

Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

December 1, 2023

Timetable

Homeroom	8:30-8:35 a.m.
1	8:35-9:50 a.m.
2	9:55-11:10 a.m.
Lunch	11:10-12:20 p.m.
3	12:25-1:40 p.m.
4	1:45-3:00 p.m.

Student Council

Student Council is excited to share a lineup of amazing events that will make this holiday season truly memorable for our students.

Students will be wrapping up the 2023 year with a week full of fun and creativity during Spirit Week, from Ugly Sweater Day to PJ Day with Hot Chocolate. There will be something for everyone.



Let us all embrace the spirit of giving this December by participating in the Student Council's clothing and food drive. Donate new or gently used clothing and non-perishable food items. Students can also engage in classroom challenges for fantastic prizes, and spread warmth and joy this holiday season. Your donations to help the community will be greatly appreciated.

Any student looking to make a significant impact in the community can join the Relay for Life Committee and help plan a spectacular 12-hour event dedicated to funding cancer research. Join us to create a brighter future for all.

Linda Afolabi
Student council member

Important Dates

Dec. 4-8: Grad Photos
Dec. 11: Winter Concert
Dec. 25 – Jan 5: Winter Break
Dec. 7: First Day of Hanukkah
Dec. 25: Christmas Day
Dec. 26: First Day of Kwanzaa
Jan. 11: Grade 8 Open House

School Contact Information

Principal

Alex Corry

Vice-Principals

Elissa D'Souza
Deborah Austring

135 Bristol Road,
Newmarket, ON, L3Y 8J7
(905)836-0021

<http://denison.ss.yrdsb.ca/>

Superintendent

Farooq Shabbar

Trustee Name

Carolyn Butterworth
Pamela McCarthy

Visit the Denison Webpage

[Morning Announcements & Calendar](#)

Music Department Winter Concert

Our upcoming Winter Showcase concert will be held on **Monday, December 11th at 7:30 pm at the New Roads Centre for Performing Arts** (505 Pickering Crescent, Newmarket).

This concert will feature the guitar class, the grade 9 instrumental music class, Denison Singers, the Dr. Denison Concert Band, Paramedics Jazz Band and the Dr. Denison Wind Ensemble under the direction of Mrs. M. Hamilton. Family, friends and members of the public are invited to attend the concert!

Tickets for the concert can be purchased in person at the door or online at www.newtix.ca.

Attendance

Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students aged 18 must report all absences, late arrivals and/or changes to departure plans to the school in a timely manner. Where possible, notify the school in advance by phone 905-836-0021 or by email dr.j.m.denison.ss@yrdsb.ca

DECA Competition



Students competed at Seneca College on Sunday in various disciplines of Hospitality, Finance, Marketing, Business Law, and Entrepreneurship.

11 students are moving on to compete against all of Ontario in February.

Ms. D'Amico and Ms. Morris are so proud of our team! Go Huskies!

Destreamed Program Numeracy Tutorials

Students currently in grade 9 and 10 math courses are invited to attend math supports at lunch.

All materials will be provided.

- When: EVERY Wednesday, starting at 11:20 AM (approximately 30 minutes)
- Where: Room 228 (bring your lunch/snack/water) with Ms. Rasu
- Who: Students who would benefit from revisiting/relearning/reviewing prerequisite skills from grade 7, 8, 9.

Message from Our Trustee

December 2023

We hope everyone has had a good start to the school year, and is looking forward to the winter break ahead.

As we have been visiting schools and attending events, we continue to be impressed by the professionalism and dedication of school staff, the commitment and support of families and the curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm of students. As a Board of Trustees, we continue our commitment to delivering a high-quality education, this also includes striving to create safe, caring, inclusive and respectful school environments where students feel valued and supported.

We want to thank everyone who attended the school council forum held in our area and helped to make the event such a success. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together school council members for an evening of shared learning and discussion. School councils play such an important role in our schools, and we are grateful for all that they do to support students, family engagement and schools.

While we are not yet at the midway point in the school year, many students and families are already looking to the school year ahead, visiting [secondary school open houses](#) and starting to think about course selections for next school year. All our secondary schools offer a variety of courses, programs and opportunities that let students gain skills and experience, explore their interests and begin preparing for the future. Those opportunities are now even easier to explore.

