

1 MARCH, 2024

SILVER PINES



# PARENT POST



**March 7-** Talent Show

**March 8** – Dance-a-Thon

**March 11-15-** March Break. (no school)

**March 29-April 1-** Easter Sunday and Easter Monday

**March 10** – Beginning of Ramadan

**March 20** – Naw Ruz (Nowruz)



## 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

## MORNING & END OF DAY ROUTINES

Thank you to our families who continue to follow our guidelines around morning drop off and end of day pick up. We want to remind parents you cannot park in the Kiss'n'Ride or in front of the school. If you need to exit the driver's seat of your car to help your child, you should not be using the Kiss'n'Ride. If you need to help your child, please ensure you park your car in a designated parking space.



Please give yourself sufficient time in the morning. Our doors open at 8:15am and there is usually no traffic at this time. Our staff continue to support Kiss'n'Ride each and every morning and end of day, and we appreciate your cooperation as they help give directions to cars. We thank you for your help in keeping our students and staff safe by always abiding by the speed limit, driving slowly and being mindful of pedestrians! Thank you for doing your part in helping us keep our school safe for all students and staff.

# SILVER PINES UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday March 10th marks the beginning of Ramadhan. In order to support students who will be fasting during Ramadhan, we are providing an alternate space for students to join during the lunch hour. We also will have a space for those students who will be participating in prayers. Please advise your child's teacher if your child will require access to these alternate spaces. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to have a further discussion.



March 11-15- March Break- No school  
Wishing everyone an exciting month ahead and a fun filled March Break!

# SILVER PINES FROM THE OFFICE...



As we approach the end of February and March Break, we are hopeful that a (well-deserved and much needed) change of seasons will soon be upon us. Spring is often cited as one of the favourite times of the year for many people. It is a time of renewal, new growth and new opportunity. Spring always brings forth a buzz of activity in the school and in classrooms, and may be a symbol of our continued efforts as a school community to work together in supporting and promoting the academic, social and emotional growth of our students.

We are now into the second term of this school year. In moving forward towards the goals of academic success, I encourage you to contact your child's teacher(s) and the school on a regular basis if you have any questions in regards to your child's progress. We continue to encourage a proactive approach to productive and collaborative partnerships!

So far, January and February have been very busy for both our students and staff with all of our extra-curricular activities, school trips, and the many school events!

March will prove to be a very exciting and yet another busy month for students, staff and parents. Our Junior and Intermediate students are busy practicing for the student talent show on March 7th. We will be hosting another fun Spring Dance-a-thon on March 8th. March 20th is Naw Ruz which is considered as the start of the New Year among Iranians along with some other ethno-linguistic groups. We will be celebrating Naw Ruz by participating in many different classroom activities.



We would like to extend a “thank you” to our staff and our parent community for their efforts in supporting safe driving and parking practices during the very busy pick-up and drop-off times at school. It is both hoped for, and encouraged that, with the coming of warmer weather, parents will encourage their children, to walk to and from school. This is not only a healthy practice, but also reduces significant traffic congestion around the school. We feel that less traffic on the road will contribute to safer conditions for both pedestrians and motorists, alike!

At all times, please feel free to contact with the school should you have any comments or questions!

Wishing everyone an exciting month ahead and a fun filled March Break!



# Key Changes – Language, Grades 1 to 8

[Click on image to view curriculum](#)

Starting September 2023, schools across Ontario began implementing the new Language curriculum. A Parent's Guide to Language, Grade 1-8 (2023) has been developed by the Ontario Ministry of Education to support families in learning more about the revised curriculum.

Student achievement in Language will now be reported as one overall grade or mark with supporting comments. In the past, the report card reflected a grade or mark in each of the four strands of Language (Oral Communication, Reading, Writing, and Media Literacy). Now, this revised report card grade or mark represents a student's achievement of the overall curriculum expectations, and considers the student's integrated learning across all four strands of the new Language curriculum:

- Literacy Connections and Applications
- Foundations of Language
- Comprehension: Understanding and Responding to Texts
- Composition: Expressing Ideas and Creating Texts

Student achievement in individual strands is reflected in comments related to their learning, strengths, and next steps.

## 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.



# Silver Pines PS is looking for Lunch Assistants



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

**\*\*Those interested please call the school at  
905-508-7303\***

## TECHNOLOGY RENEWED PROGRAM – APPLY FOR A COMPUTER

### 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.



## February & March

### YRES Youth Workshop Calendar

#### February

- FEB 10** | Study Skills for High School Success (G9-12)
- FEB 17** | Level Up Your Middle School Game - Study Tips Workshop! (G6-8)
- FEB 24** | Purposeful Extracurricular Involvement (G9-12)

#### March

- MAR 2** | A Balancing Act: Avoiding Burnout (G9-10)
- MAR 9** | March Break Camp Volunteering Training (G9-12)
- MAR 16** | A Balancing Act: Avoiding Burnout (G11-12)
- MAR 23** | Level Up Your Middle School Game - Leadership Skills Workshop! (G6-8)
- MAR 30** | Skills and Qualities of Leaders (G11-12)



**Aaniin Community Centre**  
5665 14th Ave, Markham  
or Zoom Meeting

**FREE Workshops**

YORKEDUCATION.ORG

York Region Educational Services (YRES) is a registered not-for-profit charitable organization.

## 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)