



Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

November 5, 2021

WEEK 1 – Period 1 & Period 2

November 8-12

Homeroom	8:30 – 8:35 a.m.
Period 1	9:50 – 11:05 a.m.
LUNCH/Travel	11:05 – 12:20 p.m.
Period 2	12:20 – 2:50 p.m.

Student Council



We would like to thank all students who have participated in our October Spirit Week and congratulate Danielle Braun and Rebecca Jaego for being the winners of our costume contest. We would also like to thank the pumpkin carving contest volunteers. After tallying up the votes, it was the grade 12 pumpkin, carved by Rio Bailey, who won the contest. We are excited to announce that our Relay for Life committee will be starting up again this week. Relay for Life is an annual fundraiser through the Canadian Cancer Society that raises money for cancer research, while giving participants a day of outdoor fun and memories. All students interested in helping plan this year's event are welcome to join our Google Classroom and attend our first meeting this Thursday November 4th at 11:20 am with our coordinator from the Canadian Cancer Society.

Razan Farraj
Grade 11 Representative

Important Dates

Nov 8: Indigenous Veterans Day
Nov. 11: Remembrance Day
Nov. 15: PA Day
Nov: 28 Hanukkah Begins

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



Remember



New Date for November P.A. Day

The Secondary School Professional Activity (PA) Day originally scheduled for November 19, 2021 is changing and will now occur on November 15, 2021. Secondary schools will be closed to students on November 15, 2021 and reopen on November 16, 2021. A regular school day is scheduled for November 19, 2021, and students are expected to attend.

Denison Remembers

November 11

On November 11th we will be holding a virtual Remembrance Day Assembly beginning at 10:30. Mr. Piper will be sending out a link to the assembly on November 10th.

Devices Loaned During Pandemic

If you were loaned a device for use for online learning in the spring of 2020, or spring of 2021 we ask that you return them to the school as soon as possible.

The devices can be returned to the school library. If you have any questions, please contact

alexandra.wright@yrdsb.ca



Guidance News

Parents and students in all grades are invited to a Virtual Pathways Fair!!

Are you interested in finding out more information about Colleges, Universities or the Skilled Trades? If so, **Thursday, November 10 at 6:30pm** is your chance to hear from 12 Colleges, 16 Universities and The Skilled Trades College of Canada.

Links will be sent out on Tuesday in preparation for the event on Wednesday!

University, College and Skilled Trades representatives will be running four 30 minute sessions where families will learn about the schools and can ask questions.

Please use the links that will be provided to attend the 4 sessions you are most interested in!

Event Format: Virtual Sessions on November 10 at 6:30pm

Session 1: 6:30 to 6:55

Session 2: 7:00 to 7:25

Session 3: 7:30 to 7:55

Session 4: 8:00 to 8:25

Grade 8 Info Sessions for Sept 2022

Library

The Link Crew used the media cart for their meets with the grade eights.

This allowed the Link Crew Student's to spread out and see the class or student's they were meeting with without being crowded around one device or having to each join the meeting separately.

They had the mobile glass board in behind them too with a **Welcome to Denison** message.



OSSLT

Dear Parents/Guardians:

RE: Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test – Modified School Day November 25, 2021

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has scheduled October 13 to December 1 as the *fall window* for students across the province to complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). **Grade 11 and non-graduating grade 12 students in our school will be writing the test on November 25.** Grade 10 students will be writing the test in the *spring window* with details to be provided at a later date.

As with past practice, to assist in creating the best possible environment for students writing the test, and to comply with Public Health requirements and changes to the format of the test, the Board will implement a modified school day. **On November 25, all secondary schools in the North and Central regions will follow an exam-style day in which:**

- **only grade 11 and non-graduating grade 12 students who are writing the test are required to be at school** (no regular classes for students in grades 9, 10, and 12 will occur);
- students will be dismissed upon completion of the test;
- school bus and taxi service will run on their normal schedules; and
- self-contained special education classes [e.g., developmentally delayed, autism, complex needs, multiple exceptionalities, PEAK, York Academy programs, Intensive, Intensive Resource Support, and Acquired Brain Injury] will follow their regular schedule.

For Students Writing the OSSLT

Students writing the test will come to school on November 25 at their normal start time, **8:30 a.m.**, to write the OSSLT. Based on EQAO timelines for the test, we anticipate that many students will finish writing in about 3 hours. Students will be dismissed upon their completion of the test; however, space will be made available in the school for those who need to remain until regular dismissal time. Students requiring extra time will continue to write their test during an extended test-taking period. Modifying the school day in this way allows schools to maximize teacher supervision and support, and to ensure the availability of classroom space and access to technology.

For Students Not Writing the OSSLT

Although schools will be open, regular classes will not be running. Students not writing the test will be provided asynchronous learning activities for the day.

We wish every student success on the OSSLT and appreciate your ongoing support for student achievement and well-being.

If you have any questions, please contact the school's administrative team.

Sincerely,

Alex Corry
Principal

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>