



Cobra Communicator

We are a village, growing together

February 2, 2024.

Hello Cornell Village Families,

This week we welcomed back many former CVPS students who wanted to volunteer during exam week at Bill Hogarth. It was wonderful to have them back in the building, supporting a variety of classes. They seem to be thriving in high school which is our goal as we prepare students for their next steps in learning.

Our junior boys and girls volleyball teams competed in the area tournaments on Monday and Tuesday. We are so proud of their hard work and development this season. Many thanks

With the beginning of February, we celebrate a focus on Black History Month and Black Excellence. We have a beautiful display in our front entrance that we encourage you to look at if you are visiting the school. As a staff, we continue to engage in learning about the importance of creating identity affirming spaces for all of our students; spaces where they truly feel themselves reflected in the learning.

As always, please reach out if we can help with anything at all!

Sincerely,

Heather Purcell
Principal
heather.purcell@yrdsb.ca

Joanne Trim
Vice Principal
joanne.trim@yrdsb.ca

Upcoming Events:

Date	Day	What's Happening at School?
February 5	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pizza Day for those who ordered ● Knitting & Crochet Club - morning recess ● Student Council-snack recess ● Randell Adjei- presentation for intermediate students ● Chess club- snack recess in library
February 6	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PLAY leaders with grade 3s- snack recess ● Wonka Musical Rehearsal- 1:10 p.m.
February 7	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sub sandwiches for those who ordered ● Caring & Safe Schools student presentations ● PLAY leaders with grade 2s- snack recess ● Int. Girls Basketball - lunch recess ● Randell Adjei- presentation for intermediate students ● After school tutoring programme- grades 2 and 3
February 8	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eco-team Meeting-snack recess ● PLAY leaders with grade 2s- snack recess ● Wonka rehearsal-snack recess ● Little Jammerz - lunch recess ● After school tutoring programme- grades 2 and 3
February 9	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hero burger for those who ordered

Mark your calendars:

Feb. 13	School Council Meeting	June 12	SODA Track & Activities Meet
Feb. 15	Lunar New Year celebration	June 12	Fun Fair
Feb. 26	Int. Girls Basketball Areas	June 19	Track & Field Regional Meet
Feb. 26-28	Grade 7s to Lake George	June 20	Grade 8 Graduation-CVPS
March 6	CVPS Movie Night		
April 24	Wonka Musical		

Attachments for this week:

📎 Ubuntu-Healing-Wellness-Circle.pdf

[Centre for Black Excellence Newsletter](#)

📎 Kindergarten Registration 2024 Poster

📎 Toonies for Tummies 2024.pdf

📎 Lunar Nights Festival Discount.pdf

Signage on Cornell Commons

From the City of Markham website: The two most common signs are "No Parking" and "No Stopping" signs. These signs help reduce parked cars from blocking the street and allow traffic to move more smoothly. There are many parking by-laws found in Markham [By-law 2005-188](#) [PDF].

No Parking: You can't park your car where these signs are posted. You can stop your car for a short period only to load or unload goods or passengers. You can't leave your car unattended.

No Stopping: You can't stop your car where these signs are posted, or load and unload goods or passengers. You can only stop only if directed by a police officer, stop sign or a traffic signal.

Safe and Caring Schools Presentations:

To support and promote positive student behaviour, students will attend the Caring and Safe Schools Mid- Year Presentations next Wednesday, February 7th. These presentations underscore behaviour expectations as we create a caring, safe, and inclusive school environment. As families are critical partners, please continue discussing school safety at home by asking your child what they have learned in the Caring and Safe Schools Mid- Year Presentation.

Presentation topics include:

- YRDSB and School Code of Conduct (including items that are not to be brought to school)
- Staying safe online
- Progressive discipline, and
- Standing up for each other, including methods of reporting incidents of racism, discrimination and bullying.

Promoting Behaviour:

In the Mid- Year Presentation, students learn about following the YRDSB and the School Code of Conduct. Instances of anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination and bullying are not acceptable and are addressed through progressive discipline. In some cases of racism and discrimination, York Regional Police may be involved. Students will also be reminded about safe school behaviours, including what items must never be brought to school, such as peanut products, vape products/drug paraphernalia, weapons/replica weapons and knives/replica knives.

