

# Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin



## Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

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**Principal:** Anthony Hu

**Vice-Principal:** Barbara Caravella (A-Lin)

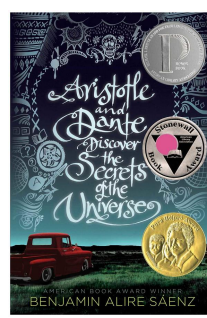
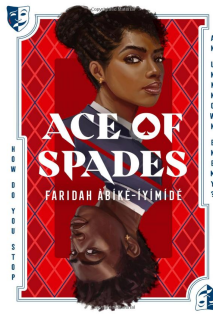
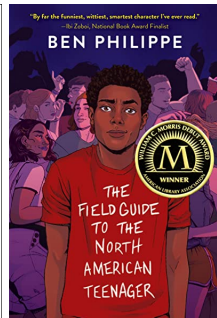
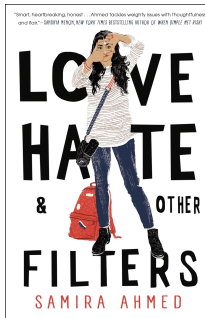
**Vice-Principal:** Mark Melnyk (Ling-Z)



**September 8th, 2023**

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

## Grade 9 English Spotlight



Dear Markville Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are feeling great about starting the school year. The Markville English Department is excited about the upcoming semester, and especially looks forward to meeting all of our new students. Over the summer, big changes were made to the Grade 9 English Curriculum; the Applied and Academic courses have been consolidated into one course, called Grade 9 Destreamed English (ENL1W). The 'new' course maintains the high standards of reading and writing development that Markville English has always championed, and allows teachers to specialize in explicit and systematic literacy instruction.

The instructional changes have been implemented due to globally sourced data which demonstrates that students perform at higher levels when given clear developmental steps and more time to master skill sets. As such, we are prolonging the formative learning time to provide students more opportunities to practice and develop skills. There will be four summative assessments per class that make up 70% of the overall grade. Each student will complete an Independent Study Project worth 30% that is designed to showcase their skill


development. We encourage all Markville students to complete at least 30 minutes of focused reading as a daily practice; studies show this is the fastest route to mastery in all areas of literacy.

Feel free to review the Ministry of Education Guides for Families, below, for more detailed information. I also recommend '[Sold A Story](#),' a New York Times podcast which explores why educators around the world are moving back to evidence-based teaching strategies.

Warmly,

Lara Bozabalian  
Department Head, English  
lara.bozabalian@yrdsb.ca

[Vision and Goals of ENL1W](#) 

 [Key Changes to the Curriculum](#)

 [Sold A Story Podcast](#)

## Message from Guidance

A reminder to all families that Guidance hosts several **Family Night Webinar Information Sessions** for Guardians each year. For your convenience, these sessions are virtual, and allow for families to enable Closed Captioning in a preferred language. **Our first Webinar takes place on September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm.** This Webinar is a great one for Grade 9 families, and families new to Markville. The **Agenda** and instructions on setting up the Closed Caption feature, can be found [here](#). Guidance will post the link to the Webinar on the Agenda just before each presentation. For families who miss the event, the presentation is posted afterwards to our [Family Night Webinar page](#) of our Guidance website. "See" you soon!



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

This week, the Markville Nutrition Program started where all students will have access to healthy snacks in the morning (usually between 8:00 – 8:15am), and during period 3 lunch. The breakfast club has student volunteers that help with setup and cleanup.

School breakfast and snack programs are critical to student health and well-being and ensures students have the nutrition they need throughout the day to learn.

All students are welcome to participate and help themselves to a healthy snack.

