

Langstaff S.S.



Administration Team:

Principal
Ms. S. Borrell

Vice-Principal
Ms. C. Albanese
(surname A to K)

Vice-Principal
Ms. T. Paul
(surname L to Z)

May 25, 2018

To the families of «**First_Name**» «**Last_Name**»,

Now that spring is truly here, we find our students moving outdoors for learning in a variety of ways. Many of our classes have taken some time outside as part of their learning. In addition, our sports teams have been making LSS proud on the field. This past Wednesday, many of our students participated in a walk to honor the lives lost in the Toronto incident.

It has also been full of celebrating for our senior students, with our community classes attending the best buddies prom at Le Parc, and our LSS prom last evening at Paradise Banquet Hall.

Finally, today we had the pleasure of hosting some of our elementary school partners for a fun-filled carnival and transitions activity as they acclimatize to their new home for September. During lunch, students had the opportunity to have fun with their friends and try some new food.

On page 5 & 6 of this bulletin we direct your attention to a message from the Director of Education regarding the Netflix Series "13 Reasons Why."

As always, if you would like to connect with our administration team, please feel free to reach out to any one of us.

Sincerely,

S. Borrell, C. Albanese, T. Paul

LANGSTAFF S.S. SCHOOL LINKS

Co-op Department: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/langstaff.ss/DeptPrograms/coop/Pages/default.aspx>

Langstaff S.S. School Website: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/langstaff.ss/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/langstaff.ss/info/Pages/Our-Staff.aspx>

York Region District School Board: <http://www.yrdsb.ca>

YRDSB Guide to the 2017-2018 School Year: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Parents/Documents/GuideToTheSchoolYearWeb.pdf>

ATTENDANCE REPORT

There is a positive relationship between regular attendance and success in school. Students at LSS are required to attend regularly, to be punctual, and to participate in all scheduled classes.

VALID ABSENCES include illness, bereavement or family emergency.

AUTHORIZED ABSENCES include dentist/doctor appointments, driver's test, and court appearances.

EXCUSED ABSENCES refer to field trips and school sanctioned events. Students are still considered to be at school.

EXTENDED ABSENCES of four days or more require the completion of a "Special Leave" form at least one week in advance of the leave. This form may be obtained from the Main Office. A parent/guardian signature is required. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on all work missed.

DO NOT plan absences or family vacations during culminating and exam periods as the evaluations CANNOT be rescheduled.

Type of Absence	Parent/Guardian Responsibility
Absent for a Full Day	Phone the school with a valid reason the same day or send a note upon return
Absent for One or More Classes	Phone with valid reason indicating the time of absence or send a note with the student
Leaving Before the End of the Day	Student signs out in attendance office with a note from the parent/guardian
In the Event of an Emergency	Contact the office as soon as possible.

For safety reasons, students who have signed out must leave the building as they will not be directly supervised.

Want more information about student attendance?

Students under 18 and/or their parents can pick up a detailed attendance report from the main office.

The **weekly** attendance summary below includes all of the semester one absences and lates from Friday, May 18 through Thursday, May 24, 2018.

Period	Course	Teacher	Absences	Lates
«Period_A»	«Course_A»	«Teacher_Last_A»	«Absence_A»	«Lates_A»
«Period_B»	«Course_B»	«Teacher_Last_B»	«Absence_B»	«Lates_B»
«Period_C»	«Course_C»	«Teacher_Last_C»	«Absence_C»	«Lates_C»
«Period_D»	«Course_D»	«Teacher_Last_D»	«Absence_D»	«Lates_D»
«Period_E»	«Course_E»	«Teacher_Last_E»	«Absence_E»	«Lates_E»
Total Absences and Lates			«Total_Abs»	«Total_Lates»









«First_Name» «Last_Name» has completed «Community_Servi» community service hours. Forty hours of community service are required to graduate. If a student recently submitted hours, it may not be reflected in this communication.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

May 28, 2018 	
May 29, 2018 	Field Trip  TorontoZoo
May 30, 2018 	
May 31, 2018 	  Canadian Cancer Society
June 1, 2018 	

LOOKING AHEAD:

June 4, 2018 	Staff Meeting School Council Meeting
June 5, 2018 	STUCO Leadership Night 
June 6, 2018 	Track & Field Elementary 
June 7, 2018 	Athletic Celebration 
June 8, 2018 	

LANGSTAFF S.S. HIGHLIGHTS

[LANGSTAFF Exam Schedule for June 2018](#)

Please review the schedule and student guidelines with your child(ren) so that they understand the expectations during the formal exam period



Exams Semester 2 -
June 2018.xlsx



Families, if you are coming to visit Langstaff during the hours of **8:00am and 4:00pm**, please sign into the office first before walking through the building.

[IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS TURNING 18](#)

Under the Education Act, parents/guardians have a right to access their child's Ontario Student Record if the child is under 18.

If the student is 18 or over, the Board/school must follow the privacy provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act regarding the disclosure of personal information about the student to their parents/guardians.

Students 18 or over must provide written permission by signing the [Consent for Information Sharing](#) form to allow parents/guardians to continue to access school-related information about the student. This includes academic progress, attendance and behavior.

Students can also obtain the form from the school office.



THE EDUCATION CENTRE - AURORA

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Website: www.yrdsb.ca

May 24, 2018

Dear YRDSB Families,

As you may be aware, season two of the **Netflix series 13 Reasons Why** became available on Netflix May 18, 2018. As you may recall from our letter last spring, the series deals with the difficult topic of suicide and other complex issues. Season one outlined the story of a 17-year-old girl who dies by suicide. She leaves behind cassette tapes for 13 people whose actions she perceived as reasons why she killed herself. Season two explores several other difficult topics including self-harm/cutting, bullying, struggles with identity, sexual assault, gun violence and more, which may be emotionally triggering for vulnerable students.

Although the creators of the series indicate the intent of the show is to help students recognize their effect on others, it does not present viable alternatives to suicide, or have a strong focus on seeking help. There are many negative portrayals of adults and seeking help within the series. This is not a helpful message for youth.

Series like **13 Reasons Why** may promote myths and misinformation about suicide. We hope the information in this letter will help you have open conversations with your child. Discussing important but difficult topics with your child lets them know you are open to talking about these subjects. This may make it more likely they will talk to you if they have any concerns/challenges. If young people do not feel they can talk to adults about these subjects, they are likely to seek advice on the internet or from friends, or worse may not talk to anyone.

You may wish to ask your child if they have heard of or seen this series. If your child has not already watched the series but would like to, review it first yourself. Consider watching it together rather than having them watch it alone. This will help you to know how your child is affected by the content. While many youths know the difference between a TV drama and real life, talking with adults about this subject is very important. Adults can help share the message that **suicide is not a solution to problems and help is available**. You can help your child process their feelings and answer questions about the issues in the series. **This is particularly important if you feel your child is isolated, struggling or vulnerable.**

The following suggestions may help with the conversation:

- Remind them that the series is fictional.
- Share that it is normal to experience periods of stress and distress. Offer healthy coping strategies, such as. exercise, art, journaling, talking to friends and adults they trust.
- Let them know that there are adults at school who care and can help.
- Talk about where to seek support if they need it from family members, counsellors, coaches, teachers, faith leaders, a crisis line like Kids Help Phone - 1-800-668-6868.

- Talk openly about emotional distress and suicide. Doing so in a fact-based manner does not increase suicide risk (see tips below).
- If you have concerns about your child's mental health, see your family physician and/or share your concerns with the school.
- If the concern is more urgent, you may call York Region's Crisis Response Service, 1-855-310-COPE (2673), the Mental Health Helpline 1-866-531-2600, or take your child to a hospital emergency department. If there is an emergency call 911.

****If you do not want your child to watch this show, Netflix has some resources to help parents. They offer a parental control you can apply individually to this series in the form of a PIN number. You can assign a unique code for both seasons of "13 Reasons Why." You can set this in the account section of your Netflix account.*

As family members it can be difficult to know if a loved one is struggling with thoughts of suicide. The information below offers several important considerations.

Possible signs someone may be having thoughts of suicide:

- Suicide threats, both direct ("I am going to kill myself." "I need life to stop."), and indirect ("I need it to stop." "I wish I could fall asleep and never wake up."). Threats can be verbal or written and are often found in online postings (Instagram, Facebook)
- Preoccupation with death in conversation, writing, drawing and social media
- Changes in behavior, appearance/hygiene, sleep habits, thoughts and/or feelings. This can include someone who is typically sad who suddenly becomes extremely happy.
- Emotional distress.
- Withdrawing from friends and family

Trust yourself as a parent/guardian. If you feel something is not right with your child or notice any of the signs above, do not hesitate to ask directly about thoughts of suicide. This may be a tough conversation to have, but sends a message that you are open to talking about suicide and increases the chances your child will seek help. That might sound like,

"Sometimes when people are under stress, having trouble with friends, and worrying a lot, they have thoughts of suicide. Are you having thoughts of suicide?"

Help is Available:

Many staff members in York Region District School Board are trained in suicide intervention and want to help. If you have concerns about your child's mental health, or need additional resources, please talk to your family doctor or contact your child's school. Our staff members are committed to supporting the well-being of every YRDSB learner and can help to connect you with resources for support.

