



THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS (STAY-AT-HOME EDITION)

JUNE 22 - 26, 2020

SCHOOLS REMAIN CLOSED

The provincial government has 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.

Today, the government of Ontario outlined different possible plans for schooling in September. We do not yet know which model YRDSB will proceed with, but will communicate with families over the summer as we learn more.

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.

Here is a 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.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day. This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of [First Nations](#), [Inuit](#) and [Métis](#) peoples. The Canadian Constitution recognizes these three groups as Aboriginal peoples, also known as Indigenous peoples.

Although these groups share many similarities, they each have their own distinct heritage, language, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

In cooperation with Indigenous organizations, the Government of Canada chose June 21, the summer solstice, for National Aboriginal Day, now known as National Indigenous Peoples Day. For generations, many [Indigenous peoples and communities](#) have celebrated their culture and heritage on or near this day due to the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year.

National Indigenous Peoples Day 2020 celebrations are among the many events that have been cancelled due to the pandemic. Please see the list of 11 activities you can enjoy at home.

[11 Ways to Virtually Celebrate National Indigenous Peoples' Day](#)

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS








As we look towards the end of the year, we would like to invite families to help us celebrate and recognize our NLPS students who are graduating or moving to a different school.

With this in mind, we are inviting our NLPS families to show their school spirit by displaying the school colours outside their homes. We encourage you to consider ways you can display blue and white in your windows or outside to show your NLPS pride.

We will also invite all families to participate in an at-home “Clap Out” by going to the end of your driveway or walkway, and clapping or making noise (*think pots and pans) for two minutes at the end of the school day (3:15) on Friday, June 26th. More details to come shortly!

JUNE 22 - 26, 2020: THIS WEEK'S STAY-AT-HOME HIGHLIGHTS



Date	Activities This Week
Monday, June 22	Write a letter to yourself about this school year. Reflect upon what an unusual year it has been and put the letter somewhere safe. 
Tuesday, June 23 	Do some end-of-year math! How many days of school did we miss due to COVID-19? How many hours a week, on average, have you participated in online learning? Think of other math tallies to do and create an infographic with your data.
Wednesday, June 24	Set some goals for the summer. What good habits do you want to continue? (For example, time spent reading, exercising, or with family.) 
Thursday, June 25 	Clean up! The end of the school year is a good time to sort and clean. If you visited school, open up that bag and sort out your personal belongings and learning materials!
Friday, June 26 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!	Plan a special celebration to end the school year. Talk to a family member about making a special meal, creating some home-made decorations, and/or planning some fun activities. You deserve it! 

REPORT CARDS



This week, you received an email from YRDSB explaining the distribution of second term report cards. Families will be receiving report cards electronically by next Friday, June 26th. Additional information will be shared with you about how to access the report cards.

Please note that report card marks were determined based on student learning from the beginning of Term 2, February 3 to March 13, 2020. Students' grades/marks should not be negatively affected by performance during online learning from home after the start of school closures due to COVID-19. Therefore, end of year grades/marks can only remain the same or increase based on units of study continued after April 6.

MATERIAL RETRIEVAL - THANKS FOR VISITING!

Thanks to all of our students and families who visited the school this past week to pick up your belongings. It was wonderful to see your smiling faces (even if we couldn't actually see your smile due to a mask)! We are grateful for your cooperation, flexibility, and regard for safety.

If you did not pick personal belongings (e.g., shoes, coats, bags), we will store these items until school reopens.



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 - SEASON FINALE COMING NEXT WEEK!

Thanks for watching our webcasts this spring! Next week, we will share one last episode with some special guests. Stay tuned!

A red rectangular stamp with a double border, tilted slightly upwards to the right. The word "FINALE" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font across the center of the stamp.A red starburst shape with a white border, tilted slightly upwards to the right. The words "COMING SOON" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font across the center of the starburst.

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.

Please see the next slide for ordering information.

If a student purchases a yearbook but is not returning to NLPS in September, we will contact families when it is ready.

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](#)

Order your yearbook today!

Visit ybpay.lifetouch.ca

Order Deadline:

July 19, 2020

Yearbook ID Code:

12738420



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
CBC Podcasts for Kids (Click HERE) 	CBC website with seven great podcasts for family listening.	No login required.
Ocean School from NFB (Click HERE) 	Interesting videos and follow-up lessons on lots of different topics, for every weekday.	No login required.

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!

