



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: October 18 – October 22, 2021

Trait of the Month: Inclusivity

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

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

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

WEEK TWO SCHEDULE – Block 3 AM, Block 4 PM

Oct. 18	Healthcare Aide Day Leadership Team meeting, 2:40-3:55 pm Senior Boys Soccer Game 4pm @Keswick HS Girl's Field Hockey Game 3:30pm @ Dr. J.M. Denison School Council 7pm (Zoom link in agenda below)
Oct. 19	
Oct. 20	Interim Report Card Distribution (Oct. 20-22) Girl's Field Hockey Game 4:30pm @ Dr. J.M. Denison
Oct. 21	Spirit Day! Wear PURPLE Junior Boys Soccer Game 3:30pm @Williams vs Unionville HS Cross Country YRAA Championship 8:30am @Boyd Conservation Park Girls Field Hockey Practice 2:40pm
Oct. 22	

Upcoming:

WEEK ONE SCHEDULE – Block 1 AM, Block 2 PM

Oct. 25	Junior Boys Soccer Game 3pm @Williams vs St. Augustine Senior Boys Soccer Game 4:15 pm @Williams vs. Renaissance Girl's Field Hockey Game 3:30pm @Williams vs JM Denison
Oct. 26	Girls Field Hockey Practice 2:40pm
Oct. 27	Accelerated OYAP - Open House Information Night 7pm Girl's Field Hockey Game 4:30pm @Williams vs JM Denison
Oct. 28	Senior Boys Soccer Game 3:30pm @JM Denison
Oct. 29	

Message from the Principal

The staff wrapped this week up with a lot of learning today around additional strategies and supports that they can use in our hybrid classrooms. Staff were very appreciative of the time provided to collaborate and learn for the betterment of our programs to support student achievement and well-being in our current model of learning.

Please continue to have conversations with your children regarding their positive representation in the community. Unfortunately, each week we receive at least one phone call from a community member that struggles with student behaviour around their business or property. We take pride in the positive reputation Williams has in our community and know how hard working and community minded so many of our students are. We want to make sure that our local community knows that as well through the interactions they have with each and every student.

We look forward to seeing many friendly faces at this week's School Council meeting. Please see the link to the agenda in the information below.

Take care,
Melissa Schmidt

Weekly Highlights

Girls Field Hockey

On Wednesday, the Varsity Girls Field Hockey team played their best game yet. The score may not have reflected their skill and effort on the field. However their will to not give up was evident in every team member. Way to go team! We will get them next time! As coaches, we couldn't be prouder.

Jr. Boys Soccer

On Tuesday Oct 12th the Junior Boys soccer team played Richmond Green High School - the top team in the division! Our Wildcats fought hard and played well, but ended up losing the game with a final score of 2-0. Great effort boys!

Sr. Boys Soccer

Wednesday, our "boys of autumn" extended their unbeaten streak as they travelled to Renaissance to play our French-Catholic cross town rivals! Your Senior Boys Soccer Team came out flying, pouncing on every loose ball and eventually secured a 1-0 lead thanks to a sublime finish by Shavir Wauhab. Renaissance equalled early in the second half, but that didn't diffuse the fight in the feline. Thanks to some excellent work down the flank by our Golden Greek - George Alexopolous, the Cats were awarded a penalty kick, and it was Christian Wynn for the WIN. Man of the match goes to co-captain James lamundo, who easily ran 45km, won 7 battles and had a pass accuracy of 87%. The post -game interview with Coach Morrison was, as usual, to the point...."Veni, Vidi, Vici - we came, we saw, we conquered."

Tennis

A HUGE congratulations to all of our tennis players this week! A huge shoutout to Radin who placed first in Open Boys Single, and David and Brian who placed second in Senior Boys Double. All players are headed to OFSAA!

Attendance

Parents are reminded to use the drgwilliamsss.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.

School Council

Our next school council meeting will be this Monday October 18th at 7pm. The full agenda and Zoom link is available on our website under the School Council and is linked [here](#). At this upcoming meeting, we will be welcoming Dawn Adams, Senior Manager, Planning and Property Development Services to provide an update on the new build for Williams.

- Chair - Kathy Duncan
- Vice Chair - Jodie Montagnese
- Secretary - Alison Moonsie-Mohan
- Treasurer - Murlidharan Sadanandam
- Grade 9 Parent Representative - Amy Gao

COVID Self-Screening (updated October 15)

On a daily basis, parents/guardians of students under 18 and students over 18 are responsible to review and adhere to the [Ontario COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#), **prior to entering the school daily**. Effective September 27, students will be independently responsible for verifying their screening each day (the Google form will no longer be used).

