



## The Phoenix: We Rise Together!

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**Superintendent**  
 Otilia Olteanu

**Trustee**  
 Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

**Principal**  
 Gisella Avsec

**Vice-Principal**  
 Lorne Rembach

**Office Admin:**  
 Tina Luchetta  
 Betty Flynn

### Important Dates:

Week of  
 Sept 3 - 6

- First Week of School
- Welcome Back!
- 6 - Safe and Caring School Assembly

Week of  
 Sept 9 - 13

- 10 - Active School Travel Display Outside during Dismissal

Week of  
 Sept 16 - 20

- 16 - Lunchbox Program launches today!
- 20 Start-Up Pkg Book of forms are due

Week of  
 Sept 23 - 30

- 23 - 27 Safety Week
- 26 - Terry Fox Day
- 26 - School Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- 27 - PA Day - No School For Students
- 30 - Orange Shirt Day



### Trending

## September Eco Theme Litterless Lunches



The September Eco theme is Litterless Lunches. A Litterless/Waste-Free lunch contains no throwaway packaging or food leftovers. Lunches are packed in servings that will be completely eaten. To avoid or minimize packaging, all food and drinks are packed in reusable containers with a reusable lunch bag or box. Waste-free lunches are not only a wise environmental choice; they are less expensive as well. This year our focus is to work toward arriving to school with a litterless lunch. In light of this, our September Eco Theme focus is "Litterless Lunches". The Eco team reminds us to continue to bring reusable containers, and water bottles to school. In doing so we dump less garbage in landfills. Thank you for continuing to work toward protecting our planet.



## In OCTOBER

- Autism Awareness Month
- Custodian Appreciation Day - Oct 2
- Rosh Hashanah - Oct 3 - 4 -Judaism - Diamond Day
- Walk to School Day-Active School Travel Day - Mayor Visit
- Mental Health Awareness Week - Oct 1 - 5
- Fresh from the Farm Orders Deadline - Oct. 4
- Teacher Appreciation Day - Oct 5
- Picture Day - October 7
- World Mental Health Day - Oct 10
- Curriculum Night - Oct 10 - Stay tuned. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.
- IB Information Night - Oct 10

- Yom Kippur - October 12 - Judaism - Diamond Day.
- Thanksgiving - Oct 14 - No School
- Vaccination Day - Oct 16 - Gr. 7 and 8
- Waste Reduction Wk - Oct 16 - 20
- PA Day - Oct 21 - No School
- Take Me Outside Day - Oct 23
- Farm Trip - Gr. 1 & 2 Oct 24
- Falloween - October 31



## Message from Our Trustee

September 2024

Welcome to the start of the 2024-2025 school year. We are so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning students and families to a new school year.

### How Trustees Help

As school board trustees, we have a number of [roles and responsibilities](#), including setting policies and budget and advocating for quality public education. My responsibilities also include communicating with the public. I will continue to keep you informed throughout the school year through these regular newsletters. You can also reach out to me directly. Learn more about [how we can help](#) and [how you can reach me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

You can also stay up-to-date with school board news and events through school communications, social media (X [@YRDSB](#) and [Instagram @yrdsb.schools](#)), our [newsroom](#) and Board podcast [TuneIn YRDSB](#).

### Our Priorities as a School Board

One of our responsibilities as a Board of Trustees is also setting the Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This plan outlines the priorities that will guide our work as a school board for the next several years. We want to thank the many students, family and staff members and community partners who shared feedback in the spring that was used to inform the development of the plan. Some key themes emerged in the feedback that families will see reflected in the plan, including a clear focus on student achievement and well-being. We look forward to sharing more with you very soon.

### A New School Year

The start of a new school year is a time of transition - whether your child is starting elementary or secondary school for the first time, entering a new program, moving to a new school or beginning a new grade. The caring, dedicated and professional staff members who work in our system are here to help support your child through this transition. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers or the school to speak about your child's transition and the supports that are available.

We also recognize that transitions can take place throughout September. Elementary schools may be required to adjust some classes due to enrollment changes and class size restrictions. In secondary school, schools may also see timetable requests and adjustments in the first few weeks. These are occurrences that happen each fall and schools do their best to be responsive and to minimize the effects of any changes on students.

