

# Northern Highlights



## Community Update

Week of December 18th, 2023

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 Trustee: Bob McRoberts [bob.mcroberts@yrdsb.ca](mailto:bob.mcroberts@yrdsb.ca)

DATE	ACTIVITIES	UPCOMING
Monday Dec. 18th Day 1	<b>NLPS Spirit Day</b> Jr. Girls Volleyball Practice - am recess	<b>Dec. 22</b> - December (Winter) Solstice <b>Dec. 25-Jan. 5th inclusive</b> - Winter Break <b>Dec. 25th</b> - Christmas Day <b>Dec.31st</b> - New Year's Eve <b>Jan. 1st</b> - New Years Day <b>Jan. 7th</b> - Eastern Orthodox Christmas <b>Jan. 8th</b> - Classes Resume <b>Jan. 19th</b> - PA DAY - No Classes for Student <b>Jan 19th</b> - Registration for Kindergarten FI Begins
Tuesday Dec. 19th Day 2	<b>Crazy Hat Day</b> Jr. Boys Volleyball Practice - am recess Lego Robotics Club - lunch recess Jr. Boys Volleyball Game NLPS vs Poplar Banks @ NLPS 3:30-4:30	
Wednesday Dec. 20th Day 3	<b>Beach Day</b> The Creativity Club - Grades 6-8 - am recess Jr. Boys Volleyball Practice - am recess Int. Boys Basketball Intramural/Tryout Lunch Recess	
Thursday Dec. 21st Day 4	<b>Block Colour Day</b> The Journal Group- Grade 6 - am recess Jr. Girls Volleyball Practice am recess Sub Lunch	
Friday Dec. 22nd Day 5	<b>Pajama &amp; Loungewear Day</b> Pizza Lunch Last Day for block 2 Pizza Lunch Orders	

### \*INFORMATION & UPDATES\*

**WINTER CONCERT APPRECIATIONS!:** We would like to extend a big thank-you to all of our performers and families who were able to attend our Winter Concerts on Thursday. We would like to thank all of our classroom educators for their work with the students in preparing for this event! We would like to particularly recognize our planning team of Ms. Brandon (Band), Ms. Rinaldi (Kindergarten Team) and Ms Bressel (Choir) for their leadership in making the Winter concert a memorable occasion for our students and families, as well as to our additional staff members who volunteered their time to support this event: Mrs. Crichton, Ms. Turney, Ms. McGeorge, Mr. Higgins, Ms. Street and Ms. Payne. Finally, we would also like to extend our thanks to our amazing, hard working caretaking team for all the work they do behind the scenes to make our school events a success.



**SPIRIT WEEK:** Our Student Council is pleased to share that the final week before the break (December 18-22) will be Spirit Week! Students are encouraged to show their school spirit in the following ways:

- **Monday: NLPS Spirit Day!** Come dressed in school colours (light blue, dark blue, gray or white) Or wear some NLPS spirit wear clothing if you have it!
- **Tuesday: Crazy Hat Day!** Pick a hat, any hat! The crazier the better!
- **Wednesday: Beach Day!** Channel warm thoughts and come dressed for the beach!
- **Thursday: Block Colour Day!** Wear an outfit that is all one colour!
- **Friday: Pajama Day!** We will be practicing for the Winter Break with some relaxation wear for our final day of classes.





**FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION NIGHT AND REGISTRATION:** French Immersion (FI) registration will begin January 19, 2024, and as such, we wanted to take this opportunity to share updated information. Our YRDSB **French Immersion Information Night will take place on January 18, 2024 at 7 p.m, at Devin’s Driver Public School.** Please visit the [FSL page](#) for more information about the information night and French Immersion registration. Our senior kindergarten families can also access our [French Immersion Newsletter](#) for more detailed information. More information about registration will be available in January.

**WINTER WEATHER INFORMATION:** Students are expected to come to school [dressed appropriately for the weather conditions](#) and outdoor play. Parents sometimes request their children be kept indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Please note that we do not have supervision for students to remain inside in these instances. Students with illnesses serious enough to prevent them from participating in normal school activities - physical education, recess or other outdoor activities - should remain at home until their condition improves.

