



Williams’ Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: June 13-17, 2022

Trait of the Month: Perseverance

The mission of The Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School is to develop literate students who are innovative, well-rounded lifelong learners and critical thinkers. We aim to foster caring global citizens who maintain inclusive and respectful interactions with others.

Contact Us
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Administrative Team
Melissa Schmidt, Principal
Diane Conlon, VP (A-Li)
Andrew Gazaneo, VP (Lo-Z)

Extensions:
Reception 0
Attendance 1
Guidance 3
Staff 4
Directory

Daily Schedule	
Period 1	8:20-9:40
Period 3	9:45-11:00
Lunch	11:00-11:50
Period 2	11:50-1:05
Period 4	1:10-2:25

School Website: <http://drgwwilliams.ss.yrdsb.ca/>
Email: dr.g.w.williams.ss@yrdsb.ca

Social Media: [@drgwwilliams](#) ([Instagram](#) & [Twitter](#))
Attendance: drgwwilliamsss.attendance@yrdsb.ca

This week:

June 13	
June 14	EQAO Grade 9 Math - Day 1
June 15	EQAO Grade 9 Math - Day 2 Locker Clean-Out - 12:50 pm; Textbook returns (where appropriate)
June 16	Prom 6:00 - 10:30 pm, Paradise Banquet Hall
June 17	

Upcoming:

June 20	
June 21	National Indigenous People Day - This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. The Canadian Constitution recognizes these three groups as Aboriginal peoples, also known as Indigenous peoples. GRADE 12s ONLY: Block 4 Classes - Culminating Activity Day, Grade 12s (PM); Grade 12 Regular classes Period 1 & 2 Last Day of Regular Classes for Grades 9-11 Athletic Banquet - 5:00 - 8:00 pm, School Cafeteria
June 22	Block 1 Classes - Culminating Activity Day by appointment
June 23	Block 3 Classes - Culminating Activity Day by appointment
June 24	Block 2 Classes - Culminating Activity Day by appointment

Message from the Principal

Another busy week of celebrations and wrap-ups here at Williams. It is so great to be able to be involved in all of these events and for students to have the opportunity to participate.

Thursday evening we hosted the final IB games night as well as the Arts Night. Both were attended extremely well. It was a pleasure to be able to hear student performances and see the artwork on display. Such talent in our building!! Today the music department held their final open mic in the music room at lunch.

In sports this week we had our baseball team finish in the semi-finals and our Junior and Senior soccer teams held a friendly match to wrap up the year. Thank you to all of our spring coaches for their dedication and commitment on and off the field to our student athletes. We are looking forward to celebrating all of the Williams athletes and coaches at our athletic banquet on June 21. A special thank you to all of our amazing coaches this year!!

Shima Bi-Majal, Muriel Brennan, Kent Bulmer, Anthony Buono, Joe Collins, Erin Draper, Mark Fuller, Katherine Hoffschmidt, Katherine Goodman, Sarah Isber, Kevin Julyan, Melissa, Kauffeldt, Brian Kim, Bradley McIntosh, Katrina Morrison, Jacqueline Palm, Jasper Park, Kent Ravelle, Michael Seymour, Lisa Shillum, Erwin Tsui, Jeff Unger, Leyla Zarrion

We encourage all parents to please take a few moments to respond to the YRDSB Survey for Students and Families that was emailed out last week. All students have had an opportunity in class to complete this. We actively use this data as a school in determining next steps for programming to support student achievement and well-being and appreciate your input to our improvement.

Culminating activities will begin on June 21st at 12:15 p.m. for Period 4 Grade 12 students and June 22 for all other students. These semester end evaluations allow students opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the ‘overall expectations’ for each of their courses. Evidence collected over time from observations, conversations, and student products supports increased reliability and validity of the evaluation of student learning. Teachers will be focusing on opportunities for individual students to demonstrate their full understanding of the curriculum expectations with the emphasis on those students that have not yet achieved level 1. Please connect with your child’s teacher if you have any questions about the culminating activities in their class and your student’s ability to demonstrate their learning in the course. If your child does not have a culminating schedule for a course in the culminating period and still has work to complete, teachers will be available on the culminating day, that corresponds to their class period, to help support the students. Make sure to check with the individual teachers whether they are available on - line or in person on that day. The [culminating schedule](#) is available on the GWW Website under News and Events.

Take care,
Melissa Schmidt

The YRDSB Survey for Students & Families will take place from June 1-30 and is an opportunity for students & families to share their experiences of learning from the past school year. Student and family voice is important to us. The York Region District School Board will be conducting two surveys to collect feedback from students (Grades 7-12) and families (Grades K-12) to understand their experiences of learning during this school year. The surveys will be available to be completed online between June 1 and June 30, 2022. For more information see [here](#).

Online Learning Requirement

Families of grade 10 students may have received an email from the YRDSB this week regarding the Online Learning Graduation Requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Families may elect to opt out of this graduation requirement; [the YRDSB website](#) has additional information about online learning requirements.

