



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: Oct. 31 - Nov. 11, 2022

Trait of the Month: Fairness

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.

The Dr. G.W. Williams SS

Administrative Team

Melissa Schmidt, Principal
George Tsigaridis, VP (A-Le)
Andrew Gazaneo, VP (Li-Z)

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Reception 0
Attendance 1
Guidance 3
Staff Directory 4

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://drgwilliams.ss.yrdsb.ca/>
Email: dr.g.w.williams.ss@yrdsb.ca

Social Media: [@drgwilliams](#) (Instagram & Twitter)
Attendance: drgwilliamss.attendance@yrdsb.ca

This week:

Oct 31	Halloween Haunted Hallway (Period 3 & 4) - \$2 on SchoolCash Online Senior Boys Soccer, Quarter Finals 3pm, Bill Hogarth SS (Markham) One Chip Challenge, 3:15 Library
Nov. 1	
Nov. 2	Grade 8 Visit to Williams Take our Kids to Work Day - Grade 9
Nov. 3	Grade 8 Open House (6:30 - 8:30 pm)
Nov. 4	

Upcoming

Nov. 7	IB Application window for Grade 9 September 2023 entry closes at 9:00 am Staff Meeting (Library, 3:15-4:30)
Nov. 8	
Nov. 9	
Nov. 10	Sem 1 Term 2
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day

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

We had such a great turnout for Teacher Interview Night last night and it was fantastic to finally get parents back in the building. It was interesting to hear many parents comment that they had NEVER been in our building as their students started Grade 9 during the pandemic when open house was virtual. If you did not get a chance to connect with your child's teacher last night and have questions please don't hesitate to reach out by email or call the school to connect.

Yesterday we also had 27 students and 2 teachers visit the Level Up! Career Fair. Students engaged in many hands-on skills and activities and learned about many opportunities in the skilled trades industries. Check out our Instagram to see the experiences they had! Anyone who is curious about pursuing an in-demand and high-paying job in the trades should see their guidance counsellor for next steps!

As we look ahead to Halloween on Monday we provided students with a few reminders on the announcements today that are important for parents to be aware of as well. In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, it is important that costumes do not trivialize and devalue the lives of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Our expectation is that costumes should be respectful of others. Symbols or objects representative of a person's race, culture, ethnicity, or religious beliefs, should not be worn as another person's costume, nor should costumes that caricature social identities through stereotyping. Please be sensitive to images and media use. Remember that no weapons or replica weapons should be brought to school at any time. Also, no masks may be worn as your face must be visible at all times to our school staff. We want to ensure that this day is fun for all and by ensuring that students are respectful in their costume choices it can be creative and fun.

We wish our Senior Boys Soccer Team best of luck next Monday at their quarter finals against Bill Hogarth SS in Markham. Go Wildcats!!

All the best,
Melissa Schmidt

NEW Literacy Corner

All students who need to write the literacy test have been added to the Williams Literacy Support Google Classroom. On this classroom, students will find recorded lessons, practice sections of the test, and a full practice test. Please take the time to explore this resource with your child. If students believe they were added to this classroom accidentally, they should reach out to me (Ms. King) at hailey.king@yrdsb.ca. Students can also add themselves to the google classroom using the following class code: ry7jukf

Your task this week to practice for the OSSLT is to establish an opinion! Talk with your students about what their opinion is on if the school day should start and end later. After they have established a clear opinion, have students write two paragraphs supporting their answer that includes specific arguments and specific supporting details.

Take Our Kids to Work

"Take Our Kids to Work" (TOKW) is an initiative that provides **Grade 9 students** with the opportunity to **observe** a work environment for one day. As suggested by the *Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel Report*, the program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On **Wednesday, November 2, 2022**, Grade 9 students will spend the day at a workplace of a parent/guardian, relative, friend or volunteer. There is a [Family Guide Resource](#) available to support families with planning.

Please be advised that permission forms to participate in Take our Kids to Work Day will be sent to your child's GAPPs account today. **We ask that you review the form with your child and then sign off as per the instructions by Friday, October 21st.**

In the circumstance that you are unable to find a workplace for your child to observe, parents/guardians can also choose to have their child participate independently in career exploration activities at home or at school. Please indicate this choice on the permission form so that we can plan appropriately.

Ordering School Photos

Just a reminder if you would like to purchase student pictures please visit mylifetouch.ca. Enter the picture day ID **EVCPDDPKB**. For more information see [here](#).

