



Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

December 10, 2021

4 Period Day Begins

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|--------------|--------------------|
| Homeroom | 8:30 – 8:35 a.m. |
| Period 1 | 8:35 – 9:50 a.m. |
| Period 3 | 9:55 – 11:10 a.m. |
| LUNCH/Travel | 11:10 – 12:15 p.m. |
| Period 2 | 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. |
| Period 4 | 1:35 – 2:50 p.m. |

Student Council



Last month, we raised a total of \$306 for the Movember foundation. We would like to thank all of our Denison teachers who participated in our fundraiser and to those who donated. Last Friday was the last day for our Holiday for Heroes Campaign. We would also like to thank all students who brought in a toy donation. The class that brings in the most toy donations will receive a mystery class prize next Monday. Friday was also the last day for students to bring in their clothing donations for the clothing drive. Next week, we will be hosting our holiday spirit week. Our daily themes include holiday sweater day Monday, Drip-Mas or formal wear day Tuesday, holiday character day Wednesday, holiday explosion day or red and green day Thursday, and holiday PJ Day Friday. We also have three holiday themed events coming up next Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Monday the 13th, students can participate in our holiday Kahoot contest during lunch. On Wednesday the 15th, students can take part in or watch our holiday karaoke in the front foyer. On Friday the 17th, students can head down to the front foyer with their own mug to grab a cup of hot chocolate and take a group photo with Santa.

Razan Farraj, Grade 11 Representative

Important Dates

Dec. 10: Full Disclosure
Dec. 15: Gown Orders Due
Dec. 20-31: Winter Break

School Contact Information

Principal

Alex Corry

Vice-Principals

Elissa D'Souza
Alexandra Wright

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

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

Superintendent

Farooq Shabbar

Trustee Name

Elizabeth Terrell-Tracey
Linda Gilbert

Visit the Denison Webpage

[Morning Announcements & Calendar](#)

[Husky Wear](#)

Weekly Quote



School Council Logo Contest

Our School Council wants to create a new image and logo to replace the temporary one.

We are inviting all current students to consider participating in a Contest to design a logo over the winter break.

The winning design will be used on the council's communications such as letterhead and flyers and will receive a Prize.

Registration Forms available in the main office.

New Registration Deadline Dec. 16th.



Guidance News

Grade 12 students that are applying to **Ontario Colleges and Universities** are encouraged to complete their application over the winter break if they have not done so already.

University applications require a PIN number that was emailed to students on October 22, 2021.

www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca can be used for research.

www.ouac.on.ca is where students will complete their application.

College applications do not require a PIN number.

Research and application can be found at www.ontariocolleges.ca

Semester 2 course changes are still ongoing and students are asked to complete the google form on the Guidance Google classroom.

Guidance appointments are available daily by booking on Teach Assist- Appointment Manager.

Community Involvement opportunities have been posted on the Guidance Google classroom and a reminder that graduating grade 12 students are only required to complete 20 hours this year.

Semester 2 Night School registration for eligible students opens:

January 25, 2022 for Online Independent Learning- Sign up on My Pathway Planner

January 4, 2022 for Face to Face Virtual Learning – Sign up on My Pathway Planner

Graduation

At this time we are planning for our graduation ceremony on Wednesday June 29, 2022. A cap & gown is required to be purchased to have Graduation photos taken. Students will also wear the cap & gown to the graduation ceremony. Details on Graduation Photos will follow soon. Please order on SchoolCashOnline by December 15, 2021.

<https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>





Nordic Ski Team's first day on snow at Hardwood Ski & Bike





FOCUS
IMAGING INC.

**Your School Photo Retake Day will be on:
Wednesday, December 8**

*** We were pleased to offer your complimentary Student ID Card at the Original Photo Session. Any requests for a replacement Student ID Card will be a \$4.00 fee, payable at the Photo Session. This includes any replacements for lost/stolen Student ID Cards.***

Images will be available online: Saturday, December 11
Here is how you view and order your photos online:
Please visit our website and follow these steps:

www.focusimaging.ca

- * **Select Order Online**
- * **Select 2021-2022 Graduation or School Photos**
- * **Enter your Student School ID Number**
(***Not your OEN Number***)
- * **Select your School**
- * **Enter Your Job# 1022RET825**
- * **Press Look up**

View your images and select any packages

Any questions or you cannot find your photos online, please contact us
direct at www.focusimaging.ca or 416.593.6287

*******NOTE: All orders will be delivered after Christmas/Holidays*******

All Retake Photo orders placed online by Saturday, December 18 will be returned to the school for distribution. Orders placed after this date, will be processed with a Shipping/Handling fee and shipped directly to your home. Please allow approximately 4-5 weeks for processing and shipping.

