

King City SS e-Newsletter



[2001 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1K2](#)

February 21, 2020

Course Selection Due on Monday

A final reminder that **course selection is due on Monday, February 24**. Students are to make their selections [online](#) and then bring to school a copy of their selections printed from [my blueprint](#) that has been signed by a parent/guardian.

Literacy Test Update

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) will be written on **March 31st**. This is an EQAO test written by students pursuing an Ontario Secondary School Diploma who are in their Grade 10 year or those in their Grade 11 or 12 year who have not yet completed their literacy requirement for graduation.

The test will be a “pen and paper” test with no online option. Accommodations for students with learning exceptionalities will be arranged through the Special Education Department in line with the student’s IEP.

March 31st is the only time the test is offered during this school year so **student attendance is essential**. This is a graduation requirement; any students eligible to write this year who are absent from the test will forfeit the opportunity to write this year and **must** write the following year.

Preparations:

The Literacy Committee is working to ensure our students feel well prepared for the test. Students writing the test met with our Literacy Teachers to register on the “KCSS Literacy Learning” Moodle in September. This Moodle is a one-stop-shop for at-home literacy test preparation. Students are highly encouraged to use the Moodle for practice and preparation for the test. Parents are encouraged to look at this Moodle with their students and to support their practice while at home. Practice booklets were also made available through School Cash Online.

Contact Us

Phone 905.833.5332

Extensions

Reception 150

Attendance 158

Guidance 106

Busing 152

king.city.ss@yrdsb.ca

Online

[School website](#)

Administration

Principal

[Joe D'Amico](#)

Vice Principals

[Pina Viscomi](#) (A-K)

[Tim Wesson](#) (L-Z)

School Council

[Luisa Gale](#)

[Harpal Panesar](#)

Superintendent

Neil Gunathunge

Trustee

Bob McRoberts



School News

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In September, students wrote an online practice test. This provided a sample of their work to the Literacy Committee. These tests were marked and feedback was provided by email to each student and parents/guardians. Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss the results with their student, and to encourage practice in any areas that require improvement.

Our student-led Literacy Collaborative has run two workshops with the Grade 10s so far this year. The focus of one workshop was effective reading strategies, and the other was writing a series of paragraphs expressing an opinion. In March the Literacy Collaborative will meet with students again to present two additional workshops. The focus will be writing news reports and an electronic overview of the test.

Ms. Moretti and Ms. Morris will meet with students early in March to provide necessary introductory information to students, and again late in March to confirm last minute details.

Resources to access from home:

Full details regarding these test criteria can be found at:

- [Getting Ready Guide](#)
- [Planning and Preparation Guide](#)
- [“Questions and Answers for Parents” AND “Guide to EQAO Assessments in Secondary School” are both available in multiple languages.](#)

Parents are invited to join Ms. Moretti and Ms. Morris in the library on Parents’ Night (March 26th) for an information session regarding the Literacy Test. The presentation will take place at 6:00 PM and be repeated at 7:00 PM. Each session will run for approximately half an hour.

Any questions regarding the OSSLT can be directed to Ms. Morris (Julie.morris@yrdsb.ca).

Important Dates

To view our entire school calendar online click [here](#).

Monday, February 24th

- ☐ **Course Selections Due**
- ☐ Jr. Girls Volleyball @ Jean Vanier CHS vs. Stouffville DSS & St. Joan of Arc CHS Departs 2 pm
- ☐ Varsity Tier 1 Hockey Playoffs @ Elgin Barrow vs. Jean Vanier Departs 1 pm

Tuesday February 25th

- ☐ Math Contest

Wednesday February 26th

- ☐ Pink Shirt Day
- ☐ Relay University @ Scarborough Convention Centre Departs 7:30 am
- ☐ Women in Trades Event @ Sheridan College Brampton Departs 8:30 am

Thursday February 27th

- ☐ SHSM - Stop the Bleed @ Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre Departs 10:15 am
- ☐ Outdoor Ed @ Haliburton Forest Departs 8:30 am

Friday February 28th

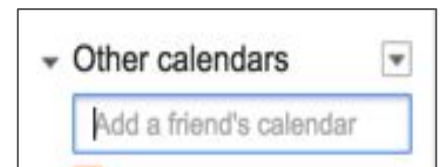
- ☐ Jr. Girls Volleyball Tournament @ Tommy Douglas SS Departs 8 am

Saturday February 29th

- ☐ Outdoor Ed @ Haliburton Forest Returns

Do you use Google Calendar?

