

APRIL 2023

# The Stonebridge Story

Website: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stonebridge.ps>

Email: [Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca)

Follow us on twitter: @StonebridgePS



## PRINCIPAL

David Williams

## VICE-PRINCIPAL

Elaine Ricketts

## SUPERINTENDENT

Laura Leesti

## TRUSTEE

Ron Lynn

## School Day Schedule

8:45 am Entry

8:55-10:35

Learning Block

10:35 - 11:05

Recess

11:05– 12:45

Learning Block

12:45-1:45

Lunch

1:45-3:25

Learning Block

3:25

Dismissal

## Message from our Administrators

Dear Stonebridge Families,

It's April and spring is in the air. We are glad to say goodbye to the long winter and its unpredictable weather.

Stonebridge continues to be a busy school with lots of events happening for students to enjoy.

Junior girls and boys basketball teams have been selected. We had a great turnout for tryouts and we look forward to seeing their improvement and team growth as the season progresses. The students have been committed to attend their basketball practices and are working hard towards the area basketball tournaments later on this month. We also have badminton teams being run at the school. We have boys, girls and mixed teams. The students are very enthusiastic about competing against other schools in the area tournament in early May. We wish all the teams good luck with their season!

Starting in April, once per week we will be running a junior games club where students can gather to play board games during recess. School council has generously donated funds to purchase the games. Two students have taken the initiative to begin a cubing club. Students gather to share their knowledge and interest in solving Rubik's cube. This will provide the students with an opportunity to enjoy great social activities. It also provides students with an alternative to decrease their screen time outside of school.

Intramural sports will be run for primary students once per week during the morning recess in April. Games will be organized by teachers for students to compete in a friendly environment. We look forward to a good turnout of students from grades 1 to 3 to enjoy it and have fun.

Stonebridge is looking forward to an exciting month!

Partners in Education,

Mr. Williams and Ms. Ricketts

# Tentative 2023-2024 school year calendars

Dear Families,

The proposed YRDSB 2023-2024 school year calendars have been sent to the Ministry for review and approval. These calendars may be accessed on the YRDSB website at:

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/school-year-calendar>

Please note: Calendars are not official until they receive formal Ministry approval which is expected in late May 2023.

## Every Student Counts Survey

YRDSB's first Every Student Counts Survey (ESCS), was implemented in November, 2018. As part of a four-year cycle to monitor trends, including improvements over time, the Board is going to implement the second iteration of the ESCS during the 2022-2023 school year in order to better understand the demographic composition of our students and their experiences inside of school. The Board will use this data to:

- Identify and eliminate systemic barriers to student success;
- Create more equitable and inclusive school environments; and
- Improve student achievement and well-being.

**All YRDSB students from Kindergarten through Grade 12 will be invited to participate in the ESCS during April - May 2023.** This survey is voluntary and confidential and will take 20 minutes to complete. Families of students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will complete the survey with their child at home, and students in Grades 4 to 12 will complete the survey during class time.

## Vacation and Other Plans

If families are planning to:

- move to a new address in the future
- go on vacation (prior to school year-end)

Please email [stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca) as soon as possible.

## Summer Institute

Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for five weeks during July and August. It is offered at 10 school sites around York Region.

For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the [Summer Institute](http://www.yrdsb.ca) webpage on [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Registration opens March 29, 2023 at 4:00pm. Families can register online.

## Sikh Heritage Month – April 2023

The month of April is proclaimed as Sikh Heritage Month as per [The Sikh Heritage Month Act of 2013](#).

As we begin the month of April, staff and students are encouraged to join Canadians who will be coming together to celebrate how Sikh Canadians have made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario and Canada's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric.

During the month of April, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. Sikh Canadians widely celebrate Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, across Ontario.

# REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! LEARNING TOGETHER *Conference*

April 19: VIRTUAL,  
April 22: NORTH LOCATION and April 30: SOUTH LOCATION

The York Region Child and Family Collaborative  
in collaboration with the EarlyON Child and Family Centres in York  
Region invite families of children eligible for Kindergarten in  
September 2023 to join us for a 2-Part Conference!

## LEARNING TOGETHER:

*Experiencing the joy of Kindergarten*

### PART ONE

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023**

A virtual evening session for parents and caregivers.  
Hear from *Dr. Adele Diamond*, an award-winning neuroscientist, who  
will share her knowledge about child development and early learning.

**REGISTER HERE FOR THE APRIL 19th SESSION (VIRTUAL):**

<https://learningtogetherconferenceapril19.eventbrite.ca>

### PART TWO

*There are two dates to choose from:*

**Saturday, April 22 or Sunday, April 30, 2023**

A face-to-face session for children and adults to engage  
in fun and interactive learning opportunities

**REGISTER HERE FOR THE APRIL 22nd SESSION (IN-PERSON):**

<https://learningtogetherconferenceapril22.eventbrite.ca>

**REGISTER HERE FOR THE APRIL 30th SESSION (IN-PERSON):**

<https://learningtogetherconferenceapril30.eventbrite.ca>



*Experiencing the joy of Kindergarten*



## PARENTING SESSIONS

Let's talk about it!

