



## Cobra Communicator

*We are a village, growing together*

September 8, 2023

Dear families,

Welcome Back! A special thanks to all our staff for all of their hard work in making the first four days of return to school a wonderful and smooth transition. Thanks to all our families for the support, flexibility and understanding as we transition back to school. Well done to our students who did a great job adjusting back to school! Everyone was so excited!

We are thrilled to be the administrators of Cornell Village P.S. We look forward to meeting you in the days to come. We will endeavor to send a weekly Cobra Communicator to families with some key information, upcoming events, and attachments for you to view. Mark your calendars for our first School Council meeting on September 18. This is for parents only. We will have a Meet and Mingle at 6:15 p.m. for parents who want to find out about the School Council ahead of the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Our Terry Fox Run will be September 26 in the afternoon.

We welcome you and your child back to school for the 2023-2024 school year!

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)



**School Start-Up packages** were sent home with your child. The YRDSB will send out a link should you wish to fill in the forms on-line. Please return the forms by Friday, September 15th. Here is a copy of the package: [2023-24 CVPS School Start Up Package](#)

If sending cash for your child(ren)'s **agenda**, please send the exact change. You may also pay through SchoolCash Online.

### **School Assistants Needed**

We are looking for School Assistants to help supervise during lunch hours as well as before school (and during the day at certain times). These are paid positions. We welcome parents and community members to apply and join the Cornell Village team. This role is an important one and we especially need supervision during the lunch hour. If you are interested in this role, please contact our school office and speak to Laura or Aminah. (905) 471-1694

### **Important Information See Below**

1. Health and Safety Reminders
2. Lunch at Home Permission
3. Kiss and Ride
4. EDSBY sign up for new families
5. School Start Up Package
6. Health Forms
7. Prayer Room
8. School Council Sign Up
9. [Caring and Safe Schools Presentations](#)
10. School Cash online sign up
11. Hot Lunches
12. [Elementary School Year Calendar](#)

#### **1. Health and Safety:**

Please review the School Board website outlining our specific health and safety measures for our school.

#### **New Covid Guidelines**

Families are still asked to screen their children using the [screening tool](#) for the 2023-2024 school year. 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.

## 2. Lunch and Recess Routines

### Lunch at Home Permission

If you are requesting your child return home for lunch, email the school office at: [cornell.village.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:cornell.village.ps@yrdsb.ca).

We will be creating a **master lunch list** of those students who will regularly go home for lunch. If you are picking your child up at lunch, please let the classroom teacher and office know. In order to ensure the safety of our students, students may leave immediately at the beginning of the lunch hour, and should return at the end of the lunch hour. They may not leave after eating lunch nor any other time. Once they have returned to school, they must stay on property and not leave again. This will help us ensure all students are safe. Students should be eating at their own homes if they are going home for lunch. This is not the opportunity for them to visit friend's houses, the Hasty market or gas station with friends, or hang out with friends at a different playground, unless prearranged with parents and plans shared with the office.

### Recess and Lunch times

All students will be going outside for 30 minutes at recess. Students will be able to have their snack ahead of recess or after recess. Snacks are not permitted outdoors. Lunch will be structured with 20 minutes of eating time and 40 minutes outdoor play. Please be sure your child comes to school prepared for the changing temperatures. It is much better to layer and have warm clothes when needed.

### Staggered Entry

- Students may begin to enter at 8:45am through ALL doors
- Kindergarten students will enter through their exterior exits
- FDK 1 - West Gate of Yard, FDK 2 - North Gate of Yard, FDK 3 - North Gate of Yard

## 3. 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.

### How To Use the Kiss and Ride

- Morning drop off is open from 8:45 a.m - 9:00 a.m.
- Please use the right hand single lane in the Bus Loop.
- You will be directed to drive to the end of the loop until the ENTIRE ROW of cars stops.
- ONLY when all cars are stopped, students are then to exit vehicles in the “SAFETY ZONE” (indicated by green dots on the Kiss and Ride Map) by Kiss and Ride Buddies, Student Helpers and Staff. (\*We are in the process of getting student volunteers trained).
- Once clear of students, vehicles will be waved forward to exit and the next line will advance.
- Please do not STOP EARLY in the loop as you will create a traffic jam behind and cause other cars to pass / create UNSAFE conditions.
- Exit right onto Country Glen Road so you do not create a left hand turn traffic grid lock.
- DO NOT pass in the Kiss and Ride Loop – students may get out on both sides of the car.

