

Keswick High School E-Bulletin - January 26, 2024

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Important Upcoming Dates

[Link to Community Google Calendar](#) - to view all upcoming events

January 25 - February 1	Examinations - Semester 1
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day
January 29	National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia
February 1	Black History Month
February 2	P.A. Day
February 5	Semester 2 begins
February 7	Winter Walk Day
February 10	Lunar New Year (Diamond Day--no assessments/meetings)
February 13	York Public Health Immunization Catch Up Clinic
February 13 - 15	Semester One Final Report Card E-Distribution
February 14	Music Field Trip - Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto
February 15	Student Council - Valentine's Day Dance

Grade 12 Exit Surveys - Creating Pathways to Success

For those students who will meet Ontario Secondary School Diploma requirements at the end of semester one, please fill out the Grade 12 Student Exit Survey located in your Pathway Planner account.

All students can access the survey through their *My Pathway Planner* accounts by doing the following:

1. Go to www.yrdsb.ca
2. Click on the "Online Student Tools" button
3. Click on the "My Pathway Planner" button
4. Log into their account using their YRDSB credentials
5. Click on the "Complete Survey" button in the blue banner on the homepage
6. Complete the survey questions in the Google Form that opens

Completion of the surveys by students graduating at the end of Semester One must be between January 26 - February 1, 2024.

P.A. Day - February 2, 2024

Please see the [Staff Training Agenda](#) for your information.

Message from Our Trustee - Carolyn Butterworth

Please view the Message from Our Trustee, Carolyn Butterworth for February using this [link](#).

Winter Walk Day - February 7

Tips for Winter Walking

Walking to school in winter not only benefits student physical and mental health, well-being and academic performance, it's also fun.

Here are a few tips to help students stay safe and enjoy winter walks to school.

1. Dress for the weather. Wear layers. Don't forget your hat and mitts.
2. Protect your feet. Wear warm socks and winter boots. They will protect your feet from snow, rain and cold and have good grips.

3. Be visible. Wear bright clothes, stay on the sidewalks and make sure cars can see you when you cross the road.
4. Allow a little more time. Prepare your winter gear the night before, and give yourself a little more time to walk to school.
5. Enjoy the snow. Catch snowflakes, talk about what you love most about the winter.
6. Obey road signs. The seasons change but road safety rules remain. Stop at roads and crosswalks. Cross with a crossing guard where possible. Look out for cars.

Use active travel wherever possible. We encourage families all year round wherever possible to take the school bus or school transportation, or to choose active travel, like walking or biking. Active school travel benefits student mental health, well-being and academic performance, builds social connections and reduces traffic and pollution around schools.

It's never too early to start to teach road safety. Your child will become a safe, responsible and independent pedestrian by experience and practice. Starting them as young as kindergarten will equip them with the skills they need to walk on their own in all seasons at an earlier age.

If you are driving, please follow road rules. Remember that our school zones are busy with students and families. It is important that we all follow the rules to ensure student safety.

- Use the kiss and ride. Do not use dedicated bus lanes.
- Consider parking near the school and walking the rest of the way (obeying all neighbourhood parking rules).
- Obey all speed limits and road traffic signs in school zones.
- Focus on the road and watch for crossing guards and students crossing the road.

Working together, we can all help to keep students safe. For more information about how you can help to create a safe school transportation zone, please visit our [website](#).

Virtual Consultations for Parents/Caregivers of the Tamil Diaspora Community

Consultations will provide an opportunity for Tamil parents/caregivers to:

- Acquire strategies for cultivating meaningful interactions and connections with their child
- Explore ways to support their child's mental health and well-being

- Understand how to request and navigate accessing support, including mental health services, for their child at school
- Discuss current difficulties and challenges experienced by their child
- Learn about resources in the York Region community to better support their child's needs

Please see these flyers for more information in [English](#) or [Tamil](#).

