



Emily Carr SS e-Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

September 1, 2023

In this Issue:

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 - Timetable change requests
 - Student attendance
 - Cafeteria service
 - Student safety
 - COVID-19 screening
 - Community news

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

Message from the Principal

A warm welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!

We hope you and your family had an enjoyable and restful summer break.

A new school year represents new opportunities. Our teachers and staff are eager to meet their new students and begin this year's journey with them. Our staff has been working diligently to engage in professional learning and student-centered learning models, with the goal of fostering success and belonging to the Emily Carr school community.

As partners in your child's education and learning, we encourage involvement in the school community through our school council and ongoing communication with your child's teacher.

We will share our weekly newsletter with our families through email and it will also be posted on the school website.

We look forward to a successful school year!

Tanya-Lynn Paul



welcome back!
WELCOME BACK!

Contact Us

Phone 905-850-5012

Extensions

Reception

0

Attendance

1

Guidance

3

emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca

Online

School website



@emilycarrss



@emilycarryrdsb

Administration

Principal

[Tanya-Lynn Paul](#)

Vice Principals

[Nadira Lawrence-Selan](#) (A-L)

[Paula Borges](#) (M-Z)

School Council

Lisa Rapisardi (co-chair)

Andre Tsopeles (co-chair)

Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



School News

School Timetable for 2023-2024 School Year

PERIOD 1	8:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
PERIOD 2	9:25 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.
PERIOD 3 - LUNCH	10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
PERIOD 4	12:05 a.m. - 1:20 p.m.
PERIOD 5	1:25 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Timetable change requests:

Wednesday, September 6 the [Google Form](#) opens for course change requests. Students can access this form by logging into their GAPPS account. Only course change requests that fulfill the criteria on the form will be attempted. On Monday, September 11 the Google Form closes:

Student attendance:

If your child will be absent for any portion of the day, please contact the main office by phone or email to let us know that the absence is parent/guardian approved.

Cafeteria service:

Cafeteria food services will be available on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

School safety:

Individuals dropping off or picking up students are reminded to be extra vigilant in the school parking lot and surrounding area. Please adhere to traffic signs and traffic laws.

Important Dates

Tuesday, September 5th

- First day of school - grade 9

Wednesday, September 6th

- First day of school - grade 10, 11, 12

Friday, September 15

- Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 18

- School Council Meeting, 7:00pm, Library

Thursday, September 21

- Photo Day

Friday, September 22

- P.A. Day

Monday, September 25

- Yom Kippur

Thursday, September 28

- Terry Fox Day (rain date Sept. 29)

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

Indigenous Languages and International Languages Program

The York Region District School Board offers language learning to elementary students in Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 and language credit courses to secondary students in Grades 9 to 12. Please see the attached flyer.

School bus information:

Updated school bus information is available at www.schoolbuscity.com

COVID-19 Screening Procedures

Students should continue to self-screen every day before attending school using the [COVID-19 school and child care screening tool](#), but are not required to complete a screening confirmation form.

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. Students are asked to respect the property and privacy of our neighbours. 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. Students are not to loiter in, or near, these establishments. To be inside Al Palladini Community Center, students must have a Community Center membership and they must be participating in community activities. We are proud of our students as they are ECSS ambassadors wherever they go in the community.

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Community News

- D&D Club returns on Sept. 9 and runs every other Saturday at 2:00pm at Pierre Berton (register on [Eventbrite](#)).
- The Dungeon Master training program will train interested volunteers in running games of Dungeons & Dragons. Takes place on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 2pm at Pierre Berton (no registration required).
- Debate Club will return on Monday evenings, starting at 7pm on Sept. 11 at Pierre Berton (register on [Eventbrite](#)).
- Financial Literacy Bootcamp will guide students in stock market and budgeting simulations, taking place on Tuesdays at 7pm starting on Sept. 19 (register on [Eventbrite](#)).
- Virtual Reality Club returns to Pierre Berton every other Monday at 3:00 starting on Sept. 18 (no registration required).
- AmaZINE Tweens will guide students in designing their own mini-magazine, starting Thursday, Sept. 14 at 6:00pm in the Maple Library (register on [Eventbrite](#)).
- Teen Book Club returns to Bathurst Clark library on Thurs. Sept. 21 at 7:30pm and can also be joined virtually (register on [Eventbrite](#)).



Dear Families,

As the new school year is beginning, students will be attending Caring and Safe Schools Start-Up Presentations. These presentations are designed to underscore behaviour expectations as we create a caring, safe and inclusive school environment. As families are critical partners, please continue discussions about school safety at home by asking your child what they have learned in the Start-Up Presentation.

