

MAY 2023

The Stonebridge Story

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

Email: Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca

Follow us on twitter: [@StonebridgePS](https://twitter.com/StonebridgePS)



PRINCIPAL

David Williams

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Elaine Ricketts

SUPERINTENDENT

Laura Leesti

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

Message from our Administrators

It appears that we may have left winter weather behind us! The last two months of the school year will be full of excitement as we look at various events such as Arts Night, Track and Field, Play Day etc. Please remember to send your children with weather appropriate clothing as we try to head outside as much as possible. As the weather warms up, a hat and water bottle are highly recommended.

Spring also has schools looking ahead to next year and as we start planning for next year, if you have any specific requests for the placement of your child, please send your request to Ms. Ricketts via email (elaine.ricketts@yrdsb.ca) by May 19th. If you wish to set up a time to speak over the phone or in person that can be arranged as well. Please keep in mind that families should not be requesting specific teachers or particular grade arrangements (e.g. single/combined grades) as teaching positions and school organizations change every year. Requests of this nature will not be considered. Please describe your child's learning profile and the type of teaching style that will support your child (e.g. My child requires a lot of structure, My child learns best through the Arts, my child is strong in Literacy but needs more support in Math etc.). We do anticipate a number of combined/split grade classes next year.

Welcome to spring!!

Partners in Education,

Mr. Williams and Ms. Ricketts

Jewish Heritage Month - May 2023

[Canadian Jewish Heritage Month](#) was given Royal Assent in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario (Jewish Heritage Month Act, 2012, S.O. 2012, c. 1 - Bill 17) 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 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.

Moose Hide Campaign

On May 11, 2023 join Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians from across Canada to support reconciliation and help end violence against all women and children.

Moose Hide Campaign Day is a day for connecting, learning and sharing, where you can hear from inspiring speakers, share experiences and join workshops. It's a day of ceremony where we invite you to fast with us from sunrise to sunset in our #FastToEndViolence. Tune into the livestream or join us for our in-person Workshops and #WalkToEndViolence in Victoria, BC.

Supporters are encouraged to wear and share the moose hide pins on the day (and every day!) and organize events with their organizations, schools or communities. Fasters will be supported on their fasting journey throughout the day. Events are free for anyone to attend.

Vacation and Other Plans

As we will be preparing class lists for next school year, we need to know if families are planning to:

- move to a new address now or in the future
- go on vacation (prior to school year-end)

Please let us know by emailing stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca as soon as possible.

Asian and South Asian Heritage Month – May

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 and South Asian descent. The Government of Canada officially declared May as [Asian Heritage Month in 2002](#), while the Legislative Assembly of Ontario designated May as [South Asian Heritage Month in 2001](#) and [Asian Heritage Month in 2005](#).

Throughout this month, communities across York Region and across Canada will be coming together in solidarity to appreciate the vibrant and significant heritages of Canadians of the Asian and South Asian diasporas. 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.

Stonebridge Yearbook Coming Soon!

It's been 5 years since our last Stonebridge yearbook! Well, it's back and memories from this school year are being captured, and our Gr. 8 Yearbook Committee is working hard to put a fantastic yearbook together for the students, staff, and families to enjoy. The yearbook will be on sale on SchoolCash Online at the end of May. So stay tuned and you'll have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook to look back on the memories from this school year.

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 2023

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 [CMHA Mental health Week](#). One in five Ontario children and youth have 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!

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/well-being. When mattering and belonging are missing, it can take a damaging toll on the student's mental health and overall well-being.



2023 Summer Learning Programs

2023 Summer Learning Programs Available

During the month of July, YRDSB continues to offer credit and non-credit summer school program opportunities for elementary, secondary and adult students.

