



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday September 27, 2024

Monday, Sept. 30	Tuesday, Oct. 1	Wednesday, Oct. 2	Thursday, Oct. 3	Friday, Oct.4
Orange Shirt Day Scholarship Workshop for Post-Secondary Education @ Lunch in the Library	Lockdown Drill	Applewood Apple Farm Trip Biology Zoo Trip		

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

School Council

Thank you to the families who came out to our School Council meeting on September 23. All meeting minutes can be found on the [school website](#). Our next meeting will be on November 18th at 7:00 in the library or you can join virtually through [Google Meet](#).

School Photos

Any student who has not yet had a photo taken for their student card/ yearbook should have one done on Monday, October 7. Students will be called down alphabetically by last name. Please listen for your alpha call.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day

At the end of September, we recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. On this date, we commemorate the harm done to Indigenous peoples by the residential school system. We pause to honour the victims and survivors, and we reflect on the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action.

Georgina Island First Nation Pow Wow, September 28-29

One of the many actions we can take toward truth and reconciliation is attending events such as pow wows.

Georgina Island First Nation is our closest Indigenous partner and our partner in education. It is our great honour and privilege to again host the [Georgina Island First Nation Pow Wow](#) at Sutton D.H.S on September 28-29.

Pow wows are gatherings and celebrations of culture. We were so pleased to see so many staff and families from the

school board attending over the past few years. Visitors are welcome to attend and should familiarize themselves with pow wow [protocols](#) to ensure you are being respectful. It's a wonderful opportunity for celebration, learning and developing and enhancing relationships.

Parent Teacher Interviews – Oct 24th 6:30-8:30

In advance of Parent's Night, please use the following [link](#) for instructions on how to set up the Parent Portal Teach Assist account.

October is Islamic Heritage Month

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This year's Islamic Heritage Month (IHM) theme is Health and Healing. For more information about IHM's theme visit: <https://www.islamichistorymonth.ca/>

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School Start-Up Forms

Parents/guardians received an email from YRDSB Update with important school start-up forms to complete.

It is important that these forms are completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year as they contain important information and permissions. Please click [here](#) for the forms.

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Oct. 15: Accelerated OYAP and [Apprenticeship Information Night](#) Virtual Meet 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- ★ Oct. 15: College Applications Workshop @ Lunch in the Library 📅
- ★ Oct. 16: University Applications Workshop @ Lunch in the Library 📅
- ★ Oct. 17: [Ontario College Fair](#) Field Trip @ Enercare Centre 🎉
- ★ Oct. 20: [Study and Go Abroad Fair](#) @ Metro Toronto Convention Centre ✈️
- ★ Oct. 24: Niagara College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏫
- ★ Nov. 5: Georgian College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏫
- ★ Nov. 7: SDSS Post-Secondary Fair 🌟 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- ★ Nov. 13: Trent University Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏫

SDSS Post-Secondary Fair:

On Tuesday November 7, Stouffville DSS will be hosting a post-secondary fair where **over 30 institutions** will be coming. The fair begins at 6:30 p.m. with panel sessions where the various colleges, universities, and trade representatives will share important information. The next session is from 8:15 - 9:00 p.m. where booths will be set up in the gym and representatives will provide materials and answer any questions you may have. Come by and check it out!

Accelerated OYAP and Apprenticeship Information Night

You should attend this information night if:

- you are a Grade 12 student who is planning on entering the Skilled Trades;
- you are a Grade 10 or 11 student who would like more information on this program to better prepare for this pathway;
- you are the parent/guardian of a grade 9-12 student who is considering a career in the skilled trades.

OCAS/OAUC OEN and MIDENT Distribution for Graduating Students:

For the 2024-2025 school year, students applying to post-secondary school through OCAS and/or OUAC will be provided their OEN and MIDENT (BSID) through a secure centrally facilitated process (via ITS) to their GAPPS email. During the week of October 15, Grade 11 and 12 students will receive their information via GAPPS email; this will ensure a secure transfer of the information needed to complete the post-secondary application process. Please keep an eye out for this email as students will need this information to be able to apply to college or university.

Course Change Requests:

If you have any questions or want to change courses for Semester 2, please book an appointment on Teach Assist.

If your child would like to DROP a course, please complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure you [email the guidance department](#) for approval BEFORE booking a guidance appointment. **For Grade 11 and 12 students, before dropping a course, ensure you are on track to graduate on time.**

Reminder: If students book a guidance appointment, they are to come down to the guidance department at their selected time slot. The guidance team will not call into classrooms to interrupt lessons.

Dual Credit:

Semester 2 Dual Credit courses will open in November. If you are a Grade 11 or 12 student interested in earning a

College **AND** High School credit, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor today for more information.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

A Guide of Services for Youth in York Region [Strive 2023](#)

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360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

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Friday October 4, 2024

Monday, Oct. 7	Tuesday, Oct. 8	Wednesday, Oct.9	Thursday, Oct. 10	Friday, Oct 11
Photo Retake Day		SHSM Tree Top Trekking Pickup basketball in the gym during lunch SHSM Info Session P4 in Library (30 mins)		

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).



STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL
FALL AWARDS CELEBRATION

Students that earned an honour roll standing for the 2023-2024 school year or a department or speciality award will receive an invitation email in their gapps accounts.

This celebration of student success will take place on:

**Thursday, October 17th, 2024
in the SDSS Cafeteria.**

- **Grade 9 (last year): 6:00-7:00 pm**
- **Grades 10 & 11 (last year): 7:30-8:30 pm**

We look forward to celebrating SDSS Student Success!

Parent Teacher Interviews – Oct 24th 6:30-8:30

In advance of Parent's Night, please use the following [link](#) for instructions on how to set up the Parent Portal Teach Assist account.

Kernel's Popcorn - Semi-Formal Fundraiser

Student Council is having a Kernel's Popcorn Fundraiser to raise money for semi-formal. For \$3.00, students will receive a foil poly bag with approximately 2.5 cups of popcorn (heat sealed for long time freshness - 6-10 weeks). There are six

(6) lightly seasoned flavours.

- Buttersalt
- Salt & Vinegar
- White Cheddar
- Dill Pickle
- Ketchup
- Low Fat Caramel

You can place an order on School Cash Net. Popcorn will be distributed on October 31st.

October is Islamic Heritage Month

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Attendance

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Messages from Guidance

Course Change Requests:

Counsellor appointments are now available and can be booked on Teach Assist. If you have any questions or want to change courses for Semester 2, please book an appointment.

If your child would like to DROP a course, please complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure you [email the guidance department](#) for approval BEFORE booking a guidance appointment. **For Grade 11 and 12 students, before dropping a course, ensure you are on track to graduate on time.**

Please note, students can no longer be added to Semester 1 courses

Reminder: If students book a guidance appointment, they are to come down to the guidance department at their selected time slot. The guidance team will not call into classrooms to interrupt lessons.

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Sep. 30: Scholarship Workshop for Post-Secondary Education @ Lunch in the Library 🏆
- ★ Oct. 7 – 11: Grade 9 Visits during Period 4 Classes 🎉
- ★ Oct. 15: Accelerated OYAP and [Apprenticeship Information Night](#)
- ★ Oct. 15: College Applications Workshop @ Lunch in the Library 📋
- ★ Oct. 16: University Applications Workshop @ Lunch in the Library 📋
- ★ Oct. 24: Niagara College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov 5: Georgian College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov 7: SDSS Post-Secondary Fair ☀️

Dual Credit:

Dual Credit is now closed for Semester 1. Semester 2 Dual Credit courses will open in November.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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Oct. 11, 2024



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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday October 11, 2024

Monday, Oct 14	Tuesday, Oct 15	Wednesday, Oct 16	Thursday, Oct 17	Friday, Oct 18
Thanksgiving	Elementary Music Jump Start Night		Enercare Centre Exhibition Place Trip Fire Drill Fall Awards Celebration Grade 9s (from last year). 6:00 - 7:00 Grade 10-11s (from last year) 7:30 - 8:30	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Important Back-to-School Reminders

As we finish the first few weeks of school, we want to share a few important reminders and updates.

Contact Information: We ask families to ensure the school office has the most up-to-date contact information. This is important in case of emergencies and to ensure you receive important school communications. If your contact

information has changed, please contact the school office. This includes phone numbers, addresses and email addresses.

School Start-Up Forms: Parents/guardians received an email from YRDSB Update with a link to school start-up forms. These forms must be completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year as they contain information and permissions. The forms can be found at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>. Translated versions are also available. Tips are available on the Board website if you need additional information on how to log in to the Student GAPPs account to complete the forms. Please note:

- You must sign in to your child's student GAPPs account to complete the form.
- You must complete a separate form for each child attending school. Please ensure you log out of one student account before logging into another. You will not be able to submit the form twice logged into the same student account.
- If you prefer to complete the forms on paper or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact the school office.
- Secondary school students can complete the secondary school student form at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/students>. They will also receive the link in their student GAPPs account. Elementary school students do not need to complete these student forms.

Board Website: Helpful information can be found on the YRDSB website at www.yrdsb.ca. A translation tool at the top of each page can translate content into over 80 languages. On the website, you can find information about board programs and student supports, as well as online tools for students, community supports and family resources such as translation information and the Guide to the School Year.

Family Dashboard

York Region District School Board is looking forward to launching a family portal later this year. The portal will make it easier for you to access information about your child's education in a secure and accessible way. To access the portal, it will be essential that the school has an updated email address for you. Please contact the school office if you need to update your email address. We look forward to sharing more information about this initiative with you soon.

In this first phase, the dashboard will include:

- parent/guardian authentication
- secure access to report card links
- links to useful information for parents/guardians

2025 Prime Minister's Awards Guidelines

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence: These awards honour outstanding and innovative elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines for their remarkable educational achievements and for their commitment to preparing youth for a digital and innovation-based economy.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in STEM: These awards recognize inspirational Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teachers at the elementary or secondary school level who keep students engaged in STEM learning and who help develop the culture of innovation that Canada needs today, and in the future.

Start the process today by downloading a nomination form. Nominations for the 2025 Prime Minister's Awards must be submitted to the Prime Minister's Awards office by January 15, 2025 (11:59 PM Pacific standard time). **Here is the full**

list of eligibility criteria

If you have any questions or encounter any issues during the nomination process, please contact the Prime Ministers Awards by:

- Email: primeministersawards-prixdupremierministre@ised-isde.gc.ca
- Visiting the [Contact Us](#) page on our website

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday October 18, 2024

Monday, Oct 21st	Tuesday, Oct 22nd	Wednesday, Oct 23rd	Thursday, Oct 24th	Friday, Oct 25th
PA Day	Public Library Visit	SHSM South Lake Field Trip	Parent Teacher Interviews (6:30 - 8:30)	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Parent Teacher Interviews – Oct 24th 6:30-8:30

In advance of Parent's Night, please use the following [link](#) for instructions on how to set up the Parent Portal Teach Assist account.

Semi Formal

Our Royal Winter Ball is on November 27th from 5:30pm to 10:00pm at the angus Glen Golf Club. Tickets can be purchased on School Cash Online <https://schoolcashonline.com/> until November 8th for \$70.00. Guest forms for students from other schools are available in the main office.

Updates to Student Use of Personal Mobile Devices in Schools

Students must now **store their mobile device out of view**, and power off or set to silent mode during instructional/class time. As you may know, in 2024, the Ontario Ministry of Education introduced a directive modifying the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms. YRDSB already has [Policy and Procedure 194.0 - Appropriate Use of Technology](#) and

many measures around personal mobile devices in place. The changes you may see will bring alignment with the new Ministry Directive. The following expectations for students' use of personal mobile devices are outlined in the revised [Provincial Code of Conduct \(PPM 128\)](#), and the York Region District School Board's Policy #668 Caring and Safe Schools.

A personal mobile device is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet or smart watch.

Expectations

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device, how they use it and the consequences of not following the provincial or school board policy.

Students' personal mobile devices must be **stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode**, except under the circumstances outlined below:

- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator
- for health and medical purposes
- to support special education needs

Students in secondary school can bring a personal mobile device to school, but will be able to use it only during non-instructional time.

New Practices at School

If an educator sees a personal mobile device that is not **stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode**, even after staff reminders, the student may be required to place their personal mobile device in a storage area in a location designated by the educator for the class or period.

Your child may face consequences if they use their personal mobile device inappropriately. Progressive discipline may apply and families may be notified.

Resources:

Families play an important role in teaching children about finding a healthy balance in using technology. You may wish to access the following resources:

- Media Smarts - [Four Tips for Managing Your Kids' Screen Time](#)
- School Mental Health Ontario - [Helping Your Child Manage Digital Technology](#)
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health - [Problem Gambling and Technology Use Treatment Services](#)

For additional information regarding Policy/Program (PPM) 128, please visit the Ministry of Education's [Cellphones and other mobile devices in schools](#) site or the York Region District School Board's website.

Take Your Kids To Work Day

"Take Our Kids to Work" (TOKW) is an initiative that provides Grade 9 students with the opportunity to OBSERVE a work environment for one day. This program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On Wednesday November 6, 2024, Grade 9 students will have an opportunity to spend the day at a workplace of a parent/guardian, relative or family friend. There will be no formal instruction/lessons for Grade 9 students on November

6th. Grade 9 students have the choice of attending a workplace to observe, or stay home and complete activities linked below.

Parents/guardians are asked to go to School Cash Online to check-off the option that reflects the plans for their Grade 9 child/ward on "Take Our Kids to Work Day"

For students who cannot find a job shadow placement there is an asynchronous career exploration activity to be completed at home. Students/families must register for these online activities at <https://studentscommission.ca/events/tokw2024/>. All grade 9 students will receive an email in their GAPPS account with the required work to complete for November 6.

Parents/guardians are asked to complete this form on School Cash Online <https://schoolcashionline.com/> by Friday October 25, 2024 .

Family Dashboard

We are pleased to introduce the YRDSB family portal called the Family Dashboard. The dashboard will give you secure one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. It is designed to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education.

In this first phase, the dashboard will include secure access to report cards and links to useful information for parents/guardians.

By the end of October, you will receive an email from YRDSB Update inviting you to register for the dashboard. Please ensure your school office has your up-to-date email address to ensure you receive the invitation. We also encourage parents/guardians to have individual email addresses to access the Family Dashboard, rather than one shared email address.

Please note, you can still request a printed copy of your child's report card if you prefer by contacting your child's school. For additional support and frequently asked questions, please [visit the Board website](#). We will continue to update information on this page. A temporary call centre will be available to support families in setting up their accounts.

Understanding and Navigating the Education System-Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

Please see attached flyer

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School Start-Up Forms: Parents/guardians received an email from YRDSB Update with a link to school start-up forms. These forms must be completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year as they contain information and permissions. The forms can be found at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>. Translated versions are also available. Tips are available on the Board website if you need additional information on how to log in to the Student GAPPs account to complete the forms. Please note:

- You must sign in to your child's student GAPPs account to complete the form.
- You must complete a separate form for each child attending school. Please ensure you log out of one student account before logging into another. You will not be able to submit the form twice logged into the same student account.
- If you prefer to complete the forms on paper or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact the school office.
- Secondary school students can complete the secondary school student form at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/students>. They will also receive the link in their student GAPPs account. Elementary school students do not need to complete these student forms.

Board Website: Helpful information can be found on the YRDSB website at www.yrdsb.ca. A translation tool at the top of each page can translate content into over 80 languages. On the website, you can find information about board programs and student supports, as well as online tools for students, community supports and family resources such as translation information and the Guide to the School Year.

2025 Prime Minister's Awards Guidelines

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence: These awards honour outstanding and innovative elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines for their remarkable educational achievements and for their commitment to preparing youth for a digital and innovation-based economy.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in STEM: These awards recognize inspirational Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teachers at the elementary or secondary school level who keep students engaged in STEM learning and who help develop the culture of innovation that Canada needs today, and in the future.

Start the process today by downloading a nomination form. Nominations for the 2025 Prime Minister's Awards must be submitted to the Prime Minister's Awards office by January 15, 2025 (11:59 PM Pacific standard time). **Here is the full list of eligibility criteria**

If you have any questions or encounter any issues during the nomination process, please contact the Prime Ministers Awards by:

- Email: primeministersawards-prixdupremierministre@ised-isde.gc.ca
- Visiting the [Contact Us](#) page on our website

October is Islamic Heritage Month

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

This year's Islamic Heritage Month (IHM) theme is Health and Healing. For more information about IHM's theme visit: <https://www.islamichistorymonth.ca/>

October is Latin American Heritage Month

October is Latin American Heritage Month. As proclaimed by the Government of Canada, October is a month to recognize and celebrate the significant contributions of the Latin American community to the social, economic and political fabric of the nation.

Latin American heritage and identities are vast, diverse and intersectional. People with Latin heritage and of the diaspora may come from Spain, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

October is Women's History Month

In 1992, the Government of Canada proclaimed October as Women's History Month. This is a month dedicated to honour and recognize girls and women of the past, present and future who work collectively to create inclusive and equitable environments.

The theme of Women's History Month is: Through Her Lens: Celebrating the Diversity of Women. The theme focuses on engaging in the diverse perspectives, experiences and barriers of women from diverse backgrounds and social identities including Indigenous women from 2SLGBTQI+ communities; women with disabilities; and newcomer, racialized, and migrant women. For more information about this month's theme visit the [government website](#).

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Oct. 20: [Study and Go Abroad Fair](#) @ Metro Toronto Convention Centre ✈️
- ★ Oct. 23: Level Up! Skilled Trades Career Fair Field Trip @ Tribute Communities Centre 🚌
- ★ Oct. 24: Niagara College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Oct. 29: Lakehead University Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov. 5: Georgian College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov. 7: SDSS Post-Secondary Fair ☀️ 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- ★ Nov. 12: Centennial College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
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Course Change Requests:

If you have any questions or want to change courses for Semester 2, please book an appointment on Teach Assist.

If your child would like to DROP a course, please complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure you [email the guidance department](#) for approval BEFORE booking a guidance appointment. **For Grade 11 and 12 students, before dropping a course, ensure you are on track to graduate on time.**

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Semester 2 Dual Credit courses will open in November. If you are a Grade 11 or 12 student interested in earning a College **AND** High School credit, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor today for more information.

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Check us out on Instagram...



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stouffville_guidance

Oct. 25, 2024



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday October 25, 2024

Monday, Oct 28th	Tuesday, Oct 29th	Wednesday, Oct 30th	Thursday, Oct 31st	Friday, Nov 1st
		Zoo Trip	Popcorn delivery, period 1 Halloween Costume Contest @ Lunch	Diwali-Diamond Day

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

As per the Ministry of Education students are required to work towards the literacy graduation requirement through participating in the OSSLT or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC). At this time, the York Region District School Board has decided that:

- Previously eligible Grade 11 and 12s and all grade 10 students will write the OSSLT in November 2023
- Students who are unsuccessful on the test this Fall will have another opportunity to write in the Spring
- Students will be supported in preparing through school-wide cross-curricular literacy activities and can also access the [EQAO's practice test here](#).
- Please mark the dates for the OSSLT at SDSS and avoid scheduling appointments on these dates if your child is

scheduled to write the Literacy Test: Wednesday, November 20th and Thursday, November 21st at 9:20 am.

After School Literacy Program

The Ministry of Education has provided funding for an **After School Literacy Program (ASLP)** for students to reinforce reading and writing skills in preparation for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). While this is not a credit-bearing program, its goal is to build upon the reading and writing skills of students to enhance and support their literacy skills.

The ASLP at SDSS consists of 5 90-minute sessions from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

The course will run on the following dates: Oct 30th, Nov 5th, Nov 7th, Nov 12th and Nov 14th.

While receiving additional assistance through the ASLP, your child will continue to receive regular literacy instruction from their classroom teachers related to the reading and writing skills required in each course. We believe that this program will make a difference in your child's knowledge and confidence related to literacy.

To register, please read and complete the [Student Registration Google Form](#).

Halloween

A few important reminders about Halloween for those choosing to dress up or wear black and orange to school on October 31:

- Costumes should be respectful of others. Symbols or objects representative of a person's race, culture, ethnicity, or religious beliefs, should not be worn as another person's costume, nor should costumes that caricature social identities through stereotyping. Be sensitive to images and media use
- **No** Halloween masks are to be worn and students should only use single use make-up (no sharing of make-up)
- **No** replica weapons of any kind are allowed

Updates to Student Use of Personal Mobile Devices in Schools

Students must now **store their mobile device out of view**, and power off or set to silent mode during instructional/class time. As you may know, in 2024, the Ontario Ministry of Education introduced a directive modifying the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms. YRDSB already has [Policy and Procedure 194.0 - Appropriate Use of Technology](#) and many measures around personal mobile devices in place. The changes you may see will bring alignment with the new Ministry Directive. The following expectations for students' use of personal mobile devices are outlined in the revised [Provincial Code of Conduct \(PPM 128\)](#), and the York Region District School Board's Policy #668 Caring and Safe Schools.

A personal mobile device is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet or smart watch.

Expectations

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device, how they use it and the consequences of not following the provincial or school board policy.

Students' personal mobile devices must be **stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode**, except under the circumstances outlined below:

- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator
- for health and medical purposes
- to support special education needs

Students in secondary school can bring a personal mobile device to school, but will be able to use it only during non-instructional time.

