



Friday, May 21st, 2021

Good afternoon GMPS families!

Where did Spring go? It seems we skipped over it and landed right into summer! We continue to work hard and persevere at GMPS. Our teachers and students continue to engage in learning, demonstrating critical thinking, creativity and their resilience. True Maverick spirit!

Please take some time to review this week's message shared with you here.

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**School Council Meeting:** All families are invited to join our virtual School Council meeting on Wednesday, May 26th at 8:00 p.m. It is the last one for the 2020-2021 School year. We will have the opportunity to discuss and share on topics such as Graduation, look ahead to next year and other highlights. If you would like to attend, please click on the link below. ***Please reply by Tuesday, May 25th, end of day.*** Only Yes responses. Thank you.

[RSVP - School Council](#)

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**Jewish and Asian Heritage Month in Grade 7 and 8:** We wish to thank Mr. Fang Sheng, parent at German Mills Public School, for his unique presentation to our Grade 7 and 8 classes earlier this week, "Finding Adler: Jewish Musicians and Chinese Classical Music". His presentation brought to light for staff and students alike, a shared history between the Chinese and Jewish Communities. Thank you.

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## **MESSAGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FROM YRDSB AND THE COMMUNITY:**

### **YRDSB Student and Family Surveys:**

We will be inviting parents/guardians to participate in the 2020-21 YRDSB Student and Family Surveys between May 26 and June 18.

All students in Grades 7-12 will be invited to participate in the Student Survey. Families of students in Grades K-12 will be invited to complete the Family Survey. Surveys will be available online and will take about 15-20 minutes to complete.

The surveys will provide the Board and our schools with valuable information about the learning experiences of students and families this year. Results will be used to guide Board and school planning to support student achievement and well-being.

Students and families will be invited to complete their respective surveys by email. For your convenience, copies of the surveys are available on the Board website. The Family Survey will be available online in:

- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese \(simplified\)](#)
- [Chinese \(traditional\)](#)
- [Farsi](#)
- [Gujarati](#)
- [Hebrew](#)
- [Korean](#)
- [Punjabi](#)
- [Russian](#)
- [Tamil](#)
- [Turkish](#)
- [Urdu](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)

As our first partners in education, we value input from families and encourage parents/guardians to complete the survey. The information provided will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Please contact Research Services at [research.services@yrdsb.ca](mailto:research.services@yrdsb.ca) if you have any questions or visit the [Board website](#) to learn more.

Parents/guardians who do not want their child(ren) to be sent an invitation to participate in the survey may contact Research Services at [research.services@yrdsb.ca](mailto:research.services@yrdsb.ca) no later than **May 24, 2021**.

### **Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee (PEAC):**

York Region District School Board invites parents/guardians to apply for membership on the Board's [Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee \(PEAC\)](#). PEAC supports parent engagement at the Board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being. It represents the collective voice of parents who have children attending public schools in York Region.

Parents/guardians interested in serving on PEAC are asked to submit an electronic application by **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**. The following school areas are receiving applications for the next term:

- CEC Central - Elementary
- CEC East - Elementary and Secondary
- CEC North - Elementary and Secondary
- CEC West - Elementary

Applications should be submitted using **one** of the methods below:

- submit the [ONLINE Application Form](#) or;
- email [Leadership Development and Engagement](#) or;
- call Leadership Development and Engagement at 905-727-0022 ext. 3650

For more information about this parent and community engagement opportunity, please join an information session on **Monday, May 31 at 7:30 p.m.** Registration information is available on the YRDSB [website](#).

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### **2021 Summer Learning Programs Available:**

During the month of July, YRDSB continues to offer credit and non-credit summer school program opportunities for elementary, secondary and adult students.

