

Northern Highlights



Community Update

Week of December 4th, 2023

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DATE	ACTIVITIES	UPCOMING
Monday Dec. 4th Day 1	Jr. Girls Volleyball Tryout - am recess Jr. Boys Volleyball Practice - lunch recess Int. Band Practice - Woodwinds - lunch recess School Council December Meeting at 6:30pm	Dec. 14 - School Concert Dec. 18-22 - Student Council Spirit Week Dec. 25-Jan. 5th inclusive - Winter Break
Tuesday Dec. 5th Day 2	Gr. 2 students in Ms. Walter's and Ms. Tindale's classes to VORC Jr. Girls Volleyball Tryout - am recess Int. Band Practice Brass and Percussion - lunch recess	
Wednesday Dec. 6th Day 3	Gr. 2 students in Ms. Harris' and Ms. Paienda's classes to VORC Jr. Girls Volleyball Tryout - am recess The Creativity Club - Grades 6-8 - am recess Jr. Boys Volleyball Practice - lunch recess Jr. Choir - (lunch recess) Student Council Meeting - lunch recess Int. Band Practice - after school	
Thursday Dec. 7th Day 4	Gr. 5 students in Ms. Chen's and Mr. Higgins' classes to VORC Jr. Boys Volleyball Practice - am recess The Journal Group- Grade 6 - am recess Sub Lunch	
Friday Dec. 8th Day 5	Gr. 4 students in Ms. Chao's class to VORC Primary Skating 8:45-12:45 Grade 8's attend concert at GW Williams (9:00-1:30) Intermediate Boys Volleyball Regionals Pizza Lunch	

INFORMATION & UPDATES

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES! It is with mixed emotion that we share the departure of our School Secretary Luciana Saade as of Thursday December 7th. She will be moving to a new position within our school board. Please join us in congratulating and wishing her well in her new assignment. We would like to welcome Ms. Lisa Lewis to the position and to our school community, Ms. Lewis will be with us for the remainder of the school year.

SKATING: Our Primary Division enjoyed our first skating trip this week. Skating will continue for the **next two, Fridays, December 8 and 15, 2023.** We would like to thank all of our parent volunteers, as well as our intermediate student leaders who assisted us with this event who helped with tying skates and supporting our new skaters on the ice. A great time was had by all. A reminder to please send your child's skates and helmet to school the day the trip before where possible, and ensure that your child arrives on time and properly dressed for the weather. We will proceed with our skating events unless there is an inclement weather day where buses were canceled or if extreme weather occurs. Please understand that we are not able to accommodate requests for additional skates or equipment received the day of the event. Please reach out to your child's teacher well in advance of the trip if you need access to these materials.



WINTER CONCERT NIGHT: Mark your calendars! The NLPS Winter concert will take place on **Thursday December 14th.** The concert for Kindergarten Families will occur at 2:00pm in the afternoon, during the school day. Our primary students (who are participating) as well as our Jr. Choir and Intermediate Band will have their concert beginning at 6:00pm in the evening. Please stay tuned for further details from your child's teacher.

HOLIDAY CANDY GRAMS: The Holiday Candy Grams are back at NLPS! The Grade 8 students are selling Candy Grams next week to support the Grade 8 Graduation. The cost to purchase a Candy Gram is \$1.00 each. Students from grades 3-8 are invited to come to the main hall at morning recess every day to purchase a Candy Gram and write a message to a special friend. Sales will run all week from Dec 4th until Dec 8th. Candy Grams will be delivered to classrooms the last week of school before the winter break.



PRIMARY LITERACY NIGHT: We would like to thank all of our families who attended our Primary Literacy Night held on Thursday November 30th. We had a wonderful turnout for our event and so appreciate your support as patterns in your child's learning. We would also like to extend our thanks to our staff who attended the event, as well as to Ms. Bressel and Ms. McGeorge for their leadership of this evening!

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.**

DECEMBER MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE:

I hope everyone has had a good start to the school year and is looking forward to the winter break ahead.

As I have been visiting schools and attending events, I continue to be impressed by the professionalism and dedication of school staff, the commitment and support of families and the curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm of students. As a Board of Trustees, we continue our commitment to delivering a high-quality education, this also includes striving to create safe, caring, inclusive and respectful school environments where students feel valued and supported.

I want to thank everyone who attended the school council forum held in our area and helped to make the event such a success. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together school council members for an evening of shared learning and discussion. School councils play such an important role in our schools, and we are grateful for all that they do to support students, family engagement and schools.

While we are not yet at the midway point in the school year, many students and families are already looking to the school year ahead, visiting [secondary school open houses](#) and starting to think about [course selections](#) for next school year add a link to my pathway planner. All our secondary schools offer a variety of courses, programs and opportunities that let students gain skills and experience, explore their interests and begin preparing for the future. Those opportunities are now even easier to explore.

Students can [search from 16 different sectors](#) that interest them, including STEM, Arts, business, manufacturing and many more to discover how they can earn credits, gain experience, skills and certifications in those areas. Visit www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb to learn more.

One of our roles as a Board of Trustees is to regularly review Board policies to ensure they are relevant, reflect our mission and values as an organization, and meet the needs of our students. An important part of that process is collecting feedback from the community. [Learn more on the Board website](#) about how you can share your input and see what policies are currently being reviewed.

I want to take this opportunity to thank families for their patience while we work to restore services following [network outages](#) as a result of a cyber incident, and to acknowledge the work of our staff who continued to deliver high quality public education and to restore services.

As we head into December, I also want to wish you a safe and enjoyable winter break. There are many significant dates for different faiths and cultures during this time of year, and to all those celebrating, I wish you a happy and joyous celebration. I hope everyone has an opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming you back in [January](#).

Melanie Wright

Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville

