



23

DATES AT A GLANCE

Dec. 18-26	Hanukkah
Dec. 25	Christmas (Western)
Dec. 26-31	Kwanza
Dec. 26 - Jan. 06	Winter Break
Jan. 12	OUAC Applications Due
Jan. 19-20	Gr. 9 Math EQAO
Jan. 26- Feb. 01	Exams & Culminating
Feb. 1	OCAS Applications
Feb. 02	Mark Review Day (modified schedule)
Feb. 02	Semi-Formal
Feb. 03	P.A. Day
Feb. 06	Sem. 2 Start

SCHOOL COUNCIL
emily.carr.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca
Meeting Dates:
 Tuesday Feb. 21, 2023
 Wednesday, Apr. 19, 2023

MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

Dear Families,

We wish our ECSS families a safe, wonderful break and all the best for 2023. May you find joy, relaxation and the warmth you desire. We look forward to learning and growing with you in the new year.

Best wishes,
Ms. Paul, Ms. Borges, and Mr. Drekolias

SEVERE WEATHER

In order to prepare ourselves for the upcoming snowy season please be aware of the following:

On days in which weather reports are indicating that York Region will be receiving some snow, you can obtain information in the morning about bus and/or school cancellations, such as, but not limited to the following:

- Student Transportation Services website: schoolbuscity.com
- Student Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- [@YRDSB](https://twitter.com/YRDSB) Twitter account
- Board website (www.yrdsb.ca) and school websites
- Radio and TV media outlets

Please continue to monitor local media for up to date weather forecasts and take safety precautions advised by local authorities.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR RELATIONSHIPS

The students of E.C.S.S. have a shared responsibility with our community partners to ensure an inviting and clean environment for our neighbours and our community. Although the Al Palladini Community Center, the Pierre Berton Resource Library and the Business establishments at the Plaza are public facilities, they are to be treated as private property by our students.

We would like to remind our students that they are discouraged from “hanging out” in these different areas between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. During lunch students are welcome at both centers as long as they adhere to the City of Vaughan’s ‘Safe Community Centres Policy Code of Conduct’. We expect our students to be positive representatives of ECSS at school and in our community, being polite, staying out of unsupervised areas and courteous in behaviour or speech at all times.

PARKING LOTS

With icy conditions and darkness making it difficult to see, we kindly ask that staff, students and parents please slow down when driving through the parking lot.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS (CIH)

Potential Graduates have been reminded to submit any outstanding CIH forms to the Guidance Office or by email to Ms Sosa, Guidance Secretary, at daniela.sosa@yrdsb.ca. As a reminder, students are required to complete 40 CIHs to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.



@ 7:00 p.m. - Library

ATTENDANCE email:

emilycarrss.attendance@yrdsb.ca

SCHOOL email:

emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca

HELPFUL LINKS:

- [ECSS Calendar](#)
- [ECSS Website](#)
- [YRDSB Website](#)
- [ECSS Twitter](#)
- [ECSS Instagram](#)
- [York Region Public Health](#)
- [Tips For Speaking With Your Child - COVID-19](#)
- [Mental Health Supports](#)
- [School Mental Health Ontario](#)

EQAO MATH

On January 19 and January 20, 2023, our Grade 9 students learning in person will be taking part in the Education Quality and Accountability Office’s (EQAO’s) online Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics. The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate student learning of the knowledge and skills in the Grade 9 mathematics curriculum. Additional information will be sent directly to families with students currently taking grade 9 mathematics.

CULMINATING TASK/EXAM DAYS

During the Culminating Task/Exam days, January 26 - February 01, 2023 students may be participating in Culminating Tasks and/or Exams. Culminating activities may include, but are not limited to presentations, performances, demonstrations, portfolios, conversations and conferencing, etc. Each class is unique and teachers will create schedules, based on the dates noted, that best support student achievement. This may or may not include specific activities during the exam period. Teachers will communicate expectations for culminating/exam days directly with students and families. **Also, attached, you will find more details regarding culminating task/exam days and hard copies of the attachment will be available in the main office.**

Please note and review dates & times below:

- Students participating in culminating activities and/or credit salvaging may be asked to meet with their teacher at any point during the school day, even if it is outside of their regular class time.
- Students in Community Classes attend classes, as usual, during the culminating/exam period.