Traditional in-class face-to-face summer programs will move to a remote learning delivery model. Registration is now open for the following programs:

#### **Elementary Credit and Non-Credit Programs:**

- Elementary Summer School (Grades 6 - 8 non credit reinforcement)
- Grade 8 Reach Ahead

### **Secondary Credit Programs:**

- Online-Learning
- Remote Learning

### **Adult Learning Programs:**

- Adult Literacy and Basic Skills
- English as a Second Language
- Citizenship Classes

For more information about summer learning programs and registration please visit [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca) and follow us on Twitter @YRDSB.

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### **Supports for Families;**

The evolving crisis in Israel and Palestine is affecting YRDSB students, staff, families and communities. As a school board, we rely on and support international efforts for peace and reconciliation. We also remain committed to learning and working from anti-racist, anti-oppressive and anti-colonial frameworks and to ensuring that our schools and workplaces remain safe, welcoming and equitable places where students' and staff members' identities are affirmed, respected and protected.

Please find resources listed below.

- [Age-Related Reactions to a Traumatic Event National Child Traumatic Stress Network](#)
- [Naseeha](#) provides an anonymous, non-judgmental, confidential and toll-free peer support helpline for youth experiencing personal challenges. Naseeha's services are open to all regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, family makeup, social status, income, ability, physical and mental health, and religion.
- [Khalil Center](#) is a psychological and spiritual community wellness center advancing the professional practice of psychology rooted in Islamic principles. Khalil Center utilizes faith-based approaches rooted in Islamic theological concepts while

integrating the science of psychology towards addressing psychological, spiritual and communal health

- [Jewish Family and Child Services](#) is a multi-service agency that strengthens and supports individuals, children, families and communities within the context of Jewish values. Jewish Family and Child Services offers affordable, professional counselling that is confidential and convenient.
- [JVS Toronto](#) offers individual counselling for children, adolescents and adults addressing symptoms related to mental health such as anxiety, depression or anger. They also offer counselling to parents as they strive to provide the best for their children while dealing with their own stressors.

#### General Supports for Emotional Well-Being:

- [Victim Services of York Region](#) provides crisis counselling and referrals for longer-term support. Advice and support for families and educators on best practices for providing support can be found here.
- [Kids Help Phone](#) provides support for children and youth. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- [310-COPE](#) provides crisis counselling for all. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



**Please Note: Groups are currently FREE of charge**

All Groups and workshops are via ZOOM and require consents to be signed and sent in before registration can be completed and link sent.

**LOSING A LOVED ONE DURING COVID 19-** This 8 session group is for individuals who have lost a loved one during and/or because of COVID 19. This group will provide participants an opportunity to explore their grief in a safe and supportive environment; give participants educational material and strategies to normalize their grief and help them move forward in their process; explore the uniqueness of the death experience during COVID 19; help participants expand their repertoire of coping skills for mourning. **Thursdays June 3/21 from 12 to 1:30 p.m.**

**Mastering Your Separation-** Join us for a one session workshop to learn how you can be the master of your own separation. Topics include: understanding separation concerns; discovering your own emotional triggers; creating self-worth and self-awareness during the separation process; learning strategies for maintaining emotional control; differentiating between the legal separation and the emotional separation; becoming a better you and creating your own mindfulness tool box. **Sunday June 13/21 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**HIGH CONFLICT DIVORCE-** A workshop for parents wanting to develop strategies and techniques to deal with a High Conflict situation and help to lessen the impact of that conflict on their children. This workshop is not for individuals in an abusive situation. **Tuesday June 29/21 from 7 to 9 p.m.**

As with all of our programs, **registration is required**. Our groups and workshops are open to all members of the community as *JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin* and we offer a sliding scale for those who require and are eligible for fee reductions. For more information or to register please call Shawna Sidney at 416-638-7800 Ext # 6215 or go to our website at [www.jfandcs.com/groups](http://www.jfandcs.com/groups)

**Reflecting on Racism & Discrimination**  
a monthly lecture series

**Session 4** Impact of Systemic Racism  
Thursday, May 27 7:00pm  
Presented by Donna Walwyn  
Attorney at Law and Chief Executive Officer at The Fairway Group

Register on Eventbrite

**Session 5** The Educational and Social Costs of Life in the Suburbs for Black Youth  
June 22 @ 7:00 pm

Vaughan Public Libraries | www.vaughanpl.info | 905.653.READ (7323)

From Vaughan Public Libraries:  
[Registration information at this link:](#)



# MYSTERY AND SCIENCE VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP

The Summer Camp program is designed to provide children with an opportunity to learn new skills and gain new experiences, and have fun.

Summer camp is for children 6-12 years of age

The program will be held virtually on the Zoom platform and is free of cost.



## Dates and Time: Monday- Friday

- Children 6-8: July 5th, 2021 - July 23rd, 2021

Time: 10:00am -11:30am

- Children 9-12: August 2nd, 2021 - August 20th , 2021

Time: 10am -11:30am



## Eligibility Criteria and Registration Requirements:

Child is a York Region resident between 6-12 years of age.

Child's household income must be \$70,000 or less (based on a family of 4).

**A commitment of 3 weeks in attendance is required.**

If you are interested in having your child participate in this program, please email Stacey at [ssalmon@vaughanchc.com](mailto:ssalmon@vaughanchc.com) or call 905 303- 8490 ext 2651

**Application deadline is May 28th, 2021.**

*Please let us know if you need any specific accommodations  
This flyer is available in an alternative format*



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**VAUGHAN**  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Funding support provided by:



Ontario



### BFCN Scholarship Application & Educational Pathways Planning Workshop:

Eventbrite - BFCN - Black Foundation of Community Networks presents BFCN Scholarship Application & Educational Pathways Planning Workshop - Friday, May 28, 2021 - Find event and ticket information at this link: [BFCN Scholarship application workshop](#)

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### JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH – MAY 2021

Canadian Jewish Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the Senate of Canada on March 29, 2018. As we approach the month of May, staff and students are encouraged to engage in opportunities that celebrate and affirm Jewish histories and the achievements of the Jewish community.

Canada is home to the fourth largest Jewish population in the world. There are close to 400,000 Jewish residents in Canada, and almost half of that number reside in Ontario. Jewish settlers in Canada can be traced as far back as 1760. Jewish Canadians have proudly contributed to Canadian heritage in all of its facets including the military, the arts, government, business, academia, law, medicine, culture, and sports. Throughout the month of May, we celebrate the contributions Jewish Canadians make in communities across the country.

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## **ASIAN AND SOUTH ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH – MAY 2021**

*May is Asian and South Asian Heritage Month in Ontario. In May 2002, the Government of Canada officially declared May as Asian Heritage Month. At the provincial level, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario designated May as South Asian Heritage Month in 2001 and as Asian Heritage Month in 2005.*

*The South Asian Heritage Act of 2001 established the foundation upon which South Asians, whose origins are or can be traced to the Indian subcontinent, can see themselves reflected and valued in the fabric of Ontario and our schools, and appreciated for their extensive contributions to Canada.*

*In May 2002, the Government of Canada signed an official declaration to designate May as Asian Heritage Month. This acknowledges the long and rich history of Asian Canadians from East Asia, Southern Asia, Western and Southeast Asia and their contributions to significant Canada*

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### **COMING UP:**

- **Monday, May 24** – Victoria Day – no classes today
- **Wednesday, May 26** - School Council
- **Friday, May 28 - Maverick Spirit Day -- Wear your fave team colours/hats/jerseys!!!**
- **Monday, May 31st** - PA Day - no classes today

Please continue to check YRDSB's website site [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca), Twitter <https://twitter.com/YRDSB> and Instagram yrdsb.schools for ongoing communication.

Wishing all of our students, families and staff a restful long weekend!

Stay safe. Be well.

*Eugenia Korinis*

Principal  
German Mills PS