



# Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: March 2 – March 6, 2020

Trait of the Month: HONESTY

*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.*

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School Website: <http://drgwwilliams.ss.yrdsb.ca/>

## The Week at a Glance

<b>Mar. 2</b>	
<b>Mar. 3</b>	Jr. Girls Volleyball Team to Newmarket H.S.
<b>Mar. 4</b>	Jr. & Sr. Intensive to Waterstone Tour of Humanity Bus at G.W. Williams
<b>Mar. 5</b>	Jr. Girls Volleyball Team to Dr. John M Dension S.S. Jr. & Sr. MID to an Awake Conference
<b>Mar. 6</b>	

## Upcoming:

<b>Mar. 09</b>	
<b>Mar. 10</b>	
<b>Mar. 11</b>	Rock Climbing Team to Rock and Chalk Jr. & Sr. Intensive to Waterstone
<b>Mar. 12</b>	Interim Reports Distributed Rock Climbing Team to Rock and Chalk
<b>Mar. 13</b>	

## Message from the Principal

It was great to see so many staff and students dressed in pink on Wednesday in support of Pink Shirt Day. The commitment of our school community to demonstrate their kindness and compassion for others contributes to a positive learning and working environment for all.

Many of our students took the opportunity to demonstrate their mathematics skills during the University of Waterloo Pascal, Cayley and Fermat Contests this week. Thank you to the math department for coordinating and supervising this opportunity on Tuesday morning this week.

In sporting news, we are excited for our boys' basketball team earning the opportunity to represent York Region at the upcoming OFSAA competition in Windsor. The boys will be heading out on March 8<sup>th</sup> to represent York Region in this provincial competition. We wish them well!!

On Wednesday, our Junior and Senior Intensive programs began their Horses at Heart therapeutic riding program at Waterstone Estate & Farms. It was an awesome experience for the students and provided them with substantial skill building opportunities. We look forward to seeing their growth over the coming weeks as they participate in this experiential program. Thank you to Ms. Armata for coordinating this opportunity for the students.

At lunch on Wednesday, students of all grades competed in the beloved game of dodgeball for the opportunity to play our teachers. The winning teams Bob the Builder and the Gym Rats will compete in the playoff match next Wednesday. The winning team will play the Teaching Tyrants in a fun lunchtime game just before the March Break. Good luck to all!

### YRDSB Budget Consultation Process for Parents/Guardians and Community Members

Between March 25 and March 31, York Region District School is inviting parents, guardians and community members to participate in its annual budget consultation process. The Board values parent input and encourages you to attend a consultation session. These sessions provide the Board with valuable information about how the community would like to see the school board budget allocated to better support student achievement and well-being. The results will be used to inform the 2020-21 school year budget allocation.

The dates and locations are:

Wednesday, March 25, 2020  
Registration: 6:30 p.m.  
Consultation: 7:00 p.m.  
Sutton District High School, Library  
20798 Dalton Road, Georgina

Saturday, March 28, 2020  
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Markville Secondary School, Library  
1000 Carlton Road, Unionville

Thursday, March 26, 2020  
Registration: 6:30 p.m.  
Consultation: 7:00 p.m.  
Tommy Douglas Secondary School, Library  
4020 Major Mackenzie Drive, Woodbridge

Tuesday, March 31, 2020  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
York Region District School Board  
Education Centre - Aurora, Boardroom  
60 Wellington Street West, Aurora

**Melissa Schmidt**

## Notices

### Maple's Closet

Maple High School is proud to be hosting the 14th annual Maple's Closet Diva and GQ Balls events in the spring of 2020. Maple's Closet has helped provide graduation attire to over 650 grade 8 and 12 students. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Maple High School. Donations (dresses, suits, and accessories) would be appreciated by Wednesday, March 25th, 2020.

Items in need of donations are gently used formal wear and accessories for the event:

- Prom / Graduation dresses	- Suits (Boys and Men)	- Toiletries (combs, soap, brushes, etc.)
- Purses / Clutches / Jewelry	- Dress pants / Shirts / Ties / Belts / - Men's Socks	Make-Up bags / Nail Polish
- Shoes (Men and Women)		

## Contact Us

The Dr. G.W. Williams SS  
39 Dunning Avenue  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 1A2

(P) 905-727-3131  
(F) 905-727-8067

Extensions:  
Reception 0  
Attendance 1  
Guidance 3  
Staff Directory 4

If you know of someone who would benefit from accessing this resource to meet their prom needs, please contact Mr. McQuade or Ms. Conlon in the Main Office so that we can prepare a referral prior to the March Break. The deadline for us to submit referrals is March 13, 2020.

