



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: Oct. 10-14, 2022

Trait of the Month: Inclusivity

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.

The Dr. G.W. Williams SS

Administrative Team

Melissa Schmidt, Principal
George Tsigaridis, VP (A-Le)
Andrew Gazaneo, VP (Li-Z)

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Phone Extensions:

Reception 0
Attendance 1
Guidance 3
Staff Directory 4

Daily Schedule

Period 1 8:20-9:40

Period 2 9:45-11:00

Period 3 11:05-12:20

Period 4 12:25-1:40

Period 5 1:45-3:00

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

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

This week:

Oct 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Thanksgiving (no school) * Sukkot (Jewish holiday celebrates the gathering of the harvest and commemorates)
Oct 11	Boys Soccer vs Huron Heights SS 4 PM at Williams Girl Field Hockey vs Stouffville SS 4 pm at Dr JM Denison JR and SR Boys Rugby 7's vs RHH, SHC, DEN, KES 1:50 pm at Huron Heights SS SR Girls Basketball (varsity) vs Sacred Heart CHS 3 pm at Sacred Heart Catholic High School Semi-Formal ticket on sale on 'School Cash Online'
Oct 12	
Oct 13	IB Information Night 7 PM Girls Field Hockey Game vs Sir Williams Mulock SS 4:30 pm at Dr. JM Denison HS SR Girls Basketball (varsity) vs Dr JM Denison 3:15 pm at Dr JM Denison SS
Oct 14	IB Application opens until Nov 7 . Late applications will not be accepted.

Upcoming

Oct 17	SR Girls Basketball (varsity) vs. Cardinal Carter 3 pm at Williams School Council Meeting 7 pm (Library)
Oct 18	JR and SR Boys Rugby 7's vs. HUR, KES, OLL, RHH 2:15 pm at Keswick HS
Oct 19	Post-Secondary Pathway Assembly (Per 2) Boys Soccer vs. Keswick HS 4:45 pm at Keswick HS
Oct 20	Cross Country - Boyd Conservation Area JR and SR Boys Rugby 7's at Williams SR Girls Basketball (varsity) vs. Sir William Mulock SS 3 pm at Sir William Mulock SS
Oct 21	PA Day

To support your family planning, the 2022-2023 YRDSB School Year Calendar is available on the [YRDSB website](#). Additionally, all tentative dates for our school events have been updated on our [Google calendar](#) on our [school website](#).

Message from the Principal

We hope that everyone has a restful and relaxing long weekend. For those that are gathering with family and friends enjoy the time together!

All the best,
Melissa Schmidt

YRDSB Student Information System Update

Over the course of the past two years many Ontario school boards have been working on the migration of their student information systems to a modernized system. The student information system is integral to school operations and is complex in nature. Over the summer, the board implemented this new student system and as is the case with any new project of this magnitude we experienced a small number of implementation challenges. Our Information Technology Services team is working diligently with the associated vendors to resolve the issues. We recognize that these issues may have caused some inconveniences for regular school procedures and will work to provide regular communications to families.

Williams School Yearbook

After two years of not being able to publish a full Yearbook, Williams Yearbook Team is in full swing preparing for a 2022-2023 full publication! Yearbooks are a special memento that students get to take away with them at the end of the school year as it highlights all events, sports, clubs, staff and of course students of that year. All grades are represented equally in the book and it is truly a representation of our school community. Purchase your beautiful hard copy today!

Will only be available for purchase on [School Cash online](#)!

Student Activity Fee Paid \$46 *Recommended

Student Activity Fee NOT Paid \$50

Semi Formal

Semi-Formal is coming up this **November 24!** This is a great opportunity to spend time with friends and enjoy a night out! It will be an event filled with memories and a buffet! Tickets will be **on sale on [School Cash online](#) starting October 11th**. All grades are welcome!

Athletics Notices

GOLF

Congratulations to Andrew A. & Marcus C. for competing in the Senior Boys Championship Golf Tournament. Congratulations to Sebastian H. & Isaac C. for competing in the Junior Boys Championship Golf Tournament. You all played great and did an amazing job representing G.W. Williams. It was a great golf season!