New Practices at School

If an educator sees a personal mobile device that is not **stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode**, even after staff reminders, the student may be required to place their personal mobile device in a storage area in a location designated by the educator for the class or period.

Your child may face consequences if they use their personal mobile device inappropriately. Progressive discipline may apply and families may be notified.

Resources:

Families play an important role in teaching children about finding a healthy balance in using technology. You may wish to access the following resources:

- Media Smarts - [Four Tips for Managing Your Kids' Screen Time](#)
- School Mental Health Ontario - [Helping Your Child Manage Digital Technology](#)
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health - [Problem Gambling and Technology Use Treatment Services](#)

For additional information regarding Policy/Program (PPM) 128, please visit the Ministry of Education's [Cellphones and other mobile devices in schools](#) site or the York Region District School Board's website.

Take Your Kids To Work Day

"Take Our Kids to Work" (TOKW) is an initiative that provides Grade 9 students with the opportunity to OBSERVE a work environment for one day. This program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On Wednesday November 6, 2024, Grade 9 students will have an opportunity to spend the day at a workplace of a parent/guardian, relative or family friend. There will be no formal instruction/lessons for Grade 9 students on November 6th. Grade 9 students have the choice of attending a workplace to observe, or stay home and complete activities linked below.

Parents/guardians are asked to go to School Cash Online to check-off the option that reflects the plans for their Grade 9 child/ward on "Take Our Kids to Work Day"

For students who cannot find a job shadow placement there is an asynchronous career exploration activity to be completed at home. Students/families must register for these online activities at <https://studentscommission.ca/events/tokw2024/>. All grade 9 students will receive an email in their GAPPS account

with the required work to complete for November 6.

Parents/guardians are asked to complete this form on School Cash Online <https://schoolcashionline.com/> by Friday October 25, 2024 .

Hindu Heritage Month

On December 8, 2016, the province of Ontario designated November as Hindu Heritage Month as outlined in the [Hindu Heritage Month Act](#). November 2022 marked Canada's first official Hindu Heritage month. During this month, YRDSB recognizes and celebrates the past, present and future contributions and inspirational impact of Hindu Canadians in our communities.

Hinduism is considered by some as one of the world's oldest religions, dating back over 10,000 years. With over 900 million followers worldwide, Hinduism is the third-largest religion. Hinduism is a henotheistic religion that worships one God while acknowledging the existence of other gods. Some of these deities include Brahma, Shiva, Paarvathi, Lakshmi, Ganesha, Muruga, Kaali, and Vishnu, along with others. Hinduism consists of many traditions and festivities that are celebrated throughout the year. Diwali, Navaratri, and Ganesh Chaturthi are some celebrations in which Hindus participate in Ontario, Canada, and around the world. For Hindu Canadians, faith-based practices vary across communities, cultures and generations of people.

Albanian Heritage Month

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The proclamation of November as Albanian Heritage Month recognizes the diverse ways in which Albanian Canadians have contributed to the intricate social and cultural makeup of Ontario. It is a month to celebrate Albanian identity and acknowledge the histories and lived experiences of Albanian Canadians.

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Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

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Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

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If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local

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Check us out on Instagram...



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Nov.1, 2024



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday November 1, 2024

Monday, Nov 4th	Tuesday, Nov 5th	Wednesday, Nov 6th	Thursday, Nov 7th	Friday, Nov 8th
	McMichael Canadian Art Collection Trip	SDSS Take Your Grade 8 to High School Last Day of Term 1 Grade 9 Take Your Kid to Work Day	First Day of Term 2 Fire Drill Post Secondary Fair (6:30 - 9:00)	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Post-Secondary Fair

On Tuesday November 7, Stouffville DSS will be hosting a post-secondary fair where over 30 institutions will be coming. The fair begins at 6:30 p.m. with panel sessions where the various colleges, universities, and trade representatives will share important information. The purpose of the panel sessions is to hear from colleges and universities that you may not have considered before and learn about new programs and highlights about their institution. This could be scholarships, residence, sports teams, clubs, and other student services.

The next session is from 8:15 - 9:00 p.m. where booths will be set up in the gym and representatives will provide materials and answer any questions you may have. Receive viewbooks outlining various programs and admission requirements. Come prepared with a list of questions to ask or check out the guidance Google Classroom for suggested questions.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) - Wednesday, November 20th and Thursday, November 21st at 9:20 am

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- Students will be supported in preparing through school-wide cross-curricular literacy activities and can also access the [EQAO's practice test here](#).

Spirit Wear

Hey Crew! Spirit Wear is now live and can be purchased at: <https://www.schoolwear.ca/sds/> OR schoolwear.ca with code Code: SDS. We are using Marchant's Online Store. It is free delivery to the school, or you can have the product shipped elsewhere for a fee. Spirit Wear will close on Saturday November 9th and delivery to the school will be before the winter break.

Information Session for Tamil Families

Support your child's success!

Looking to better support your child academically, emotionally, and socially? Join us for an information session for Tamil families discussing:

- Ways to support your children's academic achievements and emotional well-being
- Student services, including Tamil-specific supports available at YRDSB
- Getting connected and accessing community resources

This information session will be delivered in Tamil and English.

Date: November 12, 2024

Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Milliken Mills High School, 7522 Kennedy Rd, Markham, ON L3R 9S5

Registration: Please complete this [Google Form](#) by November 8.

The flyer is available in [English](#) and [Tamil](#).

Brought to you by York Region District School Board and the Catholic Community Services of York Region. For any questions, please contact Nijatha Subramaniam at nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca.

Jewish and Israel Education Conferences with UJA Israel Engagement

Join UJA Israel Engagement for a meaningful and educational 1 day conference for students, parents/caregivers, and teachers to explore Israel education and learn how to combat antisemitism in the public school system. Hear and learn from UJA agencies including UJA's Israel Engagement, CIJA, CJPAC, PJ Library, and more.

Parent & Educator Conference

Sunday, November 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Jewish Student Summit

Sunday, December 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Lipa Green Centre, in Tamari Hall, 4600 Bathurst St, North York, ON. M2R 3V2

Please visit the [UJA Federation of Greater Toronto website](#) for more information and registration.

Please view the [agenda link](#) for both the Nov 24 and Dec 1 events.

Centre for Black Excellence Mailing List Flyer

The Centre for Black Student Excellence is a space committed to the implementation of goals set out in our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy, and amplifying voices that have been historically marginalized. Establishing this mailing list is one of the key commitments outlined in our strategy. We would like to encourage families to subscribe to our mailing list to stay up to date with information about school board and community events and programs that would benefit Black students and families with Black children and updates on Board efforts to dismantle anti-Black racism.

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday November 8, 2024

Monday, Nov 11th	Tuesday, Nov 12th	Wednesday, Nov 13th	Thursday, Nov 14th	Friday, Nov 15th
Remembrance Day Assemblies P2		CIMC & CSMC Math Contest (9:30-11:30)		PA Day

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Family Dashboard

The dashboard gives parents/guardians secure, accessible one-stop access to information and applications. It is designed to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education. Register today at <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/family-resources>.

Death of the Honourable Murray Sinclair, C.C., O.M., M.S.C.

Flags at all Ontario government buildings and establishments across the province will be flown at half-mast

from sunrise to sunset on Sunday November 10, 2024, the day of the national commemorative ceremony for the late Honourable Murray Sinclair, who passed away on November 4, 2024.

Post-Secondary Transition Information Night

RARC Transitions is hosting a virtual Post-Secondary Transition Information Night for Grade 11 and 12 students with LD, ADHD, ASD, and mental health disorder on November 26 starting at 6pm.

Join via Microsoft Teams: <https://tinyurl.com/42pde9dr>

Meeting ID: 278 204 256 553

Passcode: bEjZix

Roots, Ruach, and Resilience Workshop Series

Strengthening the Spirit and Well Being of the Jewish Community in the Face of Antisemitism. Join us for a 4 week group workshop starting on November 26, 2024. This group is for students in Grade 9-11 that do not attend Jewish Day School. See flyer attached for details.

BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop

The Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN), in collaboration with YRDSB, is providing a free online workshop to guide Black students and their families on how to prepare, search, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. Grade 8 - 12 students. See flyer attached for details.

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session: Understanding & Navigating the Education System

Families, parents, caregivers, please join us on Monday, November 25, for our monthly meeting where families with Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary & secondary schools. See flyer attached for details.

Hindu Heritage Month

On December 8, 2016, the province of Ontario designated November as Hindu Heritage Month as outlined in the [Hindu Heritage Month Act](#). November 2022 marked Canada's first official Hindu Heritage month. During this month, YRDSB recognizes and celebrates the past, present and future contributions and inspirational impact of Hindu Canadians in our communities.

Hinduism is considered by some as one of the world's oldest religions, dating back over 10,000 years. With over 900 million followers worldwide, Hinduism is the third-largest religion. Hinduism is a henotheistic religion that worships one God while acknowledging the existence of other gods. Some of these deities include Brahma, Shiva, Paarvathi, Lakshmi, Ganesha, Muruga, Kaali, and Vishnu, along with others. Hinduism consists of many traditions and festivities that are celebrated throughout the year. Diwali, Navaratri, and Ganesh Chaturthi are some celebrations in which Hindus participate in Ontario, Canada, and around the world. For Hindu Canadians, faith-based practices vary across communities, cultures and generations of people.

Albanian Heritage Month

November is Albanian Heritage Month as proclaimed by the Ontario government in 2015. Albania is situated in

eastern Europe, and the main language spoken is Albanian. The majority of Albanians identify as Muslim followed by Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic. There are approximately 29000 Canadians with Albanian ethnicities. The month of November is significant to people of Albanian origin as it commemorates the Albanian Declaration of Independence which took place on November 28, 1912. Albania also recognizes Liberation Day, a day that Albania was liberated from Nazi Germany forces after the Albanian resistance on November 29, 1944.

The proclamation of November as Albanian Heritage Month recognizes the diverse ways in which Albanian Canadians have contributed to the intricate social and cultural makeup of Ontario. It is a month to celebrate Albanian identity and acknowledge the histories and lived experiences of Albanian Canadians.

Transgender Awareness Week and Day of Remembrance

Transgender Awareness Week is from November 13-19, 2024. This annual week of recognition aims to deepen awareness of historic and present day challenges, barriers and oppression faced by the trans community as well as uplift stories of joy, advocacy and justice. November 20 is Transgender Day of Remembrance, a day to pay tribute and honour the lives of the victims of transphobic violence.

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Nov. 12: Centennial College Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov. 13: Trent University Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov. 15: Non-Disclosure Date for Grade 12 Course Marks ¹⁷ 📅
- ★ Nov. 21: University of Windsor Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ Nov. 25-29: Elementary School Visits -> Course Selection Information Sessions 🚌
- ★ Nov. 26: Post-Secondary Transition Information Night -> Virtual Presentation 6:00-7:00 p.m. 💻
- ★ Nov. 26: Black Foundation of Community Networks Scholarship Application Workshop
Virtual Presentation 6:30-8:30 p.m. 💻
- ★ Dec. 5: Grade 8 Open House @ SDSS 6:30pm 🌟

Non-Disclosure Date:

Attention Grade 12 students, please check Teach Assist for midterm marks on Monday November 11 to decide if you want to drop any course before data is uploaded to universities on Friday November 15.

Post-Secondary Transition Information Night

Check out the Post-Secondary Transition Information Night on November 26 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. This will be a virtual presentation which discusses programming, accommodations, and supports that equip secondary students with disabilities with the necessary knowledge and skills to access post-secondary education. Scan the QR code on

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Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Course Change Requests:

If you have any questions or want to change courses for Semester 2, please book an appointment on Teach Assist.

If your child would like to DROP a course, please complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure you [email the guidance department](#) for approval BEFORE booking a guidance appointment. **For Grade 11 and 12 students, before dropping a course, ensure you are on track to graduate on time.**

Reminder: If students book a guidance appointment, they are to come down to the guidance department at their selected time slot. The guidance team will not call into classrooms to interrupt lessons.

Dual Credit:

Semester 2 Dual Credit courses will open in November. If you are a Grade 11 or 12 student interested in earning a College **AND** High School credit, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor today for more information.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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Check us out on Instagram...



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stouffville_guidance

Nov. 15, 2024



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday November 15, 2024

Monday, Nov 18th	Tuesday, Nov 19th	Wednesday, Nov 20th	Thursday, Nov 21st	Friday, Nov 22nd
School Council 7:00pm in the library		OSSLT Geography Zoo Trip	OSSLT Scholarship Music Concert	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

School Council Meeting

There is a school council meeting on Monday November 18th at 7:00 pm in the library. For those who would like to join virtually please use this link: <https://meet.google.com/xkn-anke-hsn>. All are welcome.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) - Wednesday, November 20th and Thursday, November 21st at 9:20 am

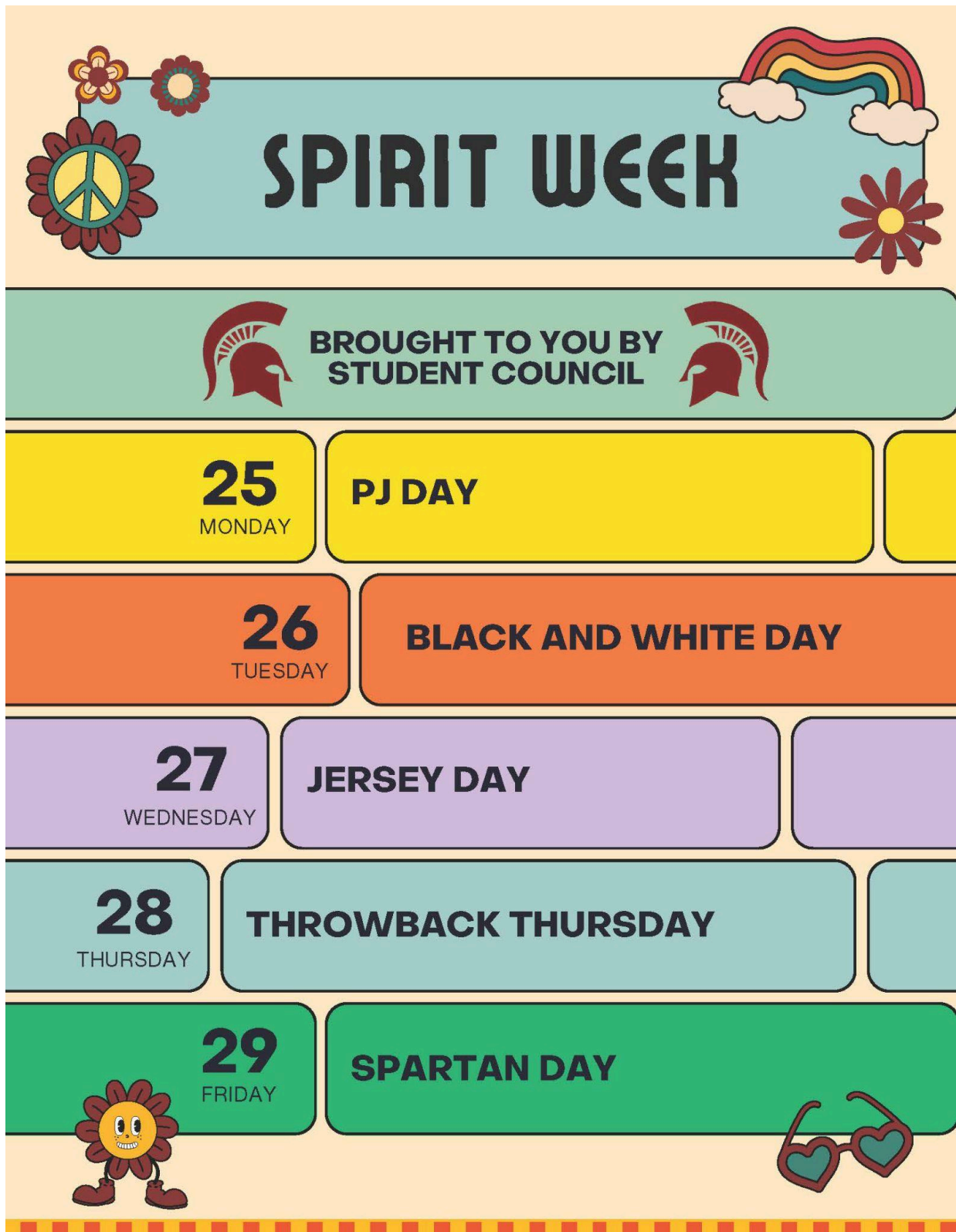
As per the Ministry of Education students are required to work towards the literacy graduation requirement through participating in the OSSLT or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC). At this time, the York Region District School Board has decided that:

- Previously eligible Grade 11 and 12s and all grade 10 students will write the OSSLT in November 2023
- Students who are unsuccessful on the test this Fall will have another opportunity to write in the Spring
- Students will be supported in preparing through school-wide cross-curricular literacy activities and can also access the [EQAO's practice test here](#).
- You should have received an email if your child is writing the OSSLT. As well, the majority of students will be writing the OSSLT in their homeroom.
- The schedule for the day will remain the same for all grade 9, 11 and 12 students. Grade 10 students are expected to follow the regular schedule after they complete the test.

Grad Photos For Graduating Students

Book your session today! To book your Graduation Photo Session, grab your student card and go to bookmygrad.ca and enter your school code and student number to get started. School Code: TDN. Sessions begin Dec. 2

From Student Council - Spirit Week



The Jewish Rainbow Alliance

The Jewish Rainbow Alliance is hosting a monthly support group for parents and caregivers of LGBTQ+ individuals. Please see flyer [attached](#)

Pathways to the Skilled Trades and Technology Open House

The Pathways Team in Curriculum & Instructional Services in collaboration with the York Catholic District School Board invites families of students in Grades 9-11 to attend a Skilled Trades and Technology Career Planning Information Night. Please see the flyer [attached](#).

Gurpurab and Langar Celebration: An Evening of Learning and Langar

Families, students and educators, are invited to join the SEVA Affinity Group in a Gurpurab Celebration: An Evening of Learning and Langar on Wednesday, December 4, 2024. Please see attached [flyer](#).

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stouffville_guidance

Nov. 22, 2024



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday November 22, 2024

Monday, Nov 25th	Tuesday, Nov 26th	Wednesday, Nov 27th	Thursday, Nov 28th	Friday, Nov 29th
Spirit Day: PJ Day	Spirit Day: Black and White Day	Spirit Day: Jersey Day	Spirit Day: Throwback Thursday	Spirit Day: Spartan Day

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Grad Photos For Graduating Students

Book your session today! To book your Graduation Photo Session, grab your student card and go to bookmygrad.ca and enter your school code and student number to get started. School Code: TDN. Sessions begin Dec. 2

Stouffville is Going 1:1

In September 2025, Stouffville District Secondary School will be introducing a 1:1 (Bring Your Own Device) program for all our students. This program has each student bring their own digital device to school each day to support the use of digital tools in class to enrich their learning environment.

What is the 1:1 Program?

- An approach to education that revolves around improving student learning and engagement with the integration of technology into daily school life.
- Students enhance their critical thinking skills as creators with technology rather than passive consumers of technology
- All students are required to have access to a laptop, chromebook or tablet PC for education purposes. Students take ownership of their device and will not be required to share with others.
- Students are provided a locker to store their device to ensure its safe keeping while at school and not in use.

Benefits of 1:1 Learning:

- Increases collaboration within and beyond the classroom
- Provides immediate access to resources and information
- Improves organization and planning
- Promotes self-initiated learning and increases independence
- Develops the technological know-how students will need in their future endeavours

Technology Requirements:

- A cell phone is not a 1:1 device
- Students will not be required to purchase software. If they take a course that uses proprietary software, the school will provide resources for access.
- Families can choose with their child the device that is most appropriate for them. Chromebooks will suffice for this program.
- Battery life is the most important component for your child's device
- Students who cannot afford a primary device will work with their Vice Principal to have a long-term loan Chromebook assigned to them.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stouffville District Secondary School.

Student Trustee Applications Open

If you will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and are passionate about student voice, consider becoming a student trustee, and representing students across YRDSB. Student trustees network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Learn more about the role and how you can apply at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees. Applications can be submitted between November 25-December 9. The deadline to apply is December 9, 2024, 11:59 p.m.

All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who represents our area of the Board. There are four areas of the Board (central, east, north and west). Once the four final candidates are announced, students can vote for two of the four candidates to represent them as student trustees in the 2025-2026 school year. Students will receive information on how to vote in the election during the campaign and voting

Spartans - Variety Show

Do you have a unique performance or talent you are interested in showing your fellow peers and classmates? Whether it's singing, dancing, playing an instrument, comedy, showcasing an art piece, etc., we'd love to see it!

Spartans - Variety Show auditions will be held December 3 and 4 in the caf after school.

Kwanzaa Celebration

Students, staff and families, please join us as we come together to celebrate Kwanzaa! This special event will honour African heritage, unity and culture and will be a time to reflect on the seven principles of Kwanzaa, enjoy cultural traditions and foster community spirit.

Date: Monday, December 9, 2024

Time: 6:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Location: Dr. Bette Stephenson, 36 Regatta Avenue, Richmond Hill

Event Details:

- Storytelling on Kwanzaa's history and principles
- Music and performances celebrating African heritage and culture
- Crafts and activities for all ages
- A community feast

We look forward to celebrating this cultural holiday with you.

To Register

Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **December 2, 2024**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to Blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca



WHO WE ARE?

