



**BEYNON FIELDS P.S.  
Community Newsletter  
February 16, 2024**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please review below some important updates and reminders.

**Family Day**

Monday, February 19 is Family Day in Ontario. **The school is closed** on this day and classes resume Tuesday, February 20.

**Packaged Popcorn for sale**

Packaged popcorn is now available for purchase on School Cash Online. Term 2 will run from Tuesday March 5, 2024 to Thursday June 20, 2024. The popcorn will be available 3 days a week: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday – and will be distributed to students during recess. There are multiple options available. For more information, please [see the flyer](#).

**The Order deadline is Thursday, February 22, 2024.**

**Toronto Marlies Hockey Tickets on Sale Now**

BFPS had so much fun at the Raptors 905 game that we're doing it all over again, but this time with the Toronto Marlies, the Toronto Maple Leafs' AHL farm team. **Tickets are on sale now through School Cash Online.**

On April 3, after the start of the school day, we will be loading the buses and heading to Coca-Cola Coliseum to see the Marlies take on the St. Louis Blues' farm team, the Springfield Thunderbirds. Parents/guardians are also invited to purchase tickets and join us for this exciting hockey experience.

### **Grade 8 Grad Photos**

As a reminder for our Grade 8 graduates, Wednesday, February 21 photos will be taken of the Grade 8s.

### **Late Buses**

There are times that buses are late after school. As busing is done through a third party and not the school board, all notifications of late buses are posted online on the [school bus city website](#).

### **Early Student Dismissal - April 8**

Earlier this week, York Region District School Board announced that to ensure student safety due to the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, all schools will be dismissing students early.

As such, Beynon Fields PS will dismiss at **11:40am**. On April 8, 2024, all students will be dismissed at 11:40am. The morning bell, drop off and transportation will remain unchanged. For those eligible for school transportation, such as busing and taxis, service will be adjusted for the early afternoon departure.

The safe arrival program will remain in place, if your child is not attending school on April 8, please record their absence. Student after school activities, including extra-curricular activities will be cancelled on April 8.

### **Term 2 Lunches Began This Week**

Term 2 lunches began on Monday, February 12, 2024. If your child did not order lunch for Term 2, please remember to send them to school with lunch.

### **Beynon Robotics Team Triumphs at Area Tournament**

We are thrilled to announce the outstanding success of the Beynon Robotics Team at the recent Area Tournament held at Nobleton PS. Our school was represented by four dedicated teams, showcasing the talent and hard work of our students. Junior Team #2, composed entirely of rookie members, demonstrated exceptional skill and promise in the first two rounds. Their performance has filled us with confidence in the future of Beynon Fields Robotics. Intermediate Team #2 achieved an incredible feat by improving their score by 25% over their junior score last year. They also received an award for the most innovative design. Junior Team #1 displayed remarkable calm and composure while operating a Vintage EV3, showcasing their mastery in robot building and coding. Intermediate Team #1 set a new standard by achieving the highest single score round, breaking both a Beynon Fields Record and a Nobleton Tournament Record. We are proud to announce that two of our teams received Silver and Bronze place finishes and will be advancing to the Regional Championships at Humber College on February 28. Congratulations Robotics Team!

### Grade 2 Author Visit - Brenda Li

On February 29th, the grade 2s will have the opportunity to meet author, Brenda Li. Brenda will be doing a read aloud of her book Li et le Nouvel An spectralunaire! We are so lucky to have Brenda read, answer questions and have a discussion about identity and representation.

### YouthSpeak - New Date - March 19

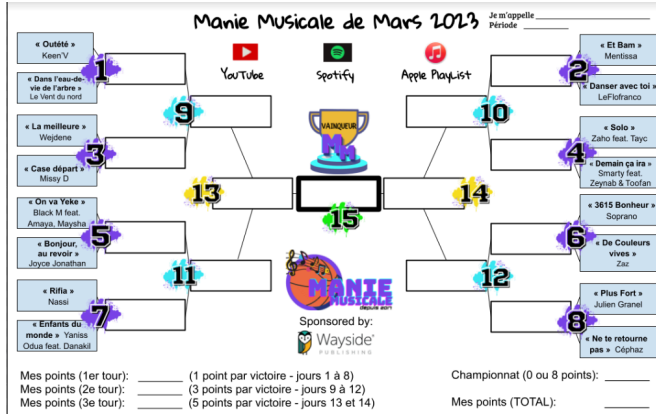
YouthSpeak charity will be at BFPS on March 19 providing learning on well-being and equity initiatives within our school community. Grade 7 and 8 students will see the presentation 9:15-10:15 am and grades 4-6 students at 10:55 - 11:55 am. For more information, please [see the flyer](#).