Students can [search from 16 different sectors](#) that interest them, including STEM, Arts, business, manufacturing and many more to discover how they can earn credits, gain experience, skills and certifications in those areas. Visit www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb to learn more.

We also offer a variety of [programs for Black students](#) through the Board's Centre for Black Student Excellence. These summer and school-year programs are designed to affirm students' identities and support student achievement and well-being. You can learn more about the programs and how to sign up for the centre's mailing list [on the website](#).

One of our roles as a Board of Trustees is to regularly review Board policies to ensure they are relevant, reflect our mission and values as an organization, and meet the needs of our students. An important part of that process is collecting feedback from the community. [Learn more on the Board website](#) about how you can share your input and see what policies are currently being reviewed.

We want to take this opportunity to thank families for their patience while we work to restore services following [network outages](#) as a result of a cyber incident, and to acknowledge the work of our staff who continue to deliver high quality public education and to restore services.

As we head into December, we also want to wish you a safe and enjoyable winter break. There are many significant dates for different faiths and cultures during this time of year, and to all those celebrating, we wish you a happy and joyous celebration. We hope everyone has an opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Carolyn Butterworth, Trustee, Georgina and East Gwillimbury
Pamela McCarthy, Trustee, Newmarket

Husky Athletics – Fall Season Recap



The Huskies finished up their seasons on the courts, fields, pitches, and trails and made Denison proud. The teams played with energy, enthusiasm, and character and it was nice to see the positive effects it produced in our school.

Fall 7's Rugby was on full display. Our Senior Boys came out in numbers strong enough to field two teams. The DEN 1 Boys performed strongly against the league's top teams, twice advancing to the top tier! Our DEN 2 Boys also played inspired rugby all season, winning both their games on playoff day. Our Girls' team grew in skill and confidence week after week...they even practiced themselves on PA days! As Coach Piper remarked, "They really came together as a team!" On playoff day it showed; "They took Keswick to the brink and PET to the sink." All of our rugby players are to be congratulated for digging deep and having fun playing this demanding game. Well done, Huskies!

Exciting volleyball is back at Denison! The Senior Boys showed remarkable improvement and strong team spirit throughout their season. As well, the Junior Boys finished first place in their division and qualified for the final 8 tournament. They demonstrated strong skills and will be a force to be reckoned with in the future. Mr. Grootenboer would like to thank both teams for their solid seasons.

The Varsity Boys' Soccer team played with great energy in their quest for the playoffs. The team finished the season with a record of 5 and 1 and made it to the York Region quarterfinals. The home games were always well attended and the boys played an exciting brand of soccer. The team has a strong nucleus for the future and Coaches Campbell and Zantingh are excited.

Our Senior Girls' Basketball team made strides during their season. The girls showed a real commitment to defense and their offensive output tangibly improved. Coaches Blackwood and Grimes appreciated the level of energy the team brought to every practice and game. Great job, Huskies!

The Varsity Girls' Field Hockey team finished last season with a York Region silver medal and looked to turn the medal to gold this season. The team had an undefeated regular season before defeating Bill Crothers S.S. in the regional semifinals and Stouffville in the finals to complete their undefeated season. The girls always played with enthusiasm, grit, and character and represented our school so well. Coaches Pinnigar and Bisbee enjoyed this wonderful season and thank each member for their commitment. Congratulations!

The results from the York Region Cross Country Meet were terrific for Denison. This hard-working and cohesive team competed to the best of their abilities. 7 of our runners qualified for OFSAA in Etobicoke. The 7 runners were Anastasia Kirova, Michelle Kelly, Paulina Shirkalina, Amelia Sales, Madelaine Peltier, Ryan Ward, and Christian Myers. Anastasia, Michelle, Paulina, Amelia, and Madelaine also won the York Region Senior Girls team championship! Congratulations to this team of dedicated athletes!

Denison is proud of its student-athletes for this successful fall season.

Congratulations, **Huskies!!!**

Guidance Notes

Skilled Trades and Technology Career Planning Information Night

The Pathways Team in Curriculum & Instructional Services in collaboration with the York Catholic District School Board and Workforce Planning Board of York Region invites families of students in Grades 9-11 to attend a Skilled Trades and Technology Career Planning Information Night. The goal of this event is to inspire students to take their first step towards a career in industries that are constantly innovating, on the cutting edge of emerging technologies, and making a critical difference in people's lives. Students will have the opportunity to learn about some of Ontario's 140+ trades through presentations, a career panel and information booths. They will hear directly from former York Region students, tradespeople and local employers about life-changing career opportunities.

