



## Cobra Communicator

***We are a village, growing together***

January 24, 2025.

We had an amazing experience with our, **Blow Away the Blues, Mental Health Week**. The students learned about mindfulness, had Youthspeak assemblies, participated in mindfulness mandalas, created snow sculptures and had movement and dance activities on Friday. They also got a tasty frozen yogurt treat! Many thanks to our Mental Health Team for organizing such an amazing school wide events week.

The snowshoes have arrived and the snow is falling! We have the snowshoes on loan from the outdoor education depot. Classes are enjoying the opportunity to learn to snowshoe. Please see the photos included below.

Planning for the **2025-2026** school year is now under way. Kindergarten registration has opened up. If you have a child or if you have a neighbour who is born in 2021, they are eligible to begin kindergarten in September. Please access the online Kindergarten Registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten).

To those families celebrating Lunar New Year on Wednesday, we wish you good health and good luck.

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

Sincerely,

Heather Purcell

Joanne Trim

Principal

[heather.purcell@yrdsb.ca](mailto:heather.purcell@yrdsb.ca)

Vice Principal

[joanne.trim@yrdsb.ca](mailto:joanne.trim@yrdsb.ca)

### Upcoming Events:

Date	Day	What's Happening at School?
Monday, January 27	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pizza Day for those who ordered</li> <li>Pokemon Club- snack recess in the library</li> <li>Alice in Wonderland rehearsal-lunch recess</li> <li>Student Council Meeting- snack recess</li> </ul>
Tuesday, January 28	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eco Schools/Healthy Schools club meeting -snack recess</li> <li>Trivia Club- lunch recess</li> <li>Quiet Club- snack recess</li> <li>Grade 4-6 Coding Club- snack recess</li> <li>Junior Girls' Volleyball Areas</li> </ul>
Wednesday January 29	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snack Shack -morning recess</li> <li>Subway Subs for those who ordered</li> <li>Choir- snack recess</li> </ul>
Thursday, January 30	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alice in Wonderland rehearsal-lunch recess</li> <li>Junior Boys' Volleyball Areas</li> </ul>
Friday, January 31	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P.A. Day</li> </ul>

### Mark your calendars:

**Feb. 3** - Grade 8 Grad Photos  
**Feb. 3-5** - Lake St. George - Grade 7  
**Feb 4 & 5** - Grade 4 & 5 to Community Safety Village  
**Feb. 6** - National Sweater Day  
**Feb. 6-** Lunar New Year Performance 9:30 a.m.  
**Feb. 11-** Earth Rangers 2:00 p.m.  
**Feb. 14** - Winter Carnival  
**Feb. 26** - Pink Shirt Day  
**March 6 & 7** Milne - Grade 2  
**March 17 & 18** - Milne - Grade 4  
**March 19 & 20** - Milne - Grade 7  
**April 23-** Grade 7 visit to MSH  
**April 25-** Music/French Presentation- Njacko Backo  
**June 4** - Track and Field Area Meet  
**June 23-** Grade 8 graduation- CVPS

#### **School Holidays**

**Family Day** - Mon., Feb. 17  
**Mid-Winter Break** - March 10, to March 14  
**Good Friday** - April 18  
**Easter Monday** - April 21  
**Victoria Day** - Mon. May 19

