy (including the STAR Program and Ontario Housing Benefit)

Free Youth Overnight Camp 2024

For eligible youth ages 12 – 17 of families receiving:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
- Childcare Fee Subsidy (income below \$43,000)

And eligible youth ages 12 - 17 from a household in one of the following York Region communities:

- Housing York Inc.
- Non-Profit Housing
- Cooperative Housing
- Rent Subsidy (including the STAR Program and the Ontario Housing Benefit)

For Eligibility and more Information:

Call Access York at 1-877-464-9675 or visit york.ca/recreationsubsidies

CHS_recreation_subsidies@york.ca

BFPS Student Spirit Wear Available

Beynon Fields clothing, known as spirit wear, is available for purchase. It can be purchased through the following link: https://stores.inksoft.com/beynon_fields_public_school/shop/home

Exploring Mental Health Together: Resources for parents and caregivers

School Mental Health Ontario has prepared [this information](#), which includes a set of resources for parents and caregivers.

Vimy Ridge Day - April 9

In 2003, the Government of Canada declared 9 April to be "Vimy Ridge Day", to honour and remember the [Battle of Vimy Ridge](#) which took place during the First World War at Vimy Ridge, France, in 1917. The initiative to create the day of commemoration was spearheaded by Robert Manuel, a Korean War veteran. The annual holiday was created through passage of Bill C-227, introduced by Brent St. Denis, the Member of Parliament for Algoma-Manitoulin.

Eid-ul-Fitr - April 9

Eid-ul-Fitr falls on the first day of Shawwal, the 10th month of the Muslim calendar, and marks the end of the month of Ramadan. On this day, Muslims who had been observing Ramadan break the fast and celebrate its conclusion. Please note that this date may change subject to the sighting of the moon.

The day traditionally begins early with a prayer ceremony at the community mosque. Since this is a day to celebrate the renewal of one's commitment to Islam, people may wear new clothes as a symbol of fresh beginnings. Families and friends typically visit one another and exchange good wishes, hugs and handshakes, and homes are often decorated to reflect the festive atmosphere of this special day.

On this festive and meaningful occasion for many members of the Islamic community, we wish students, parents and staff a happy celebration.

International Day of Pink - April 12

April 12 is the International Day of Pink. The International Day of Pink is a day when communities across Canada and across the world unite to celebrate diversity and raise awareness about the need to stop homophobia, transphobia, discrimination and all forms of bullying. On this annual day in April, individuals wear pink to show respect for diversity and to demonstrate support for learning and working environments which are safe and inclusive of

people from all different backgrounds. The staff and students at Beynon Fields are encouraged to wear pink on this day.

Vaisakhi - April 14

Vaisakhi, the Sikh New Year, is celebrated in April every year. Vaisakhi is also celebrated in some other parts of India.

For Sikhs, Vaisakhi celebrates the birth of the Panth Khalsa order (the Order of the Pure Ones) established by Guru Gobind Singh. It is at this time that Guru Gobind Singh gave the Khalsa order the five distinct symbols of purity and courage which would make Sikhs identifiable: the Kesh (unshorn hair); Kangha (the wooden comb); Karra (the iron bracelet); Kirpan (the sword) and Kachera (underclothing).

Some of the ways that this day is traditionally honoured include visiting a place of worship (Gurdwaras), participating in a mela (fair), indulging in mithai (sweets), fruits and lassi (a sweet yogurt drink).

We extend good wishes to all students, staff and members of the Sikh and Indian communities who will be celebrating Vaisakhi.

Ridván - April 20

The Festival of Ridván (pronounced Riz-wan) commemorates the anniversary of the declaration of Bahá'u'lláh of His prophetic mission to his followers in 1863, proclaiming His identity as the promised Manifestation of God. Ridván is celebrated over the twelve day period that Bahá'u'lláh spent in the Najibiyyih Garden just outside of Baghdad and across the Tigris River. Bahá'u'lláh later referred to it as "The Garden of Ridván". Ridván can be translated as "Paradise".

The dates for the Festival of Ridván are determined from the date of another Bahá'í Holy Day – Naw Rúz (held on the Equinox), and will therefore vary from year to year between April 20 – 22. The exact nature and details of Bahá'u'lláh's declaration are unknown, however on three of the twelve days, Bahá'ís may suspend work on the First, Ninth, and/or the Twelfth Day of Ridván in order to participate in community celebrations and do good works. These three days represent, in order, the day of Bahá'u'lláh's declaration, when His family joined Him in the Najibiyyih Garden, and when He and His family left the Garden and started the journey for Constantinople, the place of His exile.

This is a sacred and celebratory time, and Bahá'ís and their friends come together to remember the life and teachings of Bahá'u'lláh and find ways to serve their community. Ritual celebrations are discouraged. There are no specific foods, or activities associated with any of the Bahá'í Holy Days; however, artistic cultural expressions are encouraged.

