



Boxwood Broncos



May 2021



Boxwood Public School
30 Boxwood Crescent, Markham, Ontario, L3S 3P7
Tel (905) 294-5563 Fax (905) 294-1452
Email: boxwood.ps@yrdsb.ca

Principal: Dane Prince
Superintendent: Becky Green
Trustee: Juanita Nathan (416) 885-3479

Principal's Message

Hello Boxwood Families,

We hope that all of you are well and safe. This year has continued to be one that consistently evolves. This has caused various disruptions for face-to-face learning this year. In these instances, we had to change to remote learning. While I don't believe that this is the ideal learning model, I do feel that we generally have done a good job in adapting to this new learning environment. In my class visits, I have been encouraged by what I have observed. I see learning continuing. I see the curriculum being taught. I even saw a virtual class trip. I see students working on tasks independently. I see teachers meeting with small groups in break out rooms. Overall, I see us adjusting to this less than ideal situation.

As you see from the news, we still have some time before we get to a place of normalcy. We still have to be vigilant to avoid spreading the Covid-19 virus. This will have an impact on school. Taking this into consideration, the board has decided that we will follow a **hybrid model of learning for the next school year**. Specifically, students will be a part of a classroom in **their home school**, and they will have the choice to participate in this class in person or remotely.

Two advantages of this model are as follows:

- Students will still be connected to their home school and have a teacher that they have some familiarity
- Students will be able to continue their learning remotely in a synchronous fashion if they have to quarantine for a duration of the school year

You may be curious about how this will be implemented. That is a question that we will be working on in order for us to be prepared in September. There are many things to think of (e.g., camera placement), but we will figure it out together. This will be a topic of conversation at our virtual School Council Meeting on **Tuesday, May 18th @ 7:00pm**.

Thank you so much for your support. Your work in supporting our students (e.g., supervising them to log-on to their Google Meets) is very helpful and valued. As more information comes from the board, I will keep you informed.

Take care and be safe,

Dane Prince
Principal
Boxwood Public School

Our Boxwood Touchstone

At Boxwood, we are active participants in our own learning and we persevere to reach our goals. We recognize our own success and the successes of those around us. We are responsible for what we say and how we act. We treat others the way we want to be treated. We celebrate the diversity of our community.

At Boxwood, every voice is heard.

Learning @ Boxwood Showcase

Ms. Kenwell's Grade 6 Class

In literacy, we have been focusing our attention on "Author's Purpose". We are using the prologues to compare two versions of the book, "I Am Malala" (one for adults and one for youth), Students are explaining how the author, Malala Yousaizai, has changed the writing to make the best connection she can with the reader about a topic that matters to us all – the rights of girls to an education.

In Math, we are working on Adding and Subtracting Decimal Numbers. In Grade 6, students are learning how to read, write and calculate using decimal numbers to the thousandths (that's three places after the decimal point). We will be completing this unit shortly and continuing on to Multiplication and Division of Decimal Numbers.

In Visual Art, we have been working on one-point perspective. That is, showing how objects look like they are disappearing into the distance as they get further away from you. Some actually go to a point and some do not. Here is a sample from our class.

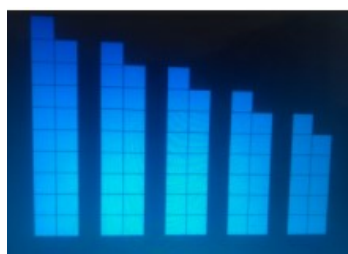
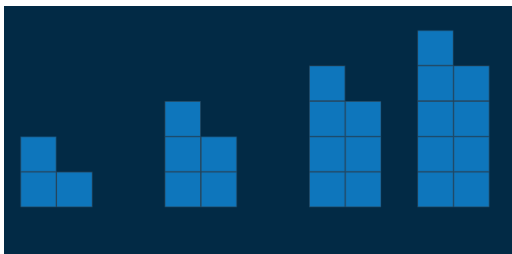
This week we will have the opportunity to attend a virtual workshop provided by the Varley Art Gallery in Markham. We are grateful for this opportunity to learn remotely using this free and enriching resource!

