



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: September 23 - 27, 2019

Trait of the Month: Respect

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

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The Week at a Glance

MON, Sept. 23	PA Day
TUE, Sept. 24	Me to We Club Meeting in Room 102 @ 11:45 a.m.
WED, Sept. 25	
THU, Sept. 26	Terry Fox Run (Period 2) MADD Assembly (Period 4) Jr. Girls Basketball Tournament to Huron Heights S.S. Boys and Girls Rugby to Fletcher Field Girls Field Hockey Team to Dension S.S.
FRI, Sept. 27	Varsity Boys Soccer to Thornlea S.S.

Upcoming:

MON, Sept. 30	Orange Shirt Day
TUE, Oct. 1	
WED, Oct. 2	Transition – Club Day Sr. Boys Soccer Team to Huron Heights S.S. Girls Field Hockey Team to Dension S.S.
THU, Oct. 3	Sr. Boys Soccer Team to Dr. John M. Dension S.S. Boys and Girls Rugby to Fletcher Field Awards Night @ 7:00 p.m.
FRI, Oct. 4	Photo Retake Day

Notices

School Council

The first School Council meeting of the year was held on Monday, September 16. Elections for School Council positions were held on this evening. The results are: Corry atterson-Goncalves (Chair), Marianne McBean Wayne (Vice-Chair), Lynsey McKechnie (Secretary), Shweta Rao (Treasurer), and Sabrina Farjallah (Grade 9 Parent Representative).

The next School Council Meeting will be on Monday, October 28 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

Orange Shirt Day

Monday, September 30 is Orange Shirt Day.

Orange Shirt Day is a national movement that arose in response to a six-year-old girl who had her new orange shirt taken away from her at her Residential School. It commemorates the Indigenous children who never returned from Residential School as well as the survivors. It marks a time for all Canadians to come together in the spirit of hope for the generations of children to come and to consider the ongoing effects of racism and colonialism on Indigenous Peoples.

Please encourage your teen to wear an orange shirt on this day to show their support for Truth and Reconciliation. For more information, go to: www.orangeshirtday.org

Islamic Heritage/History Month

October is Islamic Heritage/History Month.

In 2007, the Government of Canada declared the month of October in each year as Canadian Islamic History Month. The province of Ontario recognizes and wishes to affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province. Islamic history and culture encompass a broad range of individual and collective experiences, as well as important contributions to literature, math, science, art and history.

Our school would like to create a display featuring the positive contributions that past and present Muslims have made to the world and our society. If you have suggestions or objects to lend the school for this display, please contact Chris as soon as possible.

Quarterly Meeting of POBC

Parents of Black Children is holding their quarterly meeting on Thursday, October 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Drive in Newmarket. If you are planning to attend, please click to: [Register here](#)

Parents for Children's Mental Health

The Parents for Children's Mental Health parent support group is holding its next meeting on Monday, October 21. The topic is "Depression and Anxiety with Expert Panel: How can parents help?"

This parent support group is for parents of children with anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behavioural challenges.

Upcoming meetings are on the third Monday of each month. Meetings are at the new Aurora Kinark Office, 218 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 7, in Aurora (one block south of St. John's sideroad, and one block west of Bayview).

Vaping

As you are likely aware, smoking and vaping are not allowed in school, on school property, during school activities, on school buses, or within 20 metres of school grounds. They also affect one's health.

Here is a link to an article on the topic of vaping written by a pediatric respirologist at Sick Kids Hospital. At the end of the article, there is a link to a Health Canada fact sheet about talking to your child about vaping.

<https://www.sickkids.ca/AboutSickKids/perspective/staff-volunteer/vaping-and-back-to-school.html>

Driveway and Parking Lot

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

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.

