

OCTOBER
2022



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

The Stonebridge Story

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

Email: Stonebridge.ps@yrdsb.ca

Follow us on twitter: @StonebridgePS

Message from our Administrators

Our first six weeks at Stonebridge have been very busy and refreshing! Our staff have been working together to create learning environments that reflect our student's strengths, interests and areas of growth as we work towards creating lessons and units to engage all of our learners. All teachers are working diligently to create the classroom routines and practices to allow for differentiated instruction to meet the needs of each learner in our classes. We take great pride in knowing our learners and programming for them. Partnering with parents/guardians to create an environment of possibility will set our Silver Wolves up for success. Please establish a method of communication with your child's teacher. We also have many extra-curricular activities such as sports and clubs that have started up, hooray!!

We needed to undergo a small reorganization towards the end of September and we appreciate the flexibility and understanding of the Stonebridge community as we transitioned students into new classrooms.

On Monday, October 11th, we held the first School Council meeting of the year where we elected a new Council executive to represent our school community. We are proud to announce our new School Council members are:

Co-Chairs: Jun Yan and Joanne Wang

Secretary: Garth Morris

Treasurers: Nezar Abubaker and Dickson Fu

Voting Members: Viann Chan, Josephine Fu, Venus Choi, Micol Mihaila, Ling Luo

Throughout the school year there will be other opportunities for School Council meetings and all are welcome to attend.

Stonebridge is a wonderful place and we look forward to a great year!

Partners in Education,

Mr. Williams and Ms. Ricketts

Orange Shirt Day

On September 30th, National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, our whole school gathered and sang O Siem by Susan Aglukark, an Indigenous artist, to honour the survivors and those who couldn't return home from the residential schools. Through this event, we honoured the treaty land that we were on by taking our step of reconciliation in action to raise the awareness of every child matters and to take our responsibilities to break down the walls due to the impact of colonialism.



Stonebridge Learning Commons Google Site

Do you know all students and families can have access to our learning commons site through students' gapps accounts? There are learning materials, tools, libraries, STEM activities for all ages!

Just log in with your child's school account. Find our learning commons site using this link:

<https://sites.google.com/gapps.yrdsb.ca/stonebridgeps/home>



Islamic Heritage Month

In 2007, the Government of Canada declared the month of October as Canadian Islamic History Month. The province of Ontario passed the Islamic Heritage Month Act (2016) to recognize and affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province.

This month affords educators with an opportunity to ensure they are reflecting, celebrating and learning about the rich heritage and history of Muslims in areas such as literature, the arts, math, science, and within society so that they can affirm Muslim identities and Islamic heritages throughout the school year. Affirming Muslim identity for our students is a critical aspect of creating the inclusive climates necessary for student well-being and achievement, as well as combating Islamophobia in our schools and further challenging systemic barriers to success.

Diwali/Deepavali

Diwali (also known as Deepavali, meaning 'row of lamps'), is known as the Festival of Lights and is a Hindu, Sikh, and Jain festival celebrated throughout the diaspora. Diwali / Deepavali celebrates the triumph of good over evil. The festival has a different significance for different people. Many Hindus in the diaspora also celebrate the birth of Goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity on this day. It is celebrated in different ways across the diaspora. In some communities, Diwali honours the Goddess Kali. In other communities, the festival of lights signifies illuminating the dark corners of our life and filling it with strength and the zeal to carry on with our goodwill toward others for the rest of the year. Diwali / Deepavali is celebrated around the world.

For Sikhs, the festival commemorates the return of the sixth guru, Guru Hargobind to the holy city of Amritsar after his release from detention and his role in negotiating the release of 52 other prisoners. For the Jain community, it commemorates the passing into Nirvana of Mahavira. It also may be the beginning of a new year for farmers who plant their crops after Diwali, as well as for business people and merchants who traditionally settle all accounts on this day and begin the new financial year. Everywhere it is celebrated, Diwali signifies the renewal of life.

To celebrate this joyous and important festival, people may get together with friends and family, exchange greetings and gifts of sweets, and devote time for prayer and introspection. Some set off fireworks and wear new clothes. Many light little clay lamps, or candles.

Schools will be acknowledging this festival through a variety of activities that promote sharing and understanding among students and staff.

We join you in wishing your students, staff, and members of the community who celebrate Diwali or Deepavali, a happy and festive time with friends and family.

