

JANUARY  
2024



**PRINCIPAL**

David Williams

**VICE-PRINCIPAL**

Elaine Ricketts

**SUPERINTENDENT**

Laura Leesti

**TRUSTEE**

Ron Lynn

**School Day Schedule**

8:40 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 pm  
Dismissal

# 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

## Message from our Administrators

Dear Stonebridge Families,

Welcome Back! We hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful break. It was nice to see all the students return to their classes where deep learning and creativity lives.

We are preparing for our intermediate basketball season as coaches are putting teams together in preparation for upcoming games and tournaments. Thank you to our coaches for training the team for competition.

Please save the date: Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024

We will be hosting an Arts Night in the evening at the school. Please come out to enjoy art performances and displays by our very own Stonebridge students. Classes are currently underway preparing for the event and are anxious to showcase their talent. More details will be forthcoming!

January is recognized as Tamil Heritage Month. Tamil Heritage Month aims to celebrate the richness of the Tamil language and its literature and highlight Tamil Canadians' vibrant traditions, history, arts and cultures. In addition, it seeks to recognize the significant contributions of Tamil Canadians in key areas of social, cultural, economic and political spheres.

From all the staff here at Stonebridge, we wish a Happy New Year to you and your families. May you all have a safe, healthy and prosperous 2024!

David Williams  
Principal

Elaine Ricketts  
Vice-Principal

# Health, Screening and Absence Reporting

## Health Reminders

As winter is here, it is a good time to review how to [protect yourself from COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses](#).

**Screening:** Students and staff who have symptoms of illness can [take the COVID-19 self-assessment here](#). Individuals can screen daily for signs of illness and stay home when sick.

## Hand Washing

The single most important thing you can do to control infections is to keep your hands clean and those of the children in your care. [Correct handwashing techniques](#) are taught and encouraged in schools.

## Essential Health and Safety Message

If your child is sick with Covid-19 or flu-like symptoms, you need to keep them at home until their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours if they had nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea) and they do not have a fever. The health and safety of our students, staff and families remain our priority, and we will continue to follow the direction and guidance of the Government of Ontario and York Region Public Health.

## Report an Absence/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](https://yrdsb.edsby.com) / CALL 905.887.2427

## LAMPS

### Parent/caregiver series supporting learning about mental health.

The YRDSB Central Mental Health Team is proud to be offering the ***Learning about Mental Health Presentation Series (LAMPS)***. The objective of the series is to promote and enhance mental health literacy. The first session is “**Anxiety in School-Aged Youth, a Presentation for Parents and Caregivers**” and will occur virtually on February 28 from 6 - 7 p.m. The presentation will focus on the characteristics of anxiety, and some general strategies that may be beneficial in supporting your children and their anxiety.

These sessions are offered to any parent/guardian. Translation will be provided in a limited number of languages. If your preferred language is not offered, we recommend watching with a friend or family member who is able to translate.

To register please visit [this link](#).

Please Register by February 27, 2024



# Integrated Elementary Arts@Baythorn!

Current Grade 4 or 5 students can APPLY for the Arts@Baythorn full-time school program 2024-2025 (For students going into Grade 5 or 6 in Sept 2024).



The **Arts@Baythorn** allows students to explore  
**Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music**  
Integrated into learning each and every day in a  
Collaborative and Cooperative learning environment.

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/baythorn.ps/arts/Pages/default.aspx>

**REMINDER** Check the website for updated information.

**Application Registrations** opens: January 15, 2024 and closes January 29, 2024 (late applications not accepted)

**Collaborative Workshops** held: March 4, or 5, or 6, 2024 (these dates are firm)

# Kindergarten Registration 2024–2025



## Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 19, 2024

Kindergarten registration for September 2024 begins Friday, January 19 from 8:30 am for the 2024-2025 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2024, 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.

# French Immersion Registration

## Grade 1 French Immersion (FI) Information Sessions and Registrations

### What is French Immersion?

Provides opportunities for students to develop enhanced proficiency in French.

Students receive instruction in French from teachers who are fluent in French.

Begins in Grade 1 and is designed for children whose first language is not French.

In Grades 1, 2 and 3, all subjects are taught in French. Starting in Grade 4, instructional time is shared equally between French and English.

Program continues in secondary school.

