



REVIEW



Principal's Message:

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received from staff, students and families of RPPS. Although it has been a very different experience joining school in the midst of a closure, I am truly grateful to everyone who has helped make the change such a positive one. I have had the pleasure of visiting all virtual classes to introduce myself to the students. I have also been able to meet with the incredible Rouge Park staff both as a collective and individually. To say that I feel lucky to be joining such an amazing group is an understatement.

I'm sure that this week's announcement of the school reopening on February 16th has brought mixed emotions for all of you. Please know that we will continue to do everything we can to ensure that our school is following all Public Health guidelines and recommendations. We are excited to welcome our students back to school in a way that puts their physical and social emotional well-being at the forefront. Please know that whether you are virtual or f2f, you are part of our Rouge Park community. Please feel free to reach out to me directly by phone or email if you have questions or need support.

Stay safe and well,

Lindsey Maclean

lindsey.maclean@yrdsb.ca

School Reopening News:

As you are aware, the government has set February 16th as our return date for Face to Face learning. We really miss all of your children and we cannot wait to welcome them back. There are some new health and safety measures in place including:

- Masks are now required for students in Grades 1-3, as well as those in Grades 4-12. Students in Kindergarten are strongly encouraged to wear masks.
- Masks are now required outdoors, during recess as well as in common areas, in addition to in-class.
- Students are discouraged from congregating before and after school.
- York Region Public Health is recommending that students wear three-layer masks. Two layer masks are permitted if they are clean and fit appropriately.

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 and link to ask questions below.

Gifted Screening Results for Grade 3 Parents

Please note that the gifted screening results will not be shared with parents until schools reopen. Only parents whose children have been selected for second stage screening will be notified of results.

Mental Health and Online Learning

[Click here](#) for the January 2021 YRDSB Student Mental Health Newsletter. There are helpful suggestions for how to make virtual learning more manageable. It also includes links to the [School Mental Health Ontario](#) website which is a treasure trove of ideas and insight. An example is [this resource](#) on Personal Resiliency for People who are Supporting Students, including many of you who are trying to juggle your own work, your kids' work, and run a household.

February 1-8 Request to Change Model Survey Open

A link was sent to all families on Feb. 1 with details. Some important things to note:

- Any parents wishing to switch between Face to Face or Virtual School MUST complete the survey.
- If you wish to remain as you have been since September you do not need to complete it.
- If you switch your child from F2F to EVS or vice versa, your child will be assigned to a new teacher and class.
- Even though all students are learning virtually at this time, those students who were F2F prior to the school closure are still considered F2F students for the purposes of the survey.
- This will be the last opportunity for elementary students to change learning models in the 2020-21 school year.
- The survey closes at 5:00 pm on February 8th.

Are You Moving?

We are in the process of starting to set up for the September start of the 2021-2022 school year. If you know your child/children will be attending another school in September please email or call the school office to let us know.

February is Black History Month

Black History/Heritage Month is recognized each year during the month of February. During the month we honour and celebrate the contributions of black Canadians, past and present. During Black History Month, Canadians celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation it is today. In support of student learning, two short videos have been created for educators, parents, and students. The first video, [Black Excellence: Then and Now](#), focuses on historical Black excellence. The second video, [Black Excellence: Stories From Our Youth](#), features YRDSB student voice that includes noted Black student concerns, hopes, and dreams as well as contemporary examples of Black excellence. More information will be shared throughout the month of February.



Happy Lunar New Year!

The Lunar New Year typically falls sometime between January 21 and February 20, annually. Lunar New Year 2021 is on February 12, and it's the Year of the Ox. It's called the Lunar New Year because it marks the first new moon of the lunisolar calendars traditional to many East Asian countries including China and Vietnam, which are regulated by the cycles of the moon and sun. "A solar year—the time it takes Earth to orbit the sun—lasts around 365 days, while a lunar year, or 12 full cycles of the Moon, is roughly 354 days."



Kindergarten Registration

There are several ways you can register for kindergarten on or after January 15, 2021:

- **Online** - Families can access the [online Kindergarten registration information](#). It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.
- **By email** - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) and email the completed form to their school email address. Email addresses can be found on the [school website](#).
- **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 your local school](#).
- **By mail or appointment**. You can mail completed applications to the school, or request an appointment (once schools have reopened) to drop-off your completed paper application form.





KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2021

Four options to register your child:

Option 1: Online 
Register using Edsby by following bit.ly/KindergartenYRDSB.

Option 2: Email 
Complete a fillable PDF found on: www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten and email the forms to the school email address, found on the school's website.

Option 3: Phone 
Register by calling the school number to request support from the school principal/vice principal to complete the registration form.

Option 4: Paper 
Call the school to receive support with registration. If necessary, a registration package can be sent by mail. An appointment will be arranged to return the forms to the school.

