

Newsletter Feb. 21, 2020



Board Trustee, Allan Tam
416-898-9607
allan.tam@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent of Schools,
Paul Valle
905-940-7800
paul.valle@yrdsb.ca

Principal, Rose Li
rose.li@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal, Virginia Bregg
virginia.bregg@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal, Vanessa Wonnacott
vanessa.wonnacott@yrdsb.ca

School Phone: 905-202-1234

Upcoming Dates

February 25, 2020
Pascal, Cayley, Fermat
Math Contests,
Gr.9, 10 & 11

February 26, 2020
Michael Smith Science
Challenge Competition

March 8, 2020
Daylight Savings Time
Begins

March 12, 2020
Staff/Student Basketball
Game Buy-In, P.5

March 13, 2020
Interim Report
Distribution

March 16-20, 2020
Mid-Winter/March Break

March 23, 2020
School Council Meeting
6:30pm-8pm

Course Selections for 2020-21 Deadline Monday February 24

Students must **complete and return** their signed copies of Course Selections to their homeroom teachers for **Monday February 24th**. The system will be locked and no changes will be made after this date until our Course Verification Period later in the spring.

Graduation Update

Students who are **not returning** to Bur Oak for the upcoming school year must still complete their course selection form process to sign-off on their intentions for next year. These forms require parent signature and need to be returned to their homeroom teacher by February 24.

GRADUATES - URGENT ACTION REQUIRED



Students who are planning to graduate and to attend the graduation ceremony on June 24th must ensure that the \$40 fee for the event is paid through [School Cash Online](#). This fee covers the event costs, as well as the grad cap and gown package.

Please tend to this fee this week or inform Ms. Mask in the Main Office if your student is not planning to attend.



**YRDSB is holding
a poster contest
to determine
our official 2021**

Black History Month Poster!



Contest winner will receive
a YRDSB prize pack and an iPad Air 2 64GB!

- Contest open to all current YRDSB students.
- Details of contest available via <http://ow.ly/XNU830qdCtk>
- Submission deadline: February 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.



Voting for Student Trustees Now Open!

From Friday, February 21, 2020 to Wednesday, February 26, 2020 students in Grades 5 through to Grade 11 will have an opportunity to cast their vote to select their [Student Trustees](#) for the 2020-2021 school year. Students will be able to vote for two of the four student trustee candidates. Information about the candidates, process and timelines is available on the Student Trustee website.

Information about the Student Trustee Election Process and voting instructions will be emailed to all students directly through their GAPPS account on Thursday, February 13, 2020 and Friday February 21, 2020.

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is **Tuesday, March 31, 2020**. All students who wish to graduate from an Ontario secondary school must fulfill their literacy requirement by being successful on the OSSLT or by taking the Ontario Literacy Course (OLC).

In preparation for the OSSLT, the **After School Literacy** course will be offered again in second semester. This is the final opportunity to take this preparation course before the OSSLT in March. The course is running from **February 11- March 12, every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-4:30pm**. Please print, complete and sign the [registration form attached](#) and return it to Ms. Wan in the Learning Commons as soon as possible as registration closes on Wednesday, January 22. A paper copy of the registration form is also available for pick-up in the Learning Commons.

Please email angela.wan@yrdsb.ca with any questions or concerns regarding the OSSLT.

Safe Arrival/Attendance Reporting

Parents will continue to receive a Safe Arrival e-mail for Period 1 absences. Another e-mail will be sent at the end of the day.

Spare Periods

A reminder that students are encouraged to use a Spare Period to complete course work or study course material. Students choosing to be at school during their spare are to use the quiet study space provided in our school Library. Students with a Period 5 spare are not allowed to remain in the Main Hallway.

Bur Oak SS invites you to join
The Newcomers Network

ALL ABOUT VOLUNTEERING

Newcomer Students
Thursday, February 27, 2020
3:00—5:00 pm
Room 2004



CICS Immigrant Youth Centre presentation on:

- Where to volunteer
- How to apply for a volunteer position
- Upcoming volunteer opportunities

Sign up
Now!



For further information please contact:

Ms. Krabi- Guidance Counsellor

Hina Shah - School Settlement worker

hshah@ccsy.org

416-301-3878

Or Thursdays, Opp Guidance Office

Please obey all traffic signs and signals around the Bur Oak Secondary School perimeter! We want all of our students to be safe and arrive alive.



Arrivals and Departures

Parents/guardians who **drive their children to school** are reminded to follow the directional signs and use the designated areas for drop off and pick up at the **BACK** of the school. Please do not park in the bus / emergency zones and remember that there are no U-turns allowed in the front driveway. Failure to do so may result in fines and/or tickets as the front is designated a FIRE ROUTE.

Please remind your child to cross the road only at designated crosswalks. Student safety is our main concern and we thank you in advance for helping keep your child safe. Please **DO NOT** drop your child off on Bur Oak Avenue as this creates a dangerous situation both for your child and other cars.



Parking Reminders

Students who drive to school are reminded that use of the school parking lot is a privilege not a right. Students are expected to drive in accordance with provincial laws. All students are reminded that extreme caution must be used when driving in the school parking lot. Any student who drives carelessly or puts any student, staff member or community member at risk will lose their privilege to use the school parking lot. Parents/Guardians will be contacted and York Regional Police may also be notified.

Students may park in **designated areas** only in the south parking lot at the back of the school. Parking is not allowed in the Emergency Vehicles/Bus Route. To be eligible to use the lot, **students must**

- have a valid student card
- register their car at the office and obtain a parking permit. NOTE: Registration does not guarantee a parking spot.