Contact Us

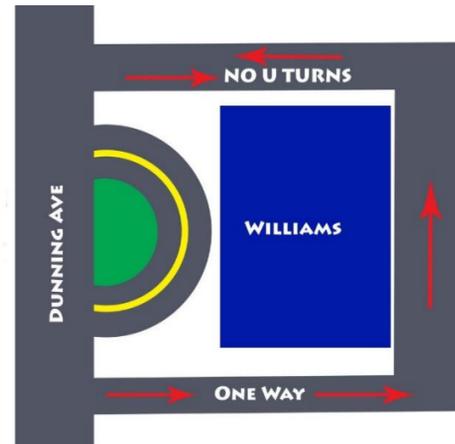
The Dr. G.W. Williams SS
39 Dunning Avenue
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 1A2

(P) 905-727-3131
(F) 905-727-8067

Extensions:	
Reception	0
Attendance	1
Guidance	3
Staff Directory	4



At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 2:40 to 3:15. 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 3:15, regular traffic may use this area.



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. Thank you for your cooperation with this!

School Calendar for 2019-2020

The Ministry of Education has approved the school calendar for 2019-2020. For Williams, some important dates and holidays are:

- Thanksgiving Day – Monday, October 14, 2019
- Winter Vacation – Monday, December 23, 2019 to Friday, January 3, 2020
- Family Day – Monday, February 17, 2020
- March Break – Monday, March 16, 2020 to Friday, March 20, 2020
- Good Friday – Friday, April 10, 2020
- Easter Monday – Monday, April 13, 2020
- Victoria Day – Monday, May 18, 2020

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

- Monday, September 23, 2019
- Monday, October 21, 2019
- Friday, November 15, 2019
- Friday, January 31, 2020
- Friday, May 1, 2020
- Thursday, June 25, 2020
- Friday, June 26, 2020

Use of Perfumes and Scented Products

Perfumes and other scented products can have a negative impact on the health and well-being of some of our students and staff members. Allergies and sensitivities to scented chemicals can cause reactions in individuals which include shortness of breath, headaches and migraines, nausea and muscle pain, and cold-like symptoms. This can have a profound impact on an individual's ability to participate in class and to learn at school. Students and staff have been asked to be considerate of those who are sensitive to scented products by refraining from using such products and replacing them with unscented alternatives. Please remind your son/daughter about the importance of not wearing or using scented products to or at school. This will help us to maintain a school environment inclusive and respectful of all its members. Thank you!

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Exam Schedule for Semester 1

Please be aware of these important dates, indicated below. Parents and students are reminded to not schedule appointments, trips, interviews, work, etc. during examination times.

In the event that one of the exam days is declared an inclement weather day by the Board (i.e. school buses are cancelled), the exams regularly scheduled for that day will be held on Thursday, January 30.

January 2020				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 1)	21 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 2)	22	23 Exam Week Period 1 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.	24 Exam Week Period 2 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.
27 Exam Week Period 3 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.	28 Exam Week Period 4 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.	29 Performance-Based / Practical Exams	30 Exam Feedback Day 8:20 – 11:20 a.m.	31 P.A. Day
Exam feedback for Period 1 classes			8:20 – 9:05	
Exam feedback for Period 2 classes			9:10 – 9:50	
Exam feedback for Period 3 classes			9:55 – 10:35	
Exam feedback for Period 4 classes			10:40 – 11:20	
Consultation with teachers by appointment & promotion meetings			12:00 – 3:00	

Exam Schedule for Semester 2

Please be aware of these important dates, indicated below. Parents and students are reminded to not schedule appointments, trips, interviews, work, etc. during examination times. **EQAO Math Assessment : June 12 and 15**

June 2020				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				12 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 2)
15 Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment (Day 2)	16	17 Exam Week Period 1 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.	18 Exam Week Period 2 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.	19 Exam Week Period 3 Exams (all grades) begin at 9:00 a.m.
22 Exam Week Period 4 Exams (all grades) Begin at 9:00 a.m.	23 Performance Tasks/ Practice Exams (all grades) By Appointment	24 Exam Feedback Day (Modified Schedule)	25 P.A. Day Graduation, 6:30	26 P.A. Day
Exam feedback for Period 1 classes			8:20 – 9:05	
Exam feedback for Period 2 classes			9:10 – 9:50	
Exam feedback for Period 3 classes			9:55 – 10:35	
Exam feedback for Period 4 classes			10:40 – 11:20	
Consultation with teachers by appointment & promotion meetings			12:00 – 3:00	