MAY 2025



PRINCIPAL David Williams

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Elaine Ricketts

SUPERINTENDENT Kandeephan Ganeshalingam

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 pm Dismissal

The Stonebridge Story

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

Email: Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca

Follow us on twitter: @StonebridgePS

Message from our Administrators

Dear Stonebridge Families,

We are finally enjoying some days with warmer temperatures. Let's hope we get to see more of them. After weeks of students spending recess on the pavement, the field is finally in a drier condition where student activity will not damage it. We have once again begun using the field during recesses.

In April, both the girls and boys basketball teams competed in their respective area tournaments. They practised regularly, honing in on their skills and learning various plays. Both teams persevered and played their hearts out. They represented Stonebridge well and we are very proud of them. A special congratulations goes out to the girls team who placed 3rd! A special thank you goes out to the coaches who took the time to prepare and lead the teams.

Save the date! On May 22nd, Stonebridge will be presenting the musical, Best of Both Worlds. A number of teachers have been working diligently with a cast and crew of students to prepare for the big night. This is the first time that we are putting on a musical since the pandemic and everyone is very excited! It promises to be a spectacular event. Please come out to support the students who have worked so hard to prepare the musical for the Stonebridge community. Please stay tuned for more details.

Please also mark June 5th on your calendar. That is the date of our next Arts Night. Our junior and intermediate students will showcase their talent in music and visual arts. You will hear instrumental music, singing and more. Stonebridge has a vibrant arts program with dedicated teachers who bring out students' talent and creativity and we want to share that with the Stonebridge community. We hope you will take the time to come out and support this event. We will share more information soon.

The staff at Stonebridge are very grateful for the opportunity to work with your children. We are very appreciative of the Stonebridge community and we value the partnership we have with you. We are here to help your child reach their full potential. Never hesitate to reach out if you want to connect with your child's teacher to discuss academic achievement, well-being or anything else. We would love to hear from you!

David Williams Principal Elaine Ricketts Vice-Principal

Asian and South Asian Heritage Month

As May approaches, the YRDSB takes pride in recognizing Asian and South Asian Heritage Month. This month provides a vital opportunity to explore, understand, and affirm the rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories of Canadians of Asian descent. The provincial government designated May as South Asian Heritage Month in 2001 and as <u>Asian</u> <u>Heritage Month in 2005.</u>

As part of an unwavering commitment to creating inclusive learning and working environments, throughout the year, it is important to design meaningful opportunities to learn more about the social, ethnic, cultural, and religious diversity and histories of Canadians of Asian descent and honour their ongoing contributions to Canada.

Dutch Heritage Month

The month of May is Dutch Heritage Month. Dutch Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the <u>Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2011</u>.

Ontario is home to about 500,000 Dutch Canadians. Since the early 1800s, the Dutch Canadian community has made and continues to make significant contributions to the cultural, social, and political fabric.

May holds historical significance for those with Dutch heritage. On May 5, 1945, the Canadian forces played an important role in the liberation of the Netherlands from World War II. The Netherlands celebrates independence and liberty, along with the heroic efforts of the Canadian forces, with a national, annual holiday known as Liberation Day on May 5.

Polish Heritage Month

The month of May is Polish Heritage Month. Polish Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the <u>Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2021</u>.

Ontario is home to more than 523,000 people of Polish heritage. Polish Canadians have lived in Ontario since the 19th century and, over the years, have and continue to make significant contributions to Ontario's cultural, social, and political landscape.

May 3rd is an important day for Polish People as it commemorates the 1791 Constitution, which is a symbol of Poland's aspiration for freedom, democracy and independence. This is one of the most important Polish holidays, and many parades and festivities take place in May.

Jewish Heritage Month

<u>Canadian Jewish Heritage Month</u> was given Royal Assent in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario on April 24, 2012 and 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 resides in Ontario. Jewish immigrants 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.

Armenian Heritage Month

The month of May is Armenian Heritage Month. Armenian Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2022 through Bill 105 Act to proclaim the month of May as Armenian Heritage Month.

Ontario is home to more than 100,000 people of Armenian heritage. Armenians began migrating to Canada in the 1880s. Approximately 37 Armenians came to Ontario in 1892, and 100 more settled in the province in 1895. After the Hamidian massacres of the mid-1890s, Armenian families began settling in greater numbers in Ontario. Decades later, approximately 2,000 survivors of the 1915 Armenian Genocide - mostly women and children - came to Canada as refugees.

