



109 Garden Avenue  
Richmond Hill, On, L4C 6M1  
905-889-6266  
Attendance: 905-889-6266 ext: 1



## News Bulletin: January 27-February 7

### Administration

**Principal:**  
Sheri Epstein

**Vice-Principal:**  
Janice Bordonali

**Vice-Principal:**  
Marianne C. Hamilton

### STAY CONNECTED



@langstaffss

### Important Dates:

**January 29:**  
Diamond Day—Lunar New Year

**January 30:**  
Exam Review Day  
Semi-Formal

**January 31:**  
P.A. Day

**February 3:**  
Semester 2 Beginss  
Shield Initiative—Plushies adoption

**February 5:**  
Basketball Game

**February 7:**  
DECA Provincials

### **A Message from your Administrators**

Hello Langstaff Families and Community Members,

It is almost the end of the first semester and we are very excited to begin the second semester on Monday, February 3, 2025.

It is always nice to begin a new semester; it brings a fresh start and a new excitement for what the future can be.

Timetables are available on Teachassist and students can check there for them. Please make sure that your children are logging into the Teachassist website and not using the app. The Teachassist apps that are out there are not officially connected to the Teachassist website; and as such are not credible and collect students' personal information. We are aware that some timetables have courses that students did not choose and/or have holes that need to be filled. Guidance is working very hard to ensure that, as many timetables are ready for the start of the semester. We will continue to work on timetables throughout the first week and, it will work out eventually, but we need everyone to be patient.

During our first part of the semester, the Guidance department will be meeting all students to share information about the course selection process for next year. Course selection open on February 13th at 9:00 am and will close on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 pm.

Coming up this week we know that many of our students are excited for our Semi-Formal dance! Our "Midnight Garden" theme is sure to be a huge success.

We look forward to celebrating Black History month in February. We already have Earl La Pierre Jr., extraordinary steel pannist, sharing his show with many of our students, booked for February 20<sup>th</sup> and on February 27<sup>th</sup> we will all "Socasize" during lunch.

And now on to the BIG NEWS....

We will have a change in Administration at LSS as of February 3, 2025. Our Vice-Principal, Ms. Marianne Hamilton has been transferred and will be moving to Bill Crothers S.S. We are so sad that she is leaving us. She has been such a wonderful addition to Langstaff SS. Ms. Hamilton's rapport with students, teachers and families is exceptional and her fun-spirit will be missed in our hallways. It has truly been a pleasure to work with Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Bordonali and I are going to miss her very much. But, as Ms. Hamilton already knows once someone is a "bear" they are always a "bear". #Bears4Life!

With a vacancy in our main office, we are excited to introduce our new Vice-Principal, Mr. Derrick Schellenberg. Mr. Schellenberg has an impressive resume, having worked at the Ministry of Education, and having been a Digital Literacy Resource teacher in the YRDSB. We warmly welcome Mr. Schellenberg to the Bears family!

Take Care and Have a Wonderful Weekend!

Sheri Epstein  
Principal of LSS

**Inspire**Learning!

January 2025

Dear Families,

As part of a partnership between YRDSB and Renewed Computer Technology (RCT), families with children enrolled in our Board have the opportunity to purchase quality refurbished computers at a reduced cost. Applicants must live in Ontario, have a student enrolled at YRDSB and either receive government assistance payments or qualify as a limited income earner under the limited income cut-off standards\*.

Below is a limited income grid for your reference.

Family size	Annual income*
2 people	\$30,286
3 people	\$37,234
4 people	\$45,206
5 people	\$51,272
6 people	\$57,286
7 people +	\$64,381

This year, there are different packages available for purchase. Please reference the [online application page](#) for the current available package offerings. Please note that there are three options for delivery.

If you would like for the computer to be delivered directly to your home, there is [RCT OTR Order Form](#) a \$25 charge for laptops and a \$35 charge for desktops. Families who choose this delivery option will have their order shipped when it is ready, roughly 3 weeks from date of order.

1. If you would like the device shipped to your child's school there is a \$20 delivery charge. If you choose this shipping option, the computer will be delivered to your child's school **after** the end of the promotion period. Please indicate the name of the school on the form when selecting this option.
2. If you would like the device shipped to your child's school there is a \$20 delivery charge. If you choose this shipping option, the computer will be delivered to your child's school **after** the end of the promotion period. Please indicate the name of the school on the form when selecting this option.

3. You may choose to pick up the computer from the RCT Mississauga Warehouse, for free, located at **945 Meyerside Drive, Mississauga**. Families who choose this option will have their order ready for pick up roughly 3 weeks after the date of order.

Parents and legal guardians may apply for one computer per student, with a limit of two per household. Please see below for a full list of device specifications.

If you are interested in applying, please complete an online application at <https://www.jotform.com/210054491659255> using the group code on the attached program flyer. The application period is from January 16, 2025 – March 17, 2025 with delivery to schools taking place before the end of the school year.