If you would like to opt out of the online learning requirement for your grade 10 child, please fill in the virtual form emailed to you. If you have not received a form, please contact us at the school.

WEEKLY NEWS FEED:

This weekend was the **Ontario Junior Ethics Bowl**. Team FLAVNC and team Jeremy Beremy both competed fiercely on Saturday. Team FLANVC started strong with an initial win but were then matched against two teams who eventually made it to the finals. Team Jeremy Bearemy faced a strong team and lost their first match but then came back to win their next two matches, and earn a place in the finals on Friday. They faced the undefeated Danforth Debators and won in the semi-finals. It was then down to the finals where they faced their old adversary, Assumption team 1 who they had lost to in their first match. After an ETHIC battle, team Jeremy Bearemy made up of Emanuela L., Naomi M., Catriona H. and Ananya M. won the match and were declared the Ontario Junior Ethics Bowl Champions!! Congratulations to both teams for all of your hard work and dedication preparing for the competition.

Info for Graduates - 2022

We will be celebrating the graduates of 2022 with an in person graduation ceremony.

Location: [Aurora Community Centre](#)

Address: 1 Community Centre Lane

Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm (graduates arrive at 6:00 pm)

All graduates and parents received an email with important information regarding graduation last week. Please ensure that you have reviewed that information for important next steps regarding the planning of our celebration. SchoolCash Online is open for the 'Graduation Add-ons'.

Sports Highlights

Athletic Banquet

The athletic banquet is back. Sorry for any confusion. If you were part of a sports team this year at Williams then this announcement is for you. The athletic banquet will be held *Tuesday June 21 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm* in the cafeteria. Come and have some BBQ, watch some highlight videos and most of all celebrate athletics at Williams. We have A LOT to celebrate. The cost is \$15 and tickets can be purchased on school cash online. See you there.

Baseball

Congratulations to the boys baseball team who finished the season 5 and 2. They represented Williams with positive character and class. Manny, Aidan, Dexter, Yiannis and Colm provided the team with some great offense, while Julian, Sam, Cory, Grayson, Brennan and Josh supported the defense. Way to go Wildcats on a successful season.

Notices

NEW - Centre for Black Student Excellence is a space committed to the promotion of Dismantling Anti-Black racism and amplifying voices that have been historically marginalized. Learn about upcoming events, scholarship opportunities, community partners and about the SHINE podcast. We hope you enjoy our June [newsletter](#) ! For more information see [here](#).

NEW - Free Summer Tutoring Program for SK to grade 12 by Project Abraham's Homework Club. Program runs from June 20 - August 31, 2022. See [flyer](#) for further information.

TVO has a reputation based on trust and quality as the technological extension of Ontario's Public Education System. Today, TVO creates leading digital resources to support learning inside and outside the classroom. Explore TVO's digital learning resources in more-depth to gain an understanding of how these digital tools can be used to support Ontario's students in school, at home or through online learning! The Ontario Science Centre is hosting a webinar on De-streamed Grade 9 Science on June 16 at 7pm. For more information see [here](#).

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YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel. June's Mental Health Newsletter for families and caregivers has a focus on the end of the school year and Navigating Uncharted Territories. Please see their latest newsletter [here](#).

York Region District School Board is accepting applications for membership on the Board's Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee (PEAC). PEAC supports, encourages and enhances parent engagement at the Board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being. It represents the collective voice of parents who have children attending public schools in York Region. Interested parents/guardians and community members are invited to submit an online application form by June 15, 2022 or can request a copy of the form by emailing leadership.development.engagement@yrdsb.ca or calling 905-727-0022 ext. 3650. For more information see [here](#).

Tune In YRDSB is the first podcast of its kind in Ontario. Here we will explore a wide range of topics related to education in York Region and beyond. We look forward to inspiring learning through storytelling. Listen to the latest episode of the *Tune In YRDSB podcast* [here](#).

Attendance

Parents are reminded to use the drgwwilliamsss.attendance@yrdsb.ca to report absences. All absences must be justified with a reason.

If students are required to self-isolate due to a COVID exposure or positive test result, please indicate that in your email as this is coded differently and is not reflected on the attendance tally reported on the student report card. Additionally, your child’s Vice Principal (Ms. Conlon A-Li, Mr. Gazaneo Lo-Z) will then connect with you to arrange learning during their absence.

Screening and testing help control the spread of COVID-19. Even if you or your child is fully vaccinated, you must continue with daily screening and testing if you or your child have one or more of COVID-19 symptoms. Please see the screening tool [here](#).

All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as identified in the screening tool (not related to a COVID-19 vaccine), must not enter any school and follow the guidance in the screening tool, which may include seeking appropriate medical attention as required, and/or getting tested for COVID-19.

Daily Announcements

Our announcements are posted to the school website each day for students and parents to access under the [News & Events](#) heading. We will have a text version of all announcements that will be updated each day. We hope that this addition will help our school community (and especially our remote learners that aren’t here to hear the announcements each day) to stay in touch with what is happening at the school.