Secondary school students must earn at least 10 French Immersion credits to qualify for the French Immersion Certificate upon graduation.

### Important Considerations

Grade 1 is the only entry point into French immersion in YRDSB.

Communication with parents/guardians is in English including, but not limited to, report cards, newsletters and parent-teacher interviews.

For the first few months of Grade 1, children may not acquire skills identical to those learned by children in an English program as the focus is on learning in French.

During the first few years of the FI program, students may not develop the same level of English proficiency as their peers in an English program, however children should acquire these skills by the end of Grade 8. Families are encouraged to continue to read to their children in their first language.

### FI Accommodation Plan

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program is offered in Dual Track or Single-Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. Space requirements at some schools may mean that siblings are in different schools for primary dual track French Immersion programs due to differing grade structures. Like any of our schools across the Board, changes to school boundaries, and/or the accommodation model for the French Immersion program may need to be considered when new schools open, a school experiences enrolment growth, and program changes occur. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools.

More information is available on the [Board's website](#). **Please note:** Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

# French Immersion Registration

## Information Sessions

This year, our Information session for Grade 1 entry into the French Immersion program will take place in French Immersion schools on January 18, 2024, at 7 p.m. Program locations and additional information is available on our [website](#). If families are unable to attend the information session, they can hear about the French Immersion program on the [Tune In YRDSB: French Immersion Podcast](#).

## Registration

FI registration will begin on January 19, 2024. Parents or guardians of Year 2 Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2024, 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 families by phone or email to collect any necessary information. Families are asked to register by February 6, 2024. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

## Late Registrations

Late registrations are those submitted after February 6, 2024. Late registrations 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.



# Stonebridge PS Fundraiser at Swiss Chalet



**STONEBRIDGE PS event at Swiss Chalet**

**Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**(4:00 to 9:00 p.m.)**

**SWISS  
CHALET.**

725 Markland Street, Markham ON L6C 0G6  
(Major Mackenzie/Woodbine Ave.)

Swiss Chalet has kindly offered to host a fundraiser for Stonebridge P.S. Please bring your families and come out to raise funds for our school. 20% of your purchase before tax, will go to Stonebridge P.S. Only dine-in option will apply to this fundraiser.

Please make sure to show this flyer OR mention you are from Stonebridge P.S.  
**BEFORE you place your order.**

Thank you in advance for your participation

Stonebridge P.S. office

# YORK REGION PUBLIC HEALTH DENTAL SCREENING 2023-2024

Community and Health Services  
Public Health Branch



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Dental health contributes to general health and well-being. This letter is to inform you that dental screening will be conducted at your child's school by a Registered Dental Hygienist.

All students in grades JK, SK, 2, and 7 will be screened as well as others as requested by parents/guardians.

Dental screening consists of a quick look in the mouth using a single-use mirror for each child. School screening does not take the place of a regular dental check-up. York Region Public Health follows Oral Health Protocol, 2021 of the Ontario Public Health Standards from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

## How will I receive my child's screening results?

- Parents/Guardians will be notified of screening results using the email provided by your child's school
- If you would like to receive a paper copy of your child's screening results instead of an email, please call us at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74395
- Parents/Guardians of children with urgent dental findings will be contacted by phone and your child may be rescreened at their school on a later date to confirm that treatment has been initiated

## If you would like your child screened every year, and they are not in one of the grades listed:

- Notify the Child and Youth Dental Program before the dental screening date by leaving a message at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74395
- Provide your child's first and last name (including the spelling), school, grade, date of birth and phone number
- Once we receive notice, your child will receive dental screening every year while attending this school



**If you DO NOT want your child to participate in screening:**

- Notify the Child and Youth Dental Program before the dental screening date by leaving a message at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74395
- Provide your child's first and last name (including the spelling), school, grade, date of birth and phone number
- Once we receive notice that you do not want dental screening, your child will not receive future dental screenings while attending this school

**Healthy Smiles Ontario**

If the cost of dental care would create financial hardship, you may be eligible for the [Healthy Smiles Ontario \(HSO\)](#) program. HSO provides no-cost emergency care and routine dental care such as checkups, x-rays, fillings, and preventive services such as cleaning, fluoride treatments, and pit and fissure sealants for eligible children.

