



Silver Pines Public School

A Message from Administration...

Dear Families,

Time seems to be flying by faster than we realize. Although our school has been virtual, it certainly has been a busy time for our staff and students. Our classes are wrapping up first term and you should be receiving those report cards on February 11th via google accounts.

In honour of Bell's "Let's Talk" campaign, this week our Junior and Intermediate students engaged in an online presentation with a "youtuber", Scott St. Marie, who discussed the impact of social media on mental health.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day was also honoured in many classrooms with the screening of an award-winning 21-minute animated film for children in grades 4-8, based on the book, The Tattooed Torah.

We are continuing to look at resources that can help both students and families in their learning about Google Classroom and engaging in an online learning process. If you have not yet completed this short questionnaire, please take a moment today to share your feedback. This [questionnaire](#) will only take 2 minutes and it will help us to understand what supports families may need right now to ensure their children are able to access the learning while online.

Please stay home, stay safe and have a good week.

Yours in education,

Jeff Laughlin & Shauna Small

School Council Meeting

Join the conversation and get involved
Our next meeting is

Monday February 1st, 2021 at 6:30 pm

Zoom link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81518913999?
pwd=aE5aQUltraXU5eW9qTEdpYzd4UXByUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81518913999?pwd=aE5aQUltraXU5eW9qTEdpYzd4UXByUT09)

Meeting ID: 815 1891 3999

Passcode: uqrs5S



Principal: Jeff Laughlin | 905.508.7303
Vice Principal: Shauna Small | 905.508.7303
Superintendent: Liz Davis | 905.884.4477
Trustee : Simon Cui
<https://twitter.com/silverpinesps>
<http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>





Kindergarten registration for the 2021/2022 school year starts on Friday, January 15th 2021.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for September 2021 begins Friday, January 15 for the 2021-22 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2021, live within the school boundary and whose parents/guardians are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for Kindergarten.

There are several ways you can register for Kindergarten:

Online - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten. 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](#) at 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 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.

Please note, at this time, under our [health and safety protocols](#), we cannot do in person registrations.

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you **once students are back in the building** to make an appointment to review and verify the [required documents](#).

Our Kindergarten programs are caring and welcoming where children learn through exploration, play and inquiry. You can learn more at www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten. We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school.

ATTENTION SENIOR KINDERGARTEN PARENTS: FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION INFO

Registration

FI registration will begin on January 15, 2021. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2021, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can email or call their home school office and indicate their intention to enrol. The home school will notify the French Immersion school, and the French Immersion school will contact you by phone or email to collect any necessary information. You are asked to register by **February 5, 2021**. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

Late Registrations

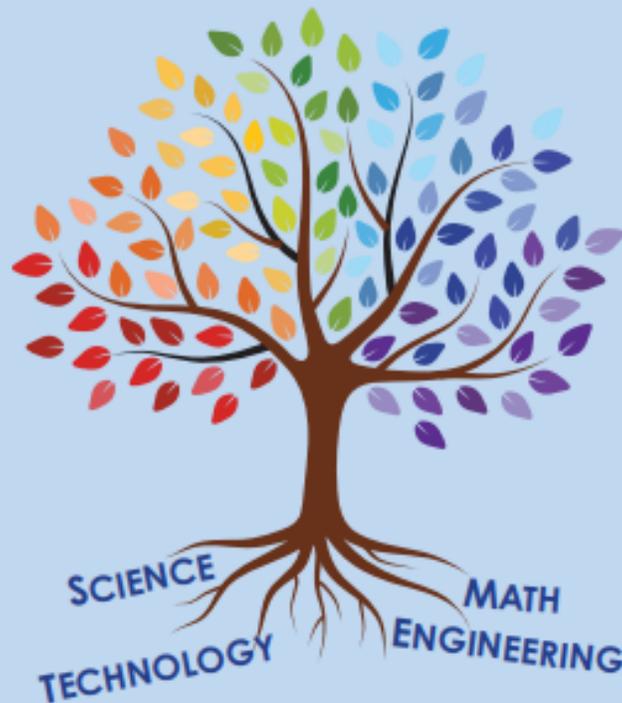
Late registrations are those submitted after February 5, 2021. Late registrations will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period should overflow be necessary.

YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD & SKILLS ONTARIO
INVITE YOU TO AN INFORMATION SESSION ON

STEM

THE ROOTS OF SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm



We are inviting **ALL** YRDSB parents/guardians of YRDSB Elementary and Secondary students to join **York Region District School Board's Pathways Team & Skills Ontario** on **Tuesday, February 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm** to learn about careers related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as well as initiatives and resources available from Skills Ontario.

GOOGLE STREAM

***Please note:** you will need to log into your child's YRDSB Gapps account to access the online webinar stream. ***Register in advance:** [BIT.LY/YRDSB-STEM](https://bit.ly/YRDSB-STEM)



A Message From Our Trustee

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.

211 Ontario

Do you need help finding food, housing, financial assistance, mental health support, employment support, support for seniors, winter clothing and/or shelter? For information and referral to government, health, community and social services, call 2-1-1, search 211Central.ca, text 21166, live-chat at 211Ontario.ca/chat or email gethelp@211Ontario.ca. 211 is free, confidential and available 24/7 in 150+ languages to connect you to local community supports.



To further support students and families, the Board will continue to gather parent/guardian and student feedback on learning environments. We want to hear from elementary families and students to better understand best practices and suggestions for student learning and well-being support.

We are using an online tool called Thoughtexchange to invite meaningful feedback from our students and families. Parents and guardians of elementary students are encouraged to support their children in responding to the Thoughtexchange. The current Thoughtexchange asks:

What successes have you/your child experienced this school year?

What supports do you feel will increase your/your child's learning and engagement experiences?

Please provide any comments or suggestions you feel may help us when considering the improvement of your/your child's learning experiences

To participate please click on this [link](#).

This opportunity closes on February 8 at 11:59 p.m.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. Please visit www.yrdsb.ca/covid19 for school board information and www.york.ca/coronavirus for public health information.



Parents for Children's Mental Health

SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

Monday, February 22, 2021 6:30 pm - 8 pm

5th anniversary of this Chapter!!!

PARENTS' Support Group-All are welcome!

VIRTUAL MEETING

Guest Panel: Social Media: Positive Use during COVID-19

Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult? Join us...

PCMH Chapter Support is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Aurora York PCMH Chapter 5th ANNIVERSARY Meeting

Time: Feb 22, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94001101367?pwd=VFpTbGJQTEhUeWJkMzk2cUIBaWhzQT09>

Meeting ID: 940 0110 1367

Passcode: 403748

One tap mobile

+14388097799,,94001101367# Canada

+15873281099,,94001101367# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 940 0110 1367

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adEPMYilrm>

Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
 - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
 - learn how to access resources in the community

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit www.pcmh.ca.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 22nd at 6:30 pm – 8 pm. Topic to be announced next flyer

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/94001101367?pwd=VFpTbGJQTEhUeWJkMzk2cUIBaWhzQT09>



Wicca

2 Imbolc

Also called Imbolg, Candlemas, Brigantia, The Feast of the Waxing Light, and Oimele. Imbolc celebrates the increasing strength of the God, given as the first and greatest gift of the Goddess. Many Wiccans honour the Goddess at this time as the source of fire, poetry, arts, crafts, agriculture and smith craft. It is a time for reflection upon the generative power of the gods, from which will come the later material and spiritual harvests.



Shinto

3 Setsubun-sai

Popularly known as the Bean-throwing Festival, Setsubun-sai marks the end of winter and the eve of the first day of spring according to the ancient East Asian solar calendar familiar to Japanese. Beans are thrown into each room of the house, and then through the outer doors, with the shout, 'Devil out, Fortune in!' Today, Setsubun-sai is a happy family festival.



Bahá'í Faith

6 Mulk

Mulk (Dominion) is the 18th month of the Bahá'í year.



*O SON OF BEING!
Thy Paradise is My love; thy heavenly home, reunion with Me. Enter therein and tarry not.
This is that which hath been destined for thee in Our Kingdom above and Our exalted dominion.
—The Hidden Words*

Diversity is our Strength!



Mostafa Abdelhamid
Woodbridge College

Black History Month - February 2021
#BlackExcellence



Indigenous Spirituality

1 Midwinter Moon (local Oneida)

Midwinter Ceremony takes place over 5 nights in February following the new moon. Food is a big part of the ceremony as it is provided by the creator and includes corn soup with deer meat, squash and turnip (food from under the ground) ...as told by Oneida of the Thames Elders.

February
Is
Black
History
Month