

Keswick High School E-Bulletin - February 9, 2024

In this Newsletter

- Important Upcoming Dates
- KHS Wellness Wednesdays - Healthy Schools Committee
- Student Trustee Elections
- Littering
- Renewed Computer Technology - Winter Applications
- Caring and Safe Schools Presentations
- Ubuntu Healing Circle
- Prom 2024
- OSSLT Results
- Guidance News
- Attendance
- Math Help Room
- YRDSB News and Events
- Report It

Important Upcoming Dates

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| February 13 | York Public Health Immunization Catch Up Clinic |
| February 13 - 15 | Semester One Final Report Card E-Distribution |
| February 13 | SHSM Field Trip to Seneca Polytechnic |
| February 13 | Japan Field Trip - Parent's Meeting |
| February 14 | Ash Wednesday |
| February 14 | Music Field Trip - Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto |
| February 15 | Lockdown Drill |
| February 15 | Student Council - Valentine's Day Dance |
| February 19 | Family Day |
| February 20 | Caring and Safe Schools Presentations |

KHS Wellness Wednesdays - Healthy Schools Committee

The KHS Wellness Committee in partnership with York Region Public Health has created multiple interactive activities for every Wednesday in the month of February.

Wednesday, February 14 - Worry Stone Making & Coping with Stress and Swag

Wednesday, February 21 - Healthy Living Booth, Swag and Stationary Bike Races

Wednesday, February 28 - Intention Tree, Healthy Treat and Swag

Student Trustee Elections

Each year, students in Grades 5 - 12 have the opportunity to vote for the two student trustees who will represent their voice across York Region District School Board. Voting takes place between February 20-22, 2023.

You can learn more about the final four candidates and watch an all-candidates panel discussion at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees. This is an excellent opportunity to hear directly from each candidate and their views and thoughts on issues that concern all YRDSB students. All students in grades 5 - 12 are encouraged to watch.

Information on how to vote will be shared with all eligible students in your GAPPS email account when voting opens February 20.

Littering

We have received some complaints from our community about littering that is taking place in our neighborhood. What can we do to help students ensure that litter is put in the proper receptacles? Do students require more receptacles placed around the school or in the pathways and sidewalk areas? We want to keep our town clear of debris and litter but we need our students to help us out. We encourage our parents/guardians to have proper conversations at home about the impact that pollution from litter creates for all of us. For more information, please use this [link](#) to assist in engaging in conversation around this subject with your children.

Renewed Computer Technology - Winter Applications Now Open

YRDSB is once again working with Renewed Computer Technology to deliver refurbished technology to limited income families. The winter application period is open from February 1, 2024 – March 15, 2024. Please see the [flyer](#) for more information about the program.

Caring and Safe Schools Presentations

To support and promote positive student behaviour, students will attend the Caring and Safe Schools Mid-Year Presentations on February 20, 2024. These presentations underscore behaviour expectations as we create a caring, safe, and inclusive school environment. As families are critical partners, please continue discussing school safety at home by asking your child what they have learned in the Caring and Safe Schools Mid-Year Presentation.

Please refer to this [link](#) to view detailed information about these important presentations.

Ubuntu Healing Circle

Students in grades 7-12 are invited to attend and participate in a virtual healing circle for Black identified students across YRDSB to join together in an inclusive affinity space, focused on supporting emotional well-being. This event will take place on February 28 virtually, please click on this [link](#) for more information.

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 18th.

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

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:

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](#)

Timetable Change Request Forms are due through this Google Form, by end of day (11:59 p.m.) Friday, February 9, 2024.

The KHS Guidance Department began processing change requests on Monday, February 5 and will continue to work on changes up until Friday, February 16, 2024.

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>

The course selection submission window opens **Thursday, February 15th**. The deadline to submit courses through My Pathway Planner for the 2024-2025 school year is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd**.

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

Tips For Secondary School Course Selection

Grade 8 and secondary school students select courses in February for the following September.

Here are some tips and reminders for students and families planning their course selection.

You do not need to make decisions alone. Consult with your family. Teachers, guidance counselors, student success teachers, graduation coaches and other school staff are there to help you.

1. Plan. You can use My Pathway Planner to track your courses, find post-secondary pathway options and look up course descriptions and prerequisites. Learn how to create your plan.
2. Explore your options. There are many courses, programs and opportunities available at all YRDSB secondary schools that let you gain skills, experience, credits and certifications in the fields that interest you. You can now search for these opportunities by sector. There are also other ways to earn credits, including summer school, night school, online learning, Indigenous and International languages and more.
3. Review graduation requirements. You are responsible for ensuring you select courses that meet diploma requirements.
4. Review course types. Selecting courses that meet your needs is the first step to experiencing success in secondary school. Your guidance counselor will help you to choose appropriate courses throughout secondary school as students plan for their initial post-secondary destination.
5. Be aware of course prerequisites. This is a course that must be successfully completed before taking the course that follows. You can use My Pathway Planner to look up course descriptions and prerequisites.
6. Know where to go if you have questions. Speak with your guidance counselor or other staff members at the school. Talk to your family members. Learn more about course selection, graduation requirements and options available to you in secondary school on the Board website.

Search for Courses and Programs by the Sectors that Interest You

Our secondary schools offer courses and programs that let you explore your interests, build skills and gain experience in areas that interest you. You can now [search from 16 different sectors](#) to learn more about:

- career pathways in the fields that interest you
- courses and programs you can take in secondary school that let you gain sector-specific skills, knowledge and experience
- how you can earn certifications, post-secondary credits and job experience while in high school

Find out what courses and programs are available in the fields that interest you at your school. Visit www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb.

Grade 12 Student Exit Surveys:

Grade 12 students who are planning on moving on from KHS next year must complete an 'Exit Plan' through My Pathway Planner. Students can begin to submit their 'Exit Plan' on Monday, February 12th and have until Friday, February 23rd to complete it.

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

Returning Students:

If you are planning on returning, please book an appointment with your guidance counsellor to discuss your plan. The course selection submission window opens Thursday, February 15th. The deadline to submit courses through My Pathway Planner for the 2024-2025 school year is FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd

Night School On-Line Learning Registration:

Night School On-line Learning registration is open on December 18th until February 14th. 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.

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 and on the homepage of every school website, or watch this [short video](#) to learn more.

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