

DECEMBER
2020



PRINCIPAL

Kevin Merkley

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Sumir Bansal

SUPERINTENDENT

Camille Logan

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

The Stonebridge Story

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

Email: Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca

Follow us on twitter: @StonebridgePS

A Message from the Administration

Welcome to December! The cooler weather is here and we are eagerly waiting for more snow! Please remember to dress appropriately for the weather. Snow pants, winter boots, hats, gloves/mittens, and scarfs are required to keep fingers and toes warm when we learn and play outside. Your child should arrive at school every day dressed and ready to go outside. Our decision to send students outside depends upon the temperature and the wind chill. These two factors considered together determine whether we are outside for the full recess, whether we go outside for a shortened recess, or remain inside due to severe cold. If you search for The [Weather Network/Stonebridge PS](#) they will show you what you need to wear in the morning, lunch time and end of day to dress for the weather!

欢迎来到十二月了！更冷的天气已经开始和我们在渴望着更多的雪！请记住要穿着适合天气的衣服。雪裤，冬天靴，帽，雪手套和围巾以让我们在外学习和玩耍时保持手指和脚趾温暖。您的孩子应该每天上学穿备到外面的衣服。我们决定让孩子们出外面会按照天气和冷风情况决定。这两个因素会一併考虑以决定我们是否到外面全段小息时间或是一个缩短的小息，或会因严寒而留在校内。如果更多信息，可查看教育局网站[Weather Network/Stonebridge PS](#)给您知道孩子在早上，午饭和下课需按天气穿着的衣服。

We have 29 very strong Student Government members who have put their names forward to represent their classes! We had our first meeting virtually after school on November 10th and our Class Senators have lots to offer and want to make a difference at Stonebridge. Our Class Senators will be working closely with our Lead Teachers to support our racialized learners/families, our 2SLGBTQ+ community, deepen our work in Indigenous Education and also support Technology and Modern Learning.

我们有29个非常优秀的学生政府成员自薦代表他们的班级。我们的第一次学生网会在十一月十日下午课后已经进行和我们的班代表们有很多的建议和意见去令石橋做得更好。我们的班代表们会跟我们的领导老师们紧密合作以支持我们的不同族裔的学生/家庭，我们的不同性别取向的社区成员，加强我们在原住民教育的工作和支持科技和现代教育。

We want to draw your attention to some of our work that has been shared via Twitter (@StonebridgePS):

以下希望给您们说明我们在石橋学校的推特已经分享的各项工作，Twitter (@StonebridgePS)

[Remembrance Day Virtual Assembly](#) 和平纪念日网上大会

[Rocks of Remembrance](#) 以石头纪念和平

[Learning about Treaties](#) 学习有关各种条约

[Healthy Snack Program](#) 健康小食计划

[Muslim Student Voice](#) 穆斯林学生声音

Continued on next page ...

Message from the Administration continued

Our next virtual School Council meeting will be on December 7th from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Please [RSVP by Friday December 4th](#) to attend.

我们下次的网上家长委员会将于十二月七日由下午六时三十分至八时，请在十二月四日周五或之前登记参加，连线在[RSVP by Friday December 4th](#)

The last day of school before the Winter Break is Friday December 18, 2020. School will resume on Monday January 4, 2021. Please take the time over the holidays to relax and unwind with your families. We look forward to our continued partnership.

冬季假期和假期前最后一天会在二0二0年十二月十八日。学校复课会在二0二一年一月四日。请趁在假期时间里作好休息和家人一起放松。我们期盼跟您一起继续伙伴努力。

Your partners in education, 您的教育伙伴

Sumir 副校长 and Kevin 校长

Grade 8 Information Nights in Secondary Schools

Secondary School Virtual Open Houses

Transitioning to secondary school is an exciting time, and you may have many questions about what to expect. While secondary schools are unable to host in-person open houses this year, students and families are invited to virtually visit our secondary schools. Learn more about transitioning to secondary school, what to expect in Grade 9 and get to know the school.

Information will be posted on each school's website or check the [Board website for information night dates and additional information](#).

You can also visit www.yrdsb.ca/students for information about secondary school programs, course selection and more.

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.



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.