Children do not come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.

**We welcome all parents, guardians, caregivers and community members  
to attend these virtual sessions!**

**April 5, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Raising Competent Teens**

For parents of teens and tweens. This session will focus on strategies for your child to develop communication skills, self-discipline, good routine and problem solving skills.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

**April 19, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Getting Teen Connected**

For parents of teens and tweens. This session will focus on strategies to build your child's confidence, encourage social skills, plan and meet commitments and developing positive, supportive friendship.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

**April 25, 2023 | 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Separation Anxiety**

For parents 0-12 years of age. Whether your child is starting daycare, school or summer camp this session will help parents learn about the signs and symptoms of separation anxiety. The focus will be on strategies to calm your child's separation anxiety and how to better prepare your child for the transition.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

**Facilitator:** Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families



These free virtual presentations for parents and caregivers are brought to you through a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families.

For more information, please contact Oksana Majaski,  
YRDSB Community & Partnership Developer via email at [Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca)



## Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

April 2023

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*YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel*

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### Celebrating Neurodiversity

Dear Families,

In this edition we will focus on celebrating neurodiversity within our student population. We recognize [Autism Acceptance day](#) through highlighting strengths, characteristics, resources, and celebrating the spectrum; we want to acknowledge that families are the core support. There are many ways of thinking, learning or acting and we know that the uniqueness between us as people is to be celebrated and acknowledged. This year, we are moving to increasing acceptance.



For families who are looking to increase their understanding in supporting Autistic people, [Kerry's place](#) offers a great [Resource Portal](#) where there are [videos](#) and [handouts](#) with helpful information to expand understanding of Autism. [Kinark Autism Services](#) has created a [spring guide](#) for services available from April to June 2023 for families connected to the [Ontario Autism Program](#) for free. They also have free [Parent & Caregiver Education](#) that is available to all families.

[Autism Ontario](#) provides informational resources about the intersection between Mental health and Autism. They share how Autistic youth who also experience [Anxiety](#) may find sensory support or art therapy helpful. Sensory calming



## YRDSB Mental Health

techniques may include a fidget object, or making sure to have noise cancelling headphones accessible. Art therapy can help many people share feelings in a creative way- this can look like painting or picking up a musical instrument!

It is important to acknowledge the diversity in experience and characteristics of Autistic youth, and learn alongside while solving problems, coping with challenges and expressing joy. When we talk about Autistic youth, it is important to note the [identity first language](#) used as this is preferred by most Autistic people. We do encourage people to check in with each person to see what language fits best for them.

### **Free Community Programs:**

Learning Disabilities Association of York Region

- [Parents Support Group](#)- Free, monthly, virtual Zoom
- April 13th 2023, May 11th 2023, June 8th 2023
- [Online Registration](#)

Kerry's Place for Autism

- [The Rec Room](#)
  - Leisure-based online social group.
  - Mondays, April 3, 2023 to June 26, 2023
  - 4:00pm to 5:00pm
  - This group aims to increase opportunities for social interactions, fostering friendships, and having fun
  - Free to participate adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- [Virtual Jam Session](#)
  - Leisure-based online music group,
  - Tuesdays, April 4 to June 27, 2023
  - 6:00pm to 7:00pm
  - All ages with ASD
  - Participants join in by listening, singing along, dancing, or playing their own
- [Caregiver Non-Violent Crisis Intervention](#)
  - Saturday, April 29, 2023
  - 9:30am to 1:00pm



## YRDSB Mental Health

- Caregivers program who would like to enhance their skills in managing crisis situations, and learn about de-escalation techniques. Limited spots available.
  - [Online Registration](#)
- [Sibling Hang](#)
  - Thursday, April 27, 2023
  - 4:30pm to 5:30pm
  - No cost group program for youth ages 13-17 who have a sibling with a diagnosis of autism.
  - Group members will have the opportunity to learn more about ASD, and ways they may support their siblings.
  - This month's topic will be "Minute to Win it".
  - [Online Registration](#)
- [Fundamental of Autism Spectrum Disorder](#)
  - Saturday, April 22, 2023
  - 9:30am to 12:00 pm
  - Free virtual program for parents and caregivers, and community members, interested in learning more about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
  - Common characteristics of ASD, possible strengths, needs, learning styles and profiles of persons with ASD will be introduced.
  - [Online Registration](#)

### York Support Services Network

- [Caregivers connecting Chat Group](#)
  - April 12, 11:00- 12:00
  - Peer Mentor Program hosts monthly virtual family drop-ins for parents or caregivers of children or adults with a developmental disability
  - [Online Registration](#)
- [Resource Day](#)
  - April 18, All day. Book a 1 hour session
  - Need help understanding the developmental services system?
  - Book a free, 1 hour session, with a case manager to discuss and ask important questions related to your situation.
  - To register call: 905-953-8354 or 1-833-953-8354
- [Mental Health Housing and Navigation Day](#)
  - April 18, All Day, Book a 1 hour session
  - Need help figuring out mental health resources and how to access



## YRDSB Mental Health

available services in York Region and South Simcoe?

