

**YORK REGION  
DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD**

**School Email**  
sixteenth.avenue.ps@yrdsb.ca

**School Web Site**  
www.sixteenthavenue.ps@yrdsb.ca

**School Telephone Number**  
905-884-5598

**Principal**  
Tim Gervais

**Vice-Principal**  
Claudio Tulipano

**Administrative Assistants**  
Lezlie Hood  
Siva Sivatharsini

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Lois Agard  
905-884-4477

**Trustee**  
Simon Cui

**School Council Chair**  
Sue Arabanian

Please mark your calendar

**Holiday Break**  
December 21 - January 1

**December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Virtual Parent Council Meeting  
6:30 p.m.

*All are Welcome*



**Character Trait**  
**DECEMBER**  
**EMPATHY**

# Sixteenth Avenue Star

## Administrator's Message

December 2020

It was a busy November at Sixteenth Avenue P.S.! A number of our students were involved in a number of activities including the Remembrance Day activities, the Beaver Computing Challenge, and the Gr. 3 Gifted Screening Processes. Further, our Grade 8's engaged in their first "virtual" orientations (as prospective students) to Langstaff S.S., Bayview S.S. and Alexander Mackenzie S.S. We would like to extend our thanks to all of the staff who arranged and supported these activities.

We were very pleased to welcome students and families to our Parent-Teacher Interviews which took place virtually on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. As administrators, we continue to be very impressed with our students' abilities to describe their learning and identify their next steps for improvement. This ability is a lifelong skill, and is one that our teachers have been working hard to support through the use of descriptive feedback and goal setting.

Regarding our commitment to School Improvement Planning for Student Achievement (SIPSA), we continue to work with our Student Success and Indigenous Education and Equity Teams to examine our strengths and next steps as a school, and which serves as a basis for setting ongoing professional learning and development among all staff in support of student achievement and well being. Please feel free to connect with your child's teacher to learn more about our ongoing commitments towards these goals!

As we continue into the late Fall and Winter months for the 2020-2021 school year, we encourage you to consider the information, below, in the event that schools are closed due to inclement weather:

Parents/Guardians will find information as communicated through: Local media outlets, the [Student Transportation Services](#) website, School Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001, the Board's website and Twitter account and on the Board and school's voicemail recording.

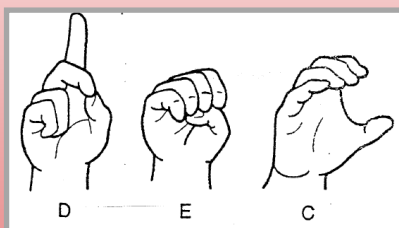
Parents will need to have alternate child care arrangements planned for IW days when schools are closed to students.

In closing, and as we approach the Holiday Break, all staff at Sixteenth Avenue P.S. would like to wish each of you a restful and enjoyable time with family and friends (as possible, in light of the current COVID-19 restrictions). Please note that the break begins (in earnest) on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 with students returning to school on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. To those who celebrate at this time of year, we wish you festive blessings for Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and a richly blessed season with family and friends!

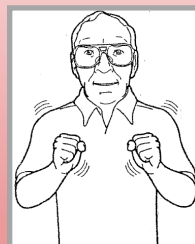
Sincerely

Tim Gervais, Principal  
Claudio Tulipano, Vice- Principal

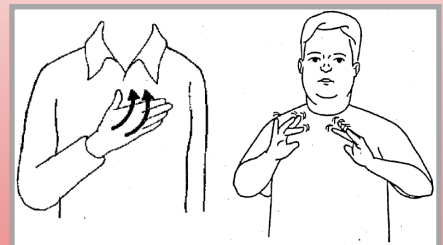
## Signs of the Month



December



Winter



Happy Holidays

# SCHOOL BUS CANCELLATIONS – INCLEMENT WEATHER

Due to COVID restrictions, please note the following when the school buses are cancelled this year



## Our school will be closed to all students

All student learning for the day will be taught remotely with the teacher through their Google classroom

When an Inclement Weather Day is announced information will be communicated through:

- local media outlets
- the Student Transportation Services website [=](#)
- School Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330- 3001
- the Board's website and Twitter account and on
- the school and Board's voicemail recording

## WINTER WEATHER



With winter weather already here, we want to share a few important reminders.

### DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Students should come dressed appropriately for the weather and for outdoor play. Students can stay warm by wearing layers of loose-fitting clothing, a hat, scarf, jackets, snow pants and mittens or gloves. Students may also want to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet.

**RECESS** If students are well enough to come to school, they are expected to go outside for recess.

Our students benefit from spending time outside and being active. We monitor weather conditions throughout the day. If there are extreme weather conditions, we may consider a shortened or indoor recess.



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 website and on [twitter @YRDSB](#).

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days are outlined in the Board's [Severe Weather policy](#), which has been recently updated and is available for public comment. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process. All [policies available for comment](#) are sent to school council chairs and are posted on the Board website, along with information about how to provide feedback.

## Message from Our Trustee

---

Dear families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and well. 2020 has been a challenging year in so many ways, and the global pandemic has affected individuals and families in different ways.

I want to reassure you that we continue to work closely with York Region Public Health and to prioritize the health and well-being of our students, staff members and families. It continues to be important that we adhere to the health and safety measures in place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can learn more about what schools are doing at [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening).

