



PARENT BULLETIN

Tel: (905)-294-1886
Email: markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca Website:
<http://www.markhamdistrict.hs.yrdsb.ca>

ATTENDANCE REMINDER

Parents/Guardians are reminded to report all late or absent notices by emailing markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca or calling 905-294-1886, and selecting option 1.
If you do not report the late or absence you will receive an automated call and email after school.
Please respond to every email so that we can update your child's attendance records.

January 25-29th, 2021

Monday, January 25th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #8 Cohort A&B online learning
Tuesday, January 26th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #8 Cohort A&B online learning
Wednesday, January 27th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #8 Cohort A&B online learning
Thursday, January 28th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #8 Cohort A&B online learning
Friday, January 29th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #8 Cohort A&B online learning

February 1st –5th, 2021

Monday, February 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Professional Activity Day-No ClassesDue date for College Applications (equal consideration)
Tuesday, February 2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Credit Conferencing and Rescue Day – More information to follow
Wednesday, February 3rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">First Day of Second Semester ClassesRotation #1 Cohort A&B online learning
Thursday, February 4th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #1 Cohort A&B online learning
Friday, February 5th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rotation #1 Cohort A&B online learning

Message from Guidance

Attention: Gr. 12 Students Applying for College:
A reminder that the due date for College Applications (equal consideration) is February 1, 2021.
If you have any questions, please contact your Guidance Counsellor for support.
Please ensure that your application is submitted (and paid) by February 1, 2021.-Mr. Buie

Message from Computer Science

The **Computer Programming Club** continues to meet every Wednesday after school, virtually.
Please contact michael.berry@yrdsb.ca to be added to the Google Classroom for the club.

We are currently practicing for the University of Waterloo's **Canadian Computing Competition**, to be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

Important Information for Inclement Weather Days

This year, given the importance of adhering to our [health and safety guidelines](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19, schools will be closed to students when an inclement weather day is declared and school transportation is cancelled. Please do not send your child to school when an inclement weather day is declared. Please ensure that you take the time to make plans in the event of an inclement weather day school closure. Student learning will continue on inclement weather days when schools are closed to students. To find out if transportation is cancelled, check:

- [Board website](#)
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- [Student Transportation Services' \(STS\) website](#) or hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- Markham District website
- Radio and TV media outlets

Learn more about inclement weather, and important information for students and parents/**guardians** by visiting the [Severe Weather Conditions webpage](#).

Message from the Yearbook Team

Hope everyone had a Happy Holiday and New Year. This year's Yearbook will include all MDHS students who are participating in the F2F OR SVS.

An email will be sent to your GAPPS email in the weeks to come with further information on how you will be represented in the book.

Graduation photos are still being determined and as a precaution of a chance of them not happening this year, as a team, we will be sending a message to the GAPPS accounts of graduating seniors. In the event that graduation pictures might not be taken this year, we hope all graduates will send a photo for graduation following similar guidelines to ensure cohesiveness. Also, before it's too late, make sure to buy your yearbook.

YEARBOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON SCHOOL CASH ONLINE FOR \$30.

Thank you, Your 2020-2021 Yearbook Team



**Black Foundation of
Community Networks
(BFCN)**

**Scholarship
Application
Workshop**

A FREE online workshop to show Black students and their families how to search, prepare, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. If you are in high school or Grade 8, this workshop is especially for YOU!

**Friday, January 22, 2021
7 PM - 9 PM | ONLINE (Zoom)**

To participate, download Zoom and register via Eventbrite at
bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary22

For more information or to share accessibility needs, contact Cheryl at
info@bfcn.ca or 416-566-2731.

Learn more about our work and how to support at bfcn.ca.

The Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E.) created its Scholarship Program to commemorate the contributions of Rose Fortune (1774-1864) and Peter C. Butler III (1859- 1943) – the first Black police officers in Canada. By awarding scholarships, A.B.L.E. assists Black and visible minority students in achieving their educational and career aspirations.

A.B.L.E. is committed to ensuring that the criminal justice system is reflective of the entire Canadian mosaic, by providing opportunities for our young people to serve, protect, and correct.

