



109 Garden Avenue
Richmond Hill, On, L4C 6M1

905-889-6266
langstaff.ss@yrdsb.ca
Attendance: 905-889-6266 ext: 1
langstaff.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca



Parent Newsletter: Sept 15th - Sept 29th, 2023

Administration

Principal:
Sheri Epstein

Vice-Principal:
Heather Leatham

Vice-Principal:
Marianne C. Hamilton

STAY CONNECTED



@langstaffss

A Message from your Administrators

Dear Families and Community Members:

Welcome to the start of the 2023-2024 school year!

We are really looking forward to a successful year at LSS. We know that our students will once again be busy pursuing their academic goals and participating in extracurricular activities to ensure that they have a wonderful school year. Our students amaze us! Their excitement of being back in the school, in classes, with friends, peers and teachers, has given the LSS staff a wonderful start to the school year. We love what we do and it is so nice to start this year with all the smiling faces.

This first week of school has been very busy at Langstaff and has been characterized by the registration of many new students and student timetable changes. I would like to thank you for your patience and support while our Guidance Department works tirelessly meeting with students and making timetable changes where possible. I am so proud of the hard work of everyone. We are getting settled and we are raring to go!

Our Grade 9 Day, on September 5th, was awesome! We welcomed approximately 135 grade 9s and approximately 100 parents to the school. We wanted our newest Langstaff students, and their family members, to feel important on their first day. We rolled out the "blue carpet" and the Administration and Teachers stood outside in the morning, and clapped and cheered our newest high school students into the building. It was awesome! The Class of 2027 felt special and the parents who attended could feel the excitement and warmth for which Langstaff Secondary School is known.

Our first School Council meeting will take place at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 18th in our Library. We hope to have a wonderful turnout. These meetings are a great way to find out the "inside scoop" on what is happening in our school. As well, we often have great guest speakers, from our school, who share great information on a wide range of topics. During the first meeting we will have our elections for School Council Chair and we will also be sharing our professional development plans for staff and students that will be our foci for this year. As well, we will be available to answer any and all questions from our community.

Next week, on September 19th, we are taking all our Grade 9 students to Camp Green Acres for our "Bear Necessities" Day. A chance for the grade 9s to get to know each other while participating in numerous team-building activities. Please ensure that the permission form and the fee for this field trip is paid for as soon as possible. Just a reminder that there will be no Grade 9 classes on this day as the expectation is that all students attend the field trip.

Also this week, on September 21st, we will be having an Information Evening for the LSS International Field Trip!!! We are so excited that once again international travel is up and running. In May of 2024, LSS students are able to attend a field trip to Paris, Barcelona, and Nice. If you and/or your child are interested in going on this amazing travel opportunity, please come out to the information evening on September 21 in the Library on the second floor of the building. Hope to see you there!!!

I strongly believe in and value the community school concept, where the school is an integral part of the community and serves students and their families by providing opportunities for life-long learning. I truly believe a school is a place where parents, students and staff can work in partnership to improve student achievement. I look forward to working with all of you to make this school the warm, welcoming place that it is. Please feel free to contact me at sheri.epstein@yrdsb.ca as I welcome your comments or questions. Thank you again for your patience and support; together we can truly make a difference for our children.

Ms. Sheri Epstein, Principal

InspireLearning!

SCHOOL NEWS

Message from Our Trustee September 2023

Dear families,

It is my pleasure to welcome all new and returning families to school for the 2023-2024 school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and wish you a positive start to the new school year. I know it can be a time of transition for many, and am grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our school staff for all that they do to support students as they start the new school year, and create a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment in our schools.

The education of your children is a partnership, and we recognize that you are our most important partner when it comes to your child's education. As a family member, there are many ways you can engage in your child's learning, from speaking with your child about school and connecting with school staff to volunteering or becoming involved with the school council. You know your child best and we place great value on the relationship we have with families. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the school year.

As your school trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees has many responsibilities, including making policy and budget decisions, and communicating with the public. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, and I will continue to keep you updated throughout the year on what is happening in the board. You can also visit our newsroom, listen to our podcast and connect with us on social media to stay up-to-date on what's happening in the board.