This event is taking place from **6:30pm - 8:45pm on Wednesday, December 6, 2023** at Bayview Secondary School (10077 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill, ON).

Registration Process:

- You are invited to secure your space through our YRDSB ***Skilled Trades & Tech Info Night Registration***. The form will close when spaces are full.
- Space is limited for each secondary student to bring 1 family member. A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your request and further details will be emailed to you prior to the evening event.
- In the registration form, you will have the opportunity to ask questions in advance that will be answered during the career panel discussion.

Agenda:

6:30 p.m. - 6:45p.m.	Information Booths
6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.	Presentation and Q & A
7:45 p.m. - 8:15 pm.	Career Panel
8:15 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.	Information Booths

Link to the ***Skilled Trades & Tech Info Night Registration*** Google Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnV6IKIMgVTYv8s7LBLdPbN5DOhUPuapF6_DDkA5DaIFyY0A/viewform

Food Pantry Google Form for Parent/Guardian Outreach

Dr. JM Denison S.S. has bi-weekly deliveries from the Food Bank of York Region (FBYR). If you would like your family to be registered to access items please have your child fill out the following Google form, using their school GAPPS account.

The names, number of people and addresses of families accessing the food bank will be shared with the FBYR, but will not affect the opportunity to access other food banks throughout York Region. This form is confidential and can only be seen by staff in the main office and guidance.

NEW FOR THIS YEAR!! STUDENTS WILL PACK THEIR OWN ITEMS SELECTING FROM WHAT IS AVAILABLE IN THE FOOD PANTRY THAT WEEK. PLEASE ALLOW SOME TIME TO SELECT ITEMS AT LUNCH OR AFTER SCHOOL

Backpacks will be provided for students to carry their items home- please have your student keep that backpack and bring it each time they access the pantry as when supplies run out, students will be responsible for bringing their own bag/box to take items home

Tracking is used to request more items and additional funding to keep this program running.

2023 DATES AVAILABLE: (Students may come daily, until there are no more items)

Tuesday Dec 5, 2023

The Denison FOOD PANTRY is located in room 153

Please note, this is just an intake form. Each time your child accesses the food pantry, in room 153, they will be required to scan a QR code to assist with our tracking.

Link to the Denison Food Pantry Intake Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsRAR6NSuhNIpb2uE_LDkKhZU42K86HI3ZiinEhgopVq_OLA/viewform?usp=sf_link

YOUR GRADUATION PHOTO DAY IS HERE

Graduation Portraits at your school will be starting on:

DECEMBER 4, 2023

To book an appointment please visit:

<https://www.brightpics.ca/bookyourappointment>

Create an account and book an appointment using the
JOB ID and GRAD ID provided below:

JOB ID: P9005 GRAD ID: tXadF5ek



Each student is required to pay \$20.00 Sit Fee to the Photographer on Photo Day. This fee includes digital proofs as well as an 11" x 14" composite of the Graduating Class.

Your digital proofs will be sent to the email address used to register for your appointment

Your Graduation Portrait session should be a memorable event. Please take time to look your best! We recommend all graduates wear a white collared shirt for the best results!

Graduates may also wear a tie if they choose.

Please be on time for your appointment!



If you need to make a change or cancel your appointment please contact us at:

studio@brightpics.ca





YRDSB FAMILIES OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-11

YOU'RE INVITED TO...

PATHWAYS TO SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

Learn about:

- OYAP
- Pathway Planning
- Course selection for skilled trade careers
- Experiential learning opportunities

CAREER PANEL

Hear about career pathways and opportunities from:

- Recent graduates
- Industry partners
- Employment experts

IMPORTANT INFO



Wednesday, December 6, 2023



6:30pm-8:45pm



Our Lady Queen of the World
10475 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill, ON