Registration is now open for the following programs:

Elementary Credit and Non-Credit Programs:

- Camp Black Brilliance (for Black Families entering JK or SK)
- Summer Institute (K-8)
- Elementary Summer School (Grades 6-8 non-credit reinforcement)
- Grade 8 Reach Ahead (credit)

Secondary Credit Programs:

- In-Person Learning
- Online Learning

Adult Learning Programs:

- Adult Literacy and Basic Skills
- English as a Second Language
- Citizenship Classes
- Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada

For more information about summer learning programs and registration please visit www.yrdsb.ca and follow us on Twitter @YRDSB.

Student Exchange Program

The Student Exchange Program, which has been on pause, due to COVID, for the past few years, will resume for the 2023-2024 school year. In cooperation with York Region District School Board, ISE-Ontario will offer students aged 13-17 years old the opportunity to experience several European destinations for an 8 to 12 week period. For more information, please email the York Region contact [mail-to:RosalieSelick@iseontario.on.ca](mailto:RosalieSelick@iseontario.on.ca), or visit the ISE-Ontario website for application guidelines, prices, and other information.



Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS)
invites you to

Family Engagement Conference 2023: Creating Dynamic Futures

Please join us to learn about mental health, special education, and ways to navigate the education system with appearances from children's authors Amaya James and Erica London.

Keynote Speaker: Dwayne Morgan

When:

Saturday, May 13, 2023

10:30am - 2:30pm

Light refreshments will be served

Where:

Richmond Green High School
1 William F. Bell Pkwy in Richmond Hill

[Register Now !](#)

Follow Us On Twitter [@AEBSyrdsb](#)

For additional information please contact aebzca@gmail.com



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

May 2023

YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Dear Families,

Every year in Ontario, the first week in May is acknowledged as [Children's Mental Health Awareness Week](#); this year it will fall on May 1-5, 2023. In recognition of this important week, the YRDSB is planning a variety of classroom daily activities, increasing awareness through our social media platforms, providing schools with a resource toolkit, as well as working with our community partners to build awareness about children and youth mental wellness through webinars. We are also offering evening programming to parents during this week. You will be informed by your schools, and you will be able to find information about the events and the Family Toolkit on our twitter account, @MH_YRDSB, as well as through the [YRDSB Mental Health Webpage](#).

Webinars will be provided online and will take place during school hours for students, as well as after school for students and parents. Webinars will vary in time and content. They will provide students with a variety of themes related to children's mental health. The goal of these webinars is to raise awareness of mental health, reduce stigma, and bring attention to resources in the community.

Mental health can be understood in different ways. School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) explains mental health as a [dual continuum](#). Similar to our physical health, there are days where we might not feel mentally well. This can include our children, families and communities. The [Canadian Mental Health Association](#) reports that 70% of people indicated their first mental health concerns began when they were a child or an adolescent. Each year, [one in five Canadian children and youth](#) experience



YRDSB Mental Health

significant mental health challenges. Think of the average class size, this may mean many students can have mental health impacts in which support can be beneficial.

We continue to strive towards foundations laid out in the [Director's Action Plan](#), which highlights the goal of building safe, healthy and inclusive learning and working environments where all feel they matter and belong. Our [YRDSB Student Mental Health Strategy](#) is centered on a holistic approach to mental health which places identity affirmation and healing centered engagement at the core. We strive to build on the notion of Acknowledging, Bridging and Connecting ([ABCs of mental health](#)), and create actions to support a holistic approach to mental health.

Additional information about Children's Mental Health Awareness Week can be found by visiting the [CMHA Mental Health Week](#) website. You can also visit our [website](#) to learn more about CMHAW.

