



**BEYNON FIELDS P.S.  
Community Newsletter  
February 9, 2024**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please review below some important updates and reminders.

**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.

**Term 2 Lunches Begin February 12**

Term 2 lunches begin the week of February 12, 2024. If your child did not order lunch, please remember to send them to school with lunch at that time.

**YouthSpeak - March 7**

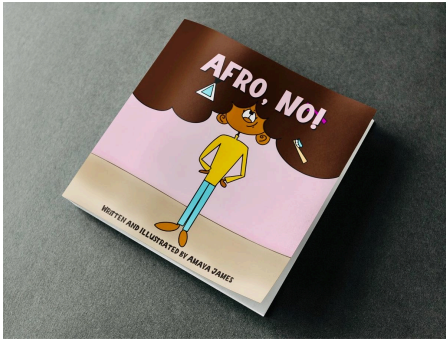
YouthSpeak charity will be at BFPS on March 7 providing learning on well-being and equity initiatives within our school community. Grade 7 and 8 students will see the presentation 9:15-10:15 am and grades 4-6 students at 10:55 - 11:55 am. For more information, please [see the flyer](#).

## Amaya James Presentation - February 14

On February 14, nine-year-old author, Amaya James, will be coming to BFPS to speak to the grades 1-3. We hope to inspire our young learners to be writers themselves.

Here is the bio from Amaya's website: *Amaya is an illustrator, author, and fan of all things art. She lives in small-town Ontario, Canada, with her mom, dad, two sisters, and dog Jax.*

*At the tender age of four, she began taking a serious interest in drawing. Amaya started with simple sketches and following YouTube tutorials. Now, she begins creating with pencil and paper and then translates her sketches to digital art using Procreate. She also enjoys other art forms, such as singing, dancing, painting, and sculpting.*



*At just nine years old, she published her first book, "Afro, No!" in October 2022. Her first offering explores the sometimes complicated relationship that young Black girls can have with their hair and speaks to the beauty, uniqueness, and joy that comes with the pain and challenge of getting their hair done. The book was co-written by her whole family and illustrated by Amaya.*

For more information please visit: <https://thejameses.ca/amaya/>

## 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 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](https://stores.inksoft.com/beynon_fields_public_school/shop/home)



### **Term 1 Report Cards**

Term 1 report cards distribution is scheduled for two weeks from now. 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.

### **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.

Theme: STEMming from the Motherland: Nurturing Future Innovators

When: Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Time: 11am-1:30pm

Where: Cornell Community Center, 3201 Bur Oak Ave Markham, ON.

Keynote Speaker: Ms. Cheryl Lewis- Executive Director-African Canadian Christian Network (ACCN).

[Register Here.](#)

### **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.](#)

### **Lunar New Year**

Lunar New Year is a significant and meaningful cultural celebration for many people of East and Southeast Asian heritage including Chinese, Korean, Taiwanese, Vietnamese and Indonesian communities, to name a few. It is celebrated across the Asia-Pacific and diaspora communities around the world. This holiday commemorates the first day of the Lunar Calendar. The date is determined by the appearance of the moon and usually takes place between late January to early February. For some, this occasion has religious significance as well.

Lunar New Year is celebrated where families come together, enjoy traditional foods and activities. Many countries also have their own unique ways of celebrating the event. These could include families coming together to spend time with one another, sharing of traditional meals, and engaging in traditional activities such as cleaning the house and performing ceremonial ritual to elders and ancestors. For example, in many Chinese communities, customs may include: cleaning houses, paying off debts, settling old arguments, and other means of making a "fresh start." In the Korean community, the ceremonial ritual of seh-bae (deep bow) is performed to the elders and ancestors. Families share the traditional meal of rice cake and dumpling soup and play traditional games such as yut-nori.

### **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 over the break, please see the chart below.

What is it for?	Resource	website	Info	Username password
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</a>	None!

			<a href="#">languages</a> of Canada.”	
	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 <b>Little Cree Books</b> , this project aims to make the 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.”	None!
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