

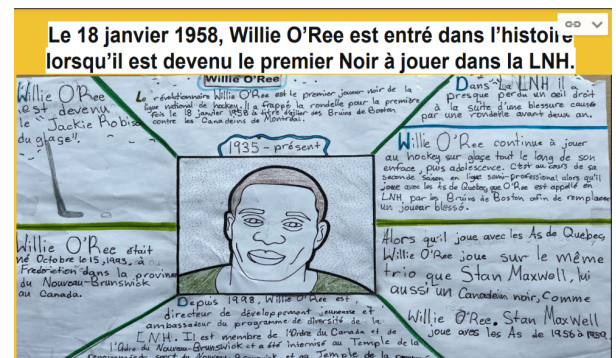
Email: [elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca) Twitter [@EldersMills](#)



<b>Trustee</b> Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair	<b>Superintendent</b> Otilia Olteanu	<b>Principal</b> Eugenia Korinis	<b>Vice-Principal</b> Omari White	<b>Office Admin Team</b> Cathy Consiglio Stella Ditri
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This week our Grade 2 and 3 students continued to share the stories of Black Canadians, past and present day, teaching us about Black Excellence through their learning. We are looking forward to hearing from more students and classes at our Black History Month celebration assembly next week.



**Scientists in the School:**

This week our Grade 6 classes engaged in hands-on Science learning facilitated by Scientists in the Schools. Thank you to our Grade 6 teaching team for coordinating this.



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**Coming up this week:**

F E B R U A R Y	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Black History Month Fire Engine presentation Grade 2-3</li><li>● Mental Health Awareness Workshops (Int.)</li></ul>
	28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Black Excellence Conference</li></ul>
	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Skills Challenge Competition</li></ul>
	2	
	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Black History Month @ EMPS celebration</li></ul>

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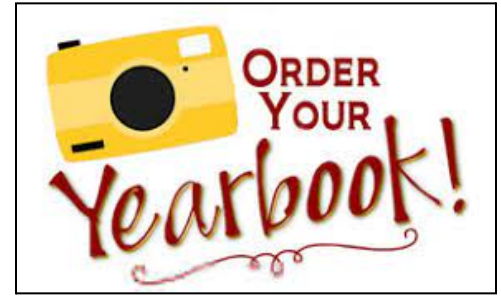
**What else is happening at EMPS?**

**Spirit Wear Fundraiser**

**Students, Families & Friends** have an opportunity to soar with their fellow Eagles!!! Spirit Wear such as **hoodies, t-shirts, sweatpants and caps** will all be available to order for all. Create and share memories with purchases available from now until June 1. Deliveries will be made to Elder's Mills every 2 - 3 weeks and sent home with students. All proceeds will fund school enhancements and programs. Shop online by following this link:  
<https://stores.inksoft.com/eldersmills/shop/home>



**Yearbook on sale now!** Even as the Yearbook Cover and Back Cover Design Contest continues, we have opened up [School Cash online](#) for families who wish to purchase a yearbook. This year's book will have 64 full- colour pages and will include class pages, graduation photos and pages of memories from this past school year. The cost per yearbook is \$27.00. Delivery is expected mid-June. Place your order by April 23rd, 2023.



## ***Yearbook Cover and Back Cover Design Contest!***

Themes of :

*Honnêteté Justice Responsabilité Optimisme Intégrité Persévérance Empathie  
Initiative Respect Courage*



Your first name (no last name) and class (eg. John, 7C)

**Hand in your design by March 3, 2023.**



All entries should be colourful, in French and English  
Please check your spelling before completing your good copy!

To hand in: SCAN a CLEAR copy of your front and covers Upload to Google Drive  
and share with: Mme Gungadin

Try to scan with a scanner or pdf scanning app to get the best resolution possible

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### **ELEMENTARY REPORT CARDS:**

Report cards are part of our ongoing communication to support student achievement and well-being. We hope that the Term 1 report card will provide valuable feedback for your child while supporting conversations about learning at home. Your child's report card will be distributed between February 21 to February 24, 2023. These reports will be distributed using the same process used for the Progress Reports via student Board Google GAPPS accounts.



## YRDSB Podcast

Did you know that YRDSB has a podcast? From in-depth discussions on issues affecting education to practical conversations for families, Tune In YRDSB helps you stay connected to what's happening in education.