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

Graduating Grade 12 students will receive their OUAC PINs & OCAS OEN's via their GAPPS account on October 22nd 2021

On October 21st there will be a post-secondary application presentation taking place in all Grade 12 morning classes. The presentation will include information on how to apply to colleges and universities. The presentation will be posted on the Guidance Google Classroom along with FAQ's.

There will be an Accelerated OYAP - Open House Information Night on Wednesday October 27th, 2021 starting at 7:00pm to register please click [here](#).

Islamic Heritage Month 2021: Heritage and Healing

This year, the Alliance of Educators for Muslim Students (AEMS) Islamic Heritage Month is dedicated to creating space for students to come together in community. We recognize the healing that exists in our heritages that value community, togetherness, solidarity, beauty, and creativity. This year's October events will provide students, families, and staff with opportunities to engage in activities and learning opportunities that celebrate this heritage, and will serve as an entry-point for inclusion and affirmation of Muslim identities throughout the year. Please see this [flyer](#) with more information.

Rise Brothers Mentorship Program for Black Male Students

Rise Brothers is committed to supporting Black male **secondary students** and to ensure that they meet all requirements for secondary school graduation through school contacts, participating schools will be asked to recommend Black male students who would benefit from:

- Mentorship support
- Leadership development
- Strategies to enhance well-being
- Support in areas of academic planning and future pathways
- Connecting with other Black male students

The goal of the Rise Brothers program is to develop, support, encourage, and foster individual and community excellence. We look forward to working with the strong, talented Black youth who attend our schools!

Please take a look at our promotional [video](#), which outlines the program's vision and goals.

Ms. Brennan, our Student Success teacher is accepting all referrals for this program to support students accessing this great opportunity. Please reach out to her via email Muriel.brennan@yrdsb.ca, call her at the school extension 255 or have your child drop by the Student Success office at the top of the front main staircase to see her.

Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS)

AEBS invites you to their 2021-2022 Launch: Affirming Black Identities on Monday, October 25, 2021 (online) from 4:30pm - 6:30pm. For more information please click [here](#).

Big Brother Big Sisters of York

Big Brothers Big Sisters of York (BBBSY) is offering free virtual group mentoring programs designed to empower youth while keeping them connected to their peers. Please see the [link](#) for information about each program and to register your child.

Grade 7-12 Holocaust Education Presentation

On November 3rd from 7-8:15pm please join our virtual Holocaust Testimony's. See links below for details.

- Carrying on the Legacy, Sharing Dori Ekstein's Mother's Testimony. Please see the [link](#) for registration.
- The Weight of Freedom, in conversation with Holocaust survivor Nate Leipziger. Please see the [link](#) for registration.

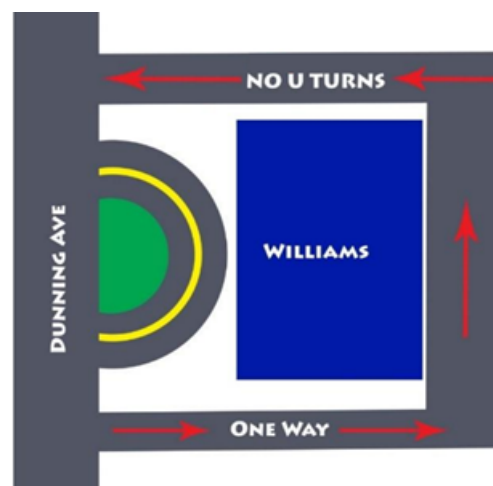
Safety and Community Notices

Driveway and Parking Lot

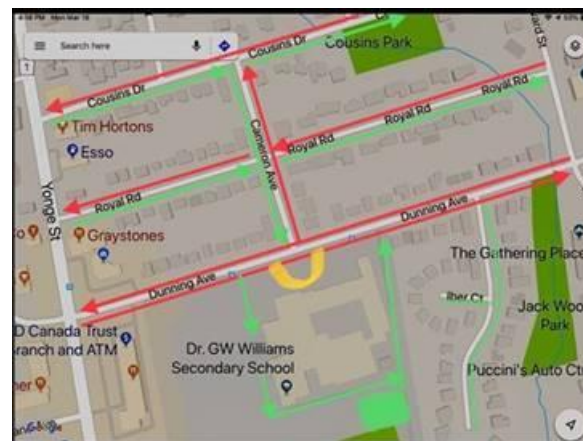
At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 2:15 to 2:40. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave 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 November 19, 2021
- Friday February 4, 2022
- Friday May 6, 2022
- Thursday June 30, 2022

School Council Meetings for 2020-2021

- [Monday October 18, 2021 Agenda](#)
- Monday November 15, 2021
- Monday January 17, 2022
- Monday March 21, 2022
- Monday May 16, 2022