### Severe Weather

In the event of severe weather, the Board has three levels of action:

- Extreme Cold Days when roads are clear, but extreme cold temperatures make it difficult for buses to operate reliably, posing a safety risk to students waiting at bus stops. Student transportation will be cancelled. Schools will otherwise operate as usual.
- Inclement Weather Days when road or weather conditions make it impossible to operate a school bus safely. Student transportation will be cancelled. Schools and workplaces will be open; however, all teachers may not be at school that day.
- Rare Emergency Weather Days (School Closures) when all schools and workplaces will be closed. Decisions about school closures will be made as early as possible, and no later than 6:00 a.m.

Severe weather information is communicated through local media outlets, the Student Transportation Services website, School Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001, the Board's website and Twitter account, and on the Board and school's voicemail recording.

Parents are responsible for using their best judgment to decide whether or not to send their child(ren) to school on days when buses are cancelled and schools remain open.

### Bus or School Cancellations

When an **inclement weather** or **extreme cold** or day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) are cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. If you drive your child to school, or your child takes alternate transportation, you must make arrangements for your child to get home at the end of the school day. Please call the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when **emergency winter events** occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, [Board](#) and school website and on [twitter @YRDSB](#).

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days are outlined in the Board's [Severe Weather policy](#), which has been recently updated and is available for public comment. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process. All [policies available for comment](#) are sent to school council chairs and are posted on the Board website, along with information about how to provide feedback.

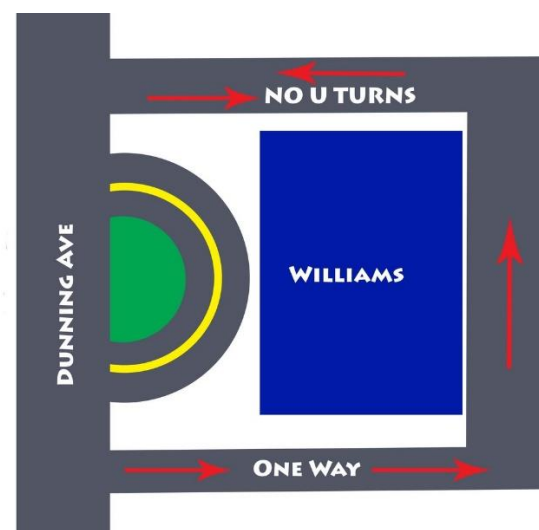
### Driveway and Parking Lot

The safety of all students must be everyone's first priority. Please follow the procedures below.

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.



At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 2:40 to 3:15. 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 3:15, regular traffic may use this area.



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. 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. Thank you for your cooperation with this!

### School Calendar for 2019-2020

The Ministry of Education has approved the school calendar for 2019-2020. For Williams, some important dates and holidays are:

- March Break – Monday, March 16, 2020 to Friday, March 20, 2020
- Good Friday – Friday, April 10, 2020
- Easter Monday – Monday, April 13, 2020
- Victoria Day – Monday, May 18, 2020

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

- Friday, May 1, 2020
- Thursday, June 25, 2020
- Friday, June 26, 2020

## Exam Schedule for Semester 2

Please be aware of these important dates, indicated below. Parents and students are reminded to not schedule appointments, trips, interviews, work, etc. during examination times. EQAO Math Assessment: June 12 and 15.

June 2020 Schedule At-A-Glance				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				12 <b>Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 1)</b>
15 <b>Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 2)</b>	16	17 <b>Exam Week Period 1 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.</b>	18 <b>Exam Week Period 2 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.</b>	19 <b>Exam Week Period 3 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.</b>
22 <b>Exam Week Period 4 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.</b>	23 <b>Performance Tasks/ Practice Exams (all grades) By Appointment</b>	24 <b>Exam Feedback Day (Modified Schedule) *see schedule, below</b>	25 <b>P.A. Day Graduation, 6:30</b>	26 <b>P.A. Day</b>
<b>Exam Feedback Day</b> Wednesday, June 24, 2020				
Exam feedback for Period 1 classes			8:20 – 9:05	
Exam feedback for Period 2 classes			9:10 – 9:50	
Exam feedback for Period 3 classes			9:55 – 10:35	
Exam feedback for Period 4 classes			10:40 – 11:20	
Consultation with teachers by appointment			12:00 – 3:00	