For further information, please email Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS): iscs@yrdsb.ca

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

17 October

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty and the 30th anniversary of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. This Day honors the millions of people suffering from poverty and their daily courage and recognizes the essential global solidarity and shared responsibility we hold to eradicate poverty and combat all forms of discrimination.

World Food Day 2022

2022 finds us with an ongoing pandemic, conflicts, a climate that won't stop warming, rising prices and international tensions. This is affecting global food security.

We need to build a sustainable world where everyone, everywhere has regular access to enough nutritious food.

No one should be left behind.

Cross Country

The students came out in droves to participate in the first cross country season in three years. Even though they soon learned that cross country is hard work, they kept at it. They practiced almost every day at lunch in order to be able to run the full distance for their age level. When the day of the area cross- country meet came, they were so excited, and nervous to compete against other schools at Milliken Mills Park. We packed two busses with athletes, and were off to compete. Our coaches were thrilled to see our athletes give it their all on the course. The students embraced the entire experience, from cheering on their teammates, to reveling in what was a first bus ride for many. A few students even placed in the top 15, qualifying them for the York Region Championships on October 25th (Katelyn in grade 3 placed 3rd, Noah in grade 4 placed 3rd, and Araani in grade 8 placed 15th).

Lunch Options

The following lunch options are offered at Stonebridge P.S. Please see below for more information:

Monday	Kid's Kitchen	Flyer to be sent home soon. Starting Monday, October 24th
Tuesday	Pasta lunch	Order closed for Round 1. Starting Tuesday, October 18 th .
Wednesday	Tasty Ya	Orders ongoing. Orders take place online directly with Tasty Ya
Thursday	Pizza Lunch	More information coming soon
Friday	Kid's Kitchen	Flyer to be sent home soon. Starting Monday, October 24th



WHEEL'N' WALKTOBER

October 1 - 31, 2022



GET ACTIVE THIS FALL

**PLEDGE to walk or wheel to
your destinations more
often this October!**

**Your pledge might even
help you win a PRIZE!**



Check out our Campaigns page at sccy.ca for details

YORK REGION 2022 ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONFERENCE

INFORMING
Education & Awareness

ENGAGING
Collaborative Workshops

EMPOWERING
Take Action

Virtual Conference Dates: October 19, 20, 26, 27 | 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

OUR COMMUNITY OUR FUTURE TAKING ACTION

Human Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a prevalent issue and one of the fastest growing and most lucrative crimes worldwide and it is happening in York Region. It is predatory and devastatingly damaging to victims, survivors, their families and communities.

At the Anti-Human Trafficking York Region Conference, attendees will learn about what human trafficking is, signs and indicators, risk factors, laws, what we can collectively do to eradicate human trafficking in our communities and more.

Who Should Attend

Parents, Youth, Community Members, Newcomers to Canada, Educators & Support Staff, Law Enforcement, Immigrant Service Agencies, Social Services and Healthcare Providers.

Register Now For This Free Conference

DAY 1 (October 19th) [Registration](#)

Introduction to Human Trafficking
The Connection Between Homelessness & Human Trafficking
Youth in Care & Human

DAY 2 (October 20th) [Registration](#)

Childhood Experiences that put Children at Risk
How to Prevent Human Trafficking
Indigenous People & Human Trafficking
Criminal Justice System & Human Trafficking

DAY 3 (October 26th) [Registration](#)

Human Trafficking in York Region
Where I'm Headed (Interactive Activity)
Human Trafficking (Interactive Presentation)

Day 4 (October 27th) [Registration](#)

A Survivor's Story
Get to Know Community Agencies in York



York Region
Children's Aid Society
Société d'aide à l'enfance
de la région de York



Orsaagloosimaaq Binnoojijiq
Child & Family Services

Inclusive School & Community Services Community and Partnership Developers (CPDs)

Information for School Communities



Through building and maintaining strong collaborative partnerships with school communities, community organizations and social service agencies, the **CPDs** respond to the emerging needs of your school community.

To ensure that the diverse needs of your school community are met, we deliver equitable and inclusive education practices by providing programs and resources along with direct support for students, parents and staff.