### Manie Musicale

Starting on March 1st, the members of *The Club de Coyotes* and library helpers are hosting a French song competition... Manie Musicale! Manie musicale is a French music event in which the most popular songs from Francophone communities from around the world are voted on by students. The competition runs for the entire month of March. Each week two songs go head to head. The winning song moves on in the competition until there is only one victor.



Similar to March madness for basketball, students will be filling out a bracket and predicting the winners. Each week classes will cast their vote for their favourite song. The featured artists come from all around the world, ranging from African countries like Ghana and Ivory Coast to Haiti and Canada. This is an excellent opportunity for students to see, hear and enjoy various examples of French artists and their contributions to the music community. Many of the artists are from countries colonized by France, making this another opportunity to highlight Black excellence.



## Winter Weekly Chess Program

The Chess n' Math Association will be returning to BFPS to run a weekly chess program. For more information and to register, please visit their website at <https://chess-math.org/beynon-fields-winter2024>.

## Tips for Secondary School Course Selection

Grade 8 and secondary school students select courses in February for the following September. Here are some tips and reminders for students and families planning their course selection.

1. You do not need to make decisions alone. Consult with your family. Teachers, [guidance counselors](#), student success teachers, graduation coaches and other school staff are there to help you.
2. Plan. You can use [My Pathway Planner](#) to track your courses, find post-secondary pathway options and look up course descriptions and prerequisites. Learn [how to create your plan](#).
3. Explore your options. There are many courses, programs and opportunities available at all YRDSB secondary schools that let you gain skills, experience, credits and certifications in the fields that interest you. You can now [search for these opportunities by sector](#). There are also [other ways to earn credits](#), including summer school, night school, online learning, Indigenous and International languages and more.
4. Review [graduation requirements](#). You are responsible for ensuring you select courses that meet diploma requirements.
5. Review course types. Selecting courses that meet your needs is the first step to experiencing success in secondary school. Your guidance counselor will help you to

choose appropriate courses throughout secondary school as students plan for their initial post-secondary destination.

6. Be aware of course prerequisites. This is a course that must be successfully completed before taking the course that follows. You can use My Pathway Planner to look up course descriptions and prerequisites.
7. Know where to go if you have questions. Speak with your guidance counselor or other staff members at the school. Talk to your family members. Learn more about [course selection](#), [graduation requirements](#) and options available to you in [secondary school on the Board website](#).

### **Search for Courses and Programs by the Sectors that Interest You**

Our secondary schools offer courses and programs that let you explore your interests, build skills and gain experience in areas that interest you. You can now [search from 16 different sectors](#) to learn more about:

- career pathways in the fields that interest you
- courses and programs you can take in secondary school that let you gain sector-specific skills, knowledge and experience
- how you can earn certifications, post-secondary credits and job experience while in high school

Find out what courses and programs are available in the fields that interest you at your school. Visit [www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb](http://www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb).

### **BFPS Student Spirit Wear 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](https://stores.inksoft.com/beynon_fields_public_school/shop/home)

### **Term 1 Report Cards**

There is new information for families who would like to know more about the revised language curriculum for Grade 1-8 students and Early Reading Screening for year one and two Kindergarten students. You can find this information on the [school board website](#). The information posted on the website is available in multiple languages using the translation tool drop down menu on the top right corner of the webpage. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

### **Inclement Weather Days (Snow Days)**

When the school board calls for “inclement weather days”, often referred to as “snow days”, it

usually involves the cancellation of buses to school. Please note that on those days, paid lunch programs such as pizza, Subway, and Swiss Chalet are also canceled. In the event of an inclement weather day, please send your child(ren) to school with a packed lunch.

### **Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) Family Engagement Evening**

Welcome to our first “Family Engagement Evening” supporting families and caregivers to develop a deeper understanding of the Ontario Education System. In this first session, we will provide an overview of the K-12 Ontario Education System with an emphasis on transitions, pathway planning, the OSSD and the course selection process.

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

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

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

Please [register](#) by Monday, February 26, 2024

<https://bit.ly/3Ot1p0X>

For additional inquiries, please contact: [pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca) or [bronson.chu@yrdsb.ca](mailto:bronson.chu@yrdsb.ca)

Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) is a group of YRDSB educators and supporters who are committed to responding to the lived experiences of East Asian students by advocating for their improved achievement and well-being through equitable practices. Building relationships with students, families, educators, community members and partners are also a focus of our work.

### **YRES Youth Workshops, Keva Planks and Anti-Bullying Program**

York Region Educational Services (YRES) is providing an anti-bullying program. For more information, please [see the flyer](#). YRES is also hosting youth workshops. For more information and to see their workshop calendar, please [see the flyer](#).