### Upcoming Dates

Sept. 22	PA Day
Sept. 25-29	Terry Fox Week
Sept. 30th	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

### Grade 9 Camp Day

On **Tuesday September 12<sup>th</sup>** grade 9 students will be a part of the ultimate orientation experience: **The Maverick Games, hosted at Camp Green Acres** in Markham. They will participate in various team and leadership building activities led by TAC mentors and camp staff. Following the “Challenge by Choice” model, students are encouraged to participate in all activities to their personal comfort and challenge level. **Grade 9 students are strongly encouraged to wear their “CLASS OF 2027” t-shirt that they received on Grade 9 orientation day!**

Students need to arrive at school for the regular 8:20 start and will go to their period 1 classes. Homeroom teachers will bring their classes down to load onto buses to be ready to depart from the school to Camp Green Acres around 8:45 am. Students will return to school by the end of the school day and will be dismissed at the usual 3:00 pm end time. **At this special event, lunch will be provided** (students completed a Google Form in homeroom class to select their food choice).

For students who are **not** participating in the trip, please be advised that there will **not** be regular Grade 9 classes as teachers are supervising the field trip. Supervision will be provided for any student who comes to school and we ask that they bring class work for independent use throughout the day. **If you choose to keep your child home please remember to call the school.**

**Please note that the program is outside – rain or shine, so students should plan and dress accordingly.** MSS staff and TAC mentors can't wait to see our Grade 9s at the 2023 Maverick Games!

# YRDSB Communications



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

September 2023

*YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel*

## **First Day of a New School Year!**

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2023–2024 school year! We are happy to see all of you.

At YRDSB, we are committed to fostering a positive and supportive environment where mental health is prioritized and nurtured. Together, let us create a school community that embraces mental wellness, celebrates diversity, and supports one another on this incredible journey of education and personal growth.

We acknowledge that many feelings and emotions accompany the start of a new school year for students, parents and educators. From excitement to nervousness, anxiety to joy and everything in between. Whatever feelings and emotions accompany your child(ren) or family, know they are valid, important and okay. Talking to your child(ren)

about their first day feelings can be a great way to encourage conversation about experiences and emotions all year long!

In this edition we will focus on the firsts of the new year- new school, first drop-off, kindergarten or high school.

Creating a routine at the beginning of a new school year offers predictability and consistency and can be helpful to children, parents and teachers! Building skills to take care of our feelings as we go through the new year can happen at any time. Asking questions about your child(ren)'s day such as " What did you feel walking into your classroom?", "How do you know you're feeling happy when you see your friends?", "What made you feel excited/hopeful/worried about today?" can help normalise the feelings of each day.

We want to use the start of the year as a reminder to [take care of yourselves](#) throughout the year, and to know that if challenges arise we can [solve problems](#) together. We want all of our students to know that there are caring adults that will help them navigate all that this year may bring. When students feel supported and cared for by those around them, they are better able to engage in new learning and embrace new opportunities.

We are better together. Looking forward to a year of learning, discovery, and joy alongside you.

**Supportive Resources:**

[Mental Health Resources in York Region](#)

[YorkHills Here to Help Line](#) (905-503-9561)

The Here to Help Line is a free service available to children/youth (0-18 years) and their parents/caregiver/adult supporters. Monday to Thursday from 2:00pm-7:00p.m

[Family Services York Region](#) (905-895-2371)

Virtual walk in is operated on a first come, first serve basis, and can be accessed once per month. Virtual appointments can be 15 minutes to 1.5 hours long depending on your specific needs. Monday, Tuesday, Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page](#)

Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#).

### **Free Community events:**

#### **Parents**

York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

- September 11, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Triple P Seminar #1 – The Power of Positive Parenting](#)
- September 13, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Teen Triple P Seminar #2 – Raising](#)

#### [Competent Teenagers](#)

- September 18, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Triple P Seminar #2 – Raising Confident Competent Children](#)
- September 19, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Understanding ASD Learning Styles and Effective Teaching Strategies](#)
- September 20, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Teen Triple P Seminar #3 – Getting Teenagers Connected](#)

- September 25, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Triple P Seminar #3 – Raising Resilient Children](#)
- September 27, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Promoting Resiliency in Teens- Triple P](#)