May is a significant month for the Armenian community. May 28, 1918, is widely celebrated by Armenian people around the world as the day Armenians regained sovereignty over their historical territory. The 1918 Armenian Declaration of Independence is a symbol of Armenians' aspiration for freedom, democracy and independence. May 28th is one of the most important Armenian holidays, and many parades and festivities take place during the month of May.

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Each year, Ontarians mark the first full week of May as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. 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 <u>CMHA Mental Health</u> <u>Week</u>. One in five Ontario children and youth have a mental health problem; that is about 500,000 kids. Examples of mental health disorders include, but are not limited to, anxiety, depression, conduct disorder, eating disorders, schizophrenia, and bi-polar disorder. Left untreated, mental health disorders can lead to school failure, family conflicts, drug use, violence, and even suicide. The good news is that **help is available and treatment works**!

We recognize that many factors contribute to mental health and well-being, for example, physical health, eating, sleep, and social interactions. What is often missed is a student's sense of mattering and belonging. If a student feels valued, welcomed, comfortable and safe in the learning environment they are better able to learn and participate at their full potential. This can contribute to a positive sense of self and positive mental health and well-being. When mattering and belonging are missing, it can take a damaging toll on the student's mental health and overall well-being.

Chess Team Tournament

...and checkmate! On April 10th, our Stonebridge chess team of 9 students from gr. 6-8 competed at an invitational chess tournament against 24 schools in York Region at Bayview Fairways P.S. With 5 undefeated rounds of chess, our focused and resilient team members encouraged each other, whether they lost or won their individual games to earn points for our team. As we won 1st place in our round of games, we progressed to being the top 8 out of the 24 schools in the quarter-finals. With much excitement and heart -pounding moves, we won by just 1 point, which then brought us to the semi-finals of being the top 4, where we depended on the last intense, 2 out of the 25 minutes to win our last 2 remaining games on the table. It boiled down to Noah & San's focus as everyone surrounded them in the intense moment. As the timer counted down, Noah checkmated his opponent's King and shortly after, San triumphantly raised his hand to indicate his checkmate, which won us a 3rd place trophy! With much determination and grit playing 8 games of chess throughout the day, congratulations to Noah G., San Y., Merrick S., Akhil K., Hamza M., Cheliyan P., Anirudh B., Ethan W., & Andy Z. And of course, thanks to Joshua L. for taking much time and energy in organizing the chess sets for us to practice and bring to the tournament. Great job Stonebridge chess team!

Junior Girls' Basketball Tournaments



The junior girls' basketball team had a long and very successful season! Players started out by coming to intramurals which were offered to any girls in grades 4, 5, or 6. There they got to try out basketball, and see if they were interested in trying out for the team. In February, we had tryouts for the team. Twelve players were chosen, and regular practices began. We worked on basic skill like dribbling and lots and lots of lay-ups. On April 1st, we participated in a three on three tournament at Bill Crothers High School. The tournament had all players competing against others at their skill level, and gave every player lots of opportunities to participate. We played five exhibition games against local schools, and competed in another tournament of April 17th. We won every game at the tournament. The girls' were thrilled to come home with a pennant for the school. On April 22nd, we competed in our final tournament, which was the area tournament. The girls played strong, especially defensively, and beat our longtime rival Sam Chapman P.S. They went on to beat Castlemore to secure third place in the tournament. The girls' improved their basketball skills, and had a very fun season!



Bike to School Week

Let's get wheeling! The annual Bike to School Week rolls in from **June 2 to 6, 2025.** Bike to School Week provides an opportunity for students to try riding a bike to school for the first time, learn new skills, connect with others, or have fun exploring the neighbourhood and nature.



Your school can celebrate during the designated week or choose another week that works best for your school. For resources to support your event visit <u>Ontario Active</u> <u>School Travel</u>.

Bike lending and DIY repair clinic is also available in Markham. Visit <u>https://markhamcycles.ca/</u> <u>programs/</u> for more information.

If you have any questions or require more information, please feel free to contact your public health nurse or contact the YRDSB's active school travel coordintor <u>activeschooltravel@yrdsb.ca</u>.

