

# Emily Carr Secondary School Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

February 28, 2025

## In this Issue:

- Reporting Absences
- Spring OSSLT
- Family Interview Night
- Important Updates from Guidance

## Message from Administration:

Dear Families,

As we move into March, we are already one month into Semester 2, and it has been wonderful to see our students engaging in their learning and school activities with enthusiasm. With March Break just around the corner (March 10-14), we encourage students to take this time to rest, recharge, and return refreshed for the remainder of the semester.

We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring students stay on track with their academics, attend classes regularly, and take advantage of available school resources. As always, our staff is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and enriching learning environment for all.

## Attendance

The goal of our attendance policy is to have students attend all classes.. It has been clearly demonstrated that regular attendance is one of the most important contributors to success at school.

When a student is going to be absent for the day, the school is to be informed by a telephone call/e-mail from the parent/guardian before 7:50 a.m. on the day of the absence. A message may be left on the school voice mail of the attendance secretary (905) 850-5012 ext.101 or email [emilycarrss.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:emilycarrss.attendance@yrdsb.ca).

## Families planning to move or students not returning in September

As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 school year, we kindly ask you to inform the school office if your family has plans to move over the summer, or if your children will not be returning in September for any reason. This information helps us to ensure a smooth transition for all students and to make necessary staffing arrangements for the upcoming academic year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us in planning effectively for the new school year. Thank you for your support.

## Contact Us

Phone 905-850-5012

Extensions

Reception 0

Attendance 1

Guidance 3

[emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca](mailto:emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca)

## Online

[School website](#)



@emilycarryrdsb

## Administration

Principal

Tanya-Lynn Paul

Vice Principals

Nadira Lawrence-Selan (A-L)

Samuel Gangbar (M-Z)

[School Council](#)

Co-Chair - Andre Tsopelas

Co-Chair - Lisa Rapisardi

## Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

## Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



## School News

### Spring Session for OSSLT

The Spring session for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) will be held in the **main library** on the following dates:

- **Part A:** Tuesday, March 25, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 10:40 AM
- **Part B:** Thursday, March 27, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 10:40 AM
- **Make-Up Session:** Tuesday, May 1, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 10:40 AM

This session is for students who were not yet successful in the Fall window of the OSSLT. Students and families will receive notification letters in the coming weeks with details about the specific testing dates.

### Family Interview Night: Thursday, April 3rd

Family Interview Night will take place on **Thursday, April 3rd** at **Emily Carr Secondary School** from **6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**. Come and meet your child's teachers and the other caring adults who make Emily Carr Secondary School such a special place.

The format of the evening will be similar to first semester, with an opportunity to meet and greet all teachers in the cafeteria. There will also be time for more formal interviews with teachers in their classrooms.

In the coming weeks, we will provide more details on how to access Teach Assist to book interviews and the overall format of the evening.

We look forward to the opportunity to connect together soon!

### Important Dates

March - Bangladeshi Heritage Month, Persian Heritage Month, Hellenic Heritage Month

Sunday, March 1, 2025 - Ramadan begins

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 - Ash Wednesday

Saturday, March 8, 2025 - International Women's Day

March 10-14, 2025 - March Break

### Helpful Links

#### CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:

[Kids Help Phone](#)  
[Report It \(YRDSB\)](#)

#### SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:

**Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:**

[310-COPE](#): 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) - available 24/7

[KidsHelpPhone](#): 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7



## School News

### Emily Carr's Pantry Program

The Pantry Program is meant to fill a specific gap in food access at school: confidential, anonymous, and drop-in access to healthy food. Should you require support, please review the attached flyer.

### Summer Company

Summer Company provides mentorship from Vaughan's business community, along with a pipeline of tools, skills, connections, and resources required to turn goals into reality.

Young entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to get up to \$3,000 in provincial grant funding to kick-start their business.

To learn more please visit [Eventbrite](#) for more session information.

### Chinese Arts and Literary Festival

This festival aims to deepen participants' understanding of Chinese cultural heritage, promote appreciation and respect for cultural diversity, and enhance social harmony. [Register by March 5, 2025.](#)

### Roots, Rauch and Resilience Group Workshop hosted by Jewish Family and Child Service

Join the JF&CS for a 4-week group workshop starting on March 4, 2025. For students in Grades 6-8. Dinner will be served. [Please register.](#)

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## Updates from Guidance

**THE STUDY AND GO ABROAD/SCHOOL FINDER FAIR** is taking place on Sunday, March 2nd. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

A representative from the University of Guelph Humber will be hosting a drop-in Q & A session for current and future applicants over the lunch period on Friday, March 28th just outside the cafeteria.