Music Department

Do you want to see three teachers and a VP cry? Come on out to the Library after school on October 31st to see Mr Harrison, Mr Gazaneo, Mme Draper and Mr Watkin take the One Chip Challenge! For only \$5 on School Cash Online you can be witness to the tears! All proceeds help support the Music Departments quest for new instruments! Your last chance to purchase your entry is October 30th! Event is for students only.

Art Council

Arts Council's annual haunted hallway is finally back! This upcoming Monday on Halloween, during periods 3 and 4, find the abandoned football hallway by the cafeteria and see its transformation into a creepy haunted dollhouse... Entry fees will only be two dollars! **Please visit [school cash online](#) to pay the \$2 fee.** Don't miss out on this spooky opportunity! We'll be waiting for you...

Williams School Yearbook

After two years of not being able to publish a full Yearbook, Williams Yearbook Team is in full swing preparing for a 2022-2023 full publication! Yearbooks are a special memento that students get to take away with them at the end of the school year as it highlights all events, sports, clubs, staff and of course students of that year. All grades are represented equally in the book and it is truly a representation of our school community. Purchase your beautiful hard copy today!

Will only be available for purchase on [School Cash online](#)!

Student Activity Fee Paid \$46 *Recommended

Student Activity Fee NOT Paid \$50

Athletics Notices

Notices

NEW November Triple P Parenting Sessions - Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations. Parents, guardians, caregivers and community members are invited to attend these virtual sessions during the month of November. For more information see [here](#).

Tune In YRDSB podcast: Municipal Elections: To listen see [here](#).

Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter October 2022 - October's Mental Health Newsletter for families and caregivers has a focus on the Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: Within Us, Between Us, and Around Us. To read the newsletter see [here](#).

360°kids believes that every young person deserves a safe place to call home. Since our founding in 1989, 360°kids has continued to provide a full complement of programs and services aimed at assisting at-risk and homeless youth. For more information see [here](#).

PARENTING SESSIONS Let's talk about it!

Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations. We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these virtual sessions! For more information see [here](#).

This free parent presentation is brought to you in a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

Centre for Black Student Excellence Newsletter | October 2022

We look forward to continuing to develop opportunities for supporting Black students, families and staff within the York Region District School Board, in partnership with community partners. See [newsletter](#) for further information.

York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities Events and Programs

York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities (York Region AACC) provides programs for Black Students Across York Region. Please see the [events web page](#) for details.

Anti-Asian Racism Survey Invitation - G7-12 Students - YRDSB is collecting information on experiences of Asian students (East Asian, South Asian, South East Asian). If you are an Asian identifying G7-12 student, you are invited to complete an [anonymous survey](#). Survey closes: October 31, 2022.

EIAC Call for Community Members - YRDSB invites [applications](#) from community volunteers for membership on Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee (EIAC). Application deadline is November 1, 2022.

Guidance

Post-Secondary Pathways

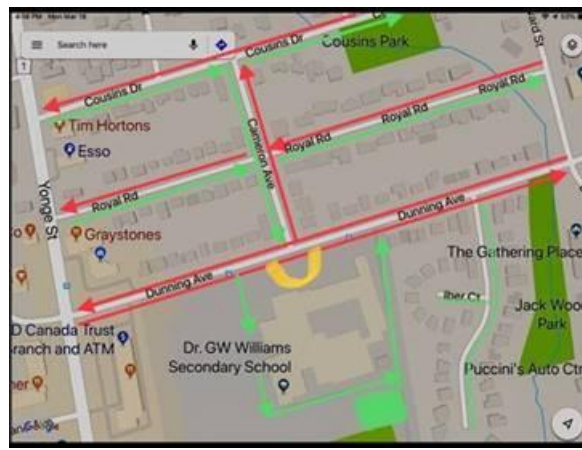
- **If students are applying to Ontario colleges:**
 - They will need their Ontario Education Number (OEN). Please watch the [How To Apply To Public Colleges in Ontario Video](#).
- **If students are applying to Ontario universities:**
 - They will need their School Number, Student Number and Temporary PIN. Please watch the [101 - How - to Videos](#).
- **If students are going into the skilled trades:**
 - Please visit [OYAP](#), [Skills Ontario](#) and see your Guidance Counsellor.

Upcoming Events

- **Local Post-Secondary Fairs:**
 - Please see [this list](#) for all post-secondary fairs hosted by other YRDSB secondary schools for more dates and times.
- **Tech Night:**
 - November 17th from

To help students make decisions about what post-secondary programs to apply to, families are encouraged to research post-secondary pathways with students using the following websites:

- <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>



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:

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

School Council Meetings for 2022-2023

- October 17
- November 21
- February 21
- April 17
- May 15