Notices

NEW PARENTING SESSIONS Let's talk about it!

Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations. We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these virtual sessions! For more information see [here](#).

This free parent presentation is brought to you in a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

NEW Islamic Heritage Month In-Person Event

An in-person exhibition on a wide variety of aspects of the Golden Islamic Scientific Era will be held on Friday, October 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Tahir Hall Community Centre. For more information see [here](#).

NEW Centre for Black Student Excellence Newsletter | October 2022

We look forward to continuing to develop opportunities for supporting Black students, families and staff within the York Region District School Board, in partnership with community partners. See [newsletter](#) for further information.

Human Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a prevalent issue and one of the fastest growing and most lucrative crimes worldwide and it is happening in York Region. Virtual Conference Dates: October 19, 20, 26, 27 | 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Register for the Anti-Human Trafficking Conference [here](#).

International Walk to School Month (IWALK) is an annual celebration of active transportation that takes place around the world throughout the month of October. Celebrate active modes of transportation like walking and wheeling along with other students and staff across Ontario during IWALK Month, which officially kicks off Oct 5.

York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities Events and Programs

York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities (York Region AACC) provides programs for Black Students Across York Region. Please see the [events web page](#) for details.

Anti-Asian Racism Survey Invitation - G7-12 Students - YRDSB is collecting information on experiences of Asian students (East Asian, South Asian, South East Asian). If you are an Asian identifying G7-12 student, you are invited to complete an [anonymous survey](#). Survey closes: October 31, 2022.

EIAC Call for Community Members - YRDSB invites [applications](#) from community volunteers for membership on Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee (EIAC). Application deadline is November 1, 2022.

Guidance

[YRDSB Aquatic Leadership Program](#)

Important Updates

Grade 12 Families - please look out for email communication from the school regarding college and university applications and important dates.

Accelerated OYAP & Apprenticeship Information Night

Learn more about Apprenticeship Pathways on **Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM**. For more information see [here](#).

You should attend this information night if:

- you are a Grade 12 student who is planning on entering the Skilled Trades;
- you are a Grade 10 or 11 student who would like more information on this program to better prepare for this pathway, OR;
- you are the parent/guardian of a grade 9-12 student who is considering a career in the skilled trade.

Register at: <https://yrdsb.cc/OYAP-OpenHouse> - see [flyer](#) for more details!

Upcoming Events

- **Local Post-Secondary Fairs:**
 - The Post-Secondary Fair at Newmarket High School is on October 13th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Click [here](#) for more details.
 - The Post-Secondary Fair for the Aurora/King area schools is on October 26th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Cardinal Carter Catholic High School. Click [here](#) for more details.
 - ***NEW*** Please see [this list](#) for all post-secondary fairs hosted by other YRDSB secondary schools for more dates and times.
- **Downtown Toronto Post-Secondary Fair:**
 - [Ontario Colleges Fair](#) October 19, 2022 from 5:00 am to 9:00 pm and October 20, 2022 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Enercare Centre
- **Post-Secondary Assembly** - October 19, 2022
 - The Guidance Department will be holding an assembly during the school day for potential graduates to provide guidelines and instructions on how to proceed with post-secondary applications.

To help students make decisions about what post-secondary programs to apply to, families are encouraged to research post-secondary pathways with students using the following websites:

- <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>
- <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/programs>
- <https://oyap.com/>

UPDATE MyBlueprint is now updated.

School Calendar for 2022-2023

- Please use this [link](#)

Family Start-Up Forms

Parents/guardians received an email from YRDSB Update with important school start-up forms to complete. **It is important that these forms are completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year as they contain important information and permissions.**

The forms can be found at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>.

Secondary school students can complete the secondary school student form at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/students>. Elementary school students do not need to complete these forms.

You must be signed in to your child's student GAPPS account to complete the form.

If you prefer to complete the forms on paper or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact the main office.

