

MAY 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

May is normally a very busy time of year. This year has been filled with changes, needing to be flexible to adjust to what this Pandemic has put in front of us. We are very proud of the work our staff have accomplished in their classrooms this year while working with all of our students to keep safe during these times. We also would like to thank you, our parents and guardians, for the partnership we continue to build to keep each other safe. We will get through this together!

Just a reminder that our next School Council will be meeting on Monday June 7th from 6:30 to 8:30. We would ask that if you are interested in attending this final meeting of the year, that you [RSVP using this link](#) and we will send you the agenda, Slides for the meeting and the meeting link. Please RSVP by Thursday June the 3rd.

Over the past few weeks a number of Staffing changes have occurred as staff members have moved on to different positions and or are returning to Stonebridge. Mr. Galbraith has moved to Markville SS as Lead Caretaker. Mr. Galbraith has been leading our caretaking team for the past three years and has supported a strong team by leading by example. Mr. Tonello who has been with us this year has moved into a new position as a caretaker at Silver Stream PS, and Mr. Raymer has moved into a Lead caretaking position at Sir Wilfred Laurier PS. All of our caretaking staff who have moved on to new positions are moving into leadership roles within their new schools, and we wish them all the best. Mr. Longfield who is a member of our caretaking team will be our new Interim Lead working with Ms. Hotic and Ms. Semoff.

Mr. Liu who has been working with some of our students in Grades 4 and 6 as a Child and Youth Worker will be finishing his time with us as Ms. Fuchs is returning to Stonebridge. We thank Mr. Liu for his thoughtful and caring approach to all that he does when working with our students, and look forward to having Ms. Fuchs back at Stonebridge.

Next week is Mental Health Week. Ms. Smith our Grade 7 and 8 Teacher has prepared a community challenge for all of our Stonebridge families for the week of May 3rd to 7th. This year we have been very mindful of the importance of our mental health and well-being. We had Mindful Monday announcements where we introduced strategies to support our students and staff with their well being. We also during the month of January and February did a 30 day challenge where we practised within our classes a strategy each day such as focusing on breathing, taking opportunities to show gratitude and using Music as a strategy to relax us when we are feeling stressed or need to take a break. You can find the Mental Health Week 2021 challenge [here](#). To use live links, you will need to be logged into one of your children's Gapps (Google) account in Google Chrome.

Spirit Wear Orders – We expect that by the beginning of June, Spirit Wear orders will be available to families that made these purchases back in March. We will be sure to contact families once your order is ready!

If you have friends or neighbours that have not registered for JK next year, please let them know that we are happy to accept new registrations.

Your partners in education,

Sumir and Kevin

Continued on next page ...

A Message from the Administration continued

敬爱的家长们，您们好，

五月通常是每年一个很忙碌的时候。今年一直充满变化，我们需要弹性调整所要面对的这个疫情。我们为我们的教职人员在他们班室内保护学生安全所作的成果而骄傲。我们趁此感谢您们，我们家长们和监护人们，感谢我们共同合作保护大家的安全。我们一起继续一起努力吧！

一个提示是关于我们的学校家长委员会将于六月七日，星期一，下午六时三十分至八时三十分进行。如果您有兴趣参加这今学年最后一次会议，请登入这连接报名[RSVP using this link](#)，您会收到会议议程，说明灯片和会议连接。请于六月三日，星期四前报名。

在过去几周已经有一些教职人员变动，因为教职人员已转到其他职位或/和回到石桥。

Galbraith先生转到Markville 高中当校园护理保安队的主管。Galbraith先生在本校主管我校的保安队三年，成为典范。Tonello 先生亦在服务我们一年后转到Silver Stream 学校和Raymar 先生已经转到Sir Wilfred Laurier 学校的校园护理和保安主管。所有我们的校园管理人员会晋升或转到其他学校职位，谨在此祝福他们。Longfield 先生将会是我们新学年的临时主管，和Hotic女士和Semoff女士一起工作。