Note: If you wish to order from your Original Photo Session, please refer to the earlier email sent with Original Photo Day Ordering Instructions and Due Dates. Shipping/Handling charges will apply to any orders from the Original Photo Day

Inclement Weather Days

As we enter the colder months, we wanted to inform families that similar to last school year, we have made the decision to **close schools to students when an inclement weather day is declared and school transportation is cancelled. Please do not send your child to school when an inclement weather day is declared.**

This decision has been made in consultation with Public Health to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and support the health and safety of our students, staff members and families. Prior to the pandemic, schools remained open when school transportation was cancelled. This year, given the importance of adhering to our [health and safety guidelines](#), we are unable to guarantee appropriate coverage for students on inclement weather days when school transportation is closed and classes cannot be combined.

Please take the time to make plans in the event of an inclement weather day school closure. Please note that before and after care programs will not be operating on inclement weather days. For on-site, full-day child care, please confirm with your childcare operator. We recognize that this may be an inconvenience for some families. This decision was not made lightly and made to prioritize the health and safety of students, staff members and families.

All students will be provided with asynchronous learning activities for the day. We recognize that each family's situation is unique. As with inclement weather days in the past, the learning will be optional and supplementary to help students continue learning. New material will not be introduced.

There are rare occasions when school transportation is cancelled due to extreme cold weather and not road conditions, and schools will remain open for students.

Communication to families

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance. Our priority continues to be the safety of our students, staff members and families. If you have any questions, please speak with your school principal.

Transportation cancellations or school closures will also continue to be communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services website: www.schoolbuscity.com
- Student Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- [Board website](#) and school websites
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- Radio and TV media outlets

Families who have provided the school with their cell phone will also receive a text message, unless you have opted out of this service. Please contact your school if you have any questions.

For more information on inclement weather days, please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.

Parenting

Triple P 0-12

Triple P stands for Positive Parenting Program. This unique group has been proven to be effective in providing parents with tools to help their children with behavioural and emotional problems. This group is 8 weeks in length and requires the completion of a workbook and weekly homework tasks. A pre-group interview is required. Call Janice at 905-895-2371. Groups are virtual and requires a \$35 workbook purchase.

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Date: | English | 8 Thursdays, January 13 to March 3, 2022 | Time: 9:30 am to 11:30 am |
| | Mandarin | 8 Thursdays, January 20 to March 10, 2022 | Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm |
| | Farsi | 8 Wednesdays, January 19 to March 9, 2022 | Time: 5:30 to 7:30 pm |

Triple P Teen

Triple P stands for Positive Parenting Program. This unique group has been proven to be effective in providing parents with tools to help their teens with behavioural and emotional problems. This group is 8 weeks in length and requires the completion of a workbook and weekly homework tasks. A pre-group interview is required. Call Janice at 905-895-2371. Groups are virtual and requires a \$35 workbook purchase.

| | | | |
|-------|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| Date: | English | 8 Thursdays, January 20 to March 10, 2022 | Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm |
| | Farsi | 8 Wednesdays, Spring 2022 TBC | Time: 5:30 to 7:00 pm |

Fearless Triple P

This 6-week group is for parents of children 6-14 who are experiencing anxiety. Fearless Triple P supports parents and helps them to learn new cognitive behavioural strategies for anxiety management, encouraging them to apply these themselves for all their children. Apply online at www.fsyrr.ca. Pre group interview required. Call Janice at 905-895-2371. Groups are virtual and requires a \$35 workbook purchase.