## **Students**

York Services Support Network

- Single Session Counseling
  - [Tuesdays in September – 9:30 – 10:30 am](#)
  - [Tuesdays in September – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm](#)
  - [Thursdays in September 11:00 am– 12:00 pm](#)
  - [Thursdays in September 12:30 – 1:30 pm](#)
- To keep up with other offerings: [YSSN Events](#)

## **Families**

PFlag

- [Coffee Night](#), held every second Monday of the month, is a safe space where members of the LGBTQ2 community, their friends, family or allies can come together.
- [Online Registration](#)

This edition of the Newsletter was written by the Student Mental Health and Addictions Strategy Implementation Team 2023-2024, inclusive of YRDSB School Social Workers Afsaneh Zafarani, Kate Phillips and Peter Reid.

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## Community Events



# FREE ANNUAL PASS

## AGES 14-25

Between 14 and 25 years old? Get a full year of unlimited access to the Art Gallery of Ontario and all special exhibitions for FREE!

Email [annualpass@ago.ca](mailto:annualpass@ago.ca) or call 416 979 6648 Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm and Saturday – Sunday, 10 am – 3 pm.

317 Dundas St. W, Toronto ON



<https://tickets.ago.ca/events/AGO-Free-Annual-Pass>

## 25 and Under FREE

Individuals 25 years and under can enjoy free admission. Visitors 18 - 25 years must show valid ID to claim their pass.



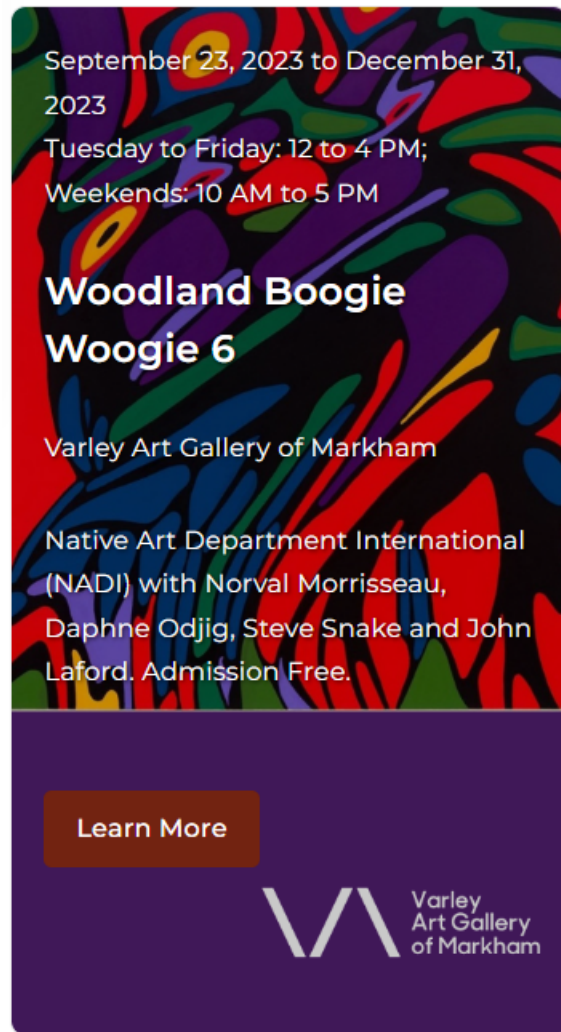
September 10, 2023 to October 8, 2023  
10:00am - 11:00am

### Historic Unionville Walking Tour

Millennium Bandstand

Enjoy a FREE Guided Walking Tour along Unionville's picturesque Main Street with the author of Historic Unionville – a Village in the City on September 10th, September 24th, and October 8th. Reserve your spot today.

[Reserve Your Spot](#)




September 23, 2023 to December 31, 2023  
Tuesday to Friday: 12 to 4 PM;  
Weekends: 10 AM to 5 PM

### Woodland Boogie Woogie 6

Varley Art Gallery of Markham

Native Art Department International (NADI) with Norval Morrisseau, Daphne Odjig, Steve Snake and John Laford. Admission Free.

[Learn More](#)

 Varley Art Gallery of Markham

<https://unionville.ca/things-to-do/events/>