Website Resources for Families and Students

[Resources](#) for students and families on the YRDSB board website, including quick access to online tools, learning platforms and resources, community support, and translation tools.

Student Leadership & Student Voice, Policy #672

The York Region District School Board regularly engages in reviewing its policies. Currently, the Board of Trustees has identified a need to review Policy #672 Student Leadership and Voice and Policy #635 Student Dress Code. As part of the review process The YRDSB consults extensively with students, staff and community members.

We encourage you to review this [slide deck](#) to build some context around Student leadership in our Board and fill out the surveys to provide your feedback. You will find the surveys on our [Board's Policy review page](#) along with an explanation of policy review. Scroll down the page and click on to find the links to the surveys.

We thank you for your participation and your voice in ensuring our policies are reflective of our community of learners. Participation in the survey is completely voluntary, anonymous, and confidential. Your input will be considered and used to help inform revisions to the policies.

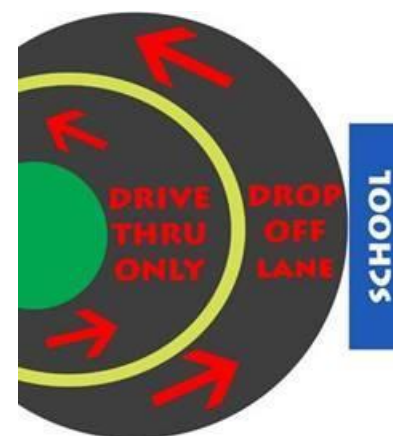
Safety and Community Notices

York Regional Transit (YRT) has announced a new Route 32 northbound trip, beginning September 14, to meet the afternoon bell time at Dr. G. W. Williams. This information won't be reflected on their website until November 6 but is included in this [flyer](#).

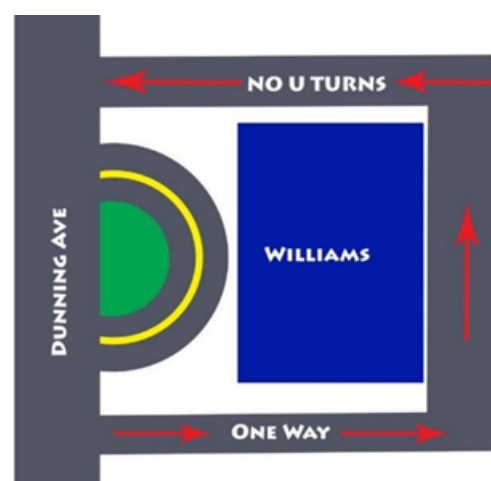
We continue to work with YRT to provide an improved experience for our students riding the 426 buses at the end of each day. Please remind your students to line up single file to board the buses and to stay behind the sidewalk (on the field) until the buses arrive and begin loading. This is important for everyone's safety.

Driveway and Parking Lot

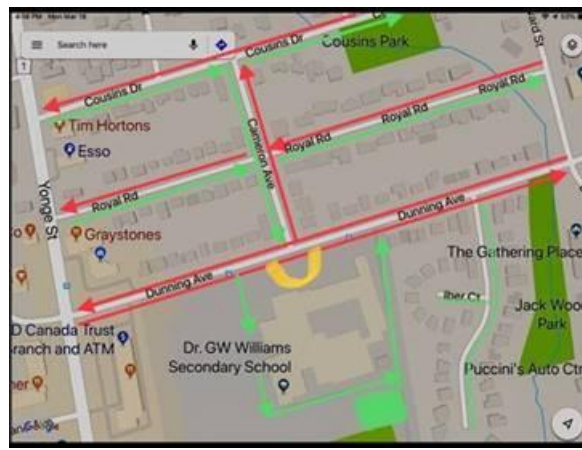
At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 2:50 to 3:10 pm. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave the front driveway loop around 3:10, 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.

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

- October 21
- November 18
- February 3
- May 5
- June 30

School Council Meetings for 2022-2023

- October 17
- November 21
- February 21
- April 17
- May 15