



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



News Bulletin: September 9-20

Administration

A Message from your Administrators

Principal:
Sheri Epstein

Dear Families and Community Members:

Vice-Principal:
Janice Bordonali

Welcome to the start of the 2024-2025 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.

Vice-Principal:
Marianne C. Hamilton

STAY CONNECTED



@langstaffss

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!

Important

Dates:

Our Grade 9 Day, on September 3, was awesome! We welcomed approximately 140 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 2028 felt special and the parents who attended could feel the excitement and warmth for which Langstaff Secondary School is known.

Sept. 16
7pm School Council Meeting

Our first School Council meeting will take place at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 16 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.

Sept. 17
Bear Necessities
Camp Day—Green
Acres

Sept. 20
Photo Day

Next week, on September 17, 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.

Inspire Learning!



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Also, on September 26, 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 2025, LSS students are able to attend a field trip to Greece and Croatia. If you and/or your child are interested in going on this amazing travel opportunity, please come out to the information evening on September 26 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

Message from Our Trustee

September 2024

Welcome to the start of the 2024-2025 school year. We are so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning students and families to a new school year.

How Trustees Help

As school board trustees, we have a number of [roles and responsibilities](#), including setting policies and budget and advocating for quality public education. My responsibilities also include communicating with the public. I will continue to keep you informed throughout the school year through these regular newsletters. You can also reach out to me directly. Learn more about [how we can help](#) and [how you can reach me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

You can also stay up-to-date with school board news and events through school communications, social media (X [@YRDSB](#) and [Instagram @yrdsb.schools](#)), our [newsroom](#) and Board podcast [TuneIn YRDSB](#).

Our Priorities as a School Board

One of our responsibilities as a Board of Trustees is also setting the Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This plan outlines the priorities that will guide our work as a school board for the next several years. We want to thank the many students, family and staff members and community partners who shared feedback in the spring that was used to inform the development of the plan. Some key themes emerged in the feedback that families will see reflected in the plan, including a clear focus on student achievement and well-being. We look forward to sharing more with you very soon.

A New School Year

The start of a new school year is a time of transition - whether your child is starting elementary or secondary school for the first time, entering a new program, moving to a new school or beginning a new grade. The caring, dedicated and professional staff members who work in our system are here to help support your child through this transition. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers or the school to speak about your child's transition and the supports that are available.

We also recognize that transitions can take place throughout September. Elementary schools may be required to adjust some classes due to enrollment changes and class size restrictions. In secondary school, schools may also see timetable requests and adjustments in the first few weeks. These are occurrences that happen each fall and schools do their best to be responsive and to minimize the effects of any changes on students.

Partnerships with Families

We value the essential partnership between schools and families and want to ensure that families are aware of the many resources available. Our [family resources page](#), available from the homepage of www.yrdsb.ca, gives you quick access to platforms that we use, tips and information, the [Guide to the School Year](#) and [student learning resources](#). It also includes resources for [newcomers](#), [translation information](#) and much more. We are also working on a dedicated new family portal to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education. To ensure you receive notifications and updates, please make sure the school has your up-to-date email address. If you are not receiving emails, please contact your school to confirm. More information will be shared in the coming months.

I wish you and your family all the very best for a safe, successful and enjoyable 2024-2025 school year, and look forward to communicating with you in the months ahead.

Cindy Liang

Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 3, 5 and 6

School News

September 6, 2024

LANGSTAFF SS

Dear Langstaff SS Families,

As you may know, in 2024, the Ontario Ministry of Education introduced a directive modifying the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms. YRDSB already has [Policy and Procedure 194.0 - Appropriate Use of Technology](#) and many measures around personal mobile devices in place. The changes you may see in September will bring alignment with the new Ministry Directive. The following expectations for students' use of personal mobile devices are outlined in the revised [Provincial Code of Conduct \(PPM 128\)](#), and the York Region District School Board's Policy #668 Caring and Safe Schools.

A personal mobile device is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet or smart watch.

Expectations

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device, how they use it and the consequences of not following the provincial or school board policy.

Students' personal mobile devices must be powered off or set to silent mode, except under the circumstances outlined below:

- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator
- for health and medical purposes
- to support special education needs

Students in secondary school can bring a personal mobile device to school, but will be able to use it only during non-instructional time.

New Practices at School

If an educator sees a personal mobile device that is not turned off or set to silent mode, even after staff reminders, the student may be required to place their personal mobile device in a storage area in a location designated by the educator for the class or period.

Your child may face consequences if they use their personal mobile device inappropriately. Progressive discipline may apply and families may be notified.

Resources:

Families play an important role in teaching children about finding a healthy balance in using technology. You may wish to access the following resources:

- Media Smarts - [Four Tips for Managing Your Kids' Screen Time](#)
- School Mental Health Ontario - [Helping Your Child Manage Digital Technology](#)
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health - [Problem Gambling and Technology Use Treatment Services](#)

For additional information regarding Policy/Program (PPM) 128, please visit the Ministry of Education's [Cellphones and other mobile devices in schools](#) site or the York Region District School Board's website.