Check out some of our latest episodes, available on most podcast platforms. Don't miss our monthly wrap-up episodes sharing the latest news and upcoming events each month.

- [Shine episodes](#) featuring Black voices and celebrating Black excellence in its many forms.
- [Introduction to Special Education](#). Learn more about how students are identified, what to expect, how we work with families to support students and more. We also invited students to tell us how their IEP helps them.
- [Adult Learning](#). Two students sit down with adult learning educators to share their stories and talk about the benefits of adult learning. Find out how it works, what to expect, and why students feel "at home" here.
- [Tamil Heritage Month](#). Staff, students and family members speak about Tamil Heritage Month, Tamil identity and how we can create learning and working spaces that affirm Tamil identity.
- [Yad Vashem](#). Join YRDSB educators as they sit down with staff from Yad Vashem to discuss the importance of Holocaust education in Canada.

## News, Tips and Resources for Families

Looking for the latest news, tips and resources for families? Some of our departments put out monthly newsletters that provide helpful updates and resources for families.

Visit our [newsletters page](#) to see them all, or check out the latest from:

- [Centre for Black Student Excellence](#)
  - [Math and Math Problems of the Month](#)
  - [Mental Health](#)
  - [Parent, Family and Community Engagement](#)
- ["The Special Edition"](#) Exceptional Learning Strengths and Needs Newsletter





**Please join us for our School Council Meetings!**

Our meetings are hosted in the library from 7:00 p.m. For families who cannot join us face-to-face, a virtual meet link is shared on the day of the event. Our meetings for the remainder of the year are on the following days: **March 23rd, May 4th**

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**Winterfest! Thursday, March 9th, 2023**

Details regarding events and ticket sales are available on [School Cash Online](#).

Thank you to our students and families for their donations towards the class themed Gift Baskets. These gift baskets will be raffled off on the night of our Winterfest, March 9th. Some of the themes we have to look forward to are: Drawing and Painting, Games Night, Movie Night, Dog Toys & Treats!

In addition to the Gift Baskets Raffle, families can come to enjoy hot chocolate and treats, activities such as henna art, 'le tire d'erable', craft table, face painting, and much more. Families will also enjoy music selections from our different student music groups. The library and the gym will be open for games and activities as well.



The entry fee for this event is \$2.00 per person. This includes several free activities. All other activities, including pizza, water, snacks will need Winterbucks. Winterbucks need to be purchased through School Cash online.

A detailed outline of the activities and 'Winterbucks' is available on School Cash online and below.

We are looking forward to a fun evening with our families. See you soon!

**WINTERFEST DETAILS:**

The **entrance fee** is \$2.00 per person and includes the following activities: Colouring Wall, Face Painting, Photo Booth, Snowflake Station, Craft Table, Games, Music Entertainment provided by Mr. Mellor and the school band.....and more!

**Activities** that are an extra cost and require **Winterbucks:**

**Pizza** slices -3  
Winterbucks per slice

**Snacks:** Veggie Chips, Popcorn, cookies -1  
Winterbuck per snack

**Hot Chocolate** - 1  
Winterbuck

**Henna Station** - 1  
Winterbuck

**Raffle Tickets**- 1  
Winterbuck per ticket

**Maple Syrup Pull (le tire d'erable)** - 2  
Winterbucks

Please go to School Cash online for details.

We look forward to seeing you there!

A poster for WinterFest with a blue background and white snowflake patterns. The text is in various fonts and colors, including white, yellow, and blue. The main title 'WinterFest is coming!' is in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, the date and time are in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The pre-order information is in a yellow, sans-serif font. The 'Fun Activities to enjoy...' section is in a white, cursive font. The list of activities and their costs is in a white, sans-serif font. The 'Dress in white and blue' text is in a white, cursive font. The '\$= 1 Winterbuck' text is in a white, sans-serif font. The bottom section contains information about the event in a white, sans-serif font.

**WinterFest is coming!**

Join us on Thursday, March 9 from 6-8pm for a fun community evening.