360°kids is dedicated to helping at-risk and unhoused youth by providing essential support services in housing, employment, health, and education. Through over 30 specialized programs, we empower young people to overcome adversity and achieve stability



OUR KEY PROGRAMS



Family & Natural Supports (FNS)

strengthens youth relationships with families and natural supports, equipping them with tools for conflict resolution. Through personalized case management, FNS aims to reduce youth homelessness and prevent entry into emergency housing

[LEARN MORE](#)



Nightstop

brought to Canada by 360°kids, provides emergency accommodation for youth forced to leave home, offering a safe, vetted volunteer's home for the night. This service prevents youth from sleeping in unsafe conditions or on the streets, ensuring a supportive environment in times of crisis

[LEARN MORE](#)



Supportive Housing for Independence through Nurture and Empowerment (SHINE)

program provides voluntary housing and support for youth ages 14-19 facing housing crises. With a focus on family reintegration, SHINE equips youth with life skills for independence when returning home isn't possible

[LEARN MORE](#)



Employment

offers young people essential training and skills to succeed in the workforce. Through six program streams and a holistic, empathetic approach, these programs help youth overcome employment barriers, fostering stability and long-term job retention

[LEARN MORE](#)



Counseling

services help young people move from past pain toward resilience. Through in-person and virtual sessions, youth receive consistent, empathetic support and learn new skills to manage life's challenges. Services are available at the Richmond Hill Youth Hub or through the "Let's Chat" Virtual Walk-In Clinic for accessible, free counselling across York Region

[LEARN MORE](#)



Outreach

connect vulnerable youth (ages 12-25) to essential services across the community. They build trust, assess needs, and provide referrals to support youth in achieving stability. Services, including counselling and case management, are free and tailored to individual goals, meeting youth where they are—in community spaces or their own homes

[LEARN MORE](#)

**END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS. YOUR SUPPORT BUILDS HOPE
AND A BRIGHTER FUTURE - BECAUSE
#EVERYKIDMATTERS**

DONATE



360kids.ca



info@360kids.ca



1-833-360-5431

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- ★ Dec. 9: OYAP Pathways Information Session @ Richmond Hill HS 6:30-8:30 p.m. 📅 17
- ★ Dec. 16: Registration for Remote Night School Opens (Tues & Thur Nights) - Register on MyBluePrint

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Nov. 29

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday November 22, 2024

Monday, Dec. 2nd	Tuesday, Dec. 3rd	Wednesday, Dec. 4th	Thursday, Dec. 5th	Friday, Dec. 6th
Grad Photos	Grad Photos Variety Show Auditions (after school)	Grad Photos Distillery Historic Trip Variety Show Auditions (after school)	Grad Photos SHSM Raptors Trip Grade 8 Night (6:30-8:00)	Grad Photos Health and Safety Visit English Silver City Trip

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Signing Out Students for Sports Events

Please note that SDSS does not support signing out students to be spectators at sporting events. This guideline is in place to support the school’s commitment to maintaining academic engagement during instructional hours. While we encourage school spirit and participation in extracurricular activities, it is essential that such involvement does not compromise students’ learning time.

Exams

Please be advised that exams will be held from January 22 to January 30. Kindly refrain from booking any vacation or flexible medical appointments during this period. More details will be provided at a later date.

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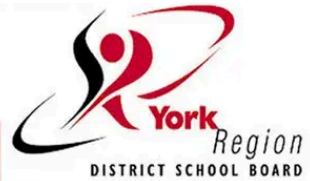
Grade 8 Open House

SDSS will be having our Grade 8 Open House on Thursday, Dec. 5 from 6:30 -8:00. Feel free to come if you have other children in grade 8 so they can see all that we have to offer here at SDSS.



ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKAN GRADUATES OF CANADA

in partnership with
YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



GUIDANCE FOR HIGHER STUDIES

CAREER INFORMATION WORKSHOP
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (GR.9-12) & PARENT/GUARDIAN

To Register
Scan QR Code



OR
Contact the following:



Mayooran Somanathan:
(647) 920-0106

Dr. V. Manivannan:
(647) 949-5205



Suganja Sinnathamby:
suganja.sinnathamby@yrdsb.ca



Date: Saturday, December 7, 2024
Time: 9:30 - 2:00 PM
Venue: Milliken Mills HS, Markham
(7522 Kennedy Road)

Admission: FREE

Looking for information on...

- Career Choices
- University/College Selections
- Scholarship & Grant Applications
- Secondary School Course Selections



**Come join us to meet the professionals,
seek the right advice and step
into the right path for a better future!**

Partner Organizations

Transit Assistance Program (TAP) for Those who Qualify

York Region is offering the Transit Assistance Program (TAP) to help make transit more affordable for eligible residents.

- Eligible TAP participants can receive a 50% discount on regular Adult single ride York Region Transit (YRT) fare using a PRESTO card. After 40 trips, rides are free for unlimited travel for the remainder of the calendar month.
- Anyone in the family can use the TAP card, including students going to high school
- Please Visit : [Eligibility and How to Apply for TAP](#)
- New Applications and Renewals for 2025 are now being accepted by telephone. There are a limited number of new spots available so apply soon. Please contact ACCESS YORK at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75581. All Students turning 18 should apply in their own right.
- If you require language interpretation for this call, simply say the language you speak when connected at the number above and interpretation services will be put in place.

If you have any additional questions please contact:

Yvonne Kelly,

Community and Partnership Developer, YRDSB

Regional Portfolio on Poverty/Intersections of Poverty

Inclusive School and Community Services

yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca

(905) 895-5155 ext.5124

Undergraduate Scholarships - Horatio Alger Canada

Horatio Alger Canadian Scholarships and National Entrepreneurial Scholarships for the Class of 2026 will open December 1, 2024. More information can be found on the website [Scholarships](#) .

Grade 8 Open House

We are excited to invite you to our Grade 8 Open House on December 5th. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about our programs and offerings as your child prepares for the next step in their academic journey. Please see the attached flyer for further details. We look forward to welcoming you and answering any questions you may have.

Stouffville is Going 1:1

In September 2025, Stouffville District Secondary School will be introducing a 1:1 (Bring Your Own Device) program for all our students. This program has each student bring their own digital device to school each day to support the use of digital tools in class to enrich their learning environment.

What is the 1:1 Program?

- An approach to education that revolves around improving student learning and engagement with the integration of technology into daily school life.
- Students enhance their critical thinking skills as creators with technology rather than passive consumers of technology

- All students are required to have access to a laptop, chromebook or tablet PC for education purposes. Students take ownership of their device and will not be required to share with others.
- Students are provided a locker to store their device to ensure its safe keeping while at school and not in use.

Benefits of 1:1 Learning:

- Increases collaboration within and beyond the classroom
- Provides immediate access to resources and information
- Improves organization and planning
- Promotes self-initiated learning and increases independence
- Develops the technological know-how students will need in their future endeavours

Technology Requirements:

- A cell phone is not a 1:1 device
- Students will not be required to purchase software. If they take a course that uses proprietary software, the school will provide resources for access.
- Families can choose with their child the device that is most appropriate for them. Chromebooks will suffice for this program.
- Battery life is the most important component for your child's device
- Students who cannot afford a primary device will work with their Vice Principal to have a long-term loan Chromebook assigned to them.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stouffville District Secondary School.

Student Trustee Applications Open

If you will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and are passionate about student voice, consider becoming a student trustee, and representing students across YRDSB. Student trustees network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Learn more about the role and how you can apply at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees. Applications can be submitted between November 25-December 9. The deadline to apply is December 9, 2024, 11:59 p.m.


All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who represents our area of the Board. There are four areas of the Board (central, east, north and west). Once the four final candidates are announced, students can vote for two of the four candidates to represent them as student trustees in the 2025-2026 school year. Students will receive information on how to vote in the election during the campaign and voting

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Dec. 5: Grade 8 Open House @ SDSS 6:30pm 🌟
- ★ Dec. 9: OYAP Pathways Information Session @ Richmond Hill HS 6:30-8:30 p.m. 
- ★ Dec. 16: Registration for Remote Night School Opens (Tues & Thur Nights) - Register on MyBluePrint

OYAP Pathways Information Session

The Pathways Team in Curriculum & Instructional Services in collaboration with the York Catholic District School Board invites families of students in **Grades 9-11** to **attend a Skilled Trades and Technology Career Planning Information Night**. The goal of this event is to inspire students to take their first step towards a career in industries that are constantly innovating, on the cutting edge of emerging technologies, and making a critical difference in people's lives. Students will have the opportunity to learn about some of Ontario's 140+ trades through presentations and information booths. They will hear directly from the YRDSB Pathways team, tradespeople, and local employers about life-changing career opportunities. This event is taking place on **Monday, December 9, 2024** from **6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** at **Richmond Hill High School** (201 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON, L4S 1A2).

Registration Process:

- Students, their families and YRDSB educators are invited to register through our YRDSB [Skilled Trades and Technology Open House Registration](#).
- Schools can communicate this opportunity to your parent/guardian community using this [Pathways to Skilled Trades and Technology flyer](#) that can be included in school communications to families.

Grade 12 Mark Uploads to OCAS & OUAC

Guidance uploaded your semester 1 marks into OCAS on November 15 and to OUAC on November 19. We encourage students to log in to confirm the following:

- your personal information is correct
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It is a student's responsibility to ensure that the information in OUAC and OCAS is accurate and to report any errors to their guidance counsellor as soon as possible.

Undergraduate Scholarships:

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Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Course Change Requests:

If you have any questions or want to change courses for Semester 2, please book an appointment on Teach Assist.

If your child would like to DROP a course, please complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure you [email the guidance department](#) for approval BEFORE booking a guidance appointment. **For Grade 11 and 12 students, before dropping a course, ensure you are on track to graduate on time.**

Reminder: If students book a guidance appointment, they are to come down to the guidance department at their selected time slot. The guidance team will not call into classrooms to interrupt lessons.

Dual Credit:

Semester 2 Dual Credit courses will open in December. If you are a Grade 11 or 12 student interested in earning a College **AND** High School credit, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor today for more information.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

A Guide of Services for Youth in York Region [Strive 2023](#)

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360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

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Dec. 6, 2024

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday December 6, 2024

Monday, Dec. 9th	Tuesday, Dec. 10th	Wednesday, Dec. 11th	Thursday, Dec. 12th	Friday, Dec. 13th
Grad Photo Week	Grad Photo Week ROM Trip	Grad Photo Week Senior Art Show SHSM First Aid/CPR Certification	Grad Photo Week Holiday Winter Music Concert SHSM First Aid/CPR Certification	Grad Photo Week

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Please be advised that exams will be held from January 22nd to January 28th. Kindly refrain from booking any vacation or flexible medical appointments during this period. More details will be provided at a later date.

Grade 9 EQAO Math

Grade 9 semester 1 students **who are currently taking destreamed math** will be writing the EQAO assessment of mathematics on **January 14 and 15**. The online test will be administered over two days during students' math classes. More information will be mailed directly to the families of students who are writing. Classroom teachers will support students in preparing and students/ families can also access the [sample test using this link](#)

Gr. 8 Open House

We had a successful Grade 8 Open House last night with over 400 people in attendance. If you missed it, you can find the presentation attached.

Understanding and Navigating the Education System



presented by

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

Monday, December 16, 2024
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:

- Presentation - Ways to support our children
- 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

Grad Photos For Graduating Students

Book your session today! To book your Graduation Photo Session, grab your student card and go to bookmygrad.ca and enter your school code and student number to get started. School Code: TDN. Sessions begin Dec. 2 and close on Dec. 12.

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Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday January 10, 2025

Monday, Jan 13th	Tuesday, Jan 14th	Wednesday, Jan .15th	Thursday, Jan. 16th	Friday, Jan. 17th
Grade 9 EQAO	Grade 9 EQAO			

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Stouffville District Secondary School January 2025 Examination Schedule

Period One Examinations				Period Two Examinations				Period Three Examinations				Period Four Examinations				Jan 28th
Jan 22nd Start 9:20 am				Jan 23rd Start 9:20 am				Jan 24th Start 9:20 am				Jan 27 Start 9:20 am				Inclement Weather Day
Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	
Atzenik	MCR3U1-1	2038	2	Atzenik	MCR3U1-2	2038	2	Avveduto	SBI3U1-3	2052	2	Angus	HFA4U1-3/HFA4C1-7	1023	2	This day is for students who have arranged with a teacher to complete work with the goal of earning a credit. Repertoire students will sign up for performance exams in the music rooms prior to the exam period. Exams will take place on all days of the exam period. Students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.
Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt	Avveduto	SBI3U1-2	2052	2	Burnan	TDJ3M1-2/TDMM1-2	1029	1.5	Butters	CHY4U1-1/CHY4C1-1	2021	2	
Bull	HSP3U1-1	2039	1.5	Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt	Butters	CHC2D1-4	2021	by appt	Cockburn	ENG 2D1-4	2005	1.5	
Camara	SPH3U1-1	2063	2	Burnan	TDJ3M1-1/TDMM1-1	1029	1.5	Camara	SPH3U1-3	2063	2	Cuda	SNC1W1-3	2063	1.5	
Cui	BEP2D1-1	2007	by appt	Butters	CHC2D1-5	2021	by appt	Cockburn	ENG 2D1-7	1058	1.5	Cui	PSF1D1-3	2024	1.5	
Di Camillo	HIG4M1-1	1023	2	Camara	SPH3U1-2/SPH4C1-1	2063	2	Cui	BEP2D1-2	2044	by appt	Dolmage	MCR3U1-3	2036	2	
Dolmage	MPM2D1-2	2036	1.5	Camara	BEP2D1-11	2023	by appt	Dolmage	MPM2D1-3	2036	1.5	Dragert	SCH3U1-4	2053	2	
Dragert	SCH3U1-3	2053	2	Eaton	CUJ3M1-1	2019	1.5	Dragert	SNC2D1-1	2053	1.5	Eslabrooks	SPH4U1-2	2064	2	
Eaton	CHC2D1-3	1046	by appt	Eslabrooks	SNC1W1-1	2064	1.5	Eaton	CHC2D1-7	2019	by appt	Farrell	ENG2PA/ENG4EA	Port 1	1.5	
Eslabrooks	SPH4U1-1	2064	2	Falbo	PSF1D1-2	2024	1.5	Falbo	PSF1D1-18	2014	1.5	Hennigar	MTH1W1-8	2038	1.5	
Falbo	PSF2D1-1	2024	1.5	Farrell	ENG4CA/NBE3CA	Port 1	1.5	Farrell	ENG1WA-8/ENG1LA-7	Port 1	1.5	J. Jackson	PSF3U1-1	2023	2	
Gabati	ES1A01-1/ES1B01-1	2013	2	Gabati	ES1C01-1	2013	2	Gowrikumaran	ES1D01-1/ES1E01-1	2005	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	
Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-1	2005	1.5	Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-2	2005	1.5	Hennigar	MPM2D1-4	2038	1.5	Kowa kzyk	MAP4C1-1	2042	2	
J. Jackson	PSF1D1-6	2023	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	J. Jackson	PSF1D1-1	2023	1.5	Krnk	TEJ3M1-1	1066	1.5	
Kiriakou	MTH1W1-2	2037	1.5	Kiriakou	MTH1W1-3	2037	1.5	Kiriakou	MBF3C1-1	2037	1.5	Metropolit	SNC1W1-9	2060	1.5	
La u	SNC2D1-5	2061	1.5	Kodi	MDM4U1-1	2007	2	Kodi	KS3U1-1	2007	1.5	Neill	SNC2D1-6	2061	1.5	
Lowtan	ENG 2D1-6	2015	1.5	Krnk	TEJ2D1-1	1066	1.5	Lafford	CG1WA-3	2026	1.5	Nikolaou	MHF4U1-4	2041	2	
Mertis	PSF3U1-5/PSF4U1-1	2022	2	Lafford	CGW4U-1	2026	2	La u	MTH1W1-30	2061	1.5	Pendergast	MPM2D1-6	2040	1.5	
Metropolit	SNC1W1-1	2060	1.5	La u	SNC2D1-9	2061	1.5	Metropolit	SNC2P1-2	2060	1.5	Phillips	ENL1W1-6	2022	1.5	
Mintchev	MTH1W1-9	2042	1.5	Lowtan	ENG 2D1-3	2015	1.5	Mintchev	MTH1W1-4	2042	1.5	Rajkumar	ENG 2D1-8	2004	1.5	
Pendergast	MHF4U1-1	2040	2	Mertis	PSF1D1-7	2022	1.5	Nikolaou	MHF4U1-3	2041	2	Rothwell	NBE3U1-04	2003	2	
Phillips	NBE3C1-1	2004	2	Minchev	MCF3M1-1	2042	1.5	Phillips	ENL1W1-3	2022	1.5	Rozenberg	CG1W1-6	2026	1.5	
Quinn	SCH4U1-1	2055	2	Myes	ENL1W1-7	2003	1.5	Quinn	SCH4U1-1	2055	2	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2DA-1	Port 6	NA	
Rothwell	NBE3U1-2	2003	2	Neill	SNC2D1-2	2060	1.5	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-3	2004	2	Salt	SBI3U1-1	2052	2	
Sale	NAC2D1-1	2021	2	Pendergast	MHF4U1-2	2040	2	Rothwell	ENG 4U1-2	2003	2	Schmidt	ENG 4U1-3	2006	2	
Salt	SNC1W1-7	2052	1.5	Quinn	SCH3U1-1	2055	2	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2DA-1	Port 6	NA	Skubiski	ENL1W1-8	2013	1.5	
Turpin	HZT4U1-1	2018	2	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-1	2004	2	Salt	SNC1W1-8	2064	1.5	Turpin	CHC2D1-8	2018	by appt	
Veljanoski	BAF3M1-2	2034	1.5	Schlesler	SBI4U1-2	2056	2	Schlesler	SBI4U1-1	2056	2	Van Kampen	MPM2D1-5	2039	1.5	
Vlachopoulos	CGC1W1-1	2025	1.5	Schmidt	ENG 4U1-1	2006	2	Skubiski	ENG 4C1-1	2013	1.5	Webb	AV13M1-1	2000	1.5	
				Van Kampen	MPM2D1-1	2039	1.5	Veljanoski	BAF3M1-3	2034	1.5	Yorke	CGC1W1-6	2025	1.5	
				Veljanoski	BOH4M1-1	2034	2	Webb	AV1HM1-1	2000	2					
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				Zimbalatti	CHC2D1-6	2020	by appt									
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Examination / Marks Review Day - Jan 30th, 2025			
This day is an opportunity for students to go over their final examinations and culminating assessments with their teachers.			
Period 1	9:20-10:00	Period 4	11:25-12:00
Period 2	10:05-10:40	Lunch	12:00-12:50
Period 3	10:45-11:20	Students conferencing with teachers by apt.	12:55-3:30

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students in both elementary and secondary schools. Please see our flyer for more information and to register.

Tenants Rights Workshop

Parents/Guardians are invited to the free Virtual Tenant Rights Workshops offered in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Housing Rights from January through April 2025. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

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Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Course Change Requests:

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Dual Credit:

Semester 2 Dual Credit courses are NOW OPEN! If you are a Grade 11 or 12 student interested in earning a College **AND** High School credit, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor today for more information.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

A Guide of Services for Youth in York Region [Strive 2023](#)

Kids Help Phone (text 686868, call 800-668-6868 www.kidshelpphone.ca)

360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310)

Black Youth Helpline (416-285-9944)

LGBT YouthLine (text) 647-694-4275

Trans Lifeline (1-877-330-6366)

Check us out on Instagram...



stouffvilledss



stouffville_guidance

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday December 13, 2024

Monday, Dec. 16th	Tuesday, Dec. 17th	Wednesday, Dec. 18th	Thursday, Dec. 19th	Friday, Dec. 20th
Gr 11 Immunization Catch Up Clinic	Staff/Student Volleyball at lunch Parkview Singalong at lunch Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 3:30pm to 5:30pm	Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 3:30pm to 5:30pm		Variety Show P4

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Please be advised that exams will be held from January 22nd to January 28th. Kindly refrain from booking any vacation or flexible medical appointments during this period. More details will be provided at a later date.

Grade 9 EQAO Math

Grade 9 semester 1 students **who are currently taking destreamed math** will be writing the EQAO assessment of mathematics on **January 14 and 15**. The online test will be administered over two days during students' math classes. More information has been mailed directly to the families of students who are writing. Classroom teachers will support students in preparing and students/ families can also access the [sample test using this link](#)

IGNITE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

For students with SEA Technology



The Ignite Technology Grant is designed to create **leadership opportunities**, hone **communication skills**, and increase **self-esteem** for students with SEA equipment within their school community. The goal is to bring **awareness** to the effective and successful use of technology for modern learning.

Applications Open: **October 15, 2024**
Applications Close: **December 6, 2024**

IGNITE your school and community now!
Go to www.yrdsb.ca/ignite now to learn how!

19th Annual



DANCE COMPETITION

OUR GOAL: To create a forum for students to get together, perform, compete, share and grow from and with each other.

DATE: Friday May 23, 2025

Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Venue: Langstaff Secondary School

Address: 106 Garden Ave,
Richmond Hill, ON

**Open to Step Teams &
Dance Troupes
from Grades 6 to 12**

**Levels of Competition:
Intermediate and
Senior Divisions**

**The competition encourages
student choreography**

Registration Deadline:

April 3, 2025

Payment Deadline: March 1, 2025 (to secure your spot)

**Suggested music selections:
Hip Hop, Pop, R&B, Soul,
South Asian, Latin, Soca and
Reggae styles**

For more registration information,
please contact Charlene Miller (Beckett Farm P.S.)
charlene.miller@yrdsb.ca



YRDSB ARTS CAMP 2025

Join us for an immersive program in visual, studio, and performance arts. Explore your identity through creative expression, supported risk-taking, and collaboration with peers and staff. Fosters self-confidence, individuality, and the discovery of new talents.

Memories that last a
Lifetime

Students, Educators, Community Artists
CREATING TOGETHER



Applications open Fri. Dec 13 – Fri. Feb. 7

- ✓ Campers (gr. 7-12)
- ✓ Counsellors-In-Training (gr. 9-11)
- ✓ Counsellors (gr. 11 & 12)



FOR MORE INFORMATION
& TO APPLY, VISIT:

bit.ly/YRDSBac25info



Sat. May 24 – Sat. May 31, 2025



Questions? Email:
arts.camp@yrdsb.ca



Find us on Instagram
[@YRDSBArtsCamp](https://www.instagram.com/YRDSBArtsCamp)

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Dec. 12: Financial Aid/OSAP Presentation @ SDSS Library 12:00-12:55 p.m. 💰
- ★ Dec. 16: Registration for Remote Night School Opens (Tues & Thur Nights) - Register on MyBluePrint
- ★ Jan. 8: Department Fair @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🌟

Registration for Remote Night School Opens

Registration for virtual real-time (synchronous) classes will open on Monday December 16. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:45 p.m. Students can sign up on MyBluePrint under continuing education or book an appointment with the guidance department. Check out the [list of course offerings here](#)

Grade 12 Mark Uploads to OCAS & OUAC

Guidance uploaded your semester 1 marks into OCAS on November 15 and to OUAC on November 19. We encourage students to log in to confirm the following:

- your personal information is correct
- that marks are correct
- that your currently enrolled courses are listed

It is a student's responsibility to ensure that the information in OUAC and OCAS is accurate and to report any errors to their guidance counsellor as soon as possible.

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Dec. 20

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Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday December 13, 2024

Monday, Jan. 6th	Tuesday, Jan. 7th	Wednesday, Jan. 8th	Thursday, Jan. 9th	Friday, January 10th
Welcome Back!				
Staff Meeting in Library				

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Please be advised that exams will be held from January 22nd to January 28th. Kindly refrain from booking any vacation or flexible medical appointments during this period. In advance of exams in January, we wanted to attach a copy of the January 2025 Exam Schedule. We apologize for not including this in the original schedule, but students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.

Grade 9 EQAO Math

Grade 9 semester 1 students **who are currently taking destreamed math** will be writing the EQAO assessment of mathematics on **January 14 and 15**. The online test will be administered over two days during students' math classes. More information has been mailed directly to the families of students who are writing. Classroom teachers will support students in preparing and students/ families can also access the [sample test using this link](#)

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Tamil is considered one of the oldest ancient classical languages. The roots of the Tamil language originated in the Sangam Literature period (300 BCE), and is believed to be over 3000 years old. The use of the term 'Tamil' can be found in the Tholkappiyam, the most ancient Tamil grammar text. Tamil is an official language in South India, Sri Lanka, and Singapore, and Tamil speaking individuals can be predominately found in Malaysia, South Africa, North America, Western Europe and Singapore.

Help for Science

After the Winter Break, grade 9 & 10 science students have the opportunity to get help from science teachers during lunch. Grade 10 students will be hosted in room 2061. Grade 11 students should report to room 2063.

Wellbeing & Mindfulness Workshop



We are delighted to invite you to an engaging Wellbeing and Mindfulness Workshop designed to help students and families nurture balance, build resilience, and practice self-care in today's fast-paced world.

Date: January 23, 2025

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Poplar Bank Public School
400 Woodspring Ave, Newmarket, ON L3X 2X1

Dinner will be provided.

During this interactive session, you will learn practical mindfulness techniques, explore strategies to support mental health, and participate in activities aimed at fostering connection and relaxation. This workshop is a great opportunity to prioritize your wellbeing as a family while gaining tools to thrive both academically and personally.

We look forward to seeing you there!



To Register

Please [register](#) by January 14, 2025. Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to respond early to secure your spot!



Attendance

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Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Jan. 15: Deadline to Apply to Ontario Universities (OUAC) July 17
- ★ Feb. 1: Deadline to Apply to Ontario College (OCAS) July 17
- ★ Feb. 3: Semester 2 Begins 🌟

Registration for Remote Night School Opens

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Jan. 10

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Friday January 10, 2024

The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Monday, Jan 13th	Tuesday, Jan 14th	Wednesday, Jan. 15th	Thursday, Jan. 16th	Friday, Jan. 17th
	Grade 9 EQAO	Grade 9 EQAO		

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Please see below for the exam schedule. Students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.

Missed Examinations Policy

All students are expected to write their final examinations during the scheduled date, time and place indicated on the exam schedule. A student who misses an examination may receive a mark of zero as the final mark for the exam.

Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances, alternate arrangements will be made to have the exam completed on a different date from the original schedule. If you have a question or need assistance please contact the office or Mr. Press at neil.press@ydrsb.ca

Stouffville District Secondary School January 2025 Examination Schedule

Period One Examinations Jan 22nd Start 9:20 am				Period Two Examinations Jan 23rd Start 9:20 am				Period Three Examinations Jan 24th Start 9:20 am				Period Four Examinations Jan 27 Start 9:20 am				Jan 28th
Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Inclement Weather Day
Atzeni	MCR3U1-1	2038	2	Atzeni	MCR3U1-2	2038	2	Arveduto	SBI3U1-3	2052	2	Angus	HFA4U1-3/HFA4C1-7	1023	2	This day is for students who have arranged with a teacher to complete work with the goal of earning a credit. Repertoire students will sign up for performance exams in the music rooms prior to the exam period. Exams will take place on all days of the exam period. Students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.
Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt	Arveduto	SBI3U1-2	2052	2	Burnian	TDJ3M1-2/TDMM1-2	1029	1.5	Butters	CHY4U1-1/CHY4C1-1	2021	2	
Bull	HSP3U1-1	2039	1.5	Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt	Butters	CHC2D1-4	2021	by appt	Cockburn	ENG 2D1-4	2005	1.5	
Camara	SPH3U1-1	2063	2	Burnian	TDJ3M1-1/TDMM1-1	1029	1.5	Camara	SPH3U1-3	2063	2	Cuda	SNC1W1-3	2063	1.5	
Cui	BEP2D1-1	2007	by appt	Butters	CHC2D1-5	2021	by appt	Cockburn	ENG 2D1-7	1058	1.5	Cui	PSF1D1-3	2024	1.5	
Di Camillo	HIG4M1-1	1023	2	Camara	SPH3U1-2/SPH4C1-1	2063	2	Cui	BEP2D1-2	2044	by appt	Dolmage	MCR3U1-3	2036	2	
Dolmage	MPM2D1-2	2036	1.5	Czamecka	BEP2D1-11	2023	by appt	Dolmage	MPM2D1-3	2036	1.5	Dragert	SCH3U1-4	2053	2	
Dragert	SCH3U1-3	2053	2	Eaton	CUJ3M1-1	2019	1.5	Dragert	SNC2D1-1	2053	1.5	Estabrooks	SPH4U1-2	2064	2	
Eaton	CHC2D1-3	1046	by appt	Estabrooks	SNC1W1-1	2064	1.5	Eaton	CHC2D1-7	2019	by appt	Farrell	ENG2W/ENG4EA	Port 1	1.5	
Estabrooks	SPH4U1-1	2064	2	Falbo	PSF1D1-2	2024	1.5	Falbo	PSF1D1-18	2024	1.5	Hennigar	MTH1W1-8	2038	1.5	
Falbo	PSF2D1-1	2024	1.5	Farrell	ENG4CA/NBE3CA	Port 1	1.5	Farrell	ENG1WA-8/ENG1LA-7	Port 1	1.5	J. Jackson	PSF3U1-1	2023	2	
Galati	ES1A01-1/ES1B01-1	2013	2	Galati	ESLC01-1	2013	2	Gowrikumaran	ES1D01-1/ES1E01-1	2005	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	
Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-1	2005	1.5	Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-2	2005	1.5	Hennigar	MPM2D1-4	2038	1.5	Kowakzyk	MAP4C1-1	2042	2	
J. Jackson	PSF1D1-6	2023	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	J. Jackson	PSF1D1-1	2023	1.5	Krnik	TEJ3M1-1	1066	1.5	
Kirakou	MTH1W1-2	2037	1.5	Kirakou	MTH1W1-3	2037	1.5	Kirakou	MBF3C1-1	2037	1.5	Metropolit	SNC1W1-9	2060	1.5	
La u	SNC2D1-5	2061	1.5	Kodi	MDM4U1-1	2007	2	Kodi	KS3U1-1	2007	1.5	Neill	SNC2D1-6	2061	1.5	
Lowtan	ENG 2D1-6	2015	1.5	Krnik	TEJ2D1-1	1066	1.5	Lafford	CGC1WA-3	2026	1.5	Nikolaou	MHF4U1-4	2041	2	
Mertis	PSF3U1-5/PSF4U1-1	2022	2	Lafford	CGW4U1-1	2026	2	La u	MTH1W1-3D	2061	1.5	Pendergast	MPM2D1-6	2040	1.5	
Metropolit	SNC1W1-1	2060	1.5	La u	SNC2D1-9	2061	1.5	Metropolit	SNC2P1-2	2060	1.5	Phillips	ENL1W1-6	2022	1.5	
Minchev	MTH1W1-9	2042	1.5	Lowtan	ENG 2D1-3	2015	1.5	Minchev	MTH1W1-4	2042	1.5	Rajkumar	ENG 2D1-8	2004	1.5	
Pendergast	MHF4U1-1	2040	2	Mertis	PSF1D1-7	2022	1.5	Nikolaou	MHF4U1-3	2041	2	Rothwell	NBE3U1-04	2003	2	
Phillips	NBE3C1-1	2004	2	Minchev	MCF3M1-1	2042	1.5	Phillips	ENL1W1-3	2022	1.5	Rozenberg	CGC1W1-6	2026	1.5	
Quinn	SCH4U1-1	2055	2	Myers	ENL1W1-7	2003	1.5	Quinn	SCH4U1-1	2055	2	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2DA-1	Port 6	NA	
Rothwell	NBE3U1-2	2003	2	Neill	SNC2D1-2	2060	1.5	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-3	2004	2	Salt	ENL1W1-8	2013	1.5	
Sale	NAC2D1-1	2021	2	Pendergast	MHF4U1-2	2040	2	Rothwell	ENG4U1-2	2003	2	Schmidt	ENG4U1-3	2006	2	
Salt	SCH3U1-7	2052	1.5	Quinn	SCH3U1-1	2055	2	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2DA-1	Port 6	NA	Skubiski	ENL1W1-8	2013	1.5	
Turpin	HZT4U1-1	2018	2	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-1	2004	2	Salt	SNC1W1-8	2064	1.5	Turpin	CHC2D1-8	2018	by appt	
Veljanoski	BAF3M1-2	2034	1.5	Schissler	SBI4U1-2	2056	2	Schissler	SBI4U1-1	2056	2	Van Kampen	MPM2D1-5	2039	1.5	
Vlachopoulos	CGC1W1-1	2025	1.5	Schmidt	ENG4U1-1	2006	2	Skubiski	ENG4C1-1	2013	1.5	Webb	AV13M1-1	2000	1.5	
				Van Kampen	MPM2D1-1	2039	1.5	Veljanoski	BAF3M1-3	2034	1.5	Yorke	CGC1W1-6	2025	1.5	
				Veljanoski	BOH4M1-1	2034	2	Webb	AV13M1-1	2000	2					
				Yorke	CGC1W1-5	2025	1.5	Mossop	AWQ2D1-1	1057	by appt					
				Zimbatti	CHC2D1-6	2020	by appt									
				Mossop	AWQ2D1-2	1057	by appt									

Examination / Marks Review Day - Jan 30th, 2025			
This day is an opportunity for students to go over their final examinations and culminating assessments with their teachers.			
Period 1	9:20-10:00	Period 4	11:25-12:00
Period 2	10:05-10:40	Lunch	12:00-12:50
Period 3	10:45-11:20	Students conferencing with teachers by apt.	12:55-3:30

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Understanding and Navigating the Education System - Families of YRDSB Black Students January Information Session

Families, parents, caregivers, please join us on Monday, January 27, 2025, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. for our monthly virtual meeting, where families of Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary and secondary schools. Please see the attached flyer for more information and to register.

Tenants Rights Workshop

Parents/Guardians are invited to the free Virtual Tenant Rights Workshops offered in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Housing Rights from January through April 2025. Please see the attached for more details.

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Educators for 'Tamil Students' Success
invites you to:

TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH LAUNCH

A memorable evening on
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025

[Register Here](#)



AT
MAPLE HIGH SCHOOL
50 Springside Rd, Maple

FROM 4:30 - 7:30 PM

**Arts & Literature Workshops, Cultural Performances
and refreshments**

Contact: Suhitta.prakalathan@yrdsb.ca



Attendance

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BUILDING HEALTHY KIDS

This winter reboot your family's routine!

A new year is here, and it's a great time to think about your family's routines!

As you start to think about your family's goals for 2025 be realistic. Make sure to incorporate things you already enjoy, build upon on what's already working well, and be patient with yourself and your kids.



Help your family to continue building healthy habits for 2025 through daily movement, nutritious meals, and mental health promotion strategies you can use with your children all year round! During the winter months, try foods to keep you warm including soups, stews, casseroles, curries, and chili. Enjoy some family meals together and cooking with your children – it's a great way to connect, spend time together, and learn new skills.

If you are thinking about getting more active, consider getting outdoors to play! When children and youth are outside, they move more, get curious, and find joy. Interacting with nature, even when it is cold outside, has many benefits. It helps restore our ability to concentrate and pay attention. It improves mood, focus and our stress response. Remember to dress for the weather, it's the first step to enjoying being outside and the best way to do this is to layer clothing you can remove easily when it is warmer or put back on when it becomes colder. Make sure gaps such as wrists, ankles, neck, back and waist are covered and even though it is winter - don't forget sunscreen and sunglasses!

If you find things are tough at the start of the new year for you or your family, you can try breathing, visualization, muscle relaxation, journalling, listening to music, practising gratitude to help you cope. Try a variety of activities to see what works best. As a parent or caregiver, it is essential to take care of yourself, so you can care and support others. Your self care will help improve your energy, focus, ability to cope with challenges and you will be a model to your children.

For more tips on how you can reboot your family's routine this winter routine visit york.ca/HealthyKids.




Public Health

1-877-464-9675
TTY 1-866-512-6228
york.ca/HealthyKids



Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Jan. 15: Deadline to Apply to Ontario Universities (OUAC) 
- ★ Feb. 1: Deadline to Apply to Ontario College (OCAS) 
- ★ Feb. 3: Semester 2 Begins 
- ★ Feb. 4-6: Guidance Pop-up Shops at Lunch in the Chill Zone

Registration for Remote Night School Opens

Registration for virtual real-time (synchronous) classes opened on Monday December 16. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:45 p.m. Students can sign up on MyBlueprint under continuing education or book an appointment with the guidance department. Check out the [list of course offerings here](#)

Undergraduate Scholarships:

Check out these amazing scholarship opportunities from [The Horatio Alger Association](#). The Horatio Alger Association is dedicated to facilitating the educational aspirations of promising Canadian undergraduates through its scholarship services. These scholarships are tailored to alleviate financial burdens and open doors to higher education for students who have displayed resilience and determination in the face of adversity.

Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Course Change Requests:

If you have any questions or want to change courses for Semester 2, please book an appointment on Teach Assist.

If your child would like to DROP a course, please complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure you [email the guidance department](#) for approval BEFORE booking a guidance appointment. **For Grade 11 and 12 students, before dropping a course, ensure you are on track to graduate on time.**

Reminder: If students book a guidance appointment, they are to come down to the guidance department at their selected time slot. The guidance team will not call into classrooms to interrupt lessons.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

A Guide of Services for Youth in York Region [Strive 2023](#)

Kids Help Phone (text 686868, call 800-668-6868 www.kidshelpphone.ca)

360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310)

Black Youth Helpline (416-285-9944)

LGBT YouthLine (text) 647-694-4275
Trans Lifeline (1-877-330-6366)

Check us out on Instagram...



stouffvilledss



stouffville_guidance

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday January 17, 2024

Monday, Jan 20th	Tuesday, Jan 21st	Wednesday, Jan 22nd	Thursday, Jan 23rd	Friday, Jan 24th
		Exam Week Begins Period 1 Exams	Period 2 Exams	Period 3 Exams

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Please see below for the exam schedule. Students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.

Missed Examinations Policy

All students are expected to write their final examinations during the scheduled date, time and place indicated on the exam schedule. A student who misses an examination may receive a mark of zero as the final mark for the exam.

Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances, alternate arrangements will be made to have the exam completed on a different date from the original schedule. If you have a question or need assistance please contact the office or Mr. Press at neil.press@yrdsb.ca

Stouffville District Secondary School January 2025 Examination Schedule

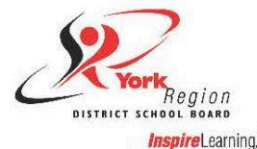
Period One Examinations				Period Two Examinations				Period Three Examinations				Period Four Examinations				Jan 28th
Jan 22nd Start 9:20 am				Jan 23rd Start 9:20 am				Jan 24th Start 9:20 am				Jan 27 Start 9:20 am				Inclement Weather Day
Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	
Atzemis	MCR3U1-1	2038	2	Atzemis	MCR3U1-2	2038	2	Avveduto	SB3U1-3	2052	2	Angus	HFA4U1-3/HFA4C1-7	1023	2	In case of a snow day and exams are cancelled, exams will be moved to this day. As well, this day is for students who have arranged with a teacher to complete work with the goal of earning a credit. Repertoire students will sign up for performance exams in the music rooms prior to the exam period. Exams will take place on all days of the exam period. <i>Students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.</i>
Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt.	Avveduto	SB3U1-2	2052	2	Burman	TDJ3M1-2/TD4M1-2	1029	1.5	Butters	CHY4U1-1	2021	2	
Bull	HSP3U1-1	2039	1.5	Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt.	Butters	CHC2D1-4	2021	by appt.	Cockburn	ENG2D1-4	2005	1.5	
Camara	SPH3U1-1	2063	2	Burman	TDJ3M1-1/TD4M1-1	1029	1.5	Camara	SPH3U1-3	2063	2	Cuda	SNC1W1-3	2063	1.5	
Cui	BEP2D1-1	2007	by appt.	Butters	CHC2D1-5	2021	by appt.	Cockburn	ENG2D1-7	2006	1.5	Cui	FSF1D1-3	2024	1.5	
Di Camillo	HHG4M1-1	1023	2	Camara	SPH3U1-2/SPH4C1-1	2063	2	Cui	BEP2D1-2	2044	by appt.	Dolmage	MCR3U1-3	2036	2	
Dolmage	MPM2D1-2	2036	1.5	Czarnecka	BEP2D1-11	2023	by appt.	Dolmage	MPM2D1-3	2036	1.5	Dragert	SCH3U1-4	2053	2	
Dragert	SCH3U1-3	2053	2	Eaton	CLU3M1-1	2019	1.5	Dragert	SNC2D1-1	2053	1.5	Estabrooks	SPH4U1-2	2064	2	
Eaton	CHC2D1-3	1046	by appt.	Estabrooks	SNC1W1-1	2064	1.5	Eaton	CHC2D1-7	2019	by appt.	Farrell	ENG2PA/ENG4EA	Port1	1.5	
Estabrooks	SPH4U1-1	2064	2	Falbo	FSF1D1-2	2024	1.5	Falbo	FSF1D1-18	2024	1.5	Hennigar	MTH1W1-8	2038	1.5	
Falbo	FSF2D1-1	2024	1.5	Farrell	ENG4CA/NBE3CA	Port 1	1.5	Farrell	ENG1WA-8/ENG1LA-7	Port 1	1.5	J. Jackson	FSF3U1-1	2023	2	
Galati	ESLA01-1/ESLB01-1	2013	2	Galati	ESLCO1-1	2013	2	Gowrikumaran	ESLDO1-1/ESLEO1-1	2005	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	
Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-1	2005	1.5	Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-2	2005	1.5	Hennigar	MPM2D1-4	2038	1.5	Kowalczyk	MAP4C1-1	2042	2	
J. Jackson	FSF1D1-6	2023	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	J. Jackson	FSF1D1-1	2023	1.5	Krnic	TEJ3M1-1	1066	1.5	Jan 29th
Kiriakou	MTH1W1-2	2037	1.5	Kiriakou	MTH1W1-3	2037	1.5	Kiriakou	MBF3C1-1	2037	1.5	Metropolit	SNC1W1-9	2060	1.5	Instructional Day/Credit Recovery
Lau	SNC2D1-5	2061	1.5	Kodsi	MDM4U1-1	2007	2	Kodsi	ICS3U1-1	2007	1.5	Neill	SNC2D1-6	2061	1.5	This day is for students to make appointments with teachers to submit outstanding assignments in the goal of earning a credit.
Lowtan	ENG2D1-6	2015	1.5	Krnic	TEJ2O1-1	1066	1.5	Latford	CGC1WA-3	2026	1.5	Nicolaou	MHF4U1-4	2041	2	
Mertsis	FSF3U1-5/FSF4U1-1	2022	2	Latford	CGW4U1-1	2026	2	Lau	MTH1W1-10	2061	1.5	Pendergast	MPM2D1-6	2040	1.5	
Metropolit	SNC2D1-1	2060	1.5	Lau	SNC2D1-9	2061	1.5	Metropolit	SNC2P1-2	2060	1.5	Phillips	ENL1W1-6	2022	1.5	
Mintchev	MTH1W1-9	2042	1.5	Lowtan	ENG2D1-3	2015	1.5	Mintchev	MTH1W1-4	2042	1.5	Rajkumar	ENG2D1-8	2004	1.5	
Pendergast	MHF4U1-1	2040	2	Mertsis	FSF1D1-7	2022	1.5	Mossop	AWQ2O1-1	1057	by appt.	Rothwell	NBE3U1-04	2003	2	
Phillips	NBE3C1-1	2004	2	Mintchev	MCF3M1-1	2042	1.5	Nicolaou	MHF4U1-3	2041	2	Rozenberg	CGC1W1-6	2026	1.5	
Quinn	SCH4U1-1	2055	2	Mossop	AWQ2D1-2	1057	by appt.	Phillips	ENL1W1-3	2022	1.5	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2OA-1	Port 6	NA	
Rothwell	NBE3U1-2	2003	2	Myers	ENL1W1-7	2003	1.5	Quinn	SCH4U1-2	2055	2	SaR	SB18U1-1	2052	2	
Sale	NAC2D1-1	2021	2	Neill	SNC2D1-2	2060	1.5	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-3	2004	2	Schmidt	ENG4U1-3	2006	2	
Salt	SNC1W1-7	2052	1.5	Pendergast	MHF4U1-2	2040	2	Rothwell	ENG4U1-2	2003	2	Skubiski	ENL1W1-8	2013	1.5	
Turpin	HZT4U1-1	2018	2	Quinn	SCH3U1-1	2055	2	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2OA-1	Port 6	NA	Turpin	CHC2D1-8	2018	by appt.	
Veljanoski	BAF3M1-2	2034	1.5	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-1	2004	2	Salt	SNC1W1-8	2064	1.5	Van Kampen	MPM2D1-5	2039	1.5	
Vlachopoulos	CGC1W1-1	2025	1.5	Schisler	SB14U1-2	2056	2	Schisler	SB14U1-1	2056	2	Webb	AV13M1-1	2000	1.5	
				Schmidt	ENG4U1-1	2006	2	Skubiski	ENG4C1-1	2013	1.5	Yorke	CGC1W1-6	2025	1.5	
				Van Kampen	MPM2D1-1	2039	1.5	Veljanoski	BAF3M1-3	2034	1.5					
				Veljanoski	BOH4M1-1	2034	2	Webb	AV14M1-1	2000	2					
				Yorke	CGC1W1-5	2025	1.5									
				Zimbalatti	CHC2D1-6	2020	by appt.									

Examination / Marks Review Day - Jan 30th, 2025			
This day is an opportunity for students to go over their final examinations and culminating assessments with their teachers.			
Period 1	9:20-10:00	Period 4	11:25-12:00
Period 2	10:05-10:40	Lunch	12:00-12:50
Period 3	10:45-11:20	Students conferencing with teachers by apt.	12:55-3:30

Tamil Heritage Month (January)

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.

Tamil is considered one of the oldest ancient classical languages. The roots of the Tamil language originated in the Sangam Literature period (300 BCE), and is believed to be over 3000 years old. The use of the term 'Tamil' can be found in the Tholkappiyam, the most ancient Tamil grammar text. Tamil is an official language in South India, Sri Lanka, and Singapore, and Tamil speaking individuals can be predominately found in Malaysia, South Africa, North America, Western Europe and Singapore.



Supporting East Asian Students Family Engagement Evening Series

Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

Families, parents, caregivers please join us for this SEAS Family Engagement Evening to help you gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System.

YRDSB teachers and Guidance Counsellors will be delivering information focused on:

- Understanding the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements
- Exploring pathways and planning for post-secondary options
- Navigating high school course selection process in YRDSB

Presentations will be available in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

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

Cafeteria, 3rd Floor

Bill Crothers Secondary School

44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4

Please scan the QR code

or click <https://bit.ly/4flwbhs> to register



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

In partnership with YRDSB, Inclusive School & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developer team and Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) affinity group.

Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year is a vibrant and meaningful cultural celebration embraced by many communities around the world. While it is particularly significant for individuals of East and Southeast Asian heritage, as well as other members of the Asian diaspora, its joyful spirit resonates with diverse cultures and families globally. This festive occasion marks the first day of the Lunar Calendar, with dates determined by the moon's cycles, typically falling between late January and early February. For some, this time of year also holds deep religious significance.

Lunar New Year, also referred to as the Spring Festival, is a time when families and communities come together to celebrate and share in traditional foods and activities. Each culture brings its own unique customs to the occasion, creating a rich tapestry of celebration. Families gather to enjoy traditional meals, engage in meaningful rituals, and spend quality time with one another. Traditional customs may involve cleaning homes, settling debts, giving monetary gifts and mending relationships to signify a fresh start. Families may also perform rituals to honor their elders and ancestors.

Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

Dates: **Monday, February 3, 2025, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.**
Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.
Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

To Register

Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca



FEBRUARY

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH



Recreation Subsidies

York Region offers subsidies for recreation programs, day camps and youth overnight camps. Recreation programs and day camp subsidies provide children from families with low income the ability to take part in programs offered by the municipal recreation departments. The youth overnight camp funding helps eligible youth ages 12 to 17 attend an approved overnight camp.

PLAY Program - Positive Leisure Activities for Youth

Applications for the 2025 PLAY period will open January 8, 2025. The PLAY program is available to eligible families to assist children ages four to 18 and single parents to access municipal recreation programs in the fall, winter, spring and summer.

Eligibility

Families who live in York Region, who have children and meet at least one of the following criteria may be eligible:

- Receive [Rent Subsidy](#), STAR and COHB
- Receive [Ontario Works](#), [Ontario Disability Support Program](#) or [Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities](#)
- Receive [Child Care Fee Subsidy](#) with an annual income of \$43,000 or less

How to Apply

Applications only need to be submitted once per calendar year. If you received funding in a previous calendar year, you will need to submit a new application for the current year. You can apply online or by telephone:

[Online Application for Recreation Subsidy](#)

- Call: Access York at 1-877-464-9675 and ask about the PLAY program. Due to a high volume of telephone inquiries, you may experience longer wait times.

You will receive confirmation of your eligibility along with detailed municipal program registration instructions from York Region if your application is approved. Once you are approved, please check with your [local municipality](#) for program registration dates.

Please review the [Questions and Answers Guide](#) for PLAY program for more information about the application process.

Youth Overnight Camp

Registration for 2025 youth overnight camp will open January 8, 2025. Youth overnight camp subsidy is for children ages 12 to 17 and is available for camps during July and August.

Eligibility

Families who live in York Region, who have children and meet at least one of the following criteria may be eligible:

- Receive [Rent Subsidy](#), STAR and COHB
- Live in one of the following communities, [Housing York Inc.](#), York Region non-profit Housing, Co-operative Housing Community in York Region
- Receive [Ontario Works](#), [Ontario Disability Support Program](#) or [Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities](#)
- Receive [Child Care Fee Subsidy](#) with an annual income of \$43,000 or less

How to Apply

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You will receive confirmation of your eligibility along with detailed municipal program registration instructions from

York Region if your application is approved. Once you are approved, please check with your [local municipality](#) for program registration dates.

Please review the [Questions and Answers Guide](#) for PLAY program for more information about the application process.

Aquatic Leadership Programs

Become a lifeguard and/or swim instructor through eligible PLAY-funded aquatic leadership programs.

Aquatic leadership programs offer a unique opportunity for eligible youth and single parents to gain the skills needed to become recreation staff. Municipal recreation jobs offer rewarding seasonal part-time job opportunities with flexible hours and room for career growth.

Approved Programs:

- Ranger, Rookie and Star Patrol
- Bronze Star
- Bronze Medallion
- Bronze Medallion with Emergency First Aid
- Emergency First Aid
- Bronze Cross
- Bronze Cross with Standard First Aid
- Standard First Aid
- Assistant Instructor
- National Lifeguard Certificate
- National Lifeguard Instructor; or its equivalent, as approved by the Region

Check out this [resource](#) from the Lifesaving Society – Canada for details on how to become a lifeguard.

Eligibility

Family members who are eligible for PLAY may access an unlimited number of approved leadership programs each season, regardless of their individual or combined cost. Unlimited leadership programs cannot be combined with regular recreation program enrollments.

How to Apply

Please see the application instructions in the PLAY section to apply for PLAY funding. Detailed registration instructions will be provided if you are eligible for PLAY funding.

Once you are approved for PLAY, please check with your [local municipality](#) for program availability and registration dates. To work as a lifeguard or swim instructor in York Region, please check with your [local municipality](#) for a detailed list of job requirements and certifications.

Leadership Training Programs

York Region offers recreation subsidies to eligible youth to receive various certifications through local municipalities, including aquatic leadership programs, counsellor in training, babysitter courses and more. Leadership training is a great way to build confidence, meet new people and even help secure a part-time job. Through PLAY, eligible youth and single parents can enroll in the following leadership training opportunities and receive certifications

- Home Alone/Safe at Home
- Babysitter's Course
- Counsellor or Leader in Training programs

- High Five certification training
- Volunteer Leadership Program (City of Vaughan)
- Additional programs may be approved in consultation with municipal recreation departments

Eligibility

Family members who are eligible for PLAY may access an unlimited number of approved leadership programs each season, regardless of their individual or combined cost. Unlimited leadership programs cannot be combined with regular recreation program enrollments.

How to Apply

Please see the application instructions in the PLAY section to apply for PLAY funding. Detailed registration instructions will be provided if you are eligible for PLAY funding.




Once you are approved for PLAY, please check with your [local municipality](#) for program availability and registration dates.

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Jan. 22-31: Book appointments with guidance via email (see below)
- ★ Feb. 1: Deadline to Apply to Ontario College (OCAS) 
- ★ Feb. 3: Semester 2 Begins 
- ★ Feb. 4-6: Guidance Pop-up Shops at Lunch in the main foyer
- ★ NOW OPEN [Aquatic Leadership Program Registration](#) for Semester 2 
- ★ **Feb. 7** **Deadline for Semester 2 course changes is Friday February 7 at 3:30 p.m.**

Guidance Appointments During Exam Time (Jan. 22-31):

Email your guidance counsellor to arrange an appointment between Wednesday January 22 - Friday January 31:

Mrs. Hatanaka (A-G): ainsley.hatanaka@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Ferrante (H-P): michael.ferrante@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Marinis (Q-Z): efy.marinis@yrdsb.ca

Course Change Requests:

Please note that the final date to make any requests for semester 2 changes is Friday February 7th at 3:30 p.m.. If your child would like to DROP a course or make any changes, please have them complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure an email is sent to sdss.guidance@yrdsb.ca for approval BEFORE they book a guidance appointment. Grade 11 and 12 students should ensure they are on track to graduate on time.

Please note that changes may not be possible because many classes are currently full. Students should follow their current schedules so that counsellors are able to locate them in their class should a spot become available.

Between Wednesday January 22nd and Thursday January 30th, appointments can be made by emailing your counsellor:

Mrs. Hatanaka (A-G): ainsley.hatanaka@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Ferrante (H-P): michael.ferrante@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Marinis (Q-Z) & International Students: efy.marinis@yrdsb.ca

Aquatic Leadership Program (Part 2):

The Aquatic Leadership Program (Part 2) is offered in partnership between the York Region District School Board, Continuing Education, the Town of Aurora, and the Cities of Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan. The program uses a blended learning format consisting of pool instruction, face-to-face instruction and on-line learning to deliver Ministry of Education credits and Swim, Lifeguarding and Instructor Certifications.

Students will also earn 1 Secondary School Credit – Recreation and Healthy Active Living Leadership, Grade 12 University/College (PLF4M1) For more information visit the board's website linked [HERE](#) and for registration use the link [HERE](#)

Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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Check us out on Instagram...



stouffvilledss



stouffville_guidance

Jan. 24

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dawn Laliberte, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday January 24, 2025

Monday, Jan 27th	Tuesday, Jan 28st	Wednesday, Jan 29th	Thursday, Jan 30th	Friday, Jan 31st
Period 4 Exams	Credit Rescue This day is for students who have pre-arranged with a teacher to complete work with the goal of earning a credit.	Lunar New Year-Diamond Day Credit Rescue	Exam / Mark Review Day (see schedule below)	PA Day

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Exams

Please see below for the exam schedule. Students in community classes are expected to attend during the exam period, as regular programming will occur as outlined by the classroom teacher.

Missed Examinations Policy

All students are expected to write their final examinations during the scheduled date, time and place indicated on the exam schedule. A student who misses an examination may receive a mark of zero as the final mark for the exam.

Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances, alternate arrangements will be made to have the exam completed on a different date from the original schedule. If you have a question or need assistance please contact the office or Mr. Press at neil.press@yrdsb.ca

Stouffville District Secondary School January 2025 Examination Schedule

Period One Examinations				Period Two Examinations				Period Three Examinations				Period Four Examinations				Jan 28th
Jan 22nd Start 9:20 am				Jan 23rd Start 9:20 am				Jan 24th Start 9:20 am				Jan 27 Start 9:20 am				Inclement Weather Day
Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	Teacher	Course	Room	Length (Hours)	
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Bull	HSP3U1-1	2039	1.5	Bonner	HIP4OA-6	Port 6	by appt.	Butters	CHC2D1-4	2021	by appt.	Cockburn	ENG2D1-4	2005	1.5	
Camara	SPH3U1-1	2063	2	Burman	TDJ3M1-1/TD4M1-1	1029	1.5	Camara	SPH3U1-3	2063	2	Cuda	SNC1W1-3	2063	1.5	
Cui	BEP2D1-1	2007	by appt.	Butters	CHC2D1-5	2021	by appt.	Cockburn	ENG2D1-7	2006	1.5	Cui	FSF1D1-3	2024	1.5	
Di Camillo	HHG4M1-1	1023	2	Camara	SPH3U1-2/SPH4C1-1	2063	2	Cui	BEP2D1-2	2044	by appt.	Dolmage	MCR3U1-3	2036	2	
Dolmage	MPM2D1-2	2036	1.5	Czarnecka	BEP2D1-11	2023	by appt.	Dolmage	MPM2D1-3	2036	1.5	Dragert	SCH3U1-4	2053	2	
Dragert	SCH3U1-3	2053	2	Eaton	CLU3M1-1	2019	1.5	Dragert	SNC2D1-1	2053	1.5	Estabrooks	SPH4U1-2	2064	2	
Eaton	CHC2D1-3	1046	by appt.	Estabrooks	SNC1W1-1	2064	1.5	Eaton	CHC2D1-7	2019	by appt.	Farrell	ENG2PA/ENG4EA	Port1	1.5	
Estabrooks	SPH4U1-1	2064	2	Falbo	FSF1D1-2	2024	1.5	Falbo	FSF1D1-18	2024	1.5	Hennigar	MTH1W1-8	2038	1.5	
Falbo	FSF2D1-1	2024	1.5	Farrell	ENG4CA/NBE3CA	Port 1	1.5	Farrell	ENG1WA-8/ENG1LA-7	Port 1	1.5	J. Jackson	FSF3U1-1	2023	2	Jan 29th Instructional Day/Credit Recovery This day is for students to make appointments with teachers to submit outstanding assignments in the goal of earning a credit.
Galati	ESLA01-1/ESLB01-1	2013	2	Galati	ESLCO1-1	2013	2	Gowrikumaran	ESLDO1-1/ESLE01-1	2005	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	
Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-1	2005	1.5	Gowrikumaran	ENL1W1-2	2005	1.5	Hennigar	MPM2D1-4	2038	1.5	Kowalczyk	MAP4C1-1	2042	2	
J. Jackson	FSF1D1-6	2023	1.5	Kedey	ALEP	Port 5	2	J. Jackson	FSF1D1-1	2023	1.5	Krnic	TEJ3M1-1	1066	1.5	
Kiriakou	MTH1W1-2	2037	1.5	Kiriakou	MTH1W1-3	2037	1.5	Kiriakou	MBF3C1-1	2037	1.5	Metropolit	SNC1W1-9	2060	1.5	
Lau	SNC2D1-5	2061	1.5	Kodsi	MDM4U1-1	2007	2	Kodsi	ICS3U1-1	2007	1.5	Neill	SNC2D1-6	2061	1.5	
Lowtan	ENG2D1-6	2015	1.5	Krnic	TEJ2O1-1	1066	1.5	Lattford	CGC1WA-3	2026	1.5	Nicolaou	MHF4U1-4	2041	2	
Mertsis	FSF3U1-5/FSF4U1-1	2022	2	Lattford	CGW4U1-1	2026	2	Lau	MTH1W1-10	2061	1.5	Pendergast	MPM2D1-6	2040	1.5	
Metropolit	SNC1W1-1	2060	1.5	Lau	SNC2D1-9	2061	1.5	Metropolit	SNC2P1-2	2060	1.5	Phillips	ENL1W1-6	2022	1.5	
Mintchev	MTH1W1-9	2042	1.5	Lowtan	ENG2D1-3	2015	1.5	Mintchev	MTH1W1-4	2042	1.5	Rajkumar	ENG2D1-8	2004	1.5	
Pendergast	MHF4U1-1	2040	2	Mertsis	FSF1D1-7	2022	1.5	Mossop	AWQ2O1-1	1057	by appt.	Rothwell	NBE3U1-04	2003	2	
Phillips	NBE3C1-1	2004	2	Mintchev	MCF3M1-1	2042	1.5	Nicolaou	MHF4U1-3	2041	2	Rozenberg	CGC1W1-6	2026	1.5	
Quinn	SCH4U1-1	2055	2	Mossop	AWQ2D1-2	1057	by appt.	Phillips	ENL1W1-3	2022	1.5	Sale	CHC2DA-8/NAC2OA-1	Port 6	NA	
Rothwell	NBE3U1-2	2003	2	Myers	ENL1W1-7	2003	1.5	Quinn	SCH4U1-2	2055	2	SaR	SB3U1-1	2052	2	
Sale	NAC2D1-1	2021	2	Neill	SNC2D1-2	2060	1.5	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-3	2004	2	Schmidt	ENG4U1-3	2006	2	
Salt	SNC1W1-7	2052	1.5	Pendergast	MHF4U1-2	2040	2	Rothwell	ENG4U1-2	2003	2	Skubiski	ENL1W1-8	2013	1.5	
Turpin	HZT4U1-1	2018	2	Quinn	SCH3U1-1	2005	2	Sale	CHCDA-8/NAC2OA-1	Port 6	NA	Turpin	CHC2D1-8	2018	by appt.	
Veljanoski	BAF3M1-2	2034	1.5	Rajkumar	NBE3U1-1	2004	2	Salt	SNC1W1-8	2064	1.5	Van Kampen	MPM2D1-5	2039	1.5	
Vlachopoulos	CGC1W1-1	2025	1.5	Schisler	SB4U1-2	2056	2	Schisler	SB4U1-1	2056	2	Webb	AV3M1-1	2000	1.5	
				Schmidt	ENG4U1-1	2006	2	Skubiski	ENG4C1-1	2013	1.5	Yorke	CGC1W1-6	2025	1.5	
				Van Kampen	MPM2D1-1	2039	1.5	Veljanoski	BAF3M1-3	2034	1.5					
				Veljanoski	BOH4M1-1	2034	2	Webb	AV4M1-1	2000	2					
				Yorke	CGC1W1-5	2025	1.5									
				Zimbalatti	CHC2D1-6	2020	by appt.									

Examination / Marks Review Day - Jan 30th, 2025			
This day is an opportunity for students to go over their final examinations and culminating assessments with their teachers.			
Period 1	9:20-10:00	Period 4	11:25-12:00
Period 2	10:05-10:40	Lunch	12:00-12:50
Period 3	10:45-11:20	Students conferencing with teachers by apt.	12:55-3:30

Mark Review Day Schedule - January 30, 2025

Exam / Marks Review Day Schedule: January 30th, 2025		
9:20-10:00	Period 1	Classes held in regularly scheduled classrooms. As students review their final evaluations, they can ask questions and gather feedback on their achievement.
10:05-10:40	Period 2	
10:45-11:20	Period 3	
11:25-12:00	Period 4	
12:00-12:50		Lunch
12:55-3:30	Conferencing with students	Teachers must provide a sign on the door of each room in which they teach that indicates to students where they will be located within the school during the afternoon.

Dear Families,

It is with mixed emotion that we inform you that Dawn Laliberte, Principal, will be leaving SDSS at the end of January to assume the role of Principal of Continuing Education. We will miss her but wish her all the best in her role. We are also pleased to welcome Ms. Schmidt, who will be our new Principal starting on February 3, 2025. Welcome Ms. Schmidt!

Semester 2 Timetable Changes

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child would like to drop a course or make any changes, please have them complete the following [Form](#) and ensure an email is sent to sdss.guidance@yrdsb.ca for approval BEFORE they book a guidance appointment. *Grade 11 and 12 students should ensure they are on track to graduate on time.*

Please note that changes may not be possible because many classes are currently full. Students should follow their current schedules so that counsellors are able to locate them in their class should a spot become available. Between Wednesday January 22nd and Thursday January 30th, appointments can be made by emailing your counsellor:

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Grade 9 EQAO Math Results

Students will receive their EQAO Math results from their Math teacher on Mark Review Day. Families are reminded that EQAO Math is a multi-stage computer adaptive test, meaning that questions are adapted to the individual student's performance as they progress through the modules. Parents are invited to review the [scoring information posted by EQAO](#) for more details.

OSSLT Results

If your child wrote the OSSLT in November, results have been emailed to all parent/guardians and students. If you have any additional questions please contact Mr. Press at neil.press@yrdsb.ca.

Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year is a vibrant and meaningful cultural celebration embraced by many communities around the world. While it is particularly significant for individuals of East and Southeast Asian heritage, as well as other members of the Asian diaspora, its joyful spirit resonates with diverse cultures and families globally. This festive occasion marks the first day of the Lunar Calendar, with dates determined by the moon's cycles, typically falling between late January and early February. For some, this time of year also holds deep religious significance.




Lunar New Year, also referred to as the Spring Festival, is a time when families and communities come together to celebrate and share in traditional foods and activities. Each culture brings its own unique customs to the occasion, creating a rich tapestry of celebration. Families gather to enjoy traditional meals, engage in meaningful rituals, and spend quality time with one another. Traditional customs may involve cleaning homes, settling debts, giving monetary gifts and mending relationships to signify a fresh start. Families may also perform rituals to honor their elders and ancestors.

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Jan. 22-31: Book appointments with guidance via email (see below)
- ★ Feb. 1: Deadline to Apply to Ontario College (OCAS) 
- ★ Feb. 3: Semester 2 Begins 
- ★ Feb. 4-6: Guidance Pop-up Shops at Lunch in the Chill Zone
- ★ NOW OPEN [Aquatic Leadership Program Registration](#) for Semester 2 
- ★ **Feb. 7** **Deadline for Semester 2 course changes is Friday February 7 at 3:30 p.m.**

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Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310)

Black Youth Helpline (416-285-9944)

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Trans Lifeline (1-877-330-6366)

Check us out on Instagram...



stouffvilledss



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Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433

Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday January 31, 2025

Monday, Feb.3rd	Tuesday, Feb 4th	Wednesday, Feb 5th	Thursday, Feb 6th	Friday, Feb 7th
		Gr 10 Course Selection Assembly P1	Gr 9 Course Selection Assembly P1 Lockdown Drill 1pm	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Message from Our Trustee, February 2025

Welcome to the start of the second half of the school year.

Congratulations to secondary school students who have completed exams and culminating activities and are ready to start a new semester, and to elementary school students for all their hard work in the first term. I want to remind families that when report cards are available, you can now access your child's report card through the [Family](#)

[Dashboard](#).

For students looking at [course selection](#) for next year, the [Experience YRDSB pages](#) on our website will let you explore the areas that interest you and learn more about the courses, programs and opportunities available in your secondary school.

At the end of January, we recognized [Lunar New Year](#), commemorating the first day of the Lunar calendar. Throughout the month, we also recognized [Tamil Heritage Month](#). In February, we recognize Black History Month, I encourage you to check the [Board calendar](#) for upcoming events to celebrate Black excellence and recognize the contributions made by Black Canadians. You can also find information about other upcoming significant dates and events for families.

The [Student Trustee election process](#) is underway for the 2025-2026 school year. Student Trustees play an essential role in our system, representing student voices at the Board table when we are making important decisions, and we greatly appreciate their contributions to our discussions. I would like to congratulate all of the students who put their names forward for the position and encourage all students in Grades 5-12 to take the time to vote.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank current Student Trustees Hayden Lai and Mitusaan Kugathasan and Indigenous Student Trustee Natalie Pitawanakwat for their hard work, leadership and commitment to student voice.

As a Board of Trustees, we have several important roles that affect the daily life in our schools and Board.

One of those responsibilities is to set the [policies](#) that govern the operation of schools in YRDSB. Policies cover important topics, such as [assessment and evaluation](#), [field trips](#), [homework](#), [dress code](#), [caring and safe schools](#), [health supports](#), [student leadership](#) and more.

We regularly review Board policies to ensure they are updated and reflect the current context, [priorities](#) and needs of our community and system. An important part of this process is inviting feedback from the community, including families. You can find a [list of all policies and those currently out for comment](#) on our Board website and I encourage you to take a look.

Trustees are also responsible for setting the Board [budget](#). As we prepare to plan for the 2025-2026 school year budget, we will be once again reaching out to families and inviting you to share your input and feedback. Please take the time to review this information when you receive it; your voice is an important part of the process.

Semester 2 Timetable Changes

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Inclement Weather Bus or School Cancellations

With winter weather here, we want to share some important reminders for families.

When an inclement weather or extreme cold day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) is cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. If you drive your child to school, or your child takes alternate transportation, you must make arrangements for your child to get home at the end of the day. Please call the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when emergency winter events occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, [Board](#) and school websites and on [X @YRDSB](#).




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Feb. 7, 2025

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Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday February 7, 2025

Monday, Feb 10th	Tuesday, Feb 11th	Wednesday, Feb 12th	Thursday, Feb 13th	Friday, Feb 14h
			BSA Trip	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Report Cards and Family Dashboard

The YRDSB Family Dashboard will give you one-stop access to information and applications related to your child’s education. It is designed to make it easier for you to engage with your child’s education. Access the Family Dashboard at [family.yrdsb.ca](#).

Report Cards

Term 1 Report Cards will be available in the Family Dashboard. Parents/guardians will receive an email letting you know when the report card is available for your child and how to access it.

Setting Up Your Account

If you do not have a Family Dashboard account, you can create one at any time by visiting [family.yrdsb.ca](#), clicking on “No account?” and “Create one.” **When creating an account, you must use the email address you have on file at your child’s school.* Detailed instructions and frequently asked questions are available at <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/family-dashboard>.

Families are invited to share their feedback on the Family Dashboard through a [short survey](#) available in the Dashboard.

Looking Ahead to Next Year

As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 school year, we kindly ask you to inform the school office if your family has plans to move over the summer, or if your children will not be returning in September for any reason. This information helps us to ensure a smooth transition for all students and to make necessary staffing arrangements for the upcoming academic year.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us in planning effectively for the new school year.

Grad Retakes and New Students

New semester students can take the picture on the morning of February 19th. For students that need a grad retake, please use this link to book an appointment [Edge Imaging | Booking Your Appointment](#). Edge Imaging also has a Grad Studio that will be open on March 29 & 30th for missed appointments or retakes. To book your appointment please visit this link: [BOOK A PHOTO SESSION » Edge Imaging](#). The code is QEX Aurora Studio.

Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

Dates: **Monday, February 3, 2025, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.**
Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.
Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

To Register

Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca



FEBRUARY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Inclement Weather Bus or School Cancellations

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Understanding and Navigating the Education System



presented by

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

Monday, February 24, 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 on Special Education
- 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

Parent/Caregiver Workshop Supporting Students of Chinese Heritage

The YRDSB Community Care Social Work has been dedicated to offer this parent/caregiver virtual event to build community, support mental health, and promote healing. The session is offered for any parent/guardian of students of Chinese Heritage Parents, caregivers are invited to join this workshop and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school. Tips on ways that help strengthen family relationships and emotional wellbeing will be shared. This will be a free virtual event.

A Compassionate Approach to Support Your Child's Emotional Well-being

Feb 25th, 2025 at 6:00pm-7:00pm Mandarin Session: [Registration for Mandarin Session](#)

Feb 25th, 2025 at 7:00pm-8:00pm Cantonese Session: [Registration for Cantonese Session](#)




Please email charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or difficulties in accessing the registration link. Thank you

Attendance

To report any student absences or late arrivals during this academic year, please direct all correspondence to the designated email address: stouffville.dss.attendance@yrdsb.ca. This ensures that our records remain accurate and up-to-date, allowing us to provide the best possible support to our students and community.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Jan. 22-31: Book appointments with guidance via email (see below)
- ★ Feb. 1: Deadline to Apply to Ontario College (OCAS) 
- ★ Feb. 3: Semester 2 Begins 
- ★ Feb. 4-6: Guidance Pop-up Shops at Lunch in the Chill Zone
- ★ NOW OPEN [Aquatic Leadership Program Registration](#) for Semester 2 
- ★ **Feb. 7** **Deadline for Semester 2 course changes is Friday February 7 at 3:30 p.m.**

Guidance Appointments During Exam Time (Jan. 22-31):

Email your guidance counsellor to arrange an appointment between Wednesday January 22 - Thursday January 30:

Mrs. Hatanaka (A-G): ainsley.hatanaka@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Ferrante (H-P): michael.ferrante@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Marinis (Q-Z) & International Students: efy.marinis@yrdsb.ca

Course Change Requests:

Please note that the final date to make any requests for semester 2 changes is **Friday February 7th at 3:30 p.m.**

If your child would like to DROP a course or make any changes, please have them complete the following [Drop Form](#) and ensure an email is sent to sdss.guidance@yrdsb.ca for approval BEFORE they book a guidance appointment. Grade 11 and 12 students should ensure they are on track to graduate on time before dropping a course.

Please note that changes may not be possible because many classes are currently full. Students should follow their current schedules so that counsellors are able to locate them in their class should a spot become available.

Between Wednesday January 22nd and Thursday January 30th, appointments can be made by emailing your counsellor:

Mrs. Hatanaka (A-G): ainsley.hatanaka@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Ferrante (H-P): michael.ferrante@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Marinis (Q-Z) & International Students: efy.marinis@yrdsb.ca

Summer School Courses:

- If you decide to take a course in summer school and remove that course selection from MyBlueprint, **YOU ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO GET THIS COURSE BACK** if you end up NOT taking it during summer school.
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Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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Check us out on Instagram...



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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday February 14, 2025

Monday, Feb 17th	Tuesday, Feb 18th	Wednesday, Feb 19th	Thursday, Feb 20th	Friday, Feb 21st
Family Day (No Classes)		Grad Photo Retake Day New Semester 2 Student Picture Day Europe Trip Information Meeting @ 6:30pm in the Library	Lunchtime Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library Visit	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Looking Ahead to Next Year

As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 school year, we kindly ask you to inform the school office if your family has plans to move over the summer, or if your children will not be returning in September for any reason. This information helps us to ensure a smooth transition for all students and to make necessary staffing arrangements for the upcoming academic year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us in planning effectively for the new school year.

Grad Retakes and New Students

New semester students can take the picture on the morning of February 19th. For students that need a grad retake, please use this link to book an appointment [Edge Imaging | Booking Your Appointment](#). Edge Imaging also has a Grad Studio that will be open on March 29 & 30th for missed appointments or retakes. To book your appointment please visit this link: [BOOK A PHOTO SESSION » Edge Imaging](#). The code is QEX Aurora Studio.

Student Trustee Elections

Each year, students in Grades 5-12 have the opportunity to vote for the two student trustees who will represent their voice across the York Region District School Board. Voting takes place between February 18-19, 2025. You can learn more about the final four candidates and watch an all-candidates panel discussion at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees. This is an excellent opportunity to hear directly from each candidate and their views and thoughts on issues that concern all YRDSB students. All students in grades 5-12 are encouraged to watch.

Information on how to vote will be shared with eligible students via GAPPS email when voting opens February 18.



/ EDUCATIONAL
TOURS 



Next year, you could be sorry... or you could be **soaring.**

All it takes is a 'Yes'.

Get your parents to Jenna Falbo's trip meeting on Wednesday February 19th, 2025, at 6:30PM, to learn about the upcoming Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and London tour in Spring 2026 . RSVP with the QR code or meeting link (unless you want to miss out on the trip of a lifetime).



rsvp.eftours.ca/yz7g8ss

Chinese Arts and Literary Festival

The [Chinese Arts and Literary Festival 2025](#) aims to deepen participants' understanding of Chinese cultural heritage, promote appreciation and respect for cultural diversity, and enhance social harmony. If you are interested, please register by March 5, 2025.

Jewish family and Child Service Workshop

Those interested are invited to Join the [Roots, Rauch and Resilience Group Workshop hosted by Jewish Family and Child Service](#) for a 4-week group workshop starting on March 4, 2025 for students in Grades 6-8. Dinner will be served.

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Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ NOW OPEN [Aquatic Leadership Program Registration](#) for Semester 2 🏊
- ★ NOW OPEN Summer School Co-op Registration
- ★ **Feb. 21** **Deadline for 2025/2026 course selection is Friday February 21 at 4:00 p.m.**

Course Selection for 2025/2026:

Students have until February 21st at 4:00 p.m. to submit their courses for next year. Some reminders:

- Grade 12 students not returning should still follow the process and enter 'not returning' into myBlueprint by Feb 21st.
- Grade 9-11 students should select 8 courses plus 2 alternates
- If students plan on taking summer school, they should fill out the 'Summer School Intent Form' and not choose that course in their selection (they can also write guidance a note in the message bubble that pops up if an error appears)
- Students should choose alternates that they are willing to take as it might be selected to be on their timetable
- Research what you need for post-secondary pathways and make choices that are right for YOU!
- If students sign up for co-op, they should fill out the link attached
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- SHSM 2 Credit Co-op (Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci Hospital and Scarborough Network)

-2 credit co-op

-1 credit co-op

-1 credit ALEP

Grade 12 students who could not fit co-op into their regular timetables and require it for graduation will be given priority. Check out the flyer attached for details about each opportunity (important dates and deadlines) Our Guidance Team is available if students/parents have any questions. Deadlines are approaching quickly.

Grade 12 Marks Uploaded to OCAS/OUAC

Guidance uploaded marks for semester 2 into OUAC/OCAS on February 14th. We encourage students to log in to confirm the following:

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- that marks are correct
- that their currently enrolled courses are listed

It is a student's responsibility to ensure that the information in OUAC and OCAS is accurate and to report any errors to their guidance counsellor as soon as possible.

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday February 21, 2025

Monday, Feb. 24	Tuesday, Feb. 25	Wednesday, Feb. 26	Thursday, Feb. 27	Friday, Feb. 28
School Council Meeting		Waterloo Math Contest P1		Sr. Band to York University Music Festival

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

Looking Ahead to Next Year

As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 school year, we kindly ask you to inform the school office if your family has plans to move over the summer, or if your children will not be returning in September for any reason. This information helps us to ensure a smooth transition for all students and to make necessary staffing arrangements for the upcoming academic year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us in planning effectively for the new school year.

Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association Scholarships

In 2025, NACCA will award scholarships to up to 11 students, providing them with financial support as they pursue their educational goals. Applicants must apply by March 31, 2025 to be considered; winners to be announced early June. We have some new scholarships to announce.

- The Health Field Scholarship for \$2500 is for students who are entering health-related fields such as medicine, nursing, public health, or other healthcare disciplines.

- Rightsline Computer Science Scholarship for \$5,000 per year (for four years) + Internship (New for 2025). Awarded to a student pursuing computer science, technology, or a related field.

For more information or application to all the scholarships, please visit the [NACCA website for scholarships](#).

Chinese Heritage Month


In December of 2024, the government of Ontario proclaimed February to be Chinese Heritage Month. Since the 18th century, the Chinese community has made a significant impact on the social, cultural, economic and political landscapes in Ontario. Ontario is home to more than 820,000 people of Chinese origin. February is of particular importance for the Chinese community as it may be when Chinese New Year and related celebrations take place. Chinese New Year is usually celebrated on the second new moon following the winter solstice. This year, Chinese New Year was celebrated on Wednesday, January 29th, 2025. By designating February as Chinese Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Chinese students, families and staff in our school board.

Discover Europe in March of 2026!

European Quartet

 Jenna Falbo

 9 days

 eftours.ca/2788206MM

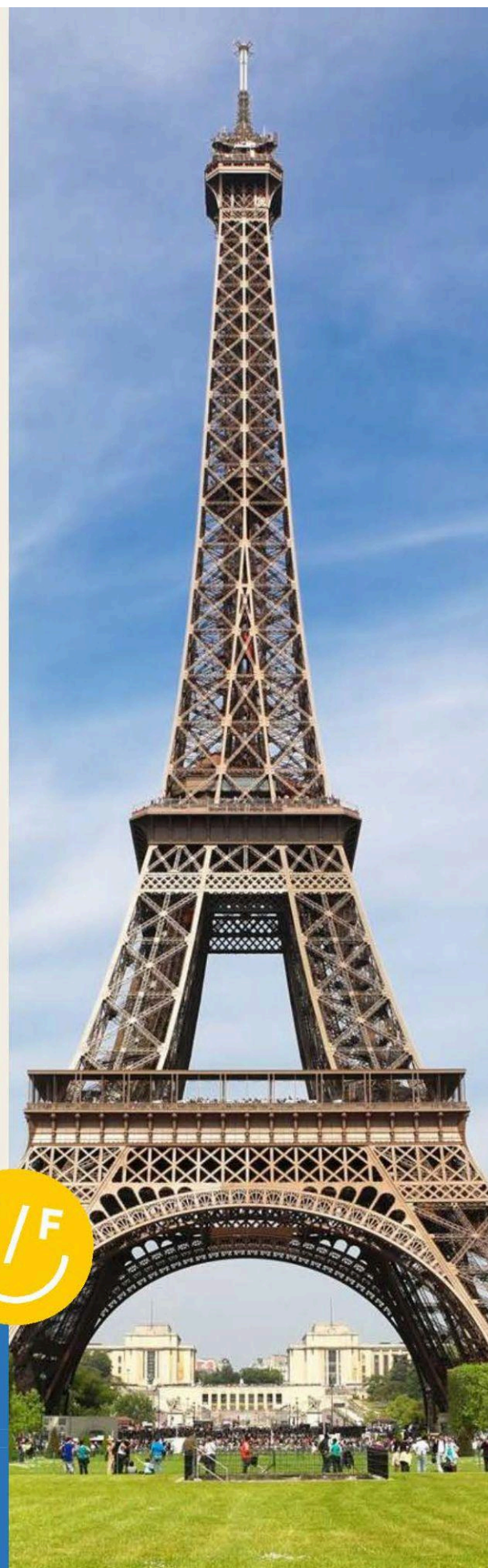
“When you go out into the world and you talk to new people, change is inevitable. You evolve and grow. I saw that change in my daughter.”

—Priscilla I.

“I never had to worry about anything. My tour guide went above and beyond for us. I truly had an amazing experience.”

—Abigail C.

Here, you'll find the tour itinerary, info on EF's extensive safety protocols, your tour price breakdown, and the online enrolment portal.



Black History Month Celebration for Youth

Join York Regional Police at the Community Safety Village, in Bruce's Mill Conservation Area, for a youth event aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of Black History Month celebrations. More information can be found here [Black History Month Celebration for Youth in York Region](#)

OSSLT

The OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) for previously eligible students and those unsuccessful in semester one, will take place on April 3rd in the library and room 1033. We are offering an After School Literacy Program to support our students. If you or your child is interested, the registration google form is embedded in the link below. Please be aware that you will need to be logged into your student's gapps account in order to fill out the form. As well, Student Services will begin reaching out to students regarding accommodations. [ASLP Letter to Families Feb 2025 - Google Docs](#)

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- ★ NOW OPEN Summer School Co-op Registration
- ★ **Feb. 21** **Deadline for 2025/2026 course selection is Friday February 21 at 4:00 p.m.**
- ★ **Apr. 12** **[US College Expo](#) @ Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto: Pre-register @ uscollegeexpo.com**

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Feb 28, 2025

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday February 28, 2025

Monday, Mar. 3	Tuesday, Mar. 4	Wednesday, Mar. 5	Thursday, Mar. 6	Friday, Mar. 7
Staff Meeting 3:45 pm in the Library	PEACE Assembly P1 (Gr. 9 & 10) & P2 (Gr. 11 & 12)			

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

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 9 days

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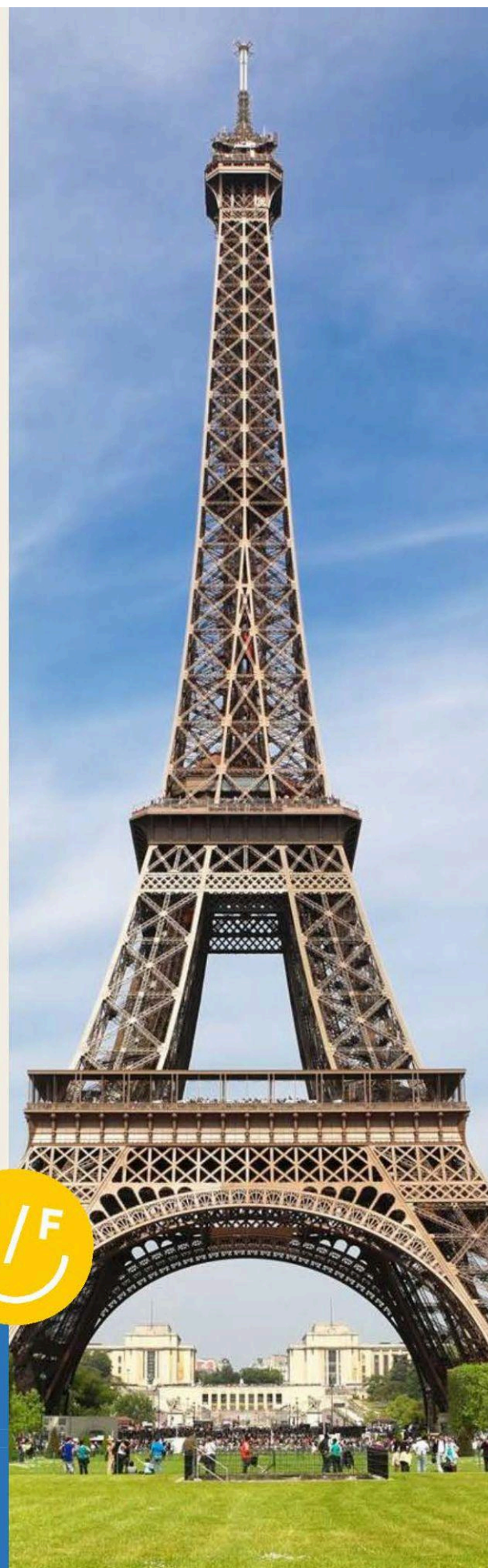
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—Abigail C.

Here, you'll find the tour itinerary, info on EF's extensive safety protocols, your tour price breakdown, and the online enrolment portal.



OSSLT

Unfortunately, due to low enrollment, we are unable to run the After School Literacy Program. However, we will be offering lunch time sessions in the library (dates to come) and continuing to include updates in the Parent Bulletin. If your child needs additional supports or information sessions, please reach out to Ms. Taccone in the Student Services Department or Vice Principal, Mr. Press.

Hellenic Heritage Month

In 2019, the Government of Ontario proclaimed March as Hellenic Heritage Month. There are over 270,000 Canadians of Hellenic or Greek descent living in Canada, with more than half residing in Ontario. Since the early nineteenth century, immigrants from Greece have made significant contributions to Ontario's culture, economy, and various fields such as education, law, medicine, science, and politics. Greece's vast history, including its structures for democratic governance, philosophy, and scientific methodologies, have influenced many present-day practices and structures in Canada. Greek Independence Day, celebrated on March 25, marks Greece's liberation from the Ottoman Empire in 1821. By designating March as Hellenic Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Greek students, families and staff in our school board.

ASIAN MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

Working with Persons in Crisis
Hosted by Hong Fook Mental Health Association

Friday, March 21, 2025

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Address

Community Safety Village
Bruce's Mill Conservation Area
3291 Stouffville Rd, Stouffville

Event details

Registration: 8:30 to 9 a.m.

Workshop: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This workshop is designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide culturally sensitive support to Asian individuals facing mental health challenges or crises.

Topics include:

- Understanding common mental health disorders and challenging situations
- Developing strategies for offering culturally competent care for Asian Communities
- Recognizing signs of mental health issues prevalent in the Asian community, including the effects of historical trauma, racism and culturally specific stressors

Questions? Email Constable Ava Griffith at 2683@yrp.ca.

Register Online: yrp.ca/AsianMentalHealth



Bangladeshi Heritage Month

In 2016, the Government of Ontario proclaimed March as Bangladeshi Heritage Month. Ontario is home to over 50,000 people of Bengali heritage who have made significant contributions to the province's scientific, cultural, athletic, and political development. Every year on March 26th, Bangladeshis worldwide celebrate Independence Day, commemorating their nation's independence in 1971 with music, parades, and various gatherings. By designating March as Bangladeshi Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Bangladeshi students, families and staff in our school board.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day has been recognized for over a century, with the first IWD gathering of over a million people in 1911. In 1977, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution calling on member states to proclaim a day for women's rights and gender parity. Following the United Nations' lead, Canada declared March 8 as International Women's Day. To achieve a gender equal world, it is essential to notice and name the existing inequality and examine and challenge unconscious biases and harmful gender-based stereotypes. The International Women's Day 2025 campaign exemplifies this commitment through the theme of [#AccelerateAction](#). To learn more about International Women's Day, visit: [International Women's Day 2025 campaign theme: #AccelerateAction](#)

Easter Seals Ontario Post-Secondary Scholarships

To support students with physical disabilities, online scholarship applications are currently being accepted. The deadline to apply is Thursday, April 17, 2025. This year, scholarships range from \$500-\$2,500 and include:

- ESO Board of Directors Scholarship
- Hodglynn Holsteins Scholarship
- Connie O'Connor Memorial Scholarship
- ESO Scholarships (5 available)
- Hira Scholarships (2 available)
- John Domenic Caggiula Memorial Scholarship
- Kevin and Christy Kelly Scholarship
- Sal Iacono Family Bursary Endowment Fund
- Truelove Dell Scholarship Fund
- Ursula Carsen Scholarship
- Erica Vanclief Memorial Scholarship
- Vigneswaran Scholarship
- Karen, Mark and Quinn Smith Scholarship

Please visit the [scholarships page](#) for more information, criteria and the online application. If you have any further questions, please contact Olivia at scholarships@easterseals.org.

Persian Heritage Month

In 2021 the government of Ontario proclaimed March as Persian Heritage Month to recognize the contributions of over 200,000 Ontarians of Persian descent. Since the 1970s to present day, the Persian community have played a significant role in shaping the province's economic, political, social, and cultural landscape. Rooted in one of the world's oldest civilizations, Persian culture has enriched Ontario's identity for generations. In the month of March, millions of Persians from around the world celebrate Nowruz, the beginning of their new year with a special

significance of the relationship between nature and human life. By designating March as Persian Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Persian students, families and staff in our school board.

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Upcoming Dates:

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- ★ March 3 TMU Visit @ Lunch in the Main Hall 🏠
- ★ April 12 [US College Expo](https://uscollegeexpo.com) @ Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto: Pre-register @ uscollegeexpo.com

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday March 5, 2025

Monday, Mar, 10	Tuesday, Mar, 11	Wednesday, Mar. 12	Thursday, Mar. 13	Friday, Mar. 14
March Break	March Break	March Break	March Break	March Break

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

New Attendance Management Procedure

Student learning and achievement are strongly connected to attendance. In an effort to support our students' achievement and well-being, we will be beginning a new management procedure to reinforce the importance of being in class consistently. Starting after the March Break, students with 5 absences will be contacted by Student Success. At 7 absences an administrator may be in contact. Consequences may include lunch time detentions.

Graduation

We would like to remind all graduating students and their families that the School Cash Posting for Graduation is now open. If you haven't made your purchase yet, please do so as soon as possible. The posting will close on March 28th.

Militia Co-op Presentations:

On Thursday March 27th (period 2), all grade 10 and 11 students are invited to attend a special presentation led by Sgt Karistinos of the 32 Canadian Brigade Group. This presentation will outline the opportunity for a semester 2 paid, 4-credit co-op position as an entry plan into the Canadian Armed Forces Primary Reserve. This paid opportunity equates to approximately \$9,000 for the duration of the COOP. Summer Employment after the COOP is also available, which equates to another \$7,500 if the student works July and August. Successful applicants will complete the same basic training that any member of the Reserves must take. Their Reserve service is non-contractual however students are encouraged to continue their military career on a part-time basis after COOP ends.

Training will be held at a local armoury (Aurora) 4 to 5 days a week from 8am to 5pm. Training includes, but is not limited to, weapons handling on the C7 assault rifle, standard first aid with CPR from St. Johns ambulance, navigation using map and compass, military regulations, drill/marching and physical fitness. During the field portion students will be bused to a Canadian Armed Forces base, meals and accommodation will be provided.

Any students that self-identify as First Nation, Métis or Inuit are invited to attend a second presentation led by Sgt Karistinos of the 32 Canadian Brigade Group at 12:00 in the library.

Sgt Karistinos will be presenting a unique military training program that combines Indigenous culture and teachings with military training that will help participants develop valuable skills such as self-confidence, self-discipline, teamwork, time management, respect and fitness. Participants train in Meaford, Ontario. The eight- week program is conducted from early July to late August each year. Grey Wolf is an established military training program for which students may gain credits through the provincial education system. See

<https://www.canada.ca/en/army/services/grey-wolf.html> for more information.

Discover Europe in March of 2026!



European Quartet

 Jenna Falbo

 9 days

 eftours.ca/2788206MM

“

When you go out into the world and you talk to new people, change is inevitable. You evolve and grow. I saw that change in my daughter.”

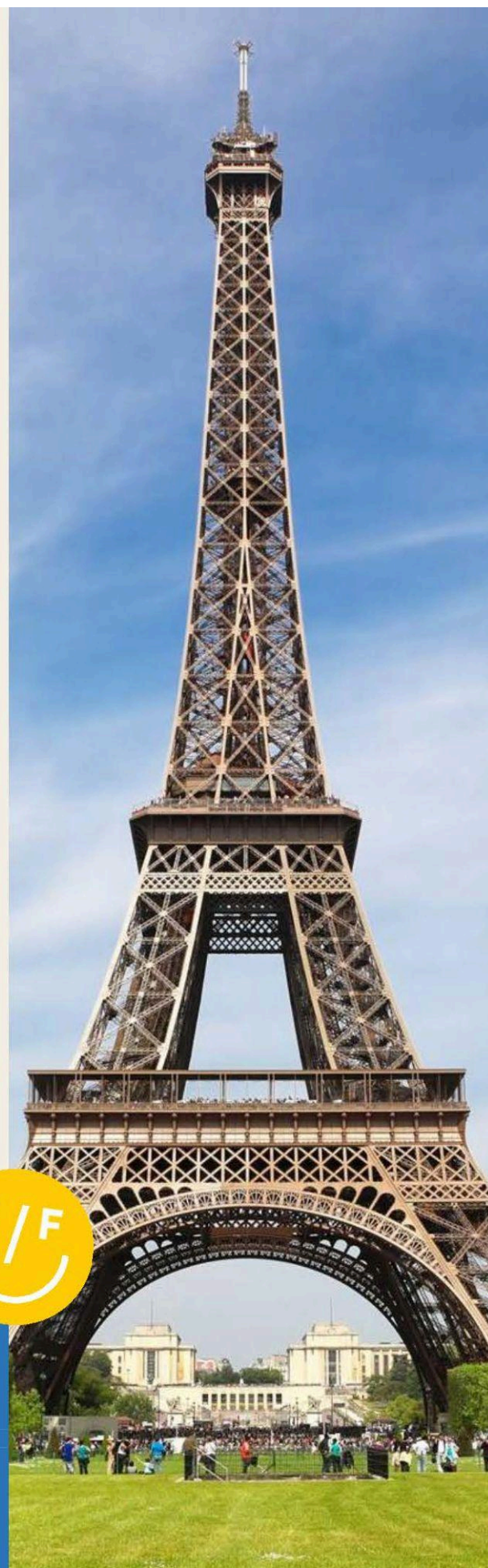
—Priscilla I.

“

“I never had to worry about anything. My tour guide went above and beyond for us. I truly had an amazing experience.”

—Abigail C.

Here, you'll find the tour itinerary, info on EF's extensive safety protocols, your tour price breakdown, and the online enrolment portal.



OSSLT

Unfortunately, due to low enrollment, we are unable to run the After School Literacy Program. However, we will be offering lunch time sessions in the library (please check the following [LINK](#)) and continuing to include updates in the Parent Bulletin. If your child needs additional support or information sessions, please reach out to Ms. Taccone in the Student Services Department or Vice Principal, Mr. Press.

Parent Teacher Interviews – April 3rd 6:30-8:30

In advance of Parent's Night, please check the following [link](#) for information. In order to access the link above, please login to your students gapps account.

ASIAN MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

Working with Persons in Crisis
Hosted by Hong Fook Mental Health Association

Friday, March 21, 2025
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Address

Community Safety Village
Bruce's Mill Conservation Area
3291 Stouffville Rd, Stouffville

Event details

Registration: 8:30 to 9 a.m.

Workshop: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This workshop is designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide culturally sensitive support to Asian individuals facing mental health challenges or crises.

Topics include:

- Understanding common mental health disorders and challenging situations
- Developing strategies for offering culturally competent care for Asian Communities
- Recognizing signs of mental health issues prevalent in the Asian community, including the effects of historical trauma, racism and culturally specific stressors

Questions? Email Constable Ava Griffith at 2683@yrp.ca.

Register Online: yrp.ca/AsianMentalHealth



Understanding and Navigating the Education System



presented by

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

Monday, March 24, 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 on YRDSB Speciality Programs
- 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



Trans Day of Visibility Celebration

We invite 2SLGBTQIA+ and ally students, families, and staff of all ages to join us for an evening of community, connection, and celebration as we honour Trans Day of Visibility! This event is free to attend.

Location: Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, 39 Dunning Ave, Aurora, ON L4G 1A2

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 6pm-8pm

Hoodie Swap

Bring a hoodie, take a hoodie! Find comfortable and affirming clothing.

Community Resources

Connect with local organizations supporting Queer youth & families.

Art & Activities

Express yourself through creative stations and Queer & Trans trivia.

Eat

Enjoy pizza and snacks during the event.

Connect

Connect with peers and families with shared identities and experiences

To Register

To Register: Attendance is free, but please fill out a [registration form](#) by March 18, 2025.

If you have any further questions, please contact: iscs@yrdsb.ca



Hellenic Heritage Month

In 2019, the Government of Ontario proclaimed March as Hellenic Heritage Month. There are over 270,000 Canadians of Hellenic or Greek descent living in Canada, with more than half residing in Ontario. Since the early nineteenth century, immigrants from Greece have made significant contributions to Ontario's culture, economy, and various fields such as education, law, medicine, science, and politics. Greece's vast history, including its structures for democratic governance, philosophy, and scientific methodologies, have influenced many present-day practices and structures in Canada. Greek Independence Day, celebrated on March 25, marks Greece's liberation from the Ottoman Empire in 1821. By designating March as Hellenic Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Greek students, families and staff in our school board.

Persian Heritage Month

In 2021 the government of Ontario proclaimed March as Persian Heritage Month to recognize the contributions of over 200,000 Ontarians of Persian descent. Since the 1970s to present day, the Persian community have played a significant role in shaping the province's economic, political, social, and cultural landscape. Rooted in one of the world's oldest civilizations, Persian culture has enriched Ontario's identity for generations. In the month of March, millions of Persians from around the world celebrate Nowruz, the beginning of their new year with a special significance of the relationship between nature and human life. By designating March as Persian Heritage Month, the

York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Persian students, families and staff in our school board.

Bangladeshi Heritage Month

In 2016, the Government of Ontario proclaimed March as Bangladeshi Heritage Month. Ontario is home to over 50,000 people of Bengali heritage who have made significant contributions to the province's scientific, cultural, athletic, and political development. Every year on March 26th, Bangladeshis worldwide celebrate Independence Day, commemorating their nation's independence in 1971 with music, parades, and various gatherings. By designating March as Bangladeshi Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board honors the identities, diverse experiences and achievements of Bangladeshi students, families and staff in our school board.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ Now Open Summer School Co-op Registration
- ★ March 21 2025/2026 Course Selection Change Requests Open
- ★ March 28 **2025/2026 Course Selection Change Requests Close at 4:00 p.m.**
- ★ April 12 [US College Expo](#) @ Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto: Pre-register @ uscollegeexpo.com

Course Selection Verification/Change for 2025/2026:

Parents/guardians, please check your email for course selection confirmation. Please review the course selections and alternates carefully as this data will be used to schedule each student's timetable next year.

This is the final opportunity for students to review their course selections and make any changes. Guidance is available to support students, if needed, through this process by scheduled guidance appointments.

If you would like to make a course change request, please fill out the following Google Form:

[SDSS COURSE SELECTION CHANGE FORM](#) by 4:00 p.m. Friday March 28th, 2025.

We will not be accepting any changes by email or by phone.

Please remember:

- Students with Careers (GLC2O1) and Civics (CHV2O1) will have 9 courses listed
- Students with repertoire (AMR_O1-after school band) will have an extra course in their selections
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If students are interested in a co-op opportunity this summer, there are various opportunities available to them:

- SHSM 2 Credit Co-op (Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci Hospital and Scarborough Network)
- 2 credit co-op
- 1 credit co-op
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Grade 12 students who could not fit co-op into their regular timetables and require it for graduation will be given priority. Check out the flyer attached for details about each opportunity (important dates and deadlines) Our Guidance Team is available if students/parents have any questions. Deadlines are approaching quickly.

Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

A Guide of Services for Youth in York Region [Strive 2023](#)

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360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

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Black Youth Helpline (416-285-9944)

LGBT YouthLine (text) 647-694-4275

Trans Lifeline (1-877-330-6366)

Check us out on Instagram...



stouffvilledss



stouffville_guidance

March 21, 2025

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday March 21, 2025

Monday, Mar, 24	Tuesday, Mar, 25	Wednesday, Mar. 26	Thursday, Mar. 27	Friday, Mar. 28
		SHSM First Aid and CPR Training	SHSM First Aid and CPR Training BSA Trip to UofT Militia Co-op Presentation Gr. 10 and 11 Period 2	

Interim Reports

Your student’s Interim Report was sent out this week. You can find it on the [Family Dashboard](#).

Prom 2025 is fast approaching

The grade 12’s are cordially invited to "Midnight in the Meadow" on May 8th at Angus Glen Golf Course. Tickets are currently on sale using School Cash Online. For non-SDSS guests, they must fill out a guest form. Last day for ticket sales is March 28th

New Attendance Management Procedure

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Graduation - Purchasing Gowns

We would like to remind all graduating students and their families that the School Cash Posting for Graduation is now open. If you haven’t made your purchase yet, please do so as soon as possible. The posting will close on March 28th.

OSSLT - Apr 3rd 9:20 in the Library

At this current point in time, all parents should have received a letter outlining the location and accommodations for their child regarding the OSSLT. If your child needs additional support or information sessions, please reach out to Ms. Taccone in the Student Services Department or Vice Principal, Mr. Press.

Parent Teacher Interviews – April 3rd 6:30-8:30

In advance of Parent's Night, please check the following [link](#) for information. In order to access the link above, please login to your students gapps account.



Get Together Celebrating Persian Heritage Month



Join us in a meaningful celebration as we honour the rich cultural and historical contributions of the Persian community to our society. Together, we'll explore Persian heritage, enjoy cultural performances, and deepen our understanding of the diverse world around us.

This event will focus on fostering equity, inclusion, and community engagement.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Date: Thursday, April 10th, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning

Address: 36 Regatta Ave, Richmond Hill, ON L4E 4R1

Open to all YRDSB students, families, and staff

Please register by Friday, Apr 4, 2025

Registration is limited to the first **200** participants, with a maximum of 4 people per registration. Secure your spot as soon as possible!



Hosted by YRDSB: Iranian/Afghan Educator Alliance (IAEA) & Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS)

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

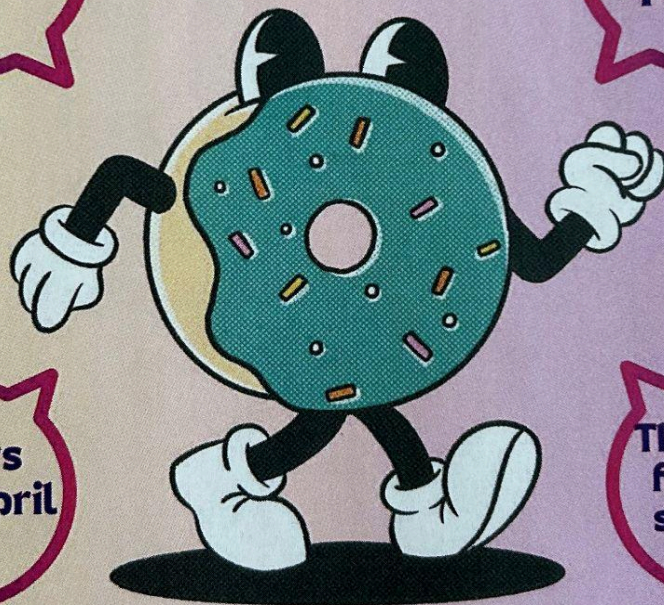


PRE-ORDER NOW!

ORDER THROUGH SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

\$15/dozen

**Pick up
April 9th**



**Orders
close April
4th**

**Thank you
for your
support!**

**ALL PROCEEDS HELP SEND STUDENTS TO THE
"BEST BUDDIES PROM"!**

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Meet Universities in Canada, US, UK

50+ Universities

Supporting GTA Students

Featured Guest



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McMaster University

Featured Guest



Rosina Beritela
Johns Hopkins University

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Catherine Eames
Imperial College London

Featured Guest



Elizabeth Thompson
NCAA

What To Expect:

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- Meet the NCAA
- Strategies to Maximize Applications to Canadian, UK and US Universities
- Explore Undergraduate Programs and Career Pathways in Healthcare, Business, STEM, Law, Arts, Education and more!
- Ivy League Education | Pre-College



Scan or [Click Here](#) to Learn More

Apr 7-10 | 11am-8pm ET
Canada, US, UK
4-Day Virtual Series

Apr 23 | 6pm-9pm ET
US University Fair
Mississauga, ON

Apr 24 | 6pm-9pm ET
US University Fair
Whitby, ON

[Register Now](#)

Organized by: [CollegeTrackr Canada](#)

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Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday March 28, 2025

Monday, March 31	Tuesday, April 1	Wednesday, April 2	Thursday, April 3	Friday, April 4
◆Eid-ul-Fitr		Euclid Math Contest (P1 & 2)	OSSLT Parent Teacher Interviews	YRDSB SciTech Fair

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

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Parent Teacher Interviews – April 3rd 6:30-8:30

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Sikh Heritage Month

The month of April is proclaimed as Sikh Heritage Month as per [The Sikh Heritage Month Act of 2013](#). During the month of April, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. Sikh Canadians widely celebrate Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, across Ontario. As we begin the month of April, staff and students are encouraged to join Canadians who will be coming together to celebrate Sikh Canadians who have and continue to make significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario and Canada's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric. Since the arrival of Sikh immigrants in the 19th century Canada is now home to more than 500,000 Sikhs, which is the largest Sikh diaspora in the world.



