

Northern Highlights



Community Update

Week of February 17th, 2025

School Address 40 Bridgenorth Dr, Aurora ON, L4G 7S6
 Phone Number 905-727-4224
 Principal: Jodi Fine jodi.fine@yrdsb.ca
 Elementary Office Admin. Assist.: diane.oreilly@yrdsb.ca
 Diane O'Reilly
 Superintendent: Deborah Joyce deborah.joyce@yrdsb.ca
 Trustee: Melanie Wright melanie.wright@yrdsb.ca

| DATE | ACTIVITIES | UPCOMING |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday Feb. 17 Day 0 | Family Day (no school) | Feb. 24 - Monthly Recognition Assembly (9:15 am) Feb. 24 - Family Ambassador Information Night (6:30 pm) Feb 26 - Inter. Boys Volleyball Tournament @ Dr. GW Williams S.S. Feb. 27 - Inter. Girls Volleyball Tournament @ Dr. GW Williams S.S. |
| Tuesday Feb. 18 Day 4 | Electronic distribution of Term 1 Report Cards begins | |
| Wednesday Feb. 19 Day 5 | Term 1 Report Cards go home (paper copies) | |
| Thursday Feb. 20 Day 1 | | |
| Friday Feb. 21 Day 2 | Winter Carnivale Day | |

INFORMATION & UPDATES

YORK REGION SPORTS MARCH BREAK CAMP: York Region Sports is hosting a March Break program for students from Grades 3-8 who are interested in learning and improving their volleyball skills at Thornlea SS. For more information and how to register, please [click here](#).

CHINESE ARTS AND LITERACY FESTIVAL 2025: This festival aims to deepen participants' understanding of Chinese cultural heritage, promote appreciation and respect for cultural diversity, and enhance social harmony. Register by March 5, 2025. Please [click here](#) for more information.

ROOTS, RUACH AND RESILIENCE GROUP WORKSHOP HOSTED BY JEWISH CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES: Join the JF&CS for a 4-week group workshop starting on March 4, 2025. For students in Grades 6-8. Dinner will be served. Please [click here](#) for more information. Participants must register to attend.

INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

FAMILIES PLANNING TO MOVE OR STUDENTS NOT RETURNING IN SEPTEMBER: As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 school year, we kindly ask you to inform the school office if your family has plans to move over the summer, or if your children will not be returning in September for any reason. This information helps us to ensure a smooth transition for all students and to make necessary staffing arrangements for the upcoming academic year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us in planning effectively for the new school year. Thank you for your support.

FAMILY DASHBOARD/REPORT CARDS DISTRIBUTION: The YRDSB Family Dashboard will give you one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. It is designed to make it easier for you to engage with your child's education. Access the Family Dashboard at family.yrdsb.ca. Term 1 Report Cards will be available in the Family Dashboard. Parents/guardians will receive an email letting you know when the report card is available for your child and how to access it. If you do not have a Family Dashboard account, you can create one at any time by visiting family.yrdsb.ca, clicking on "No account?" and "Create one." **When creating an account, you must use the email address you have on file at your child's school. Detailed instructions and*

frequently asked questions are available at <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/family-dashboard>. Families are invited to share their feedback on the Family Dashboard through a [short survey](#) available in the Dashboard.

FAMILY AMBASSADOR INFORMATION EVENING RESCHEDULED In partnership with our Northern Lights School Council, we are pleased to introduce our **Family Ambassador Program**. We are looking for parents who wish to volunteer for this initiative. We aim to help support new families in the Northern Lights school community. Support could be provided in the following ways:

- help parents/families get better acquainted with the school, school routines and community;
- learn where to get up-to-date school information (e.g., Northern Highlights); or
- help English Language Learners looking to practice their English language skills.

Many of our new families have a home language that isn't English. In particular, we are keen to have ambassadors who speak Farsi/Persian, Mandarin, Cantonese and Russian, but we welcome anyone who has another language to join us and even need some English speakers. If you would be interested in coming to a meeting on Monday, February 24th, at 6:30 pm to learn more about the program and to help us develop some guidelines, please complete the [Google Form](#). We will be meeting in the school conference room, alternatively, those who wish to join online may do so using the following link: <https://meet.google.com/yhg-pdvo-kuv>.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: Is your child turning 4 or 5 in 2025? Mark your calendars. Kindergarten registration opens on January 17.

How to Register:

- **Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten. It is recommended that families use a laptop, or desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete the registration. Current families can also find the program registration link in the [Family Dashboard](#).
- **By email** - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten and email the completed form to northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca
- **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, during this phone conversation.
- **In-person at the school** - Families may visit the school office to drop off or complete the registration form.

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you to make an appointment to review and verify the [required documents](#).