

## *Silver Pines PS Contact Information*

Phone: 905.508.7303 Fax: 905.508.7351

Email: [silver.pines.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:silver.pines.ps@yrdsb.ca) Website: [www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.ca)

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Recine Secretary: Dina Plainos

Principal: Sherry Zarif Vice-Principal: Georgia Petinarelis



February 1-29- Black History Month

February 10 – Lunar New Year

February – 14/15 – Harritage School House Trip – Grade 8 Students

February – 14 – **Valentine's Day** – Cookie Grams for sale (\$2) – Kindergarten – Gr. 3 only

February – 16 – **Friendship Dance** – Snacks for sale for \$1 and \$2

February 19 – Family Day – No School

February – 20 - 22 – Term One Report Cards Distributed Electronically

February 28 – **Pink Shirt Day**

## Lunar New Year – February 10<sup>th</sup>



To help deepen our understanding, and to honour YRDSB's Diamond Days, please see this [Lunar New Year video](#).

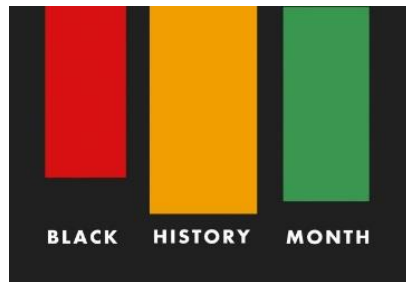
Lunar New Year is a significant and meaningful cultural celebration for many people of East and Southeast Asian heritage including but not limited to Chinese, Korean, Taiwanese, Vietnamese and Indonesian communities. It is celebrated across the Asia-Pacific and diaspora communities around the world. This holiday commemorates the first day of the Lunar Calendar. The date is determined by the appearance of the moon and usually takes place between late January to early February. The official names of the new year may differ depending on the country, such as Tết Nguyên Đán in Vietnam or Tahun Baru Cina in Malaysia. For some, this occasion has religious significance as well.

We wish all those celebrating Lunar New Year a very happy celebration!

## Friendship Dance – Friday February 16<sup>th</sup>

Students will have an opportunity to dance with their friends on Friday February 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have snacks for sale for \$1 and \$2.

## Black History Month



Black History Month and beyond aims to celebrate the richness and excellence of Black Canadians as well as to highlight their vibrant traditions, histories, arts, and cultures and their significant contributions to Canada and the world.

Silver Pines PS will be learning about the richness of Black history and significant individuals by attending workshops and participating in a school wide trivia challenge to build our knowledge of Black History. Please see community engagement events below:

## Celebrating Black History Month / BHM365 Events 2024

\* Dates and Events subject to change

### Student Events and Family Engagement

Date and Time	Event Information/Details	Location
February 8, 2024	A Discussion for Families of <b>Black Children on Pathway Opportunities for Students and Families.</b> <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Dr.Bette Stephenson Cafeteria
February 27, 2024 7:00-8:00pm.	Anti-Blackness in Schools - <b>Virtual Affinity Session for Black Students, Families and Black Staff</b> with Presenters <b>Dr.Joi Spencer and Dr.Kerri Ullucci</b> <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Online Register to Receive Link
February 29, 2024 5:00pm - 6:30pm	Family Cookout with Chef Maxine Knight - <b>Open to All: Student &amp; Families</b> <b>Light refreshments will be served.</b> <b>Register In person Experience</b> <b>Details to be shared upon registration.</b> <a href="#">Register Here</a>	Dr Bette Rm 113

## **Term 1 Report Cards**

Report cards are part of our ongoing communication to support student achievement and well-being. We hope that the Term 1 report card will provide valuable feedback for your child while supporting conversations about learning at home. Your child's report card will be distributed between **February 20 to February 22, 2024**. These reports will be distributed electronically via student **Board Google GAPS accounts**.

