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Friday, February 21, 2020

## IMPORTANT RESOURCES

### MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

In an effort to support our students and families in Mental Wellness, please [click here](#) to access an informational document outlining various signs, strategies, and community Mental Health resources. Of course, please always feel free to connect with a Caring Adult at MSS for support, as wellness in ourselves and our loved ones 'takes a village'. This document is also available on our school website under [News & Events](#)

### COURSE SELECTION FOR 2020 – 2021 DUE

Students must have courses for the 2020 – 2021 school year selected and submitted using [My Pathway Planner](#) (myBlueprint) by Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. Parents / Guardians must sign the printed course selection form and have students hand it in to their homeroom teacher during the week of February 24<sup>th</sup>. The [course selection presentation](#) has been added to our website under the News & Events tab. Please contact our Guidance department with any questions.

### LITERACY

In the next four weeks, Markville SS's teachers and the Literacy team are planning to offer Grade 10 students a series of lessons connected to building students' literacy skills. These lessons will center on teaching strategies and formulas for long writing tasks including writing a news report and a series of opinion paragraphs.

On Wednesday, February 19th during period 2, all Grade 10 classes participated in a Literacy Blitz activity around planning and writing a news report. Students were taught strategies to connect their writing to a headline and photo as well as being able to recognize the "inverted pyramid" formula for a news report. Students were given opportunities to practice writing outlines for a news report using this formula. Next week, all our Grade 10's will be given an opportunity to put their skills to use and practise writing a news report in full.

Any Grade 10 student not in a Grade 10 class during these periods have been instructed to access the lessons and activities in the "Markville Google Classroom".

[Click here](#) to view the Literacy Blitz lesson that was presented this week in Grade 10, Period 2 classes. Literacy Blitz lessons will be posted to our [website](#), on the new [Literacy Resources](#) page, under the [News & Events](#) tab.

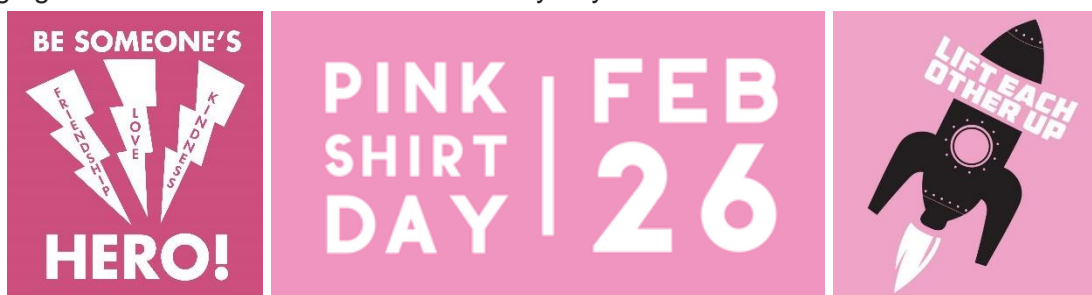
## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

All parents / guardians are invited to attend our School Council meeting coming up on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm in the Library Learning Commons (Room 201).

### **PINK SHIRT DAY**

This year, Pink Shirt Day, or Anti-Bullying Day, is on Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. It is a day when people come together by wearing pink shirts to school or work to show they are against bullying. The focus for 2020 is to “life each other up”. Our ABC+ (Anti-Bullying Club +) will be planning activities and encouraging all students to act with kindness every day.



### **STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTION**

From Friday, February 21, 2020 to Wednesday, February 26, 2020 students in Grades 5 through Grade 11 will have an opportunity to cast their vote to select their Student Trustees for the 2020-2021 school year. Students will be able to vote for two of the four student trustee candidates. Information about the candidates, process and timelines is available on the [Student Trustee website](#). Student trustees represent over 124,000 students in the York Region District School Board. They network with students, staff, and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Information about the Student Trustee Election Process and voting instructions will be emailed to all students directly through their GAPPs account on Thursday, February 13, 2020 and Friday February 21, 2020.

### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH POSTER CONTEST**

In honour of Black History Month, York Region District School Board will be hosting a student poster contest. YRDSB students will have the opportunity to submit an original poster design that centres around the theme of Celebrating Black Excellence. In order to participate, contestants must be a current student of YRDSB and must submit an original design of their making.

Submissions can be made throughout the month of February with voting taking place on social media. The winner will be announced in early March. The winner's design will be used as the official poster for Black History Month at YRDSB in 2021 and the winner will receive a prize pack.

In order to be considered, all submissions must include:

- Student name
- School
- Grade

Please note – any submissions that do not include this information or are submitted by a non-YRDSB student will not be considered eligible for this contest.

All submissions must be made by completing [this form](#) and must be submitted by Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 4:00pm.

Submissions should not incorporate the YRDSB logo in the poster design. It will be added once the winner is selected. Designs can be digital or illustrated by hand and must be a portrait orientation.

Please keep in mind that the submissions must be high resolution as they will be printed. If you have any questions, please email [communications@yrdsb.ca](mailto:communications@yrdsb.ca).

### FEBRUARY ECO THEME – CUT BACK

In the midst of an era of disposable convenience items, it is time to do our part to cut back on our consumption. When reaching for the paper towel, evaluate how much is actually needed and scale back how much you use. Consider bringing a reusable cup or mug when going for coffee or tea – or even better, make it at home and save the extra pennies too! Instead of always going for a new item, consider if you can reuse something you already have.



### TWEET OF THE WEEK



Thank you to our guest speaker. We appreciate your time & wisdom. [#engaged](#) [#Motivation](#) [#realworld](#) [#GoalSetting](#)



### DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

#### MATH DEPARTMENT

In November, the Math department hosted the Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) and the Canadian Intermediate/Senior Math Contests (CISMC). A total of 56 students wrote the COMC and 162 Grade 11 and 12 students wrote the CISMC.