REGISTER NOW
Limited space



SCAN ME

yrdsb.cc/PSTTDec6

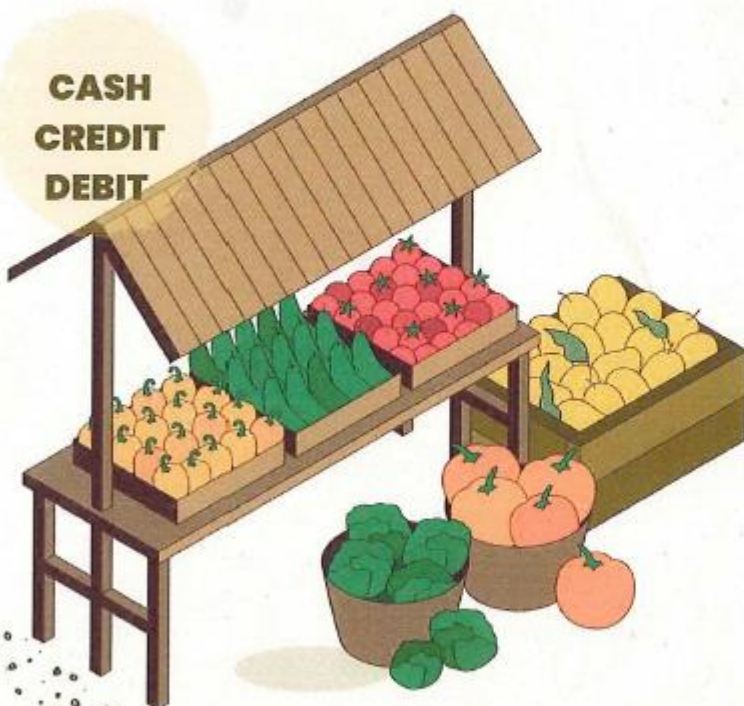




NEWMARKET FRESH FOOD MARKET

Come by to 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**



DATES:
Thursdays
Nov 9
Nov 23
Dec 14

TIME:
Doors open at
3:30pm
Market runs
from
4:00-5:30pm

PLACE: **Newmarket Church of Christ**
230 Davis Dr. Newmarket



NEWMARKET
CHURCH OF
CHRIST

Funded by
The Regional Municipality of York





Food Skills Classes

MEAL PREPARATION



Join us to learn, cook, share knowledge and enjoy meal preparation together with no special skills required.

All participants will leave each session with prepared meals that can be baked/cooked at home.



DATE AND TIMES:

Cost: Free

Date: Thursdays,
November 16, 30 & December 7

Time: 10-11:30am

Location: Newmarket Christ Church
230 Davis Drive, Newmarket

CONTACT:

Space is limited, call or email to reserve your spot.
Email Chantal at chantalm@yrfn.ca or 905 841-3101 Ext 205



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Report It

Our schools should be safe, welcoming and inclusive places for everyone. It is important that students know what to do if they witness or experience inappropriate behaviour or incidents of hate or discrimination.

- There may be situations when you can safely step in and intervene and help.
- Talk to an adult at school, family member or other trusted adult.
- Report the event without the person involved knowing using our online reporting tool, Report It.

Report It lets you share information about inappropriate student behaviour or incidents of hate or discrimination. You can use the online form to report:

- bullying, drugs, cheating, vandalism, harassment, violence or any other inappropriate behaviour
- incidents of discrimination or hate, including anti-Indigenous racism, ableism, anti-Asian racism, anti-Black racism, antisemitism, classism, homophobia, Islamophobia, sexism, transphobia or other forms of hate

You can report events that happen at school, at school-related events, online or off school property if it negatively affects a student or the school climate. You can also choose to make a report anonymously.

Complete reports are shared with the school to investigate and respond.

Acts of discrimination, hate and bullying are never acceptable. Using the Report It tool is a way of standing up for each other and for ourselves.

You can find Report It on the homepage of the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca and on the homepage of every school website.

Mental Health Supports

DENISON'S CHAPTER

JACK.ORG

<https://jack.org/covid>

<https://jack.org/Resources/Find-Support>



Although jack.org is an advocacy group and not a service provider, this page on their site contains links to a variety of different mental health support/information websites.

BE THERE

<https://bethere.org/Home>

<https://bethere.org/Be-There-in-a-Crisis>

KIDS HELP PHONE

<https://kidshelpphone.ca/>

ANXIETY CANADA

<https://www.anxietycanada.com/>

CMHA

<https://cmha-yr.on.ca/>

<https://ontario.cmha.ca/>

<https://toronto.cmha.ca/youth-zone/>

CRISIS SERVICES CANADA: 1-833-456-4566

This hotline deals with crisis support and suicide prevention