Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin InspireLearning!





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Please keep in mind any information provided in this bulletin is subject to change and is accurate at the time of distribution.

Library Spotlight



On Wednesday April 20th, Markville's Library Learning Commons hosted an all-day film festival to help students celebrate Canadian National Film Day in partnership with REEL Canada. Classes attended throughout the day and enjoyed watching a number of Canadian short films, both animated and live action. All the films shown were created by Canadian Indigenous directors / creators.

After viewing the films, students had the opportunity to deconstruct the messages shared through the short films and discuss the significance of Indigenous directors/actors/writers being represented in film. Of course a film festival would not be complete without popcorn, games and prizes.





donated to us by **Cineplex Markham** VIP theatre which fed over 200 students throughout the day! Overall, it was a great event that the students and teachers

seemed to enjoy.



Message from Guidance

COURSE SELECTION & SUMMER SCHOOL

In-Person Learning – Secondary Summer School

• Traditional summer school is being offered at nine locations: Aurora HS, Keswick HS, Langstaff SS, Richmond Green SS, Tommy Douglas SS, Westmount CI, Markham District HS, Milliken Mills HS, Pierre Elliott Trudeau HS - these last 3 schools are closest to MSS.

Summer School courses are not taken at Markville

• Students are required to attend daily from **8:45 a.m. to 3:33 p.m**. with scheduled breaks and a lunch break.

In-Person program offerings:

O Acceleration courses

- § Full credit course, 18 days: Wednesday July 6 to Friday July 29
- § Compulsory and electives (ex. ENG4U1)
- § English as a Second Language (ESLDO1, BBI2OL)

• **Credit Upgrading courses** (note – new info since Tuesday's email)

§ 9 days S1 - July 6 to July 18, S2 – July 19 to July 29

§ For students who were successful in the credit (ex. S1 - MTH1W3, S2
- MTH1W4)

§ <u>Credit Upgrading FAQs</u>

§ Please note that IF a full course is available and a student is in need of foundational knowledge for future success in next level courses, the full course is advised

O Reinforcement courses

 $\$ 9 days S1 - July 6 to July 18, S2 – July 19 to July 29

§ For students who were previously unsuccessful *and recommended for reinforcement (credit recovery)* (ex. S1 - MTH1W5, S2 - MTH1W6)

IMPORTANT: **S1 = Session 1, **S2** = Session 2. These Sessions ONLY apply to 9 day courses - **Credit Recovery** and **Credit Upgrade**. If a student is choosing two 2-week courses, they must ensure that one is Session 1 and the other is Session 2~

Online Learning

- Courses are specifically designed to be taught in a fully online format.
- Classes occur online using an asynchronous model. Students are able to access course content at any time. In addition, daily synchronous real time check-in opportunities with the teacher are provided.
- Online Learning program offerings include:

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- Acceleration courses
- § Full credit course, 18 days: Monday July 4 to Wednesday July 27
- § Compulsory and electives (ex. ENG4U1)

Remote Learning – International Languages only

• Remote learning classes will occur in a virtual environment, using a *synchronous* model. Students are required to attend daily at prescribed times.

• Remote Learning will run from 8:45 a.m. to 3:33 p.m., with scheduled breaks and a lunch break.

Remote learning offerings:

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Acceleration courses

§ Full credit course, 18 days: Wednesday July 6 to Friday July 29
§ Languages offered: Spanish, Simplified Mandarin, Farsi (ex., Spanish LWSBD1)

International Students can access four-week programs in all models at a reduced rate of \$500 and two-week programs at a rate of \$250. Fee paying students will be contacted in July for payment.

Summer School REGISTRATION

*Students must sign up for In-Person or Online learning summer school through myBlueprint (Continuing Ed tab in their high school pathway planner).

*Only one 4-week course OR a maximum of two 2-week courses can be taken during the summer. Special exceptions are provided for graduating students only (Dual Credit).

*Students MUST fill in the **Google Form** below to ensure that Guidance has all information, as well as Guardian permission. Confirmation of permission via this form replaces submitting a sign-off sheet.