This scholarship opportunity is for any graduating students who have been accepted at a designated educational institution. Please see these links for details on the application process, the candidate letter and the selection criteria.

[Application Form](#) [Candidate Letter](#) [Selection Criteria](#)

Application deadline has been extended to March 22, 2021 at 5:00 pm.

For any questions, students may contact the Scholarship & Awards Committee Chair at ablescholarship@gmail.com

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: **(During physical distancing we will be online on Thursdays for all students)**

Tuesdays at Vaughan Secondary School from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm or

Thursdays at Bur Oak Secondary School from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Food is provided

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

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION-WE ARE ONLINE NOW!!!

During this period of physical distancing due to COVID-19, the program will be delivered online on Thursdays only from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm for all York Region students.

The program will continue to offer mentoring, workshops and tutoring.

We are also offering laptops and cellphones to students to support their participation.

School Council Meetings remaining for the 2020/21 school year

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Monday, March 22, 2021 (Sub-Committee Meeting)

Monday, April 19, 2021

Monday, May 17, 2021

All meetings are virtual and begin at 7:00 pm, go to meeting information to follow.
MDHS School (Parent) Council, email contact: markham.dhs@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Grey Tree Frog Apprenticeship Program

Friends of the Rouge Watershed is excited to announce that we will be running our 8th annual virtual **Grey Tree Frog Apprenticeship Program** for local secondary students this March Break! FRW is looking for students from Markham District to participate because your school is located in, or nearby the Rouge watershed and Rouge National Urban Park.

Do you know any high school students who:
Live in Toronto, Markham, Richmond Hill or Pickering?

Are interested in the environment?

Want to take tangible steps to reduce climate change while helping Mother Nature?

Want to explore green careers?

Students get the opportunity to:

- Explore career opportunities in the Environmental Non-Government Organization (ENGO) sector
 - Learn how to overcome environmental challenges through education, leadership, planning, communication, and individual and community action
 - Gain professional skills, including species identification, ecological restoration, outreach, team leadership, and public speaking
- Gain ecological knowledge to combat the local effects of climate change, making our watershed and surrounding communities healthier

Students will earn:

- A personalized letter of reference
- Up to 20 community service volunteer hours

Timeline: 3-Day March Break program with volunteer opportunities through to mid-June

Important Dates: **Application Deadline: Friday, February 19th, 2021 at 11:59 pm**

3-Day March Break Program: March 16-18, 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

To apply, please fill out this short application form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KFCCDSL>

More details: Grey Tree Frog Apprentice (GTFA) programming will take place over 3 days during March Break 2021 with staff from Friends of the Rouge Watershed. In the spring of 2021, apprentices will put their skills to work: apprentices will choose to volunteer at a minimum of 3 weekend events during FRW's spring community stewardship activities from April to June following social distancing and COVID-19 guidelines. At these events, apprentices will help plant native trees, shrubs and wildflowers; lead other volunteers in stewardship activities; help with educational hikes; and talk about local environmental issues and solutions. In June, apprentices will virtually attend a post-program celebration night to present a reflection of their volunteer experience.

For more details, please see the poster below!

Questions? Contact Thivyah at thivyah@frw.ca

Thivyah Siva | Environmental Project Coordinator

HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE WATERSHED'S

GREY TREE FROG APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Are you a high school student who wants to:

- ✓ Help reverse climate change while helping Mother Nature?
- ✓ Gain ecological knowledge and restoration experience?
- ✓ Learn about and enjoy Nature while exploring green careers?

JOIN US THIS MARCH BREAK!

Friends of the Rouge Watershed (FRW) will host the three-day online Grey Tree Frog Apprentice Program via Zoom. Apprentices will receive a scientific introduction to ecology, ecological restoration, climate change, ecosystem decline and environmental problem solving. Apprentices will learn how to overcome environmental challenges through education, leadership, planning, communication, and individual and community action. Apprentices will develop job and life skills and contribute to improved watershed, ecosystem and community health.

