



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: October 19 – October 23, 2020

Trait of the Month: Inclusiveness

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

Oct. 19	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 4 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Student Council Election Campaigning begins School Council Meeting 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm (Please see link to agenda below)
Oct. 20	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 4 ODD numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 21	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 4 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 22	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 4 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Student Council Election Campaigning ends IB Information Evening - Virtual
Oct. 23	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 4 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Student Council Election Voting

Upcoming:

Oct. 26	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 4 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Last day for Period 4 rotation in School
Oct. 27	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 5 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal First day of Period 5 rotation in School
Oct. 28	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 5 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 29	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 5 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Teacher Interviews - Virtual
Oct. 30	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 5 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal

Message from the Principal

This week we enjoyed getting into all the classes to honour our academic and character award recipients from the 2019-2020 school year. It was great to see the students and to recognize so many for their achievements. Over the past 2 days we acknowledged 535 students for achieving honors (80%+) in their course last year as well as 308 students who achieved a subject award. In addition, we recognized 44 specialized and character awards for students across the school. Moving forward, these certificates will be distributed at the end of each semester with the report cards.

Please be sure to take careful note of the information regarding the front bus loop in the notices below. To support the transportation for our special education students it is imperative that parents and guardians are not accessing the bus loop between 10:40-11:00 am. We will have additional supervision in the bus loop moving forward to support these efforts.

Monday night is the next School Council meeting. I encourage all members of the school community to join us to find out what is happening at Williams. As we now meet virtually, you are welcome to stop in between 7:00-8:30 pm from the comfort of your home. Please see the agenda below for details on accessing the meeting.

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

Interim Reports & Teacher Interviews

Interim report cards will be distributed electronically to students the week of October 19th for all of their courses. The following week on October 29th teachers will be hosting virtual interviews. More details regarding this process and the booking of interviews through Edsby will be forthcoming. Please mark the date on your calendar though to ensure you will be able to meet with your child’s teachers.

Yearbook

Yearbooks have arrived!! We are working through cohorting information to be able to distribute the yearbooks while maintaining public health requirements to students currently attending Period 4 classes.

Guidance

Need to speak with a Guidance Counsellor? Book at time with your guidance counsellor to use the QR code posted in front of the guidance office or visit bit.ly/GWGAppt

Attention Grade 12’s applying to University and/or College!

- Post-Secondary schools have begun offering virtual tours and open houses. Information and links can be found on the Grade 12 Google Classroom.
- University applicants require a PIN number to apply. These will be shared via your gapps email on October 29th. 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.

RTC Computer Purchase Program

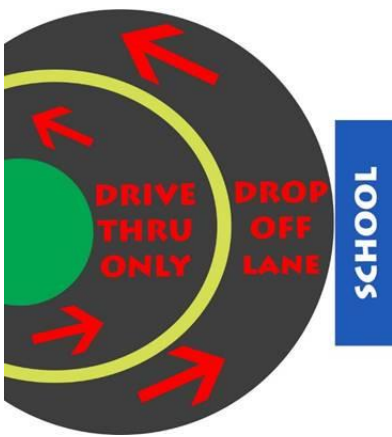
Once again we are pleased to offer this to our Williams families. Please see the attached flyer below for more information on accessing this program.

FLYER

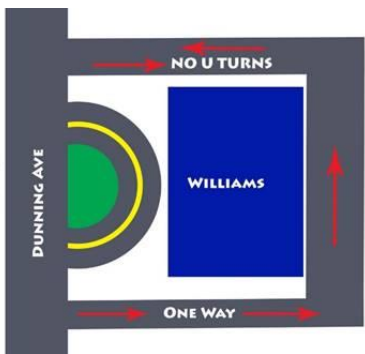
Driveway and Parking Lot

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

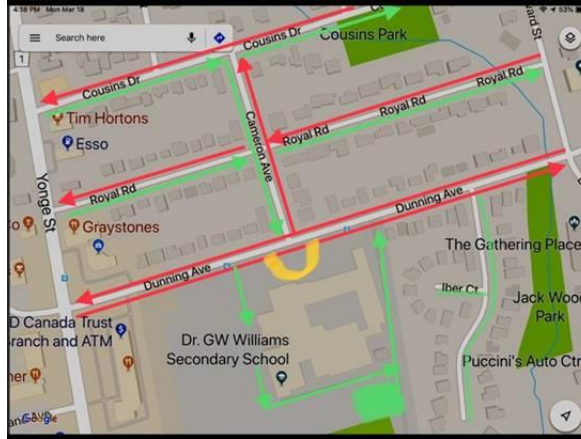
At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 10:40 to 11:00. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave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



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!

Night School

Looking to complete credits outside of day school? YRDSB Fall Night School (remote learning) and Night School e-Learning registration is now open. Check out the following pages for registration information and course offerings:

NIGHT SCHOOL (Remote learning) <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Night-School-Credit-Courses.aspx>

NIGHT SCHOOL E-LEARNING

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Night%20School%20e-Learning.aspx>

English as a Second Language (ESL); Language Instruction for New Comers (LINC); and Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) Classes

YRDSB offers Adult **English as a Second Language (ESL)** programs for those who want to develop effective language skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing for daily life in Canada. We also offer specialized classes in *Citizenship* and *Conversation*.

Adult ESL Program Registration – In person and online options available!

1. Email uplands@yrdsb.ca or call **905-731-9557** with the following information:

- your first and last name
- your telephone number
- CLARS identification number (those without a CLARS number will receive an assessment, please contact us for further assistance).

2. Our office will contact you if additional documentation is required.

3. Visitors to Canada may also register and attend for a fee of \$10 per day, per class.

For an assessment or to register, please call: 905-731-9557



If you are interested in improving your digital skills, want to work on your resume or interview skills, or prepare to take your GED exam, our **Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS)** program is for you!

Literacy and Basic Skill Assessment – In person and online options available!

1. Email uplands@yrdsb.ca or call **905-731-9557 Ext. 307** with the following information:

- your first and last name
- your telephone number
- tell us that you are “*interested in the LBS program*”

NOTE: Due to the high volume of inquires, it may take a few days to receive a reply communication from our office. We appreciate your patience.

Thank you for your interest in our programs. We look forward to serving you.

"Social Distancing Club shirts"

Description: With no in-person clubs, teams or functions this year what better than a cub we can all belong to?! The GW Williams Social Distancing Club shirts are ready to be ordered! Sizes range from small to XXX-Large and come in a huge variety of colours. Orders can be placed until October 20th order your today!

Photo of the shirt attached.



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:

- Thanksgiving – Monday October 12, 2020
- 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:

- Friday November 13, 2020
- Monday February 15, 2021
- Friday May 7, 2021
- Tuesday June 29, 2021

School Council Meetings for 2020-2021

- Monday October 19, 2020 [Agenda & Previous Minutes](#)
- Monday November 16, 2020
- Monday January 18, 2021
- Tuesday March 23, 2021
- Monday May 17, 2021