

Silver Pines PS Contact Information

Phone: 905.508.7303 Fax: 905.508.7351

Email: silver.pines.ps@yrdsb.ca Website: www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.ca

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Recine Secretary: Shelli Gould

Principal: Sherry Zarif Vice-Principal: Georgia Petinarelis



January 27 – International Holocaust Memorial Day

January 29 – Junior Girls Volleyball Tournament

January 31 – Junior Boys Volleyball Tournament

February 1 – Character Award Assembly

February 2 - PA Day – No School

FAMILY LITERACY Night!



A big thank you to all the families that came out last night to participate in a virtual hands-on art and literacy session with Barbara Reid. It was nice seeing families and students interacting and learning together. Please see the link below to participate in the session. <https://youtu.be/21KFRJUj9f4?feature=shared>

School Spirit Wear

A reminder that spirit wear clothing orders are due.

Please see link below for ordering

https://stores.inksoft.com/silver_pines_public_school/shop/home

SAFETY MATTERS - Morning Drop off & End of Day Pick up

With the winter months, we have noticed more traffic during drop off and pick up times. In order to help us maintain safety and consistency, we ask that you follow the following routines and procedures.

- All students being dropped off and picked up at the Kiss & Ride are to use the BACK entrance on the primary tarmac. At the end of the day, students are to wait on the sidewalk at the back to enter their car.
- Kiss & Ride Students being dropped off at the Kiss & Ride are to exit the car at the end of the Kiss & Ride lane and enter the building through the BACK entrance on the primary tarmac.

- Have your child(ren) enter and exit the vehicle from the curb side of the loop (exit from the RIGHT side of the vehicle ONLY). Exiting from the driver's side of the vehicle is unsafe due to the cars driving through the loop.
- Children are not to enter or exit the car at the entrance of the parking lot.
- Drivers are not to make U-turns in the middle of the parking lot or on the side streets.
- Please do not use the private property of residence and always be respectful of our neighbours.
- Never leave your car parked, idling or unattended **especially with children inside!**
- **Drive slowly, be aware of your surroundings, obey the road rules, crosswalks and speed limits.**
- **The safety of our students is our top priority.** Please give yourself enough time and be patient with other drivers and our staff.

Thank you for working together to ensure that our school is a safe space for all of our students, staff and families.



Kindergarten registration for the 2024/2025 school year begins on **Friday, January 19, 2024.**

Kindergarten Registration Options for Families

Families can register using the following options:

- **Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten > Registration. 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.
- **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.
- **In-person at the school** - Families may visit the school office to drop off or complete a registration form.

Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

January 2024 – See Attached

Message from Our Trustee

February 2024

As we start the second semester and second half of the school year, I want to take this opportunity to share some updates about upcoming dates, events and initiatives taking place across our system with you. I also want to thank everyone who contributes to building a strong educational community in York Region District School Board - the students, families, staff members and community partners who come together in support of student learning, achievement and well-being.

February is **Black History Month**. In addition to a number of [events taking place](#) within the school board and local community, the school board is once again Celebrating Black Excellence through its Black Voices campaign. [Black Voices](#) aims to centre and celebrate the Black members of our YRDSB community and share their voices. For families looking to learn more about school board and community events and programs for Black students and families, you can [subscribe to the Centre for Black Student Excellence mailing list](#) to receive regular updates.

Later this month, we will also recognize the [Lunar New Year](#) and wish all students, staff and community celebrating Lunar New Year a happy and joyful celebration.

While we have seen milder **winter weather** this year, I also want to remind families that we have protocols in place for [severe weather](#) and school transportation cancellation in the case of inclement weather, and want to ensure families are aware. You can find more information on the Board website. We also continue to encourage families to use active school travel all year round, including during the winter months. Early in February, we will be celebrating [Winter Walk Day](#), and be sharing tips as well as the benefits and joys of winter walking.

This month, students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote in the [Student Trustee Elections](#). I want to congratulate and thank all of the students in Grade 10 and 11 who applied for this position. Student Trustees play an important role representing student voice at the Board meetings and we greatly value their voice and contributions. Students who are eligible to vote will receive information in their GAPPS accounts about how to vote. This is a great opportunity to participate in the democratic process and to have their say about who will represent their voice in the next school year.

[Kindergarten](#) and [French Immersion](#) **registration** opened in January for fall 2024. For students looking at **course selection** in secondary school, there are lots of great resources available at www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb that let students learn more about courses, programs and opportunities that relate to their interests.

You can also stay up-to-date with what's happening around the Board by visiting our [newsroom](#) - some of the latest stories feature schools in our area - or by listening to the Board's award-winning [podcast Tune In YRDSB](#), including recent and upcoming episodes on what to expect in Kindergarten, how Student Trustees represent student voice, Tamil Heritage Month, Hindu Heritage Month and more.

As the governing body of the York Region District School Board, trustees are required to establish an annual **Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP)** to guide system direction for a four year period. The MYSP is a reflection of emergent priorities identified by our

educational communities. Over the coming months, we will be conducting extensive consultations with YRDSB students, staff, families and community members to collect input and feedback to develop our revised MYSP. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for all that you do to partner with us in building a strong publicly funded education system that delivers a high-quality education for your children. You can learn more about my role as a school trustee and [how you can reach me](#) on the Board website www.yrdsb.ca.

Crystal Yu, Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 1, 2 and 4



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 or 905-727-0022 ext. 4138 (voicemail only).



1609

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



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 28th, 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