We are starting on our final unit in science this week - Space. We will be learning about the sun as a star and all that it provides. Did you know the sun powers the rain cycle and creates wind? This unit will contain information on qualities of different planets in our solar system, the difference between asteroids, meteors and comets, and an inside look at what space travel is like. It should be very interesting!



Ms. Brown's SSC Class

In our SSC, we have been learning how to identify, create, and extend patterns. Students have become comfortable adjusting to using virtual manipulatives. Here are some of the growing, shrinking patterns they have created!





Career Discovery Expo: Dream Big York

Students in grades 7 - 12 and their parents/guardians are invited to attend the *Career Discovery Expo: Dream Big York* on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 from 6:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. ET.

This FREE event provides students and their families the opportunity to explore a wide range of career paths.

The Career Discovery Expo: Dream Big York will feature:

- **Dream Maker Panel:** Women from various industries share their stories and inspire young women.
- **Employer Spotlight:** Employers share their “look fors” when hiring new employees and ways to gain experience early.
- **Pathway Spotlight:** College, University and OYAP representatives share the different pathway programs available, scholarships, courses etc.
- **Games, Prizes**

To register, please visit: dreambigyork.eventbrite.ca





Kindergarten Registration for 2021-2022 School Year

There are several ways you can register for Kindergarten:

Online - Families can access the [online Kindergarten registration information](#). It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.

By email - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) and email the completed form to their school email address. Email addresses can be found on the [school website](#).

By phone - Families can request support from the school Principal/Vice-Principal to complete the registration form on their behalf by collecting the required information by phone. Families can request an interpreter, if needed, during this phone conversation. [Call your local school](#).

By mail or appointment. You can mail completed applications to the school, or request an appointment (once schools have reopened) to drop-off your completed paper application form.

*You will receive a message at the end of your registration that outlines which documents you need to take to the school to verify your registration. Your registration will be complete once you have verified these documents at the school. The document verification process is by appointment only at this time. Once you have completed your application, **the school** will contact you to make an appointment to review and verify the required documents.*

Children who turn four or five years old during 2021, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten.

♥ Welcome to
Kindergarten

TRUDEAU TSA PRESENTS:

YR TSA

**YORK REGION
TAMIL STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

For Tamil identifying students
and those interested in learning
about Tamil culture.

If you are interested please
complete the Google Form



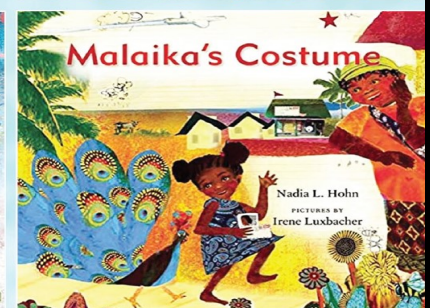
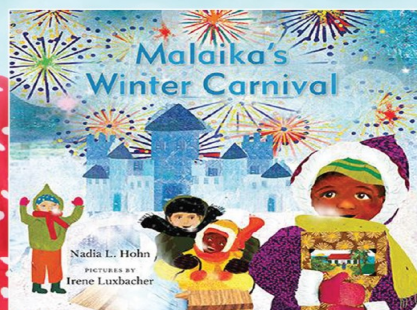
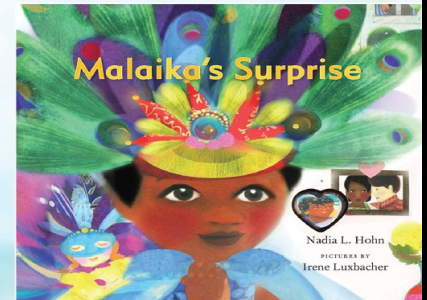
<https://bit.ly/3du1QGi>

Caribbean Playground with author Nadia L. Hohn

A joyous interactive online event for children and families



Part of the
Ancestral Voices
author series



Friday, May 14, 2021 2:00 p.m.