The Math department would like to recognize Grade 11 student, **Arthur Bright**, for his outstanding achievement on both the COMC and CSMC. Arthur earned the top score on both contests at Markville. His impressive score for the Canadian Open Math Challenge placed him in the 98.97<sup>th</sup> percentile of all contest participants. Arthur has qualified to participate in the Canadian Mathematics Olympiad, which is the top national level competition, taking place in March 2020. Congratulations Arthur!

Several other Markville students had impressive results for the COMC, scoring in the top 10% of all contest participants: Max Jiang (95.85<sup>th</sup> percentile), Balaji Venkatesh & Jason Zhang (93.78<sup>rd</sup> percentile), Kevin Guo (92.61<sup>nd</sup> percentile) and Edward Zhou (91.34<sup>st</sup> percentile).

The following students also scored in the top 25% for the COMC:

Arthur Chen, Xiaoyu Cai, Michael Ding, Haobo Sun, Michael Zhou, Samuel Yang, Jun Wen He, Jinran Zhu, and Jiahua Huang.

In the Canadian Intermediate/ Senior Math Contest, the following students scored in the top 25% of all contest participants:

Intermediate (Grades 9/10): Max Jiang, Ryan Zhu, Harry He, Elliott Cheng, Ming Gao, Maxwell Li, Andy Wei, Adrian Wu, Ethan Dam, Kailyn Shao, Andy Wu, Richard Yang, Jim Wu, Rosana Gao, Jiahua Huang, Jenson Cropley, Ningfeng Diao, John Liu, and Nima Pourjafar Dehkordi,

Senior (Grades 11/12): Victor Liu, Haobo Sun, Michael Zhou, Kevin Guo, Jason Zhang, Just In Li, Jason Li, Zi Huang, Arthur Chen, Shawn Hu, Jonathan Lin, Timothy Chan, Damien Ho, Boris Lam, Balaji Venkatesh, Michael Ding, Carol Li, Jessie Wong, Joy Wu, Michelle Zhang, Edward Zhou, Xiaoyu Cai, Emily Liang, Yixin Lu, Daniel Xiao, Ernest Zhang, Yanrong Chen, Bill Li, Selina Qiu, Sophie Xu, Jennifer Ying, Yi Xuan Zhang, Uvil Dahanayake, Marjorie He, Jun Wen He, Jordan Shao, Jason Wang, and Frank Wang

Congratulations to all students who participated in the fall Math contests!

Registration for the Fryer (Gr 9), Galois (Gr 10), Hypatia (Gr 11) and Euclid (Gr 12) Math contests is available through [cash online](#). The deadline to register for these contests is FRIDAY MARCH 6.

### **LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS**

On Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, students participated in Markville's second annual Lunar New Year Celebrations. A small committee of students planned and ran the event under the supervision of Ms. Mathura-Matos and Ms. Sheriff.

During third and fourth periods, the committee organized activities for all students to participate in. These activities included "Guess the Riddle" and "Learn How to Write Your Name in Chinese", but the most popular event was bubble tea. Many students lined up to purchase a cup of bubble tea, choosing either the mango flavoured, or the majority's favourite, panda flavoured tea. One dollar of every cup sold went towards a donation to the Markham Food Bank. Markville Secondary School was able to deliver a cheque of \$205 to the local food bank. Students were proud to share the spirit of prosperity associated with the new year with our greater community.

In addition to this, a variety show which took place after school was the main attraction of the day. In many Asian countries, it is typical to celebrate the New Year with a variety show, showcasing songs and dance; and Markville's variety show was not short of either! Performances included solos, duets, and groups singing Chinese pop songs and ballads; instrumental performances, including Chinese traditional instruments such as the lute and guzheng; a dance routine while simultaneously playing the violin; and an entertaining yo-yo routine.

A student and one of the organizers, Thomas Huang, commented that "it was great when I got to celebrate the Lunar New Year with the whole school. Also, it is my final year at Markville, so it was a fantastic memory".






## Upcoming Events

DATE	School News	Student Life	Arts	Sports & Clubs	Academics
MONDAY, FEB. 24 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Council Meeting (7:15pm – 8:30pm) in the Library</li> </ul>				
TUESDAY, FEB. 25 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relay University (7:45am – 2:30pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pascal / Cayley / Fermat University of Waterloo Math Contests (8:00am – 9:30am)</li> <li>George Brown Campus Visit (8:30am – 2:30pm)</li> </ul>				
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literacy Blitz #2 – Period 1 (8:20am – 9:35am)</li> <li>Michael Smith Science Challenge (12:00pm – 1:00pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club – OFSAA (5:30am – 5:00pm)</li> <li>Junior Girls Volleyball (3:30pm – 5:30pm)</li> <li>Semi-Formal</li> </ul>				
THURSDAY, FEB. 27 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SHSM CPR / First Aid</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rock Climbing Tournament (9:30am – 2:30pm)</li> </ul>				
FRIDAY, FEB. 28 <sup>th</sup>					

Looking for Volunteer Opportunities? Come visit the Guidance Office, or check out these helpful links:

	<a href="#">Student Volunteer Opportunities</a>		<a href="#">Volunteer Opportunities</a>
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Lunch Time Tutoring – Library Learning Commons, Mondays and Wednesdays – Periods 3 and 4  
 After School Tutoring – Room 345, Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00pm – 4:00 pm

If you have any questions, please email your child's vice-principal: [michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca](mailto:michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca) for students with surnames A – LIM, or [kathy.mcalpine@yrdsb.ca](mailto:kathy.mcalpine@yrdsb.ca) for students with surnames LIN– Z

Please visit our website at <http://markville.ss.yrdsb.ca>

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