



BEYNON FIELDS P.S.
Community Newsletter
March 8, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please review below some important updates and reminders.

March Break

March Break is this coming week. There are no classes from March 11 - 15.

YouthSpeak - March 19 - Parents/Guardians invited

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. Parents/caregivers are also invited to join for the presentations. For more information, please [see the flyer](#).

Arts Camp - Grades 7-12

Arts camp is being offered from May 25-June 1 for students in grades 7-12. For more information and to register, please [see the poster](#). Applications are due by March 22.

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

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](#).

Toronto Holocaust Museum March Break Family Day

The Toronto Holocaust Museum invites families, parents, guardians, grandparents, and children ages 10 and older to join them for a special Family Day Program during March Break on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. Please [see the flyer](#) for further details.

ROM March Break Discount

The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) is offering discounts to YRDSB families over March Break. For more information, please [see their poster](#).

Stars United Baton Club

Stars United Baton Club is looking for new participants who are interested in learning to baton. For more information, please [visit their postcard](#).

Royal City Soccer Club - Day Camps

Royal City Soccer Club is offering day soccer camps. For more information and to register, please [see the flyer](#).

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](#).

Early Dismissal Time April 8, 2024

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 **12:10 PM**. On April 8, 2024, all students will be dismissed at **12:10 PM**. 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.

York Region Public Health School Immunization Letter for March Break

This is an important notice for all York Region Families about Immunization information. You can [read it here](#).

Chief of Police for a Day Essay Contest

All grade 5 students in YRDSB are invited to participate in the annual Chief of Police for a Day 2024 essay contest. View [contest details](#) and the [YRP website](#) for more details.

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.

Bangladeshi Heritage Month

Bangladeshi Heritage Month is a time to recognize and celebrate the contributions of the Bangladeshi community to society. Bangladesh, with its rich history, diverse culture, and linguistic identity, has contributed significantly to the arts, literature, cuisine, and economic sectors globally. We honor the resilience and strength of the Bangladeshi people, who have overcome numerous challenges and continue to thrive in various diasporas around the world. This month encourages us to learn about the Liberation War of Bangladesh, its struggle for independence, and the values of democracy, freedom, and cultural pride that define the Bangladeshi spirit.

Greek Heritage Month

Greek Heritage Month is an important chance to immerse ourselves in the profound historical and cultural legacy of Greece. The contributions of Greece to civilization cannot be

overstated—from the birth of democracy, philosophy, and the Olympic Games to monumental architectural and scientific achievements. Greek culture, with its emphasis on education, arts, and the celebration of life, has left an indelible mark on the world. This month prompts us to explore Greek mythology, cuisine, music, and the enduring values of kinship, hospitality, honor, respect, and love for humanity.

As we celebrate Bangladeshi and Greek Heritage Month, let us engage in cultural exchanges, participate in community events, and educate ourselves about these rich heritages. It's an opportunity to appreciate the diversity that enriches our lives, understand the struggles and achievements of these communities, and foster an environment of inclusivity and respect. By acknowledging the past, we pave the way for a future that respects and cherishes the mosaic of human culture. Let's embrace this month as a time of learning, celebration, and reflection on the contributions of the Bangladeshi and Greek communities to our shared global heritage!

March 6th is Black Mental Health Day

This day is dedicated to recognizing and addressing the unique challenges that Black communities face regarding mental health. This observance aims to raise awareness about the disparities in mental health care access and outcomes for Black individuals, promote the importance of cultural competence in mental health services, and encourage dialogue on ways to reduce stigma and improve mental health supports within Black communities. Learn more at <https://blackmentalhealth.ca/>

March 8th is International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global day recognizing the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. It also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. The day has been observed since the early 1900s, a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies.

IWD is a day to celebrate the achievements of women while also making a strong call to action for gender equality. It seeks to raise awareness about women's equality, lobby for accelerated gender parity, and fundraise for female-focused charities. The day is celebrated in various ways around the world, including protests, art performances, talks, conferences, and marches, depending on the social, economic, and political contexts of the region.