There is new information for families who would like to know more about the revised language curriculum for Grade 1-8 students and Early Reading Screening for year one and two Kindergarten students. You can find this information on the [school board website](#). The information posted on the website is available in multiple languages using the translation tool drop down menu on the top right corner of the webpage. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

### **Reporting on the Revised Language Curriculum (Grade 1-8)**

#### *Early Reading Screening (ERS)*

A screening measure is a quick and informal evidence-based test that provides information about possible reading difficulties (Ontario Human Rights Commission, Right to Read Report). As outlined by the Ministry of Education, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the Kindergarten Communication of Learning and the Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 1-6 will include a new section titled "Early Reading Screening" (ERS).

On the report, there are checkboxes where results of early reading screening are recorded, along with the date of screening. Report cards will indicate if the student has completed the early reading screening and if the student has met the screening benchmark.

As implementation is voluntary at this time, for the 2023-2024 Term 1 and 2 reporting period, all students will have the NA box selected for ERS. In the coming months, training on a Ministry-approved screening tool will be offered to primary educators in advance of mandatory implementation in the fall.

**Beginning in Fall 2024, students in Year Two Kindergarten to Grade Two will participate in Early Reading Screening.**

### **Tips for Secondary School Course Selection**

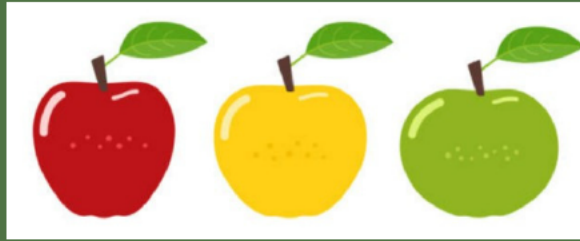
Grade 8 and secondary school students select courses in February for the following September.

Here are some tips and reminders for students and families planning their course selection.

1. **You do not need to make decisions alone.** Consult with your family. Teachers, [guidance counselors](#), student success teachers, graduation coaches and other school staff are there to help you.

2. **Plan.** You can use [My Pathway Planner](#) to track your courses, find post-secondary pathway options and look up course descriptions and prerequisites. Learn [how to create your plan](#).
3. **Explore your options.** There are many courses, programs and opportunities available at all YRDSB secondary schools that let you gain skills, experience, credits and certifications in the fields that interest you. You can now [search for these opportunities by sector](#). There are also [other ways to earn credits](#), including summer school, night school, online learning, Indigenous and International languages and more.
4. **Review [graduation requirements](#).** You are responsible for ensuring you select courses that meet diploma requirements.
5. **Review course types.** Selecting courses that meet your needs is the first step to experiencing success in secondary school. Your guidance counselor will help you to choose appropriate courses throughout secondary school as students plan for their initial post-secondary destination.
6. **Be aware of course prerequisites.** This is a course that must be successfully completed before taking the course that follows. You can use My Pathway Planner to look up course descriptions and prerequisites.
7. **Know where to go if you have questions.** Speak with your guidance counselor or other staff members at the school. Talk to your family members. Learn more about [course selection](#), [graduation requirements](#) and options available to you in [secondary school on the Board website](#).

# Silver Pines PS is looking for **Lunch Assistants**



- Enjoy supervising children indoors and outdoors
- Promoting safety, kindness and wellness
- 12:20-1:20pm, Mon-Friday
- Must have Vulnerable Sector Screening
- Training is provided

**\*\*Those interested please contact Georgia  
Petinarelis at [georgia.petinarelis@yrdsb.ca](mailto:georgia.petinarelis@yrdsb.ca)\*\***

# Application Check-List

You can begin to apply for a computer on: February 1st, 2024  
Application deadline: March 15th, 2024



1. Open camera on phone
2. Hold camera up to QR code above
3. Click link that appears on your screen

**Group Name:** YRDSB | **Group Code:** G-YRDSB24

## How to fill out your application

Scan QR code OR access application using the link your organization provided

### Section A

Group Name: YRDSB

Group Code: G-YRDSB24

Name of School: *Please enter the name of the student's school*

### Section B

This section does not apply to you.