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|-------|-----------------|---|----------------------------|
| Date: | English | 6 Thursdays, March 24 to April 28, 2022 | Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm |
| | Mandarin | 8 Wednesdays, January 19 to March 9, 2022 | Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm |

Family Transitions Triple P

This 6-week group promotes a healthy transition for parents going through separation or divorce. This course will address co-parenting, being a single parent, self-care and is designed to help parents manage the anger and resentment that often accompanies relationship breakdown. Apply online at www.fsyrr.ca. Pre group interview required. Call Janice at 905-895-2371. Groups are virtual and requires a \$35 workbook purchase.

| | | | |
|-------|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| Date: | English | 6 Tuesdays, January 18 to February 22, 2022 | Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm |
|-------|----------------|---|-----------------------|

South Asian Outreach Program

South Asian Women's Support Groups

Ongoing virtual programs for South Asian Women. Topics include Parenting, Health & nutrition, family stress, immigration and legal information, health, exercise, and Yoga, employment and various other topics. Free.

| | | | |
|-------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Date: | Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu | Thursdays, January to March, 2022 | Time: 11:00 am-1:00 pm |
| | Contact Aisha at 647-545-8241 to register | | |

| | | | |
|-------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Date: | Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu | Tuesdays, January to March, 2022 | Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm |
| | Contact Leena at 416-818-7075 to register | | |

This letter is being sent on behalf of the Government of Ontario

In an effort to promote a safer return to the classroom after the winter break, on behalf of the Government of Ontario, our school will be distributing take-home rapid antigen screening kits to every child who attends a publicly-funded school in Ontario.

Our school will be sending the rapid antigen screening kits starting on December 7, 2021 during Period 1. Use of the screening kits is voluntary.

The rapid antigen screening kits are intended for use by any child who attends a publicly funded school, regardless of their vaccination status. Rapid antigen screening kits are to be distributed to students who participate in in-person learning. This testing option will not be available to students who have been learning remotely since September 2021.

Please note, your child's participation in this rapid antigen screening is voluntary. Students are not required to participate in order to return to the classroom after the winter break.

While providing students with rapid antigen screening kits is an important tool for managing the spread of COVID-19, vaccination remains the most effective protection against the virus and its variants. Ensuring that children and youth are vaccinated will provide them with a strong level of protection and help to keep schools open and as safe as possible.

It also is important to remember that we all need to continue with key public health advice, including staying home when sick, getting tested if you have symptoms, washing your hands frequently and wearing a face covering as required.

Please read the important information below prior to using the rapid antigen screening kit.

When to Use the Rapid Antigen Screening Kit (distributed prior to the winter break):

- For students who choose to use rapid antigen screening kits, it is recommended students conduct the rapid antigen tests every 3-4 days over the holiday break, on every Monday and Thursday beginning December 23, until all five tests have been used.
- Rapid antigen screening kits are only to be used when a child is asymptomatic (i.e. does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 and has not had any exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19).
- Anyone with symptoms or who is identified as a close contact of a case should still get PCR testing. Rapid antigen screening tests should not be used as a substitute for PCR tests for people with symptoms or for people who are close contacts of cases.

Using the Take-Home Rapid Antigen Screening Kit:

- The BTNX Rapid Response™ can be performed using anterior nasal swabbing (per the package insert, as approved by Health Canada) or using deep nasal swabbing (as recommended by Public Health Ontario in this document, given higher sensitivity compared to anterior nasal swabbing). Both types of specimen collection can be performed using the NP swab provided with the kit.
- Please follow the instructions provided with the kit.

What to do after your test:

- You will know the outcome of the test within 15 minutes. If test results conducted so far are negative, your child may return to school as usual. Even if your child tests negative, they should continue to adhere to all relevant public health guidance, such as guidance on gathering, distancing, and masking.
- A positive result on a rapid antigen screening test is considered a preliminary positive. A child that receives a positive result on a rapid antigen screening test should seek a confirmatory PCR test as soon as possible (ideally within 48 hours) at a local testing site or pharmacy that offers testing and isolate themselves until the result of that confirmatory PCR test is known.

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, or watch this [short video](#) to learn more.

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. Any student's interested in joining Denison's chapter of jack.org can contact sarah.vickers@yrdsb.ca or roda.jama@yrdsb.ca

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://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

UP HUB

A collection of peer-led tools and resources created to uplift York Region residents who are seeking services or need support”: <https://www.uphub.ca/en/index.aspx>

They also have a hard copy guide which they will mail out upon request. This guide is an outgrowth of the former York Region on a Limited Budget book

<https://www.uphub.ca/en/up-tools/yrlb-book.aspx?mid=10914>