

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

InspireLearning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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October 22nd, 2021

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

Student Activity Council (SAC)



This week was an eventful one for Markville students. On Wed Oct 20, Markville celebrated its 31st birthday! In honor of this special occasion, SAC planned games and prize giveaways during lunch. Balloons and streamers and upbeat music made for a fun and festive atmosphere. Students got a chance to take photos in the Birthday Photo Booth and to write messages on a Birthday Message Wall. Happy 31st Markville!

Message from Guidance

FAMILY NIGHT WEBINAR SERIES: Thank you to the families that attended the *OYAP/Apprenticeship* webinar on October 13th - fantastic turnout! A special thank you to our guest speaker, Kim Vrensen, for the excellent information provided. The slide deck can be found on the Guidance website on the [Family Night Webinar Series](#) page.

The next Family Webinar evening will be on **November 8th @ 6:30** (a Monday for this one!), where Guidance will discuss all things **College and University**. This webinar is geared towards Gr 11 families, however any grade may attend. Guidance will also provide a Webinar on **Wellness** on **November 24th @ 6:30**. As always, the links to these events will be available just prior to the event on the Family Night [Agenda](#).

Grade 12 students will be delivered a Guidance presentation on November 8th @ 3pm, to walk them through their college/university applications. Please see the [Post-Secondary Planning topics](#) for additional upcoming events.

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION: OUAC/OCAS PIN/OEN #s have been distributed today to student GAPPs accounts. Students may use the information to create their college and/or university accounts. PIN & OEN are required for [OUAC](#) applications; OEN is required for [OCAS](#) applications.

Reminders of upcoming events that occur while we are on Break next week:

- **The Canadian College and University Fairs: October 22nd-23rd, 2021.** Pre-register @ <https://ccuf.ca/>. Explore post-secondary options, finance your education, or prepare for your career.
- **OUAC Fair: [Next event](#) -Tuesday, October 26, 5-8 pm**
- **Information Session for students and parents** interested in the skilled trades and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) - **Wednesday October 27th @ 7pm.** Please register @ www.bit.ly/OYAP_OPENHOUSE, and see the [flyer](#) for more information

The Break is a wonderful opportunity to **arrange virtual or campus visits** for Gr 11 and 12 students!

Have a safe and restful MSS Break:)
~Your Guidance Team

Take Our Kids To Work Day

Take Our Kids to Work Day – November 3, 2021

All Grade 9 students will be invited to take part in the national initiative, Take Our Kids To Work, on Wednesday November 3rd. Grade 9 students will not be in school on this day. They will be encouraged to engage in either virtual or in-person job shadow opportunities with a parent/guardian, family member or neighbour **OR** livestream and self-guided virtual activities designed by the Board to explore the world of work. A consent form will be sent to student Gapps accounts. Parents/guardians will complete the consent form to indicate which option their child will be participating in. Please refer to the letter that has been sent to Grade 9 families for additional details. Feel free to contact the main office if you have any questions or concerns.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

On **Wednesday, November 3rd from 8:30 - 9:00am**, we will be holding a virtual assembly for all Grade 11 students and non-graduating Grade 12 students regarding

the upcoming Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This assembly will take approximately 30 minutes and will familiarize our students with the new test format, sample questions, and timings. Please note we are still in the process of determining who the non-graduating grade 12 students are and how to arrange for these students to receive the information from the assembly. We just wanted you to have this information sooner rather than later for planning purposes as this assembly takes place right after the break.

A Google Meet link will be sent out prior to the assembly.

School Notices

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 25 - Oct. 29	Mid-Semester Break
Nov. 3	Take Our Kids To Work Day (Please see letter sent)
Nov. 3	OSSLT Virtual Assembly (8:30-9:00am)
Nov. 8	Indigenous Veteran’s Day
Nov. 10	School Council Forum (5:30-8:30pm)
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 12	Term 1 ends

K-12 Cyber Awareness Month



Welcome to **Week 3** of the four-week K-12 Cyber Awareness Month (CAM) campaign, running from **October 4 to 29, 2021**.

This year’s campaign theme, **“Cyber awareness as self-care”**, has the objective of helping everyone in K-12 education – teachers, staff, students and parents – be safer and more secure online. The campaign provides resources to help everyone

understand pertinent cyber threats and know a few simple steps to protect themselves, their workplace, learning space, and their devices.