Lunch Program

Below are the Lunches being offered each day:

Monday – Kid's Kitchen (kidskitchen.ca), Flyer

Tuesday – Pizza Day - orders closed until the end of June

Wednesday – Tasty Ya (<u>www.tastyya.com</u>)

Thursday — barBURRITO - order through the Lunchbox Program on School Cash Online (<u>yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com</u>)

Friday – Kid's Kitchen (Flyer)

Another option: Mealbets (www.mealbets.com), Flyer

Please make a note of the cut-off date/time for placing your orders.

If you have ordered lunch and your child is away and you would like to pick up their lunch, you must notify the school by 12:00 pm.

If you need more information, please email stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca



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On Demand Prerecorded Presentations for Parents/Caregivers 2025



Social Media & Mental Health

Some topics covered in this Pre-recorded presentation may include understanding what social media is, the risks and benefits of social media use, some strategies to help youth manage their social media use, and resources. There will be time for questions and answers at the end of the presentation.







Anxiety in School-aged Youth

This pre-recorded presentation covers "What is anxiety", signs and symptoms in your children, coping skills to build and provides resources for further support.



Feedback



Technology and Mental Health

This pre-recorded presentation explores the impact of technology on the mental health and well-being of school-aged youth. Topics may include understanding the benefits and challenges of technology use, setting boundaries, and promoting balanced screen time.



Feedback

Supporting Emotional Regulation at Home and at School (Parents & Caregivers of Kindergarten Students)

This pre-recorded presentation covers coregulation, transitions, social skills, communication, and collaboration with the school board.



Feedback

www.yrdsb.ca/mentalhealth



#withinbetweenaround, #YRDSB. #MHYRDSB

mental.health@yrdsb.ca



5-year-olds 6 to 7-year-olds 7 to 8-year-olds 9 to 10-year-olds 11 to 12-year-olds

Active and Fun Camp (A free trial is available)

Many sports and team-building activities e.g. badminton, pickleball, basketball, soccer, and dance!

Interested in volunteering and over 15 years old? Sign up at yorkeducation.org/volunteer

Camp Pricing

Weekend Camp Free Trial Available (Holiday long weekend is excluded.)

- Saturday, 8:30am 12pm: Stonebridge Public School *
- Saturday, 1:30pm 5pm: Our Lady of Help CES **
- Sunday, 8:30am 12pm: Windham Ridge PS **

*May 3 - June 15, 2025 (6 sessions) **May 3 - June 8, 2025 (5 sessions)

Extra care and meal plans are not available at Weekend Camp.

Contact Us

- (647)616-5835
- info@yorkeducation.ca
- yorkeducation.org/camp-programs



Scan & Register!

YRES is a registered not-for-profit organization, providing free and affordable educational resources to York Region communities.





BLACK EXCELLENCE NIGHT

Showcasing Excellence, Leadership, Resilience, and Innovation All are welcome to join us for:

- Musical Performance by Nobleton PS
- Interactive Carousel Stations
- Collaborative Mural Painting
- Arts and Craft
- Game Show

When

Monday, May 7, 2025 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where

H.G. Bernard Public School 245 Bernard Ave. Richmond Hill L4S 1E1

Contact

For more information, please contact: <u>h.g.bernard.ps@yrdsb.ca</u>

This event is hosted by H.G. Bernard Public School in collaboration with Nobleton Public School, Sixteenth Ave. Public School, Doncrest Public School, Richmond Hill High School and Inclusive School and Community Services

3RD ANNUAL York region Anti-Human Trafficking Conference

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER: EDUCATE TO ERADICATE

FOR PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND YOUTH AGES 11+

Join us for an educational and awareness raising event about human trafficking. Gain valuable knowledge, tools and resources to help protect and empower our community!

PARENTS!

Learn how to safeguard your children from human trafficking. Hear from a mother of a survivor and York Regional Police officer.

YOUTH!

Win prizes and have fun, while learning about personal safety, self-esteem building, and resilience.



Funding provided by Department of Justice Canada

LOCATION

Seneca Polytechnic, King Campus 13990 Dufferin Street, King City

DATES

Attend on either May 13 OR May 14, 2025 from 6-9 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

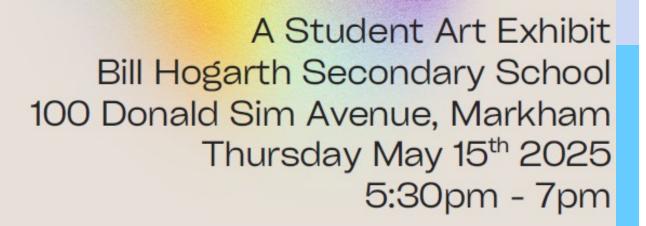
LEARN, ENGAGE & ENJOY

- Information sessions
- · Community information booths
- Free pizza and refreshments!



