

Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

January 24-28, 2022

Timetable

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

Student Council



As we finish off the semester, students are asked to fill out their self screening form before coming to school, properly wear their masks, sanitize their hands each time they enter a classroom, and maintain social distance measures. The York Region District School Board Student Trustee elections process has begun for students who are going into either grade 11 or 12 next year. The student trustees work with students, teachers, and the Board of Trustees to bring student voice to the board level. Students interested in learning more about the position or are looking to apply can visit www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees

Razan Farraj
Grade 11 Representative

Visit the Denison Webpage

[Morning Announcements & Calendar](#)

Covid-19 Self-screening link located on our homepage.

Important Dates

Jan 25: Last Instructional Day
Jan 26: Culminating Activities P1
Jan 27: Culminating Activities P2
Jan 27: Holocaust Remembrance
Jan 28: Culminating Activities P3
Jan 31: Culminating Activities P4
Feb 1: Instructional Day
Feb 1: Lunar New Year
Feb 1: Black History Month Begins
Feb 1: College Applications Due
Feb 2: Culminating Support Day
Feb 3: Virtual Feedback Day AM
Feb 4: PA Day
Feb 7: Semester 2 Begins

School Contact Information

Principal

Alex Corry

Vice-Principals

Elissa D'Souza

Ken Arnott

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

Tamil Heritage Month – January 2022



Tamil Heritage Month aims to celebrate the richness of the Tamil language and its literature and highlight Tamil Canadians' vibrant traditions, histories, arts, and cultures. In addition, it seeks to recognize the significant contributions of Tamil Canadians in key areas of social, cultural, economic, and political spheres. This

year's focus is Tamil Women's Excellence. Also, of significance is January 14, 2022. According to the Tamil calendar, January 14, 2022, begins the month of "Thai." On this day, Tamils celebrate Thai Pongal, the Tamil harvest festival. Thai Pongal is the most important and widely-celebrated festival amongst Tamils around the globe. Thai Pongal is a time to give thanks for the previous year's blessings and a time to look forward to the New Year.

Weekly Quote

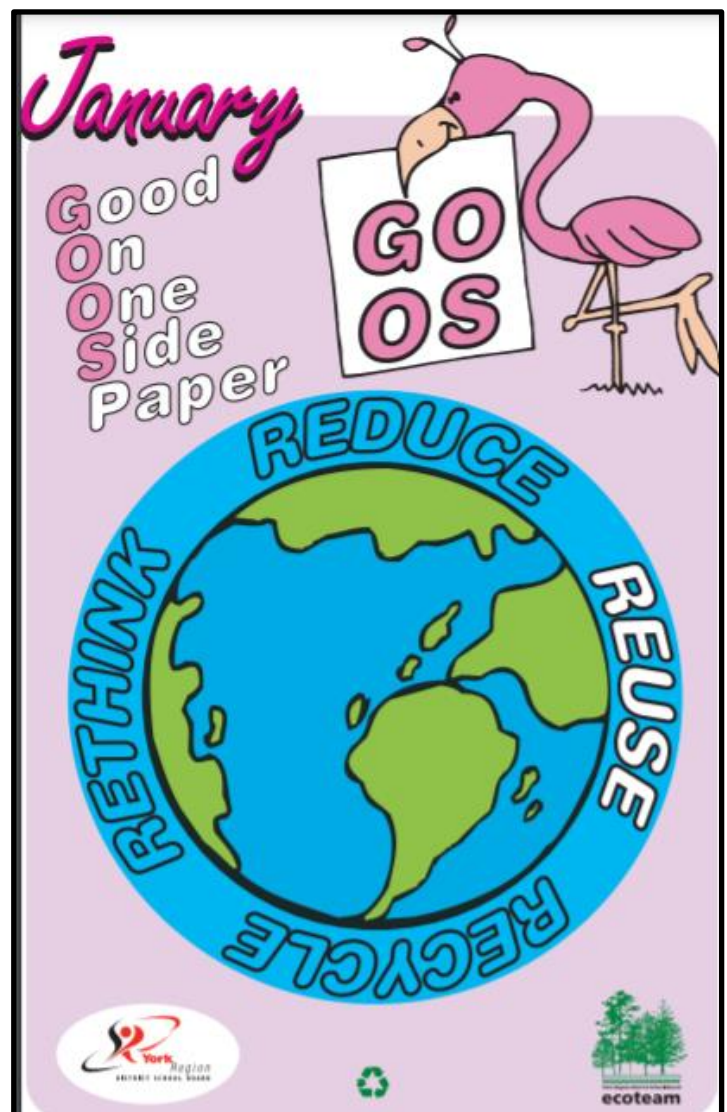


Lunar New Year



Lunar New Year, also called Spring Festival, is the most important holiday in China. The festival is also celebrated in Vietnam (where it's known as Tet), North and South Korea (where it's known as Solnal) and Tibet (where it is called Losar). In 2022, Lunar New Year will begin on February 1.

