



# REVIEW



Jan. 31, 2025

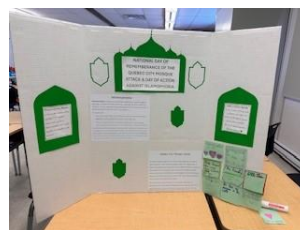
## Message From Administration

Hello Rouge Park Families,

This week we enjoyed some exciting learning and activities around Lunar New Year. It was awesome to see many of our students dressed up in cultural clothes to celebrate (more pictures are below). To usher in the Year of the Snake, our East Asian and Southeast Asian Student Alliance (EASASA) have been busy planning some celebratory activities. The Lion Dance is coming to Rouge Park on Friday, February 7. Families are invited to join us for one of two performances. In addition, where possible, we are encouraging students and families to donate some lucky money (\$2) to help cover the cost of the performances (see poster below). All students are also participating in a school-wide Lunar New Year art project! Each class has created their own snake, with each student creating their own unique "section" of the snake, using a paper cup.



Also this week, our Muslim Student Alliance (MSA) helped recognize and support conversations related to the Green Square Campaign and the National Day of Remembrance. The MSA set up a table during Snack Shack to hand out green squares and share messages of kindness written by students. People of all ages can learn about the importance of inclusion and kindness.



We have handed out all of the gloves and mittens that were donated in December. If you are willing and able to donate more, we will gladly accept. Parents are reminded to send their children with waterproof mitts and other warm clothing during the snowy season.

As always, please reach out if we can help with anything at all!

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

Lily Leung  
[lily.leung@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lily.leung@yrdsb.ca)

## Upcoming Events:

Date	Day	What's Happening at School?
Feb. 3	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cheer Pins sold by our Student Council at lunch (see poster below)</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jr. boys volleyball practice @ 9:50</li> <li>• Student Council executive team meeting @ 9:50</li> <li>• Boston Pizza Lunch for those who ordered</li> <li>• Junior girls final volleyball practice at 12:20 pm</li> <li>• Int. Girls Basketball practice @ 2:40 pm</li> </ul>
Feb. 4	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast club 7:30-7:55</li> <li>• Jr. boys volleyball practice @ 7:00 am</li> <li>• Student Council executive meeting @ 9:50</li> <li>• Primary Games Club @ 12:00</li> <li>• Twinderella Play practice @ 12:20</li> <li>• Int. boys basketball @ 12:20</li> <li>• Kids Kitchen for those who ordered</li> <li>• After school math/literacy club for those invited</li> <li>• School Council Meeting @ 6:30</li> </ul>
Feb. 5	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cheer Pins sold by our Student Council at lunch (see poster below)</b></li> <li>• Winter Walk Day</li> <li>• Snack Shack @ 9:50</li> <li>• Int. boys basketball @ 9:50</li> <li>• Beading Club @ 10:00</li> <li>• Lunch Lady for those who ordered</li> <li>• Int. girls basketball practice @ 12:00</li> <li>• Ted Ed Club at 12:00</li> <li>• Twinderella Play practice @ 12:20</li> <li>• Int. girls basketball tournament after school</li> </ul>
Feb. 6	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cheer Pins sold by our Student Council at lunch (see poster below)</b></li> <li>• Breakfast club 7:30-7:55</li> <li>• Pizza day for those who ordered</li> <li>• Int. boys basketball @ 12:20</li> <li>• Twinderella Play practice @ 12:20</li> <li>• Int. girls basketball practice 2:40 pm</li> <li>• After school math/literacy club for those invited</li> </ul>
Feb. 7	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lion Dance (K-3 @ 10:30 - 11:00 am; Gr 4-8 @ 11:20 - 11:50 am)</li> <li>• Int Girls Bball Practice @ 12:00 pm</li> <li>• Primary Games Club @ 12:00 pm</li> <li>• Grade 4-6 open volleyball 2:45-3:45</li> </ul>

Mark your calendars:

### Upcoming Events:

**Feb. 7** - Lion Dance Presentation for Lunar New Year

**Feb. 24** - Int. Girls Basketball area tournament

**Feb. 25** - Int. Boys Basketball area tournament

**March 5** - Iftar Dinner

**April 9** - Twinderella Play @ 6:30 pm

**May 7-9** - Grade 8 Trip to Camp Pinecrest

**May 14** - Family Engagement Evening - Slime, Circuits, Robotics and More with Codezilla!

**June 11** - Spring Concert

**June 24** - Grade 8 Graduation

### School Holidays

**Family Day** - Mon., Feb. 17

**Mid-Winter Break** - March 10, to March 14

**Good Friday** - April 18

**Easter Monday** - April 21

**Victoria Day** - Mon. May 19

### P.A. Days

Monday, June 9, 2025

Friday, June 27, 2025

## Cold and Flu Season:

Winter is here and with it comes the cold and flu season. We are noticing an increasing number of students who are absent due to illness, or exhibiting symptoms while at school. Please read the important information below from York Region Public Health to help you know when to send your child back to school following a fever and/or nausea/vomiting/diarrhea. This helps all of our students, staff and families stay healthy!

The following information can be found on the Public Health website

(<https://www.ontario.ca/page/protection-covid-19-and-other-respiratory-illnesses>):

- If you are sick, stay home to prevent transmission to others, except to seek testing or medical care if required.
- You should stay home until **all** of the following apply to you:
  - your **symptoms have been improving** for **at least 24 hours** (or **48 hours if you had nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea**, i.e. from the last time that you had any symptoms)
  - you **do not have a fever**
  - you **do not develop any additional symptoms**

## Winter Walk Day:

**Winter Walk Day** is celebrated by schools across Canada on the first Wednesday of February each year. This year, Winter Walk Day officially kicks off on Wednesday February 5th, 2025.

Walking to school in winter not only benefits student physical and mental health, well-being and academic performance, it's also fun!

Here are a few tips to help you stay safe and enjoy winter walks to school.

1. Dress for the weather. Wear layers. Don't forget your hat and mitts.
2. Protect your feet. Wear warm socks and winter boots. They will protect your feet from snow, rain and cold and have good grips.



3. Be visible. Wear bright clothes, stay on the sidewalks and make sure cars can see you when you cross the road.
4. Allow a little more time. Prepare your winter gear the night before and give yourself a little more time to walk to school.
5. Try walking like a penguin. It's fun and practical.
6. Enjoy the snow. Catch snowflakes, talk about what you love most about the winter.
7. Obey road signs. The seasons change but road safety rules remain. Stop at roads and crosswalks. Cross with a crossing guard where possible. Look out for cars.

## **Firefighter Visits:**

We are excited to announce that in February and March, our grade 1-3 students will have the opportunity to attend a special Firefighter Presentation run by the Markham Fire Department. This engaging and educational event will help teach our students about fire safety, the important work firefighters do, and how they can stay safe in case of an emergency.

This relates to our Health curriculum expectation D2. Making Healthy Choices: demonstrate the ability to apply health knowledge and social-emotional learning skills to make reasoned decisions and take appropriate actions relating to their personal health and well-being.

We are looking forward to this educational experience!

## **School Cash Online:**

We have many new families who have joined our school. If you are new to YRDSB, please follow the instructions on the flyer below or found here: <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> to set up an account on School Cash Online. We use this site for most things that involve payments (e.g. school clothing, pizza and pasta days, trips etc.). You will need your child's student number to register. This number can be found on the report card or you can contact your child's teacher or the office.

## **School Assistants Needed:**

We are looking for School Assistants to help supervise during lunch hours. These are paid positions. We welcome parents and community members to apply and join the Rouge Park team. If you are interested in this role, please contact our school office and speak to Ms. Ashraf or Ms. Draper. (905) 350-0005.

## **Breakfast Club:**

We continue to offer a breakfast club every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 7:30-7:55 in the multi-purpose room. Ms. Ajani comes in early to prepare both hot and cold options for students to enjoy and consistently serves over 50 students a day. If you are able to help support this program, please send a donation with your child or contact us at the school.