REGISTER USING QR CODE OR USING THE CODE BELOW BIT.LY/4B04CTH York Region District School Board Inclusive School and Community Services

Our Truth எங்கள் உண்<mark>மை</mark>



Explore original student artwork celebrating the Tamil Diaspora Meet local Tamil artists from the GTA Live music & light refreshments provided Open to **all** students, staff, family, and community members

Register <u>Here</u>





East Asian Heritage Celebration: Honoring Culture, Building Connections

- Celebrate and honour the rich cultural heritage and expressions of East Asian communities
- Commemorate the launch of the inaugural SEAS Leadership and Community Impact Student Award
- Enjoy interactive activities led by students and community members
- Participate in a friendly sport activity to foster community bonding and fun
- Experience cultural music, dance, and performances
- Explore virtual showcases featuring the talent and artistry of East Asian students
- Visit and take "A Seat At the Table" as hundreds of YRDSB students share stories of their Canadian identities in a Shadows of Racism Arts exhibit, a partnership between YRDSB and ALPHA Education, hosted at the Markham Civic Centre (next to Unionville HS)

Everyone is welcome to join us for an exciting and vibrant celebration of East Asian cultures!

Thursday, May 22nd, 2025

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Unionville High School, 201 Town Centre Blvd, Markham, ON L3R 8G5

Please click <u>East Asian Heritage Celebration 2025</u> or scan the QR code to register



For additional inquiries, please contact: iscs@yrdsb.ca

This event is co-hosted by YRDSB Inclusive Schools & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developer Team and Affinity Group Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) in collaboration with multiple community members.

Understanding and Navigating the Education System



presented by THE CENTRE FOR BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

Monday, May 26, 2025 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Families, parents, caregivers, please join us for our monthly virtual meeting where families with Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary and secondary schools.

Agenda:

- Welcome and Engagement Exercise
- Presentation Black Student Alliance: Building Community, Empowering Voices
- Upcoming Programs and Events
- Question and Answer Session

Please register ASAP. A Zoom meeting link will be sent after registration.

Let us come together to empower our students and build a stronger community.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Register now.

If you require further information, please contact BlackStudentExcellence@yrdsb.ca





South Asian Celebration

Unity in Diversity - A Celebration of South Asian Heritage

- Celebrate the rich and diverse cultural heritage of South Asia
- Explore the unique artistic, culinary and cultural traditions that shape South Asian communities through interactive activities
- Participate in a friendly cricket activity
- Visit South Asian Community Booths
- · Enjoy a tasting experience of South Asian foods

Everyone is welcome to join us for an exciting celebration of South Asian cultures!

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Maple High School, 50 Springside Rd, Maple, ON

Please click <u>South Asian Heritage Month Event</u> or scan the QR Code below to register.



For additional inquiries please contact: iscs@yrdsb.ca



CHALLAH BAKE EVENT

Date:Wednesday, May 29, 2025Time:5:00 PM - 7:00 PMLocation:Langstaff Secondary SchoolAddress:106 Garden Avenue, Richmond Hill

Celebrate Tradition. Create Together. Share in the Joy.

Join us as we celebrate the richness, resilience, and history of Jewish communities! Roll up your sleeves and learn how to braid challah, the symbolic Jewish bread.

Open to all YRDSB students, families, and staff

Please register here by Friday, May 22, 2025.







Questions? iscs@yrdsb.ca

Join YRES Canada Youth ず Volunteer Success Program!

Are you 12-30 years old?

FLEXIBLE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED: Volunteer from anywhere (Virtual) Min Join us on-site (In-Person)

- Make a positive impact on the local community 🕂

Build valuable skills in **leadership**, **communication**, and **teamwork** while making a positive impact through hands-on volunteer experiences.