- You can book an appointment to meet with a case manager to help navigate York Region's Mental health, financial and shelter system.
- [Online Registration](#)
- [Transition Resource Day](#)
  - April 7, 12, 21, 26 All Day, Book a 1 hour session
  - Need help understanding the developmental services system and transition planning? Do you have an IEP? Book a free, 1 hour session, with a transitional planner to discuss and ask important questions related to your situation.
  - Discuss the differences between elementary and high school, share tips and strategies to help you and your child prepare for life in high school, fill out forms and applications (e.g. ODSP, SSAH, Mobility Transit, etc.), find resources, build on skills, share options for after high school and adult life
  - Registration can be done through emailing [cmacdonald@yssn.ca](mailto:cmacdonald@yssn.ca) or calling: 905-953-8354 or 1-833-953-8354 ext. 2245
- [RAMP Up Group, Relationships: Investing in Social Connections](#)
  - April 25, 1:30- 2:30
  - 16+, strengths-based, open group created from the principles of Positive Psychology
  - [Online Registration](#)

### Yorkhills

- [York Hills Events – April](#)

### ConnectAbility.ca

- [List of Family Groups operating in Ontario.](#)

### Supportive Resources:

[YorkHills Here to Help Line](#) (905-503-9561)

The Here to Help Line is a free service available to children/youth (0-18 years) and their parents/caregiver/adult supporters. Monday to Thursday from 2:00pm-7:00p.m

[Family Services York Region](#) (905-895-2371)

Virtual walk in is operated on a first come, first serve basis, and can be accessed once per month. Virtual appointments can be 15 minutes to 1.5 hours long depending



## YRDSB Mental Health

on your specific needs. Monday, Tuesday, Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page](#)

Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#) for updated information as well as the Twitter account [@YRDSB](#)

Follow YRDSB Mental Health on Twitter [@MH\\_YRDSB](#)

### PFlag

- [Coffee Night](#), held every second Monday of the month, is a safe space where members of the LGBTQ2 community, their friends, family or allies can come together.
- [Online Registration](#)

### Family Services of York Region

- [Free to be](#)
  - Free virtual group for parents/caregivers of gender diverse children, regardless of age which meets once a month.
  - Second Tuesday of each month
  - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m

This edition of the Newsletter was written by the Student Mental Health and Addictions Strategy Implementation Team 2022–2023, inclusive of YRDSB School Social Workers Kate Phillips, Nicole Gough, Afsaneh Zafarani and Master of Social Work student, Sylvia Kuria.

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Hello Silver Wolves, Spirit Wear is here!!!



<http://stonebridgeps.entripyshops.com/>

Our Spirit Wear will be available for  
order online through the above link.

Delivery to your home!

You have the ability to customize your  
order with colour and lettering!

Order now!! Proceeds to support the school!!

# Kindergarten Registration 2023—2024



## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for September 2023 begins Friday, January 20 from 8:30 am for the 2023-2024 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2023, 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](http://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](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten) at [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://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.

**By mail or appointment.** You can mail completed applications to the school, or request an appointment to drop-off your completed paper application form. Families are asked to follow all school COVID-19 protocols while on site.

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you 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](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten). We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school.



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2023

There are several ways you can register your child for Kindergarten:

### Option 1: Online



Register online by visiting  
[www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten).

### Option 2: Email



Complete a fillable PDF found on:  
[www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten)  
and email the form to the school  
email address, found on the  
school's website.

### Option 3: Phone



Register by calling the school to  
request support to complete  
the registration over the phone.  
Interpreters available upon  
request.

### Option 4: In Person



Visit the school office to drop off or  
complete a registration form.

## Register in just two easy steps:

1

Complete registration form  
and submit to the school

2

The school will contact you  
to make an appointment to  
review and verify the  
required documents

# Report Absences or Late

If your child is going to be absent / late, please report via Edsby before the bell time.

If you do not have an Edsby account or need help with setting it up, please contact the office @ **905-887-2427**.

TO REPORT A STUDENT ABSENCE/LATE:

LOGIN TO: **yrdsb.edsby.com** / CALL **905.887.2427**

## Nut & Scent Free Environment

This is a reminder that many students and staff have life threatening allergies to nuts. As a result, we ask that all snacks and lunches are nut free. Please take the time to read the labels on snacks to ensure they are nut safe. We also ask that you do not use peanut butter substitutes such as Wow Butter. **Nutella is a nut product and must not come to school.**



The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other medical conditions. To help keep the air healthy for everyone, our school has a scent-free policy.