



# REVIEW



February 26, 2021

## Principal's Message:

Thank you to our families who were able to attend our February School Council Meeting. Our next meeting will be March 25th; please consider joining us and lending your voice to discussions and decisions related to Rouge Park. We value you as partners in education!

This week was a busy one with lots of great learning opportunities in classrooms, fun outside in the snow, and games of volleyball and badminton inside at lunch. Chess club is starting next week and plans are in the works for some March experiential learning to spice up a month that no longer has a school holiday.

As always, if I can offer support or answer questions, please feel free to reach out to me via email or by calling the school next week.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Stay safe and well,

Lindsey Maclean

[lindsey.maclean@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lindsey.maclean@yrdsb.ca)

## Celebrating Black History

The following slide highlights some of the learning that has been happening at RPPS during the month of February to celebrate Black Excellence and Black Joy.

## Celebrating Black Excellence & Black Joy @ RPPS



Montafa Abdelhamid



WE THE FUTURE  
WE'RE OUR OWN LIBRARIANS

### Black History Month and beyond

**Student Learning**

Watch on your own and then with your students!



Click here for the Google Form: [Black History Month Video 1: Black Historical Excellence \(Then and Now\)](#)



Click here for the Google Form: [Black History Month Video 2: Stories From Our Youth](#)



## #AffirmingBlackJoy Student Campaign (ABES)

Announcements from Gr. 4 students highlighting Black Excellence



Poetry Unit  
Slam Poetry/  
Spoken Word

## Black Mental Health Day

March 1, 2021 is Black Mental Health Day in Ontario. This day provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the harms of anti-Black racism on mental health and the specific mental health needs of Ontario's Black communities as well as encourage action for systemic change.

## Pink Shirt Day - February 24th

This week at Rouge Park we honoured Pink Shirt Day. This day started as a grassroots movement at a high school where a group of students showed up in pink to support a boy who was being bullied. It was so nice to see a sea of pink in our hallways as we showed solidarity for this movement, took a stand against bullying and reflected on how we can lift each other up.



## Pink Shirt Day - Feb 24, 2021



How can  
we LIFT  
others UP?



## New COVID Screening Tool for Parents

Earlier today, York Region Public Health released its [new screening guide](#). All students are required to complete the screening guide daily before coming to school.

## March 9th Wellness Evening:

Together with our School Council, we will be hosting a Virtual Wellness Evening on March 9th @ 6:30 p.m.. Please consider coming together for an evening of information and conversation with our school Psychologist and Social Worker about **Mental Health, Wellness, and Coping, Managing and Parenting** in the time of Covid. Resources for parents will be shared and questions will be answered. Please see the flyer below. Your participation is encouraged; please use this [Link](#) to send in your questions prior to the event.

Please Scroll Down

## Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy Launch Event

The York Region District School Board is committed to championing equity and inclusivity. In response to continued evidence of anti-Black racism in Canadian institutions, including in education, the Board has co-developed an [anti-Black racism strategy](#).

The *Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy: Creating anti-racist and Black-affirming learning and working environments* was co-developed by York Region Black community leaders, YRDSB staff and in consultation with students. The launch of the strategy marks a coordinated effort to address anti-Black racism at the Board.

On March 8, 2021 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. students, staff and families are invited to the virtual [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy launch event](#) featuring guest presenter [Robyn Maynard](#).

The program will examine anti-Black racism in educational institutions and unveil the Board's strategy. The strategy is designed to dismantle anti-Black racism in all its forms in our schools and workplaces.

The systemic nature of anti-Black racism requires that school boards act proactively to support equitable access to quality education and opportunities for all students, and to challenge the marginalization of Black students, staff and families.

Please visit [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca) for more details and [to register](#) for the event.

## Report It

Our schools should be safe, welcoming and inclusive places for everyone. It is important that students know what to do if they witness or experience inappropriate behaviour or incidents of hate or discrimination.

- There may be situations when you can safely step in and intervene and help.
- Talk to an adult at school, family member or other trusted adult.
- Report the event without the person involved knowing using our online reporting tool, Report It.

Report It lets you share information about inappropriate student behaviour or incidents of hate or discrimination. You can use the online form to report:

- bullying, drugs, cheating, vandalism, harassment, violence or any other inappropriate behaviour
- incidents of discrimination or hate, including anti-Indigenous racism, ableism, anti-Asian racism, anti-Black racism, antisemitism, classism, homophobia, Islamophobia, sexism, transphobia or other forms of hate

You can report events that happen at school, at school-related events, online or off school property if it negatively affects a student or the school climate. You can also choose to make a report anonymously.

Complete reports are shared with the school to investigate and respond.

Acts of discrimination, hate and bullying are never acceptable. Using the Report It tool is a way of standing up for each other and for ourselves.

You can find Report It on the homepage of the Board website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca) and on the homepage of every school website, or watch this [short video](#) to learn more.



## IGNITE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

For students with SEA Technology

The Ignite Technology Grant is designed to create **leadership opportunities**, hone **communication skills**, and increase **self-esteem** for students with SEA equipment within their school community.

The goal is to bring **awareness** to the effective and successful use of technology for modern learning.

**IGNITE** your school and community now!  
Go to [www.yrdsb.ca/ignite](http://www.yrdsb.ca/ignite) now to learn how!