Add our email address to add our calendar to your calendar, and never miss an event again!



king.ss@gapps.yrdsb.ca



School News

2020 US College Expo

Please click [this link](#) to register and for more information on the US College Expo. From their website: "Join us with your family to meet U.S. College and University admissions recruiters from coast to coast. Understand all aspects of the US College Admissions process, from selection, application, financing and student athlete considerations." The Expo is Saturday, April 25th at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto.

Cap and Gown Purchase - Reminder

Attention class of 2020. Cap and gowns for graduation may now be purchased on [School Cash Online](#). Cap and gown purchases must be completed by March 27th, 2020.

DID YOU KNOW?

Grade 9 MATH TEST

- 86% Success rate in Academic Math
- 5% Increase for students with IEP's
- ABOVE Board and Provincial Scores in Applied Math



Ontario Secondary School LITERACY TEST

- 12% Increase in Overall Improvement
- 25% Increase for students with IEP's
- 4% Above Provincial Scores
- 4% Increase for students in Academic English
- 37% Increase for students in Applied English





School News



Parents for Children's
Mental Health

SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

Monday, February 24th

Our 4th Anniversary

6:30 - 8 pm

PARENTS' Support Group-all are welcome!

Guest Speaker: Dr. Beverley David

Sleep- the importance of sleep and sleep habits

Presentation & Parent Discussion

**Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or
behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?**

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Future Meetings | Monday, March 23 topic to be announced Monday, April 20 Guest Speaker Kim Parish – Successfully negotiating within the school system to support your child with a learning difference Monday, May 25 topic to be announced Monday, June 15 topic to be announced |
| 6:30 to 8:00 pm | No pre-registration is needed. All are welcome. Sorry no child minding available. Young children cannot safely be left unattended. |
| Where | *NEW*Aurora Kinark Office 218 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 7, Aurora, ON L4G 6V7. One block south of St. John's Sideroad. One block west of Bayview Ave. Lots of free parking |

Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
 - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
 - learn how to access resources in the community

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit www.pcmh.ca.



School News



The Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA) In Partnership with the Flato Markham Theatre Presents

Fatoumata Diawara Musical Performance

Afropop superstar Fatoumata Diawara has built a modern global career from her traditional West African roots. Village Voice music critic Robert Christgau calls her the “subtlest of desert divas.” Nominated in 2019 for two awards (Best World Music Album for Fenfo, and Best Dance Recording for her vocals) the Malian musician stands out in any crowd. Over the past decade Diawara has crisscrossed the world several times performing her music – a modern Afropop rooted in Wassoulou cultural traditions. Diawara’s remarkable album, Fenfo, extends her reach into both modern Afropop and traditional themes.

Theme

Celebrating great Afropop music based on West African Roots with Fatoumata Diawara

When

Friday, February 28, 2020

Time

8:00pm – 10:00 p.m.

Where

Flato Markham Theatre

171 Town Centre Boulevard, Markham L3R 8G5

Registration

YouthTix rate of \$15 is available for Children and Students of all ages. Adults use promo code for 30% off: blackhistorymonth

For more information contact Linda Stott at 905-415-7537 x5700

[Ticket Purchase](#)



School News - reminder



York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities (YRAACC)

Sankofa Mentoring Program for youth between the ages of 12 and 18

Bridging the past with the present. Navigating the present into the future.

Mentorship, Leadership, Cultural Experience, Field Trips, Life Skills, Retreats, Self-Awareness, Career Exploration, Academic Support

The Sankofa Mentoring Program is rooted in an African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith and Self-Respect.

When we meet:

- **Tuesdays** at Vaughan Secondary School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. **or**
- **Thursdays** at Bur Oak Secondary School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Food is provided

For more information please contact the program manager at pgmmgr@yorkregionaacc.ca or call 647 807-2016.

<http://yorkregionaacc.ca/>