To learn more about safely talking about suicide, consider taking suicide intervention training. Find out more at www.livingworks.net.

Further resources about the series can be found at: www.13reasonswhytoolkit.org.

Sincerely,



Louise Sirisko
Director of Education



Relay for Life update

We are looking forward to our event next Thursday, May 31st, 2018 from 9-9pm on our field and around our track. Please feel free to drop by for a visit and see your child/ward participating in this incredible event or to walk the track with us especially during our luminary ceremony, which will honor those we have lost and those for whom we fight, taking place shortly after 8pm. A couple of items to remember are:

- you must give school cash online permission to your child/ward to participate on May 31st
- each participant must have raised \$100 by the event date in order to participate
- each participant should remember to bring sun protection, snacks and plenty of liquids, a tent, chair or blanket and comfortable shoes.

Please note that lunch, dinner, a reusable water bottle and a variety snacks WILL be provided. Activities for the day include: sports on the field, lip sync contest, music performances, henna and button making and face painting.

I would like to thank countless companies for sponsoring this event and those who have recently helped us such as:

* [The Gourmet Group of Companies](http://www.thegourmetgroup.com/http://www.thegourmetgroup.com/) for their generous discount on our BBQ lunch

* **Adam B. Starkman, CPA, CA, CFO**, [Liberty Development Corporation](#) for their donation which will cover fresh fruit and vegetables and reusable water bottles for the event.

Thank you and see you there!

FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Costi Employment services in Vaughan are hosting multiple events in June such as: Job search boot camp on June 12-14, LinkedIn workshop June 22- and June 26th, Introduction to Entrepreneurship June 21, Hiring event for SKYZONE vaughan pre-registration May 28-June 1 and interviews June 4 and 5 from 4-7pm. Please check out the Job board outside of guidance for more information and registration information or go to : COSTI.ORG

Did you know that the **Global Young Leaders Conference** brings together more than 900 students from 145 countries each summer? This is an experience that literally changes the lives of young adults who attend, making them more confident, conscientious citizens of the world. This year the conference will take place in Washington, DC. For more information and how you can be nominated to attend, please see the leadership board in guidance or speak to Ms. Starkman. Also go to: YOUNGLEADERS.COM/GYLC

Vaughan Employment is offering an abundance of courses for students free of charge. Here is a list of some courses happening this month:

Food Handler Certification Program: Monday May 28th 9am-4pm

Please see the posters on the Job board outside of guidance for more information. Also, you can register at: vaughanemployment@costi.org. For more information and a calendar of events, please go to: costi.org

James Bartleman: Indigenous youth creative writing award

Get Creative: \$2,500 creative writing award per recipient. This is open to all Indigenous students in Ontario aged 18 and under. Deadline is May 31st, for submission forms and more information visit: ontario.ca/bartleman.

Email: ontariohonoursandawards@ontario.ca

FROM THE GRADUATION COMMITTEE

Please note that Graduation Cap and Gowns as well as Graduation Tickets will be distributed on Tuesday June 12 and Wednesday June 13 in the Learning Commons during period 3ABC (11:10 am-1:05 pm).

COMMUNITY NEWS

Black Legal Action Centre Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BlackLegalNeeds>

Summer School

Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association Summer Reading and Robotics

Register at the website: www.macca1987.com

Skilled Trades Open House



May 26 Vaughan -
Flyer.pdf

Community Collaborators - News items

Black Foundation of Community Networks



Check out the
[2018 Scholarship Directory here](#) and
learn more about the
[BFCN Scholarship Program here](#).

More Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards Sites

Scholarships and Financial Aid at Ontario Colleges - Most college websites have a section on scholarships and financial aid that is available at their college. The link to scholarships and financial aid is usually visible on the homepage or is listed in the prospective students section.

Scholarships and Financial Aid at Ontario Universities - The Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) website has a scholarship search tool to help students find the internal scholarships, unique to a specific university and available to first-year students. Once students have located a scholarship of interest, visit the Financial Aid section of the university's website for additional information.

Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) has links to a number of other non-OSAP scholarships and bursaries.

Athletic financial awards in Ontario - All athletic financial awards offered by Canadian universities must follow the criteria established by Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS), the national governing body of university sport in Canada.

Source: YRDSB Website

APPLYING FOR THE ONTARIO STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (OSAP) PAYING FOR UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE PROGRAMS

The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is an integrated program funded by both the provincial and federal governments and administered by Ontario. OSAP provides needs-based financial assistance through grants and loans to help qualified students and their families with the cost of postsecondary education. Eligible Ontario residents may receive a combination of provincial and federal student financial aid. OSAP is designed to supplement, not replace, the financial resources that you are expected to contribute to a student's postsecondary education. OSAP offers both grants and loans to eligible Ontario residents in approved full-time and part-time programs of study.

Overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Cw0f4rc0kE>

Financial Aid Estimator to find out an approximate amount of money a student can receive:
https://osap.gov.on.ca/AidEstimator/819Web/enterapp/select_institution.xhtml

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**we're building for the future
and the future is you**

your Community Liaisons



Leslie Pawlowaki

Richmond Hill

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York Region Rapid Transit Corporation

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☎ 905.886.6767

🌐 vivanext.com

✉ contactbus@vivanext.com



>> An Important rule of planning transit is to build where people are, and where they want to go. That's why **vivaNext** is building dedicated bus lanes called **rapidways** in Richmond Hill, Newmarket, Vaughan and Markham. It's part of a region-wide rapid transit network.

why this project matters to you

- The **vivaNext** project is being built in your community and near your school.
- Once the **rapidway** is complete – with **Viva** buses riding in dedicated bus lanes – you will experience faster travel times, and wait for the bus in comfortable **viva** stations with heated waiting area during the colder months.
- The **rapidway** projects will reinforce strong north-south and east-west connections to other regional centres and other modes of public transit.

what's happening on Yonge Street in Richmond Hill this year

- Utility relocations such as water mains, gas mains, hydro poles and lines, and telecommunications equipment.



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Read our blog: info.vivanext.com

- There will be temporary lane closures around work areas as required.
- Access to businesses and properties near work areas will be maintained.
- Where possible, bus stops and sidewalks will remain open.
- On occasion, night and weekend work will be required.
- During construction, we are committed to supporting businesses and keeping everyone informed about project activities.

safety first

- During construction, crossing at designated crosswalks is more important than ever.
- Follow signs for pedestrian sidewalk detours.
- When crossing at a designated crosswalk, it's important to keep safety in mind. Be sure to stop, look, listen - and be aware of your surroundings.
- Lane closures can change frequently. Drivers need to slow down and pay close attention to construction signs and road markings.

we're committed to keeping you in the know



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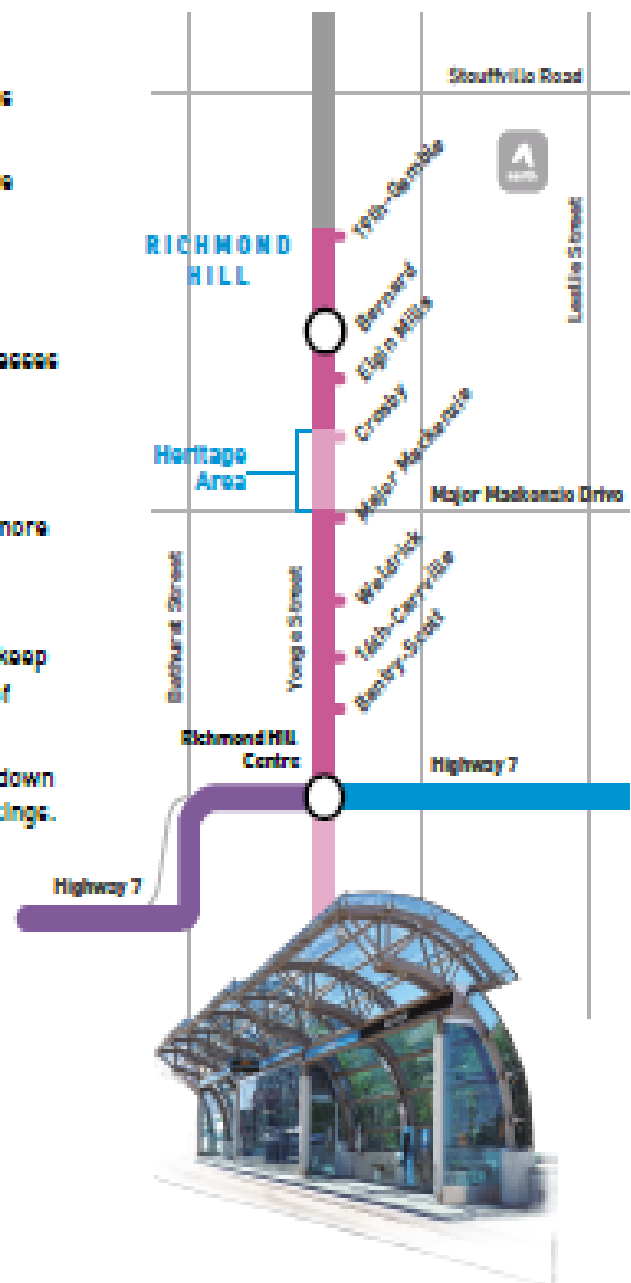
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