

**To: School Copy**

**Keswick High School E-Bulletin - February 24, 2023**

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**Important Upcoming Dates**

February 24	Course selections for 23-24 school year due
February 27	Jr Girls Volleyball Team @ Renaissance CHS 3:30pm game
March 1	KHS Snowboard Team @ OFSAA @ Devils Glen
March 1	Jr Girls Volleyball Team @ Williams SS 3:30pm game
March 1	Robotics Competition at Humber College
March 3 (new date)	National Theatre Drama Fest @ KHS 6:30pm
March 3	Gr 9 Art Field Trip to McMichael Art Gallery
March 6	SNAP Floor hockey tournament @ Cardinal Carter HS
March 7	SHSM Field Trip to Centennial College
March 13-17	March Break
March 22	Art Field Trip to Clearwater Farms

**Respecting our Community Partners**

Our community offers several local establishments for students to visit for lunch. We ask that all students respect the environment and our community business partners by properly disposing of all garbage and refrain from any littering. They are happy to serve our students, we just need to do our part to keep our community clean.

## Prom 2023 - Save the Date!

Keswick High School will be hosting our Prom on **Thursday, May 25th** at The Manor in King Township (16750 Weston Road). Prom will start at 5:30pm and end at 11:00pm. The evening will include dinner, prom awards and dancing. It is always an exciting event for our Grade 12 students. Tickets will go on sale in early April. More information to follow soon.

## Every Student Counts Survey

Student and family input is important to us. The York Region District School Board will be conducting the Every Student Counts Survey with students (Grades K-12) to help us better understand our student population and school communities.

In the Spring of 2023, students in Grades 4-12 will be invited to complete the student survey and will be provided with in-class time to complete it. Translated versions of the survey will be available. Contact us at 905-476-0933 or [keswick.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:keswick.hs@yrdsb.ca) for more information.

## Math Help

The Mathematics Department will be offering a drop in session for extra math support starting the week of Feb 21st.

- No appointments needed – students can drop by room 2027
- Tuesday AM (8:25 to 8:55 am)
- Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday @ lunch (11:50 to 12:20 pm)
- Wednesday/Thursday PM (3:15 to 3:45 pm)

Another great resource is TVO Mathify <https://www.tvomathify.com/students>

- Free online 1:1 tutoring with certified teachers
- Available for grades 4 - 12
- Monday to Friday 9 am to 9 pm
- Saturday/Sunday 3 pm to 9 pm
- Student's will need their OEN # to sign up (found on student report card)

## Extended Absence Form

If your student is going to be absent from school for three or more consecutive days an Extended Absence Form should be picked up from the Main Office. The student will take the form to each teacher to document the work and/or assignments they are responsible for during the time of the absence. The form is to be signed by the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) and then returned to the Main Office. The form will be reviewed and signed by the Vice Principal. The attendance system is also updated accordingly. The student should pick up the form about 1 week prior to the first day of their absence.

## Centre for Black Student Excellence Mailing List

As part of our commitment to dismantling anti-Black racism, YRDSB is launching the Centre for Black Student Excellence Mailing List.

Family members subscribed the mailing list will receive information about:

- Updates and programs from the Centre for Black Student Excellence
- Information about Board programs that would benefit Black students, families with Black children
- Community flyers and programs that would benefit Black students and families with Black children

Families can sign up for the mailing list using this subscription form, available at [www.yrdsb.ca/blackexcellence](http://www.yrdsb.ca/blackexcellence) , and can unsubscribe at any time.

The mailing list is one of the key commitments outlined in our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy. For more information please visit the Centre for Black Student Excellence.

Keswick High School is in the process of starting a Black Student Association--an affinity group to provide space for self-identifying Black students to speak with their fellow peers and elevate student voice in our school community. If your child is interested in participating, please contact Renee Grant ([renee.grant@yrdsb.ca](mailto:renee.grant@yrdsb.ca)) or Stephanie Ross ([stephanie.ross@yrdsb.ca](mailto:stephanie.ross@yrdsb.ca)). As a family member, if you are interested in getting involved with the group or have any questions, please contact Casey Daleman, VP ([casey.daleman@yrdsb.ca](mailto:casey.daleman@yrdsb.ca)).

The Black Student Association will be meeting every Wednesday after school in Room 1014 at 3:15pm.