While we have seen cases in some of our schools, we continue to work with public health to respond quickly, identify cohorts that need to self-isolate as a precautionary measure and take all appropriate measures. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their diligence in adhering to the public health recommendations and health and safety measures in place in our schools.

One of our priorities in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) is to foster well-being and mental health. As a result of the pandemic, many of us are facing changes and new challenges that can take a toll on our mental health. It is more important than ever that we check in on one another and practice self-care. There are [mental health resources for students and families](#) on our Board website that address the unique nature of our current situation. You can also find information about our [Mental Health and Addiction Strategy](#) and the [work we are doing in schools](#) to promote positive mental health and provide support for students.

While there are challenges, we also continue to have so many reasons to feel positive. Our students continue to impress us with their kindness, creativity, innovation, resilience, courage and perseverance. Visit us on [YouTube at YRDSBMedia](#) to see just some of these stories.

In the coming weeks and months, many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays, and I wish you all the very best for the season. While we may be celebrating a little differently this year, I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back into our in-person and virtual schools in January.

Simon Cui

December 2020

Sixteenth Avenue P.S.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Day	1 Day 4	2 Day 5	3 Day 1	4 Day 2	5
6	7 Day 43	8 Day 4	9 Day 5	10 Day 1	11 Day 2	12
13	14 Day 3	15 Day 4	16 Day 5	17 Day 1	18 Day 2	19
20	21 Day	22 Day	23 Day	24 Day	25 Day	26
HOLIDAY BREAK						
27	28 Day	29	30	31		
HOLIDAY BREAK						

January 2021

Sixteenth Avenue P.S.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	4 Day 3	5 Day 4	6 Day 5	7 Day 1	8 Day 2	9
<b>Fairness</b>						
10	11 Day 3  Swan Lake Grade 2	12 Day 4	13 Day 5  Swan Lake Grade 4	14 Day 1	15 Day 0 PA Day no school	16
17	18 Day 2	19 Day 3	20 Day 4	21 Day 5	22 Day 1	23
24	25 Day 2	26 Day 3	27 Day 4	28 Day 5	29 Day 1	30
31						

# YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD 2020-2021 LEARNING CALENDAR - ALL SCHOOLS

This calendar has been created to help you plan your family holidays, medical and dental appointments around your child's learning. The most important days - the ones unmarked (excluding weekends) - are the days which students are expected to attend school. For your information, professional activity days and holidays are also listed.

SEPTEMBER 2020							FEBRUARY 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		P	P	P	4	5		P	2	3	4	5	6
6	H	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	H	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30				28						

OCTOBER 2020							MARCH 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	H	13	14	15	16	17	14	H	H	H	H	H	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	28	29	30	31			
NOVEMBER 2020							APRIL 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	H	3
8	9	10	11	12	P	14	4	H	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30						25	26	27	28	29	30	
DECEMBER 2020							MAY 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5							1
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	S	8
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
20	H	H	H	H	H	26	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
27	H	H	H	H			23	H	25	26	27	28	29
							30	E					
JANUARY 2021							JUNE 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					H	2			1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	11	12	13	14	E	16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	27	28	S	30			
31													

# YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

**FIRST DAY OF CLASSES:**  
**Tuesday, September 8, 2020**

**LAST DAY OF CLASSES:**  
**Secondary: Monday, June 28, 2021**  
**Elementary: Tuesday, June 29, 2021\***  
\* Early release

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Labour Day	Monday, September 7, 2020
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12, 2020
Winter Break	Monday, December 21, 2020 to Friday, January 1, 2021 inclusive
Family Day	Monday, February 15, 2021
Mid-Winter Break	Monday, March 15, 2021 to Friday, March 19, 2021 inclusive
Good Friday	Friday, April 2, 2021
Easter Monday	Monday, April 5, 2021
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24, 2021

Please see the Holidays & Observances calendar on the Board website for significant faith days.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY - NO SCHOOL

### Elementary:

Tuesday, September 1, 2020  
Wednesday, September 2, 2020  
Thursday, September 3, 2020  
Friday, November 13, 2020  
Friday, January 15, 2021  
Monday, February 1, 2021  
Monday, May 31, 2021

### Secondary:

Tuesday, September 1, 2020  
Wednesday, September 2, 2020  
Thursday, September 3, 2020  
Friday, November 13, 2020  
Monday, February 1, 2021  
Friday, May 7, 2021  
Tuesday, June 29, 2021

Ultimately, parents are responsible for deciding whether to send their child to school. To find out if buses are cancelled due to weather conditions, you can check:

- the YRDSB website
- the @YRDSB Twitter account
- Instagram @yrdsb.schools
- the Student Transportation Services' (STS) website at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) or hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- school websites
- radio and television media outlets

York Region District School Board  
60 Wellington Street West, Aurora L4G 3H2  
(905) 727-3141, 895-7216, 722-3201, (416) 969-8131  
Automated: (905) 727-0022, 895-7227, 722-6255, (416) 969-7170  
Facsimile: (905) 727-1931  
Website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)  
Twitter: @YRDSB



**H** School Holiday  
**E** Elementary P.A. Day  
**S** Secondary P.A. Day  
**P** P.A. Day for All Schools

Louise Sirisko  
Director of Education



Juanita Nathan  
Chair of the Board