



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: January 3 – January 7, 2022

Trait of the Month: Empathy

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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Extensions:
Reception 0
Attendance 1
Guidance 3
Staff Directory 4

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

Happy New Year 2022

Jan. 3	Staff Meeting, 2:40-3:55 pm Varsity Coed Tier 2 Curling Game 2:30pm at York Curling Club vs Tommy Douglas SS
Jan. 4	Senior Boys Basketball Game 4:45pm at Sacred Heart CHS vs Sacred Heart CHS Junior Boys Basketball Game 3:30pm at Sacred Heart CHS vs Sacred Heart CHS
Jan. 5	
Jan. 6	Nordic Ski Team 7:30am at Hardwood Ski and Bike
Jan. 7	Christmas Eastern - Orthodox

Daily Schedule (effective Dec 6)

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



Upcoming:

Jan. 10	Varsity Boys Tier 2 Curling Game 2:30pm at York Curling Club vs Sir W Mulock Varsity Coed Tier 2 Curling Game 2:30pm at York Curling Club vs Huron Heights Varsity Girls Tier 2 Curling Game 2:30pm at York Curling Club vs Sir W Mulock
Jan. 11	Senior Boys Basketball Game 4:00pm at Williams vs Cardinal Carter
Jan. 12	Nordic Ski Team 7:30am at Hardwood Ski and Bike Varsity Ice Hockey Game 2:30pm at Nobleton Community Centre vs King City HS
Jan. 13	Junior Girls Volleyball Game 3:30pm at Williams vs Williams Junior Boys Basketball Game 4:00pm at Sir W Mulock vs Mulock
Jan. 14	

Message from the Principal

A huge thank you to our school community for the amazing response to our music fundraising efforts. Thanks to everyone's support we have raised close to \$10000 for the program so far this year.

As we look ahead towards the new year, we wish everyone a safe and healthy break. For those whose celebrations have completed this holiday season we hope that you found that your celebrations were fulfilling and festive. For those whose celebrations are ahead in the coming weeks we wish you each the best this season brings and opportunities for joy at this time.

We hope to see our students in person on January 3rd and will be sure to communicate any changes should things be announced (although likely you will hear it on the news at the same time we will).

Take care and all the best as we wrap up 2021,
Melissa Schmidt

Weekly Highlights

School Photos Were Completed on November 18 & 19.

If you wish to Order School Pictures? [Updated](#)

1. Visit mylifetouch.ca (Phone number 1-866-299-7774)
2. Enter your Student ID number. (For more instructions please click [link](#))
3. Order your perfect package and don't worry about returning anything to the school. All orders placed will be shipped directly to your home.

Sr Boys Basketball

The Senior Boys Basketball Team took on cross-town rivals Aurora High on Tuesday. Led by a team high 16 points by Harry, and 13 from Avinash, the team stayed close throughout the game. With 4 seconds left Sanjay Hardeo made a clutch basket to put the team ahead by 1. With a final defensive stand the team won 59-58. Great job team!

WEEKLY NEWS FEED:

A Note to Remember when visiting our School

Please remember when visiting our school, you must first use the doorbell at our front door and someone will assist you. The main office is available from 9:00am to 3:30pm for any pick-ups or drop offs by using the doorbell and one of our staff will be happy to come out to assist you.

Please do not enter the building without an appointment. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call.

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. Brar Lo-Z) will then connect with you to arrange learning during their absence.

COVID Self-Screening - Confirmation required again as of January 3

Process:

•Step 1: Secondary students to complete on-line self-assessment [COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#)

prior to entering the school on a daily basis.

•Step 2: Upon completion of the self-assessment, complete response to the question: “Have you completed the self-screening test?” in the [Confirmation Form](#)

- Students will receive an email response when they respond “Yes”.
- The email will include a colour code specific to the day of the week:
 - **MONDAY**, **TUESDAY**, **WEDNESDAY**, **THURSDAY**, **FRIDAY**
- Upon entering the school through designated entrances, students are to provide confirmation of completion of the self-screening by way of:
 - On phone – email or picture of email from their computer
 - Hard copy print off of email.
 - If neither option is available, they can provide verbal response confirming completion

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.

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.

Where possible, students must maintain a physical distance at all times, as they enter, move through and exit the building.

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

University/College Applications

We would like to remind students that the winter break is a great opportunity to complete your university and college applications as deadlines are fast approaching. We encourage your university-bound students to complete and submit their 101 application well in advance of the January 13, 2022 deadline.

OCAS and OUAC vouchers

In order to limit barriers to entry to post-secondary, the Guidance Department has acquired a very limited number of vouchers available to cover the cost of the base application fee to OUAC and OCAS. In order to qualify students must have financial need, and have not completed their application already. Please book an appointment with your Guidance Counselor as soon as possible to discuss.

Volunteer Hours

Graduating students that have yet to complete their volunteer hours have received an email reminding them that a minimum of 20 hours are required in order to graduate for the 2021/2022 academic year.

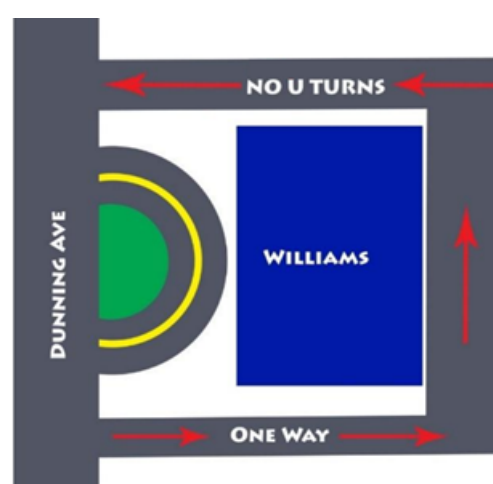
Safety and Community Notices

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.

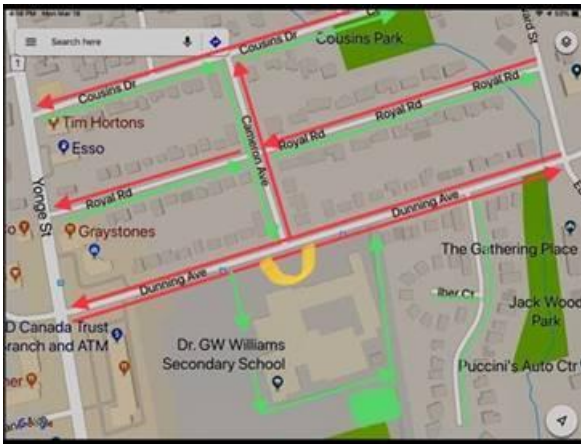


There is one-way traffic in our front driveway loop. In the front driveway loop, drop off/pick up students on the right side; drive through only on the left side. For safety reasons, do not drop off/pick up students on the left side.



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

- Winter Break - Monday, December 20, 2021 to Friday, December 31, 2021 inclusive
- Family Day - Monday, February 21, 2022
- Mid-Winter Break - Monday, March 14, 2022 to Friday, March 18, 2022 inclusive
- Good Friday - Friday April 15, 2022
- Easter Monday - Monday, April 18, 2022
- Victoria Day - Monday, May 23, 2022

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

- Friday February 4, 2022
- Friday May 6, 2022
- Thursday June 30, 2022

School Council Meetings for 2020-2021

- Monday January 17, 2022
- Monday March 21, 2022
- Monday May 16, 2022

Daily Schedule-as of Dec 6	
Period 1	8:20-9:40
Period 3	9:45-11:00
Lunch	11:00-11:50
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Period 4	1:10-2:25