The campaign is divided into weekly themes which highlight different aspects of cyber security, online privacy and online (cyber) safety, as all three areas are of equal importance to K-12. For each weekly theme, resources from multiple reputable sources are provided.

All listed resources are also available in [French](#).

October 18 to 22, 2021

Week 3: Care for your personal information – it is valuable!

It is more important than ever to protect our personal information.

With personal devices, smart devices and the internet becoming a routine part of our lives, as we use them to work, learn, exercise, entertain ourselves and socialize, it is more important than ever to protect our personal information and teach our kids to develop habits that will make it part of their day-to-day routine. Like how children learn to be safe outdoors, children need to learn to be safe online.

Topics and tips for Week 3 include:

Access the embedded links to find out more (links will take you to different websites):

- [Protect your personal information](#) as it is valuable to you but also cybercriminals.
 - [How to protect yourself from identity theft](#)
 - [Tips for protecting personal information](#)
 - [Quick privacy tips for parents](#)
 - [Privacy pursuit – Games and Activities for kids](#) (NEW)
- Familiarize yourself with the terms and conditions of applications you use as some may be sharing your personal information with third-party organizations.
- [Avoid phishing attempts](#) and [online scams](#).
 - [The 7 flags of phishing](#) and the [most common forms of phishing](#)
 - [How to shop online safely](#)
 - [How to use online banking securely](#)
- [Stay safe on social media](#) and do not overshare personal information.
- Maintain privacy while online and [gaming](#).
- Review and update [privacy settings](#) and make it a habit.

Videos

The CAM videos created by ECNO and the Ministry of Education are perfectly tailored to be played on school hallway/atrium TVs. With simple yet effective animations, and close captions/subtitles embedded into the videos, they can easily be played on repeat with no sound distractions. They can be found at the below links:

[Week 3 – Care for your personal information, it is valuable with Niimi](#)

Stay tuned for **Week 4: Be mindful of your online presence and digital footprint!** on Monday October 25th.

YRDSB Communications

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: YORK REGION SCREENING AND TESTING UPDATES

Friday October 15, 2021

With the support of the COVID 19 vaccine and other public health measures, everyone has been working together to help keep our schools and child cares safe and we are greatly appreciative of your collective efforts.

It remains critically important to continue to screen your children for symptoms each day to avoid bringing COVID-19 into the schools and child cares and to test them when required. Screening and testing help control the spread of COVID-19. Even if you or your child is fully vaccinated, you must continue with daily screening and testing if you or your child have one or more COVID-19 symptom.

Screening update

To provide parents and guardians with more options to screen , including the ability to share results electronically and complete screening in multiple languages, **effective Monday, October 18, 2021** York Region Public Health will require students, parents and guardians to use the provincial [COVID-19 school and child care screening tool](#).

The provincial screening tool was updated on Friday October 1, 2021 to **reiterate the need to stay home if you are sick with any COVID-19 symptoms**. This information was previously missing, suggesting children with mild symptoms like runny noses and sore throats were permitted to

attend school. This change brings the provincial [COVID-19 school and child care screening tool](#) in line with the York Region school and child care screening requirements.

Students, parents and guardians will still be able to access the [link to the tool](#) through the York Region [Staying Safe at School](#) webpage. All staff and students must self-screen for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 **every day** before attending school or child care. Even if you or your child is fully vaccinated, you must continue with daily screening and testing if you or your child have one or more COVID-19 symptom.

MILD SYMPTOMS

As a reminder, anyone experiencing symptoms, including mild symptoms not included on the provincial screening tool (e.g., runny nose, sore throat, etc.) should **NOT** attend school or child care. If your child has mild symptoms not listed the screening tool, they can return to school or child care once their symptoms have improved for 24 hours. If your child does have symptoms listed on the screening tool, or their symptoms get worse, they are required to have a PCR COVID-19 test or stay home for 10 days.