Google form to be completed in addition to

myBlueprint: <u>https://forms.gle/zBTz9PfmYnYVFWzKA</u>

*If for some reason a student is unable to complete a compulsory course in summer school, it is the student's responsibility to connect with Guidance at the beginning of the new school year to ensure they have the course added back to their timetable - all efforts to do so will be made. Information on how to do that will be sent to students at that time.

Please take a look at the YRDSB Continuing Education Website for more information regarding summer opportunities.

https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/2022-summer-learningopportunities

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION

Reminder that students accepting an offer from **OCAS** (Ontario Colleges), must accept by **May 1st**. **OUAC** (Ontario Universities) offers must be accepted by **June 1st**. The latest upload to OCAS occurred on April 22nd, and will occur on OUAC on April 28th. At this time, Semester 2 Midterm marks will be visible to Post-Secondary institutions. **Full Disclosure**, where a course remains on a transcript, is **May 9th**.

Please Note: We have yet to send out information regarding the Ministry's TWO Mandatory eLearning credits for current Gr 9 & 10 students, because we do not yet have any information

provided by the Government. At this time, we are only aware that Gr 10 students are being granted 1 credit as a result of COVID time learning. We have been told that information will be coming out to families via a letter from the Ministry in May. This information should provide direction on how a student may opt out of this requirement, as well. Once we have more information, we will communicate this to Guardians and students.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Your Guidance Team~

School Notices

Upcoming Dates

Apr. 22	Earth Day
Apr. 28 - May 2	Midterm Reports e-Distribution to Parents/Guardians
May 5	National Day of Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)
May 30	School Council Meeting
June 16-17	Grade 9 EQAO Math

OSSLT Grade 10 Upcoming Dates

End of April to May Test Dates and Format - TBD



Peer Tutoring



Do you need extra help with your courses? Are you looking for a dedicated peer to help you stay focused and motivated with course work? Markville's Peer Tutoring Club is back and ready to support YOU!

Students can **drop-in** when help is needed or request for a **weekly 1-to-1 peer tutor**. Peer tutoring sessions will be **in person**, **after school Monday-Thursday from 2:40-3:40 pm. Starting Wednesday April, 27th**

To request a **1-to-1 peer tutor**, students must submit this application form:

<u>bit.ly/1to1peertutor</u>. Students will receive an email confirmation of their peer tutor match once the request is processed.

No application is needed for **drop-in** peer tutoring—just join via Zoom when you need help! **See schedule and Zoom links below**.

All Peer Tutoring information including sign up form, schedule, and Zoom links can be found at <u>bit.ly/msspeertutorinfo</u>.

Tweet of the Week





Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Every year in Ontario, the first week in May is acknowledged as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week; this year it will fall on May 2-6, 2022. In recognition of this important week, at YRDSB, we are planning a variety of classroom daily activities, increasing awareness through our social media platforms as well as working with our community partners to build awareness about children and youth mental wellness through webinars and workshops. Over the course of the pandemic the need to support children's mental health has been amplified. There are several definitions to Mental Health; the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum highlights the holistic ways of understanding mental health and wellness. A balance of the mental, physical and emotional enriches one's daily lives, their hope for the future which in turn provides a sense of unity to themselves, families and communities. In addition, <u>School Mental Health Ontario</u> (SMHO) explains mental health as a dual continuum. Similar to our physical health, there are days where we might not feel mentally well. This can include our children, families and communities. SMHO reports that 70% of people indicated their first mental health concerns emerged when they were a child or an adolescent. Each year, one in five Canadian children and youth experience significant mental health challenges. Think of your average class size, this may mean many students can have mental health impacts in which support can be beneficial.

We continue to strive towards foundations laid out in the <u>Director's Annual</u> <u>Plan</u>, which highlights the goal of building safe, healthy and inclusive learning and working environments where all feel they matter and belong. We strive to build on the notion of Acknowledging, Bridging and Connecting (<u>ABCs of mental health</u>) and create actions to support this framework.