Reporting Behaviour:

Standing up for one another and reporting when something does not feel safe is part of a caring and safe school environment. Students should report incidents that make them or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable, including acts of racism, discrimination and bullying. Students can report incidents by:

- Telling a caring adult;

- Speaking with teachers and administrators
- Using the Report It button on the website
- Contacting [Kids Help Phone](https://www.kids-help-phone.ca/) (1-800-668-6868).

Mental Health:

- We will stress the importance of connection to students as we continue the school year. Students are learning about who they can talk to if they need support.

Student Discipline

- We use a progressive discipline approach for inappropriate behaviour on and off school property. This means we consider various options to determine the most appropriate response to each situation to help students learn from their choices.

Online Safety and Appropriate Use of Technology

- Students are reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools. This agreement is also included in the start-up package that all families receive at the beginning of the year.
- Students are reminded that online threats and comments are taken seriously and may have consequences, including potential criminal charges. Where there are concerns for the safety of students, staff, community members or Board property, the school board works with York Regional Police and appropriate actions are taken. The safety and well-being of students remain our top priority.

For More Information:

For more details on these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools](#) section on the YRDSB website for more information and to access family resources to continue these conversations at home.

Thank you for helping us create a caring, safe, and inclusive school community.

Toonies for Tummies

Anyone can go to any Longos and donate a toonie. 100% of funds stay local and go to student nutrition programs. *Metro/Food Basics/independent stores* starts February 1, *Sobeys/Freshco* starts February 15, etc. Visit the official website here:



<https://groceryfoundation.com/pages/toonies-for-tummies> .

Check your Email! CVPS Spirit Wear is Available to Order on SchoolCash Online!

Click on the two links below to view the flyers with more information:

 [CVPS Spirit Wear 2023-2024_FINAL.pdf](#)

 [CVPS Spirit Wear Drive Flyer.pdf](#)

Celebrating Black History Month / BHM365 Events 2024

* Dates and Events subject to change

Student Events and Family Engagement

Date and Time	Event Information/Details	Location
February 8, 2024	A Discussion for Families of Black Children on Pathway Opportunities for Students and Families. Register Here	Dr.Bette Stephenson Cafeteria
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 Register Here	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. Register Here	Dr Bette Rm 113





York Region District School Board UBUNTU HEALING CIRCLE Winter/Spring 2024



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.

The group will be facilitated by members of the School Social Work Team. Students in grades 7-12 are invited to attend and participation will occur virtually.

Grades Served: Grade 7 to Grade 12 students from schools across YRDSB

Modality: Virtual offering

Language of Service: Services will be offered in English.

Total sessions: 8 sessions

Date: Wednesday, February 28th, 2024

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm (Weekly)

For more information, or to sign up: Please ask your Teacher, Guidance Counsellor, SERT, Student Success Teacher, Principal, or Vice Principal to contact either: Melanie Beckford, RSW or Tracy Thomas-Elleston, RSW at the following email address: communitycareteam@yrdsb.ca

Markham Museum - Lunar Nights Year of the Dragon Festival

15% OFF WITH CODE YRDSB
Code must be entered in all capital letters



Lunar NIGHTS
Year of the Dragon Festival

FEB 8 - 25, 2024
Indoor & Outdoor 25-acre Festival

Lantern Light Festival | Interactive Activities
STANDING IN THE DOORWAY EXHIBITION
Food Vendors | Cultural Exhibitors | Baby Dragon Encounter
Games | Performances | Ice Skating | Snowshoeing

Markham Museum - 9350 Markham Rd.
Tickets at lunarnights.ca

Markham Museum is holding a Lunar Nights Year of the Dragon Festival From Feb 8-25 which includes a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. A 15% discount is being offered for YRDSB students, staff and families.



Thank you to our School Council for providing the hot chocolate and for arriving early to prepare and handing out the hot chocolate to our students!





MARKHAM FRESH FOOD MARKET

Drop by and enjoy our affordable fresh fruit and vegetable market. The market includes beautiful produce, tastings and more! This space is open to all and designed to make it easier to access fresh produce.



