

# Keswick High School E-Bulletin - March 28, 2024

## In this Newsletter

- Important Upcoming Dates
- Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter
- Sikh Heritage Month
- Family Teacher Interview Night
- Post Secondary Financial Planning Seminar
- Solar Eclipse - Modified Day
- NEKS Korean Family Engagement Night
- S.I.N. Clinic
- Supports for Students with Autism and their Families
- York Region Camp Summer Subsidies for Children and Youth
- Guidance News
- Grad Hoodies
- Graduation 2024
- Prom 2024
- Attendance
- Math Help Room
- YRDSB News and Events
- Report It

## Important Upcoming Dates

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

March 29	Good Friday - no school
April 1	Easter Monday - no school
April 1	Earth Month
April 1	Sikh Heritage Month
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day
April 3	KHS Formal Wear Share Event
April 4	Family Teacher Interview Night
April 4	Financial Planning Seminar
April 4	KHS Student Council Bake Sale Fundraiser
April 5	Therapy Dogs in the Library
April 8	Solar Eclipse/Modified School Day

## Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

The topic for the April [Newsletter](#) is the Connection between Physical and Mental Health.

## Sikh Heritage Month

The month of April is proclaimed as Sikh Heritage Month as per [The Sikh Heritage Month Act of 2013](#).

Families are encouraged to join Canadians who will be coming together to celebrate how Sikh Canadians have made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario and Canada's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric. On April 1, 2021, Minister Bardish Chagger issued the following statement from Ottawa:

“Canada is proud to be home to more than 500,000 Sikh Canadians, making it one of the largest Sikh diasporas in the world. Since the arrival of the first Sikh immigrants in the late 19th century, members of this community have contributed to Canada through their achievements in all areas of society and have helped shape the diversity found within it.

Sikhism's core principles include equality, generosity, openness, and compassion. Sikh Heritage Month is an opportunity to reflect on the pivotal role that Sikh communities have played, and continue to play, in building a stronger and consciously more inclusive Canada.”

During the month of April, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. Sikh Canadians widely celebrate Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, across Ontario.

## Family Teacher Interview Night

Family/Teacher Interview Night is on Thursday, April 4, 2024. Families can use **TeachAssist**, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their children's teacher(s) on Family/Teacher 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 Thursday, March 27 to Wednesday, April 3, 2024** through the TeachAssist Parent Portal available at

<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>. Please see the detailed instructions that were sent out via InFORM on Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

## **Post Secondary Financial Planning Seminar**

Is your child looking to go to a Post Secondary institution in Ontario? This Thursday **April 4, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.** (Family Night) in the school cafeteria, KHS will be holding a Financial Planning Seminar for all parents and students. In this presentation you will learn about OSAP and the requirements to qualify for funding as well as other financial aid options that would be available to full time students. All students and families are welcome to attend this event.

## **Solar Eclipse - Modified School Day - April 8, 2024**

On Monday, April 8, 2024, a full solar eclipse will occur, which will block the sun's light in some areas.

In York Region, we will experience effects of the eclipse between roughly 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., which coincides with the scheduled dismissal times for our schools. We have heard concerns regarding the potential for students being outside and inadvertently looking at the sun, which may cause serious health problems, such as loss of eyesight. We have also heard concerns of traffic and students walking home during peak darkness.

Out of concern for student safety, on April 8, 2024, all students in elementary and secondary schools will be dismissed early. Student after school activities will also be cancelled for that afternoon.

### **Keswick High School Modified Schedule for April 8th, 2024:**

**Period 1 - 9:05 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.**

**Period 2 - 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

**Lunch - 11:45 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.**

**Dismissal and School Bus Transportation - 12:05 p.m.**

All students participating in a morning co-op placement will have an integration day in the KHS library.

Cafeteria lunch service will not be provided. The Breakfast program will run as usual.

All after school extracurricular activities will be cancelled.

Transportation services such as busing and taxis will be adjusted for the early dismissal. The schedule for student transportation in the morning of April 8 will remain the same.

Transportation in the afternoon will be modified to align with the early dismissal time and has been communicated to families.

As you may have seen, some Ontario school boards moved a pre-existing April P.A. Day to coincide with the eclipse on April 8. This is not possible for our board due to contractual obligations, prior commitments and because there is no preexisting April P.A. Day. The Government of Canada website has additional information related to solar eclipses that you may review.