Registration is easy!

1 Complete registration form and submit to the school

2 School confirms registration and sets an appointment to verify your documentation



Message from Our School Trustee, Allan Tam

Dear families,

I hope that you and your families are healthy and doing well. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their flexibility, patience and perseverance during the school closures. We understand that the pandemic is creating challenges and hardships, and we will continue to prioritize and do our very best to support the well-being, learning and achievement of our students

during these difficult times.

There are resources on the Board website that students and families may find helpful, including tips for speaking with your child about COVID-19, support using technology, community and mental health resources and more at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

One of our priorities as a Board of Trustees is to Champion Equity and Inclusivity: we aim to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to remove barriers in support of all learners.

Anti-Black Racism

We want each and every one of our students to know that they are valued, welcome, safe and respected in our schools. We know that sadly that is not the reality for some students and that incidents of anti-Black racism continue to occur in our community and our schools. These incidents cause pain, make our students feel unsafe and affect their well-being and achievement. This is not acceptable.

In the coming weeks, we will be sharing information and inviting you to participate in the Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy: Creating anti-racist and Black affirming learning and working environments virtual event. During this event we will be unveiling our Anti-Black Racism Strategy, which was developed in coordination with families, students, community partners, educators and members of our senior leadership team. The strategy was developed in response to continued evidence of anti-Black racism, and it will be a critical tool to support positive change in the system and to improve the experiences of Black students and staff.

A series of training sessions, webinars and opportunities for learning will also be made available. Future communication will provide registration options.

I want to thank the members of the Anti-Black Racism Committee for generously giving their time, sharing their difficult experiences and their voice. We are committed to ensuring that this strategy is more than a piece of paper and are committed to doing the work to create more equitable learning environments.

I also want to acknowledge that February is Black History Month, and while we take this opportunity to highlight and celebrate the incredible contributions made by Black Canadians, we will also be looking forward to launching our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy. We will also be continuing our celebration of Black excellence in our community and I encourage you to take the time to read the stories of some of the inspiring individuals learning and working here in York Region.

We all have a role to play in creating a community that enables everyone in it to thrive, and in doing this work, we will create a more inclusive and positive environment for all of our students and families.



Rouge Park Public School

568 Riverlands Avenue, Markham, ON L6B 0Y1

Dear Rouge Park families:

We hope this correspondence finds you and your family well.

Your child's Term 1 Elementary Report Card report will be distributed electronically between February 18 - 24, using their GAPPS accounts. Further information on how to access this report will be shared shortly.

The Elementary Report Card, provides you with information about your child's general progress in working toward the achievement of the curriculum expectations across subject areas. The report card grade represents a student's achievement of overall curriculum expectations, as demonstrated to this point in time.

For all Report Reports, our board will include the following statement: "This reporting period reflects learning that has occurred in a modified learning environment, as required by the provincial public health guidelines."

Overall, reports provide you information about your child's achievement during the first term. We hope that this report will encourage your child while supporting conversations about learning at home.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Maclean



Rouge Park P.S
Cornell Village P.S

An Evening of Information and Conversation

PARENT WEBINAR

We know this has been a challenging time for students and their families. In consultation with your schools' Administration and Parent Committees, we would like to offer a virtual Webinar to better support you in this time.

During this Webinar, we will discuss:

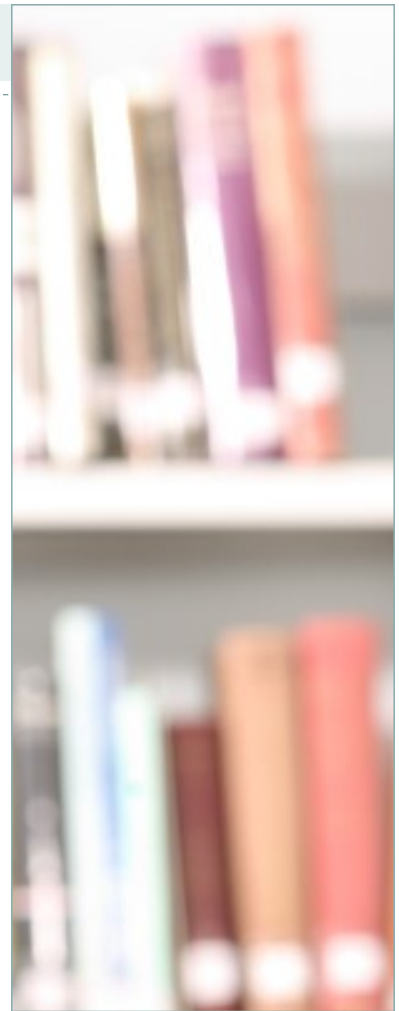
- ◆ Mental Health and Anxiety in Children
- ◆ Coping and Parenting during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- ◆ Resources to support Parents' Mental Wellness

This presentation is intended for Parents/Caregivers and **not** for Students.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PORTION

Your participation in the presentation is encouraged. We will do our best to answer any questions you may have. Please follow this link to submit your questions:

<https://forms.gle/QgWPoeAddKtQXzza7>



WHEN

March 9, 2021
6:30-7:30pm

WHERE

Virtual Webinar
(link to follow)

PRESENTERS

Dr. Jason Bloom,
School Psychologist

Randie Berger, MSW
School Social Worker



211 CENTRAL FACT SHEET

What is 2-1-1?