Please note - There are sections in the RCT Online Application that are no longer applicable:

Requirement of Proof or Documentation of Income

Requirement to participate in training prior to receiving your computer/laptop

The Section on Course of Study can pertain to elementary or secondary. If you do not have access to a computer or the Internet, please contact the administration team at your school for assistance.

For inquiries related to the RCT application process, devices and delivery, please contact Alexander Oliver ([Aoliver@rcto.ca](mailto:Aoliver@rcto.ca)) and for inquiries related to support from YRDSB, please contact Yvonne Kelly ([yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca](mailto:yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca))

## School News

LANGSTAFF SS

### Attendance Reminder

Parents/Guardians are reminded to report all late or absent notices to the Attendance Office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE by calling: 905-889-6266 ext.: 1

OR

email: [langstaff.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:langstaff.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca) Please note we do not use EDSBY for attendance.

### Yearbook

2024-2025 Yearbooks are on sale now on School Cash online for \$40.00. Any questions or concerns can be directed to: [mary.crognale@yrdsb.ca](mailto:mary.crognale@yrdsb.ca)

### Activity Fee

The Student Activity Fee is very important as it allows us to make Langstaff SS a great place in which to learn and grow. The funds are used throughout the year and allow our school to provide informative assemblies, guest speakers, special events, open houses, school dances and other spirit activities. All of these events provide our students with an enriched education and help to build our wonderful school community.

# YORK REGIONAL POLICE

Chief of Police Jim MacSween



Alvaro Almeida  
Deputy Chief  
of Investigations

Paulo Da Silva  
Deputy Chief  
of Operations

Cecile Hammond  
Deputy Chief  
of Administration

Kevin McCloskey  
Deputy Chief  
of Support

January 21, 2025

Dear LSS,

What does it mean to truly make a difference? For the 2024 Holiday Heroes Campaign, it meant delivering more than we ever imagined – hope where there was uncertainty, joy where there was despair, and connection where there was isolation. Thanks to your extraordinary generosity, lives across York Region were profoundly changed. This year's campaign asked a bold question: What does it take to be a hero? Your answer came not in words but through actions. Together, we shattered our fundraising target, raising over \$415,000 in monetary and gift card donations – nearly tripling our original goal.

But the numbers only tell part of the story. The impact of your support was monumental. It was felt in the smiles of children holding their first holiday gifts, in the relief of parents who found unexpected support, and in the gratitude of seniors who realized they weren't alone. Your support enabled us to: bring personalized gifts and vital supplies to more than 22,000 families and individuals, distribute hundreds of backpacks filled with winter essentials and hygiene products, and provide flexible resources like gift cards and transit tickets, ensuring people had what they needed most during their toughest days.

We were deeply moved by the dedication of students and schools like Langstaff Secondary School, who rallied together to raise funds and donate vital items. Your energy, creativity, and compassion brought new momentum to the campaign, showing the power of young heroes making a difference.

These acts of generosity didn't just meet immediate needs, they reminded people that someone cared deeply about them and their future. But your impact doesn't stop there. Beyond the holiday season, your support fuels vital community programs through our partners – the Salvation Army, Victim Services of York Region, and local food banks. These partnerships extend the reach of your generosity, turning compassion into sustained action.

As we reflect on the success of the 28th annual Holiday Heroes Campaign, we recognize that it wasn't just a campaign – it was a movement. And at the heart of that movement were heroes like you. On behalf of York Regional Police and every life touched by your kindness, thank you. Your decision to step forward reminds us all that we each have the power to transform hardship into hope, uncertainty into stability, and moments into miracles.

We look forward to standing with you again, united in compassion and driven by the belief that together, we can create a better future.

With deepest gratitude,

**Alvaro Almeida #654**

Deputy Chief Investigations Branch  
Chair, Holiday Heroes Campaign

47 Don Hillock Drive,  
Aurora On L4G 0S7



Tel: 1 866 876 5423  
TTY: 1 800 668 5810  
yrp.ca





**COST: \$16 PER DOZEN**  
**WHERE TO ORDER:**  
**SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**  
**DELIVERY: FEB 5TH**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS  
FUNDING EQUIPMENT  
FOR THE BADMINTON CLUB**

**KRISPY KREME**  
**DONUTS**  
**FUNDRAISER**

CONTACT US ON  
**@LANGSTAFF.BADMINTON**

# Accessing Your Guidance Team

WELCOME  
TO  
GUIDANCE



## YOUR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Support and promote students' well-being and continuous growth in three areas: personal (student) development, interpersonal development, and career development in order to help them develop resilience and realize their potential (success) as individuals and as valuable members of society.

*-Ontario School Counsellors' Association*

**Contact Information: Please note the Guidance Counselors below**

**Ms. R. Chidiac**

[reina.chidiac@yrdsb.ca](mailto:reina.chidiac@yrdsb.ca)

Alpha A-M

**Ms. A. Sitt**

[alice.sitt@yrdsb.ca](mailto:alice.sitt@yrdsb.ca)

Alpha N-Z

**Mrs. L. Rico, Guidance Secretary**

[lina.rico@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lina.rico@yrdsb.ca)



**Stay Connected and in the "Loop":** Continue to stay up to date by following us on Instagram and LSS Guidance & Success Google Classroom.