### Section C

I would like to pick up my computer in Mississauga RCT Warehouse (\$0.00 Shipping fee)

OR

I would like to order a laptop, please ship my computer to my home (\$40.00 shipping fee)

OR

I would like to order a desktop, please ship my computer to my home (\$50.00 shipping fee)

OR

I am part of the York Region District School Board Group order (\$20.00)

### Section D

Pick your computer package and method of payment.

Our partner organization will need proof of eligibility (one of the following) before you can apply for a computer.

### Proof of Financial Status (one of the following)

- Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment (most recent)
- Ontario Works Statement (Social Assistance)
- OSAP Statement of Funding
- Refugee Payment Received from government
- Letter from school supporting the application
- EI Benefit Statement
- ODSP (Disability Benefits)
- Second Career

### Payment

You will have the following online payment options when completing your order:

- Credit/Debit Card
- Money Order or Certified Cheque
- A Third Party will be Paying (Ex. Ontario Works)

**Certified Cheques should be made to:** Renewed Computer Technology

The applicant's name must be added in the memo field. When you come to pick up your computer, please bring a government photo ID.





## Coffee with Tamil Social Worker

\*Service in English and Tamil

**Join our Social Worker for the  
Tamil Diaspora, Nijatha Subramaniam  
virtually to chat about:**



- Tips to engage and connect with your child
- Ways to support your child's well-being and emotional ups and downs
- How to request and navigate getting support for your child at school
- Guidance for current challenges and concerns experienced by your child
- Resources in the York Region community to support your child's needs

Consultation sessions are offered by  
video conference or telephone.

For more information and/or to book a consultation,  
please contact Nijatha Subramaniam at  
[nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca)  
or 905-727-0022 ext. 4138 (voicemail only).





## York Region District School Board **UBUNTU HEALING CIRCLE** **Winter/Spring 2024**



A virtual healing circle for Black identified students across YRDSB to join together in an inclusive affinity space, focused on supporting emotional well-being. This space is one that has been created to promote healing, wellness and resilience for Black identified students.

The group will be facilitated by members of the School Social Work Team.  
Students in grades 7-12 are invited to attend and participation will occur virtually.

**Grades Served:** Grade 7 to Grade 12 students from schools across YRDSB

**Modality:** Virtual offering

**Language of Service:** Services will be offered in English.

**Total sessions:** 8 sessions

**Date:** Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm (Weekly)

For more information, or to sign up: Please ask your Teacher, Guidance Counsellor, SERT, Student Success Teacher, Principal, or Vice Principal to contact either: Melanie Beckford, RSW or Tracy Thomas-Elleston, RSW  
at the following email address: [communitycareteam@yrdsb.ca](mailto:communitycareteam@yrdsb.ca)





# SKY Lantern

"MAKE YOURSELF SEEN AND HEARD."

## Chinese Heritage Student Support Group

"To foster genuine dialogues and enhance the school lives of Chinese Heritage youth by fostering civic participation and greater awareness in emotional well-being. This support group provides an opportunity for Chinese Heritage students to nurture their inner strengths and co-construct more inclusive, student-centered school environments."

**Grades Served:** Grade 6 to Grade 8 students from schools across YRDSB

**Consent:** Social Work Referral and Consent Required

**Modality:** Virtual offering

**Language of Service:** Services may be offered in Cantonese, Mandarin, and/or English. (TBD based on linguistic comfort or preferences of students)

**Total sessions:** 6 sessions\* (format can be adapted based on the needs of the students/school)

**Timing:** Groups will be run after school hours

**Date:** Group 1: Winter (January 2024 to March 2024)

Group 2: Spring (March 2024 to June 2024)

RSVP by emailing the Community Care Social Worker (Chinese Heritage) at  
[charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca](mailto:charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca)