Students who fail to comply with the parking regulations may:

- be towed at a substantial cost to the owner
- face a “drop” fee (once car is hooked to be towed)
- be ticketed (by the Town of Markham).

Bus or School Cancellations



With winter weather already here, we want to share some important reminders for families.

When an **inclement weather** or **extreme cold** day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) are cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. If you drive your child to school, or your child takes alternate transportation, you must make arrangements for your child to get home at the end of the day. Please call the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when **emergency winter events** occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, [Board](#) and school website and on [twitter @YRDSB](#).

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days are outlined in the Board's [Severe Weather policy](#), which has been recently updated and is available for public comment. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process. All [policies available for comment](#) are sent to school council chairs and are posted on the Board website, along with information about how to provide feedback.

REMINDERS

Student Dress Code

Please ensure that students adhere to the Bur Oak student dress code as outlined on page 5 of the [BOSS Student Handbook 2019-2020](#).

Request for Faith Accommodations

Attached is a link to the Request for Faith Accommodations [form](#). Further information or clarification can be found in the York Region District School Board Website.



English as a Second Language Classes for Adults



Improve your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Communicate with confidence in English!

Classes Available!

REGISTER NOW!

Day Time, Night Time and Weekend Classes

Many locations!

Classes available in Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Woodbridge, Markham, Newmarket and Stouffville

For more information
Call 905-731-9557 / 905-305-4122

Looking for a place to do homework during lunch?

Go to the Quiet Study Room



Monday and Wednesday Room 2017

P3	11:15 AM to 12:15 PM
P4	12:20 PM to 1:20 PM

Space is limited (20 spots available per period)

UPGRADE YOUR SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT



FREE
Programs for Adults
Call 905-731-9557 to book an appointment
www.yrdsb.ca

Flexible class schedules with individualized support.

Learn how to use email, Google Suite, Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook, Publisher, Access, OneNote and more.

Math, reading and writing classes available for work or academic upgrading (GED, apprenticeship, college).

www.yrdsb.ca
@YRDSB
YRDSBMedia



Stephen Forsey Invitational Swim Meet

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020
Two Sessions
(AM or PM or Both)

Hosted at the Markham Pan Am Centre

Volunteer as a Timer!

- High school volunteer hours signed off
- Lunch will be provided



Proudly Hosted by
THOR

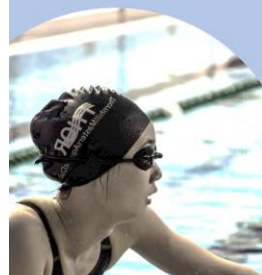
AM Session: 7:45 to 11:45 a.m.
Breakfast is provided.

PM Session: 11:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Lunch is provided.

Wear a white t-shirt and black shorts or pants.
Wear deck shoes that can get wet.

Contact us at

meetmanager@thornhillmultisport.com
to sign up for a morning or afternoon session (or both).





Tamil Parents Network

Free Yoga

and

Parenting workshops

In partnership with

**Family Services for York Region
Indigenous and International Languages Program
Inclusive School and Community Services**

When: Every Thursday, January to May, 2020

Time: 5:45 pm — 8:00 pm

Where: Cedarwood Public School
399 Elson Street, Markham

Contacts

Initha Subramaniam, York Region District School Board
initha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca, 905 884 2046 ext 228

Sudha Coomarasamy, Family Services for York Region
scoomarasamy@fsyr.ca, 905-883-6572

If you would like to join, please complete this section and hand it in to your school

Name of Parent/ Guardian: _____

Contact Information: _____

Do you have any Allergies: _____

Emergency Contact person and Number: _____



Tamil Parents / Guardians Network Workshops / Discussions

Inclusive School and Community Services
In partnership with
Centre for Innovation and Leadership

When:

Sunday, February 2
Sunday, February 23
Sunday, March 8
Sunday, March 29
Sunday, April 5
Sunday, April 19
Sunday, May 3

Time: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Where: Milliken Mills High School
7522 Kennedy Rd, Markham

You may register on the day of the sessions

Initha Subramaniam, Teacher Liaison
York Region District School Board
905 884 2046 ext 228
initha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca



2020 March Break Youth Engagement Program

Who is Suitable for this Program?

- This program is geared to mature students in Grade 9 – Grade 12 who may be interested in Policing or working within a Police service (not mandatory).
- This program is very structured and has a physical fitness component which all participants will be involved in.
- This program is designed to assist students in gaining self-confidence, self-discipline, self-awareness and resiliency.

Students Must Be:

- Resident of York Region
- Between the ages of 15-18 years old
- Currently in Grade 9 – Grade 12
- Currently attending a York Region Secondary School
- Complete an Essay and submit with the application
- All students must have their own transportation to this program – public transit is not an option

Our Goal:

- To have a week of learning and to experience a small portion of what the recruitment process may be like when applying to York Regional Police
- To enable you to get to know yourself better, your strengths as well as areas you can enhance
- To have you meet other students with similar goals and form lasting friendships
- To have you interact and work with Officers who will continue to mentor you during this week

How to Apply:

- Interested applicants please email csv@vrd.ca requesting a copy of the application
- Applications must be completed digitally and emailed back to csv@vrd.ca

For more information or further questions contact:

Debbie Robinson #5459, Supervisor, Community Safety Village, York Regional Police by email at csv@vrd.ca