In this edition of our Newsletter, we would like to share a video by <u>Strong</u> <u>Minds Strong Kids Psychology Canada</u> titled <u>"Supporting Teen</u> <u>Resilience: What Adults Need to Know"</u>. This video showcases an open panel discussion with high school students and registered psychologists, Dr. Chantal Regis with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Guelph, and Dr. Michael Saxton who maintains a practice working with children and youth in Ontario. They discuss the resiliency, intensity of emotions, intersecting identities, vulnerability children and youth encounter as well as key strategies for adults to enhance young people's mental wellness. This video highlights some important factors to keep in mind:

• Taking Time to Foster Strength - Dr. Regis explains that caring adults can hold

a safe space for youth by displaying listening skills, curiosity, and practicing open body language which symbolizes signs of caring adults. By doing so, caring adults can help facilitate dialogue with our children and youth to talk about their feelings, understanding that children's emotions and thoughts are amplified during brain development. For example, an adult may say to a child, "I see this is not making you happy, how are you feeling now?" Sometimes the use of colours can help children explain their emotions.

• Creating a Care Plan - Setting boundaries and taking time for YOU is essential

as mental health is experienced across a dual continuum. Ask yourself, what does care look like for me? What one small thing do I need to feel cared about? Who is my support system that is identity affirming? What motivates me to care for myself? Who can I trust to share this care plan with? For some, this can include journaling, going on a walk, mindfulness, deep breathing, connecting with their roots and identities, being in identity affirming spaces, connecting with their loved ones and so on. Check out: My <u>Circle of Support Pocketbook-Student Help Seeking Resource</u> by School Mental Health Ontario.

Additional Resources:

<u>YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page</u> <u>SMHO Parent/Family Page</u>

Upcoming Workshops:

<u>CMHA 2022 Mindful Compassion</u> - Wed, May 2nd , 2022 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm EDT

For more additional workshops visit <u>York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and</u> <u>Families website.</u> We look forward to creating pathways for caring connections and meaningful relationships with parents, caregivers, and families. Share your voice by using this <u>feedback form</u>, and let's pave the path forward together.

Mental Health COVID-19 Page

As we focus on keeping ourselves healthy and containing the spread of COVID-19, we must also keep ourselves mentally well. The link below is dedicated to supporting student mental health during this Pandemic. Resources for students, parents/guardians as well as community resources are listed. In addition, there are various links to YRDSB mental health

support as well as community support. Please consider taking some time to familiarize yourself with the supports found on the <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Mental Health Supports for Students and Families</u> webpage.

Continue to check out the <u>YRDSB website</u> for updated information as well as the Twitter account <u>@MH_YRDSB</u>.

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Spring into Spring - April 2022

The sun is shining, the birds are chirping, and the

flowers are in bloom - spring is here! It's a great time to get outdoors and get active! Remember to dress for the weather!

Spring into Spring is a walking and wheeling event that is celebrated in the month of April. Students are encouraged to use active travel to get to school or anywhere within the community. Walking and wheeling to school helps students to be physically active and allows them to connect to the earth by seeing plants and animals that arrive in the Spring. It also helps to reduce their ecological footprints.





You can participate in Spring into Spring by walking or wheeling to school. Visit <u>Ontario Active School Travel</u> for resources, activity ideas and participate in the contest for a chance to win prizes.

Share your stories by tagging @YRDSB, @OntarioAST and @YorkRegionGovt in your posts. Use the hashtags #SpringintoSpring #SiS2022 #JourneyOutside #walktoschool

Earth Day April 22th, 2022

Earth Day is an annual worldwide event celebrated on April 22. Earth Day is a time to reflect on our habits and consider making small changes to our routines. Do your part to keep the Earth clean by using Active School Travel to get to and from school!

We are all stewards of the Earth and as such, it is our responsibility to be aware of how our actions affect the environment, including ways that we can make a positive impact. Driving your vehicle, even for short distances, requires a lot of energy, which contributes to the burning of fossil fuels, creating pollution and sending greenhouse gases into the air we breathe.

For those who are unable to walk or cycle to school every day, you could choose an active mode of travel two or three times a week. You can also consider parking a short distance away from the school and walking a block or two to decrease the pollution around the school playgrounds.

Happy Earth Day!