Presentation topics include:

- Racism and types of discrimination;
- Bullying;
- Progressive discipline; and
- Standing up for each other, including methods of reporting incidents of racism, discrimination and bullying.

Inappropriate Behaviour

In the Start-Up Presentation, students are learning about anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination, and bullying. This learning will continue throughout the school year. Instances of anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination and bullying are not acceptable and are addressed through progressive discipline. In some cases of racism and discrimination, York Regional Police may be involved.

Students will also be reminded about safe school behaviours, including what items must never be brought to school, such as peanut products, vape products/drug paraphernalia, weapons/replica weapons and knives/replica knives.



Reporting Behaviour

Standing up for one another and reporting when something does not feel safe is part of a caring and safe school environment. Students should report incidents that make them or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable, including acts of racism, discrimination and bullying.

Students can report incidents by:

- Telling a caring adult;
- Using the YRDSB's "[Report It Button](#)" (Located on our school's website, the online Report It button allows students and families to share information about inappropriate behaviour and incidents of hate or discrimination. Please see [this video](#) for additional information);
- Contacting [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868).



Mental Health

We will stress to students the importance of connection as we return to school. Students are learning about who they can talk to if they need support. In addition, positive mental health is closely tied to each individual's sense of identity and safety. As such, mental health initiatives are aligned with equity and safety in mind, which includes culturally specific supports. YRDSB student mental health services are delivered by Board social work and psychology staff. These services are accessible through the school principal. [Mental health resources for families](#) are also available on the Board website.

Student Discipline

We use a progressive discipline approach for inappropriate behaviour on and off school property. This means we consider various options to determine the most appropriate response to each situation to help students learn from their choices. In some cases, suspension or expulsion may be necessary. The Ontario Education Act and the Board's Caring and Safe Schools Policy (found on the [Board's Caring and Safe School Page](#)) outline situations where suspension and expulsion must be considered. These infractions are also outlined in the Guide to the School Year. In addition, when inappropriate behaviour occurs, information will be shared with the student(s) who were harmed and the families of the student(s) who were harmed to the extent that legislation allows.

Tobacco/Alcohol/Drug-Free Environment

The use of tobacco, electronic products (such as [vaping, electronic cigarettes](#) and related products) and student possession of alcohol/illegal and restricted drugs, including cannabis, are prohibited on school property or within 20 metres of school boundaries. This complies with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, enforced locally by York Region Community and Health Services. A progressive form of discipline may apply, including suspension from school and fines (up to \$5,000). In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA), exceptions are made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Indigenous culture and spirituality.

Online Safety and Appropriate Use of Technology

Students are reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools. This agreement is also included in the start-up package that all families receive at the beginning of the year.

Students are reminded that online threats and comments are taken seriously and may have consequences, including potential criminal charges. Where there are concerns for the safety of students, staff, community members or Board property, the school board works with York Regional Police and appropriate actions are taken. The safety and well-being of students remain our top priority.



For More Information

For more details on these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools](#) section on the YRDSB website for more information and to access family resources to continue these conversations at home.

Thank you for helping us create a caring, safe, and inclusive school community.

Message from Our Trustee

September 2023

Dear families,

It is my pleasure to welcome all new and returning families to school for the 2023-2024 school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and wish you a positive start to the new school year. I know it can be a time of transition for many, and am grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our school staff for all that they do to support students as they start the new school year, and create a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment in our schools.

The education of your children is a partnership, and we recognize that you are our most important partner when it comes to your child's education. As a family member, there are many ways you can engage in your child's learning, from speaking with your child about school and connecting with school staff to volunteering or becoming involved with the school council. You know your child best and we place great value on the relationship we have with families. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the school year.

As your school trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees has many [responsibilities](#), including making [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicating with the public. Please feel free to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns, and I will continue to keep you updated throughout the year on what is happening in the board. You can also visit our [newsroom](#), listen to our [podcast](#) and connect with us on social media to stay up-to-date on what's happening in the board.



This year, we are pleased to welcome our [new Director of Education Bill Cober](#), who took on the role on August 1 this year. He brings nearly 30 years of experience in public education in York Region, a commitment to student achievement and well-being, and a strategic and collaborative approach.

Later in the year, we will be undertaking a comprehensive strategic plan review. One of our roles as a board is to set the [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) that establishes our priorities and guides our direction as a school board. We will be reviewing that plan this year, and engaging with communities is a priority for us. Your input will be important and I look forward to sharing more information with you on this in the future.

I wish you all a great start to the school year and a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

Trustee, Vaughan Wards 2 and 3

Indigenous Languages and International Languages (ILIL) Program

The York Region District School Board offers language learning to elementary students in Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 and language credit courses to secondary students in Grades 9 to 12.