211 is a free service that connects individuals and families with the complete range of government, health, community and social services in their communities.

211 Central Quick Facts:

- 211 can be accessed by:
 - Phone (Call 2-1-1 / Toll-Free Number: 1-877-330-3213 / TTY: 1-888-340-1001)
 - Online (Search [211Central.ca](#) for Toronto, Peel and York Regions / [Durham.211Central.ca](#) for Durham Region / [211Ontario.ca](#) for province-wide / [211.ca](#) for nation-wide)
 - Text (Send an SMS to 21166 / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
 - Live Chat ([211Ontario.ca/chat](#) / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
 - E-mail (gethelp@211Ontario.ca / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
- 211 is free, confidential and available 24/7 (even on holidays) in 150+ languages
- When you dial 2-1-1, the line is answered by certified Service Navigators who will help you navigate the complexities of the human services system quickly and easily
- Contact 2-1-1 for information and referral to:
 - Health Services & Mental Health Supports
 - Income Support & Financial Assistance
 - Food Banks & Meal Programs
 - Housing Help
 - Seniors Support Services
 - [and more...](#)

Next time you are facing a non-emergency situation or are seeking community help and don't know where to turn, remember to contact 211! Help starts here.



Keep your son connected during isolation



The Game On! program is now offered ONLINE!

Virtual Game On! is a free group mentoring program for male-identified participants between the ages of 10-15. The program promotes physical activity, balanced eating and self-confidence/self-compassion. It is typically offered in elementary schools but now it is being offered online for free! The online groups will be formed based on ages of participants.

How can it be done online?

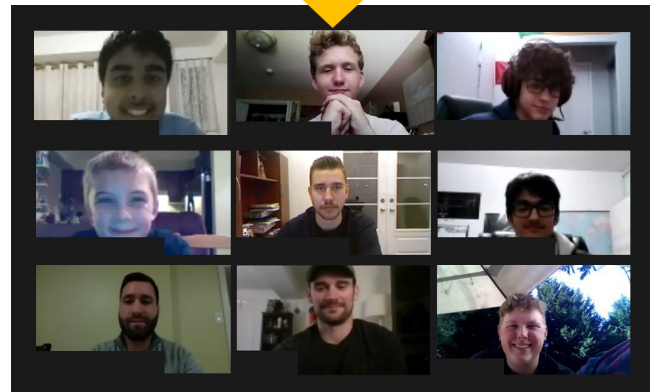
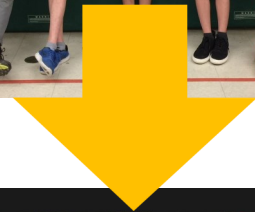
Fortunately, we live in a time where almost anything is possible using modern technology!

Instead of meeting the Mentors in person, participants will use Zoom video conferencing application to stay connected through text chat and video chat as a group of 2 Mentors and 8-10 participants. Zoom is a free platform for users and is easy to use. Sessions will run once a week for 50-60 minutes for 8 consecutive weeks.

What will they be doing online?

Has your son been feeling isolated, alone, stressed, etc.?

The online group will provide an opportunity for youth to connect with one another and discuss important topics affecting male-identified youth today. Topics will include, active living, balance eating, social media, and reducing stress and anxiety surrounding COVID-19. Yoga/meditation sessions, exploring new hobbies, spreading kindness in our community, and expressing gratitude to oneself and others are just a few of the awesome things that will take place in our Virtual Game On! program.



Each program will be supported and monitored by a BBBS Program Staff.



ONLINE CONSENT FORMS

- Parents/Guardians can now register for our online Virtual Game On! program here: <https://york.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/virtual-game-on-registration/>



TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT

- In order to take part in Virtual Game On! online, the participant needs access to a **smartphone, tablet, or computer that can download the Zoom app, and has video/audio capabilities** that they can utilize privately during the sessions.
- The participant will also need reliable internet access available at their home.



THE MENTORS: SCREENED AND TRAINED

- Our online Mentors have been fully screened by Big Brothers Big Sisters of York including a Vulnerable Sector Check, an in-person interview, and 3 references.
- The Mentors have been trained in online security, youth engagement and creating Developmental Relationships, and will be checking in regularly with the Program Coordinator in charge of the virtual program.