### Picking Up at Dismissal Time

Please note – you may enter the Kiss and Ride loop in the parking lot prior to 3:15 p.m. If you would like to park and pick up your students, please see our alternate parking options.

### Where to Park

Between 9:10 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. you are welcome to use any open parking spaces in the school lot.

Please do not park in the Bus Loop at any time.

If you would like to park and walk your children to the door, please use alternate parking available on the following streets:

- Parking Inlets on Country Glen Road (in front of school)
- Cornell Commons Road (in front of school – south side)
- Parking Inlets on Christian Reesor Park Avenue
- Donald Sim Avenue

\*Please make sure you are not blocking any driveways and are obeying all parking signs and traffic laws.

### Parking Enforcement Fines

The City’s Parking Enforcement Unit has implemented some new penalties for vehicles parked or stopped in violation in a school zone to help address the safety issues. Vehicles parked within 100 ft. (30m) of a school zone will be subject to increased fines starting in September.

Please take a moment to read the information below provided by the City of Markham regarding

school parking zone safety and violations:

■ 2023-2024 School Zone Parking and Violation Description.pdf

### Walking to school

It is amazing to see how many families walk their children to school! **Please remember to only cross at the crosswalk.** We have noticed many students crossing the road in front of the parking lot entrance. Please be sure to take the extra few minutes and cross where the crossing guard is, in order to ensure students and community members are safe.

## 4. 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 EDSBY 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](#) ([bit.ly/edsbyabsence](http://bit.ly/edsbyabsence)).

or

2. **Calling the schools 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.

## **5. Health Forms**

Fillable Health Care forms are now available for families who have children with asthma, seizure disorders, anaphylaxis, diabetes, and/or other prevalent medical conditions. This also applies to children who require the administration of medication at school. These forms can be accessed through the links below and/or a paper copy can also be requested from the office.

[\*Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan\*](#)

[\*Asthma Health Care Plan\*](#)

[\*Diabetes Health Care Plan\*](#)

[\*Epilepsy/Seizure Disorder Health Care Plan\*](#)

[\*Self Administration of Medication Form\*](#)

[\*Staff Administration of Medication Form\*](#)

Once you've completed the appropriate Health Care Plan, please return it WITH the appropriate medication to school with your child. The form and medication can be placed in a sealable bag, with the student name marked on the bag and left at the office.

## **6. Prayer Room**

A reminder to families that we have a Designated Prayer Space available at school. Please speak with your child's teacher if your child would like access to this area.

## **7. School Council Sign Up**

As parents/guardians, there are many ways you can be engaged in your child's learning at home and at school. This includes getting involved with Cornell Village Public School Council.

The Cornell Village Public School Council is an advisory group of parents, teachers, school staff and community representatives that serve a vital role in helping our students reach their potential in all aspects of school life. The School Council promotes student achievement in many ways including; advising on school policies and procedures, assisting with school programs, fundraising etc. For more information on the activities of our School Council please visit our web site at <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/cornellvillage.ps/SchoolCouncil>

**School Council Candidate Nomination Forms** were sent electronically with the start up package. If you would like to nominate yourself or another community member, please send an email and a scanned copy of the nomination form to Heather Purcell by September 15, 2023, at [heather.purcell@yrcsb.ca](mailto:heather.purcell@yrcsb.ca). The first meeting will be held on Monday, September 18. We will have a meet and mingle at 6:15 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7pm, in the staffroom. We hope to see many of you there!