Ron Lynn

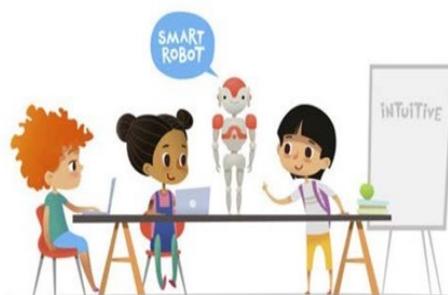
Trustee, Markham, Wards 2, 3 and 6

Introduction to Robotics and Coding Tools

This session will provide parents/ guardians with an introduction to web based tools, designed to engage students ages 8 and up, in coding and robotics activities.

Topics for the event include tools for:

- Block Coding
- Virtual Robotics and Physical Computing
- 3 Dimensional Modeling



Introduction to Robotics and Coding Tools

Event Details

Date: **December 8, 2020**

Time: **7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Platform: **Online webinar**

ALL YRDSB parents are invited to join us for this **FREE** event. **Space is limited**

Please Register online via bit.ly/YRDSBRobotTools or at Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/introduction-to-robotics-and-coding-tools-night-tickets-129287826369>

Interpreters and Translators Training Session

Please share this opportunity with anyone you know who is multilingual and would like to be considered for inclusion on the list. Specifically, we are in urgent need of individuals who can read, speak and write the following languages:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| - Farsi | - Urdu |
| - Turkish | - Hebrew |
| - Arabic | - Vietnamese |
| - Portuguese | - Kurdish |
| - Thai/Laos | - Spanish |
| - Spanish | - Cambodian |

Please note that all languages (in addition to the ones listed above) are needed.

A virtual information and training session on **December 10, 2020 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm.**

If you are interested, please [register](#) by **December 3, 2020.**

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.

FLU SEASON IS HERE

Get the flu shot as early as possible

The first and best step to preventing the flu (or influenza), is to **get the flu shot every year**. The flu spreads quickly and easily from an infected person to others and anyone can get it. Getting the flu shot can protect you, your family and those around you.



Students may be at higher risk of getting the flu as they come together in close public spaces including the classroom, gymnasium, lunch room and library.

The flu shot is especially important for students who have a chronic condition (e.g. asthma, diabetes) or those who live with or have close contact with a pregnant woman, kids less than five years old, or a resident of a nursing home or other chronic care facility since these groups are at higher risk of getting very sick or being hospitalized because of the flu.

Flu shots are **free** and are readily available at:

- Health care provider's offices for people six months of age and older
- Participating pharmacies, for people five years of age and older

In addition to getting the flu shot annually, here are some other health tips that can help prevent the spread of the flu:

- Wash your hands well and often with either soap and water or alcohol based hand rub
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze (if you do not have a tissue, cough into your upper sleeve)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Stay home when you're sick
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and shared items

It's important to get the flu shot as early as possible as it can take nearly **two weeks** for the influenza vaccine to take full effect.

To learn more about flu and flu vaccine, visit york.ca/flu.

PUBLIC HEALTH 1-877-464-9675 TTY 1-866-512-6228 york.ca/flu

Active Travel

December is an Exciting Time of Year!
The first day of winter falls in December!

Start of School Winter holidays!

Spending time with Family and Friends!



December is also a great time to get outside, have fun in the snow and discover the great outdoors! .

When the temperature drops, it is common for many parents to want their kids to spend time indoors. However, there are many benefits for kids to be active outside in the winter, including:

- Building different muscle groups and improving physical health
- Engaging in creative play
- Being messy and having fun
- Fresh air and sunlight
- Learning first-hand about nature, the weather and the seasons

When children are outside they move more, sit less, play longer and sleep more soundly at night. Being active also helps to improve your self-esteem, social skills and mental health. Here are some December challenges we invite your children to try leading up to the holidays (December 3rd to 18th):

1. Walk to and from school or the bus stop everyday
2. Wish the crossing guard or a classmate on your walk to school a great day
3. On your walk to school make a snow angel
4. On your walk to school complete 10 star jumps and 10 jumping jacks
5. Make someone laugh today
6. Check your local recreation center for fun activities that you and your family can do over the holidays
7. Say something positive to one of your classmates

Active School Travel is a simple way to fit physical activity into your daily routine!

If you live far, consider parking a block away and walking. If active school travel every day is a challenge, choose one, two or three times a week to make a change.