Liu 老师是我们四年级到六年级的儿童和青少年工作者，现在Fuchs老师将回来石桥。我们感谢Liu 老师对所有他协助过的学生们热心和关爱，并期盼Fuchs老师的归队。

下周是精神健康周。七八年级的Smith 老师特别为五月三日至七日制作一个社区活动给所有的石桥家庭。今年我们特别关注精神和身心健康的重要性。我们有一个星期一的静想广播，介绍一些支持我们学生和教职人员的身心健康的方法和策略。在一月和二月时，一个三十天的在班上学习和练习每天一个的策略，如专注和呼吸，同时趁那机会表达感谢和用音乐作为当感到压力或需要休息时放松自己的策略。您能够在此连接寻找更多精神健康周2021的资料[here](#)。如果您要应用即时连接，您需要以您孩子在谷歌Chrome内的Gapps 账户登入。

Spirit Wear订购 – 我们预计，3月已订购Spirit Wear的家庭将会在六月初获得。您的订单准备好后，我们一定会与您联系！

如果您有朋友或邻居的适龄孩子们还没有报名幼儿园，请让他们知道，我校现在接受报名。

Your partners in education, 您的教育伙伴

Sumir 副校长 and Kevin 校长

Fundraising Plan

PLEASE NOTE: Below is communication regarding our fundraising plan. As this year we have not been able to meet Face-to-Face and have not been able to do any fundraising activities from the school or from School Council, this plan will be carried over into the 2021-22 school year with the hopes that we will be able to return to being together at Stonebridge PS once again.

Fundraising Report 2020/21

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

In consultation with our staff, school council and parent community we have prepared a draft fundraising plan for the 2020/21 school year. Our key areas of focus for this school year are:

Well-being / Student Achievement

- o Saving towards building an outdoor classroom
- o Providing sun cover for our Kindergarten students on the North side of the building
- o Bringing Guest Speakers into the school that benefits all students
- o Expanding our Community Library
- o Attending trips outside the school

Our school council, student council and community are and continue to be an integral support to meeting our fundraising plan.

Our 2020/21 initiatives to support the plan are as follows:

School Council

Pizza Lunch
Fun Fair
Direct Donations

School

- Donations through Spirit Wear purchases
- Food provided to students at school as health choices that are a convenience for our families (Pasta lunch, Greek lunch, Sub lunch and Popcorn Sales)

We thank you all for your continued support in meeting our goals! If you have any questions please call me.

Kevin Merkley, Principal

CMHA Mental Health Week

May 3 to 9, 2021 marks the 70th annual CMHA Mental Health Week. The core objectives of Mental Health Week are to celebrate, protect and promote mental health.

YRDSB remains committed to promoting staff mental health. The Staff Well-Being and Mental Health Strategy, guides our work in promoting inclusive, psychologically and physically safe and healthy workplaces. Psychologically safe and healthy workplaces drive positive workplace culture, prevent stigma and discrimination, and contribute to all employees' mental and physical well-being.

One in five Canadians experiences mental illness or a mental health issue in any given year, but 5 in 5 of us – that's all of us – has mental health. Regardless of whether or not we have a mental illness, our mental health is something we can protect and nurture.

We all have a role in creating an inclusive, mentally healthy work environment. While we continue to operate remotely, we encourage you to reach out intentionally to a colleague this week in support of mental health.

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week May 3-9, 2021

This important week is about:

- Increasing awareness of the signs of child and youth mental health problems
- Decreasing stigma
- Understanding that help is available and it works!
- For more information on Children's Mental Health Awareness Week please see CMHA Mental health Week

One in five Ontario children and youth has a mental health problem - That is about 500,000 kids. Disorders range from anxiety, depression and conduct disorder to eating disorders, schizophrenia, and bi-polar disorder. Left untreated, mental health disorders can lead to school failure, family conflicts, drug abuse, violence, and even suicide.