**CASH
CREDIT
DEBIT**

**Bring a
reusable
bag!**

DATES:

Mondays

January 15 & 29

February 5 & 26

March 4 & 18

TIME:

**Doors open at
2:00pm**

**Market is open
from
2:30-4:00pm**

PLACE: Ebenezer United Church

5000 Steeles Ave. East, Markham

CONTACT: For market related questions, please contact YRFN at:
ChristinaL@yrfn.ca or (905) 841-3101 ext 210

Ebenezer United Church, Markham



Funded by
The Regional
Municipality of York



Kindergarten Registration for September begins on January 19, 2024!

If your child is born in 2020, they are eligible for kindergarten in September.



Families can register using the following options:

- **Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten > Registration. 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](#) at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten and email the completed form to their school email address.
- **By phone** - Families can request support to complete the registration form on their behalf by collecting the required information by phone. Families can request an interpreter, if needed.
- **In-person at the school** - Families may call the school office and request assistance with registration. You may also drop by completed registration forms. Families may visit the school office to drop off or complete a registration form. Starting **January 23**, you may call the school office to set up an appointment to drop off the required paperwork. There is a Registration Verification Process following submission of a registration package, schools will contact families to schedule an appointment for Document Verification.

Grade 1 French Immersion (FI) Registration

French Immersion (FI) registration will begin January 19, 2024, and as such, we wanted to take this opportunity to share updated information. Please visit the [FSL Link](#) for more information about FI registration.



Are You Moving?

If you are planning on moving or have moved, please be sure to contact the office so we have your updated information. If you are no longer in our area, you will need to register in the school closest to your home. If you have moved out of the area and hope to stay here, a transfer application must be completed.

Free Family Activities at Varley Art Gallery

Lunarfest at the Varley - Saturdays & Sundays, February 10-11, and 17-18 | 10 AM to 5 PM | Free

Celebrate the Lunar New Year at Varley Art Gallery! Drop-in on February 10 and 11 for free family activities, and continue the celebration on February 17 and 18 with LunarFest, a community festival in partnership with the ACSEA. Don't miss the Lunar Lanterns in the courtyard from January to March, created in partnership with Indigenous artists. Experience a 2024 Lunar New Year celebration only at Varley!



<https://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/home/arts/varley-art-gallery/public-programs>



Cornell Village P.S. is a walking community. Most students live within walking distance to the school. We strongly encourage all students/families to walk to school when possible. If you must drive, please exercise caution in the school zone. If you are using the Kiss and Ride area, please drive slowly! Be sure to watch for pedestrians and drop off your children on the curb side only. Please only park in designated areas and avoid blocking the flow of traffic.



CVPS is Eco-friendly!

CVPS is working towards achieving an Ecoschool certification this year! Here is an update on our current initiatives:

1. **Battery collection pails** have been placed in the "front" area by the office main entrance and the library. Students can begin bringing in batteries. It is important to **tape the 9V battery terminals** to avoid fires.
2. **Snack pouch collection** bin is also in front of the library where ALL brands are being collected.

GET INVOLVED MAKE A DIFFERENCE



DEAR PARENTS,

Your child's school has signed up for the Ontario Schools Battery Recycling Challenge (OSBRC) by Environmental 360 Solutions Ltd. The Challenge officially starts on October 16, 2023 (Waste Reduction Week) and runs until May 10, 2024.

WHAT IS THE OSBRC?

The OSBRC is a recycling competition between 200 elementary and secondary schools across Ontario. Its purpose is to teach children and their families about the proper way to handle, store and recycle batteries at home and at school. Since 2014, OSBRC schools have recycled more than 12.5 million single-use batteries. The OSBRC prize pool has paid out more than \$94,010 to winning schools. This year, 30% of the total prize pool will be donated to the SickKids Children's Hospital.

STUDENT MISSIONS

With your consent, your child can sign up for Student Missions. If they complete 3 missions they will be entered into a draw for one of ten \$50 VISA Gift Cards. If they complete all 5 missions by Family Day, they'll have a chance to win a family trip to Great Wolf Lodge in Niagara Falls! There are also three bonus missions to give students extra chances to win! For more information and to register, please visit:

www.rawmaterials.com/ontario-school-recycling-challenge/student/

YOU CAN HELP!

