

# Northern Highlights



## Community Update

Week of January 22nd, 2024

School Address: 40 Bridgenorth Dr, Aurora ON, L4G 7S6  
 Phone Number: 905-727-4224  
 Principal: Matthew Biemiller [matthew.biemiller@yrdsb.ca](mailto:matthew.biemiller@yrdsb.ca)  
 Vice Principal: Saira Phatale [saira.phatale@yrdsb.ca](mailto:saira.phatale@yrdsb.ca)  
 Elementary Office Admin. Assist.: Diane O'Reilly [diane.oreilly@yrdsb.ca](mailto:diane.oreilly@yrdsb.ca)  
 Superintendent: Deborah Joyce [deborah.joyce@yrdsb.ca](mailto:deborah.joyce@yrdsb.ca)  
 Trustee: Bob McRoberts [bob.mcroberts@yrdsb.ca](mailto:bob.mcroberts@yrdsb.ca)

DATE	ACTIVITIES	UPCOMING
Monday Jan. 22nd Day 5	Jr. Boys Volleyball Practice - am recess Intermediate Band Practice - Woodwinds - pm recess Silver Birch Book Club -pm recess	
Tuesday Jan. 23rd Day 1	Int. Boys Basketball Practice - am recess Jr. Girls Volleyball Practice - pm recess Intermediate Band Practice - Brass and Percussion - pm recess	Jan. 27th - International Holocaust Remembrance Day Jan. 29th - National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack
Wednesday Jan. 24th Day 2	The Creativity Club - Grades 6-8 - am recess Int. Girls Basketball Practice - am recess Jr. Boys Volleyball - pm recess Robotics Practice Grades 4-8 - pm recess Student Council Meeting - pm recess Int. Band Practice - after school	Jan. 30th - Jr. Boys Volleyball Area Tournament Jan. 31st - Graduation Photos February - Tamil Heritage Month Feb. 1st - Jr. Girls Volleyball Area Tournament
Thursday Jan. 25th Day 3	The Journal Group- Grade 6 - am recess Jr. Girls Volleyball Practice - am recess Sub Lunch Int. Boys Basketball - pm recess Robotics Practice Grades 4-8 - pm recess	Feb. 2nd - PA Day Feb. 5th - School Council Meeting 6:30 pm Feb. 10th - Lunar New Year May 16th - Immunization clinic at NLPS for Intermediate students
Friday Jan. 26th Day 4	Junior Boys Volleyball Practice - am recess Pizza Lunch Intermediate Girls Basketball Practice - pm recess	

### \*INFORMATION & UPDATES\*

**SCHOOLYARD SAFETY:** Please note that **school supervision begins at 8:30** and students can begin to arrive at school at this time. Students should not arrive prior to 8:30 as there will be no supervision for them at that time. As well, children should be picked up at the end of the school day at 3:15 as school supervision ends at 3:30. We encourage all students to go home and check in with their parents or guardians at that time. If your child is remaining past 3:30 please note that they are no longer under school supervision.

**PLAY STRUCTURE CLOSED:** Our school play structure is closed at this time. We ask that families refrain from making use of it outside of school hours as well.

**SPIRIT WEAR:** School spirit wear will be offered again this year. Further details regarding the online store will be emailed to families early next week.



**TRIVIA CLUB:** On Wednesday January 17th, NLPS competed at the Reach For The Top Trivia Tournament. With a total of 12 different schools in attendance, NLPS came in 3rd place overall and were able to advance to the quarter finals. Though the win streak ended there, our students showed great determination and sportsmanship. We are excited to give it another go next year!

**YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST:** Students in Grades 4-8 are invited to submit their artwork for the yearbook cover contest. The winner will receive a free yearbook and their design will be used as the cover of the 2023-2024 NLPS yearbook! Please submit your entry to Ms. H. Jackson in Room 210 by Friday, February 16. Additional details may be found through [this link](#).