Sincerely,

YRDSB Active Travel Team and York Region Public Health

Inclement Weather Procedures During the Pandemic

Dear families,

This year, we are doing many things differently in our schools to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and support the health and safety of our students, staff members and families. As we enter the colder months, we have also reviewed what it will look like when inclement weather days are declared and school transportation is cancelled.



We usually try to keep schools open as much as possible, and in previous years, schools have remained open when school transportation is cancelled. This year, however, given the importance of adhering to our [health and safety guidelines](#), we have made the decision to **close schools to students when an inclement weather day is declared and school transportation is cancelled. Please do not send your child to school when an inclement weather day is declared.** We are unable to guarantee appropriate coverage for students on inclement weather days when school transportation is closed and classes cannot be combined.

Please take the time to make plans in the event of an inclement weather day school closure. Please note that before and after care programs will not be operating on inclement weather days. For on-site, full-day child care, please confirm with your childcare operator. We recognize that this may be an inconvenience for some families. This decision was not made lightly and made to prioritize the health and safety of students, staff members and families.

There are rare occasions when school transportation is cancelled due to extreme cold weather and not road conditions, and schools will remain open for students.

Student learning will continue:

- Students attending elementary school in person will be provided with learning activities for the day through their Google classroom and teachers will be available online to support students.
- Students attending secondary school in person will shift to virtual learning for all of their classes for the day.
- Elementary and secondary virtual schools will operate as normal.

Communication to families

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance. Our priority continues to be the safety of our students, staff members and families. If you have any questions, please speak with your school principal.

Transportation cancellations or school closures will also continue to be communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services website: www.schoolbuscity.com
- Student Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- [Board website](#) and school websites
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- Radio and TV media outlets

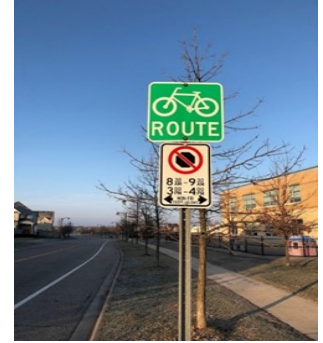
Families who have provided the school with their cell phone will also receive a text message, unless you have opted out of this service. Please contact your school if you have any questions.

For more information on inclement weather days, please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.

Active School Travel - Reminder about signs

Please keep in mind that there is no parking from 8:30 to 9:30 am on Wilfred Murison Ave and Stonebridge Dr. in the morning and from 3:00 to 4:00 pm in the afternoon. These are bike routes and this signage has been put in place by the Town of Markham and will be enforced for student and community safety.

请注意早上八时三十分至九时三十分和下午三时至四时在Wilfred Murison 和Stonebridge 不得泊车。万锦政府在那里有單車线和这信息牌说明，为行人和学生安全，違規会按法办理。



Please remember that there are no left turns between 8:50am to 9:10am and from 3:25 to 3:40pm. This is for student safety and to allow for traffic to move smoothly during these busy times.

早上八时五十分至九时十分和下午三时二十五分至三时四十分不得左轉，这是学生安全和让交通流畅順。

Please keep in mind that during the winter months that the walkway that goes around the North side of the parking lot is not maintained and is closed. We would ask that you cross at the entrance to our parking lot where someone will assist you to cross safely and walk the path by the Kindergarten area as this is maintained by the school with snow clearing and salting during the winter months.

请注意，在冬季期间，停车场以北部份不会剷雪和关闭，所以请应用学校正门过路，我们可安排让您安全过马路。亦可在幼儿园旁的行人路走过因为那边是会经常保持剷雪和加溶雪盐。



Please keep in mind the signage in the parking lot noting that there is no parking in the left lane, and the right lane closest to the walkway is for drop off only. Parking is not permitted in this drop off lane as it restricts the ability for others behind you to proceed. Please keep in mind that if you do need to drop off lunch, or visit the office that you can park on Stonebridge Ave between 9:30am and 3:00pm.

请注意：在泊车场已经有告示，说明不得停車在正门的左线上，在最右线只可停一下放下孩子，在这线也不得停泊。因为停泊会阻碍后来的車通过。如果您要放下午餐盒，您可在早上九时三十分至下午三时停泊在Stonebridge 街上。