The good news is that help is available and treatment works! This year, as we continue to experience physical distancing due to the Pandemic, our focus will be on how to maintain social connections and mental health while experiencing physical distancing. YRDSB is pleased to share the One Small Thing: Each One Uplifts One Campaign.

Asian and South Asian Heritage Month

May is Asian and South Asian Heritage Month in Ontario. In May 2002, the Government of Canada officially declared May as Asian Heritage Month. At the provincial level, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario designated May as South Asian Heritage Month in 2001 and as Asian Heritage Month in 2005.

The South Asian Heritage Act of 2001 established the foundation upon which South Asians, whose origins are or can be traced to the Indian subcontinent, can see themselves reflected and valued in the fabric of Ontario and our schools, and appreciated for their extensive contributions to Canada.

In May 2002, the Government of Canada signed an official declaration to designate May as Asian Heritage Month. This acknowledges the long and rich history of Asian Canadians from East Asia, Southern Asia, Western and Southeast Asia and their contributions to significant Canada.

OISE Drawing Event

The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE)
presents "Drawing Joy" – FREE EVENT!

To all who identify as Asian, you are invited to create art, reflect on Asian joy, and celebrate the diversity of Asian diasporas. Toronto artist, Karen Kar Yen Law will facilitate an online guided art activity which can be completed with common art materials. The session will engage participants to reflect on their own connection to their respective Asian diasporas, create a visual representation of Asian joy, and share their joys with other participants. Some suggested materials for participation are cartridge paper, coloured markers, pencil crayons, or wax crayons. Participants can also use tablets to create digital artwork. No prior art experience is necessary.

Register Here: <https://tinyurl.com/3b4yc5t2>

Drawing Joy
Drawing Joy
Drawing Joy

Date: Thursday, May 6th, 2021

Time: 4-6 pm EST

Jewish Heritage Month

Canadian Jewish Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the Senate of Canada on March 29, 2018. As we approach the month of May, staff and students are encouraged to engage in opportunities that celebrate and affirm Jewish histories and the achievements of the Jewish community.

Canada is home to the fourth largest Jewish population in the world. There are close to 400,000 Jewish residents in Canada, and almost half of that number reside in Ontario. Jewish settlers in Canada can be traced as far back as 1760. Jewish Canadians have proudly contributed to Canadian heritage in all of its facets including the military, the arts, government, business, academia, law, medicine, culture, and sports. Throughout the month of May, we celebrate the contributions Jewish Canadians make in communities across the country.

Liberation75 Global Gathering May 4-9

Global gathering of Holocaust survivors, descendants, educators & friends. Virtual, worldwide and free. Visit Liberation75 to register.

ABOUT LIBERATION75

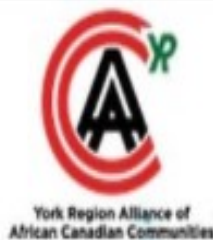
May 4 - 9, 2021

Virtual. Worldwide. Free.

Liberation75 is a not-for-profit event dedicated to commemorating the 75th anniversary of liberation from the Holocaust. We mark this important anniversary by remembering the victims, honouring the survivors, showcasing the future of Holocaust education and remembrance, reflecting on antisemitism in the world, celebrating the role of the liberators and committing to protecting freedom, diversity, human rights and inclusion.

With more than 200+ Participating Organizations, Liberation75 features the very best speakers, films, performances, exhibits, tours and more from around the world! Explore testimony and technology, meet the thought leaders, have discussions with your peers and spend time interacting with Holocaust survivors.

All elements of this event are offered at no cost to attendees.
Be part of this once-in-a-lifetime event!



