

Northern Highlights



Community Update

Week of October 23rd, 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 Oct. 23rd Day 2 | Int. Band Practice - Woodwinds (lunch Recess) | |
| Tuesday Oct. 24th Day 3 | Cross Country Regionals Int. Boys Volleyball - am recess Int. Band Practice - Brass and Percussion - pm recess Int. Girls Volleyball Game @ Hartman P.S. | Nov. 2nd - <i>Photo Retake Day</i> Nov 9th - Subway Lunch begins Nov. 12th - <i>Significant Faith Day - Diwali (Hinduism)</i> Nov. 15th - <i>Progress Reports Sent Home</i> Nov. 16th & 17th - <i>Parent - Educator Interview Evening</i> Nov. 17th - <i>PA Day - Interview Morning</i> Nov. 23rd - <i>Grade 7 & 8 Immunization</i> |
| Wednesday Oct. 25th Day 4 | Int. Girls Volleyball - am recess Int. Boys Volleyball - pm recess Int. Band Practice - after school Int. Boys Volleyball Game @ Lester B. Pearson P.S. School Council Fall Forum | |
| Thursday Oct. 26th Day 5 | Cross Country Regionals Rain Date Gr. 8 Indigenous Art Project Int. Girls Volleyball - pm recess | |
| Friday Oct. 27th Day 1 | Int. Boys Volleyball - am recess | |

INFORMATION & UPDATES

SUB LUNCHES: We are happy to offer a sub lunch program on Thursdays starting November 9th until December 14th. Funds raised from this lunch program will go to support music programming, and the band at NLPs. Orders may be placed through School Cash Online. **The deadline to order is Wednesday, November 1, 2023.** Late orders will not be accepted.



POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER: We are once again holding our Festive Fundraiser selling beautiful Poinsettias to raise funds for the Grade 8 Graduation this year. An email has been shared with families with details regarding this fundraiser and orders may be placed through School Cash Online. **The deadline to order Poinsettias is Friday, November 24, 2023.** Families will pick up their orders at the school on Thursday, December 7, 2023 between 3:30 and 5:00 PM. Your support is greatly appreciated by our Grade 8 staff & students.

LEVEL UP SKILLED TRADES 2023 CAREER FAIR NOVEMBER 15th and 16th: Families and students will have an opportunity to learn about Ontario's 140+ trades through interactive exhibitions and hands-on activities, while hearing directly from tradespeople and local employers about life-changing career opportunities. This event is open to students and families from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Please view the following website www.levelupontario.com for more information.

CROSS COUNTRY UPDATE: We are very proud of our Cross-Country Team and would like to cheer on our students as they represent our school at the Regional Meet on October 24th. Our Regional Meet will take place at Bruce's Mill and parents are welcome to come and support their children. Congratulations to all our runners, and we would like to thank all staff members who dedicated their time to make this possible!



YOUTH GAMBLING SERIES: This workshop series offers educational prevention sessions to parents and caregivers. Participants will engage in learning on gambling awareness, including potential risks, making informed decisions and healthy and active living. We welcome all parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these free virtual sessions! If you would like more information please view the following link.

[Youth Gambling Information Session](#)



HALLOWE'EN: Each year, many of our students and families celebrate the long-standing tradition of Halloween. We are also aware that some families neither acknowledge nor support the event. In the YRDSB, we respect the views of our students and families and we strive to work with everyone to find inclusive ways for all students to participate without compromising their beliefs.

Our staff has been planning activities that allow for and value multiple options for participation (e.g., wearing orange and black or autumn colours, other themes beyond ghouls and ghosts) in hopes of supporting an inclusive environment. Teachers will share information regarding classroom practices for costumes, as they are appropriate for school, comfortable and won't compromise learning.

When planning costumes please be aware that costumes at our school must comply with the YRDSB Safe Schools Policy & Procedure.

- Students may bring their own snacks; or individually wrapped snacks may be given out within the cohort (this is at the discretion of the educator(s)). Please consider healthy alternatives to candy and chocolate to align with our Healthy Schools Initiative
- No Halloween masks are to be worn and students should only use single use make-up (no sharing of make-up) and faces should not be fully covered in make-up.
- No replica weapons of any kind are allowed.
- To limit personal items being brought to school, costumes should be of simple design.
- In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, communicate to students that it is important that costumes do not trivialize and devalue the lives of Indigenous peoples in Canada.
- Costumes should be respectful of others. Symbols or objects representative of a person's race, culture, ethnicity, or religious beliefs, should not be worn as another person's costume, nor should costumes that caricature social identities through stereotyping.

*INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

NLPS VOLUNTEER READING PROGRAM: We are in search of volunteers who are available during the day, for at least 1 hour, twice weekly, to work with students in Grades 1 & 2. Interested volunteers please contact Ms. Walter. dawn.walter@yrdsb.ca. Please also see the [linked flyer](#).

GRADE 8 HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHTS: If you have a child that is currently in Grade 8, and would like to learn more about your local high schools, we encourage you to attend the Grade 9 information sessions at G. W. Williams Secondary School, or if you are considering applying for a transfer, Aurora High School. Information sessions will be held at:

- Bill Crothers SS (Sports Based High School Program) on Tuesday October 3, at 7:00
- Dr. G.W Williams on Thursday October 12th (for the International Baccalaureate Program)
- Dr. G.W Williams on Thursday November 2nd, 2023 at 6:30 for information about Grade 9
- Aurora High School on Wednesday November 29th, 2023 from 6:30pm to 8:30 pm

If you have a child that is currently in Grade 8, please ensure to attend one of the information sessions mentioned above to learn more about your child's options in high school and selecting a pathway.

THE CENTRE FOR BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE NEWSLETTER: This newsletter, aims to share stories, resources, and initiatives that promote understanding, unity, and positive change. By amplifying diverse voices and engaging in meaningful conversations, we can create a more inclusive future for all. For more information on specific events related to Black Excellence please view the following [link](#).

ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH: The York Region District School Board proudly recognizes Islamic Heritage Month during October. If you are interested in joining in to celebrate the rich culture and heritage of this community you are invited to attend the YRDSB Event launch. If you are interested in attending this event please view the [link](#).