#### **P.A. Days**

Friday, January 31, 2025  
 Monday, June 9, 2025  
 Friday, June 27, 2025

#### **School Council Meetings - 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

February 3  
 April 7  
 May 5  
 June 2

# 2025 YEAR OF THE SNAKE

**ZODIAC**

**Snake**

**Horse**

**Rabbit**

**Tiger**

**Ox**

**Pig**

**Dog**

**Booster**

**Monkey**

**Ram**

**Dragon**

**Some Lunar New Year Superstitions**

**red pockets**

**fireworks**

**fish dance**

**wear red**

**family gatherings**

**Some Lunar New Year Traditions**

**red lanterns**

**ancient offerings**

## A blackboard display for Tamil Heritage Month. At the top, a string of paper flowers hangs across the board. In the center, the words "TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH" are written in large, bold, red letters. To the right of the text is a large, brown, rounded pot with blue wavy lines. Surrounding the central text and pot are several children's drawings and cutouts. On the left, there is a drawing of a diya (oil lamp) with a flame, a drawing of a Pongal pot with a flame, and a drawing of a sun with the words "Happy Pongal". In the center, there is a drawing of a Pongal pot with a flame, a drawing of a sun with the words "Happy Pongal", and a drawing of a Pongal pot with a flame. On the right, there is a drawing of a diya (oil lamp) with a flame, a drawing of a Pongal pot with a flame, and a drawing of a sun with the words "Happy Pongal". The blackboard is decorated with small white paper flowers and a string of paper flowers.



## Blow Away the Blues Week



Our Blow away the Blues event, organized and facilitated by our Student Mental Health team of 40+ students under the leadership of Ms. Burns and Ms. Vaisanen was a huge success! This event was made possible through a generous grant from the Desjardins Group. Approximately 1700 applications were received for the Desjardins Foundation grant, with CVPS being one of a few recipients. Here are a few highlights from the week.





## Snowshoeing at CVPS!

Thank you to Mrs. Crouse for booking the snowshoes for our school way back in September! Once the temperatures warmed up a bit this week, our students were able to get out and snowshoe on the fields. A great time was had by all!



## Holidays & Celebrations Parade - Grade 2's



Our Grade 2 students created floats for a parade representing some of the many celebrations and holidays observed by families in our community and beyond. Complete with music, they marched through the office and the halls to show off their hard work and learning to the rest of the school. Thank you Mrs. Germano for helping the students demonstrate their learning in such a fun way!

## Cold and Flu Season

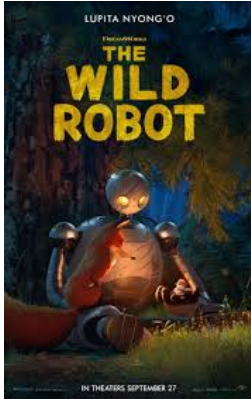
Winter is here and with it comes the cold and flu season. We are noticing an increasing number of students who are absent due to illness, or exhibiting symptoms while at school. Please read the important information below from York Region Public Health to help you know when to send your child back to school following a fever and/or nausea/vomiting/diarrhea. This helps all of our students, staff and families stay healthy!

The following information can be found on the Public Health website (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/protection-covid-19-and-other-respiratory-illnesses>):

- If you are sick, stay home to prevent transmission to others, except to seek testing or medical care if required.
- You should stay home until **all** of the following apply to you:
  - your **symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours** (or **48 hours if you had nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea**, i.e. from the last time that you had any symptoms)
  - you **do not have a fever**
  - you **do not develop any additional symptoms**



## From your School Council



The votes are in! Students had the opportunity to vote on the movie for our upcoming movie night on February 19th.




The overwhelming choice was for **The Wild Robot**. Keep your eyes peeled for an email from School Cash Online soon to order your tickets.

### Staff Appreciation – January 31st

As we approach the next Staff Appreciation Day on January 31st, we are excited to come together once again to recognize the incredible work our staff does. We will be providing treats to thank them for their continued commitment to our students' success.

If you would like to contribute or volunteer, please reach out via email at [cvps.schoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:cvps.schoolcouncil@gmail.com). Your support is always appreciated, and together we can make this day special for those who make a difference in our children's lives.

Thank you for helping us celebrate our amazing staff!

		
<b>Mondays</b> Jan. 27 Feb. 3, 10, 24, March 3	<b>Wednesdays</b> Jan. 29 Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 March 5	<b>Fridays</b> Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 March 7

CVPS SCHOOL COUNCIL WELCOMES YOU  
TO

# MOVIE NIGHT

WED. FEB. 19TH AT 6:00PM IN THE GYM



ADMISSION- \$2.00

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

## THE WILD ROBOT

NO PACKAGE DEALS OR EARLY BIRD PRICING AT THE DOOR

SLICE OF PIZZA-\$3.75, JUICE BOX- \$1.00, BAG OF  
POPCORN-\$2.00, GELATO (ICE-CREAM)- \$3.75



## 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.

## PA Day - January 31

As per PPM 151, Administrators are required to electronically share their P.A. Day plans with parents/guardians. P.A. Day plans are also posted on the Board's public website.

