



Williams’ Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: September 12-16, 2022

Trait of the Month: Courage

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

Administrative Team
Melissa Schmidt, Principal
Diane Conlon, VP (A-Li)
Andrew Gazaneo, VP (Lo-Z)

Extensions:
Reception 0
Attendance 1
Guidance 3
Staff 4
Directory

Daily Schedule	
Period 1	8:20-9:40
Period 2	9:45-11:00
Period 3	11:05-12:20
Period 4	12:25-1:40
Period 5	1:45-3:00

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

This week:

Sept 12	Photo Day
Sept 13	Photo Day
Sept 14	
Sept 15	Club Fair, Library (Periods 3 & 4)
Sept 16	

Upcoming: 2022/2023 School Year

September 19	School Council meeting, 7pm Library
September 20	
September 21	
September 22	Student Council Grade rep Election
September 23	PA day (no school)

To support your family planning, the 2022-2023 YRDSB School Year Calendar is available on the [YRDSB website](#). Additionally, all tentative dates for our school events have been updated on our Google calendar on our [school website](#).

Message from the Principal

Welcome back!! We were delighted to welcome over 200 Grade 9 parents and 360+ Grade 9s to Williams on Wednesday morning for our transition activities. It was so nice to be able to have everyone into the building.

We appreciate the patience that all students and staff have given as our Guidance and Office staff are learning the new student management system that was implemented over the summer. We know that there have been some hiccups along the way and the staff are working quickly to resolve them when we become aware.

As we have moved to a 5 period schedule this year students are adapting to the fact that they can no longer be in the hallways during their lunch. Students will only be allowed to go to their lockers at the beginning and end of the lunch periods. The cafeteria, library and outdoors are available to students during that time.

NEW! The YRDSB has implemented a new Secondary Safe Arrival policy for students. This REQUIRES that all student absences are justified with a reason from a parent\guardian and that calls are made home early in Period 1 (morning arrival) and Periods 4 & 5 (arrival after lunch). Our attendance voice mail is available 24/7 by calling the school and the attendance email is: drgwwilliamsss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. As part of this procedure, students participating in after school activities must also confirm their attendance with the staff supervisor and must articulate their plans for transportation home after the activity. If you are planning to pick your child up you need to be at the school at the end of the activity as staff must ensure they are leaving and getting home when the activity has ended.

We are looking forward to a busy and fun year. Please reach out to your student’s teachers if you have any questions or concerns throughout the semester.

All the best,
Melissa Schmidt

Athletics Notices

Fall season is upon us. Students should be listening to announcements to see what teams will be offered. Students and parents can check the announcements on our website each day as well.

Guidance

[YRDSB Night School Information](#)

[YRDSB Aquatic Leadership Program](#)

School Calendar for 2022-2023

- Please use this [link](#)

Photo Day(s) 2022

Photo Day School photos will take place on September 12th and 13th, 2022. Students will be brought down by class to ensure efficiency and supervision for all. Student ID cards will be printed on the spot for all students having their photo taken. Approximately half the school population will be photographed on September 12th and the remaining classes on September 13th. The schedule has been given to teachers and they have shared the date and approximate time that their class will be called to be photographed with their students.

We plan to publish a yearbook again this year and would like to get as many photos as possible.

Please click on this flyer [link](#) as a reminder of the dates for photo day. You also have an opportunity to order photos from Lifetouch using the following order [form](#).

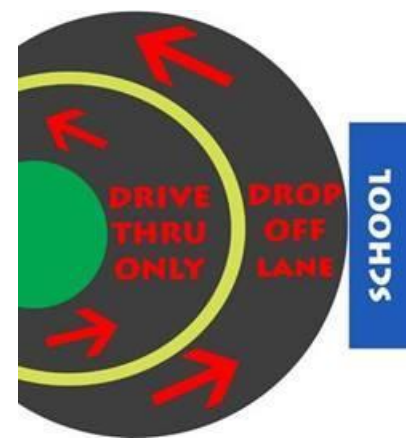
We look forward to photographing everyone on their respective photo day.

Remember to wear a huge smile!

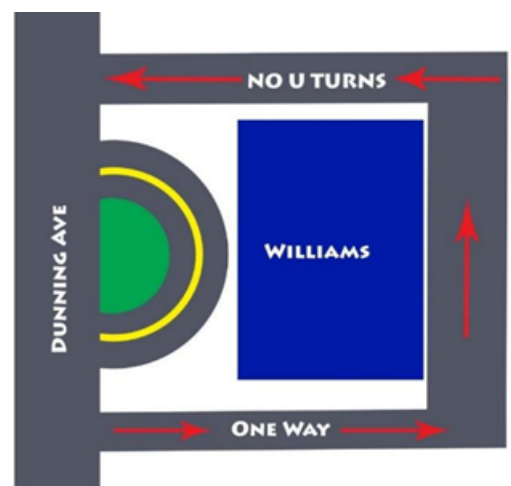
Safety and Community Notices

Driveway and Parking Lot

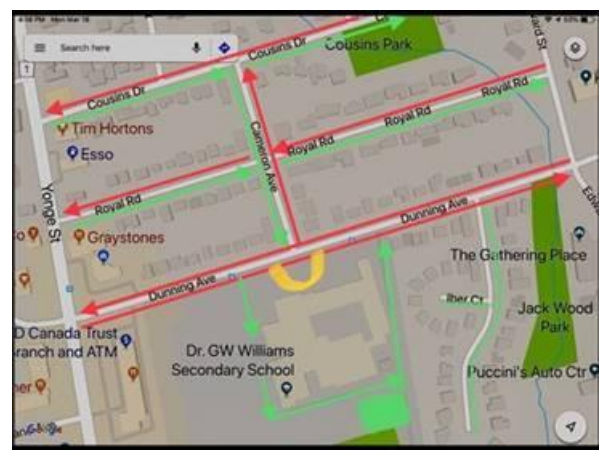
At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 2:50 to 3:10 pm. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave the front driveway loop around 3:10, 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.

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

- September 23
- October 21
- November 18
- February 3
- May 5
- June 30

School Council Meetings for 2022-2023

- September 19
- October 17
- November 21



- February 21
- April 17
- May 15