

Emily Carr Secondary School Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

March 21, 2025

In this Issue:

- Spring OSSLT
- Family Interview Night
- Graduation Gowns

Message from Administration:

As we approach the middle of the term, we want to keep you informed about key academic milestones and upcoming events. Interim reports will be sent home soon, and midterms are fast approaching. The next few months will be busy with learning, extracurricular activities, and exciting school events, including spirit days, sports tournaments, performances, and class trips.

We appreciate your ongoing support and encourage students to stay engaged, do their best, and take advantage of the many opportunities available. Stay tuned for more updates!

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.

School Council Presents a Parent/Guardian Evening Featuring Kevin Greene (Clinical Director and Registered Psychotherapist)

Mr. Greene will share insights on

1. Substance Abuse
2. Social Media
3. School Issues (avoidance, stress over marks, bullying, etc.)

Join us on Monday, April 7 at 6:30pm at Emily Carr Secondary School.

Contact Us

Phone 905-850-5012

Extensions

Reception 0

Attendance 1

Guidance 3

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, April 1, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 10:40 AM
- **Part B:** Wednesday April 2, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 10:40 AM
- **Make-Up Session:** Tuesday, April 8, 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. Students have been directed to come straight to the main library for 8:00 am on both dates of the test. Attendance will be taken in the library.

Family Interview Night: Thursday, April 3

Family Interview Night will take place on **Thursday, April 3** 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.

Please review the attached document titled "**Families Interview Night Timelines and Format of the Evening**" which provides 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!

Graduation Gowns and Tickets Open for Purchase

Please note that graduation gowns and tickets have been available for purchase since **Monday, March 3rd**. We will be sending out email reminders to all students through their GAPPS accounts, as well as emails to all parents of graduating students, early next week. **School Cash will be closed for purchases on April 23rd 2025**. We are excited as we work to plan and prepare for **Graduation on June 26th** and look forward to celebrating this important milestone of student success!

Important Dates

Interim Report Distribution - March 21-24

Eid - March 30-31, 2025

Helpful Links

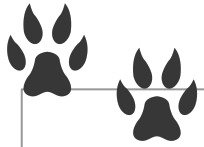
CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:

[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.

The Importance of Instructional Time

Please note that students must complete 110 hours in their classes to achieve their credits. As the spring and summer months approach, kindly remind your child that attending class regularly and completing their work is essential. We ask for your support in reinforcing that bathroom breaks should be brief and that walking the halls unsupervised is not permitted.

Additionally, students should be reminded that cell phone use during instructional time is not permitted and should remain in their backpacks unless directed by the teacher. Thank you for helping us ensure a productive and focused learning environment for all students.

Missed Grad Photos

Our Grad Studio will be open on March 29 & 30 for missed appointments or retakes. To book your appointment please visit this link:

<https://edgeimaging.ca/en/studio-day-disclaimer-aurora/>

Studio Location:

Aurora Preparatory Academy (APA)
81 Industrial Parkway North,
Aurora, ON
L4G 4C4

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Updates from Guidance

Course Selection Verifications for 2025/2026 have been sent by email to students and families. Students are asked to refer to the instructions on the verification form should they require a course selection update. If no change is desired, then no action is required. For students looking for a change, students are asked to print, sign, and hand in their updated verification into the Guidance Office no later than THURSDAY, MARCH 27TH. If students have any questions or require support, they are asked to schedule a Guidance appointment, or come by the Pop-Up Shop in the mornings prior to the start of school or during the drop-in time at the start of the lunch hour.

A representative from George Brown College will be coming to ECSS on Tuesday, April 22nd during the lunch period to give a presentation on *How to Pay for College and University*. It is open to all students. More details will be shared directly with students in the *All Things Grade Google Classrooms*.

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.

Is your student considering a postsecondary school in the United States? Get informed by attending the US College Expo in Toronto Saturday, April 12th. Discover valuable resources and insights to kickstart their path. Please refer to this [link](#) for more details and registration information.

Please refer to the [Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter](#) for March 2025 focuses on ways to relax, connect, and enjoy the upcoming March Break. It also references supportive resources and community mental health events.

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.

Families Interview Night Timelines and Format of the Evening

Dear Families,

Interview Night is on Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 pm. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) and learn more about the classroom. Families can use TeachAssist, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their child(ren)'s teacher(s) on Interview Night. All students in our school currently have a TeachAssist account to access information associated with their class assessments.