### PA Day – January 31, 2025 – Elementary Schools

Length	Topic	Entity Hosting	Presenter/ Facilitator	Description
Full Day- AM & PM	Violence Prevention and Intervention  Achievement of Learning Outcomes	All Elementary Schools	Online modules developed by Board staff, facilitated by school administration, and self-directed	Staff will explore violence prevention tools to support debriefing after a critical violent incident using case studies.  Staff will engage in the Achievement of Learning Outcomes specifically focusing on equitable assessment practices and Assessment in Mathematics.

## CVPS is Eco-Friendly!



CVPS is working towards achieving an Ecoschool certification again this year! We would like to keep our Platinum Certification. 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.

## Writing Instrument Recycling Program

We would like to remind everyone that our school has a writing instrument recycling collection program courtesy of our School Council. 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.

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 Walk Day - February 7, 2025

Winter Walk Day is celebrated by schools across Canada on the first Wednesday of February each year. This year, Winter Walk Day officially kicks off on Wednesday February 5th, 2025.

CVPS will be celebrating this with another Hot Chocolate/Walk to School Day on Friday, February 7th with the generous support of our School Council.

### Tips for Winter Walking

Walking to school in winter not only benefits student physical and mental health, well-being and academic performance, it's also fun!

Here are a few tips to help you stay safe and enjoy winter walks to school.

1. Dress for the weather. Wear layers. Don't forget your hat and mitts.
2. Protect your feet. Wear warm socks and winter boots. They will protect your feet from snow, rain and cold and have good grips.
3. Be visible. Wear bright clothes, stay on the sidewalks and make sure cars can see you when you cross the road.
4. Allow a little more time. Prepare your winter gear the night before and give yourself a little more time to walk to school.
5. Try walking like a penguin. It's fun and practical.
6. Enjoy the snow. Catch snowflakes, talk about what you love most about the winter.