This year, we are pleased to welcome our new Director of Education Bill Cober, who took on the role on August 1 this year. He brings nearly 30 years of experience in public education in York Region, a commitment to student achievement and well-being, and a strategic and collaborative approach.

Later in the year, we will be undertaking a comprehensive strategic plan review. One of our roles as a board is to set the Multi-Year Strategic Plan that establishes our priorities and guides our direction as a school board. We will be reviewing that plan this year, and engaging with communities is a priority for us. Your input will be important and I look forward to sharing more information with you on this in the future.

I wish you all a great start to the school year and a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

Cindy Liang

Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 3, 5 and 6

School News

Medical Forms

Fillable Health Care forms are now available for families who have children with asthma, seizure disorders, anaphylaxis, diabetes, and/or other prevalent medical conditions.

These forms can be accessed through the links below and/or a paper copy can also be requested from Main Office.

[Anaphylactic Health Care Plan](#)

[Asthma Health Care Plan](#)

[Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)

[Epilepsy/Seizure Health Care Plan](#)

School Start-Up Forms - Action Required

The YRDSB has sent online start-up forms to be completed by families. These forms require your attention. School Start-Up Packages were also distributed to students on September 6, 2023. Completed Forms are to be returned back to school as soon as possible.

Student Parking Information

All student parking is coordinated by the Main Office. Any unauthorized parked vehicle will be tagged and/or towed. All vehicles must have the Langstaff SS parking tag clearly visible. To apply for a parking pass, please come to Main Office, parking passes are valid for one school year.

Communication with Home

At LSS we offer several methods of communication to share information on a regular basis with our parents/guardians homes. A calendar of school events and our Bi-Weekly News Bulletins are posted on our school website. We request that all Parents and Guardians submit current phone numbers and email addresses; these can be updated by sending us via email to: langstaff.ss@yrdsb.ca

Attendance Reminder

Parents/Guardians are reminded to report all late or absent notices to the Attendance Office by calling 905-889-6266 ext.: 1 OR email langstaff.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca

Should your student be absent for 3 or more days, an Extended Absence Form must be signed by each subject teacher, parent/guardian and the Vice-Principal prior to leaving for the absence, Extended Absence Forms are available at the Main Office.

Safety Week

The York Region School Board is committed to ensuring the safety of students, staff, building occupants and visitors in the event of an emergency situation. As such, during Safety Week (September 25 to 29, 2023) and throughout the school year, schools in our Board practise various safety drills including Fire Drills, Lockdown Drills, Hold and Secure Drills and the newly established Bomb Threat Drill. It is critical that all members of our school community become familiar with emergency protocols as they are designed to keep all of us safe at school. Please refer to [Board Policy #669.0](#) for more information about Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Management.

School Bell Timetable

Period 1	8:25 am – 9:40 am
Period 2	9:45 am – 11:05 am
Lunch	11:10 am – 11:50 am
Period 3	11:55 am – 1:10 pm
Period 4	1:15 pm – 2:30 pm

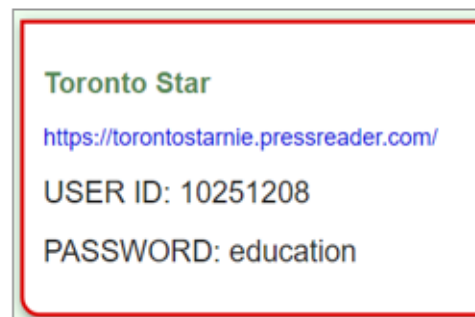
Upcoming Events in the month of September

September 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				<i>Sept 15</i>
Sept 18	Sept 19	Sept 20	Sept 21	Sept 22
School Council Meeting	Grade 9 Camp Day	Picture Day		PA Day
Sept 25	Sept 26	Sept 27	Sept 28	Sept 29
Yom Kippur Safety Week		Caring & Safe Schools As-		

LIBRARY NEWS

We now have digital access to the Toronto Star ePaper! Please see login information below. The link can be found on the home page of Teach Assist.



*Note: Only 30 students maximum may access it at a time.

School Council Meeting
Monday, September 18, 2023
7:00 pm—8:30 pm
In the School Library—2nd Floor

Please join us on Monday to learn more about this school year.

What Questions Do You Have? How is School Going thus Far? What Do You Want to Know?

We are so excited to be able to have our first School Council Meeting in person! It has been too long!

Our Guest Speakers will be the LSS Admin team—Ms. Epstein, and Ms. Hamilton. As well our Head of Library, Ms. Sharon Romero will be there as well!

We hope that you will join us—in person— on Monday, September 18th for our first School Council meeting Please join us at 7:00 pm in Library (which is located on the 2nd floor of the school in the North East corner of the building)

#BEARS4LIFE



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 Counselor ALPHA allocation by last name

Ms. R. Chidiac, Head of Guidance

Last Name Alpha: A to O

reina.chidiac@yrdsb.ca

Ms. S. Campbell

Last Name Alpha: P to Z

stephanie.campbell@yrdsb.ca

Mrs. L. Rico, Guidance Secretary

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.

A-O: Mme Chidiac, P-Z: Ms. Campbell

News From Guidance

TIMETABLES

Guidance will continue to work on timetables through next week. We still have students with spares/missing prerequisites, we thank you for your patience while we work on these. We are reviewing timetable change requests and making changes where possible. Thank you for practicing kindness and patience during this busy period.

Post Secondary Preparation

Guidance will host a presentation for students in October.

YRDSB POSTSECONDARY FAIRS

School(s) Hosting	Date & Time	Location
Ontario Universities Fair	October 21-22, 2023, from	Metro Toronto Convention
Ontario Colleges	October 18 & 19	Enercare Centre
Level Up- Apprenticeship		
Pierre Elliott Trudeau	Sept 21 2:30-4:30pm	Pierre Elliott Trudeau S.S.
Dr. Denison, Huron	October 12, 2023 at 6:30pm	Huron Heights S.S.
Bill Hogarth, Markham & Aurora, G.W. Williams	Thurs October 26 @ 6-8pm	Markham District G.W Williams
Hodan Nalayeh	October 26th - 3:30 to 6:30	Hodan Nalayeh S.S.
Bill Crothers, Markville &	November 8, 2023	Unionville H.S.
Alexander Mackenzie,	November 9th - 6:00-8:00pm	Stephen Lewis Secondary
Thornhill	October 18th, 2:00 - 4:00pm	Thornhill H.S.
Emily Carr, Tommy Douglas & Woodbridge	Thursday, November 16th, 2023 from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00pm	Emily Carr S.S.
Middlefield	November 15th - 6:30 to	Middlefield C.I.
Keswick, Sutton DHS and	November 9th - time TBD	Keswick H.S.
Richmond	October 11th - 6:30-8:30	Richmond Green S.S.

POST-SECONDARY FAIR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Richmond Green S.S | 1 William F Bell Parkway

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES CAN:

- Chat with liaison reps from **Canadian**, **United Kingdom** and **United States** schools
- Meet **Skill Trades** and industry partners
- Connect with **private colleges** and **universities**, and **private organizations** to support international applications
- Learn more about **Gap Year support**

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

BAYVIEW SS

RICHMOND HILL HS

LANGSTAFF SS

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE HS

RICHMOND GREEN SS



Sankofa Mentoring Cultural Identity Programs



Sankofa Mentoring
Program Grades 7-12



Sankofa Identity Program
Grades 6-8



Storytelling Program
Grades 4-6

The Sankofa Mentoring Program provides Black students in grades 4 to 12 with a powerful African-centered curriculum founded on the Ngozi Saba principles. Students can participate in various activities such as cultural games, drumming, creating storybooks for children, field trips, listening to guest speakers, learning about Black Heroes and Sheroes, as well as studying African languages. This program allows students to explore their racial and cultural identity, enhance their self-esteem, develop critical thinking skills, engage in self-reflection, foster teamwork, and promote the building of a stronger community. The program is available both online and in-person and includes tutoring/homework help for students registered in the program. Additionally, we offer programs for parents to encourage their engagement. Embark on a life-changing adventure by becoming a part of our community.



