

Northern Highlights



Community Update

Week of October 9th, 2023

School Address
 Phone Number
 Principal: Matthew Biemiller
 Vice Principal: Saira Phatale
 Elementary Office Admin. Assist.
 Diane O'Reilly
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DATE	ACTIVITIES	UPCOMING
Monday Oct. 9th Day 0	Thanksgiving (No School Today)	
Tuesday Oct. 10th Day 4	Photo Day Intermediate Band Practice - Brass and Percussion (lunch recess)	Oct. 19th - Chanie Wenjack Walk Oct. 20th - PA DAY Oct. 24th - Regional Cross Country Meet
Wednesday Oct. 11th Day 5	Central Cross Country Meet at George Richardson Park Intermediate Band Practice (3:15-4:15)	Nov. 2nd - <i>Photo Retake Day</i> Nov. 12th - Significant Faith Day - Diwali (Hinduism) Nov. 16th & 17th - Parent - Educator Interview Evening
Thursday Oct. 12th Day 1	Central Cross Country Inclement Weather Dr. G.W. Williams IB Info Night	Nov. 17th - PA Day - Interview Morning Nov. 23rd - Grade 7 & 8 Immunization
Friday Oct. 13th Day 2	Pizza Lunch Begins!	

INFORMATION & UPDATES

THANKSGIVING: With the long weekend approaching, we wanted to wish a Happy Thanksgiving to all who are celebrating. It is our hope that all of our families enjoy a wonderful fall weekend with time spent together with loved ones!

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 the month of October and honours Muslim identities all year round. 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](#).

NLPS VOLUNTEER READING PROGRAM: We will once again be engaging in our 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](#).



PA DAY: Friday, October 20, 2023 - No Classes for Students

Sharing Professional Activity Day Plans As per PPM 151, Administrators are now required to electronically share their PA Day plans with parents/guardians and School Council Chair(s) and post a copy in a conspicuous place in the main office 14 days prior to the PA Day. PA Day plans are also posted on the Board's public website.

Length: Full Day

Topic: Curriculum Implementation

Hosting: All Elementary Schools

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board staff, self-directed and/or group-directed in grade/division groupings.

Description: Staff will engage in learning and dialogue on:

- "Miss, Dismiss, Avoid: Psychological Barriers to Disrupting Racism, Racial Trauma and How to Counteract It".
- Kindergarten Literacy
- Revised Grade 1 to 3 Social Studies Curriculum
- Grades 4, 5, 7 and 8 - STEM and Skilled Trades
- Revised Grade 6 Social Studies Curriculum

***INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS**

FRIDAY PIZZA LUNCHESES: Thank you for your Pizza Lunch orders. The Pizza Program will start Friday, October 13th. Block 1 - Friday Pizza Lunch Dates: **October 13, 27 / November 3, 10, 24 / December 1, 8, 15**

VOLUNTEERS IN EDUCATION: Research shows that parents and community engagement increases student achievement, well-being and success. If you are interested in volunteering in our school community please view the following [link](#) for more information.

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH: International Walk to School Month (IWALK) is an annual celebration of active transportation that takes place around the world throughout the month of October. IWALK Month officially launches October 4, 2023.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION NEWSLETTER: The October Edition of our YRDSB newsletter focuses on the benefits of gratitude for parents and students alike. To access this month's newsletter and better understand the impact of gratitude [click on the following link](#).

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.