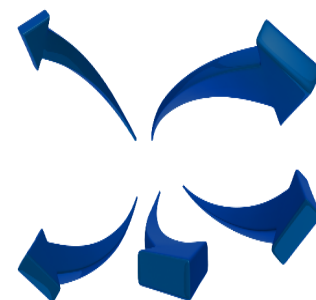


**TRANSPORTATION CANCELLATIONS AND SCHOOL CLOSURES:** While we are committed to keeping our schools open on every instructional day to meet the needs of students and the community, there may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions occur and we may need to close all schools and Board locations. We encourage families to have plans in place in the event of an emergency school closure. Additional information regarding the YRDSB response to severe weather is [available here](#).

**STUDENTS CAN NOW EXPLORE SECONDARY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES BY SECTOR:** A new collection of webpages will let students explore [16 different career sectors](#). Please help share this information with intermediate and secondary school students.

These sector pages were developed in response to student feedback and will help students learn more about the options available to them, including:

- secondary school courses and programs that let students explore their interests and gain skills and experience in each sector
- career opportunities in a variety of pathways
- additional links and information



All of our secondary schools offer a variety of courses, programs and opportunities that let students gain skills and experience, explore their interests and plan for the future.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:** Kindergarten registration for the 2024/2025 school year begins on **Friday, January 19, 2024.** Families can register their children for kindergarten using the following options:

- Online - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten) registration. It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.
- By email - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten) and email the completed form to their school email address.
- By phone - Families can request support to complete the registration form on their behalf by collecting the required information by phone. Families can request an interpreter, if needed.
- In-person at the school - Families may visit the school office to drop off or complete a registration form.



**STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS INTO SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024:** Information for families regarding student transfer timelines and processes are included in the following [linked attachment](#). The attachment also includes information about which Secondary Schools are open to out of area student transfers.

**STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS NEWSLETTER:** Student Mental Health and Addictions is pleased to provide monthly newsletters that focus on various pertinent mental health topics. Please click on the following [link](#) to access the January newsletter.



**ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM DISCOUNT:** If you are looking for family activities over the Winter Break, consider making a trip to the Royal Ontario Museum! The Royal Ontario Museum is offering 15% off the price of general admission tickets with the following [coupon](#). Please remember to print or download this coupon onto your phone to avoid disappointment when planning your trip to the museum.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY PLANS FOR FRIDAY JANUARY 19th, 2024:** Please note all YRDSB schools will be closed on Friday January 19th, 2024. On this day, teachers and other educators in the building will be engaged in learning activities that focus on reporting and ongoing communication regarding student achievement and well-being. Please refer to the outline below for more information regarding the upcoming PA Day.

**Length:** Full Day

**Topic:** Report Card Preparation, Reporting to Parents, Ongoing Communication

**Entity Hosting:** All Elementary Schools

**Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s):** Teacher/DECE

**Description:** Full Day of Professional activities focused on reporting to parents and ongoing communication regarding student achievement and well-being.

**\*INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS\***

**BLOCK 2 PIZZA LUNCH ORDERS:** The Second Block of Pizza for Pizza Lunch Fridays will be available to purchase from Monday, December 4th until Friday, December 22nd on School Cash Online. Please remember to place your orders within these three weeks as we will not be able to accommodate late orders. Block 2 Pizza dates are: **January 12 & 26 / February 9, 16 & 23 / March 1, 8 & 22, 2024**



**SUB LUNCH:** Thursday Sub Lunch will continue in January & February with Subway providing the sandwiches. School Cash Online will open on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> to place orders. Orders may be placed until Monday, January 1, 2024. A reminder that late orders will not be accepted. Thursday Sub Lunch dates are: **January 11, 18 & 25 / February 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29.**

**EQAO RESULTS:** Last year, our Grade 3 & 6 students completed the EQAO in late May and early June. Our students performed very well exceeding both the board and provincial average in all areas of the assessment. Overall school results are available through the [EQAO website](#).

**LITERACY NIGHT RESOURCES:** We were very pleased to welcome so many families last week for our Primary Grades Literacy Night Event! The resources that were shared that evening are now posted on our school website and are available through [this link](#)!