Scan for more information:



647-425-5700



gmgr@yorkregionaacc.ca



<https://yraacc.ca/>

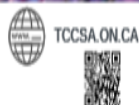
News for Community

TCCSA YORK CENTRE PROGRAMS FOR NEWCOMERS SEPTEMBER 2023

PROGRAM	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE	LOCATION	REGISTRATION & INQUIRY
How to Maintain a Healthy Lifestyle Every Wednesday, August 23 to September 13 10:30 am - 12:00 noon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy eating for newcomers • How to stay physically active to better cope with stress • Understand depression and seasonal affective disorder • How to maintain a healthy relationship with family 	All Newcomers are welcomed Languages: Mandarin	Online Zoom	Charlie Tsau (905) 948-1671 ctsau@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
How to Be a Smart Shopper Thursday, September 7 10 am - 11 am	<i>In this workshop, we will cover the following topics:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Couponing • Where to find good deals • Points cards • Shopping apps • How to shop online safely and more 	All Newcomers are Welcomed Language English & Mandarin	In-person Program at York Centre *Hybrid option available	Hoi-Pui Chan (905) 948-1671 hchan@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
TCCSA Food Drive Monday to Friday, September 7-28 9 am - 5 pm	<i>Bring your non-perishable food donations and join in the spirit of giving</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure items are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Within the best-before period, ◦ Have not expired and ◦ Have not been opened • We are unable to accept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Homemade food ◦ Food that is no longer in original packaging ◦ Alcohol or items with alcohol (chocolates with brandy) 	All Newcomers are Welcomed	York Centre	Hoi-Pui Chan (905) 948-1671 hchan@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
Divorce and Family Law in Ontario Thursday, September 7 10:30 am - 12 noon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Ontario Family Law and Divorce Act • Different protections in common law and legal marriage • Legal remedies to deal with issues in separation and divorce • Child custody, support and access rights • Property distribution and legal aid 	Newcomers & Citizens Languages Cantonese	Online Zoom	Sandy Liu (905) 948-1671 sliu@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
English Conversation Circle for Newcomers! Government Agencies Hotlines Monday, Wednesday & Friday, September 11, 13, 15, 18 & 20 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn English words and phrases used in telephonic conversations with government agencies. • Learn how to call IRCC, Service Canada, and CRA for PR card, citizenship, EI, OAS, income tax filing, CCV and 6ST.HST credit related questions. 	All Newcomers are welcomed Languages English, Cantonese, & Mandarin	Online Zoom	Sue Chan (905) 948-1671 schan@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
Time for a Cultural Trip Tuesday, September 12 9:30 am - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit Aga Khan Museum- A contemporary interpretation of Islamic architecture • Picnic in Edward Garden- the famous Toronto botanical garden • Cost: \$15 /person (Includes museum admission and bus fee) 	All Newcomers are Welcomed Language Mandarin	Bus boarding point York Centre	Sisy Yao (905) 948-1671 syao@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
How to Acquire Driver's License in Ontario Monday, September 18 11am - 12:30 noon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility requirements for an Ontario driver's license • How to prepare for G1 • Guidelines to get G2 and full license • Is your international driver's license valid in Ontario • Resources to get more information 	All Newcomers are Welcomed Language Ukrainian	Online Zoom	Veronika Sotula (905) 948-1671 vsotula@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
Money Matters Monday & Tuesday, September, 18 & 19 4 pm - 5 pm	<i>A Financial Literacy Workshop Series for Youth- Learn essential money management skills, develop a solid understanding of budgeting, saving, investing, and avoiding the common financial challenges and pitfalls.</i>	All Newcomers are welcomed Languages Mandarin, Dari and Pashto	Online Zoom	Mohammad Elyas Saleh (905) 948-1671 msaleh@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP
Cheerful Friends Network Tuesday, September 26 10 am - 12 noon	<i>To build support network, share information, promote social engagement, improve physical and mental health, learn about different cultures, help newcomer seniors to successfully adjust in Canadian society.</i>	Newcomer Seniors Language: Mandarin	In-person Program at York Centre	Sisy Yao (905) 948-1671 syao@tccsa.org WeChat: TCCSAISAP



In-person Program at:
 TCCSA York Centre
 3636 Steeles Ave. E Unit 213A
 Markham ON L3R1K9



Volunteer with us!
 Scan the QR code to complete the online
 volunteer registration.

Funded by: Financé par:



Immigration, Refugees
 and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
 et Citoyenneté Canada

Langstaff Secondary School Paris, Barcelona & Nice May 2 - May 12, 2024



**Information Meeting
Thurs. Sept. 21st, 2023
at 7pm
LSS Library Learning Commons**