- **Join Nadia L. Hohn, award-winning author of the Malaika book series, for a lively interactive event filled with stories, songs and more**

You're invited to a Caribbean Playground with author Nadia L. Hohn, a teacher and author of the Malaika book series, including Malaika's Costume, Malaika's Winter Carnival and Malaika's Surprise. Nadia will be leading an interactive event exploring what Malaika would experience in her school playground. Join us and bring Malaika's Caribbean Playground into your home for a joyous, fun-filled event the whole family will enjoy.

Ancestral Voices is presented by NPL, Maxine Gordon Palomino, a storyteller and lawyer at Palomino Gordon Law, and Kim Wheatley, Anishinaabe Consultant. The author series features the experiences of Indigenous, Caribbean and African Peoples in Canada.

**Join us for this free online program. For more information
905-953-5110 Ext. 4770. Register at <http://bit.ly/nplhohn>**

NACCA
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**Newmarket
Public Library**
Inspiring Growth



Womxn Offering Wisdom (WOW) / The South Asian & Tamil Women's Collective Annual Well-Being Conference

Womxn Offering Wisdom (WOW) in collaboration with ESSAH and ETSS invites self-identifying South Asian and Tamil, female, grade 7 to 12 students to attend our **2021 Annual WOW Well-Being Conference - Virtual**

Students will participate in two evenings of culturally responsive coaching and mentorship in support of agency, health, and well-being.

When

Tuesday May 25th & Wednesday May 26th, 2021
4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Where

Zoom link to be provided by email

Registration

Students should register for the conference through [eventbrite](#).

Students should also complete the [filming consent](#) form to *submit at the conference*.

Elementary school administrators can access a parent permission [form](#).

Contact

For more information, please contact:

ETSS Chairs:

Initha Subramaniam at initha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca

Suganja Sinnathamby at suganja.sinnathamby@yrdsb.ca

ESSAH Co-Chair:

Wahid Khan at wahid.khan@yrdsb.ca

WOW:

Niyomi Raveenthiran at niyomi.raveenthiran@yrdsb.ca

Ayesha Syed at ayesha.syed@yrdsb.ca



@WomxnWisdom



@womxnofferingwisdom



York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities



Government of Canada



SANKOFA

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

SANKOFA

VIRTUAL SATURDAY MORNINGS

STORYTELLING & POETRY PROGRAM

with Drumming

Rooted in African & Caribbean Art

Free...For Black Students Grades 5-7

Every saturday till June 19th

"Until the lions have their own historians, the history of the hunt will always glorify the hunter."



