

FEBRUARY
2021



PRINCIPAL

Kevin Merkley

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Sumir Bansal

SUPERINTENDENT

Clelia Della-Rovere

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

February will be another busy month for our community. During the month of February we deliberately reflect upon the legacy of African history and excellence in all its various forms, and we join all Canadians including those in the Stonebridge community, in celebrating Black History/African Heritage month. By learning and discussing persons of African heritage, famous and not so famous, who have been of significant influence through their ideas, words and actions, we appreciate the place of African history in the history of the world.

二月份將是我們社區另一個忙碌的月份。在這個二月份，我們特意为非洲历史的傳奇和它們多種模式的优越展现在大家面前，請石橋社區的家庭跟所有的加拿大人一起，頌揚黑人历史/非洲族裔文化月。我們以學習和討論非洲族裔的人物，那些已經因他們的理念，名言和行动而知名的和不知名的，讚美在世界历史中非洲历史的价值。

February also brings with it, Lunar New Year, which we recognize is also an important celebration within our community. For the past two years, we have had the good fortune to be able to work with Wensha Pang who is the grandmother of a Stonebridge student who is now in Grade 3. Last year Wensha was kind enough to create videos on [Creative Papercutting, Year of the Pig](#), and another video where she talks about the importance of [Papercutting during Lunar New Year](#).

二月亦帶來農曆新年，那是我們也確認在這社區中一个重要庆祝。在过去兩年，我們有幸運的和一位本校三年級的学生祖母彭女士合作制作一些短片。包括去年名為創意剪紙和豬年的 [Creative Papercutting, Year of the Pig](#), 另外亦有農曆新年談剪紙 [Papercutting during Lunar New Year](#).

This year Wensha, Sylvia, alongside students and some other parents are wanting to plan a virtual celebration that will engage the whole Stonebridge community for Lunar New Year on February 12th. Wensha is going to create a new video this year sharing Lunar New Year stories, and our students are going to create a video to show our community how to make lanterns.

今年彭女士 Sylvia 和其他一些学生和家長希望可策劃一個視象慶祝會，在二月十二日農曆新年日和所有石橋學校家庭一起參予。彭女士將會制作一個新的短片，分享農曆新年的故事，和我們的学生亦會制作一個短片向社區示范怎么做燈籠。

We would like to invite you to join us for our virtual Lunar New Year Celebration on Friday February 12th from 6:00 to 7:00 via Zoom. As we can only host 300 participants, we ask you to [RSVP by filling out this google form](#) by February 5th. We invite you to through this form to express your interest in sharing a story or how you as a family celebrate Lunar New Year as well (if you express interest we will connect with you directly). Feel free to wear Lunar New Years outfits and choose a Lunar New Years background for your Zoom screen when we gather on the 12th!

我們會邀請您們參加我們的視象農曆新年慶祝，在二〇二一年二月十二日下午六時至七時通過Zoom舉行。因為登入人數有限，最多300人，請預先在二月五日前登入此連線填網表登記 [RSVP by filling out this google form](#) 在填表時，請表達您有興趣分享一個故事或您的家庭如何慶祝農曆新年。（如果您有興趣分享一個故事，我們會直接聯繫您）。二月十二日當天的zoom慶祝會，歡迎隨意穿著農曆新年衣服和選擇一個農曆新年背景作為視象會背景。

Continued on next page ...

A Message from the Administration continued

By now you should have received information regarding a Change in Model for your child. A reminder that ONLY families requesting a school model change will need to submit a request. The survey will be from **February 1, 2021 to February 8th, 2021**. This will be the last opportunity for elementary students to change learning models in the 2020-21 school year.

另外, 您们应该已经收到有关申请改变学习模式的信息。提醒一下, 只有那些要求更改学校模式的家庭才需要递交申请表。递交日期由二〇二一年二月一日开始到二月八日。这会是这个二〇二〇至二〇二一学年最后一次更改学习模式。

Our next school council meeting, happening on February 1st from 6:30-8:00. We welcome all who would like to attend and ask that you RSVP by filling out the linked [google form](#) by January 31st. On the morning of February 1st, a zoom link will be sent to you to access the meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Sumir Bansal (Vice-Principal) at sumir.bansal@yrdsb.ca.

我们下一次学校家长委员会会议将会在二〇二一年二月一日下午六时三十分至八时。欢迎所有希望参与的家庭参加, 请预先在一月三十一日前填好网表交回 [google form](#), 然后登入视象会议连线会电邮给参加者。如果您有关网会的任何问题, 请随时电邮副校长Sumir Bansal 先生sumir.bansal@yrdsb.ca.

For regular updates on the learning taking place at Stonebridge, follow us @StonebridgePS.

If you need to reach us you can contact us at kevin.merkley@yrdsb.ca or sumir.bansal@yrdsb.ca

其他有关石橋学生学习的更新信息, 请跟随@StonebridgePS.