Culminating Task/Exam Days	
Period 01	Thursday, January 26, 2023
Period 02	Friday, January 27, 2022
Period 04	Monday, January 30, 2023
Period 05	Tuesday, January 31, 2023
Mark Review Day <i>*revised schedule</i>	Thursday, February 02, 2023
Severe Weather Days <i>(in needed)</i>	Wednesday, February 01, 2023 Thursday, February 02, 2023



Mark Review Day

Mark Review Day, February 02, is an opportunity for staff and students to discuss their culminating tasks and review final marks. The schedule for the day is:

Period 01	8:00 - 8:35 a.m.
Announcements	8:35 - 8:40 a.m.
Period 02	8:45 - 9:20 a.m.
Period 04	9:25 - 10:00 a.m.
Period 05	10:05 - 10:40 a.m.
LUNCH	10:40 - 11:30 a.m.

The afternoon will be used for teachers to make appointments for individual consultation with students/parents as needed regarding credit salvaging where deemed acceptable, course selection consultation and/or support for the next level of study.

SEMESTER TWO COURSE CHANGES

Course change options for semester two are very limited. Students wishing to make a change are asked to schedule a Guidance Appointment prior to **Friday, January 20, 2023** to review options as course changes will not be completed once semester 2 begins.

OCAS and OUAC APPLICATIONS

Students are reminded to complete applications as soon as possible to meet the application deadline. Please note that [OCAS](#) and [OUAC](#) may have holiday hours so students should refer to their website for updated hours. We also encourage students to reach out to the Guidance Office prior to the Winter Break should they require support.



IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Best Documentary - The Rhapsody



York Region District School Board families, educators & students (grade 9+) are invited to join the screening of *The Rhapsody*, a documentary about a Polish Canadian composer/Holocaust survivor, Leo Spellman.

The Rhapsody is a documentary featuring composer and Holocaust survivor Leo Spellman's secret wartime diary and long-lost orchestral masterpiece, which bring his remarkable tale of survival to life. Diary entries of his eighteen months in hiding, as part of the Polish Partisans resistance, are portrayed through artwork and animation narrated by Stephen Fry. The documentary features powerful concert performances, rare archival footage, and an uplifting finale as Spellman's legacy is finally recognized in the Polish town where he narrowly escaped death.

Leo Spellman said, "I always dreamed I had to survive the Nazis to tell the world what happened". At ninety-eight, he endured the pain of revisiting the past to fulfill that dream. *The Rhapsody* celebrates the creativity of Spellman's music, honours the tenacity and resilience of the human spirit, and is an affirmation that all those who have died at the hands of oppressors, including 6,000,000 Jews, did not die in vain.

Paul & Brenda Hoffert, producers of the film, will be joining the event and will participate as part of a Q & A panel at the end of the screening.

**Wednesday January 25, 2023
Anne Frank Public School
6:30 p.m.**

Please RSVP by **January 16, 2023***
Registration Link / QR code
<https://bit.ly/3WfK2IV>

[Trailer](#)

www.spellmansrhapsody.com



*Limited Seating; please register early

Mindful Parenting Series

Let's talk about it!

Mindful parenting helps caregivers feel more responsive and less overwhelmed while helping to children to feeling calmer.

We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these virtual sessions!

January 10, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Being a Parent: Mindful Parenting

For parents of children 0-12 years of age. This session will focus on mindful parenting and the role it plays in being responsive and not reactive. Participants will be provided with strategies that will result in positive change to many familiar parenting challenges.

[Register now for Being a Parent](#)

January 17, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Ride the Waves: Mindful Parenting

For parents of children 0-12 years of age. This session will provide an understanding of the importance of mindful parenting and the role it plays in nurturing positive relationships within the family.