Elementary Language Classes

Elementary classes are extra-curricular language learning opportunities available in-person or remotely. Classes are 2.5 hours and take place once per week between Tuesday to Friday evenings (6:00 PM to 8:30 PM) or Saturday mornings (9:30 AM to 12:00 PM).

Register by **Monday, September 11, 2023** to attend the full language program in its entirety.

For more information about the elementary program, visit the ILIL [Elementary webpage](#) or scan the QR code:



Secondary Credit Program

Secondary credit courses take place online once per week for 3.7 hours. Courses run from September to June for the full program year, and take place on Wednesday evenings (5:45 PM to 9:25 PM) or Saturday mornings (8:45 AM to 12:25 PM).

Registration is now open until the third class.

For more updates and information about the secondary credit program, visit the ILIL [Secondary webpage](#) or scan the QR code:



Please Note:

- Courses offered are subject to enrolment and teacher availability.
- Stacked classes may be created based on registration numbers.
- Not all languages are offered at the elementary and secondary levels.
- Additional fees are required for international fee-paying visa students.

Languages Offered:

Arabic
Cantonese
Dari
Farsi
Filipino
German
Greek
Gujarati
Hebrew
Hindi
Italian
Japanese
Korean
Macedonian
Mandarin (Simplified)
Mandarin (Traditional)
Punjabi
Ojibwe
Russian
Sinhala
Spanish
Tamil
Turkish
Ukrainian
Urdu
Vietnamese
Yoruba

**YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2023-2024 LEARNING CALENDAR**

All Elementary and Regular Secondary Schools

(excluding the following schools: Bill Crothers SS, Keswick HS, Maple HS, Markville SS and Sutton DHS)

This calendar has been created to help you plan your family holidays, medical and dental appointments around your child's learning. The most important days - the ones unmarked (excluding weekends) - are the days which students are expected to attend school. For your information, professional activity days and holidays are also listed.

SEPTEMBER 2023							FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2					1	E/S	3
3	H	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	E/S	23	18	H	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29		

OCTOBER 2023							MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7						1	2
8	H	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	E/S	21	10	H	H	H	H	H	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31					24	25	26	27	28	H	30
							31						

NOVEMBER 2023							APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4		H	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	E/S	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			28	29	30				

DECEMBER 2023							MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	S	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	H	21	22	23	24	25
24	H	H	H	H	H	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
31													

JANUARY 2024							JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	H	H	H	H	6						E	8
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	E	20	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30	31				23	24	25	26	S	E/S	29
							30						

H School Holiday
E Elementary P.A. Day
S Secondary P.A. Day



**YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR
All Elementary and Regular Secondary School**

**FIRST DAY OF CLASSES:
Tuesday, September 5, 2023**

**LAST DAY OF CLASSES:
Secondary: Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Elementary: Thursday, June 27, 2024***

* Early release

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Labour Day	Monday, September 4, 2023
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 9, 2023
Winter Break	Monday, December 25, 2023 to Friday, January 5, 2024 inclusive
Family Day	Monday, February 19, 2024
Mid-Winter Break	Monday, March 11, 2024 to Friday, March 15, 2024 inclusive
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Easter Monday	Monday, April 1, 2024
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2024

Please see the Holidays & Observances calendar on the Board website for significant faith days.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY
- NO SCHOOL**

Elementary:
Friday, September 22, 2023
Friday, October 20, 2023
Friday, November 17, 2023
Friday, January 19, 2024
Friday, February 2, 2024
Friday, June 7, 2024
Friday, June 28, 2024

Secondary:
Friday, September 22, 2023
Friday, October 20, 2023
Friday, November 17, 2023
Friday, February 2, 2024
Monday, May 6, 2024
Thursday, June 27, 2024
Friday, June 28, 2024

Ultimately, parents are responsible for deciding whether to send their child to school. To find out if buses are cancelled due to weather conditions, you can check:

- the YRDSB website
- the @YRDSB Twitter account
- Instagram @yrdsb.schools
- the Student Transportation Services' (STS) website at www.schoolbuscity.com or hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- school websites
- radio and television media outlets

York Region District School Board
60 Wellington Street West, Aurora L4G 3H2
(905) 727-3141, 895-7216, 722-3201, (416) 969-8131
Automated: (905) 727-0022, 895-7227, 722-6255, (416) 969-7170
Facsimile: (905) 727-1931
Website: www.yrdsb.ca
Twitter: @YRDSB

Bill Cober
Director of Education



Ron Lynn
Chair of the Board