



Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

October 29, 2021

WEEK 2 – Period 3 & Period 4

November 1-5

Homeroom	8:30 – 8:35 a.m.
Period 3	9:50 – 11:05 a.m.
LUNCH/Travel	11:05 – 12:20 p.m.
Period 4	12:20 – 2:50 p.m.

Student Council



Last week, we hosted our October Spirit Week. Additionally, anyone who wore a Halloween costume was given a chance to be featured in our best costume vote and win a mystery prize. We would like to thank all students who participated in our Halloween photo scavenger hunt. Students were asked to submit a completed slideshow with pictures for a chance to receive our mystery basket prize. We are excited to announce that we are getting a yearbook for this school year. For more information, students are welcome to follow us on Instagram at denison_yearbook. We will be using the number of people who follow us on our Instagram as a rough estimate of how many people are interested in pursuing a yearbook. The more people who want a yearbook the cheaper they will be. More information will be coming out on our Instagram within the next few weeks.

Razan Farraj
Grade 11 Representative



Important Dates

Nov. 1: All Saints Day
Nov. 3: Teacher Interviews
Nov. 3: TOKTW Day
Nov. 4: Diwali
Nov. 11: Remembrance Day
Nov. 19: 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

AT THE END OF THE DAY
WHO YOU ARE IS TOTALLY
& COMPLETELY UP TO YOU

Holocaust Education Week

November 1-7

The week of November 1st to 7th marks annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW). This year's theme is Holocaust Distortion, Myths and Misinformation: Dispel the myths and misinformation that fuel antisemitism and hatred. The Holocaust was the systemic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million Jewish people by the Nazi regime and its allies, and it's critical that we not allow this cruel chapter of modern history to fade from memory. During this week we also want to acknowledge that people of colour, the Romas, people with physical disabilities, and those who identify as LGBTQ+, among others, were targeted and murdered by the Nazis. As one means of working towards a world free of intolerance, racism and hatred, we encourage educators to discuss the Holocaust, as well as the many people who literally put their lives on the line in the face of antisemitism and other forms of hate.



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. These devices need to be serviced and re-imaged in order to keep them at their optimum. Additionally, with the return of in-class learning, many of our students require access to a device in order to participate in their classes.

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

alexandra.wright@yrdsb.ca



Guidance News

Virtual Post Secondary Fair for all students and families!

Join us on **November 10 from 6:30-8:30pm** hear from and speak to representatives from Colleges, Universities and Skilled trades!

Links will follow closer to the date to choose the schools you would like to learn more about!

New Programs at Ontario Universities:

Brock University:

New Programs

- New Bachelor of One Health (includes co-op option).
- Bachelor of Arts: New majors in Creative Writing and Sexualities, Genders and Social Change.
- Bachelor of Arts: Co-op option added to Culture and Technology Studies major.
- Bachelor of Bio-Resource Management: Co-op option added to Environmental Management and Equine Management majors.
- Bachelor of Science: Co-op option added to Plant Science, and Wildlife Biology and Conservation majors.
- Diploma in Turfgrass Management: Mandatory Co-op added.
- New minors in Black Canadian Studies and Linguistics.

Carleton University:

New Programs

- Concentrations in Economic Data Science and Public History (BA Honours).
- Minors in Business (Entrepreneurship), Community Engagement, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Critical Race Studies, Environmental and Climate Humanities, Health Sciences, Korean Language, News Media and Information, Performance in the Public Sphere, and Quebec Studies.
- New certificates in Multidisciplinary Studies in Mental Health and Well - Being, Science Communication, and Science and Policy.
- New streams in Animation and Visual Effects, Game Design and Development, and Web and User Interfaces/Experience for the Bachelor of Information Technology (Interactive Multimedia and Design).
- New stream in Mental Health and Well - Being for Psychology (BA and BSc).
- New stream in Geomatics for the BSc Honours program.
- New stream in Machine Learning for the Bachelor of Computer Science.

Guelph University:

New Programs

- New Bachelor of One Health (includes co-op option).
- Bachelor of Arts: New majors in Creative Writing and Sexualities, Genders and Social Change.
- Bachelor of Arts: Co-op option added to Culture and Technology Studies major.
- Bachelor of Bio-Resource Management: Co-op option added to Environmental Management and Equine Management majors.
- Bachelor of Science: Co-op option added to Plant Science, and Wildlife Biology and Conservation majors.
- Diploma in Turfgrass Management: Mandatory Co-op added.
- New minors in Black Canadian Studies and Linguistics.