Ramadan begins March 13th

Ramadan is a holy month of fasting and contemplation for Muslims. Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is referred to in the Qu'ran as a blessed month in which the teachings of the Qu'ran were revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). During Ramadan, most Muslims fast during the hours of daylight and increase their focus on prayer and contemplation. At the end of each day the fast is traditionally ended with a prayer and a light meal called the Iftar. Ramadan is considered a time for Muslims to recommit themselves to cultivating spiritual renewal within themselves and their communities, as well as practicing compassion and generosity for others. Schools should acknowledge this time through activities that promote understanding and learning for all students, while being respectful and making space for learners that are fasting or observing Ramadan. During this time of reverence and renewal, we extend our good wishes to students, parents and members of the Muslim communities who will be observing Ramadan.

Nowruz

Nowruz, also known as the Persian New Year, marks the first day of spring and the beginning of the year in the Iranian calendar. It usually occurs on March 20th or 21st, depending on the exact astronomical beginning of spring. Nowruz is widely celebrated across the world, including in Iran, parts of the Middle East, Central Asia, South Asia, and by diasporic communities globally, including Canada. In Canada, Nowruz 2024 will be celebrated with various cultural events, gatherings, and public celebrations that reflect the diverse nature of the Canadian population and its embrace of multiculturalism. Cities with significant Persian and Central Asian communities, such as Toronto (and Richmond Hill!), Vancouver, and Montreal, often host numerous Nowruz events. Given the significance of Nowruz in fostering a sense of community and cultural identity among Persian and Central Asian Canadians, these celebrations also serve as an important opportunity for cross-cultural exchange and understanding, aligning with Canada's broader values of diversity and inclusivity.

Good Friday and Easter

Good Friday is March 29th. Good Friday commemorates the passion and death of Jesus Christ. It is called Good Friday because Jesus' death on this holy day had to happen in order for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter to happen. Good Friday is a solemn, holy day for Christians. Good Friday may be marked by attending Church services and by observing a fast. Many Christians break the Good Friday fast after a candle-lit Easter vigil which occurs on the Saturday evening after Good Friday. The date of Good Friday varies from one year to the next on both the Gregorian (Western) and Julian (Eastern) calendars. Good Friday is also known as

Holy Friday, and Great and Holy Friday. Good Friday is the Friday preceding Easter Sunday. For Christians, Easter is the most joyful celebration of the church year. Christians all over the world honour the resurrection of Jesus from the dead on Easter Sunday. Western rite Christians observe Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after March 21. Eastern Orthodox Christians celebrate it on the first Sunday after both the Spring Equinox and Jewish Passover. Once every few years the days coincide. We extend good wishes and a Happy Easter to all staff, students and members of the Christian community who will be celebrating Easter.

Transgender Day of Visibility (TDoV)

Transgender Day of Visibility (TDoV) is celebrated annually on March 31st. This day is dedicated to celebrating the achievements and contributions of transgender and gender nonconforming people while also raising awareness of the discrimination and challenges they face worldwide. Unlike the Transgender Day of Remembrance, which memorializes victims of transphobic violence, TDoV is a day for empowerment, recognition, and advocacy for trans rights. The first Transgender Day of Visibility was founded by Michigan-based transgender activist Rachel Crandall in 2009 as a reaction to the lack of LGBT holidays celebrating transgender people, highlighting the need for a day of recognition for the living members of the transgender community. It has since become an international day of awareness, with events and activities aimed at increasing visibility and understanding of transgender people, promoting positive changes in public perceptions, and encouraging allyship.

Indigenous Languages Day

March 31st is Indigenous Languages Day. This day is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Indigenous peoples in Canada. It serves as an opportunity to promote and raise awareness about the rich diversity of Indigenous languages in Ontario and across Canada. Efforts to promote and preserve Indigenous languages in Ontario and throughout Canada are ongoing, involving various initiatives such as educational programs, cultural celebrations, and legislative actions like the Indigenous Languages Act, which received Royal Assent in Canada in June 2019. This act aims to reclaim, revitalize, strengthen, and maintain Indigenous languages in Canada.

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 languages of Canada.”	None!
	Indigenous Storybooks	https://indigenoustorybooks.ca/	“Indigenous Storybooks is a resource designed specifically for children, families, community members, and educators. Inspired by the	None!

			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.”	
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