Tied to the Chinese lunar calendar, the holiday began as a time for feasting and to honor household and heavenly deities, as well as ancestors. With the popular adoption of the Western calendar in 1912, the Chinese joined in celebrating January 1 as New Year's Day. China, however, continues to celebrate Lunar New Year with the traditional greeting, "Kung hei fat choi."



Guidance News

Important Dates!

- Feb 1, 2022 OCAS (college) application due for equal consideration

Do you want to research post secondary programs and prerequisites?

Visit www.ontariocolleges.ca and www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca for a wealth of information!

Semester 2 Night School Options:

Semester Two - Winter 2022 Registration opens Tuesday, January 4, 2022

1. On Tuesday, January 4, 2022, registration will open on [my Pathway Planner](#). The first night of class is Thursday, February 17, 2022.

Delivery method (in class vs remote learning model) is still TBD . Classes will be held on **Tues. and Thurs. evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:45 pm.**

OR

Online Independent Learning (formerly elearning)

Semester_2 Winter – Registration Opens up January 25

MyPathwayPlanner will be used during the registration period [January 25 - February 23, 2022] to register for a course offered through Online Learning Night School.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/node/1415> - course list

Course Selection for 2022/23

Course selection for semester 2 will take place between **February 16 – 25**. Students are encourage to review courses and book a guidance appointment if they have any questions.

Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 27 is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This date was designated by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in November 2005. The day reaffirms "that the Holocaust, which resulted in the murder of one third of the Jewish people along with countless members of other minorities, will forever be a warning to all people of the dangers of hatred, bigotry, racism and prejudice" (UN General Assembly A/60/L.12). This day serves as an international memorial day for the victims of the Nazi Holocaust, which saw the murder of 6 million Jews, 250,000 to 500,000 Roma people, 200,000 to 250,000 persons with disabilities, and 15,000 people who were LGBTQ+. January 27 marks the date when the Nazi concentration and extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated by Soviet troops in 1945.

School Council Logo Contest

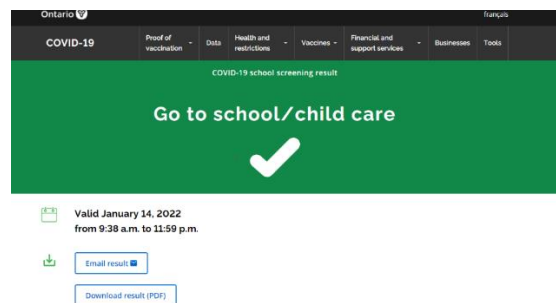
Reminder to those students registered in the logo contest.

**Entry Deadline, Friday
February 11**

Late Registrations for the contest are welcome. Forms are available in the main office.

As you know as of January 17, 2022 the school is now open. For those students returning to in-person learning, the following are a few points to consider:

Daily self-screening is required using the tool linked here ([York Region's Safe at School COVID-19 screening](#)). Once completed, students will need to demonstrate the completion of the self-screening by sharing their device's screen or a hard copy



Isolation guidelines have changed with a response to the latest guidelines from Public Health. Individuals experiencing **one or more** common symptoms, or **two or more** other symptoms are presumed to have COVID-19 and must isolate (regardless of vaccination status):

Common Symptoms (1 or more)	Other Symptoms (2 or more)
Fever/chills Cough Shortness of breath Decrease/loss of taste or smell	Runny nose/nasal congestion Headache Extreme fatigue Sore throat Muscle aches/joint pain GI symptoms

and

	Symptomatic individual is fully vaccinated OR under 12 years of age	Symptomatic individual is 12 years of age or older AND not fully vaccinated or immunocompromised
Symptomatic/confirmed case	Isolate for 5 days from symptom onset and must be fever free with symptoms improving for 24 hours (48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms)	Isolate for 10 days from symptom onset and must be fever free with symptoms improving for 24 hours (48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms)
Household contacts	Household members must isolate while the symptomatic/confirmed case is isolating. If a household member develops symptoms, they begin their own isolation period beginning from their symptom onset date.	

Some students borrowed technology during the board's move to remote learning. These devices should be returned on Monday January 17 as per the completed user agreement. The devices are required as loaner devices to support the learning in the school.

As you know, masks required for students in JK-12 with three-layer masks recommended. 3 ply cloth reusable masks will be distributed for all students in the first few days of returning to school. Families continue to be expected to ensure their child is wearing an appropriate mask.

Lunches will continue to be designated in areas by grade as shared in the table below:

Grade	Location
9	Library
10	Block 3/Period 2 classroom
11	Block 3/Period 2 classroom
12	Cafeteria

Unfortunately, all extra-curricular activities are paused during the initial start-up. We hope to have other messaging soon about activities outside of the bells.

Be well and we look forward to seeing you in the our classrooms (F2F and virtual) on Monday - *The Denison Staff*

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.

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/yr1b-book.aspx?mid=10914>