### Partnerships with Families

We value the essential partnership between schools and families and want to ensure that families are aware of the many resources available. Our [family resources page](#), available from the homepage of [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca), gives you quick access to platforms that we use, tips and information, the [Guide to the School Year](#) and [student learning resources](#). It also includes resources for [newcomers](#), [translation information](#) and much more. We are also working on a dedicated new family portal to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education. To ensure you receive notifications and updates, please make sure the school has your up-to-date email address. If you are not receiving emails, please contact your school to confirm. More information will be shared in the coming months.

I wish you and your family all the very best for a safe, successful and enjoyable 2024-2025 school year, and look forward to communicating with you in the months ahead.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

Trustee, Vaughan Wards 2 and 3



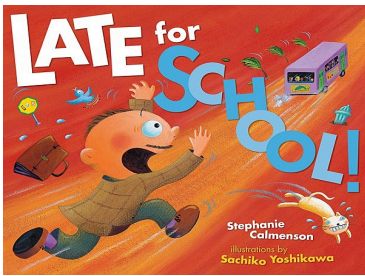
## What to Bring to School



### Students should bring:

- 1) **Backpack** - easy to open (please do not hang any toys or hand sanitizer on the backpack)
- 2) **Snack and Lunch** - in easy-to-open containers -reminder no food drop-offs will be permitted. Change of clothes (for younger students, in-door shoes, clearly labelled that can be left at school. Recommended to put in a large resealable bag with your child's name on it).
- 3) **Refillable water bottle** (clearly labelled with your child's name on it)

NOTE: If any families have any questions about what to bring to school, please contact your child's Homeroom teacher.



### Late for School

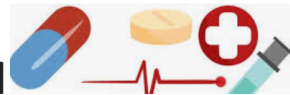
If you are late for school, use the office doors (late only). Buzz the office and someone will let you know so you can sign your child in. A staff member will walk your child to their class. We are asking all parents to wait outside the office with their young child until someone is able to come and pick them up. For safety reasons, a staff member will walk the younger students to the appropriate class. Older students can walk themselves to their class after signing in at the office.



If you need to pick your child up early, please call ahead so that we can have your child ready for you. When you arrive, ring the doorbell and we will send your child out. Thanks for your ongoing understanding and patience.



### Medical



If your child has developed an allergy or medical condition, please inform the office immediately. To all families, please return your medical information to the office as soon as possible.



### School Start-Up Package



A gentle reminder to all families, our School Start-Up package is due to your child/ren's homeroom teacher before September 20, 2024.

# 'Fresh from the Farm' Fundraiser



## Please support our 'Fresh from the Farm' Fundraiser

As one of our first initiatives, the Healthy Schools Committee at Fossil Hill, is taking a healthy take on fundraising. This fundraiser will support higher achievement of your child(ren) by promoting health and well-being through the increased consumption of fruit and vegetables within the family home. In turn, this fundraiser will also support Ontario farmers and stimulate the provincial economy through the promotion and sales of fresh, Ontario fruit and vegetables.

### What Ontario-grown products are sold?

- **Vegetable Bundle** contains: 5 lb potatoes, 3 lb carrots, 3 lb onions, 3 lb sweet potatoes → **\$22**
- **Apple Bundle** contains: 8 lb Ambrosia apples → **\$24**
- Additionally, Fossil is selling a **recipe book** specific to these vegetables and apples for **\$4**.

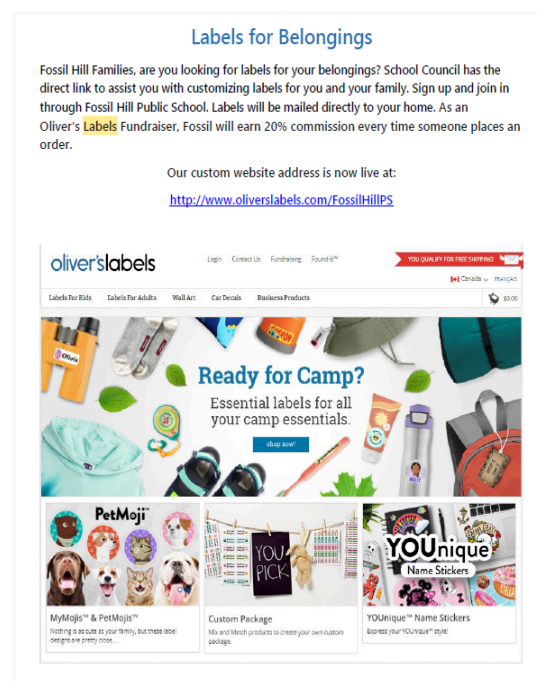
### What profit does the school make?

- 40% of total sales
- A school selling an average of 150 Vegetable Bundle and 60 Apple Bundle makes a profit of \$1560

Please submit your orders by **Friday, October 4, 2024**. Payments are due, through School Cash Online (will be made available soon). Deliveries will be between Nov. 5-Dec. 5th (we will be notified of an exact date by the farmers).

## LABELS FOR BELONGINGS-----LIVE LINK HERE:

<http://www.oliverslabels.com/FossilHillPS>







# Student Safety

## while riding YRT

York Region Transit (YRT) cares about your safety and security. The dedicated YRT Transit Enforcement and Security team offers security, customer assistance and fare enforcement services throughout the system.



### Practice the following safety tips when taking transit

- Take extra care when walking or cycling to or from your bus stop
- Always cross at a designated crosswalks or intersections; only cross when the designated light/walk signal is displayed
- Make eye contact with motorists when crossing the street
- Be aware of your surroundings at the bus stop and on the bus Board at the front doors, exit at the rear doors
- Keep an eye on your belongings
- Be alert and listen; heads up, phones down!
- Know where you are getting on/off the bus



### Transit safety is everyone's responsibility; see something, say something

- Report any verbal, physical, sexual harassment or discrimination by alerting the driver, an enforcement officer or any YRT uniformed staff
- Report issues by calling the YRT Contact Centre at 1-866-668-3978 or [Live Chat](#) with a Customer Service Representative
- **If there is a true emergency call 9-1-1 immediately and notify the driver or any other YRT personnel when safe to do so**



### Technologies with your safety in mind

- Security cameras to deter vandalism and provide evidence
- Emergency call boxes at vivastations and terminals
- Travelling at Night Request-Stop Program

These technologies assist in creating a safer environment for all travellers.

### There's a seat for everyone.

YRT supports a positive travel community. **Please be respectful and courteous towards others.** All travellers are encouraged to follow YRT's [travelling etiquette tips](#) on how to conduct yourself in a way that ensures a positive travel experience for everyone.

For more information on transit safety, visit [yrt.ca](http://yrt.ca)

# Orange Shirt Day!!

September 30, 2024

Truth and Reconciliation Day - Students and families are encouraged to wear their orange shirt on this day.



## Fossil Hill School Council Night

**Your voice matters!**

When: Thursday, September 26, 2024. in-person at Fossil Hill P.S.

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: Library

All are welcome. Child-minding provided

**Save the Date!**

**Meet the Teacher - Curriculum Night!**

**Thursday, October 10, 2024.**

More information will be shared in the coming weeks!



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) PROGRAMME

**SAVE THE DATE**

Students who start Grade 8 in September 2024 and their parents/guardians are invited to attend an International Baccalaureate Programme information session on:

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.**

Information sessions will run at each of the five YRDSB schools that offer IB programming:

- Alexander Mackenzie High School
- Bayview Secondary School
- Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School
- Maple High School
- Milliken Mills High School

## What is the International Baccalaureate?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment. These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

For more information about the YRDSB's IB programming, check out **[www.yrdsb.ca/ib](http://www.yrdsb.ca/ib)**



**Program Launch - Monday, September 16, 2024**

**Set up your orders through Cashonline.**

**<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/>**



**LUNCHBOX**  
by SchoolCashOnline



# Terry Fox Run At Fossil Hill P.S.

Dear Parents/Caregivers:

The 2024 Terry Fox School Run is set for this month, and we are so excited to be taking part! Our event will be taking place at Fossil Hill P.S. We need your help to boost our student's fundraising. This event supports vital cancer research while also building incredible school spirit for our students. Let's all show how incredible and generous our school community is and work to reach the fundraising goal of \$3210. We will be sharing regular updates of our fundraising progress via email.

The Terry Fox Foundation has created an online fundraising page customized for our school. Don't delay, let's start fundraising today!

1. Donate online at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/FossilHillPSWoodbridge>

- Click the link above to donate or search for our school name at [terryfox.org](https://terryfox.org)
- Receipts are issued immediately to donors by email from the Terry Fox Foundation

Share their fundraising link or your child's school's link with family and friends to help Fossil Hill reach their goal.

We are very excited to be a part of this year's Terry Fox event. This is our opportunity to "Try Like Terry" and go the distance for this year's event. Please join us to support cancer research while building incredible school spirit for all of our students.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Terry Fox Foundation and Fossil Hill Public School Staff