



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: September 30 – October 4, 2019

Trait of the Month: Respect - Responsibility

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

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. Sr./Jr. Basketball Teams at G.W. Williams Post-Secondary Fair - St. Andrew's College, Aurora
THU, Oct. 3	Sr. Boys Soccer Team to Dr. John M. Dension S.S. Boys and Girls Rugby Teams to Fletcher Field Awards Night
FRI, Oct. 4	Photo Retake Day Special Ed to Markham Fair Tennis Team to Mayfair

Upcoming:

MON, Oct. 7	
TUE, Oct. 8	Jr. Girls Basketball Team at G.W. Williams Sr. Girls Basketball Team to Milliken Mills H.S. Girls Field Hockey Team to Dension S.S. Sr. Boys Soccer Team to Our Lady of the Lake C.H.S.
WED, Oct. 9	
THU, Oct. 10	IB Grade 11 and 12 to Green Acres Jr. Girls Basketball Team to Aurora H.S.
FRI, Oct. 11	Interim Reports Distributed

Notices

Fall 2019 Important Dates

Please see below for information on Post-Secondary fairs being held in Aurora and Toronto this September and October. Click on the links for each fair to plan your visit:

- [Post-Secondary Fair - St. Andrew's College, Aurora](#)
 Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2019
 Time: 4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- [Study and Go Abroad Fair - Metro Convention Centre, Toronto](#)
 Date: Sunday, October 6, 2019
 Time: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- [Ontario College Information Fair - Enercare Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto](#)
 Date: Wednesday, October 23 - Thursday October 24, 2019
 Time: Wed: 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. & Thurs. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- [Student Life Expo - Metro Convention Centre, Toronto](#)
 Sunday October, 27, 2019
 Time: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.
- [Post-Secondary Fair - Aurora High School](#)
 Date: Wednesday October 30
 Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Students are also encouraged to visit these websites to learn more about post-secondary pathways:

Apprenticeships: www.earnwhileyoulearn.ca

Ontario Colleges: www.ontariocolleges.ca

Ontario Universities: www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca

My Gap Year: www.mygapyear.ca

Education & Career Planning: myBlueprint.ca

2019/2020 Guidance Department Members:

A all students are welcome to book appointments with their guidance counsellor, as needed.

Counsellors:	Last Name Alpha List	
Mr. Fuller email: mark.fuller@yrdsb.ca	A-I	IB Coordinator: Ms. Gordner email: nicole.gordner@yrdsb.ca
Ms. Wilmshurst email: debbie.wilmshurst@yrdsb.ca	J-P	Student Success Teacher: Mrs. Machan email: erica.machan@yrdsb.ca
Ms. Durbacz, Department Head email: sue.durbacz@yrdsb.ca	Q-Z	Guidance Secretary: Mrs. Renfer - Ext. 101

Math Help

TVO Mathify (tvomathify.com) provides live after-school math tutoring by Ontario certified teachers for students in Grade 7 to 10 math. Mathify is free to use. The newly extended hours are Sunday to Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. There is a Mathify Open House from September 23 to October 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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

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

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>

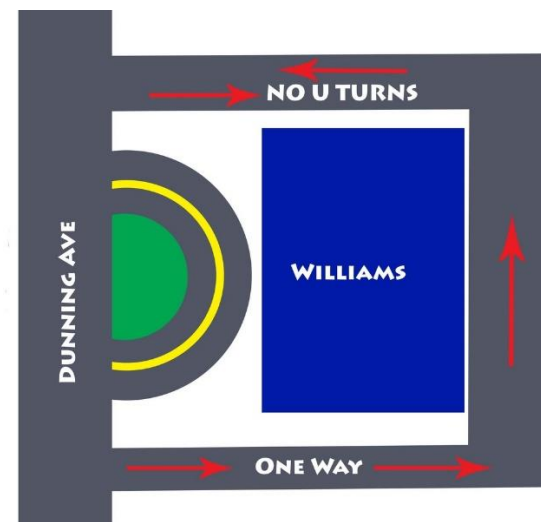
Driveway and Parking Lot

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.



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!

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!

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

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 1)
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	