**Instagram:** @lssguidance

**Google Classroom:** <https://classroom.google.com/c/NjcxOTQwNzYzNDFa?cjc=4rjwryf>



**Guidance Appointments** can be made in person by coming to guidance. There is a red binder on a standing desk in the Guidance Office. Students can book with their respective counsellor, by alpha last name. The appointments are made available every Monday morning for the week.

# Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

**Dates:** Monday, February 3, 2025, at Dr. J.M. Dennison H.S.

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

**Time:** 6:00–8:00 p.m.

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

## To Register

Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to [blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca](mailto:blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca)



FEBRUARY

BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH







# The Jewish Rainbow

**A monthly support group for parents and caregivers of LGBTQ+ individuals**

**Cost: Free**

Pre-registration is required.

**For more information, please contact  
Shirley Shedletsky at 416-638-7800, ext. 6260 or  
sshedletsky@jfandcs.com**



**Schwartz/Reisman Centre  
from 7:00-9:00pm  
On the following Wednesdays:**

- Jan 15, 2025**
- Feb 19, 2025**
- March 19, 2025**
- April 9, 2025**
- May 21, 2025**
- June 18, 2025**

*JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin.*



[www.facebook.com/jfandcs](https://www.facebook.com/jfandcs)



**UJA FEDERATION**  
of Greater Toronto



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto



Ontario



# 1 Family, 2 Homes

**A program for parents and children experiencing separation and divorce.**

## **SESSIONS FOR PARENTS WILL INCLUDE:**

- Tips for keeping kids out of the conflict
- Learn how to actively listen to your kids
- Impact of separation and divorce on children

## **SESSIONS FOR KIDS WILL INCLUDE:**

- "Do other children going through divorce feel the same way I do?"
- "How do I make myself feel better?"
- The myths about divorce

**In this six-week program, parents and children will participate in separate, concurrently run groups. Children will be placed in age-appropriate groups.**

**\$150 for one parent or \$200 for one parent and children**

(sliding scale available)

**6 Sessions beginning Tuesday April 22, 2025**

**6:30-8:00 pm**

**Jewish Family and Child Service | 4600 Bathurst Street | Lipa Green Centre**

*JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin.*

**For more information or to register, please call 416.638.7800 x 6234**

**Register online! [www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com)**



[www.facebook.com/jfandcs](https://www.facebook.com/jfandcs)



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Ontario



# High Conflict Divorce

## STRATEGIES TO DISENGAGE FROM THE CONFLICT

### Topics will include:

- impact of conflict on children
- different interaction models for different levels of conflict
- how to avoid being triggered by an ex-partner
- different parenting strategies for higher conflict families



**\$45 per person**

(sliding scale available)

**Monday March 31, 2025**

**7:00 - 9:00 pm | Via Zoom**

*JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin.*

**For more information or to register, please call 416.638.7800 x 6234**

**Register online! [www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com)**



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Greater Toronto



**Ontario**



# Looking Ahead: Life After Separation and Divorce

## Topics will include:

- Coping with change
- Feelings of anger and loss
- Living alone and loneliness
- Resources for a new lifestyle



**\$120 per person**  
(sliding scale available)

**6 Sessions beginning Wednesday May 14, 2025**  
**7:30-9:00 pm | Via Zoom**

*JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin.*

**For more information or to register, please call 416-638-7800 ext. 6234**

Register online! [www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com)



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# Mastering your Separation

**Learn how you can be the master of your own separation**

**Topics will include:**

- Understanding separation concerns
- Discovering your own emotional triggers
- Creating self-worth and self-awareness during separation
- Learning strategies for maintaining emotional control
- Building a stronger, more grounded self
- Developing communication skills for clearer, more constructive interactions throughout the process
- Gaining insight into differing perspectives and how they impact your separation
- Differentiating between your legal and emotional separation



**\$60 per person**

(sliding scale available)

**First Session: Monday May 5 and Second Session: Tuesday May 6, 2025**

**9:30 am – 1:30 pm**

**Jewish Family and Child Service | 4600 Bathurst Street | Lipa Green Centre**

*JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin.*

**For more information or to register, please call 416.638.7800 x 6234**

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# Successful Step-Parenting

For Couples Living in Blended

**To reduce the isolation many blended families feel about the challenges they face. To support families work through the challenges they are experiencing and to provide information so parents have more realistic expectations for their blended family.**

**Topics will include:**

- myths and realities of step families
- blending your parenting styles
- role of discipline in a blended family
- building and maintaining a strong couple relationship



**\$180 per couple**

(sliding scale available)

**4 Sessions beginning Thursday May 22, 2025**

**7:00 – 9:00 pm | Via Zoom**

*JF&CS strives for inclusivity in all its programs, serving community members of any income, family structure, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, level of observance, race, ethnicity, cultural identity and place of origin.*

**For more information or to register, please call 416.638.7800 x 6234**

**Register online! [www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com)**



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