Cost: FREE



Canada

FREE PERKS & BENEFITS

- Free 1:1 training programs
- Free lunch and networking opportunities
- Free personalized skill development plans (SDPs)
- Free access to annual youth conferences and fairs

York Region Educational Services (YRES) is a federally registered not-for-profit charitable organization. Volunteer hours at YRES can be counted toward the requirements for a Secondary School Diploma.



Scan the QR Cod for our Website

2025 YRES Summer Camp





*Extra care available: North Markham and Richmond Hill locations **Includes a configured laptop

Specialty Camp Resources One-time mandatory fee**

(ii) yorkeducation.org/ summercamp





EVB

6 WEEKS OF CAMP DATES AND TIME:

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JULY 7 - 11 | JULY 14 - 18 JULY 21 - 25 | JULY 28 - AUG 1 AUG 5 - 8 (4 DAYS) |AUG 11 - 15

9AM - 4PM | 9AM - 12PM | 1PM - 4PM

Registration Fee: \$350 + TAX (FULL DAY) \$290 + TAX (HALF DAY FREE T-SHIRT INCLUDED

HOR

Locations: Richmond Hill | Our Lady of the Annunciation C King City | Holy Name CES Aurora | Holy Spirit CES special Features:

LIMITEL

SPOTS ARE

- Certified and Experienced Staf
- Flexible Scheduling Options
- Early & Late Pickup Available

MORE INFO:

(416) 258-8071
Yorkregionvolleyball

info@yorkregionsports.ca f York Region Volleyball

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Yorkregionvolleyball

Registration : yorkregionsports.ca/summercamp

Kindergarten Registration 2025–2026



Kindergarten Registration started on January 17, 2025

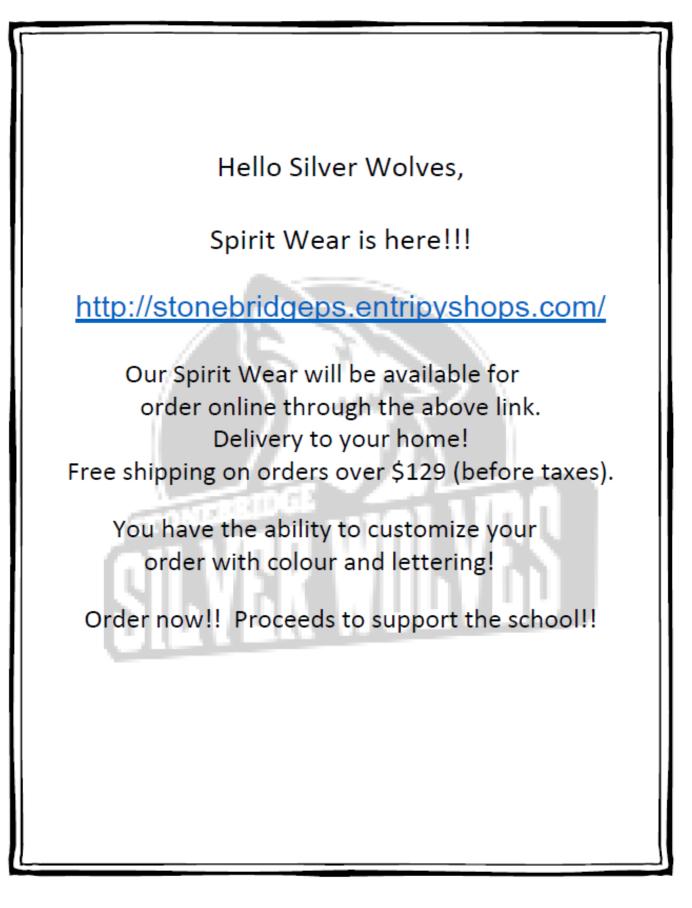
Kindergarten registration for the 2025/2026 school year started on Friday, January 17, 2025. Children who turn four or five years old during 2025, live within the school boundary and whose parents/guardians are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for Kindergarten.

There are several ways you can register for Kindergarten:

- **Online** Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at <u>www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten</u> > Registration. It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop computer rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.
- **By email** Families can download the <u>Elementary School Registration Form</u> at <u>www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten</u> and email the completed form to their school email address. Email addresses can be found on the <u>school website</u>.
- **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.

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you to make an appointment to review and verify the <u>required documents</u>.

Our Kindergarten programs are caring and welcoming where children learn through exploration, play and inquiry. You can learn more at <u>www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten</u>. We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school.



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

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 scentfree policy.