**Collection of Information**

Please note that any information collected during your child's dental screening is done in agreement with the Health Protection and Promotion Act. Records of parent requests to exclude children from screening, as well as requests for yearly screening, will be maintained while the child remains in the stated school.

In addition, the collection, use, disclosure, and disposal of this information is subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Personal Health Information Protection Act. Any questions regarding this collection may be directed to the Privacy Officer, located at 17150 Yonge Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 8V3, and 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74056.

**Questions**

If you have any questions, please contact the dental program at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74388. For more information about York Region Public Health dental programs and services you can also visit [york.ca/dental](http://york.ca/dental)

Sincerely,

Management and Staff of the York Region Public Health Child and Youth Dental Program

**CHILD AND YOUTH DENTAL PROGRAM**

The Regional Municipality of York, 17150 Yonge Street, Newmarket Ontario L3Y 8V3  
1-877-464-9675 ext 74388 | TTY: 1-866-512-6228  
[childrens.dental@york.ca](mailto:childrens.dental@york.ca)



# HOW TO ACCESS ENCRYPTED EMAIL FROM PUBLIC HEALTH

Community and Health Services  
Public Health Branch



Dear Parent/Guardian,

You will be receiving a **secure** (encrypted) email from York Region Public Health. It will include important information about your child's school dental screening results.

To open the encrypted email from [childrens.dental@york.ca](mailto:childrens.dental@york.ca) and/or [dental.screening@york.ca](mailto:dental.screening@york.ca), please follow the steps below.

**Step 1** - Open the encrypted email and select **"Read the message"**

**Step 2** - Select the preferred option:

**Option 1:** Sign in with a "Google Account" or

**Option 2:** Sign in with a one-time passcode

- Go back to your inbox and check for a new email with the subject **"Microsoft Office 365. Your one-time passcode to view the message"**
- Get your passcode and return to your open internet tab to enter the code
- Enter the passcode and select **Continue** to access the document

## Tips

- Open an encrypted email from your desktop, not a mobile device and close multiple tabs open to the internet
- Use the one-time passcode method

## Troubleshooting

- Click [here](#) for further help on "How Do I Open a Protected Message" or
- Watch this [short video](#) about opening an O365 Encrypted Email

## Questions/concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns opening the email please contact us at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74388.

Visit [york.ca/dental](http://york.ca/dental) anytime for oral health tips and information.

## CHILD AND YOUTH DENTAL PROGRAM

The Regional Municipality of York, 17150 Yonge Street, Newmarket Ontario L3Y 8V3

1-877-464-9675 ext 74388 | TTY: 1-866-512-6228

[childrens.dental@york.ca](mailto:childrens.dental@york.ca)

23-5045



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!!

Link: <https://stonebridgeps.entripyshops.com/>

# Inclement Weather

## School Transportation Cancellations

School transportation (buses and taxis) may be cancelled due to extreme cold or inclement weather. On these days, schools will remain open unless otherwise stated. If school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon. Any special or hot lunch days and field trips will also be cancelled.

Families should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school on extreme cold or inclement weather days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on those days. For safety reasons, please let the school know if your child will not be attending school that day.

## School Closures

Emergency closures will be considered when conditions may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations or access to the school site (e.g., widespread, prolonged power failures or downed power lines).

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. However, it is important that families have alternate childcare arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and aftercare programs will not operate if schools are closed.

## 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 when we may be considering closing school and Board offices. Transportation cancellations or school closures are communicated through:

Student Transportation Services - [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) or 1-877-330-3001

[Board](#) and school websites

[@YRDSB](#) X(formerlyTwitter) account

Radio and TV media outlets

For more information on [severe weather days](#), please visit our website [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).



Student Transportation Services of York Region  
320 Bloomington Road West  
Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1  
905-713-2535  
FAX: 905-713-2533  
Web site: [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

## **Inclement Weather Procedures**

**STSYR015** P. 1 of 2  
Revised: Jan. 2013

### **School Bus Cancellation Notice**

School bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and Environment Canada forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be region-wide meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather is not affecting all municipalities in York Region. Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.
- If regular home to school runs are cancelled, Charter trips will not operate.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

#### **RADIO**

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM
1540 AM	1580 AM				
88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM	
95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM	
101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	107.1 FM	

#### **TELEVISION**

CITY TV      CFTO Barrie      CFTO TV      GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001.

# 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.