During the twelve-day period, three important administrative functions occur. In the Bahá'í Faith, there are no clergy; therefore, Assemblies are elected to administer the affairs of the community. On the First Day of Ridván, all Local Spiritual Assemblies across the world are elected from among the adult membership. During these twelve Days, National Spiritual Assemblies are also elected annually, and every five years the Universal House of Justice is elected.

We extend good wishes to all students, staff and members of the Baha'i community who will be celebrating Ridvan.

Passover / Pesach - April 22-April 30

Passover, also known as Pesach, is the eight-day Jewish Festival of Unleavened Bread (Matzah) that commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. Passover is observed by avoiding leaven and highlighted by the Seder meals that include four cups of wine, eating matzah and bitter herbs, and retelling the story of the Exodus. Passover begins at sundown on the first day and ends at nightfall on the eighth day.

Passover is celebrated by many Jews across all denominations because it is so essentially and uniquely a family holiday. The Seder (SAY-der) is often attended by complete extended families. The Seder is a feast that includes reading, drinking wine, telling stories, eating special foods, singing, and other Passover traditions. As per Biblical command, it is held after nightfall on the first night of Passover (and the second night if you live outside of Israel), the anniversary of the Jewish nation's miraculous exodus from Egyptian slavery more than 3,000 years ago.

As charity and community are important aspects of Judaism, it is common for families to invite those who do not have their own seders to join them. During seder meals, bitter herbs and various symbolic foods are eaten that symbolize the suffering endured by the Israelites, as well as the freedom bestowed upon them. The Haggadah is read, a retelling of the exodus.

Passover is observed by avoiding leaven and eating matzah to remind of the unleavened bread eaten by the Israelites when leaving Egypt.

We extend good wishes to all students, staff and members of the Jewish community who will be celebrating Passover.

Earth Day - April 22

Earth Month encompasses the international celebration of Earth Day on April 22, the most celebrated environmental event worldwide. Initiated in 1970, this event has been considered the birth of the environmental movement. Each year, more than six million Canadians join 500 million people all over the world to address local environmental issues.

Sikh Heritage Month

April is Sikh Heritage Month. Sikh Canadians have lived in Ontario since the middle of the twentieth century. They represent a growing and dynamic population. Sikh Canadians have made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario.

April is an important month for the Sikh community. In this month, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. Sikh Canadians widely celebrate Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, across Ontario.

By proclaiming the month of April as Sikh Heritage Month, the Province of Ontario recognizes the important contributions that Sikh Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political and cultural fabric. Sikh Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about Sikh Canadians and the important role that they have played and continue to play in communities across Ontario.

Resources For Additional Learning

For those looking for some resources to continue learning at home, please see the chart below.

What is it for?	Resource	website	Info	Username password
Knowledge!	BrainPop	https://fr.brainpop.com/	Tons of curriculum related videos and activities. Also quizzes kids can do online!	Beynonfields pop1
	Encyclopedia Britannica	https://school.eb.com/	Learn something new every day! Access Multi-media, journal, news and magazine articles, biographies, compare countries, lesson plans, 3 learning levels with read-aloud functionality. Can change the language to French (but it is just google translate).	dsbyork dsby7692
Math	Knowledgehook	https://www.knowledgehook.com/	No need to sign up with a Classroom. Fun Math activities that are directly linked to the Ontario Math curriculum	Sign up with a google account (not GAPPS)
	Khan Academy	https://www.khanacademy.org/	Great interactive website that offers short tutorials but also activities.	You do not need to make an account but you can for free!
	Typing Games	https://www.typing.com/student/games	Now that you know how to properly use a keyboard here are some games to practice!	None!
Reading	Sora	https://soraapp.com/library/yorkregionca	Read or listen to thousands of amazing books - all for free. Books available in French and English (but also other languages too!)	0 + Student number
	Storybooks Canada	https://www.storybookscanada.ca/stories/fr/0087/	"Storybooks Canada is a free open educational resource that promotes literacy and language learning in homes, schools, and communities. Part of the Global Storybooks project, it makes 40 stories from the African Storybook available with text and audio in English, French, and the most widely spoken immigrant and refugee	None!

			languages of Canada.”	
	Indigenous Storybooks	https://indigenoustorybooks.ca/	“Indigenous Storybooks is a resource designed specifically for children, families, community members, and educators. Inspired by the open-licensed stories from Little Cree Books , this project aims to make the text, images, and audio of stories available in Indigenous languages as well as English, French, and the most widely spoken immigrant and refugee languages of Canada.”	None!
Sound work (in French)	apprendre à lire	https://apprendrealire.net/	All great websites with sound work and vocabulary! Great for our emerging readers!	None
	logiciel éducatif	https://www.logicieleducatif.fr/jeux/domaine/les-sons		None
	Clic! Ma Classe	https://clicmaclasse.fr/		None

Sincerely,

BFPS Administration