



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: November 23 2020 – November 27, 2020

Trait of the Month: Fairness

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.

Email: dr.g.w.williams.ss@yrdsb.ca

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

Social Media: @drgwwilliams ([Instagram](#) & [Twitter](#))

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

Nov. 23	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Class of 2020 – Graduation Pick-up – 11:30 AM – 6:00 PM BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Nov. 24	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Class of 2020 – Graduation Pick-up – 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM BY APPOINTMENT ONLY Class of 2020 Virtual Graduation 7:00 PM
Nov. 25	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 1 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Nov. 26	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Last day of Period 1 Face to Face
Nov. 27	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal First day of Period 2 Face to Face

Upcoming:

Nov. 30	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Dec. 1	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Dec. 2	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Dec. 3	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Dec. 4	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal

Message from the Principal

Thank you to all families that have been supporting our efforts to ensure safe dismissals at Williams. We have found a significant difference for all having cars only enter the west lot and drive around the school. This allows us to have two lanes (left turning and right turning) leave the east parking lot ensuring safety for our students and an efficient departure.

The grad committee has been busy preparing so many aspects for our virtual graduation next Tuesday. We are excited to welcome back as many grads as possible to pick-up all their grad items on Monday and Tuesday. Check out our social media feeds for a sneak peek of some of the items we have been working on.

We are glad that all families were given the opportunity over the past week to submit adjustments to the Semester 2 learning model for their children. Yesterday and today our office staff and admin team personally reached out to families that we were aware of to assist with ensuring the appropriate forms were submitted and verified by the 2:30 deadline today. As indicated in the YRDSB letters to families last week and this week, this was the only opportunity to move between models for the coming semester. Next we will begin the timetabling and staffing processes as this takes a significant amount of time to ensure we accommodate everyone given the adjustments to the various models.

Take care,
Melissa Schmidt

Notices

Revised School Screening Checklist

Every day, parents/guardians and students over 18 are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the checklist from York Region Public Health. This checklist has been recently updated to reflect the Ontario government's revised [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in Schools](#) and Child Care.

Please note that the new screening guide applies to children only and the adult screening has not changed. Thank you for working with us to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Math Enrichment Opportunities

Due to the adaptive model we are following this year, we cannot offer the typical array of math contests and math club enrichment opportunities at Williams. However, thanks to some accommodations made by Universities, it is possible that our students can still participate in some of these activities. To best communicate these opportunities, we have created a "Math Club" Google Classroom that contains links to enrichment opportunities as well as all the information (and relevant links) we currently have with regard to the contests we normally participate in. We will not be running an actual Math Club through the classroom, but we will continue to update it with any pertinent information and/or

links throughout the school year. The Math Club Classroom is open to any Williams students who would like to join. Please use the join code: cxwtmf4

Guidance

Graduation

- The 2019/2020 Virtual Graduation will be taking place Tuesday November 24th at 7:00 pm. A link to join has been emailed to student GAPPS email accounts.

Grade 8 Open House

- The Dr. G.W. Williams Virtual Grade 8 Open House will be held on December 10th.

Specialist High Skills Majors

All SHSM students should now have access to the new SHSM classroom. The classroom has important information related to reach ahead opportunities, SHSM events, and self-reporting tools. Please check your GAPPS email for your classroom invite.

Applying University and/or College

- University applicants' PIN number to apply to schools have been sent to student GAPPS email accounts. Please see the “**How to Apply**” section in the Grade 12 Google Classroom for more information on the application process.
- College applicants do not need a PIN number to apply but will need to know their Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on a report card. Please see the “**How to Apply**” section in the Grade 12 Google Classroom for more information on the application process.

Community Services

- Changes have been made to the Community Involvement Graduation Requirements. Information on requirements and eligibility can be found on the Grade 12 Google Classroom.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Please check the graduation class of 2021 for the most recent updates to Scholarships and Bursaries information.

RTC Computer Purchase Program

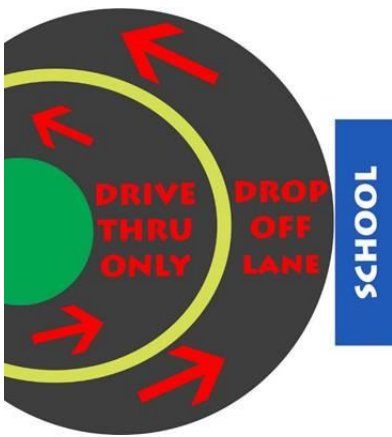
Once again we are pleased to offer this to our Williams families. Please see the attached flyer below for more information on accessing this program.

FLYER

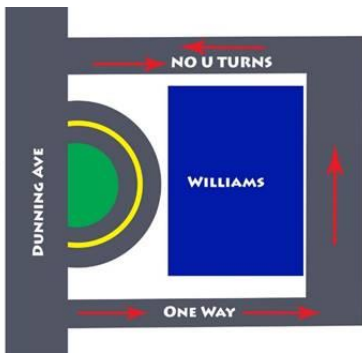
Driveway and Parking Lot

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

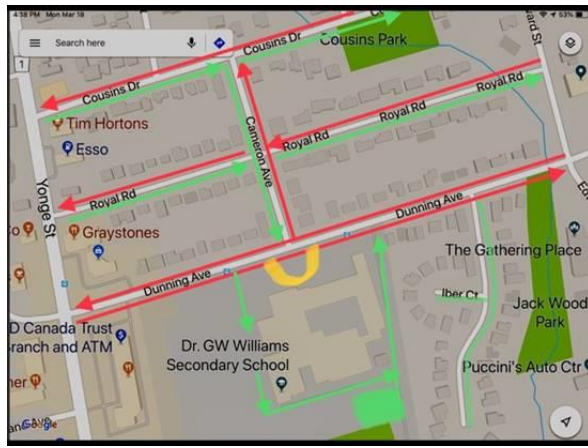
At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 10:40 to 11:00. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave the front driveway loop around 11:00, regular traffic may use this area. To support our efforts to ensure physical distancing, 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.



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 morning pick-up time you will have noticed the admin directing all vehicles to enter the west lot ONLY so that we have a constant flow out of the east lot. This adjustment has made 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. Our School Council previously worked with local by-law officials to identify areas within the neighbourhood that parents can pick up their students. Please note the arrows in green and red to support the effective flow of traffic in the area.

Thank you for your cooperation with this!

School Calendar for 2020-2021

The Ministry of Education has approved the school calendar for 2020-2021. For Williams, some important dates and holidays are:

- Winter Break – Monday December 21, 2020 January 1, 2021
- Family Day – Monday, February 15, 2021
- March Break – Monday, March 15, 2021 to Friday March 19, 2021
- Good Friday – Friday, April 2, 2021
- Easter Monday – Monday, April 5, 2021
- Victoria Day – Monday, May 24, 2021

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

- Monday February 15, 2021
- Friday May 7, 2021
- Tuesday June 29, 2021

School Council Meetings for 2020-2021

- Monday January 18, 2021
- Tuesday March 23, 2021
- Monday May 17, 2021