### Opportunities for Self-Identifying Black Students

There is an upcoming field trip opportunity for YRDSB Black Students. On **Tuesday February 28**, there is a field trip to York University to engage with Dr. D'Wayne Edwards and Dion Walcott. They will be sharing their pursuit in merging their identities, passion and entrepreneurial ventures to develop and lead established businesses and institutions. Students will also have the opportunity to explore York University, and the many educational opportunities offered there. It is a full day event.

Please let Mrs. Ross ([stephanie.ross@yrdsb.ca](mailto:stephanie.ross@yrdsb.ca)) know if your child is interested in participating in one or both of these events.

### Guidance Information

#### Online Learning Courses and Online Learning Opt-out

With the requirement that students must now complete two online learning courses to achieve their OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma), students now have the option to choose online learning courses through My Pathway Planner during course selection. These two online learning credits are apart of the thirty credits a student must achieve for their OSSD, not a requirement beyond the thirty. If a student wishes to select an online learning course, use the following steps to add it to their planner:

1. Sign into their [My Pathway Planner](#) account using their YRDSB username and password. You must select 'login with school account' and then choose the 'York Region District School Board' first.
2. Click 'High School' on the left hand side navigation menu
3. To add a course, click the '+' button with the planner itself. All course disciplines will come up. Scroll down to look for 'Online Learning Courses'
4. Click on the course code 'ONLINE' and a description of the course will appear
5. While reading the description it will ask you to select the course of your choice. Choose one.

6. Then click the 'Add Course' button. This will add the online learning course to the planner.

If you and your child feel that completing two online learning credits does not fit their learning style, you can choose to have them opt-out. If a student chooses to opt out it does not affect their ability to graduate or post secondary pathways. If a student wishes to opt-out, use the following steps to complete this through course selection:

1. Sign into their [My Pathway Planner](#) account using their YRDSB username and password. You must select 'login with school account' and then choose the 'York Region District School Board' first.
2. Click 'High School' on the left hand side navigation menu
3. Students will see an 'Online Learning Opt-Out' box in the first slot of their plan for next year. Click on the '+' button in the slot. If you do not see an 'Online Learning Opt-Out' box in the first slot - no action is needed - either the student has already opted out or will be asked to confirm their decision in a later grade
4. Once the student clicks on the '+' button, review the information in the description that pops up.
5. Click 'Add Course' if you wish to opt out of the requirement.

### Updated Grade 10 Pathways

There is an update to course pathways available to students choosing Grade 10 courses for the 2023-2024 school year. KHS will now be able to offer applied pathway courses in both English (ENG2P1) and Science (SNC2P1). This is a change in previous plan to only offer the academic and locally developed courses.

Should you have questions regarding pathways for your child, it is recommended that you gather information from the following resources to help make an informed decision:

- Subject Teacher
- Guidance Counsellor
- Special Education Resource Teacher
- Researching post-secondary requirements and pathways

### Graduation Date Change

Please be advised that we have changed the date of our Graduation ceremonies from June 28th to **June 26th**. Please update your calendars!

### Vaping in the Washrooms

We need your support. Several students are reporting that they feel unsafe within our washrooms as other students are vaping. As we monitor and find students vaping we do speak to them, reach out to families and follow progressive discipline. We are worried about the safety and the health concerns caused by vaping. Here is some information that we will be sharing with students and would like your support in having these dialogues at home too: <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/student-support/caring-and-safe-schools/substance-use-and-misuse/vaping-and-e-cigarettes>

Please do not permit your children to bring vapes or vape cartridges to school. We will be working with Tobacco Enforcement Officers to provide information to your children around the health concerns associated with vaping and the consequences for breaking the by-law around vaping on school property. This may include being issued a ticket or summons.

Please refer to the link below to discuss vaping with your teen.

### [TALKING WITH YOUR TEEN ABOUT VAPING](#)

### **Food Pantry Program at Keswick High School**

We are proud to announce that Keswick High School will be a pick-up location for students and families to access food that has been donated from the food bank of York Region. Any student can access and take part in this program, no questions asked.

Students can scan the QR code around the school to sign up or contact Mrs. Sedgwick or Mrs. Tweddle for more information.

Another option is that families may email Mrs. Sedgwick directly at [pamela.sedgwick@yrdsb.ca](mailto:pamela.sedgwick@yrdsb.ca)

Distribution will occur on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:10-3:30 p.m. for those picking up by vehicle or large quantities.

Non perishable food donations are also welcome. Please bring any donations to the main office.

### **News and Events**

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.

### **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.

For more information on these and upcoming events, 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.

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