Government
of Canada



SANKOFA

VIRTUAL SATURDAY MORNINGS

STORYTELLING & POETRY PROGRAM

with Drumming

Rooted in African & Caribbean Art

Free...For Black Students Grades 5-7

Every saturday till June 19th

"Until the lions have their own historians, the
history of the hunt will always glorify the hunter."



www.yorkregionaacc.ca

gistration email

Sankofa7@yorkregionaacc.ca

647 807-6306



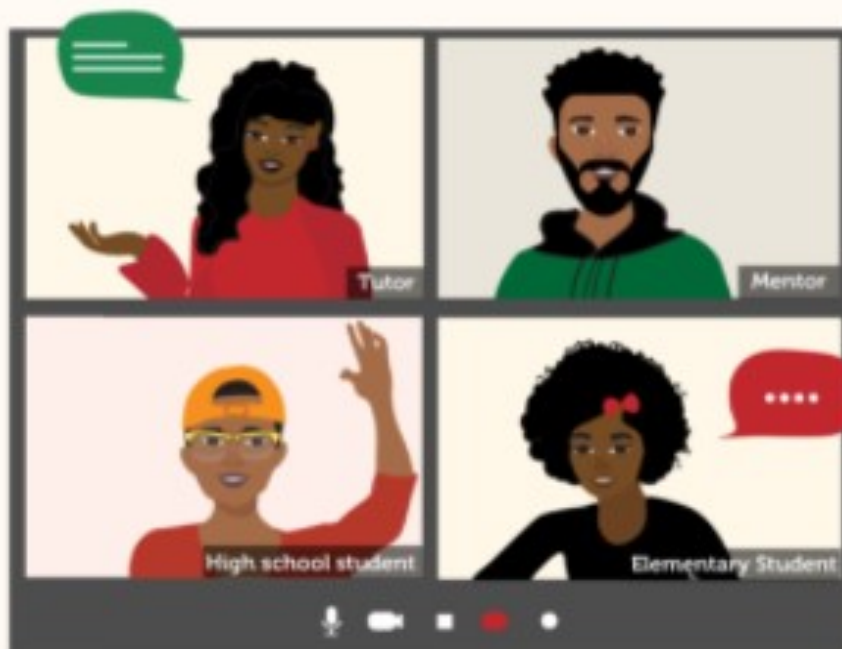
THE SANKOFA MENTORING PROGRAM

FOR BLACK STUDENTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 11-18

"Bridging the Past with the Present...Navigating the Present into the Future"

- MENTORSHIP • LEADERSHIP • CULTURAL EXPERIENCE • FIELD TRIPS
- LIFE SKILLS • RETREATS • SELF AWARENESS • CAREER EXPLORATION
- ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Sankofa Mentoring Program is rooted in an African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith and Self-Respect.



WHEN WE MEET:

Now Open for new registration (space limited)
Virtual program/workshop (Due to covid-19)

For more information please contact
Program Manager @
pgmcrd@yorkregionaacc.ca or call
647-807-2016
www.yorkregionaacc.ca



YRDSB Student and Family Surveys 2020-2021

YRDSB will be conducting online perception surveys with students (Grades 7-12) and families (Grades K-12) between May 26 and June 18, 2021 in order to better understand experiences of learning this school year.

The surveys will include questions related to: remote learning; technology and learning tools; student engagement; safety, discrimination and bullying; mental health and well-being; equity and inclusive learning environments; and family/school communication. We also ask questions about students' identities (e.g., race and gender) in order to understand how learning experiences may differ among groups of students, and to promote a safe and inclusive school climate for all students.

All students in Grades 7-12 will be invited to participate in the Student Survey. Families of students in Grades K-12 will be invited to complete the Family Survey. Surveys will take about 15-20 minutes to complete. Staff are encouraged to provide time (if available) during asynchronous learning for students Grades 7-12 to participate in the survey.

The Family Survey will be made available online in English, Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Tamil, Urdu, and Vietnamese. To accommodate participants with varying exceptionalities, both the family and student surveys can be completed using voice recognition software such as Google YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD Read & Write.

Surveys are anonymous and confidential. No information will be collected that has the potential to identify individuals. Surveys are voluntary and respondents will have the option to skip any questions they do not want to answer. Families can request that a Student Survey not be sent to their child by contacting research.services@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**

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.

Details and date of a Virtual Welcome to Kindergarten Night will be shared later on.