**College and University Open Houses & Tours:** Attending a college and university open house or tour is a great way to find out more about the campus, the programs, and the environment. Each post-secondary institution offers a variety of events throughout the year for secondary school students. We encourage students and families to visit each institution's website to find out more details about in-person and virtual opportunities. The upcoming break in March will have a number of great opportunities for students and families to attend.

# Emily Carr Secondary School

# PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry Program is meant to fill a specific gap in food access at school: confidential, anonymous, and drop-in access to healthy food. Should you require support, please scan the QR Code and a trusted adult will connect with you.



## ITEMS THAT WE HAVE

- Canned Foods
- Pasta/Rice
- Cereals
- Granola Bars
- Snack Items
- Personal Hygiene Items

# Family Dashboard



Main

Home

Apps

## Welcome to the YRDSB Family Dashboard

Home

The dashboard will give you secure one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. It is designed to make it easier for you to engage with your child's education.

**Register today at [family.yrdsb.ca](https://family.yrdsb.ca).**

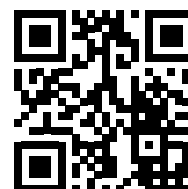
## Setting up your account

1. Visit [family.yrdsb.ca](https://family.yrdsb.ca).
2. Click "No account? Create one" under the email.
3. Enter the email address you have on file at your child's school, and click the Next Button.
4. Check your email, you will receive an email with a one-time code that expires within 30 minutes in order to confirm your identity. Enter that code on the account creation screen.

## Once your email has been validated you will be asked to:

1. **Create a password.**  
*Passwords must be between 8-256 characters and include three of the four following types of characters: lowercase characters; uppercase characters, numbers (0-9); symbols*
2. **Enter a Display Name** (your parent/guardian name).
3. **Enter the following information about your child or one of your children for further verification:**  
*If you use the same email address for your children's schools, all of your children will show in the dashboard once you have registered.*
  - a. **Student Number** (is the same number as their GAPPS ID, or is available in EDBSY)
  - b. **Student Birthdate**
  - c. **Student Home Address Postal Code**

For more tips and frequently asked questions, visit [www2.yrdsb.ca/family-resources](https://www2.yrdsb.ca/family-resources) and click on the Need Help button for the Family Dashboard.



# SUMMER CO-OP

2024-2025

[www.yrdsb.ca/summer-pathway](http://www.yrdsb.ca/summer-pathway)

## SHSM 2-Credit Co-op

### Mackenzie Health & Scarborough Health Network

The SHSM Summer Co-op Program is for SHSM students in the Health & Wellness or Business sectors (for non-clinical positions), interested in working at Mackenzie Health or Scarborough Health Network.

**Application is limited to SHSM students entering Grade 12** who could not schedule Co-op into their regular timetables.

**Registration opens February 14, 2025 and closes on February 24, 2025.**

## 2-Credit Co-op

The 2-credit summer co-op program is a blended learning model running from May 6, 2025 to August 1, 2025. Pre-placement classes will take place in-person and virtually from 5:00-9:00 pm. In-person classes will take place at Richmond Green Secondary School at 1 William F. Bell Pkwy, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 2T9.

**Registration opens February 14, 2025 and closes on March 7, 2025.**

## 1-Credit Co-op

Students will participate in virtual and in-person learning with their Co-op teacher and in-person/virtual Co-op placements in their community from July 2, 2025 to July 25, 2025. Location of the in-person classes is to be determined at a later date.

**Registration opens February 14, 2025 and closes on March 7, 2025.**

## 1-Credit ALEP

1-Credit ALEP is available to students in grades 10-12 interested in earning a credit in July through paid employment.

Employers must meet with the summer ALEP teacher for a placement assessment before students are accepted into the program.

**Registration will happen through My Pathways Planner in April.**



Summer Co-op Information Session

February 12, 2025 4PM - 5PM

Register at: [yrdsb.cc/summercoopinfo](http://yrdsb.cc/summercoopinfo)