Please know that this decision was made with student safety at its centre. If you have any questions, please contact the school at [keswick.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:keswick.hs@yrdsb.ca)

## **NEKS Korean Family Engagement Night**

The Network of Educators for Korean-Canadian Students (NEKS) invites Korean families and community members to attend a workshop to develop a deeper understanding of the Ontario Education System. Families will be able to learn about the K-12 Ontario Education System with an emphasis on transitions from elementary to secondary school, post-secondary pathways, and Special Education. The event will take place on Thursday, April 11, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Thornhill Secondary School. Please see the [flyer](#) for more details

## **S.I.N. Clinic**

Our school will be hosting a Social Insurance Number Clinic on April 26, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Main Foyer. Service Canada representatives will be at our school to help students and newcomers apply for their Social Insurance Numbers, learn about the Canada Job Bank and Summer Program for Youth and learn about the new Federal Dental Program. This free service is brought to our school communities through a joint project with Service Canada and York Region District School Board. For more information please see the [flyer](#).

## **Supports for Students with Autism and their Families**

This session will support parents, guardians and families with:

- Understanding Autism
- Process for diagnosis
- YRDSB referral process
- School supports
- Community resources

Date: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Unionville High School, 201 Town Centre Blvd, Markham, ON L3R 8G5

Please **register** by **Apr. 28, 2024**.

This free information session is organized by Inclusive School and Community Services in partnership with Student Services of York Region District School Board. For more information, please email [shani.blake@yrdsb.ca](mailto:shani.blake@yrdsb.ca) or [pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca)

Please note that Childcare will not be provided.

## York Region Camp Summer Subsidies for Children and Youth

### Free Recreation, Sport Programs, Summer and Overnight Camps

For Children and Youth ages 4-18 whose families participate in one of the following:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
- Rent Subsidy (including STAR and Ontario Housing Benefit)
- Child Care Fee Subsidy (income below \$43,000)

Some programs are only eligible to families in York Region Housing Communities

- Housing York Inc.
- Non-Profit Housing
- Cooperative Housing

For More Program Information and Eligibility:

Call Access York at 1-877-464-9675 or visit [york.ca/recreationsubsidies](http://york.ca/recreationsubsidies)

## Guidance News

### Post Secondary Financial Planning Seminar:

Is your child looking to go to a Post Secondary institution in Ontario? On Thursday April 4, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (Family Night) in the school cafeteria, KHS will be holding a Financial Planning Seminar for all parents and students. In this presentation you will learn about OSAP and the requirements to qualify for funding as well as other financial aid options that would be available to full time students.

### Course Selection Approvals:

Next week, the Guidance Department will be sending out a Google Form regarding course selections. We are asking that Parents/Guardians and students log into "My

Pathway Planner” and review the courses that were selected for the 2024-2025 school year. Please confirm all selections once your review is complete.

### **Summer School Registration:**

Summer School Registration will open on Tuesday April 9, 2024. Before registering, please make an appointment or speak with your Guidance Counsellor to let them know as they are required to approve all submissions. To Register:

- Go to My Pathway Planner
- On the Left Side Bar select “Continuing Education”
- Click on “Explore Courses”
- Scroll through all the schools and course offerings
- Select the School and Course you need (remember that transportation is only provided within boundary)
- Submit your selection
- Print your sign-off sheet with parent/guardian signature and submit to your guidance counsellor

### **Grad 2024 Hoodies**

We are pleased to offer a Graduation Hoodie for the Class of 2024. These hoodies are the perfect way to showcase your accomplishment.

These hoodies are available on School Cash Online from April 8<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>. They are available in red or black for \$48 (Small – XL) or \$51 (2XL and above). Delivery will be early June.

### **Graduation 2024**

Graduation is on **June 26 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** at Keswick High School.

### **Prom 2024**

Keswick High School will be hosting our Prom on Thursday May 23, 2024 at The Manor which is located at 16750 Weston Road in King Township.

The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. and ends at 10:30 p.m. The evening’s events will include dinner, prom awards, and dancing. Tickets are \$105.00 and will go on sale on School Cash Online on Monday March 18 to Thursday April 18.

We look forward to an exciting evening of celebration with our Grade 12 students.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

If you no longer wish to receive commercial electronic messages, you may [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

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](http://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](#)