如果需要联系学校您可电邮我们 kevin.merkley@yrdsb.ca 或 sumir.bansal@yrdsb.ca

Your partners in education, 您的教育伙伴

Sumir 副校长和 Kevin 校长

Message from Our Trustee

Dear families,

I hope that you and your families are healthy and doing well. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their flexibility, patience and perseverance during the school closures. We understand that the pandemic is creating challenges and hardships, and we will continue to prioritize and do our very best to support the well-being, learning and achievement of our students during these difficult times.

There are resources on the Board website that students and families may find helpful, including tips for speaking with your child about COVID-19, support using technology, community and mental health resources and more at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.



One of our [priorities](#) as a Board of Trustees is to Champion Equity and Inclusivity: we aim to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to remove barriers in support of all learners.

Anti-Black Racism

We want each and every one of our students to know that they are valued, welcome, safe and respected in our schools. We know that sadly that is not the reality for some students and that incidents of anti-Black racism continue to occur in our community and our schools. These incidents cause pain, make our students feel unsafe and affect their well-being and achievement. This is not acceptable.

In the coming weeks, we will be sharing information and inviting you to participate in the *Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy: Creating anti-racist and Black affirming learning and working environments* virtual event. During this event we will be unveiling our Anti-Black Racism Strategy, which was developed in coordination with families, students, community partners, educators and members of our senior leadership team. The strategy was developed in response to continued evidence of anti-Black racism, and it will be a critical tool to support positive change in the system and to improve the experiences of Black students and staff.

A series of training sessions, webinars and opportunities for learning will also be made available. Future communication will provide registration options.

I want to thank the members of the Anti-Black Racism Committee for generously giving their time, sharing their difficult experiences and their voice. We are committed to ensuring that this strategy is more than a piece of paper and are committed to doing the work to create more equitable learning environments.

I also want to acknowledge that February is Black History Month, and while we take this opportunity to highlight and celebrate the incredible contributions made by Black Canadians, we will also be looking forward to launching our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy. We will also be continuing our [celebration of Black excellence](#) in our community and I encourage you to take the time to read the stories of some of the inspiring individuals learning and working here in York Region.

We all have a role to play in creating a community that enables everyone in it to thrive, and in doing this work, we will create a more inclusive and positive environment for *all* of our students and families.

Ron Lynn

Trustee, Markham, Wards 2, 3 and 6

School Council Meeting

Dear Stonebridge Families,

We would like to invite you to our next school council meeting, happening on February 1st from 6:30-8:00. We welcome all who would like to attend and ask that you RSVP by filling out the linked [google form](#) by January 31th. On the morning of February 1st, a zoom link will be sent to you to access the meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Sumir Bansal (Vice-Principal) at sumir.bansal@yrdsb.ca.

Minutes of our school council meetings can be viewed at:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stonebridge.ps/SchoolCouncil/Pages/Agendas.aspx>

Upcoming Dates: April 5th, June 7th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

School Model Change Request—Elementary

Messages:

- The School Model Change request form will be distributed to families and remain open, from February 1 to Feb 8.
- Families will receive information the week of January 25.
- This will be the last opportunity to change models this year.
- Only families requesting a school model change will need to submit a request.
- Model change request data is collected and analyzed to inform decisions.
- When the timelines have been established, families will be informed of any changes to their child's class placement or program model, as well as the date it begins
- Staff will continue to work diligently to ensure successful transitions for students changing models.
- We cannot guarantee that there will not be an increase in combined grades or a change to the number of students in classes in some schools.
- Due to the complexity of the pending reorganization and staffing, a child may be assigned a new teacher.

Regardless of the model chosen, YRDSB is committed to ensuring that the learning experience for students will be both safe and engaging.

Elementary Thought Exchange

Dear Families,

Thank you for your ongoing support this school year as we continue to adjust to changing circumstances associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The York Region District School Board is committed to ensuring our students continue to have effective teaching and learning through access to technology, resources and engaging learning experiences and environments.

To further support students and families, the Board will continue to gather parent/guardian and student feedback on learning environments. We want to hear from elementary families and students to better understand best practices and suggestions for student learning and well-being support.

We are using an online tool called Thoughtexchange to invite meaningful feedback from our students and families. Parents and guardians of elementary students are encouraged to support their children in responding to the Thoughtexchange. The current Thoughtexchange asks:

FAMILIES / STUDENTS

What successes have you/your child experienced this school year?

What supports do you feel will increase your/your child's learning and engagement experiences?

Please provide any comments or suggestions you feel may help us when considering the improvement of your/your child's learning experiences

To participate and learn more, please visit the [YRDSB website](#).