## **Bus or School Cancellations:**

When an extreme cold or inclement weather day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) is cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. Please notify the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when emergency weather events occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure. Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, Board and school websites and on X @YRDSB.

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days is outlined in the Board's Severe Weather policy.

## Lunch Drop Off at RPPS:

If possible, please send your child to school with their lunch in the morning. If you have to drop it off at lunch time, please label the bag and leave it in the cart just inside the front doors. For student safety, we are asking parents to drop and go. We also want to remind parents that no filming or picture taking is allowed on school property due to privacy reasons. Thank you for helping us keep a safe learning environment for everyone.

## Prayer Spaces:

We have multiple spaces in the school available for students and staff who wish to pray during the day. Please let your child's teacher know if they need help finding and accessing a prayer room.

## Allergies:

We have a number of students and staff in our school who have life-threatening food allergies. If some of these students or staff smell or come into contact with certain foods, they may go into "anaphylactic shock" - a potentially life-threatening condition. Medication must be administered by injection within minutes to those individuals in order to keep them safe. **To ensure the health and safety of all of our students, please ensure you do not send any nut products or replacement nut products (e.g. pea butter) to school.** If you have been informed of other life-threatening allergies in your child's class (e.g. shellfish), please make sure you do not send these foods to school with your child. We ask that all parents help to keep our school community safe. For more information please read our [Anaphylactic Reactions policy and procedure](#).



## FlipGive

**Our School Council is fundraising with FlipGive and would love your support!**

It's simple:

1. Download the FlipGive app from the Play Store or App Store
2. Create an account
3. Join the Rouge Park Raptors using this team code: 9P7Q9Z
4. Purchase gift cards to everyday vendors like Tim Hortons, Wal-Mart, GAP, Swiss Chalet, etc and earn up to 10% cash back for the school!

Gift cards can be stored in the app, emailed to yourself or a friend, or transferred to your Apple Wallet.

Join the Rouge Park Raptors now and earn a bonus \$5 for the school the first time you shop!

## School Council:

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 4th from 6:30-7:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

## Message from Our Trustee

Welcome to the start of the second half of the school year.

Congratulations to secondary school students who have completed exams and culminating activities and are ready to start a new semester, and to elementary school students for all their hard work in the first term. I want to remind families that when report cards are available, you can now access your child's report card through the [Family Dashboard](#).

For students looking at [course selection](#) for next year, the [Experience YRDSB pages](#) on our website will let you explore the areas that interest you and learn more about the courses, programs and opportunities available in your secondary school.

At the end of January, we recognized [Lunar New Year](#), commemorating the first day of the Lunar calendar. Throughout the month, we also recognized [Tamil Heritage Month](#). In February, we recognize Black History Month, I encourage you to check the [Board calendar](#) for upcoming events to celebrate Black excellence and recognize the contributions made by Black Canadians. You can also find information about other upcoming significant dates and events for families.

The [Student Trustee election process](#) is underway for the 2025-2026 school year. Student Trustees play an essential role in our system, representing student voices at the Board table when we are making important decisions, and we greatly appreciate their contributions to our discussions. I would like to congratulate all of the students who put their names forward for the position and encourage all students in Grades 5-12 to take the time to vote.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank current Student Trustees Hayden Lai and Mitusaan Kugathasan and Indigenous Student Trustee Natalie Pitawanakwat for their hard work, leadership and commitment to student voice.

As a Board of Trustees, we have several important roles that affect the daily life in our schools and Board.

One of those responsibilities is to set the [policies](#) that govern the operation of schools in YRDSB. Policies cover important topics, such as [assessment and evaluation](#), [field trips](#), [homework](#), [dress code](#), [caring and safe schools](#), [health supports](#), [student leadership](#) and more.

We regularly review Board policies to ensure they are updated and reflect the current context, [priorities](#) and needs of our community and system. An important part of this process is inviting feedback from the community, including families. You can find a [list of all policies and those currently out for comment](#) on our Board website and I encourage you to take a look.

