



**BEYNON FIELDS P.S.  
Community Newsletter  
January 26, 2024**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please review below some important updates and reminders.

**PA Day - February 2, 2024**

Friday, February 2 is a PA Day for all YRDSB elementary schools. BFPS will not have any classes next Friday.

**Term 2 Lunches for Purchase**

Term 2 lunches begin the week of February 12, 2024. For ordering information please see [the flyer](#). All orders are through School Cash Online. **The deadline to order is JANUARY 29.**

	Subway	Pizza	Swiss Chalet
Day of Week	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Start Date	February 14	February 15	February 16
End Date	June 19	June 20	June 21

**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)



### **Beynon Robotics Club Success**

We are thrilled to share the remarkable achievements of the Beynon Robotics Club this past season. Our dedicated students embarked on an exciting and educational journey in the world of robotics. Since November, they have committed over 30 hours to mastering the art of coding, building, and troubleshooting sophisticated Lego Spike and EV3 robots. Each challenge faced by the club was met with enthusiasm and a remarkable willingness to learn in the spirit of collaboration and innovation.

The Beynon Robotics Club's hard work and creativity caught the attention of our broader school community. We had the pleasure of hosting 14 different classes in the library where students and teachers alike could witness the Robotics Team in action. The club members built impressive robots and developed invaluable skills that promise to serve them well into the future. We are immensely proud of what they have achieved and are excited to see where their talents and skills will take them next. The Beynon Robotics Club is a shining example of the spirit of learning and teamwork that we cherish in our school.

### **A Message From Our Trustee**

As we start the second semester and second half of the school year, I want to take this opportunity to share some updates about upcoming dates, events and initiatives taking place across our system with you. I also want to thank everyone who contributes to building a strong educational community in York Region District School Board - the students, families, staff members and community partners who come together in support of student learning, achievement and well-being.

February is Black History Month. In addition to a number of [events taking place](#) within the school board and local community, the school board is once again Celebrating Black Excellence through its Black Voices campaign. [Black Voices](#) aims to centre and celebrate the Black members of our YRDSB community and share their voices. For families looking to learn more about school board and community events and programs for Black students and families, you can [subscribe to the Centre for Black Student Excellence mailing list](#) to receive regular updates.

Later this month, we will also recognize the [Lunar New Year](#) and wish all students, staff and community celebrating Lunar New Year a happy and joyful celebration.

While we have seen milder winter weather this year, I also want to remind families that we have protocols in place for [severe weather](#) and school transportation cancellation in the case of inclement weather, and want to ensure families are aware. You can find more information on the Board website. We also continue to encourage families to use active school travel all year round, including during the winter months. Early in February, we will be celebrating [Winter Walk Day](#), and be sharing tips as well as the benefits and joys of winter walking.

This month, students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote in the [Student Trustee Elections](#). I want to congratulate and thank all of the students in Grade 10 and 11 who applied for this position. Student Trustees play an important role representing student voice at the Board meetings and we greatly value their voice and contributions. Students who are eligible to vote will receive information in their GAPPS accounts about how to vote. This is a great opportunity to participate in the democratic process and to have their say about who will represent their voice in the next school year.

[Kindergarten](#) and [French Immersion](#) registration opened in January for fall 2024. For students looking at course selection in secondary school, there are lots of great resources available at [www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb](http://www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb) that let students learn more about courses, programs and opportunities that relate to their interests.

You can also stay up-to-date with what's happening around the Board by visiting our [newsroom](#) - some of the latest stories feature schools in our area - or by listening to the Board's award-winning [podcast Tune In YRDSB](#), including recent and upcoming episodes on what to expect in Kindergarten, how Student Trustees represent student voice, Tamil Heritage Month, Hindu Heritage Month and more.

As the governing body of the York Region District School Board, trustees are required to establish an annual Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) to guide system direction for a four year period. The MYSP is a reflection of emergent priorities identified by our educational communities. Over the coming months, we will be conducting extensive consultations with YRDSB students, staff, families and community members to collect input and feedback to develop our revised MYSP. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for all that you do to partner with us in building a strong publicly funded education system that delivers a high-quality education for your children. You can learn more about my role as a school trustee and [how you can reach me](#) on the Board website [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Crystal Yu, Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 1, 2 and 4

### **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.

### **Traffic Concerns**

Thank you to caregivers who have shared traffic concerns during high peak drop-off and pick up times over the last few days. We have connected with York Region by-laws as well as YRP to ensure the safety of all our students.

### **Pediculosis (Head Lice) Checks**

On Feb 1, Nitwits will be at BFPS to conduct pediculosis (head lice) checks for students and staff.

### **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.

## Centre for Black Student Excellence January Newsletter

Visit the [January 2024 Centre for Black Student Excellence Newsletter](#) for events, updates, resources and more.

### 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	None!

			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.”	
	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 text, images, and audio of stories available in <a href="#">Indigenous languages</a> 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

### 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.

### **Message from Arts@Baythorn for Grade 4 and 5 Families**

Dear Families of Grade 4 and 5 students,

The Arts@Baythorn is a full time, Integrated Arts Specialty School Program for student who have an affinity for the Arts. *Integration* and *Collaboration* are the focus at Arts@Baythorn, where the curriculum is learned while incorporating Visual Arts, Dance, Drama or Music into curriculum subjects like Language, Math, Science and Social Studies. You don't have to have a special talent in the arts to apply just an interest in working collaboratively!

The Arts@Baythorn Application process is open for one more week and closes Friday January 29, 2024.

Interested families please apply for this full time, Integrated Arts school program.

Please [see the flyer](#) visit [our website](#) for more information.

Thank you, The Arts@Baythorn Staff

### **YRES Weekend Camp**

YRES Weekend Camp offers both a paid and a free half-day camp opportunity for children 5-12 years old to help them stay active through sports, while building team spirit and learning new skills. For more information, please see [the flyer](#) or email [Info@yorkeducation.ca](mailto:Info@yorkeducation.ca)

### **Student Mental Health and Addiction Newsletter - January**

Student Mental Health and Addictions is pleased to provide monthly newsletters that focus on various pertinent mental health topics. Here is [January's newsletter](#).

### **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.](#)

### **International Holocaust Remembrance Day - January 27**

January 27 is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This date was designated by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in November 2005.

The day reaffirms “that the Holocaust, which resulted in the murder of one third of the Jewish people along with countless members of other minorities, will forever be a warning to all people of the dangers of hatred, bigotry, racism and prejudice (UN General Assembly A/60/L.12).” This day serves as an international Memorial Day for the victims of the Nazi Holocaust, which saw the murder of 6 million Jews, 250,000 to 500,000 Roma people, 200,000 to 250,000 persons with disabilities, and 15,000 people who were LGBTQ+. January 27 marks the date when the Nazi concentration and extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated by Soviet troops in 1945.

### **National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia - January 29**



January 29 is the [The National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia](#). YRDSB joins Muslim communities across York Region and Canada in mourning, commemorating and standing together against Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hate. On January 29, 2017, a tragic and violent act of anti-Muslim hate took place at the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec City.

The National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia serves as a reminder of the importance of taking an unwavering stand against all forms of hate, racism, and discrimination and the work needed to recognize and eradicate anti-Muslim hate. In honour of the memory of the victims, in recognition of those who selflessly and courageously put themselves in harm's way to protect others, and in solidarity with the survivors of this tragedy, schools and departments are encouraged to mark this day by joining the [Green Square Campaign](#).

### **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.

Sincerely,

BFPS Administration