Help your child recycle single-use batteries from your home. Please don't go outside your family bubble this year. What we don't recycle this year, we'll get next year. Before you send those batteries to school, please tape the terminals on all 6V, 9V, button cell and primary lithium batteries. To learn more about how to store batteries in your home and how to prepare them for recycling, please visit: www.rawmaterials.com/page/education/prepare-batteries/

This program is for primary single-use batteries (non-rechargeable). They are the typical household batteries like AA, AAA, C, D, 6V, 9V and button cell.

Sincerely,

Sarah Lacharity
School Program Coordinator
Environmental 360 Solutions Ltd.

www.rawmaterials.com
osbrc@rawmaterials.com
1 (888) 937-3382



✶ Niagara Falls, Canada



Writing Instrument Recycling Program

School Council has graciously set up a writing instrument recycling collection program here at Cornell Village PS. Pens, markers and other writing instruments are not considered recyclable in our municipality but thanks to Terracycle and Staples, they can collect ANY writing instrument for proper recycling.

What writing instruments are accepted through this recycling program?

All brands of pens and pen caps, mechanical pencils, markers and marker caps, highlighters and highlighter caps, permanent markers and permanent marker caps



— Classes will be collecting their unusable writing instruments and we're asking that families may also bring theirs in as well! Collection boxes will be in front of the library with our other (snack pouch and battery) eco-initiative recycling bins are.

Interesting tidbit: Through in-store collection at over 300 locations across Canada, Staples and Terracycle have successfully diverted over 2 million writing instruments from ending up in landfills. If all writing instruments recycled through this program were connected, they could travel up the CN Tower nearly 700 times! (Credit: Staples Canada)

Winter Clothing:

We have had winter clothing donated by many families and staff. If your child would benefit from a winter coat, hats, mitts etc., please reach out to us at the school and we can help you out!

Donations to Cornell Village P.S.

This year many of our students have benefited from the generous donations of others in our community. We have had families donate to our lunch programmes. We have another session starting in the new year. If you would like to make a donation to help pay for some student lunches, please email heather.purcell@yrdsb.ca or joanne.trim@yrdsb.ca. Your support is appreciated! Thank you to everyone who has so generously donated to our school. If you are able, we are currently asking for donations to support many of our school initiatives including:

- **Technology:** The school continues to work towards a goal of providing technology devices for each child, starting in Grade 1. Currently there are enough devices in the school for most students to have their own device but we are currently short due to our growing population. Many devices had to be retired earlier this year, as they were obsolete and no longer functional.
- **Arts Enhancement:** Last year, we were able to purchase 90 ukuleles. We would like to continue to enhance our arts and music programs as we look for new ways for our students to enjoy the Arts.
- **Miscellaneous items:** Provide support for school clubs, academic needs, speakers, outdoor equipment and special events.

Donations can be made by clicking on the Donate button on School Cash Online or by sending a cheque made out to Cornell Village Public School. Charitable donation receipts can be emailed to you directly for any amount \$20 or greater. Your donation will go towards all three areas of need.

Prayer Spaces

We have a designated space in the school available for students and staff who wish to pray during the day. Please let your child's teacher know if they need help finding and accessing the prayer room. The room is located beside room 201.

Worth Repeating:

Important Information to Remember:

KISS AND RIDE

The entry bell rings at 8:45 a.m. Students must make every effort to be in school by 9:00 a.m. to ensure “on time” arrival in class. During the early entry time, students may enter the school hallways to unpack their bags and prepare for class. In the interest of safety, it is suggested that students who walk to school should arrive after 8:45 a.m. **when the school is supervised.** Parents who pick up their child after school need to arrive promptly.

Supervising staff are on duty in the hallways 15

minutes before the start of first period classes at 9:00 a.m. **NOTE: Supervision is not available after school.**

Staff are on duty at the end of the day to assist with bus loading and the safe exit of the building.