Supportive Resources:

[YorkHills Here to Help Line](#) (905-503-9561)

The Here to Help Line is a free service available to children/youth (0-18 years) and their parents/caregiver/adult supporters. Monday to Thursday from 2:00pm-7:00pm

[Family Services York Region](#) (905-895-2371)

Virtual walk in is operated on a first come, first serve basis, and can be accessed once per month. Virtual appointments can be 15 minutes to 1.5 hours long depending on your specific needs. Monday, Tuesday, Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page](#)

Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#) for updated information as well as the Twitter account [@YRDSB](#). Follow YRDSB Mental Health on Twitter [@MH_YRDSB](#)

Free Community events:

Parents

York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

- May 2, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm- [Speaking of Social Skills](#)
- May 3, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm- [Addressing Mental Health Challenges for Children and Youth with ASD](#)
- May 11, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm- [Triple P Seminar #3 - Raising Resilient Children](#)
- May 17, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm- [Exploring and Understanding the Inattentive Brain](#)



YRDSB Mental Health

- May 25, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm- [Teen Triple P Seminar #1 – Raising Responsible Teenagers](#)
- May 29, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm- [Many Faces of Anxiety](#)

Students

York Support Services Network

- [Ramp Up Group- Self Care- Taking Care of the Body and Soul](#)
 - Ages 16 +
 - May 30, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
- [Transition Resource Day](#)
 - May 5, 10, 19, 24 All Day, Book an 1 hour session.
 - Need help understanding the developmental services system and transition planning? Does your child have an IEP? Book a free, 1 hour session, with a transitional planner to discuss and ask important questions.
 - Discuss the differences between elementary and high school, share tips and strategies to help you and your child prepare for life in high school, fill out forms and applications (e.g. ODSP, SSAH, Mobility Transit, etc.), find resources, build on skills, share options for after high school and adult life.
 - Registration can be done through emailing cmacdonald@yssn.ca or calling: 905-953-8354 or 1-833-953-8354 ext. 2245.

Aurora Public Library

- May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 7:00- 8:00 p.m.
 - [Game Night | Events](#)

Families

York Support Services Network

- Single Session Counselling
 - [Tuesdays in May – 9:30am-10:30am](#)
 - [Tuesdays in May- 11:00am – 12:00pm](#)
 - [Thursdays in May- 11:00am – 12:00pm](#)
 - [Thursdays in May- 12:30pm -1:30pm](#)

PFlag

- [Coffee Night](#), held every second Monday of the month, is a safe space where members of the LGBTQ2 community, their friends, family or allies can come together.



YRDSB Mental Health

- [Online Registration](#) can be found here

Family Services of York Region

- [Free to be](#)
 - Free virtual group for parents/caregivers of gender diverse children, regardless of age which meets once a month.
 - Second Tuesday of each month
 - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m

York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

- May 1, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm– In Person Screening of the [Connecting the Dots Film](#)

Aurora Public Library

- Saturday May 27, Yonge St. Tour: [Aurora Walking Tours](#)

Whitchurch–Stouffville Museum and Community Centre

- Saturday, May 20, 12:00– 4:00
- Discover what's new at your museum as we explore and celebrate Stouffville's local heritage at this [free event](#) in celebration of International Museum Day

Robinson Creek, Castlemore Ave and Stonebridge Dr

- Saturday, May 27, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- [Community Tree Planting Event in the Rouge River](#)
- Register By: Wednesday, May 24, 2023

This edition of the Newsletter was written by the Student Mental Health and Addictions Strategy Implementation Team 2022–2023, inclusive of YRDSB School Social Workers Afsaneh Zafarani, Kate Phillips, Peter Reid, and Nicole Gough.

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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!!

Kindergarten Registration 2023–2024



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for September 2023 begins Friday, January 20 from 8:30 am for the 2023-2024 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2023, 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.

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.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2023

There are several ways you can register your child for Kindergarten:

Option 1: Online

Register online by visiting
www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten.

Option 2: Email

Complete a fillable PDF found on:
www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten
and email the form to the school
email address, found on the
school's website.

Option 3: Phone

Register by calling the school to
request support to complete
the registration over the phone.
Interpreters available upon
request.

Option 4: In Person

Visit the school office to drop off or
complete a registration form.

Register in just two easy steps:

1

Complete registration form
and submit to the school

2

The school will contact you
to make an appointment to
review and verify the
required documents

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.