[Register now for Ride the Waves](#)

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families



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.

For more information contact: Oksana Majaski, Community & Partnership Developer
Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

Black Foundation of
Community Networks (BFCN)



Scholarship Application Workshop

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN), in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB), is providing a free workshop to show Black students and their families how to search, prepare, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. If you are in high school or Grade 8, this workshop is especially for YOU!

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EST | ONLINE (ZOOM)

Learn more and register at:

bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary17

To participate Black students and their families must be from YRDSB.

For questions contact:

Cheryl Yarde at info@bfcn.ca

Learn more about our work and how to support at bfcn.ca.





The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA), in partnership with the Town of Newmarket, is inviting members of Newmarket and York Region communities who self-identify as Black to submit artwork!

The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) will be co-organizing an Art Exhibition at the Old Town Hall during Black History Month 2023. NACCA would like to engage artists throughout York Region by asking them to contribute their stories of strength, courage, and innovation through any visual art form. This is an opportunity for residents of Newmarket and York Region to share and express their own individual stories for the community to see. Artists may interpret the theme in any way they see fit.

Q & A



What is the theme?

The Black Family: Source of Perseverance and Resilience

Where is the exhibition taking place?

The exhibit will be located at the Old Town Hall, 460 Botsford Street, Newmarket, ON L3Y 1T1

Q & A



When will the exhibit be taking place?

The exhibit will be on display on Saturday, February 04, 2023. However, the art will remain on display in the Serpa Gallery at the Old Town Hall from Saturday, February 04th to Tuesday, February 28, 2023

Q & A



What mediums are permitted to be submitted?

All forms of Visual Art will be welcomed including photography, painting, sculpture, etc.

Q & A



What is the window of time to submit art?

The call for art is open for submission from December 1, 2022 to January 15, 2023

Who can submit art?

The call is open to all; the categories are as follows:

Youths 14 and under
Young adults 14-21
Adults 21+

How can my art be submitted?

Each artist may submit one piece for consideration.

Include the following with your submission:

- Artist's name, title of the work, medium, dimensions, date of production, value, whether it is for sale or not, and the artist's statement
- How the piece relates to the theme. Limited to 120 words (Word doc or PDF)
- A JPG image of the art
- Artist's preferred contact information.

Participants under the age of 18 years must provide parental/guardian's contact information.

Info must be submitted via email to blackhistory@naccacommunity.ca or on a USB to NACCA (449 Eagle street, Newmarket On, L3Y 1K7). Hours of operation are Monday to Friday 10am-3pm.

What do I need to know about the jury process and awards?

This is a juried exhibit and all the accepted works will be on display. The artists' work that best embodies the theme- *The Black Family: Source of Perseverance and Resilience* will grace the program jacket for the BHM Reception. Awards will be given to 3 chosen artists.



Where can I get answers to my questions, inquiries or if I need help submitting my artwork?

We welcome your questions; please feel free to reach Suzette Benoît at blackhistory@naccacommunity.ca





NATIONAL
COUNCIL
OF CANADIAN
MUSLIMS

Your Voice. Your Future.

CONSEIL
NATIONAL
DES MUSULMANS
CANADIENS

Votre voix. Votre avenir.



Creating Identity Affirming Spaces and Practices to Support Muslim Learners

In partnership with the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM) and the Alliance of Educators for Muslim Students (AEMS), the YRDSB will offer a series of professional learning sessions and workshops that focus on creating identity affirming learning environments, while also interrogating Islamophobia and its impact on student achievement and well-being.

Families & Community Event

Know Your Rights: Muslim Students and Families

In this session, students and families will learn about their legal rights and responsibilities within schools. Participants will be provided with tools and resources that will support them throughout their child's school experience, allowing them to feel more confident and empowered.

Date: January 25, 2023

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual (link to be provided prior to event)

Families & Community Registration Form | bit.ly/3FJ04OD



For further information contact Inclusive School and Community Services at iscs@yrdsb.ca