www.yorkregionaacc.ca

Registration email

Sankofa7@yorkregionaacc.ca

647 807-6306



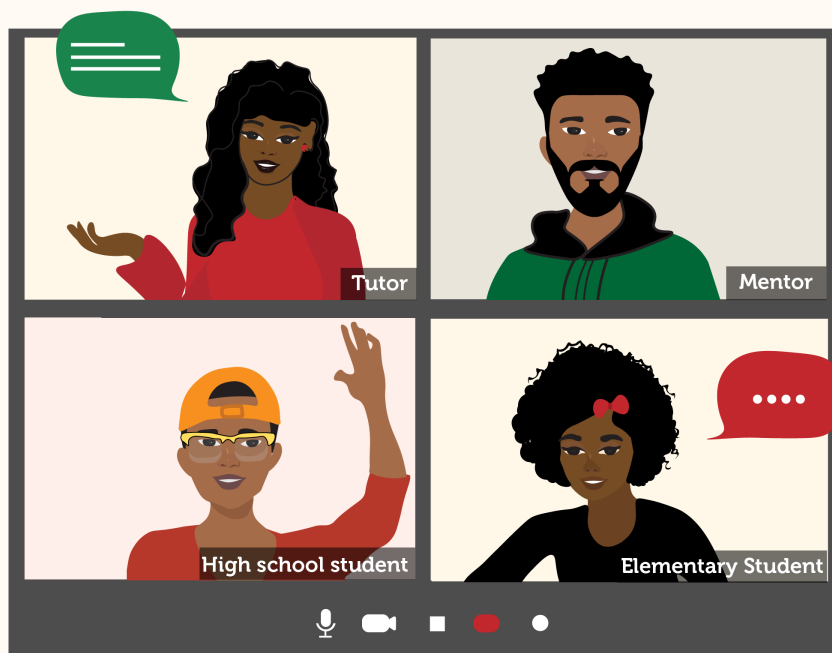
THE SANKOFA MENTORING PROGRAM

FOR BLACK STUDENTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 11-18

"Bridging the Past with the Present...Navigating the Present into the Future"

- MENTORSHIP • LEADERSHIP • CULTURAL EXPERIENCE • FIELD TRIPS
- LIFE SKILLS • RETREATS • SELF AWARENESS • CAREER EXPLORATION
- ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Sankofa Mentoring Program is rooted in an African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith and Self-Respect.



WHEN WE MEET:

Now Open for new registration (space limited)
Virtual program/workshop (Due to covid-19)

For more information please contact
Program Manager @
pgmcrd@yorkregionaacc.ca or call
647-807-2016
www.yorkregionaacc.ca



YORK REGION COVID-19 VACCINE DIGITAL TOOLKIT EDITION #7



york.ca/COVID19vaccine

KEY MESSAGES

Vaccine Eligibility Updates

- York Region continues to advance the COVID-19 mass immunization plan to ensure vaccines are distributed to existing and new eligible groups as quickly and efficiently as possible under the [provincial vaccine distribution plan](#)
- The Government of Ontario [announced additional public health measures](#), effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, April 17, 2021, to limit mobility, enhance enforcement and increase vaccination efforts in the fight against COVID-19; the emergency declaration and stay-at-home order will be extended to May 21, 2021
- [On April 19, 2021, York Region announced expansion of vaccine eligibility](#) to individuals **age 60+ (born in 1961 or earlier)** at all York Region Public Health and partner-led clinics, as well as the expansion of eligibility to those **age 35+ (previously 45 to 49)** who live in identified high priority communities in York Region (City of Vaughan postal codes: L4L, L6A, L4K, L4J; City of Markham postal code: L3S)
- These new eligible groups join others currently eligible to receive a vaccine, including:
 - Special education staff who live or work in York Region
 - Individuals (and one of their caregivers) with [highest and high risk health conditions](#) as identified in Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan
 - [Highest, very high and high priority health care workers](#) as identified in the Ministry of Health's [Guidance on Health Care Work Prioritization](#) that work or live in York Region
 - All [other eligible groups](#)
- **Residents age 40+ (born in 1981 and earlier)** are also now able to book vaccine appointments at select [pharmacies and primary care settings](#), as well as [Soccer City](#) drive-thru vaccine clinic in Whitchurch-Stouffville, as supply permits
- York Region used data on over 400 workplace outbreaks to shortlist several essential workplaces within identified high priority "hot spot" postal codes to begin targeted vaccinations; workplaces were identified based on risk factors including number of cases of COVID-19, number of confirmed outbreaks and type of business
- Further vaccine eligibility will be introduced for additional high priority areas within York Region as vaccine supply and capacity permits, balanced within the ongoing vaccination of existing and new eligible priority groups
- Regretfully, due to low supply and ongoing vaccine shipment delays, York Region Public Health is experiencing periodic clinic closures and operating hour reductions; York Region remains prepared and ready to ramp up vaccine operations as supply permits