**KINDERGARTEN AND FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION CONTINUES:** A reminder to parents that our Kindergarten registration is now open to students born in 2020. Please read the information below for more details about registration. If your child is in SK and you would like to enroll your child in the French Immersion Program at Devins Drive PS. Please contact our office and NLPS to begin the registration process.

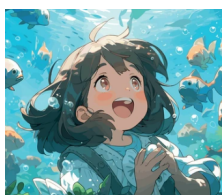
**VALENTINE SPRINKLE COOKIE:** Northern Lights P.S. will be holding a ONE DAY ONLY fundraiser selling Valentine Sprinkle Cookies. These Healthier Choice soft cookies are individually wrapped and come from a peanut and NUT FREE facility. The cookies are available for purchase through School Cash Online until February 2, 2024. Cookies will be distributed to students in their classroom on February 14<sup>th</sup> before first recess. All orders must be made online. Cookies will NOT be sold in person. Funds raised will be in support of the Grade 8 graduation celebrations and year end graduation trip. Thank you for supporting this yummy fundraiser!



**INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY:** January 27 is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This date was designated by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in November 2005. The day reaffirms “that be a warning to all people of the dangers of hatred, bigotry, racism and prejudice (UN General Assembly A/60/L.12).” This day serves as an international Memorial Day for the victims of the Nazi Holocaust. January 27 marks the date when the Nazi concentration and extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated by Soviet troops in 1945.

**NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE CITY OF QUEBEC MOSQUE ATTACK:** The National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia will be commemorated on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The YRDSB joins Muslim communities across York Region and Canada in mourning, commemorating and standing together against Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hate. Please view the following [link](#) to access a statement from our Prime Minister.

**PARENT CAREGIVER SERIES SUPPORTING LEARNING ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH:** The YRDSB Central Mental Health Team is proud to be offering the Learning about Mental Health Presentation Series (LAMPS). The objective of the series is to promote and enhance mental health literacy. The first session is “Anxiety in School-Aged Youth, a Presentation for Parents and Caregivers” and will occur virtually on **February 28 from 6 - 7 p.m.** The presentation will focus on the characteristics of anxiety, and some general strategies that may be beneficial in supporting your children and their anxiety. These sessions are offered to any parent/guardian. Translation will be provided in a limited number of languages. If your preferred language is not offered, we recommend watching with a friend or family member who is able to translate. To register please visit [this link](#). **The last day to register is February 27, 2024.**



**NEWCOMER ANIME CLUB:** The newcomer anime club is available to students from age 13-18 at the Aurora Public Library. This program is for children that are new to the country and are working towards building friendship and acquiring language skills. If your child is interested in attending please view the following [link](#).

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

**TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH:** Tamil Heritage Month aims to celebrate the richness of the Tamil language and its literature, and highlight Tamil Canadians’ vibrant traditions, history, arts, and cultures. In addition, it seeks to recognize the significant contributions of Tamil Canadians in key areas of social, cultural, economic, and political spheres. Linked here, please find the podcast episode about Tamil Heritage here [Tune In YRDSB](#).

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY PLANS FOR FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2nd, 2024:** **Friday Feb. 2 is a full day PA Day with no classes for students on this day.** Staff will be engaging in self-directed learning to support instructional strategies including areas of literacy and mathematics.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:** Registration for our new Kindergarten students will begin on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Eligible children will have birth dates of **2020 for Year One FDK, and 2019** for Year Two FDK.

- 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 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.

**WINTER WEATHER INFORMATION:** A reminder that students are expected to come to school [dressed appropriately for the weather conditions](#) and outdoor play.

**SNOWY DAY PICK-UPS:** Please be mindful that we do not have additional supervision available for students after school in the office. If buses are canceled and you bring your child to school on a snowy day, please remember there must be a plan in place to collect them from school at the end of the school day as well (3:15). If you work far from school and know that it may be difficult or impossible to pick up your child at the end of the day in bad weather, please consider who will be picking your child up in your place. Please communicate this to the office in writing (note or email), if they are not someone who regularly has pick-up permission for your child.