Student Council - Valentine's Dance

Students are invited to purchase tickets for Student Council - Valentine's Dance on Thursday, February 15th in the Cafeteria from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (doors open at 5:45 p.m.). There will be light refreshments provided. The cost is \$20.00 (if the Student Activity Fee was paid) or \$25.00 (if the Student Activity Fee was not paid) on school cash online. To find out if the Student Activity Fee was paid look under "History" on school cash online. Tickets are non-refundable.

Please note that only current Keswick High School students are permitted to attend. Bag checks will be conducted upon entry to the dance by an Administrator. There will be no in and out entry permitted. Please see the [poster](#) for more information.

University of Waterloo Math Contests

KHS will be participating in this year's University of Waterloo Math Contests, which will be written on February 28, 2024. Interested Grade 9, 10, and 11 students are invited to attend the Math Contest Meetings running Thursdays at lunch in Room 2027. Previous contests will be shared, along with tips and strategies to do your best. If you have any questions please contact Kristie Miller kristie.miller@yrdsb.ca .

Keswick Formal Wear Share Event

Do you have any formal wear that you no longer need? Please consider donating to our event! We are looking for dresses, suits and dress shirts, accessories (ties, shoes, jewelry etc.) See the [poster](#) for more details.

OSSLT Results

OSSLT results are now available in the main office for any student who wrote the literacy test in November.

Guidance News

Semester Two Timetables:

Semester two timetables were emailed out to students this week. The KHS Guidance Department will be working through timetable change requests from February 5 - 9, 2024.

Courses offered at Keswick High School are based on student requests submitted through My Pathway Planner. Please be advised that due to class maximum size limitations, we will not be able to accommodate all requests submitted for timetable changes. Students are expected to attend the classes on their current timetable unless they are notified by Guidance that their requested timetable change has been made.

We are not able to make course changes based on preference.

If you are requesting a timetable change, please use this google form and your guidance counsellor will be in touch:

[Semester 2 Timetable Change Form](#)

Course Selections for 2024-2025:

Students are encouraged to go into their Pathway Planner and begin planning courses for the February Course Selection dates. Please use the following link to access all of the information and materials that were shared with students the past two weeks:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/keswick.hs/guidance/Pages/Course-Selection-and-High-School-Planning.aspx>

Students are also encouraged to book an appointment with their Guidance Counsellor for any questions, concerns or additional support:

Surname A-Gr: Ms. Daniels
Surname Gu-Ne: Ms. Lemmon
Surname Ni-Z: Mr. Ward

Ontario College Applications:

This is a friendly reminder that the OCAS deadline for applications is **February 1, 2024**. They encourage interested students to apply before this date, as website and call volumes are highest at this time.

Night School On-Line Learning Registration:

Night School On-line Learning registration is open on December 18 until February 14. Please see your Guidance Counsellor to register.

Attendance

If you want to report a student absent please contact our attendance direct line at 905-476-7823 for quicker service, this will help you bypass the switchboard and it is a 24/7 answering machine. Email easier for you? Feel free to email your child's absence at keswick.hs@yrdsb.ca as it is monitored regularly.

Math Help Room

Is your student looking for some extra math support? If they are needing some additional support outside of class time and individual teacher help they can drop by the Math Help Room (no appointment necessary). Located in the math pod in Room 2027.

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday Lunch 11:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Wednesday afterschool 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Thursday afterschool 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Students can look for the posters around the school or speak to their math teacher. If you have any questions please contact Kristie Miller at kristie.miller@yrdsb.ca

Upcoming Opportunities

There are many upcoming programs and events for YRDSB families and their students.

Please visit <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/keswick.hs/NewsEvents/Pages/default.aspx> for new events, programs and sessions that our board offers in partnership with different community resources.

Please visit our website at <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/keswick.hs/Pages/default.aspx>

This message is being sent on behalf of the York Region District School Board and/or your child's school in compliance with the Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation.

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If you no longer wish to receive any emails from Keswick High School, please contact the school directly to have your email address deleted from your child's Student Information Record.

Report It

Acts of discrimination, hate and bullying are never acceptable. You can find [Report It](#) on the homepage of the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca and on the homepage of every school website, or watch this [short video](#) to learn more.

Follow us on Twitter and Instagram [@YRDSB_KeswickHS](#)