



THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS (STAY-AT-HOME EDITION)

JUNE 15 - 19, 2020

SCHOOLS REMAIN CLOSED

This week, the provincial government announced that the current closure of all Ontario schools will be extended **until the end of the school year**. This is in an effort to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. **All schools in York Region District School Board continue to be closed to students during this time.**

It is critically important at this time to continue to follow the direction of public health to practise social distancing in order to flatten the curve of this pandemic virus.

We do not yet know the plan for school in September. These details will be communicated to you as they become available.

ANTI-BLACK RACISM

We echo the [deep concern of our Director of Education](#) and the [YRDSB Chair](#), and express our school's commitment to Anti-Black Racism.

Our educators are working to support students from a distance, both through intentional teaching, and support with mental health and well-being.

This week, we are sharing a new list of [Anti-Black Racism resources](#) available on the YRDSB website. We encourage you to explore these resources and share them with your child(ren). You remain your child's first and most significant teacher, especially during this pandemic.

There are also [mental health resources](#) posted on the YRDSB website. If you are in need of additional support or resources, please connect with your child's teacher or NLPS administration.

MATERIAL RETRIEVAL



This week, families will have an opportunity to visit the school to pick up student belongings and return school materials.

Thank you for those families who have already used Edsby to sign up for a time slot (one 15-minute time slot per child).

The dates/times are as follows:

- Tuesday, June 16th, 9:00 - 3:00
- Wednesday, June 17th, 9:00 - 3:00
- Thursday, June 18th, 9:00 - 3:00

Please carefully review the information we have shared via email, including screening requirements and social distancing guidelines. Remember that **families may only enter the school during their assigned time**. At maximum, **one child and one adult from your family may enter** the building during your assigned time. We look forward to seeing you!

JUNE 15-19, 2020: THIS WEEK'S STAY-AT-HOME HIGHLIGHTS



Date	Activities This Week
Monday, June 15	If you haven't already, sign up for a material retrieval time slot using Edsby!
Tuesday, June 16	Material Retrieval 9:00 - 3:00
Wednesday, June 17	Material Retrieval 9:00 - 3:00
Thursday, June 18	Material Retrieval 9:00 - 12:00
Friday, June 19	Happy Friday!

STAFFING UPDATES/TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

This is the difficult time of year when we must say good-bye to some of our amazing NLPS staff.

Mrs. Natalie Whitehouse, who started at NLPS in the school's second year as a student teacher, is leaving at the end of June to join the Holland Landing PS community.

Ms. Lyndsay Duggan and **Ms. Elisa Damiani** have joined us more recently as long-term occasional teachers, and we say good-bye to them at the end of June.

Thank you to these teachers for the invaluable contributions to the NLPS community. You will be missed. We wish you all the very best!



SUPPORTING ONLINE LEARNING

While schools will remain closed for the rest of the school year, we will continue to support your child's learning and well-being. We know that learning at home looks different for each family. We have developed a number of resources and tips to help students and families, including:

- [How to log in and use online learning platforms](#), including Google, Edsby and D2L. Short videos are also available.
- [Tips for families to support online learning](#).
- [Student Tech Help form](#) for support with student technology provided by the Board and accessing online learning platforms.
- [Mental health](#) and [community resources](#) for students and families.
- [Resources for students with special education needs](#).

To learn more about our [Learning and Caring Plan](#), access these resources and more, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/covid19. Google translate is available on our website.

ARE YOU MOVING OR LEAVING NLPS?

To help us plan for September, if you are moving out of the area or your child will not be returning to Northern Lights for the 2020/2021 school year, please inform the office by email at northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca

Thank you!



CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION?

If you have changed contact information, please send us an email at northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca

During this school closure, this is the best way to reach us.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION CONTINUES

We welcome new families to register for Kindergarten. Our school, along with all elementary schools in the Board, is now offering a variety of ways to register.

- **In person** - Families can pick up a registration form from the school when you come at your registered time to pick up materials and then drop off completed forms to the school office or to any CEC. You can also email it to northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca
- **By email** - You can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten and email the completed form to northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca
- **Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at bit.ly/KindergartenYRDSB. We recommend that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.
- **By phone** - Families can request support from the school Principal/Vice-Principal 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. Call 905-727-4224.

We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to our school. Please feel free to contact us by email if you have any questions about registration.

NLPS NATTER - A WEEKLY WEBCAST WITH MR. BIEMILLER AND MS. TULLEY

Each week, Mr. Biemiller and Ms. Tulley will endeavour to use their technical know-how to create a webcast, featuring student contributions!

[Here is NLPS Natter Episode #8.](#) *This week, we're on Youtube - you don't need to be signed in!



We have one more webcast to share before the end of the school year! Stay tuned for our “season finale” with some special guests!

SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



While schools remain closed, we continue to offer credit and non-credit summer school program opportunities for elementary and secondary students.

- [Elementary Summer School](#) (Grades 6-8)
- [Summer School e-Learning](#) (Secondary credit courses)
- [Secondary Summer School](#) (Acceleration courses, Credit Recovery/Reinforcement)

All programs will be offered in a remote learning environment with a mix of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous learning. YRDSB continues to follow direction from the Ministry of Education and public health authorities to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. If there are any changes to our program delivery model, we will communicate those changes.

CALL OUT FOR PICTURES: NLPS 2019-2020 YEARBOOK

In the midst of this unusual school year, our staff continues to work on a yearbook! Production will be delayed, but there will indeed be a yearbook ready for September.

We are currently collecting pictures for this book. If you have a great picture of your child(ren) at home, please submit it using [this form](#) (updated link)!

Details will follow on how you can get your hands on the 2019/2020 Northern Lights PS yearbook!



ACCESSING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

A reminder that links and updates are available on the YRDSB website: [Corona Virus Updates](#)

Online learning continues. If you are looking to supplement classroom resources, you may wish to access:



[Ontario Ministry of Education's Learn from Home Resources](#)

[Online Resources for Parents, Families, and Students](#)

ACCESSING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (CONT.)

We will continue to highlight different online resources that you can choose to access at home. Many of these resources have been made temporarily available for free, in response to the current situation.

Thanks to Ms. Paivio and Mrs. McGeorge for helping us to compile these resources!

SITE	DESCRIPTION	LOGIN PROCEDURE
Bill Nye (Click HERE) 	Bill Nye's official website, including information about the topics in all of his past episodes.	No login required.
Kids Discover Online (Click HERE) 	Site includes several topics in science and social studies.	Sign up for a free 30 day trial.

ONLINE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

The YRDSB Student Services team has compiled a fantastic list of resources for student and family use. The list is not exhaustive and there will be some overlap with other resource lists! Here's the [LINK](#).



Inspire Learning!

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

A reminder that Mr. Biemiller, Ms. Tulley, and the office are available for you as well. Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Mr. Biemiller - matthew.biemiller@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Tulley - sarah.tulley@yrdsb.ca

Mrs. Ginsberg - amanda.ginsberg@yrdsb.ca

Mrs. Church - joycelyn.church@yrdsb.ca

School Office - northern.lights.ps@yrdsb.ca



STAY HOME, STAY SAFE



WE MISS YOU!