Upon completion of the program, students will receive:

- Up to 20 community service hours
- Certificate of completion
- Personalized letter of reference

GREY TREE FROG

APPRENTICESHIP RUNS ONLINE MARCH 16-18, 2021

SPOTS ARE LIMITED!

APPLY BEFORE FEBRUARY 19, 2021 AT

[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/KFCCDSL](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KFCCDSL)

OR CONTACT THIVYAH@FRW.CA

FRW COVID-19 Workplace Health & Safety Protocol

FRW will abide by all government protocols, including physical distancing and limiting the size of events.

COVID-19 spreads from person to person, most commonly through respiratory droplets during close interactions (i.e., within 2 metres). COVID-19 can be spread by individuals who have mild symptoms, or who have not yet or who may never develop symptoms (Government of Canada).

- FRW staff and volunteers will maintain a physical distance of at least 2 metres (6 feet) at all times. If not possible, then FRW staff and volunteers will wear non-medical masks.
- FRW staff and volunteers will wash or sanitize hands at the beginning and end of work activities. FRW staff will provide access to hand sanitizer and soap.
- FRW staff and volunteers will wear gloves when working together in the field.
- FRW staff will sanitize all equipment (shovels, trowels) before and after use.
- FRW staff and volunteers will arrive at the work site / office through independent means of transportation.
- FRW will limit the number of staff and volunteers working and interacting at the same time to an appropriate number as per applicable government guidelines. (A maximum of 5 participants, including staff, are allowed per event as of January 2021).
- FRW staff and volunteers are required to stay home if feeling ill or if showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- FRW will develop sick day policies and work at home policies to enable employees to stay home and in self-isolation when ill, to undergo COVID-19 testing and to care for children of someone who is ill.
- FRW will post signage to discourage anyone who is ill from entering our office.
- A maximum of two people will be allowed in FRW's small office if both are well and wearing non-medical masks which fully cover their mouth and nose.
- FRW will reinforce general practices to maintain physical distancing, such as distance greetings and NO handshakes.

FRW staff will be required to review and agree to this protocol, and pledge to implement this protocol when working with each other and volunteers, to protect the health and wellbeing of all FRW staff and volunteers.

Screening:

FRW will ask staff and volunteers if they are ill (coughing or sneezing) or have any symptoms of COVID-19 before they commit to a volunteer shift. FRW participants will complete the Event Intake and Health Assessment Form prior to joining a session. A screening poster will be printed and shared at events, and FRW staff will complete an on-site participant health screening using the poster. Anyone who answers yes to a screening question or who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, has traveled in the last 14 days or has had close contact with a confirmed case will not be permitted to participate.

Symptoms of COVID-19

Those who are infected with COVID-19 may have little to no symptoms. You may not know you have symptoms of COVID-19 because they are similar to a cold or flu. Symptoms have included: cough, fever, difficulty breathing, pneumonia in both lungs. Symptoms may take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to COVID-19. This is the longest known incubation period for this disease.



Educators for Tamil Student Success of
York Region District School Board

in Partnership with

Technological Advances in Science,
Medicine, and Engineering (TASME)



presents

**An international competition launched in conjunction with
Tamil Heritage Month and Thai Pongal celebrations**

TASME (Technological Advances in Science, Medicine, and Engineering) is a forum that brings researchers, professors and students together to share new knowledge, cultivate innovative thinking, and strengthen collaboration.

We encourage students to participate in this research-based poster competition that fosters ingenuity and creativity, encourages experimentation and teaches critical thinking and problem-solving. The competition is intended for students in Grades 9 to 12 who self-identify as Tamil and is open to all students that may be interested.

Through this competition, participants will also have an opportunity (when requested) to be mentored by a post-secondary faculty or student and to build a network in pursuit of post-secondary studies. The posters will be judged on their merits for prizes and certificates.

At this time, TSME is soliciting proposals (abstracts) from the participants. Proposals will be reviewed and participants will receive an acceptance letter with instructions to proceed.