This opportunity closes on **February 8 at 11:59 p.m.**

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Please visit www.yrdsb.ca/covid19 for school board information and www.york.ca/coronavirus for public health information.

Sincerely,

Kevin and Sumir

Black History Month

During the month of February, we deliberately reflect upon the legacy of African history in all its diversity, and we join all Canadians in celebrating Black History Month. During this month we are able to appreciate the significance of African people in world history by centering people of African, Caribbean, and Canadian heritage, famous and not so famous, who have influenced the nation and the world through their ideas, words and actions.

Lunar New Year Celebration

We would like to invite you to join us for our virtual Lunar New Year Celebration on Friday February 12th from 6:00 to 7:00 via Zoom. As we can only host 300 participants, we ask you to [RSVP by filling out this google form](#) by February 5th. We invite you to through this form to express your interest in sharing a story or how you as a family celebrate Lunar New Year as well (if you express interest we will connect with you directly). Feel free to wear Lunar New Years outfits and choose a Lunar New Years background for your Zoom screen when we gather on the 12th!



Kindergarten Registration 2021—2022



Kindergarten registration for September 2021 began on Friday, January 15 for the 2021-22 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2021, 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. 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. 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. All permitted visitors must wear a mask.

Please note, at this time, under our health and safety protocols, we cannot accept walk-in registrations. 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. We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school.

Welcome to Kindergarten Night will be held online at Stonebridge on Thursday, May 13th from 4:00 to 5:00pm. Link for online session will be sent to families closer to the date in May.

French Immersion Information Session & Registration

Grade 1 French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information Sessions

This year our Information session for Grade 1 entry into the French Immersion (FI) program took place virtually on January 14, 2021. A link will be shared with you via email where you will be able to view a pre-recorded information session which includes commonly asked questions and answers.

Registration

FI registration will begin on January 15, 2021. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2021, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can email or call their home school office and indicate their intention to enrol. The home school will notify the French Immersion school, and the French Immersion school will contact you by phone or email to collect any necessary information. You are asked to register by February 5, 2021. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

Late Registrations

Late registrations are those submitted after February 5, 2021. They will be treated on a first- come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period should overflow be necessary. More information is available on the Board's website: www.yrdsb.ca.

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**

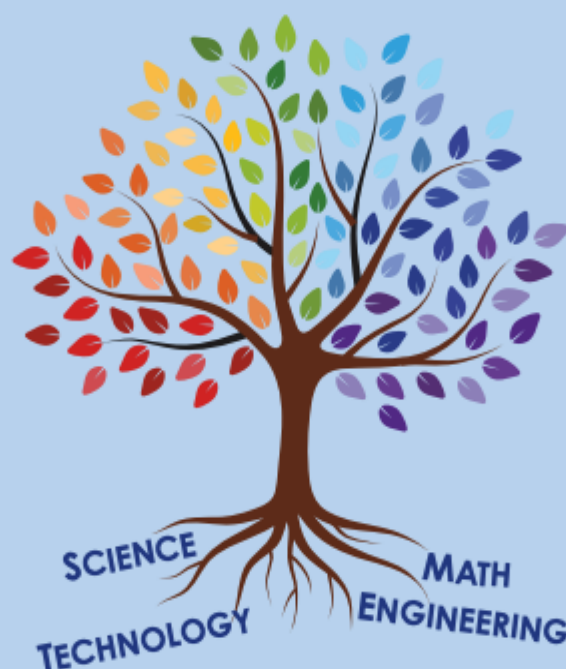
STEM Information Session

YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD & SKILLS ONTARIO
INVITE YOU TO AN INFORMATION SESSION ON

STEM

THE ROOTS OF SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm



We are inviting **ALL** YRDSB parents/guardians of YRDSB Elementary and Secondary students to join
York Region District School Board's Pathways Team & Skills Ontario
on **Tuesday, February 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**
to learn about careers related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
as well as initiatives and resources available from Skills Ontario.

GOOGLE STREAM

***Please note:** you will need to log into your child's YRDSB Gapps account
to access the online webinar stream. ***Register in advance:** [BIT.LY/YRDSB-STEM](https://bit.ly/YRDSB-STEM)





Understanding Gaming:

了解游戏

Join Our Conversation As We Explore Young People's Interest In Computer and Video Games Play

讨论孩子对电脑和视频游戏的兴趣

Presented by:

[Hong Fook Mental Health Association](#)

YRDSB Social Work Team
CEC East Performance Plus Team Inclusive School
And Community Services

Date: Wednesday February 10th, 2021

日期: 2021年2月10日, 星期三

Time: 10:30 am – 12pm or 7:00pm to 8:30 pm

时间: 上午10:30 – 下午12点或下午7:00 pm至8:30 pm

[Registration](#)

[点击这里注册](#)

Registration Deadline: February 4th, 2021/ 报名截止日期: 2021年2月4日

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.