## 9.) Caring and Safe Schools Information

During the first month of school, we have Safe and Caring Schools assemblies by division. As well, there are mini lessons that teachers review in the classroom.

Please see the link [here](#) for more information about the content of the assemblies.

## 10.) Cornell Village PS is accepting online payments through School Cash ONLINE!

School Cash Online provides the following benefits:

- A convenient fee payment option that saves time
- Reduces paper
- No more need to send cash or cheques to school
- A quick way to register. It takes less than 5 minutes to register.

Parents that opt to participate will receive notification via email of student fees owed (both required and optional), and can make secure online payments by credit card or Interac and receive a receipt.

To view a presentation about the program, go to

<http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies/ParentRegEnglish/>.

Follow the easy steps at [this link](#) to register and get started!

## 11.) Hot Lunches

Once again, we will be offering hot lunches. These will begin at the end of September. Please look for an email from SchoolCash Online soon with pricing and order information.

Mondays - Regino's Pizza

Wednesdays - Subway



## Fridays - Hero Burger

### Message from Our Trustee

September 2023

Dear families,

It is my pleasure to welcome all new and returning families to school for the 2023-2024 school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and wish you a positive start to the new school year. I know it can be a time of transition for many, and am grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our school staff for all that they do to support students as they start the new school year, and create a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment in our schools.

The education of your children is a partnership, and we recognize that you are our most important partner when it comes to your child's education. As a family member, there are many ways you can engage in your child's learning, from speaking with your child about school and connecting with school staff to volunteering or becoming involved with the school council. You know your child best and we place great value on the relationship we have with families. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the school year.

As your school trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees has many [responsibilities](#), including making [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicating with the public. Please feel free to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns, and I will continue to keep you updated throughout the year on what is happening in the board. You can also visit our [newsroom](#), listen to our [podcast](#) and connect with us on social media to stay up-to-date on what's happening in the board.

This year, we are pleased to welcome our [new Director of Education Bill Cober](#), who took on the role on August 1 this year. He brings nearly 30 years of experience in public education in York Region, a commitment to student achievement and well-being, and a strategic and collaborative approach.

Later in the year, we will be undertaking a comprehensive strategic plan review. One of our roles as a board is to set the [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) that establishes our priorities and guides our direction as a school board. We will be reviewing that plan this year, and engaging with communities is a priority for us. Your input will be important and I look forward to sharing more information with you on this in the future.

I wish you all a great start to the school year and a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

Michael Chen

Trustee, Markham Wards 5 and 7



**September 8, 2023.**

**Dear Families**

**As per PPM. 151 all schools are now required to post a copy of the PA Day plan 14 days prior to any PA Day. Please let this memo serve as notice for our planned school PA Day on September, 22, 2023. Please note school will be closed to students on this day and teachers will be engaging in the following Professional Development:**

**Length: Half Day – AM**

**Topic 1: Student Well-being, School Safety and Violence Prevention**

**Entity Hosting: All Elementary Schools**

**Presenter(s) /Facilitators(s): Online modules developed by Board staff. Facilitated by**

**School Administration**

**Description:**

**School teams will engage in compliance training including:**

- **Occupational health & Safety;**
- **Student safety and violent incident prevention;**
- **Training on supporting student mental health and well-being; and**
- **Understanding cybersecurity and online privacy.**

**Length: Half Day – PM**

**Topic 2: Literacy/Mathematics Instructional Strategy**


**Entity Hosting: All Elementary Schools**


**Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board staff, self-directed and/or group directed in grade/division groupings.**

**Description:**

**Literacy: Kindergarten to Grade 8 will participate in a module providing an overview of literacy in YRDSB, an orientation to the new Ontario Language curriculum, Early and Emergent Reading Instruction, Universal Design for Learning, Equitable Assessment, and Screening Tool information.**

#### Attachments for this week:

 Caring & Safe Schools Start-Up Presentations - Family Information

 Indigenous Languages and International Languages Flyer.pdf

 Mental Health Newsletter September 2023.pdf