**Pre-order your WinterBuck\$ and Entry on School Cash Online**  
**Use WinterBuck\$ at our fun activities!**

**Fun Activities to enjoy...**

<b>Pizza Slice \$\$\$</b>	<b>Raffle \$</b>
<b>Water \$</b>	<b>Snowflake Station</b>
<b>Snack Sale \$</b>	<b>Craft Table</b>
<b>Colouring Wall</b>	<b>Games</b>
<b>Face Painting</b>	<b>and more...</b>
<b>Henna Station \$</b>	
<b>Hot Chocolate \$</b>	<b>Musical entertainment</b>
<b>Photo Booth</b>	<b>provided by Mr. Mellor and</b>
	<b>his bands</b>

**Dress in white and blue**

**\$= 1 Winterbuck**

**Winterbuck\$ will be available for purchase during the event**  
**This is a family event. Students must be accompanied by parents/guardians.**  
**Supervision will not be provided**

**Centre for Black Student Excellence Newsletter - March:**

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.](#)



**Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter - March:**

In this edition we will focus on finding smaller and bigger ways to take a pause as well as activities to help your family stay engaged through the Mid-Winter break. [See newsletter linked here.](#)



**Homestay Families Needed for International Visa Students:**

Host families are needed to offer homestay accommodation to international visa students. The experience of hosting can be a once in a lifetime experience for your family.

Are you able to offer a caring home environment to a YRDSB international student? Remuneration (monthly stipend) is available to families to cover the cost of hosting. Hosting opportunities are available from two well-known organizations, approved by YRDSB. These organizations can support you every step of the way. Both [Canada Homestay Network](#) and [MLI Homestay](#) offer additional information online.



These opportunities are available broadly to YRDSB staff, and members of school communities.

**York Region Traveller Safety Plan**

The public is invited to a virtual information session for the York Region multi-year Traveller Safety Plan. York Region is seeking public input to help promote road safety. Visit the [website for more information and to register.](#)





## TÜRKIYE and SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

### List of Urgently Needed Items

Winter Clothing (coats, jackets, raincoats, boots, gloves, scarfs, hats)

Tents

Camping mattress

Blankets

Sleeping bags

Thermos

Flashlights (without batteries)

Diapers

Cleaning and Personal Hygiene

Sanitary Napkins

Dry Food Items

Baby Formula

*All donations will be sent to Türkiye in a prioritized manner via the Consulate.*

*Donations to Syria will be distributed from Türkiye through a third party organization.*

### Donations may be dropped off at:

#### Humanity First Food Bank

600 Bowes Rd, Unit 40, Concord ON L4K 4A3

Telephone: (416) 440-0346

Email: [Info@humanityfirst.ca](mailto:Info@humanityfirst.ca)

**You may also donate online at [www.humanityfirst.ca](http://www.humanityfirst.ca)**



**Parent/caregiver series supporting students of Chinese Heritage.**

The series will provide a number of parent/caregiver virtual events to build community, support mental health, and promote healing.

The third session in the series is offered for any parent/guardian of students of Chinese Heritage. Parents, caregivers are invited to join this workshop and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school. Tips on ways that help strengthen family relationships and emotional wellbeing will be shared. This will be a free virtual event.

**Community Building and Engagement Event**

February 27th, 2023 at 7:00pm-8:30pm Cantonese Session

[Registration for Cantonese Session](#)

March 6th, 2023 at 7:00pm-8:30pm Mandarin Session

[Registration for Mandarin Session](#)



**Fostering Your Child's Emotional Resilience** 培養孩子的情緒適應力/ 培养孩子的情绪适应力

This session in Cantonese and Mandarin will introduce key strategies of how parents can encourage their child to express their feelings.

這講座將讓大家學習如何有效的鼓勵你的子女表達他們的情緒

这讲座将学习如何有效的鼓励你的子女表达他们的情绪

To register for a Cantonese session:  
[點擊這裡報名粵語講座](#) or scan the QR code



To register for a Mandarin session:  
[点击这里报名普通话讲座](#) or scan QR code





## Parenting Program for Farsi and Dari Speaking Families

Building healthy relationships with your children is a fundamental parenting skill. As a parent, we want to raise healthy individuals. This starts with knowing and practicing strategies that help us mitigate parenting challenges. Join us for a session full of helpful information and practical strategies. Some of these topics are:

### **Session 1: Fostering positive relationships with children with looking at self-esteem enhancement strategies**

- Tips on fostering a healthy and secure attachment with your child
- Useful communication strategies such as emotional validation and normalization
- Learning how to strengthen your child's self-esteem

### **Session 2: Regulating Emotions**

- Functionality of emotions: What can emotions do for you?
- Understanding and naming emotions
- Tips for addressing your child's emotions and strategizing healthy coping strategies to deal with challenging emotions

### **Session 3: Social Media and Parenting Concerns Q&A**

- Social media and recommendations regarding healthy social media habits
- Age-appropriate screen time
- Peer pressure and interpersonal skills

**Date:** February 27, March 27 and April 24, 2023

**Time:** 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom (Virtual) Held in Farsi / Dari

### **[Register Here](#)**

For more information, please contact: **Maryam Jariani**  
Community Partnership Developer (Iranian/Afghan Community)  
[maryam.jariani@yrdsb.ca](mailto:maryam.jariani@yrdsb.ca); 905-727-0022 ext. 3512

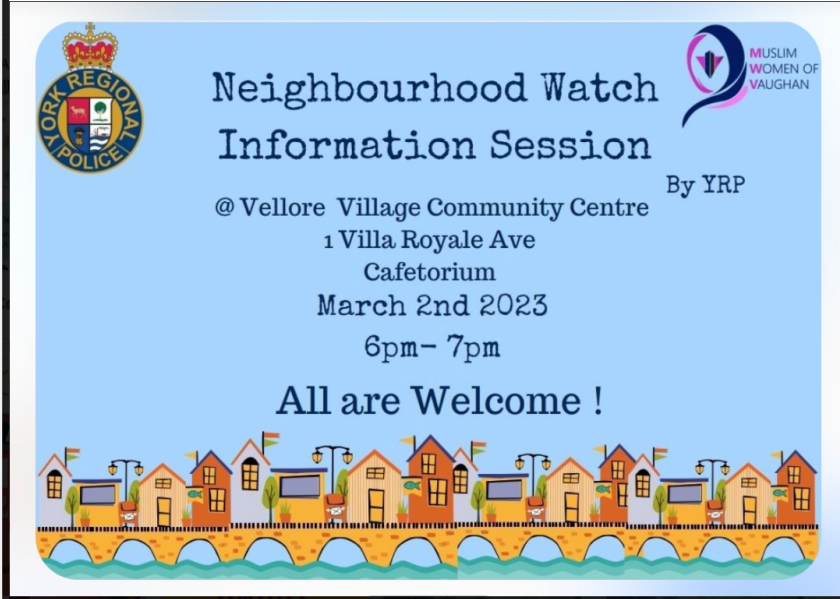


Speaker: **Afsaneh Zafarani** School Social Worker

Speaker: **Mahsa Ghayoumi** Psychotherapist from (Family Service York Region)

**[REGISTRATION LINK HERE](#)**

IN OUR COMMUNITY



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

Attendance and Safe Arrival:

Parents may inform the school office of their child's absence in three different ways:

1. Absences can be entered into **Edsby** which is available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time;
2. Send an email to the school attendance email address at: [lders.mills.ps.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lders.mills.ps.attendance@yrdsb.ca);
3. Parents may choose to contact the school office at 905-893-1631 between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on the day of absence.

We continue to have to respond to a high number of unreported absences and lates. Please ensure you make every effort to communicate with the school if your child will be away or arriving after 8:45 a.m. If Edsby is not available (we recognize this may sometimes happen), please use one of the other two methods above to report the absence. When the school cannot confirm a child's absence, we do need to follow our Safe arrival procedures and this may include reaching out to York Regional Police to help locate and ensure the safety of your child. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.



**Are you moving?**

Is your family planning a move? If your child is currently attending Elder's Mills and you know that they will be changing schools for September, please let our office team know as soon as possible. This information will support our planning for September. Please send an email to [elders.mill.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:elders.mill.ps@yrdsb.ca). Thank you.

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**On the Horizon....**

**March:**

**6 - 10 Carnaval!!!**

**9 - Winterfest**

**13 - 17 March Break**

**22 - World Water Day Eco Fair @ EMPS**

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We wish our students and our families a very happy weekend!

*Eugenia Korinis*  
Principal

*Omari White*  
Vice-Principal