- In accordance with the Ministry of Health's recent recommendations, transplant patients and some cancer patients are encouraged to get their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine as close to the 21 to 28-day timeframe as possible; information, including eligibility and clinic details, are available on york.ca/COVID19Vaccine
 - This patient group will require a letter from the hospital clinic/specialist to confirm they are eligible to get a second dose appointment at the shorter interval, identifying the reason for the exception. **The letter should be presented at both the first and second appointment**
- **Clinics appointments are not available for any other age or priority group at this time;** please do not try to book an appointment if you do not meet the eligibility
- Vaccines are **by appointment only** for eligible individuals and may be made by an individual or their caregiver; walk-in appointments are not available
- To learn more about clinic locations and to book an appointment, please visit york.ca/COVID19Vaccine or call 1-877-464-9675
- To better serve the growing number of eligibility groups invited to receive a vaccine, enhancements were made to york.ca/COVID19Vaccine to enable search by eligibility criteria rather than clinic
- Appointments are available as supply permits; we thank you for your patience if you are not immediately able to book an appointment and we encourage you to check back and keep trying
- York Region Public Health is working with local health care partners to provide COVID-19 vaccines at the following clinic locations:
 - **Soccer City Drive-Thru Clinic** in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, operated by Stouffville Medical Centre
 - **Canada's Wonderland Drive-Thru Clinic** in the City of Vaughan, operated by York Region Public Health
 - **Trisan Centre** in the Township of King, operated by King Fire and Emergency Services
 - **Aaniin Community Centre** in the City of Markham, operated by York Region Public Health
 - **Cornell Community Centre** in the City of Markham, operated by Eastern York Region North Durham (EYRND) Ontario Health Team (OHT)
 - **Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital** in the City of Vaughan, operated by Mackenzie Health
 - **Georgina Ice Palace** in the Town of Georgina, operated by York Region Public Health
 - **Maple Community Centre** in the City of Vaughan, operated by York Region Public Health
 - **Ray Twinney Recreation Complex** in the Town of Newmarket, operated by Southlake Regional Health Centre
 - **Richmond Green Sports Centre** in the City of Richmond Hill, operated by York Region Public Health
- York Region will continue to promote new eligible groups and vaccine appointments on a regular basis through multiple communication channels, including on york.ca, social media, in print advertising and through media; stay tuned for updates and check back often

- Before you attend a COVID-19 vaccine clinic, it's important you [prepare for your COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine and the vaccine program in York Region, please visit york.ca/COVID19VaccineInfo
- York Region is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for both employees and residents; when booking and attending your vaccine appointments, please remember to [be kind](#)
- Even as vaccinations begin in Ontario, we must continue to follow public health measures to keep everyone safe and healthy: avoid social gatherings, stay home if unwell, practice physical distancing, wear a mask when required and wash your hands frequently

Transportation options to York Region Vaccine Clinics

- All York Region vaccination clinics are located along main transit routes and in different areas of York Region to best serve residents
- If you need transportation to your vaccination clinic appointment, there are options available
- **York Region Transit (YRT)** – YRT offers residents the following safe and reliable transit services:
 - **Local and rapid transit services** in all nine York Region municipalities. To learn more and to plan your trip, visit yrt.ca or call 1-866-668-3978
 - **Mobility On-Request (MOR)** – allows you to request transit when and where you need it, within select service areas. To learn more visit yrt.ca/MOR or call 1-844-744-1119
 - **A dedicated MOR service for seniors 65+** is also available; MOR will take you to the closest vaccination clinic from your home. For more information, visit yrt.ca/MOR65 or call 1-866-744-1119
 - **Mobility On-Request Paratransit** – door-to-door, shared ride, accessible public transit service for people with disabilities. For people unable to use regular public transit due to a physical, cognitive, visual or sensory disability for all or part of their trip. To use this service, you must meet specific eligibility criteria. For more information, visit yrt.ca/MORParatransit or call 1-866-744-1119
 - **If you are unsure which YRT service is right for you**, please call the Contact Centre at 1-866-668-3978 and a Customer Service Representative would be happy to assist you
- **Community Ride Programs** – There are also other transportation services offered by community organizations that you may be eligible for. For a complete list of community transportation options, call 211 or visit 211central.ca. When travelling on public transportation, please practice public health safety measures such as hand washing/sanitizing and wearing a face covering.
 - **CHATS** – Provides local and long-distance drives for seniors to medical appointments and other outings. For more information, call 1-877-452-4287 or visit chats.on.ca
 - **Carefirst** – Transportation services for seniors and persons in need residing in Scarborough and York Region. For more information, call 416-502-2323 or visit carefirstontario.ca
 - **Routes** – Transportation services for residents who cannot travel by conventional transit or taxi because of their financial, physical or mental challenges. For more information, call 905-722-4616 or visit routescc.org