Guidance

YRDSB Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement & Opt Out Process

Earlier this year, the Government of Ontario announced that students (beginning with those currently in Grade 10) must complete two Online Learning credits as a requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Please [read more about the requirements for students and the opt out process](#). This information is available in multiple languages. For further information please visit our [Online Learning Graduation Requirement Frequently Asked Questions](#) for families.

Private School Marks - Due June 17th

All private school marks are due by June 17th to the guidance office. If you have any questions please speak with your guidance counsellor.

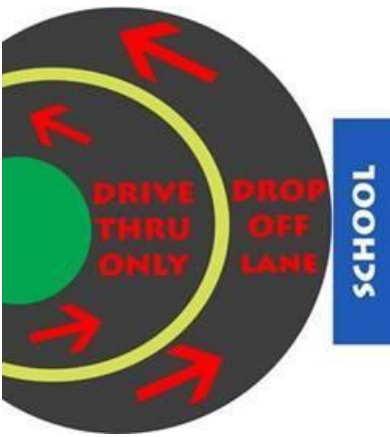
Indigenous Languages and International Languages Secondary Credit Program

Want to learn a new language and earn a credit? Sign up through Indigenous Languages and International Languages Secondary Credit Program [website](#).

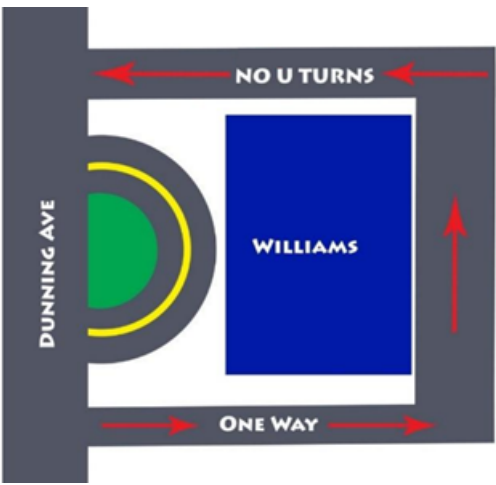
Safety and Community Notices

Driveway and Parking Lot

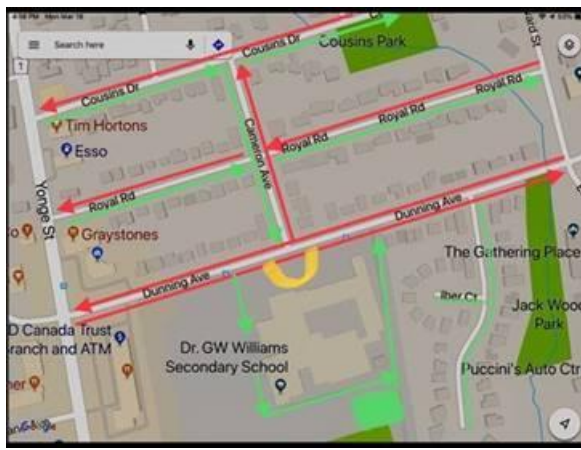
At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 2:15 to 2:40. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave the front driveway loop around 2:40, regular traffic may use this area. To support our efforts to ensure physical distance, we ask that you make arrangements to meet your students at the nearest exit from their classroom (in one of the parking lots) or off school property (down the street, around the corner, etc.). Please see the maps below to support your efforts.



There is one-way traffic in our front driveway loop. In the front driveway loop, drop off/pick up students on the right side; drive through only on the left side. For safety reasons, do not drop off/pick up students on the left side.



If you **MUST** come to the school, enter via the West lot (beside the track, closest to Yonge Street) and drive around the school to meet your child. **DO NOT** block the driveway waiting. There is one-way traffic in the west entrance and on the south (back) side of the school. **It is two-way traffic on the east side of the school, however, during the end of the day pick-up time you will notice the admin directing all vehicles to enter the west lot ONLY so that we have a constant flow out of the east lot.** This makes a significant positive impact on safety for all and makes it easier and less stressful for everyone. When you are able to enter the east lot, do not make U-turns anywhere in the east parking lot from Dunning Avenue to the south parking lot. Making a U-turn in this area creates an unsafe condition for pedestrians and other vehicles. If you need to turn around, please pull into a parking spot and carefully back out.



Please note that Dunning Avenue is a **no stopping zone**. This is noted by the signage along the street and on the map above you can see the red arrows on both sides of the street.

School Calendar for 2021-2022

- Prom - 6:00 - 10:30 pm , Thursday, June 16, 2022
- Athletic Banquet, 5:00 - 8:00 pmpm, Tuesday, June 21, 2022
- Graduation Ceremony - 7:00 pm, Tuesday, June 28, 2022

PA Days for Williams (but not necessarily for elementary schools in our area) are:

- Thursday June 30, 2022

School Council Meetings for 2021-2022

- No meeting scheduled in June