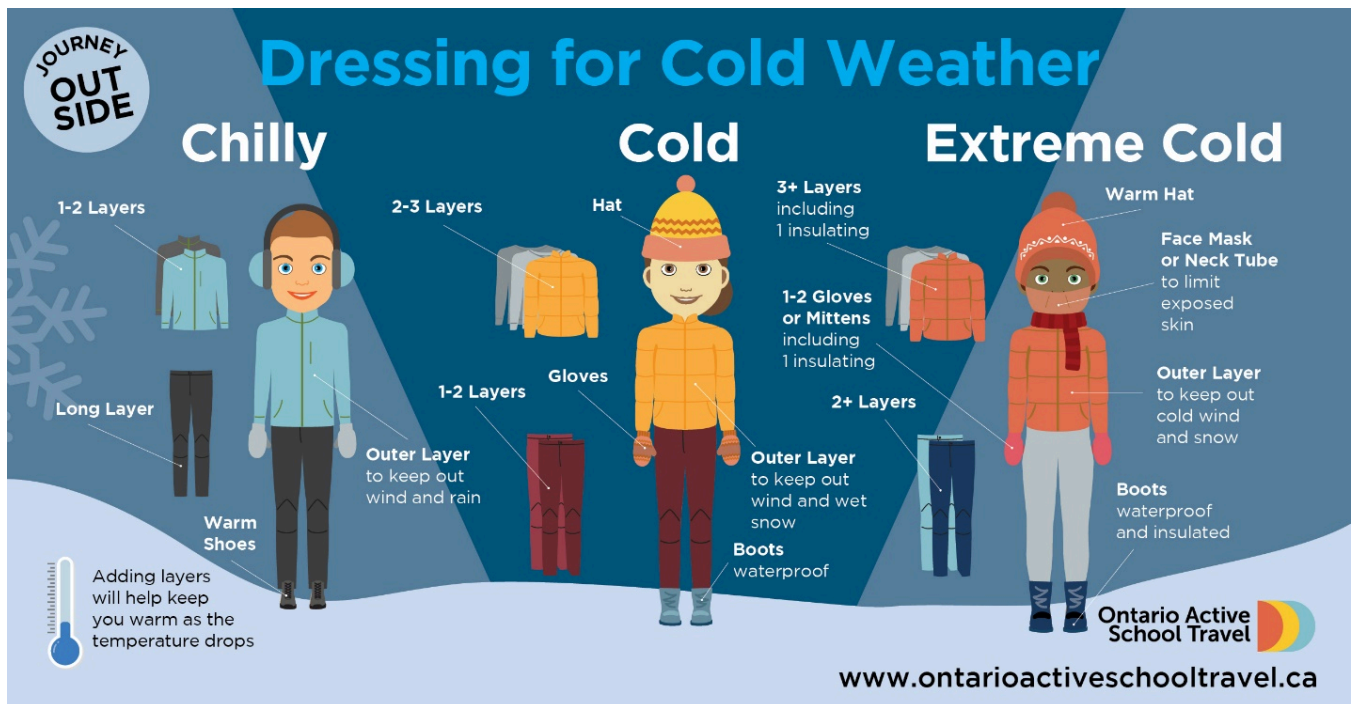




- Obey road signs. The seasons change but road safety rules remain. Stop at roads and crosswalks. Cross with a crossing guard where possible. Look out for cars.



Take some time and review winter dressing with your child.



If you are driving, please follow road rules. Remember that our school zones are busy with students and families. It is important that we all follow the rules to ensure student safety.

- Use the kiss and ride. Do not use dedicated bus lanes.
- Consider parking near the school and walking the rest of the way (obeying all neighbourhood parking rules).
- Obey all speed limits and road traffic signs in school zones.
- Focus on the road and watch for crossing guards and students crossing the road.

It's never too early to start to teach road safety. Your child will become a safe, responsible and independent pedestrian by experience and practice. Starting them as young as kindergarten will equip them with the skills they need to walk on their own in all seasons at an earlier age.

Working together, we can all help to keep students safe. For more information about how you can help to create a safe school transportation zone, please visit our [website](#).

## Important Winter Weather Reminders

With winter weather here, we want to share a few important reminders.

### Dress for the weather

- Students should come dressed appropriately for the weather and for outdoor play. Students can stay warm by wearing layers of loose-fitting clothing, a hat, scarf, jackets, snow pants and mittens or gloves. Students may also want to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet.

### Recess

- If students are well enough to come to school, they are expected to go outside for recess. Our students benefit from spending time outside and being active. We monitor weather conditions throughout the day. If there are extreme weather conditions, we may consider a shortened or indoor recess.

### Bus or School Cancellations

- When an extreme cold or inclement weather day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) is cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. Please notify 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 weather 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 websites and on X @YRDSB.
- Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days is outlined in the [Board's Severe Weather policy](#).



**From the YRDSB**



# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

There are several ways you can register your child for Kindergarten

**Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year  
opens on Friday, January 17, 2025.**

**If your child was born in 2021, they are eligible  
to begin Kindergarten in September.**

## *What to Expect in Kindergarten*

Our Kindergarten programs are caring and welcoming where children learn through exploration, play and inquiry. Your child will engage in activities that support early literacy, math, critical

thinking, social skills and much more. Visit [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten) to hear from students and educators and to learn more about our program, routines, registration and more.

We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school!

### **We encourage families to register online.**

Please access the online Kindergarten Registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten). It is recommended that you use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.

- **Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten). It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration. Current families can also find the program registration link in the [Family Dashboard](#).
- **By email** - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten) 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 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](#).

**You may call the school office at (905) 471-1694 if you require assistance with the registration.**

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you to make an appointment to review and verify the [required documents](#).

## **Learning Together: Experiencing the Joy of Kindergarten - 2-Day Conference**

We will not be hosting a school, “Welcome to Kindergarten”, evening this year. We will be inviting our new students to come and tour the school and experience kindergarten with a parent/guardian, in the spring. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the conference offered by the YRDSB. Please see the information below.