EDSBY SIGN UP

This platform will be required to report absences, book appointments and may be used as a communication tool with your child’s teachers. For Edsby to be effective, it contains personal information about you and your family that is collected by the Board at registration. This information is used to provide services and support to you and your family. Edsby is a secure system that keeps your details and information safe and secure.

You will be receiving an invitation to EDBSY if you are new to the school, or you have not yet signed up. Please visit [this link](#) for online resources to help you register and use EDSBY.

Reporting Student Absences and Lates

We are pleased to let you know that we have a telephone attendance reporting system. This is in addition to online absence reporting through Edsby.

Regular and punctual attendance affects school success and is expected of all students. You are responsible for notifying the school before the bell time if your child will be absent or late. We have a safe arrivals program so that we can account for the whereabouts of absent students if the absence has not been reported prior to bell time.

To enhance our safe arrivals system, this new telephone system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance. It will also confirm student absences that have not been verified by automatically calling you.

If your child is going to be absent or late, please let us know before bell time by: 8:50 a.m.

1. **Logging in to Edsby and using the “Report an Absence” feature.** For more information on reporting your child’s attendance through Edsby, please see the [online video tutorial to learn more](https://bit.ly/edsbyabsence) (bit.ly/edsbyabsence).

*** If you are going on an extended vacation, please enter this on Edsby**

2. **Calling the school's main phone line at 905 471-1694 and select the option "To report a student absence or late."**

Long-term absences or absences beyond the following day can be reported through the new telephone absence reporting system, Edsby or by contacting the school. If your child will miss more than 5 consecutive days of school, you must complete the Request for Vacation Form available through the school.

Thank you for your cooperation as we continue to ensure the safety of our students. Please feel free to contact us with any further questions.

Screening Tool

If anyone in your family is feeling ill or showing symptoms such as a fever, cough, runny nose etc, please ensure that you make use of the [screening tool](#) for the 2023-2024 school year and follow the guidance given. This tool has been updated to reflect new protocols and guidelines.

Any students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as identified in the screening tool (not related to a COVID-19 vaccine) or answer yes to any of the screening questions, must not enter any school and follow the guidance in the screening tool.

Students, staff members and school visitors are not required to wear masks in school. Individuals who feel more comfortable or who are advised to wear a mask can continue to wear a mask and will be supported in doing so. Hand hygiene and cleaning and disinfection protocols will continue.

Extreme Cold Weather and Inclement Weather Days

An extreme cold weather day is declared when roads are clear but extreme cold temperatures make it difficult for buses to operate reliably, posing a safety risk to students.

An **inclement weather day** is declared when road or weather conditions make it impossible to operate a school bus safely.

When extreme cold or inclement weather days are called, school transportation, including buses and taxis, are cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open.

Please note: there may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions occur and we may need to close all schools and Board locations. Please ensure that you take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

The decision to declare an extreme cold or inclement weather day and to cancel transportation is made by 6:00 a.m. For more information, including how to check if buses are cancelled, please visit the [School Transportation webpage](#).

Important things to note on designated extreme cold and inclement weather days:

- Students will not be penalized for missing school. If you have concerns about how an extreme cold or inclement weather day will affect your coursework, please speak to your school principal or teacher.
- Any lunch service arrangements made by the school, special lunches or special events/field trips will be cancelled. If you have made lunch arrangements directly with a third party provider please check with them directly, otherwise parents should send a lunch with their child.
- If your child does not take the bus, you need to inform the school office if their child will not be attending on extreme cold and inclement weather days, otherwise the school's safe arrival procedure will apply.
- **If transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon.** If students do go to school, families will need to arrange to pick up their children.
- Parents should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school, understanding that if they choose to send their child, that the child should remain at school for the day and must be picked up at the end of the day.

For more information, please review the [Severe Weather Days Policy](#).

Emergency Weather Days

There may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions occur and we may need to close all schools and Board locations. Closures will be considered when facilities may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations such as a significant snowfall or ice storm that restricts access to the school site, causes widespread or prolonged power failures or downs power lines.

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. **However, it is important that families have alternate child care arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and after care programs will also not operate if schools are closed. Please ensure that you take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.**

Decisions about [student transportation](#) and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m.