Trustees are also responsible for setting the Board [budget](#). As we prepare to plan for the 2025-2026 school year budget, we will be once again reaching out to families and inviting you to share your input and feedback. Please take the time to review this information when you receive it; your voice is an important part of the process.

We are also working through the District Action Plan to reflect and align with the new [Multi-Year](#)

[Strategic Plan](#). This plan outlines how we will achieve the priorities set out in the Strategic Plan and focus on serving all students.

I wish everyone all the best as we go into the second half of the school year.

Michael Chen - Trustee, Markham Wards 5 and 7

**Please scroll down**

# Cheer Pins

## TO PURCHASE

Welcome in cheer pins!

For only 1 dollar, you can purchase 2 pins to brighten someone's day!

Sold on:

Monday, Feb 3rd,  
Wednesday, Feb 5th  
Thursday, Feb 6th

During lunch

Grades K - 3 :  
12:00 - 12:30

Grades 4 - 8 :  
12:30 - 1:00

Cheer pins are here



## 2 FOR \$1

SOLD IN  
MULTIPURPOSE  
ROOM

# Happy Lunar New Year



# **LION DANCE AT ROUGE PARK!**

**ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025**

**1ST PERFORMANCE (KINDERGARTEN  
TO GRADE 3) : 10:30 - 11:00 AM  
2ND PERFORMANCE (GRADE 4 TO 8) -  
11:20 - 11:50 AM**

**\$2 LUCKY DONATIONS  
ENCOURAGED!**



**PARENTS AND FAMILIES  
INVITED!**



# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

There are several ways you can register your child for Kindergarten

**Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year  
opens on Friday, January 17, 2025.**

**If your child was born in 2021, they are eligible  
to begin Kindergarten in September.**

## *What to Expect in Kindergarten*

Our Kindergarten programs are caring and welcoming where children learn through exploration, play and inquiry. Your child will engage in activities that support early literacy, math, critical thinking, social skills and much more. Visit [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten) to hear from students and educators and to learn more about our program, routines, registration and more.

We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school!

**We encourage families to register online.**

Please access the online Kindergarten Registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten). It is recommended that you use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.

- **Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten). It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than

a mobile device to complete this registration. Current families can also find the program registration link in the [Family Dashboard](#).

- **By email** - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten) 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 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](#).

**You may call the school office at (905) 350-0005 if you require assistance with the registration.**

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you to make an appointment to review and verify the [required documents](#).

## **Learning Together: Experiencing the Joy of Kindergarten - 2-Day Conference**

We will not be hosting a school, “Welcome to Kindergarten”, evening this year. We will be inviting our new students to come and tour the school and experience kindergarten with a parent/guardian, in the spring. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the conference offered by the YRDSB. Please see the information below.

*The York Region Child and Family Collaborative, in partnership with the York Region District School Board, York District Catholic School Board and EarlyON Child and Family Centres in York Region, **invite families of children eligible for Kindergarten in September 2025 to join us for a 2-Part Conference - Learning Together: Experiencing the Joy of Kindergarten.***

### **Conference Details:**

#### ***Part One:***

**Date:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**Format:** Virtual session for parents and caregivers

**Keynote Speaker:** Hannah Beach (award-winning educator, author, emotional health consultant)

#### **Part Two:**

**Date:** Saturday, February 22, 2025

**Time:** Two session options: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Format:** In-person session for children and adults with interactive learning opportunities

**Special:** Families will receive a Learning Together Conference Bag containing books and resources



# G.I.V.E!

## Get Involved. Volunteer in Education!

### 2025 Winter Session

Join our workshop series and discover how you can make a difference in your child's education by volunteering in schools. Empower yourself to support our school community and enrich your child's learning experience!