In collaboration with community organizations, we may support schools, students and families with:

- school community initiatives
- extracurricular programs
- community outreach and engagement
- nutrition programs
- parenting supports and education
- community resources and supports
- issues of equity and inclusivity
- student and parent engagement
- early years
- transition to high school and post-secondary
- opportunities for youth
- basic needs (food, clothing, medical, housing)
- professional development
- affirming identity

We support your school community, students and families of all needs and backgrounds in York Region through various community resources and supports. Additionally, we also support all YRDSB schools regionally with our areas of specializations.

We invite you to contact your **CPD Team** directly or through the [family and student referral form](#).



For a full list of contact details, please visit our [YRDSB contact page](#).



Community and Partnership Developers (CPD's) Team



Ayşe Yigit (she/her)

Identity Specific: Turkish Community

Email: ayse.yigit@yrdsb.ca

Harpinder Kaur (she/her)

CEC Central Area

Identity Specific: South Asian Community

Email: harpinder.kaur@yrdsb.ca

Kenzie Wass (they/them)

Identity Specific: 2SLGBTQI+ Community

Email: kenzie.wass@yrdsb.ca

Maryam Jariani (she/her)

Identity Specific: Afghan/Iranian Community

Email: maryam.jariani@yrdsb.ca

Nageswary Srikumaraguru (she/her)

Identity Specific: Tamil Community

Email: nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca

Oksana Majaski (she/her)

CEC West Area

Specialization: Sex Trafficking & Ukrainian Newcomers

Email: oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

Pauline Costello (she/her)

CEC North Area

Email: pauline.costello@yrdsb.ca

Pauline Guo (she/her)

Identity Specific: East Asian Community

Email: pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca

Shani Blake (she/her)

Identity Specific: Black African and Caribbean Community

Email: shani.blake@yrdsb.ca

TBD

Identity Specific: Jewish Community

Email: iscs@yrdsb.ca

Yvonne Kelly (she/her)

Specialization: Intersections of Poverty

Email: yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca

Yasmin Mawani (she/her)

CEC East Area

Email: yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

October 2022

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

Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us



Dear families, caregivers and beyond,

The York Region District School Board is pleased to share the [Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us](#) to support the alignment of the Well-Being and Mental Health goals outlined in the [Director's Action Plan \(DAP\)](#) and our ongoing commitment to Student Well-Being and Mental Health.

The strategy was co-constructed based on extensive internal and external consultation with students, parents, staff affinity groups, community groups, mental health advocacy groups and beyond. The Strategy aims to advance students' mental health and well-being through the promotion of health, culturally responsive and healing-centred engagement, enhancing capacity, prevention of illness, and support when needed. In a way that honours the student's identity and sense of self, fosters inclusion, mattering and belonging and builds community.

Acknowledging that there are many different individual and community understandings of the parts of mental health, the Strategy focuses on three main concepts:

Within: can be explained as the gifts and assets of our self/spirit, various intersecting identities, and traditions, as well as our cognitive and emotional well-being;

Between: can be explained as the social aspect of the relationships we have with other people, our families, and communities and beyond;

Around: can be explained as the families, communities, and learning/social environments that surround us. This also encompasses experiences of different life events, as well as systemic factors such as oppression, colonialization and racism, discrimination and marginalization. In addition, it includes access to culturally representative and responsive support and resources.

Each area, Within, Between, and Around will be enhanced by the implementation of specific priority actions for the system, school/classroom, student, and family/community. To learn more about the specific priority actions, please review the [Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us](#).

Beginning this October, all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 will have an opportunity to engage in a class/school-based activity that focuses on the concept of Within. This activity supports educators in intentionally establishing healthy, safe, inclusive, and critically conscious learning environments; centred on the integral parts of identity. Beyond this, the activity creates an opportunity for positive identity formation and affirmation and mattering and explores:

- Belonging, being and becoming.
- What makes me who I am?
- Who/what am I connected to?
- What are my goals, dreams and aspirations?
- What grounds me and gives me confidence and hope?
- Who are my supports, the people that lift me up?

When students know that they matter, belong and are cared for by those around them, they are best able to succeed, thrive, be hopeful and welcome new opportunities and learning. We continue to look forward to a year of learning, discovery, and joy alongside you.

Additional Resources:

[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](#)

Patricia Marra-Stapleton, M.Sc., C. Psych. Assoc.
Mental Health Lead
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Hoshana Calliste, M.S.W., R.S.W.
Assistant Coordinator of Mental Health
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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.