Questions? Concerns? Please contact:

Sara Congiusti, Program Coordinator

sara.congiusti@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca



Red Cross Babysitting Course (with first aid & CPR) Offered by Stayin Alive With First Aid, CPR & AED

COURSE NOW ADAPTED FOR ONLINE LEARNING (2-hour 20 mins sessions over 3 days)

Caregiver and first aid skills for youth in Grades 5-8. Participants learn how to manage difficult behaviour, recognizing and preventing unsafe situations, how to care for babies and children and leadership skills. Babysitting promises to deepen and enhance the responsibility that older youth feel when caring for younger children. The curriculum is complete with new science about giving appropriate care in the event of an emergency.

Dates: March 21st, 22nd, 27th
April 10th, 11th, 17th
April 24th, 25th, May 1st

Times: **Two time slots available for each set of 3 dates: 8 am – 10:20 am or 11am – 1:20pm**

Location: **Online via Google Meet (link provided 15 mins prior to class)**

Instructor: Stayin Alive Certified Red Cross Instructor

Cost: \$60 per participant (Grades 5-8) + HST = **\$67.80**

Course content:

- Check, Call, Care (including phoning 911)
- Conscious choking (adult/child/baby/alone)
- Introduction to CPR (baby/child)
- Asthma (includes use of inhaler and spacer)
- Anaphylaxis (includes use of EpiPen), poisoning and insect stings
- Wound care (minor cuts and scrapes, splinters, nosebleeds, bumps and bruises, life-threatening bleeding, and burns)
- Broken bones, head, neck and back injuries, seizures

Materials that will be mailed (address Required during registration process):
Red Cross Babysitter's Manual and Materials
Red Cross Babysitter Certificate



Register today!

Space is limited

www.StayinAliveWithFirstAid.ca

Questions?

info@StayinAliveWithFirstAid.ca



Red Cross Stay Safe Course

Offered by Stayin Alive With First Aid, CPR & AED

COURSE NOW ADAPTED FOR ONLINE LEARNING (2-hour 20 mins sessions over 2 days) with a small portion done as homework.

This course teaches the skills needed for youth to stay safe on their own at home, respond to unexpected situations (such as strangers or visitors knocking on the door), give first aid treatment, and call 911. Whether in the community or alone, this course is a must-take if you want your children to have better tools for staying safe. Best suited for youth in Grades 3 and 4.

- Date:** April 3rd and 4th
April 10th and 11th
April 24th and 25th
- Time:** **4 pm – 6:20 pm each day *some homework involved***
- Location:** **Online via Google Meet (link provided 20 mins prior to class)**
- Instructor:** Stayin Alive Certified Red Cross Instructor
- Cost:** \$60 per participant (Grades 3 and 4) + HST = **\$67.80**

Course content:

- Understanding the responsibility of being accountable for yourself
- How to stay safe at home and within the community
- Check, Call, Care (including phoning 911)
- Conscious choking (adult/child/alone)
- Asthma (includes use of inhaler and spacer)
- Anaphylaxis (includes use of EpiPen), poisoning and insect stings
- Wound care (minor cuts and scrapes, splinters, nosebleeds, bumps and bruises, life-threatening bleeding, and burns)

Take-home materials:

Red Cross Stay Safe Manual
Red Cross Stay Safe Certificate



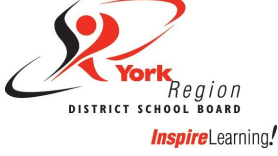
Register today!

Space is limited!

www.StayinAliveWithFirstAid.ca

Questions?

info@StayinAliveWithFirstAid.ca



Understanding Gaming

了解游戏

கேமிங்கைப் புரிந்துகொள்வது

Join Our Conversation As We Explore Young People's Interest In Computer and Video Games Play

讨论孩子对计算机和视频游戏的兴趣

கணினி மற்றும் வீடியோ கேம்களில் உங்கள் குழந்தையின்

ஆர்வத்தைப் பற்றிய விவாதம்

Presented by:

[Hong Fook Mental Health Association](#)

YRDSB Social Work Team

CEC East Performance Plus Team

Inclusive School And Community Services

Date: February 10th, 2021

日期 : 2021年2月10日,

தேதி: பிப்ரவரி 10, 2021

Time: 10:30 am – 12pm or 7:00pm to 8:30 pm

时间 : 上午10:30 – 下午12点或7:00 pm至8:30 pm

நேரம்: காலை 10:30 - மதியம் 12 அல்லது இரவு 7:00 முதல் இரவு 8:30 வரை

[Registration](#)

[点击这里注册](#)

[பதிவு செய்ய இங்கே கிளிக் செய்க](#)

Registration Deadline: February 4th, 2021/ 报名截止日期 : 2021年2月4

பதிவு காலக்கெடு: பிப்ரவரி 4, 2021