



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: October 5 – October 9, 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.

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

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

The Week at a Glance

Oct. 5	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 6	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 7	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 8	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 9	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Last Day of Rotation for Period 2, New Rotation, Period 4, starts Tuesday (after Thanksgiving), Oct 13

Upcoming:

Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct. 13	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 4 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 14	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 15	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Oct. 16	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal

Message from the Principal

This week we celebrated Orange Shirt Day. It was great to see many students and staff honouring Residential School survivors and taking part in activities to learn more about this part of Canadian history. Students and staff were treated to music throughout the week by a variety of Indigenous performers as they arrived in the morning and on Friday we wrapped the week up with a version of *O'Canada* by the group *Asani*.

Our first School Council meeting of the year was held virtually on Tuesday evening. We would like to thank those parents that took the time to join us on Tuesday night. Congratulations to Corry Goncalves who is continuing as our Chair this coming year. Chris Baker is taking on the role of Vice Chair, Patricia Kurtes will be the secretary, Kathy Duncan the treasurer and Anita Lo will be the Grade 9 Parent Representative. Thank you to each of them for giving of their time to support the efforts of School Council. We look forward to many parents joining us for our next meeting on October 19th at 7pm. A link will be sent out in the Tell the Friday before the meeting.

This week York Region Public Health shared Decision Trees with school staff to support our understanding of how to prevent COVID-19 exposures in the school. In light of the Ontario government releasing a [revised COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in Schools](#) yesterday we will forward the decision trees once public health has had a chance to revise the symptoms listed to ensure that the information provided is clear.

Melissa Schmidt

Notices

School Start-Up Forms

The [School Start-Up Guide](#) has been shared with all students and is available on our school website under School Info, Policies and Procedures, the YRDSB [Guide to the School Year](#) booklet was also sent home at the beginning of the school year. When these materials are sent home each year there are also some forms that need to be completed. As a result of the pandemic and with a number of families participating in remote, online learning, we are asking families to complete these important forms online.

Families should have already received an invitation to this form for each child they have registered in YRDSB. Please complete a separate form for each child attending our schools.

The forms are to be completed for all students, whether they are attending school in person or participating in remote, online learning. We will access this information online to support all students.

If you prefer to complete the forms on paper, have not received your individualized link to the forms (secondary students should check their GAPPS account) or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact us.

Interim Reports & Teacher Interviews

Interim report cards will be distributed to students on October 20 for all of their courses. The board is developing a process for virtual interviews to take place after the distribution of the interim reports and details will be communicated as soon as we have more information.

Yearbook

Due to COVID delays 2019-2020 yearbooks will be delivered to the school the week of October 12th. Information on pick up will be communicated to students and families closer to delivery.

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

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>

Contact Us

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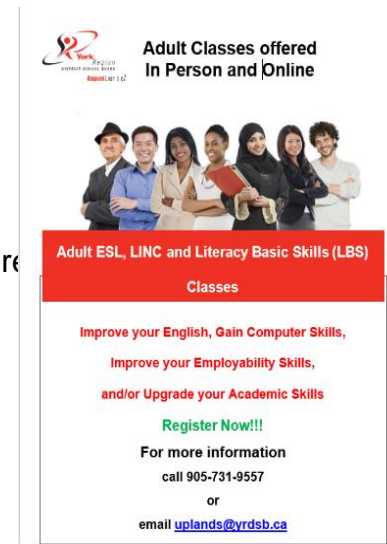
English as a Second Language (ESL); Language Instruction for New Comers (LINC); and Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) Classes

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 club 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
- Monday November 16, 2020
- Monday January 18, 2021
- Tuesday March 23, 2021
- Monday May 17, 2021