More to Follow next week!

University Applications are due by January 13!

College Applications are due for equal consideration by February 1!

Virtual Volunteer Community Hour opportunities are posted on the Guidance Google Classroom and on www.neighbourhoodnetwork.org/volunteer/

OSSLT

Re: Upcoming EQAO Assessment 2021-2022

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is administered by the Government of Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). This test is administered to determine whether students have acquired the minimum literacy skills expected in the Ontario Curriculum, up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of this literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

EQAO is administering the OSSLT in the fall and spring in a fully online platform. Eligible Grade 11 and non-graduating Grade 12s will write in the fall window in the latter part of November. **The specific date for these students to write the test will be shared in a separate communication in the coming weeks.**

Grade 10 students will write in the spring window. This will support grade 10 students with opportunities to develop literacy skills. For Grade 12 students graduating in the 2021-2022 school year, the Ministry of Education has waived the literacy requirement for graduation.

Grade 11 and non-graduating grade 12 students who write in the fall will receive their individual results by the end of January 2022. Students who are successful on the OSSLT will have satisfied the OSSD graduation requirement.

Students have the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test. For more information about EQAO and to view the full practice test, you are encouraged to visit EQAO's website www.eqao.com.

Sincerely,

Alex Corry
Principal

Take our Kids to Work Day

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

We hope this correspondence finds you and your family well.

"Take Our Kids to Work" (TOKW) is a national initiative that provides grade 9 students with the opportunity to OBSERVE a work environment or ENGAGE in pathways planning for one day. As suggested by the Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel Report, the Take our Kids to Work program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On Wednesday, November 3, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., grade 9 students will take part in activities that will support them with their pathways planning. Grade 9 students, with the support of their parent/guardians, will have the opportunity to participate in one of the following TOKW opportunities:

- For students who wish to arrange for a virtual/in-person job shadow placement, we ask that parents/guardians review this [Family Guide](#) with their child. We also ask that the student provide their selected work location with the [Workplace Guide](#); or
- Students, who would like to participate in a series of dynamic and engaging "Live Stream" webinars **from home** on a variety of Career pathways, will be invited to join the Learning Partnership and the Pathways Team, Curriculum and Instructional Services, for a livestreamed session. Students will also engage in reflection activities and learn how to use the Pathways Planner and work on their IPP. For more information, please visit the YRDSB Take Our Kids to Work Day [events page](#) at www.yrdsb.ca.

All grade 9 students will receive an email from their home school in their GAPPS account with the required links for the livestreamed event as well as the schedule for the day.

Please be advised that permission forms to participate in Take our Kids to Work Day will be sent to your child's GAPPS account. We ask that you review the form with your child and then sign off as per the instructions.

We recognize that you and your child may have questions regarding this information. If it is helpful for you to connect with a staff member from the school, please contact a guidance counsellor or administrator to discuss your questions.

Please take care,

Alex Corry

Principal, Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School

Dr. Denison Secondary School

October 19, 2021

Parents' Night is on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) and learn more about the classroom. For health and safety reasons, we are unable to host an event at the school as we normally would; however, we look forward to meeting with you virtually.

Parents can use TeachAssist, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their children's teacher(s) on Parents' Night. All students in our school currently have a TeachAssist account to access information associated with their class assessments.

Parents/guardians may access appointment bookings on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 through the TeachAssist Parent Portal available at <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>. From there, enter in your email address and leave the password blank, to set up a one-time access link, or to reset a password that you've created. An email will be sent with a time-limited link that will look similar to this:

Once logged in, parents/guardians will have the option to set up a password.

For instructions on how to book a parent-teacher interview through TeachAssist, please click here. <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/resources/teachassistParentPortal-ParentTeacherInterviews.pdf>

If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Main Office.

Families who do not wish to book a time online can contact the Main Office or classroom teacher.

Important Timelines:

October 21-26: Interim Reports distributed electronically.

October 26-29: Parents' Night schedule opens for booking. Parents/Guardians will go to the TeachAssist parent portal (<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>) to book their appointment(s).

October 29: Interview Scheduler closes at end of day. Virtual Interview meeting links will be sent to families by email.

November 1-2: Parents/Guardians to receive confirmation email(s) from teachers.

November 3: Virtual Interviews - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Your partners in education,

Alex Corry
Principal

Elissa D'Souza
Vice-Principal

Alexandra Wright
Vice-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>