



Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

January 16-20, 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

We hope all students had a safe and relaxing Winter Break. The Student Council has events planned this month to help students relieve some stress as we approach Exam Week. We would like to thank students who participated in House Colour events last month. In first place is Yellow House with 105 points, Green House in second with 100 points, Blue House in third with 95 points, and Red House with 75 points. Students will have opportunities to win more House colour points later this month.

Razan Farraj
Grade 12 Representative

Exam Information

Exam Schedule and Information was emailed to families and can be found on our webpage. <http://denison.ss.yrdsb.ca/>

Students are encouraged to connect with their teachers for more information.

Important Dates

Jan. 18-19: Gr.9 Math EQAO
Jan. 19: Grade 8 Open House
Jan. 22: Lunar New Year
Jan. 24: School Council
Jan. 25: Last Instructional Day
Jan. 26: Period 1 Exams
Jan. 27: Period 2 Exams
Jan. 30: Period 3 Exams
Jan. 31: Period 4 Exams
Feb. 1: Credit Rescue/Salvage
Feb. 2: Exam Review Day

School Contact Information

Principal

Alex Corry

Vice-Principals

Elissa D'Souza
Brian Schouten

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](#)

To Report an Absence

call **(905)836-0021** or
email dr.j.m.denison.ss@yrdsb.ca



Dr. John M. Denison Secondary School

135 Bristol Rd., Newmarket, ON, L3Y 8J7
Phone: (905)836-0021, Fax: (905)836-7728 email: dr.j.m.denison.ss@yrdsb.ca
Website: <http://yrdsb.ca/schools/denison.ss>

January 9, 2023

Dear Guardians/Families:

Re: Upcoming EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

On January 18 and January 19, 2023, our students in the Grade 9 mathematics course, MTH1W, who are learning in person, will be taking part in the online Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics administered by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). This assessment is administered province-wide and has been developed by Ontario teachers and assessment experts. It is designed to allow students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to mathematics as described in *The Ontario Curriculum, Grade 9: Mathematics* (2021).

Students will complete the assessment in two sessions (Session A and Session B). Each session will be completed in one sitting and will take approximately 60 minutes to complete. The assessment uses a multi-stage computer adaptive testing model that adapts to the individual student's performance as the student progresses through each session. Students will also be presented with a questionnaire.

The online assessment platform provides all students with various tools (including text-to-speech, zoom in and out, and high-contrast) that can be used during the assessment.

After the assessment sessions are complete, teachers will receive an Individual Student Report for each student. Results from this assessment may be included as part of a student's final course mark.

Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with the types of questions on the online assessment and its platform through EQAO's online sample test.

For more information about EQAO and to view a sample test, visit EQAO's website, www.eqao.com.

Sincerely,

Alex Corry
Principal



Guidance Notes

Post-Secondary Application Information

Grade 12 students applying to college or university:

February 1st, 2023 is the equal consideration date to apply to OCAS (Ontario College Application Service)

Link: <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply>

January 12th, 2023 is the equal consideration deadline to apply to OUAC (Ontario Universities' Application Centre)

Link: https://guidance.ouac.on.ca/docs/student_hyperdoc_b.pdf

If your child needs support with their application, they can work one-on-one with their Guidance Counsellor – please have them come to the Guidance Office or book an appointment through Teach Assist.

Additionally if your child needs financial support with their application, have them please see their Guidance Counsellor.

Course Selection Information Sessions

January 19th

Grade 8 Open House 7:00 – 8:30 pm

January 24th

Grade 9 – 12 Course Selection and Pathway Information Session

Husky Athletics

[Game Times](#) Denison homepage calendar

Sr. Girls Volleyball

Season Starts - Wednesday, Nov. 30 @ Huron Heights S.S.

Sr. Boys Basketball

Season Starts - Tuesday, November 29 @ Newmarket H. S.

Jr. Girls Volleyball

Scheduled practices until February 2023

Nordic Skiing – Morning Practices

Practices to take place on Tues. & Thur. at 7:00 a.m. in the Fitness Room

Breakfast Program



Denison has a breakfast program for anybody who wants to get something to eat in the morning. It doesn't matter if you didn't have time to eat, or weren't hungry when you left home. From 8:00 a.m. -8:25 a.m. in Room 153, there will be cold cereal, hot oatmeal, bagels, yogurt, cheese, fruit, coffee, tea, juice, and hot chocolate (and occasionally other foods). Come and start the day with a good breakfast!

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.

Black Foundation of
Community Networks (BFCN)



Scholarship Application Workshop

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN), in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB), is providing a free workshop to show Black students and their families how to search, prepare, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. If you are in high school or Grade 8, this workshop is especially for YOU!

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EST | ONLINE (ZOOM)

Learn more and register at:

bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary17

To participate Black students and their families must be from YRDSB.

For questions contact:

Cheryl Yarde at info@bfcn.ca

Learn more about our work and how to support at bfcn.ca.



[Link to Register](#)

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, Islamaphobia, 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://ontario.cmha.ca/>

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

CRISIS SERVICES CANADA: 1-833-456-4566

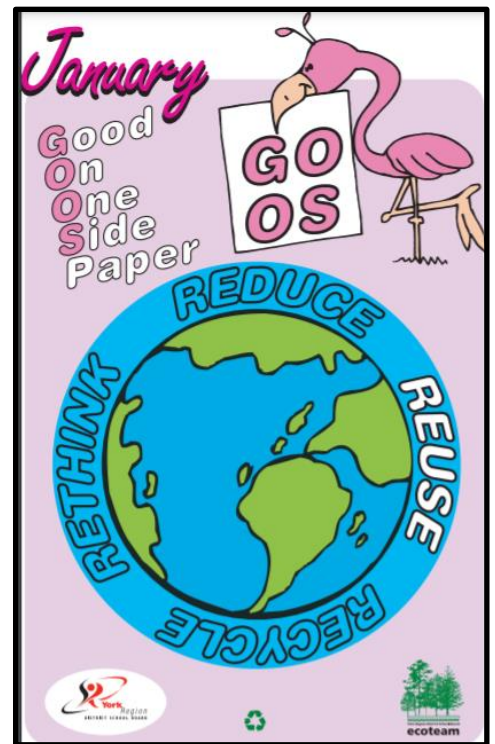
This hotline deals with crisis support and suicide prevention

Tamil Heritage Month – January 2023



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 Tamils' contribution towards Economic growth - Past, Present, future. Also, of significance is January 14, 2023. According to the Tamil calendar, January 14, 2023, begins the month of "Thai." On this day, people of Tamil heritage 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.



Lunar New Year – January 22, 2023



Lunar New Year, also known as the Chinese New Year and the Spring Festival, is celebrated by nearly 2 billion people worldwide. In 2023, Lunar New Year falls on Jan. 22, when participants will say goodbye to the Year of the Tiger and usher in the Year of the Rabbit.

Traditionally it's a time to honor ancestors and deities, marked by family reunions, parades and fireworks. While based on the Chinese calendar, Lunar New Year is also celebrated in Korea, Singapore, Mongolia, Tibet and Vietnam and in Asian communities around the world.

More than just the beginning of a new calendar cycle, Lunar New Year represents reunion and rebirth, marking the end of winter and the start of spring.

York Region Arts Camp



where creativity runs free

Saturday, May 27th to
Saturday, June 3rd, 2023.

[CIT 2023](#)

[Preview Application Form](#)

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.