SIBLINGS AND OTHER CHILDREN LIVING IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD

York Region Public Health has specific instructions for children living in the same household to further reduce the chance of transmission within schools and child care centres. This means:

- If your unvaccinated child is identified as a close contact and is required to isolate (e.g. exposure in a classroom cohort), unvaccinated children living in the same household must **NOT** attend school or child care for the duration of the contact's isolation period. Fully vaccinated children living in the same household can continue to attend school as long as they do not have symptoms listed on the screening tool.
- If your fully vaccinated child is identified as a close contact (e.g. exposure in a classroom cohort), they are not required to isolate and can return to school as long as they do not have any symptoms of COVID-19. All children living in the same household can continue attending school or child care as long as they do not have symptoms listed on the screening tool.

Keeping COVID-19 transmission low in the community is important to help

prevent the introduction of the virus into schools and child care centres. We continue to encourage everyone who is eligible to get [fully vaccinated](#) with two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you are eligible. Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses.

For general information about COVID-19 including symptoms, location of Assessment Centres in York Region and other resources, please visit our website at york.ca/covid19 or call Access York at 1-877- 464-9675.

Testing update

To increase access to testing for students, children, school/child care staff, essential visitors and their families, York Region Public Health is partnering with Ontario Health (Central), York Region District School Board (YRDSB) and York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) to offer **drop-in community based COVID-19** testing at two sites in York Region, in addition to the [COVID-19 Assessment Centre](#).

Drop-in testing will be available for students/children, school/child care staff, essential visitors and their families, ages two years and older, who are symptomatic or who have been identified as a close contact (e.g., are part of a dismissed cohort) or for those with no known exposure or symptoms can receive a COVID-19 test.

Testing will be offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in October and November. Testing options will include PCR saliva and nasal swabs, which will be used at the discretion of the clinician performing the test. Testing is voluntary and consent will be required from parents or guardians for students under 18 years of age. These sites are walk-in and do not require booking an appointment in advance.

Please note, rapid antigen testing will not be available at these testing sites. Rapid antigen testing should **not be used** when an individual is symptomatic or has been identified as a close contact of a case.

WHEN AND WHERE WILL TESTING BE OFFERED?

George Street Public School 115 George Street, Aurora, ON Wednesdays and Thursdays 2:00pm.- 7:00pm.		St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic High School 2 Davos Rd, Woodbridge, ON L4H 2Y1 (Portables) Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 pm. – 7:00pm.	
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	For individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 or close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19	3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	For individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 or close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case

	case			
5:15 pm - 7:00 pm	For individuals with no known exposure or COVID-19 symptoms	5:45 pm – 7:00 pm	For individuals with no known exposure or COVID-19 symptoms	

What to bring with you: Individuals/families are strongly encouraged to bring their valid Ontario Health (OHIP) card(s) to increase easy accessing of results (you can still get tested if you do not have one) and a face mask or covering, to be worn at all times.

For saliva testing: Participants should be well hydrated by drinking a **cup of water 60 minutes before giving** a sample. Participants can **NOT** eat, drink, smoke, vape or chew gum **30 minutes prior** to giving a sample.

You will be able to access your COVID-19 test result online at covid-19.ontario.ca, but please keep in mind it may take several days for your results to be processed.

Keeping COVID-19 transmission low in the community is important to help prevent the introduction of the virus into schools and child care centres. We continue to encourage everyone who is eligible to get [fully vaccinated](#) with two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you are eligible. Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses.

We all have a role to play to keep York Region schools and child cares as safe as possible. Sincerely,

York Region Public Health

PUBLIC HEALTH

1-877-464-9675

TTY 1-866-512-6228

york.ca/SafeAtSchool





NACCA

est.2018

PRESENTS A 2 PART WORKSHOP VIA ZOOM 

Navigating Secondary School

SESSION 1: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021 7PM-8:30PM

"Thinking with an end in mind" Post-secondary Pathways Planning

SESSION 2: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2021 7PM-8:30PM

Understanding and Navigating System Practices in Ontario Secondary Schools

AUDIENCE:

Parents/Caregivers of African Canadian students in Grades 7 – 11, Black students

NACCA presents a 2 Part Workshop via Zoom for parents/caregivers of Black students & Black students in Grade 7-11.

Session 1: October 22nd

Session 2: November 26th

Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/navigating-secondary-school-tickets-179576838157>

Tweet of the Week



Markville SS

@Markville_YRDSB



Hey Mav's!! Fall break is just one day away!



3:43 PM · Oct 21, 2021 · Twitter Web App

2 Likes