*The York Region Child and Family Collaborative, in partnership with the York Region District School Board, York District Catholic School Board and EarlyON Child and Family Centres in York Region, **invite families of children eligible for Kindergarten in September 2025 to join us for a 2-Part Conference - Learning Together: Experiencing the Joy of Kindergarten.***

### **Conference Details:**

#### **Part One:**

**Date:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**Format:** Virtual session for parents and caregivers

**Keynote Speaker:** Hannah Beach (award-winning educator, author, emotional health consultant)

**Part Two:**

**Date:** Saturday, February 22, 2025

**Time:** Two session options: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Format:** In-person session for children and adults with interactive learning opportunities

**Special:** Families will receive a Learning Together Conference Bag containing books and resources





# G.I.V.E!

## Get Involved. Volunteer in Education!

### 2025 Winter Session

Join our workshop series and discover how you can make a difference in your child's education by volunteering in schools. Empower yourself to support our school community and enrich your child's learning experience!

#### You will learn more about:

- The role of a volunteer
- Transferable skills
- Equity and Inclusive education
- Self care and well-being
- Human Rights
- Employment readiness
- School information and community resources

#### We will help you:

- Expand your network
- Effectively communicate with school staff
- Contribute to student learning and parent engagement
- Gain volunteer experience in schools
- Build healthy communities
- Boost Professionalism

**Location: Ellen Fairclough Public School, 33 Brando Ave, Markham, ON L3S 4K9**

**Dates: February 24 to 28, 2025 (Monday to Friday)**

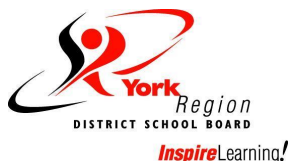
**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

All parents, guardians, caregivers are welcome to join this free training program!

Space is limited, please scan the QR code or visit the [Registration Link](#) to sign up.



This free information session is organized by York Region District School Board in partnership with Catholic Community Services of York Region. For more information, please contact Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS) at [iscs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca) or Victoria Chung [vchung@ccsy.org](mailto:vchung@ccsy.org) 416-568-2252 or Eman Hasan [ehasan@ccsy.org](mailto:ehasan@ccsy.org) 905-884-3434 #322.





Supporting East Asian Students  
**Family Engagement Evening Series**  
家校互动系列

**了解中学升学途径和选课系统**

请家长们加入SEAS支持东亚学生的家校互动系列，帮助您更深入了解安大略省教育系统中的升学路径和高中课程选择。

YRDSB的教师和辅导员将提供以下信息：

- 安省中学文凭(OSSD)要求
- 升学路径并规划高等教育
- YRDSB的高中课程选择流程

讲座有英文，普通话和粤语选择

**2025年2月5号 星期三**

**晚上6:30 - 8:30**

三楼学生餐厅

**Bill Crothers Secondary School**

44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4

请扫描二维码或点击以下链接报名

<https://bit.ly/4flwbhs>



更多详情请联系: [iscs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca)

本次活动由YRDSB ISCS 约克区教育局共融校园及社区服务部及支持东亚学生  
(SEAS) 共同合作



## Supporting East Asian Students Family Engagement Evening Series

### Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

Join us for this SEAS Family Engagement Evening to help parents and caregivers gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System.

YRDSB teachers and Guidance Counsellors will be delivering information focused on:

- Understanding the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements
- Exploring pathways and planning for post-secondary options
- Navigating high school course selection process in YRDSB

**Presentations will be available in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese.**

**Wednesday, February 5, 2025**

**6:30p.m. - 8:30p.m.**

**Cafeteria, 3rd Floor**

**Bill Crothers Secondary School**

**44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4**

**Please scan the QR code**

**or click <https://bit.ly/4flwbhs> to register**



For additional inquiries, please contact: [iscs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca)

This event is co-hosted by YRDSB Inclusive Schools & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developer team and Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) affinity group



# Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

**Dates:** **Monday, February 3, 2025, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.**

**Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.**

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.**

**Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.**

**Time:** **6:00–8:00 p.m.**

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

## To Register

Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to [blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca](mailto:blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca)



F E B R U A R Y

BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH

