



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: November 11 - November 15, 2019

Trait of the Month: Courage

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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The Week at a Glance

Mon, Nov. 11	Remembrance Day Assemblies Period 1 & 2
TUE, Nov. 12	
WED, Nov. 13	Grade 8 Info Night @ 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
THU, Nov. 14	Midterm Reports Distributed in Period 1 Therapy Dogs Visit @ 11:00 am in the Library Jr. and Sr. Mid to Crime Stoppers
FRI, Nov. 15	P.A. DAY

Upcoming:

Nov. 18	Parent Council Meeting from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Nov. 19	
Nov. 20	Grade 9,10,11 Visual Arts classes to Art Gallery of Ontario
Nov. 21	IB Admissions Assessment (Evening) Last Day to drop a course before Full Disclosure – it will not appear on your transcript.
Nov. 22	Grade 11 & 12 Full Disclosure - courses will appear on your transcript

Notices

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.

Grade 8 Day and Grade 8 Information Night

On Wednesday, November 6, the school hosted about 400 Grade 8 students from our area elementary schools to provide them with a taste of high school. On Wednesday, November 13, the school will hold its annual Grade 8 Information Night for Grade 8 students and their parents. The evening begins with an information session in the cafetorium at 7:00 p.m. followed by department displays.

Williams Wear

Sales of spirit wear i.e. Williams sweatshirts and sweat pants ended this week. Sales of grad sweatshirts and hoodies (Class of 2020) begin on Sunday until November 24 through the GRADWEAR website.

Treaties Recognition Week

The week of November 4 to 8 was Treaties Recognition Week. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action (numbers 62 and 63) speak to the significance of education as the key to reconciliation with our Indigenous partners. A shared understanding of how our collective past brought us to where we are today will help us walk together into a better future.

Here is some of the information that was presented during morning announcements this week.

- In 1763, King George III of Great Britain issued [The Royal Proclamation](#), confirming the original occupancy of Indigenous peoples and paving the way for land agreements between the British Crown (government) and Indigenous peoples. The proclamation stated that settlers could not live on the land until the Crown had signed treaties with the First Nations who occupied the territories.
- Ontario has 46 Treaties.
- Indigenous people in Canada view themselves as separate and distinct peoples who have treaty rights due to their unique historical, legal, and political position.
- There are two types of land claims. Comprehensive land claims involve land not surrendered or ceded by treaty. Specific land claims are based on issues arising from non-fulfillment of a treaty agreement.
- Outstanding land claims and treaty issues are being negotiated through the modern land claims process.
- Although many treaties were signed more than a century ago, treaty commitments are just as valid today as they were then.
- Despite the promise of early treaties and the mutually respectful partnerships they established, Indigenous peoples were targeted by colonial policies designed to exploit, assimilate and eradicate them.
- Today, the Ontario government is working to rebuild trust and relationships with treaty partners and Indigenous peoples. Part of that effort includes educating Ontarians about the role treaties play in our lives and relationships with each other today.

Remembrance Day

On Monday, the school will hold Remembrance Day assemblies during Periods 1A (mostly Grade 10 classes and some Grade 12 classes), 1B (mostly Grade 11 classes and some Grade 12 classes), and 2A (mostly Grade 9 classes).

University PINs

University PINs were emailed during the week of October 28 to the GAPPS accounts of those Grade 12 students who may be applying to university. If your child is in Grade 12, please have them check their GAPPS account for this information. They can speak to a guidance counsellor if they have any questions about the university application process.

Student Photos and Grad Photos

Student Card/Yearbook Photos – If parents/guardians wish to order photos for their child, please call 1-866-299-7774 to receive an on-line code and information on how to order.

Grad Photos are being taken the week of November 25th. More information will be coming soon regarding the on-line booking of Grad photos.

Contact Us

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Extensions:	
Reception	0
Attendance	1
Guidance	3
Staff Directory	4

Guidance Note

College Services & Pathways -Parent Information Night

Wednesday November 27th, 2019, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Hosted by: Niagara College, in Aurora

Location: The NEW "Niagara College - Canadian Food & Wine Institute"

The Aurora Armoury at 89 Mosley St. Aurora

Learn about Financial Aid, Admissions, Student Services, Pathways and more within the College system. Food and beverages for all registrants. Please register at: tfaforms.com/4771194

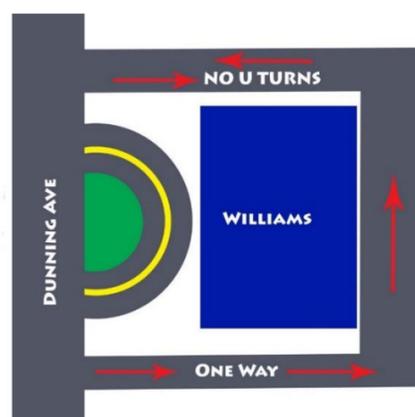
Driveway and Parking Lot

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:

- Winter Vacation – Monday, December 23, 2019 to Friday, January 3, 2020
- Family Day – Monday, February 17, 2020
- 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, November 15, 2019
- Friday, January 31, 2020
- Friday, May 1, 2020
- Thursday, June 25, 2020
- Friday, June 26, 2020

Exam Schedule for Semester 1

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.

**In the event that one of the exam days is declared an inclement weather day by the Board (i.e. school buses are cancelled), the exams regularly scheduled for that day will be held on Thursday, January 30.*

January 2020				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 1)	21 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 2)	22	23 Exam Week Period 1 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.	24 Exam Week Period 2 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.
27 Exam Week Period 3 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.	28 Exam Week Period 4 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.	29 Performance-Based / Practical Exams	30 Exam Feedback Day 8:20 – 11:20 a.m. *see schedule, below	31 P.A. Day

Exam Feedback Day Thursday, January 30, 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

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				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				12 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 1)
15 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 2)	16	17 Exam Week Period 1 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.	18 Exam Week Period 2 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.	19 Exam Week Period 3 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.
22 Exam Week Period 4 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.	23 Performance Tasks/ Practice Exams (all grades) By Appointment	24 Exam Feedback Day (Modified Schedule) *see schedule, below	25 P.A. Day Graduation, 6:30	26 P.A. Day
Exam Feedback Day Thursday, January 30, 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	