

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

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Principal: Anthony Hu
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Vice-Principal: Mark Melnyk (Ling-Z)



October 20th, 2023

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

Principal's Message

Dear Families and Community Members,

As we wrap up the first eight weeks of the semester, the long awaited October Break has arrived. It's been a very busy first half of the semester with classes, school events, field trips, as well as extra-curricular clubs and athletics well underway. As World Teachers Day recently took place on October 5, we recognize the contributions of our teachers both inside and outside the classroom. In particular we recognize their time, commitment, and contributions leading a myriad of extra-curricular opportunities for students which contribute to the vibrant student life we have here at Markville Secondary School.

Looking back at the month of September, grade 9 students, TAC mentors, and staff supervisors spent the day at Camp Green Acres on September 12. Grade 9 students participated in a variety of activities, made new friendships, and enjoyed a delicious BBQ lunch.

During the week of September 25 to 29, we recognized the impact of the Residential School System in Canada on Indigenous Peoples which included wearing an orange shirt on September 29. That week, there were also Terry Fox Week activities including: 'Terrygrams', School Wide Grade Walk, Terry Fox Buy-In Run, and the Terry Fox Fair.

And on October 2, the annual Clubs Fair took place in the large gym which was planned and hosted by SAC. All students had the opportunity to learn about and register for a variety of extra-curricular opportunities in the school.

As communicated to all families yesterday, Markville Secondary School's School Council Executive for the 2023/2024 school year is:
Co-Chair: Ms. Naline Ali

Co-Chair: Mr. Ian Turner
Treasurer: Ms. Vincci Zheng
Secretary: Ms. Sarah Ali

Please note the School Council Meeting dates for the school year:

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

October Break is taking place next week and as a result there will not be any classes between October 23-27, 2023. Students and staff will return to regular classes on Monday, October 30, 2023.

For those who are planning on wearing a costume on Halloween, please note the following:

- In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, it is important that costumes do not trivialize and devalue the lives of Indigenous peoples in Canada.
- Costumes should be respectful of others. Symbols or objects representative of a person's race, culture, ethnicity, or religious beliefs, should not be worn as another person's costume, nor should costumes that caricature social identities through stereotyping.
- No Halloween masks are to be worn.
- No replica weapons of any kind are allowed.

We are excited to celebrate Halloween again with our second annual Staff Halloween Costume BINGO. On October 31, students who would like to participate can pick up a BINGO card in the atrium of the school which will include a list of staff who are wearing costumes. Students can find staff members listed on the card who will stamp their card. When students have completed at least two rows/columns/diagonals, they can come to the main office with their BINGO card to receive an amazing Halloween prize!

On behalf of the administrative team of Markville Secondary School, I would like to wish all students, families, and staff a safe, restful, and enjoyable October Break. We will see everyone back at school on October 30.

Warmest Regards,

Anthony Hu
Principal
Markville Secondary School

OSSLT

October 19, 2023

Dear Families,

As per the Ministry of Education, students are required to work towards the literacy graduation requirement by participating in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC) in order to earn a high school diploma. The York Region District School Board has decided that previously eligible Grade 11 and 12 students, and all grade 10 students will write the OSSLT during the month of November, 2023. Students who are unsuccessful on the test this Fall will have another opportunity to write in the Spring of 2024.

All grade 10 students will write the test with their period one homeroom class and teacher, over 2 days, between **November 9 - November 30, 2023** in the school library. The previously eligible grade 11 and 12 students who did not write the test or were unsuccessful last year will write the test (both sections) in one continuous sitting on **Wednesday, November 8, 2023** in the school library. Students who are taking the OSSLC (course) do not need to write the test. The test will begin promptly at 8:25 am. Please note that students who are not writing the literacy test will attend their regular classes on these days. Students receiving special education support will be provided with the necessary accommodations, as per their IEP, for this provincial assessment. ALL students are entitled to extra time.

We encourage students and parents/guardians to visit EQAO's website ([eqao.com](https://www.eqao.com)) where you will find a [practice test](#) to help you become familiar with the test.

If you have any questions, please contact the main office at 905-940-8840 or the VP in charge of the OSSLT.

We wish all of our participating students much success on the Fall administration of the Ontario Secondary Literacy Test.

Sincerely,

Barb Caravella, Vice-Principal

barbara.caravella@yrdsb.ca

Peer Tutoring

Message from Peer Tutoring and Student Success

Are you stressed about tests and assignments? Are you looking for extra help with your courses? Maybe you need help with your homework, or studying before a test? Don't worry, Markville's **Peer Tutoring Club** is back and ready to support YOU!

Peer Tutoring will start **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6**. Sessions will be offered during **lunch** and **after school**. Students can drop-in as needed and/or request a weekly 1-on-1 peer tutor. **No application form is needed for drop-in students.**

To request a **weekly 1-on-1 tutor**, submit an application at bit.ly/msspeertutee2023. Look for the Peer Tutoring posters around school and follow [msspeertutoring](https://www.instagram.com/msspeertutoring) on IG for updates!



Message from Guidance



MSS Mental
Health Resource

This is a mental health resource that will appear in the E-Bulletin weekly that was created by past and present Markville students.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zxvp0ngpV22ikM7Fow2FNIMxX2wErCF5/view?usp=sharing>

Markville Guidance Website Wellness Page:

<https://sites.google.com/gapps.yrdsb.ca/markvilleguidance/wellness>

School Notices

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 20	PA Day
Oct. 21-22	Ontario Universities' Fair @Metropolitan Toronto Convention Centre
Oct. 23-27	October Break (no classes)
Oct. 31	Halloween
Nov. 1	Take Our Kids to Work Day/Take Our Grade 8s to High School Day

YRDSB Communications



Youth Gambling Awareness Series

This workshop series offers educational prevention sessions to parents and caregivers. Participants will engage in learning on gambling awareness, including potential risks, making informed decisions and healthy and active living.

We welcome all parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these free virtual sessions!

November 7, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Game Bling: When Gaming Meets Gambling

This session explores unconventional forms of gambling available to minors, the signs of problem gaming and gambling, and explores the potential risks of these activities. Parents will learn strategies on how to help your child make safe and healthy decisions and information on community support services will be provided.

November 14, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Gambling, Money and Decision Making: Financial Literacy and Gambling

This session discusses items of value used by youth to bet with, and analyzes factors leading them to participate in games of chance to make money. Financial risks of gambling will be explored while providing safety tips and information on community support services.

November 21, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Media Impact

This session will explore the increased youth exposure to gambling-related content on social media platforms while providing media safety tips for parents as well as information on community support services.

November 28, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Stigma and Gambling

This session will define stigma associated with gambling while providing factual knowledge and awareness to support a compassionate approach to reducing stigma and facilitating an open dialogue. Information on community support services will also be shared.

Register Now For These Free Sessions Today!



These free information sessions are organized by York Region District School Board in collaboration with YMCA of Greater Toronto Youth Gambling Awareness Program (YGAP).

For more information please feel free to contact: Oksana Majaski, Community & Partnership Developer at oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca or 416-568-2252.



level up! Ontario 

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Introducing Level Up!, the Ontario-wide, multi-day career fair events that bring together the best in skilled trades professionals.

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Event Format

Daytime (9 AM - 4 PM):
large-scale career fairs, offering students access to ~100 interactive exhibits and information about pursuing a future in the skilled trades

Evening (6:30 PM - 8:30 PM):
intimate events targeting parents, including insights from skilled trades and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program representatives

To register today, visit LevelUpOntario.ca/schools.