### **Centre for Black Student Excellence Newsletter - February 2024**

The Center for Black Student Excellence February newsletter is now available. It can be [read here](#).

## 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.

## Black History Month 2024

Celebration of Black History Month has been a part of Canadian society since the 1950s. Lieutenant Governor Hal Jackman declared February as Black History Month in Ontario in 1993, and in 1995, the Honorable Jean Augustine made the same declaration in the House of Parliament in Ottawa.

These declarations set the stage for acknowledging the contributions of Black people of African Heritage to the cultural, economic, political and social fabric of Canada dating back to the early 1600s. They have also increased our awareness that people of African and Caribbean Heritage are an integral part of Canadian history.

During the month of February, we deliberately reflect upon the legacy of African history in all its diversity, and we join all Canadians in celebrating Black History Month. During this month we are able to appreciate the significance of African people in world history by centering people of African, Caribbean, and Canadian heritage, famous and not so famous, who have influenced the nation and the world through their ideas, words and actions.

## Celebrating Black History Month - Events

Date and Time	Event Information/Details	Location
February 27, 2024 7:00-8:00pm.	Anti-Blackness in Schools - Virtual Affinity Session for Black Students, Families and Black Staff with Presenters Dr.Joi Spencer and Dr.Kerri Ullucci  <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Online Register to Receive Link
February 29, 2024 5:00pm - 6:30pm	Family Cookout with Chef Maxine Knight - Open to All: Student & Families  Light refreshments will be served.  Register In person Experience Details to be shared upon registration.  <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Dr Bette Rm 113

### Ubuntu Healing Circle

Please [see the flyer](#) for A virtual healing circle for Black identified students across YRDSB to join together in an inclusive affinity space, focused on supporting emotional well-being. This space is one that has been created to promote healing, wellness and resilience for Black identified students.

### Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA) Black History Month Recognition Ceremony

The Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA) and the city of Markham are hosting a Black History Month Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday February 24, 2024.

### Certificate of Community Appreciation Award - 2024

The Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA) is seeking nominees for Community Appreciation Awards. The nominees must be individuals of African/Caribbean heritage who have contributed to our community in his or her field of expertise. The contribution should have brought honour to the City of Markham and is recognizable beyond the community of Markham. [Submit a nomination.](#)

### Pink Shirt Day

February 28, 2024, is [Pink Shirt Day](#) which is a globally recognized day to support anti-bullying, upstanding behaviour, and simple acts of kindness. We invite all staff, students, and families to dress in pink on February 28.

### 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
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Knowledge!	BrainPop	<a href="https://fr.brainpop.com/">https://fr.brainpop.com/</a>	Tons of curriculum related videos and activities. Also quizzes kids can do online!	Beynonfields pop1
	Encyclopedia Britannica	<a href="https://school.eb.com/">https://school.eb.com/</a>	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	<a href="https://www.knowledgehook.com/">https://www.knowledgehook.com/</a>	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	<a href="https://www.khanacademy.org/">https://www.khanacademy.org/</a>	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	<a href="https://www.typing.com/student/games">https://www.typing.com/student/games</a>	Now that you know how to properly use a keyboard here are some games to practice!	None!
Reading	Sora	<a href="https://soraapp.com/library/yorkregionca">https://soraapp.com/library/yorkregionca</a>	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	<a href="https://www.storybookscanada.ca/stories/fr/0087/">https://www.storybookscanada.ca/stories/fr/0087/</a>	“Storybooks Canada is a free open educational resource that promotes literacy and language learning in homes, schools, and communities. Part of the <a href="#">Global Storybooks</a> project, it makes 40 stories from the <a href="#">African Storybook</a> available with text and audio in English, French, and the most widely spoken <a href="#">immigrant and refugee languages</a> of Canada.”	None!
	Indigenous Storybooks	<a href="https://indigenoustorybooks.ca/">https://indigenoustorybooks.ca/</a>	“Indigenous Storybooks is a resource designed specifically for children, families, community members, and educators. Inspired by the open-licensed stories from <a href="#">Little Cree Books</a> , this project aims to make the	None!

			text, images, and audio of stories available in <b>Indigenous languages</b> as well as English, French, and the most widely spoken immigrant and refugee languages of Canada.”	
Sound work (in French)	apprendre à lire	<a href="https://apprendrealire.net/">https://apprendrealire.net/</a>	All great websites with sound work and vocabulary! Great for our emerging readers!	None
	logiciel éducatif	<a href="https://www.logicieleducatif.fr/jeux/domaine/les-sons">https://www.logicieleducatif.fr/jeux/domaine/les-sons</a>		None
	Clic! Ma Classe	<a href="https://clicmaclasse.fr/">https://clicmaclasse.fr/</a>		None

Sincerely,

BFPS Administration