



**BEYNON FIELDS P.S.
Community Newsletter
December 8, 2023**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please review below some important updates and reminders.

Winter Concert

The BFPS Annual Concert is taking place on December 20. Parents/Guardians are invited to watch. It will be performed in the school gymnasium from 1:30 - 3pm

BFPS Student Spirit Wear now Available

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

Safety Courses for Students

There are two upcoming courses available for students.

Please note the target grade for each:

(1) **Red Cross Babysitting Course** (PA day)

Grades **5, 6, 7, and 8**

Date: Fri Feb 2 (PA day)

Time: 8:30am-3:30pm

(2) **Red Cross Stay Safe Course** (3-day session)

Grades **3, 4, and 5**

Dates: Mon Feb 5, Tues Feb 6 and Wed Feb 7

Time: (after school) 3:30-5:30pm

Registration is done online through the Stayin Alive's website. Click on the above links for more information.

Holiday Heroes Message from Student Council

Dear Families,

Beynon Fields and Student Council is going to be supporting two community initiatives in the coming weeks with our Holiday Community Helpers fundraiser! These are the Holiday Heroes program run by the York Region Police, as well as a Holiday Food Drive to support the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank. Below we have included some information on each charity, in addition to some fun activities we have planned to support them!

Holiday Heroes

The Holiday Heroes program supports families in York Region. It is organized by the York Region Police. Items that will be collected in the classroom for Holiday Heroes are new clothing, new, unwrapped toys, and gift cards. There will be boxes in the classrooms. Monetary contributions will only be accepted during the teacher vs. student volleyball games (see below). As well, gift cards should be given directly to the teacher, not placed in the box. The Holiday Heroes program will run from **November 24th to December 14th**.

Holiday Food Drive

We will be having a Holiday Food Drive and donating all items to the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank. Non-perishable food items will be collected between **November 24th and December 20th**.

Here is a list of urgently needed items:

- Toilet paper, shampoo/conditioner, kleenex, soap
- Feminine hygiene products
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- pudding cups and instant pudding
- fruit cups
- Kraft Dinner
- small bags of rice
- granola bars
- crackers
- cake and muffin mix
- jello mix
- instant pudding
- flour
- sugar
- Tetra drinking boxes (apple, fruit punch, orange) 1L and juice box packs
- canned tomatoes

- canned kidney beans
- Mustard, ketchup, BBQ sauce
- salad dressings

*Please note that all non-perishable food items are still welcome. Please do not send items to school that may contain nuts.

Gingerbread House Raffle - Extended until Monday, December 11.

As part of the Holiday Heroes and Richmond Hill Food Bank fundraising initiative, we will be raffling off gingerbread houses made by staff and members of Student Council! Proceeds will support both initiatives. Raffle tickets can be purchased on School Cash between **December 1 - 11**. Tickets will be sold in packs of **3/\$5**. Students will be able to add their ticket(s) to their chosen house. (We will distribute the tickets to homerooms.) Student Council will draw the winners on Thursday, **December 14th**. We would like to take a moment to thank Beynon families for all of the generous contributions that have been collected so far

Teacher vs. Student Volleyball Games

As well, we will be running teacher vs. student volleyball games. Attendance for students is optional. Admission is either \$1 or a non-perishable food item. These will be hosted at second recess. **More information on dates to come!**

Parent Music Concert

Families who visit on **December 20th** are invited to bring donation items for the Food Bank. Student Council will be at the doors to greet you!

Thank you for your support!

Beynon Fields P.S. Student Council

Light Up the Hill Event at Richmond Hill High School

We invite you to join us as we celebrate the festive season during our annual holiday event-Light up the Hill. Here at Richmond Hill High School, our Drama council in collaboration with other councils have come together to create a memorable, celebration-filled evening for you to enjoy. Whether it be immersive experiences such as cookie decorating or even enjoying a cup of warm hot cocoa to relax yourself on a cold evening, Light up the Hill has it all! Enjoy a magical holiday evening with us at Richmond Hill High School, as they say "'tis the season to be jolly!" There will be lots of tasty treats available as we celebrate many holidays like Hanukkah, Christmas, Yalda Night, Kwanza, Lunar New Year and others as well.

Where: Richmond Hill High School, 201 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario

When: December 12th: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

What to Bring: A donation for our Breakfast Club or monetary donation, and your greatest holiday spirit!!

We hope to see you there!

- Richmond Hill High School

BFPS Parking Lot

For the safety and security of all our students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members we remind drivers visiting the school and entering the parking lot not to drive through designated parking spaces. Please follow the routes when entering and exiting without crossing through parking spots. We thank everyone for their assistance in ensuring a safe environment for all.

Education and Community Partnership Programs (ECPP) Brochure

YRDSB has a number of different community partnerships. For more information please see The [Education and Community Partnership Programs \(ECPP\) brochure](#).

Hanukkah

The celebration of Hanukkah, sometimes spelled Chanukkah or Chanukah, takes place in late November or December of each year, around the time of the winter solstice. Hanukkah is known as the Festival of Lights, perfectly placed to brighten the darkest time of the solar year and the lunar cycle.

Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days to remind the Jewish people of a miracle that took place in the temple in Jerusalem almost 2200 years ago, when a small oil lamp, with only enough oil to burn for one day, burned for eight days, ensuring that the temple light never went out.

According to tradition, when we light the chanukiah, we don't light all the candles right away. Instead, as the days go by, we light additional candles, slowly filling the chanukiah with light.

Bodhi

Bodhi, (Sanskrit and Pāli: "awakening," "enlightenment"), in Buddhism, the final Enlightenment, which puts an end to the cycle of transmigration and leads to Nirvāṇa, or spiritual release; the experience is comparable to the Satori of Zen Buddhism in Japan. The accomplishment of this "awakening" transformed Siddhārtha Gautama into a Buddha (an Awakened One).

Tune in YRDSB - Hindu Heritage Month

The latest episode of the Tune In YRDSB podcast looks back on Hindu Heritage Month in

November. Participants share their personal journeys, and reflect on the diversity of the Hindu culture and the importance of creating a safe and affirming environment. You can [listen to the podcast here](#).

Sincerely,

BFPS Administration