Timeline

Proposal (Abstract) deadline:	February 5, 2021
Final poster submission deadline:	May 15, 2021
Virtual sharing of competition:	May 29, 2021

Poster [submission](#)

Members in Charge of the Poster Session:

Prof. Nades Palaniyar, Senior Scientist, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada
Prof. Bala Maheswaran, Faculty Member, Northeastern University, Boston, USA
Prof. Nirusha Thavarajah, Faculty Member, University of Toronto, Scarborough, Canada
Prof. Sam Thiagalingam, Faculty Member, Boston University, Boston, USA
Prof. Ampalavanar Nanthakumar, Faculty Member, SUNY-Oswego, Oswego, US

Contact information:

tasme@tasmeconferences.org



Dear Friends,

Now more than ever, we all need help with parenting.

Join us for this 3-part series to learn why children behave in certain ways and the practical strategies to promote good behaviours and manage the misbehaviours.

It is normal to have parenting challenges and help is available for free.

To learn more about Triple P click here: <https://www.triplep-parenting.ca/ont-en/about-triple-p/faqs/>

To register use the link below:

Part 1 – January 25, 2021 starting at 6:30 pm. Join via Zoom from anywhere in Ontario (yes from your couch or bedroom or garage)



Register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/triple-p-causes-of-child-behaviour-and-parent-traps-tickets-136372366419?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

****This is a 3-part seminar. Participation in all 3 dates is strongly recommended.****

Part 2: February 1, 2021- Strategies to Promote Good Behaviour 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Part 3: February 8, 2021- Managing Misbehavior 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

AJ Luo
Triple P Facilitator (She/ Her)
4261 Highway 7, Suite 203
Unionville, ON L3R 9W6
Tel: 905-477-5741 (voice mail only)
Fax: 905-415-9706
www.fsyr.ca

**YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD & SKILLS ONTARIO
INVITE YOU TO AN INFORMATION SESSION ON**

STEM

THE ROOTS OF SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm



We are inviting **ALL** YRDSB parents/guardians of YRDSB Elementary and Secondary students to join York Region District School Board's Pathways Team & Skills Ontario on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm to learn about careers related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as well as initiatives and resources available from Skills Ontario.

GOOGLE STREAM

***Please note:** you will need to log into your child's YRDSB Gapps account to access the online webinar stream. ***Register in advance:** [BIT.LY/YRDSB-STEM](https://bit.ly/YRDSB-STEM)



Revised School Screening Checklist

Every day, parents/guardians and students over 18 are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the [checklist from York Region Public Health](#). This checklist has been recently updated to reflect the Ontario government's [revised COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in Schools and Child Care](#).

Please note that the new screening guide applies to children only and the adult screening has not changed. Thank you for working with us to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



PLEASE COMPLETE BEFORE ENTERING THE SCHOOL

1. Does your child have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms?*



FEVER AND/OR CHILLS
(temperature of 37.8°C or greater)



NEW OR WORSENING COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH



DECREASE OR LOSS OF SMELL OR TASTE

IF "YES":

- Your child should stay home to isolate
- Contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment

2. Does your child have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms?*



SORE THROAT OR DIFFICULTY SWALLOWING



RUNNY NOSE, OR NASAL CONGESTION
(unrelated to seasonal allergies or returning inside from the cold)



HEADACHE



NAUSEA/VOMITING AND/OR DIARRHEA



FATIGUE, LETHARGY, MUSCLE ACHES AND/OR MALAISE

IF "YES" TO 1 SYMPTOM:

- Your child should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started
- Your child may return to school/child care if symptom is improving and they feel well enough (no test is needed)
- If the symptom persists or worsens, contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment

IF "YES" TO 2 OR MORE SYMPTOMS:

- Your child should stay home to isolate
- Contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment

3. Has your child travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Has your child been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Has your child been instructed to stay home and self-isolate?

☐ Yes ☐ No

IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO QUESTION 3, 4 OR 5:

Your child must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days from the date of their last travel or the dates of last contact with a case. Follow the advice of York Region Public Health.

*Children who have an existing health condition identified by a health care provider that gives them the symptoms should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your child's normal symptoms.