Thank you,

Ms. S. Epstein
Principal.

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

Should your student have a planned absence 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.

Student Parking

Langstaff SS has a student designated parking lot, which is on the west side of the school. In order to park there, students must come to the office and pick up a student parking form and have it filled out and signed by their parent/guardian. This form is available in the main office.

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

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. A. Ventrice,

angela.ventrice@yrdsb.ca

Alpha A-M

Ms. A. Sitt

alice.sitt@yrdsb.ca

Alpha N-Z

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.

Guidance News

Volunteer Position

Mon Sheong Foundation Chinese School is looking for volunteers to assist in Chinese School programs.

The mission of **Mon Sheong Foundation Chinese School** is to teach students Chinese language by enhancing their reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, and to foster an understanding and appreciation of Chinese culture.

Time: 8:50 AM to 11:00 AM and/or 11:10 AM to 1:20 PM

Duration: September 2024 to June 2025

No. of Hours: 2 - 4 Hours/Week

Location: H.G. Bernard Public School
245 Bernard Avenue,
Richmond Hill, Ontario

Duties: Assist teachers in classroom activities
Assist with school activities
Enforce school policies

Requirement: Open to students Grade 9 or up
Fully vaccinated is recommended
Regular commitment required
Ability to speak in Cantonese or Mandarin
Have enthusiasm in working with children

Application and
Enquiries:

Please send email to
michellekwan@monsheong.org

*An appreciation letter with your name and number of service hours will be provided by the end of the school year with satisfactory performance.

Do you want to be a VIRTUAL student volunteer for the Canadian Cancer Society? Please see poster attached for more information and how to register. You must register by Tuesday September 17th at 7pm.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K-AOo9CbrbcvQeWsxIOd7ACbIktTHp_o/view?usp=classroom_web&authuser=0

Applications for the 2025 Loran Award are now open!

<https://loranscholar.ca/the-program/resources-for-applicants/?authuser=0>



Fall 2024 is now accepting applications. The program will run on Saturdays from 1-3pm from October 12 to December 21 (10 weeks).

FALL 2024

Apply by scanning the QR code below



Why apply?

Volunteer Hours (40hrs)
IB CAS & Public Speaking
STEAM & Entrepreneurship
Leadership & Team building



@Youth.Champions



Email: Events@thecyc.org

CYC
Canadian Youth Champions



Indigenous Languages and International Languages (ILIL) Program

The York Region District School Board offers language learning for students in the elementary level (SK to Grade 8) and at the secondary level (Grades 9 to 12).

Elementary

The elementary courses are extra-curricular language learning available for in-person or online classes. Classes are 2.5 hours and run once a week between Tuesday to Friday evenings (6:00 PM to 8:30 PM) or Saturday mornings (9:30 AM to 12:00 PM^{*}).

Online registration opens on **Thursday, May 30, 2024**. To attend the full language program in its entirety, be sure to register by **Monday, September 9, 2024**.

* For more information about the elementary program, visit the ILIL [Elementary webpage](#) or scan the QR code:



Secondary

The secondary courses are credit-bearing, running once a week for 3.7 hours. Fall classes are year-long, running once a week on Wednesday evenings (5:45 PM to 9:25 PM) or Saturday mornings (8:45 AM to 12:25 PM).

Fall registration will open in mid-July and will close by the third week of classes.

For more updates and information about the secondary credit program, visit the ILIL [Secondary webpage](#) or scan the QR code:



Please Note:

- All courses offered are subject to enrolment and teacher availability.
- Stacked classes may be created based on registration numbers.
- Not all languages are offered at the elementary and secondary levels.
- Additional fees are required for international fee-paying visa students.

Languages Offered:

Arabic
Cantonese
Dari
Farsi
Filipino
German
Greek
Gujarati
Hebrew
Hindi
Italian
Japanese
Korean
Macedonian
Mandarin (Both)
Mandarin (Simplified)
Mandarin (Traditional)
Mohawk
Punjabi
Ojibwe
Russian
Sanskrit
Sinhala
Spanish
Tamil
Turkish
Ukrainian
Urdu
Vietnamese
Yoruba



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 October 29, 2024

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



www.facebook.com/jfandcs



UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto



United Way
Greater Toronto



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 October 28, 2024

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.

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Register online! www.jfandcs.com



www.facebook.com/jfandcs



UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto



United Way
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 November 6, 2024

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



www.facebook.com/jfandcs



UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto



United Way
Greater Toronto



Ontario



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 the separation process
- Learning strategies for maintaining emotional control
- Becoming a better you
- Creating your own mindfulness toolbox
- Differentiating between the legal separation and the emotional separation



\$60 per person

(sliding scale available)

Tuesday November 5, 2024

9:30 am –2:00 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



www.facebook.com/jfandcs



UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto



United Way
Greater Toronto



Ontario



Successful Step-Parenting

For Couples Living in Blended Families

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 Monday November 18, 2024

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



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