

Northern Highlights



Community Update

Week of September 11th, 2023

School Address

40 Bridgenorth Dr, Aurora ON, L4G 7S6

Phone Number

905-727-4224

Principal: Matthew Biemiller

matthew.biemiller@yrdsb.ca

Vice Principal: Saira Phatale

saira.phatale@yrdsb.ca

Elementary Office Admin. Assist.

diane.oreilly@yrdsb.ca

Diane O'Reilly

Superintendent: Deborah Joyce

deborah.joyce@yrdsb.ca

Trustee: Bob McRoberts

bob.mcroberts@yrdsb.ca

DATE	ACTIVITIES	UPCOMING
Monday Sept. 11th Day 5		Sept. 15th-17th - Rosh Hashanah Sept. 21st - Terry Fox Sept. 26th - Terry Fox Rain Date Sept. 22nd - PA Day Sept. 24-25 - Yom Kippur Sept. 30th - Orange Shirt Day Oct. 9th - Thanksgiving Oct. 10th - Photo Day Oct. 20th - PA DAY
Tuesday Sept. 12th Day 1		
Wednesday Sept. 13th Day 2		
Thursday Sept. 14th Day 3		
Friday Sept. 15th Day 4	Rosh Hashanah Begins	

INFORMATION & UPDATES

THANKS FOR A GREAT FIRST WEEK: It was a pleasure to welcome students and families back to school this week. It is so wonderful to have the hustle and bustle back in the hallways! Students and teachers are already hard at work creating collaborative classrooms and engaging in our beginning of year learning activities!

BOOK OF FORMS: This week, the Board has sent an email to all families with a link to a Google Form to complete the start-up forms. The form will include: the Start-Up Permission Form (mandatory), a Student Information Consent Form (mandatory), a Request for Faith Accommodations Form and a School Council Nomination Form. **Student GAPPS login information** will be required for families to complete the forms. Please contact the school office if you require printed copies of these forms. Please note this is also where you indicate your child's lunch preferences.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR CHILD AT SCHOOL: Please help us as our partners in supporting student safety. We must respectfully ask that if you wish to communicate with your child during the day, you report to the office rather than approaching your child outside on the tarmac at recess. When you come to the office, we can facilitate having them brought down to meet with you or arrange to have them speak with you on the phone. Photos/videos of your child/children should also not be taken at school in order to respect the privacy of all other families whose children may be caught in the photo. Thank you for your continued support in helping keep all students safe.



DROP OFF/PICK UP ROUTINES: Parents please note that students are encouraged to walk to school, when possible. If you are driving your child/children to school in the morning, please drive to the end of the Kiss and Ride loop that continues all the way around to the west side of the parking lot. Once your child/children are out of the car a staff member on duty will direct students to the appropriate

location. **Please note, there is no parking in the loop as we would like to keep traffic flowing slowly through the Kiss and Ride.**

STUDENT ABSENCES/EDSBY: If your child(ren) will be absent from school, please ensure that you enter their absence in EDSBY. You can call in your child(s) absence using the automated INFORM system, (905) 727-4224 before the start of school. Please specify the correct reason for the absence. If the absence is coded as “approved absence”, the school office will be calling home for further clarification. In the notes section, you may also provide further details for example: funeral, illness, medical appointment, etc.



REVISED GRADE 1,2,3 AND 6 SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULA: The Social Studies curricula for Grades 1, 2, 3 and 6 have been revised to include increased learning on the perspectives, experiences, and contributions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples, communities and nations. They also include learning on residential schools and the impacts of colonialism. Mandatory implementation of these curricula will begin September 2023 and is now available for families and educators to view on the Ministry website. Please see the following [link](#) for parent information related to changes in the curriculum related to each specific grade.

LOCKS FOR LOCKERS: Students who have lockers must use a proper, school-approved combination lock (Dudley lock with numbers only). If you require one, locks are available for purchase for \$5.00 on School Cash Online.



SCHOOL LUNCH ASSISTANTS: We are looking for responsible and compassionate community members to work at NLPS as School Lunch Assistants. This position requires you to work for one hour each day during the school week (12:35 - 1:35, Monday to Friday). The rate of pay is \$17.00/hour. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact the school office in person or by phone at 905-727-4224.

KIDS KITCHEN: Kids kitchen will be offering lunches at Northern Lights on Mondays beginning Monday September 11th. IF you are interested in ordering lunch for your child(ren) please view the following [link](#) for menu options and visit www.kidskitchen.ca for information and registration.

SEPTEMBER 22nd 2023 PA DAY AGENDA:The Minister of Education has made it policy for schools to share their PA Day plans with parents/guardians within the community. Schools will be closed to students on September 22nd for school based staff to engage in professional development. Please see the agenda below which outlines professional learning for school based staff for the day.

Length: Half Day - AM For All Elementary Schools

Topic 1: Student Well-being, School Safety, and Violence Prevention

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board staff. Facilitated by School Administration.

Description: School teams will engage in compliance training including:

- occupational health & safety;
- student safety and violent incident prevention;
- training on supporting student mental health and well-being; and
- understanding cybersecurity and online privacy.

Length: Half Day - PM For all Elementary Schools

Topic 2: Literacy/Mathematics Instructional Strategies

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board staff, self-directed and/or group-directed grade/division groupings.

Description: 2 Learning Modules

Literacy: Kindergarten to Grade 8 educators will participate in a module providing an overview of literacy in YRDSB, an orientation to the new Ontario Language curriculum, Early and Emergent Reading Instruction, Universal Design for Learning, Equitable Assessment, and Screening Tool information.

Math: Kindergarten to Grade 8 educators will participate in a module on the nine High Impact Instructional Practices identified by the Ministry of Education and their connection to our board's Comprehensive Math Program.

***INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS**

MEDICAL PERIL/ALLERGIES:

Any families that have a child with a medical peril (e.g. anaphylactic allergy, asthma, epilepsy, diabetes) are asked to complete the appropriate form below and return it to the office as soon as possible.

- [Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan](#)
- [Asthma Health Care Plan](#)
- [Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)
- [Epilepsy Seizure Disorder Health Care Plan](#)