Families may access appointment bookings on **Tuesday, March 25th to Tuesday, April 1st, 2024** through the TeachAssist Parent Portal available at <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>. From there, enter in your email address and leave the password blank, to set up a one time access link, or to reset a password that you've created. An email will be sent with a time limited link that will look similar to this:

teachassist@yrdsb.ca

To: parent_email

Click here for your one time access to teachassist

<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/live/parents/listReports.php?email=parent&token=serdftyugio678>

Once logged in, parents/guardians will have the option to set up a password. For instructions on how to book an interview through TeachAssist, please click [here](#) or see below. If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office.

If you have any challenges with meeting in-person on Thursday, April 3rd, 2024 , please contact your child's teacher to make alternative arrangements for another day.

FORMAT OF THE EVENING

6:00-6:30 pm Staff Meet and Greet in the Cafeteria

- **We encourage ALL families to take advantage of the opportunity to meet and greet with teachers but more importantly any staff members in the building. This format offers families and parents a chance to meet and connect with staff in a less formal setting than the interview portion of the evening. Please join us for this important opportunity to connect together as a community at the start of the evening.**

6:30-8:00 pm - Parent/Guardian Teacher Meetings

IMPORTANT TIMELINES: MARCH 25TH-APRIL 3RD 2025

Tuesday, March 25th - Tuesday, April 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Interview Night Scheduler opens at 8:30 a.m. for booking.● Parents/Guardians will go to the TeachAssist parent portal https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents to book their appointment(s).● For instructions on how to book an interview through TeachAssist, please click here or see below.
Friday, March 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Interim Reports will be distributed electronically to parents /guardians / 18+ students via the Electronic Distribution Process.
Tuesday, April 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Interview Night Scheduler closes to families at 3:30 pm.
Tuesday, Wednesday April 1st, & 2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Teachers send an email to confirm appointment time and interview locations with families.
Thursday, April 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Staff Meet and Greet in the Cafeteria <u>6:00-6:30 pm</u>● Parent/Guardian Teacher Interviews <u>6:40 to 8:00 pm</u> in classrooms with the teacher● Teachers Class locations will be posted throughout the school

Your partners in education,

The ECSS Admin Team

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



Trans Day of Visibility Celebration

We invite 2SLGBTQIA+ and ally students, families, and staff of all ages to join us for an evening of community, connection, and celebration as we honour Trans Day of Visibility! This event is free to attend.

Location: Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, 39 Dunning Ave, Aurora, ON L4G 1A2

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 6pm-8pm

Hoodie Swap

Bring a hoodie, take a hoodie! Find comfortable and affirming clothing.

Community Resources

Connect with local organizations supporting Queer youth & families.

Art & Activities Eat

Express yourself through creative stations and Queer & Trans trivia.

Enjoy pizza and snacks during the event.

Connect

Connect with peers and families with shared identities and experiences

To Register

To Register: Attendance is free, but please fill out a [registration form](#) by March 18, 2025.

If you have any further questions, please contact: iscs@yrdsb.ca



Come shop with us at our inaugural...

spring market



BROUGHT TO YOU BY TOMMY DOUGLAS SCHOOL COUNCIL

See you
at the market!
SATURDAY
APRIL 26
—
10 - 2 PM

Spring into the season!

Join us for a day of great shopping —
supporting local businesses at Tommy's
first ever spring market!

Shop a variety of 20+ local vendors at our market

→ Please note: because this is a community event, each vendor will
offer their own payment options but cash is always appreciated!

Join us as
a vendor!

**We welcome all makers, local businesses
and companies!**

- Secure a table or Sponsor/Donate prizes
- Email: Daniela.DiSanto@yrdsb.ca today!

- Meet school arts council reps
- Enjoy coffee & refreshments

Market location

Tommy Douglas SS
4020 Major Mackenzie Drive
Woodbridge, Ontario L4H 4E9

Shop with us!

- Personalized gifts, jewelry and paper goods
- Handmade knit items
- Clothing and unique style accessories
- Home decor, including artisan wood items and flower arrangements
- Hair products, accessories and more!

Hungry for more?

Stock up on hot sauces,
baked goods, cookies,
cakes, muffins, and more!

**Tommy Douglas's school council is excited to
see you at our amazing community market!**



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.

Setting up your account

1. Visit 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 and click on the Need Help button for the Family Dashboard.