- **PinkCars** – Volunteer drivers and administrators that will help arrange transportation for those who need it and also help with booking online vaccine appointments if necessary. For more information visit [PinkCars.ca](https://pinkcars.ca)

Building Vaccine Confidence

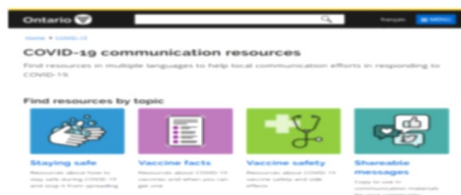
- [The BEST vaccine to get is the FIRST one offered to you](#)
- [Check out this CBC Video](#) where Dr. Samir Gupta from the University of Toronto explains why all COVID-19 vaccines are an excellent choice. "If you're holding out for what you think is a better shot you might just be refusing a vaccine that keeps you off a ventilator in hopes of getting one that might protect you better from getting the sniffles." - Dr. Samir Gupta
- Everyone is encouraged to take whichever vaccine is available to them as soon as possible; all approved vaccines in Canada are effective at preventing severe disease, hospitalization and death from COVID-19 approximately 14 days after the first dose
- Only vaccines that are safe and effective for widespread use are approved by Health Canada for use in Canada; vaccines are tightly regulated and closely monitored in Canada and each vaccine has been rigorously tested in a series of large-scale trials
- COVID-19 vaccines were tested with more than 120,000 people and millions more have already received them
- Anyone can get COVID-19 and become very sick; there's no way to know for sure how seriously COVID-19 will impact you
- When a large percentage of the population becomes immune to COVID-19, the spread of the virus will slow down or stop. Achieving herd immunity through vaccination is our best shot for allowing individuals, families and workers to safely resume normal life
- To make sure everyone who wants a vaccine can get one safely and quickly, it's important to get vaccinated as soon as you are able to
- COVID-19 vaccines were developed faster than some other vaccines because of never-before seen levels of collaboration and funding invested around the world
- Wondering about the differences between mRNA and viral vector-based vaccines?
 - Like all vaccines, COVID-19 mRNA vaccines (e.g. Pfizer and Moderna) have been rigorously tested for safety before being approved; mRNA technology has been studied for more than a decade
 - The "m" from mRNA means "messenger" which is exactly what the vaccine does – it sends a message to your cells to make antibodies to fight against the virus that causes COVID-19. It blocks the virus from attaching and getting into your body's cells

- Viral vector-based vaccines (e.g. Astra Zeneca and Janssen) use a harmless virus, such as an adenovirus, as a delivery system
- This “vector” virus is not the virus that causes COVID-19; adenoviruses are among the viruses that can cause the common cold and many have been used as delivery systems for other vector-based vaccines for decades
- When a person is given the vaccine, the vector virus contained within the vaccine produces the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. This protein is found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. This protein will not make you sick. It does its job and goes away
- COVID-19 vaccines cannot change your DNA and it cannot give you COVID-19

- **[ActiveNet Step-By-Step Booking Guide](#)**: How to create an ActiveNet account and register for a vaccine appointment at York Region Public Health vaccine clinics



- **[Province of Ontario Vaccine Information Hub](#)**: COVID-19 and vaccine communication resources (fact sheets, infographics, myth busters, social media messages) provided in multiple languages for outreach and education by public health units and community agencies. Suitable for outreach to all communities, including identified high priority/hot spot areas





Dates to Remember

May 2021



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK				
10	11	12	13 Diamond Day -Happy Eid 	14
17	18 Virtual School Council Meeting 7:00pm	19	20	21
24 VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY— SOCIAL DISTANCING 	25	26	27	28
31 P.A. DAY NO SCHOOL	<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report Cards Return to School? 			