#### You will learn more about:

- The role of a volunteer
- Transferable skills
- Equity and inclusive education
- Human rights
- Employment readiness
- School information and community resources

#### We will help you:

- Expand your network
- Effectively communicate with school staff
- Contribute to student learning and parent engagement
- Gain volunteer experience in schools
- Build healthy communities
- Boost professionalism

**Location:** Ellen Fairclough Public School, 33 Brando Ave, Markham, ON L3S 4K9

**Dates:** February 24 to 28, 2025 (Monday to Friday)

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**All parents, guardians, caregivers are welcome to join this free training program!**

**Space is limited, please scan the QR code or visit the [Registration Link](#) to register now!**



This free information session is organized by York Region District School Board in partnership with Catholic Community Services of York Region. For more information, please contact:

Oksana Majaski

[oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca](mailto:oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca)

416-568-2252

Pauline Guo

[pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca)

905-884-3434 #322

Eman Hassan

[Ehassan@ccsy.org](mailto:Ehassan@ccsy.org)

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Victoria Chang

[Vchang@ccsy.org](mailto:Vchang@ccsy.org)

416-625-7386



# Celebrating Black History Month / BHM365 Events 2025

\* Dates and Events subject to change

## Student Events and Family Engagement (please share with your school community)

Date and Time	Event Information/Details	Location
February 3, 2025 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. J.M. Denison H.S.	Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner. This event will feature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interactive Performances</li> <li>• Student Showcases</li> <li>• Dinner will be provided</li> </ul> Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!  <a href="#">Register Here</a>	In person
February 12, 2025 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Bill Hogarth S.S.		
February 19, 2025 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Alexander Mackenzie H.S.		
February 27, 2025 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Tommy Douglas S.S.		

## Staff Workshops

January 15, 2025 March 19, 2025 April 9, 2025 May 14, 2025  Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	BSA Black Student Associations Drop In Sessions- All Staff Register Here Virtual  <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Online
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## Understanding and Navigating the Education System - Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Sessions

January 27, 2025 Virtually 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Families, parents, caregivers, please join us for our monthly virtual meeting where families with Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary and secondary schools.  Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion Activity</li> <li>• Course Selection and Pathway Planning</li> <li>• Upcoming Programs and Events</li> <li>• Question and Answer Session</li> </ul> <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Online - Register to Receive link
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# Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

**Dates:** **Monday, February 3, 2025, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.**

**Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.**

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.**

**Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.**

**Time:** **6:00–8:00 p.m.**

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

## To Register

Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to [blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca](mailto:blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca)



F E B R U A R Y

BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH





Supporting East Asian Students  
**Family Engagement Evening Series**  
家校互动系列

**了解中学升学途径和选课系统**

请家长们加入SEAS支持东亚学生的家校互动系列, 帮助您更深入了解安大略省教育系统中的升学路径和高中课程选择。

YRDSB的教师和辅导员将提供以下信息:

- 安省中学文凭(OSSD)要求
- 升学路径并规划高等教育
- YRDSB的高中课程选择流程

讲座有英文, 普通话和粤语选择

**2025年2月5号 星期三**

**晚上6:30 - 8:30**

三楼学生餐厅

**Bill Crothers Secondary School**

44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4

请扫描二维码或点击以下链接报名

<https://bit.ly/4flwbhs>



更多详情请联系: [iscs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca)

本次活动由YRDSB ISCS 约克区教育局共融校园及社区服务部及支持东亚学生 (SEAS) 共同合作



## Supporting East Asian Students Family Engagement Evening Series

### Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

Join us for this SEAS Family Engagement Evening to help parents and caregivers gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System.

YRDSB teachers and Guidance Counsellors will be delivering information focused on:

- Understanding the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements
- Exploring pathways and planning for post-secondary options
- Navigating high school course selection process in YRDSB

**Presentations will be available in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese.**

**Wednesday, February 5, 2025**

**6:30p.m. - 8:30p.m.**

**Cafeteria, 3rd Floor**

**Bill Crothers Secondary School**

**44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4**

**Please scan the QR code**

**or click <https://bit.ly/4flwbhs> to register**



For additional inquiries, please contact: [iscs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca)

This event is co-hosted by YRDSB Inclusive Schools & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developer team and Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) affinity group