HEALTHY DEMOCRACY STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Application Deadline: June 6, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

Selection Criteria:

- Commitment to civic engagement and the importance of local governments
- Diversity of leadership and perspective
- Community involvement
- Social identity, socio-economic status or other factors

Open to all graduating OPSBA-member English public school and school authority students.

APPLY NOW

www.opsba.org

Community Mental Health Events

Explore a variety of community programs and workshops designed to support mental health and well-being for students, families, and caregivers.

- T.E.A.C.H. Mental Health Workshop Series: The YSSI T.E.A.C.H. (Training, Empowerment, Advocacy, Counseling, Help) is an Afrocentric program that offers education on mental health and well-being practices for Black children/youth. The eight-week workshop series is on mental health for Black children/youth in grades 6-8. [Registration: T.E.A.C.H. Mental Health Workshop Series](#)
- Monthly Art Studio Series: On the first Friday of every month, Doane House Hospice will be hosting a free art-making studio from 2:00pm-4:00pm for individuals navigating significant loss or challenging health circumstances. Participants can create art projects with provided supplies or bring their own. For more information, please contact Doane House Art Therapist Cynthia Gardner at cgardner@myhospice.ca or call 905 967 0259 ext. 155
- [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. [Register online now.](#)

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/4BO4CTH**

Two Epic Events Coming Your Way!

 Lights, Camera, Action! 


 Hollywood Glam Dance 

Get ready to strut the red carpet at our **Hollywood Glam Dance** on **Thursday, April 24th** from **6:30-10:00 PM**! Dress to impress and dance the night away with a **DJ, light refreshments, and pizza slices for purchase.** 🌟


 **Tickets:** \$15 (if activity fee paid) / \$20 (guests & non-fee payers).


 **Spirit Week: Teacher Trials Edition (April 7-11)!** 

Ever wanted to see your teachers in hilarious situations? Now's your chance! Vote for which teachers will take on these outrageous challenges:

 **Monday** – *What's in the Box?* (Suspenseful surprises await!)

 **Tuesday** – *Silly Costume Day* (Will your math teacher be a banana?)

 **Wednesday** – *Just Dance – No Walking Allowed!* (Cha-cha to class!)

 **Thursday** – *Makeover Madness!* (Who's ready for a glow-up?)

 **Friday** – *Smoothie Challenge!* (Mystery ingredients = pure chaos!)

Don't miss out on the fun – mark your calendars, cast your votes, and get ready for an unforgettable two weeks! 🎬 ✨



Get Together Celebrating Persian Heritage Month



Join us in a meaningful celebration as we honour the rich cultural and historical contributions of the Persian community to our society. Together, we'll explore Persian heritage, enjoy cultural performances, and deepen our understanding of the diverse world around us. This event will focus on fostering equity, inclusion, and community engagement.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Date: Thursday, April 10th, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning

Address: 36 Regatta Ave, Richmond Hill, ON L4E 4R1

Open to all YRDSB students, families, and staff

Please register by Friday, Apr 4, 2025

Registration is limited to the first **200** participants, with a maximum of 4 people per registration. Secure your spot as soon as possible!



Hosted by YRDSB: Iranian/Afghan Educator Alliance (IAEA) & Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS)

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

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- ★ March 28
- ★ April 12
- ★ April 15

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[Summer School Course Registration Opens](#): MyBluePrint -> Continuing Education



Meet Universities in Canada, US, UK

50+ Universities

Supporting GTA Students

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- Ivy League Education | Pre-College



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[Click Here](#)
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Parents/guardians, please check your email for course selection confirmation. Please review the course selections and alternates carefully as this data will be used to schedule each student's timetable next year.

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If you would like to make a course change request, please fill out the following Google Form: [SDSS COURSE SELECTION CHANGE FORM](#) by 4:00 p.m. Friday March 28th, 2025.

We will not be accepting any changes by email or by phone.

Please remember:

- Students with Careers (GLC201) and Civics (CHV201) will have 9 courses listed
- Students with repertoire (AMR_O1-after school band) will have an extra course in their selections
- Grade **9 and 10** students must maintain a full timetable of **8 courses**
- Grade **11 and 12** students must maintain a full timetable with regard to staying on track for graduation
- Returning Grade 12 graduates' course selections are subject to availability and must adhere to the 34 credit threshold
- For a list of courses offered by grade visit: [SDSS GUIDANCE WEBSITE](#)

Summer School Courses:

- If you decide to take a course in summer school and remove that course selection from MyBluePrint, **YOU ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO GET THIS COURSE BACK** if you end up NOT taking it during summer school.
- If you decide to take a summer school course last minute or we are not aware, please note that courses to replace it in September will be limited and guidance might need to select a course for you based on availability.

Summer School Co-op:

If students are interested in a co-op opportunity this summer, there are various opportunities available to them:

- SHSM 2 Credit Co-op (Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci Hospital and Scarborough Network)

-2 credit co-op

-1 credit co-op

-1 credit ALEP

Grade 12 students who could not fit co-op into their regular timetables and require it for graduation will be given priority. Check out the flyer attached for details about each opportunity (important dates and deadlines) Our Guidance Team is available if students/parents have any questions. Deadlines are approaching quickly.

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Check us out on Instagram...

April 4, 2025



stouffvilledss



stouffville_guidance

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday April 4, 2025

Monday, April 7	Tuesday, April 8	Wednesday, April 9	Thursday, April 10	Friday, April 11
Health & Safety Visit	Rec & Leadership - Activate		Business SHSM SPE Certification Event Community Mental Health Fair (Lunch) McMicheal Art Gallery Trip Senior Combined Concert at 5:00PM	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

New Attendance Management Procedure

Student learning and achievement are strongly connected to attendance. In an effort to support our students' achievement and well-being, we will be beginning a new management procedure to reinforce the importance of being in class consistently. Starting after the March Break, students with 5 absences will be contacted by Student Success. At 7 absences an administrator may be in contact. Consequences may include lunch time detentions.

Graduation 2025

Save the date! Graduation this year is on **Tuesday, June 24th** at 6:30 pm in the school's gymnasium. Each graduate will receive two guest tickets. More detailed information regarding tickets and extra tickets, invitations, gown pick-up and more will be shared starting in May.

Embark on the Adventure of a Lifetime: Europe 2026!

Pack your bags and get ready for an unforgettable journey across Europe in Spring 2026! This once-in-a-lifetime experience will take you through four iconic cities—Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, and London—filled with history, culture,

and breathtaking sights. Here are just A FEW highlights:

Amsterdam:

- Walking tour featuring Dam Square, Royal Palace & floating flower market
- Scavenger hunt at Waterlooplein Market
- Visit the Anne Frank House

Brussels:

- Belgian chocolate-making experience 🍫
- Sightseeing at the European Union buildings, Grand Place & Atomium

Paris:

- Walk along the Seine, visit Notre Dame & explore the Louvre 🎨
- See the Eiffel Tower, Champs Élysées & Arc de Triomphe

London:

- Travel on the high-speed Eurostar train 🚅
- Walk along the Thames, see Big Ben & ride the London Eye 🎡
- Sightseeing tour including Buckingham Palace & Hyde Park

This is your chance to explore Europe's most exciting cities, indulge in delicious food, and experience new cultures with friends! Secure your spot now—spaces are limited!

📌 *There will be a second information meeting in the SDSS Library on Monday April 7th at 6:30pm for more details and pricing info. You may also join the meeting virtually on GoogleMeet. Join the Europe Trip Google Classroom for additional information:*
s5r3gbws

Sikh Heritage Month

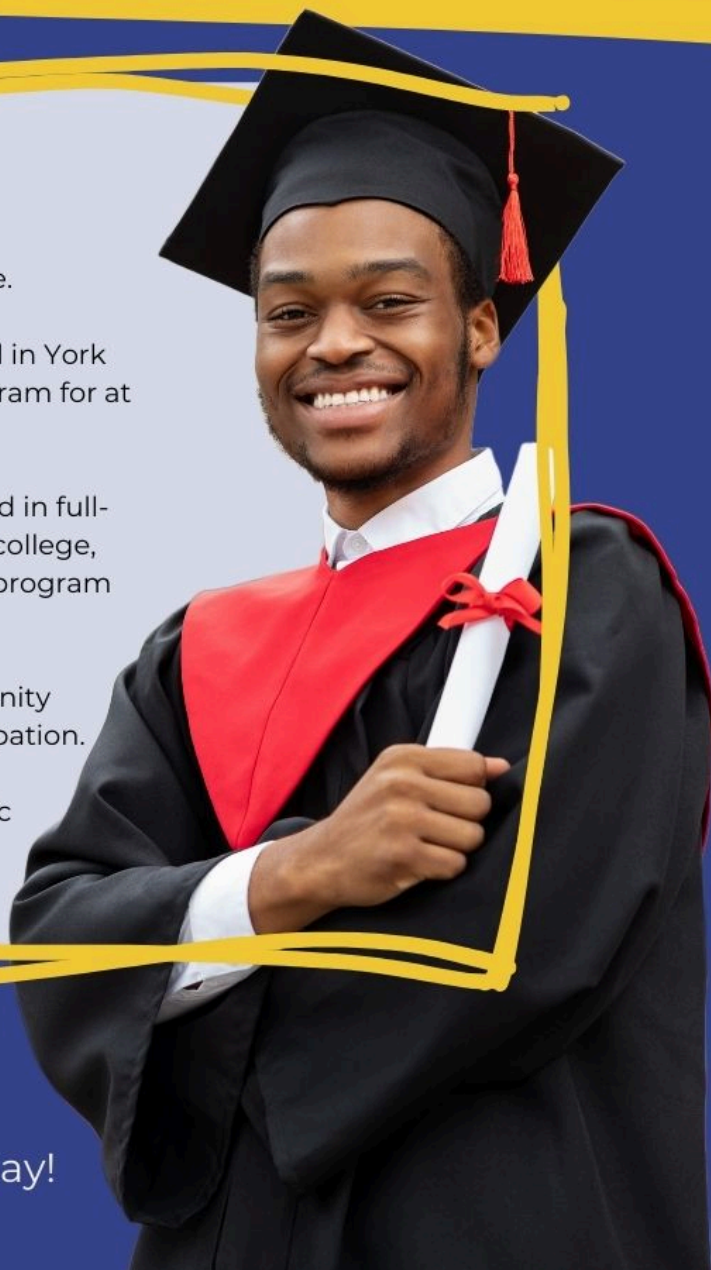
The month of April is proclaimed as Sikh Heritage Month as per [The Sikh Heritage Month Act of 2013](#). During the month of April, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. Sikh Canadians widely celebrate Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, across Ontario. As we begin the month of April, staff and students are encouraged to join Canadians who will be coming together to celebrate Sikh Canadians who have and continue to make significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario and Canada's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric. Since the arrival of Sikh immigrants in the 19th century Canada is now home to more than 500,000 Sikhs, which is the largest Sikh diaspora in the world.

2025 SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS



ELIGIBILITY:

- ✓ Must be of Caribbean or African Heritage.
- ✓ Applicant must reside and attend school in York Region or volunteered at a MACCA Program for at least two years.
- ✓ Applicant must be accepted and enrolled in full-time studies at an accredited Canadian college, University trade school/ apprenticeship program during the 2025-2026 academic year.
- ✓ Applicant must provide proof of community involvement and extra-curricular participation.
- ✓ Applicant must have an overall academic average of B+ or above.



Visit **Macca1987.com**
to download and fill out
the scholarship application today!

Understanding and Navigating the Education System



presented by

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

Monday, April 28, 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 on Black Affirming Resources to Support the Curriculum
- 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

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ April 12 [US College Expo](#) @ Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto: Pre-register @ uscollegeexpo.com 🏠
- ★ April 15 [Summer School Course Registration Opens](#): MyBluePrint -> Continuing Education ☀️
- ★ May 2 [Graduating Students Community Hours Due](#) ☀️
- ★ May 22 [Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session](#): 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. 💻



Meet Universities in Canada, US, UK

50+ Universities
Supporting GTA Students

Featured Guest	Featured Guest	Featured Guest	Featured Guest
 Madison Henry McMaster University	 Rosina Bertela Johns Hopkins University	 Catherine Eames Imperial College London	 Elizabeth Thompson NCAA

What To Expect:

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- Ivy League Education | Pre-College



Scan or [Click Here](#) to Learn More

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4-Day Virtual Series

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US University Fair
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[Register Now](#)

Organized by: [CollegeTrackr Canada](#)

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday April 11, 2025

Monday, April 14	Tuesday, April 15	Wednesday, April 16	Thursday, April 17	Friday, April 19
Vaishaki - Diamond Day Pesach	National Biology Contest			Good Friday - No school

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

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Save the date! Graduation this year is on **Tuesday, June 24th** at 6:30 pm in the school's gymnasium. Each graduate will receive two guest tickets. More detailed information regarding tickets and extra tickets, invitations, gown pick-up and more will be shared starting in May.

Student SIN & Summer Job Bank Clinic Spring 2025

Is your child in need of a Social Insurance Number?

Is your child looking for a summer job this year?

Students, parents and guardians, please join us for a free service brought to your school communities from a joint project with Service Canada and the York Region District School Board.

Meet with a Service Canada representative and receive your Social Insurance Number (SIN) on the spot!

Service Canada representatives will be at the [following schools](#) to help students and newcomers apply for their Social Insurance Numbers, learn about the Canada Job Bank and Summer Program for Youth and the Federal Dental Program!

Pride Month T-Shirt Orders

Pride month is a universal celebration of love, inclusion and community! Let your true colours shine, boldly and brightly, as we celebrate diversity and work to inspire change.

This year, YRDSB students, staff and families can purchase a Pride t-shirt designed by students. Orders can be placed through [School Cash Online](#).

Let's make this year's Pride Month out of this world!

Sikh Heritage Month Celebration at Kleinburg P.S.

Kleinburg Public School is hosting a community event in celebration of Sikh Heritage Month on Thursday, April 24th, from 5:30-7:30 pm. This will be an evening where students, staff and families come together to enjoy a meal (langar) together, learn about the diversity within the Sikh identity, make connections, and share experiences with one another. Please see details below for an overview of the evening.

5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada Display and Craft Activity

6:15 - 7:00 p.m. Welcome and Performances Martial Arts Demonstration by Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Gatka Akhara

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Community Meal (Langar)


We kindly ask that you [register](#) if you would like to attend.

If you have any questions, please contact Kleinburg Public School at 905-893-1142 or Ms. Rosen, Principal at sharron.rosen@yrdsb.ca or Ms. Dhaliwal, Vice Principal at amrit.dhaliwal@yrdsb.ca.

Spring Dance

Hollywood Glam Dance

Get ready to strut the red carpet at our **Hollywood Glam Dance** on **Thursday, April 24th** from **6:30-10:00 PM!** Dress to impress and dance the night away with a **DJ, light refreshments, and pizza slices for purchase.** 🌟

 **Tickets:** \$15 (if activity fee paid) / \$20 (guests & non-fee payers). Available on School Cash Online



Korean Family Engagement Night 2025



Register by April 24, 2025
Secure your spot using the Google form!

Kids are welcome!



Student Panel

Authentic story sharing from students about their journeys from secondary school to post-secondary pathways



Elementary Workshop

Student Leadership
Extracurricular activities
Self-identity & sense of belonging



Secondary Workshop

Post-secondary pathways & application processes
Mental health & well-being

Thursday, May 1st, 2025

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Thornhill Secondary School, 167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill, ON

For more information, contact Jae Yeon (Jasmin) Kwak (jaeyeon.kwak@yrdsb.ca)



York Regional Police Community Services



Event: Open Mic Night with YRP to highlight youth musical talents

Dates: Friday, April 18 - Friday, May 16 - Saturday, May 31

Location: Community Safety Village, 3291 Stouffville Rd., Whitchurch-Stouffville

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

How to sign up: yrp.ca/calendar then select one or all of above dates

Contact for session: Sergeant Shawna Leitch, 1069@yrp.ca

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presented by

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

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Monday, April 28, 2025
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- ★ May 2
- ★ May 22

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4-Day Virtual Series

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Mississauga, ON

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday April 19, 2025

Monday, April 21	Tuesday, April 22	Wednesday, April 23	Thursday, April 24	Friday, April 25
Easter Monday - No School		Tala Dance Competition Art Gallery Trip		

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York Region President's Council Executive Election

Applications for the 2025-2026 York Region Presidents' Council Executive Cabinet are opening May 5, 2025. The York

Region Presidents' Council (YRPC) is the official student senate of the York Region District School Board, with the mission to promote and enhance communication and cooperation, inspire and foster ethical leadership, and collect the voices of secondary school students. The Executive Cabinet is responsible for YRPC operations and works closely with the Student Trustees to bring student voice to Trustees and staff.

YRPC organizes monthly General Assemblies, where students can provide input on various educational matters (e.g., policy and procedure), share their opinions and concerns, and network and collaborate with other student leaders. You can find more information about the YRPC in [Policy and Procedure 672.0, Student Leadership and Student Voice](#), our [constitution](#), and our [Instagram](#).

Next week, students in Grades 9 to 11 will receive an email in their GAPPS account detailing the nomination process. We would like your support in promoting this opportunity and asking interested students to apply. Thank you for your dedication to student leadership and voice. Questions about the election can be directed to the Elections Committee at yrpc@yrdsb.ca.

Y2 LEGACY – A Black-Centred Approach to Leadership, Innovation, and Excellence

This is a transformative credit-bearing summer learning program that empowers students through a Black-centred lens, celebrating leadership, innovation, and academic excellence.

[Learn more and registration link](#). The admissions deadline to be considered for entry into the program is Friday, May 2, 2025. Students will be notified of their acceptance status by Tuesday, May 6, 2025.



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 [East Asian Heritage Celebration 2025](#) 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.*

Messages from Guidance

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360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310)

Black Youth Helpline (416-285-9944)

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Check us out on Instagram...



stouffilledss



stouffville_guidance

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433

Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday April 25, 2025

Monday, April 28	Tuesday, April 29	Wednesday, April 30	Thursday, May 1	Friday, May 2
Elections (Gym) Gr. 11 Pathways Assembly (P3) Gr. 12 Prom Assembly (P4) Pathways Fair (Lunch)	Envirothon Public Library Visit (Lunch)	SHSM HLW SPE Event	Gr. 1 2 Chemistry Contest SIN Physic Contest Spring Music Contest	Tech Crew Equipment Learning Opportunity

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

New Attendance Management Procedure

Student learning and achievement are strongly connected to attendance. In an effort to support our students'

achievement and well-being, we will be beginning a new management procedure to reinforce the importance of being in class consistently. Starting after the March Break, students with 5 absences will be contacted by Student Success. At 7 absences an administrator may be in contact. Consequences may include lunch time detention.

Please Donate to our Spring Harvest Food Drive!

Ms. Wilmot's students in community classroom 1004 are working hard to reach their goal of collecting 1000 non-perishables for our local food bank. We are almost halfway there! The homeroom class with the most food items will win a hot breakfast from us (with help from Mr. Edmondson's hospitality class), and raffle prizes will be drawn the first week of May for a grand prize gift basket, as well as two free lunches from The Grind. Tickets are awarded for every food item students bring in! We would love your support! Let's keep spreading kindness and help these boys reach their goal for our Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank.



Jewish Heritage Month Celebration



CHALLAH BAKE EVENT

Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Location: Langstaff Secondary School

Address: 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.



Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ April 15 [Summer School Course Registration Opens](#): MyBluePrint -> Continuing Education ☀
- ★ May 2 [Graduating Students Community Hours Due](#) ☀
- ★ May 22 [Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session](#): 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. 🖥

OUAC and OCAS:

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- their personal information is correct
- that marks are correct
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Summer School Courses:

Summer School Registration Now Open

SUMMER SCHOOL ACCELERATION PROGRAMS are for students who wish to earn a credit in a subject they have not previously studied OR for those who wish to upgrade a mark in a course that they have successfully completed. These courses can be taken through an **in-Person program, Monday-Friday (8:45am-3:33pm)** at a variety of YRDSB schools (other than SDSS) from **July 2-25** OR they can be taken through an **Online Learning Program**, using an asynchronous model with check-in opportunities with the teacher.

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Students are encouraged to register early to avoid disappointment. Course offerings are not guaranteed as they are based on sufficient enrollment and teacher availability.

TO REGISTER:

- Log-in to MyBluePrint and sign up under 'Continuing Education'.
- Look for the 'Sec - In Person (various locations)' or 'Sec - Online Asynchronous (D2L)' or Synchronous***
- If needed, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor on Teach Assist.
- If you completed the 'Summer School Intention Form' for course selection, please sign up for that course or speak with your guidance counsellor if you decide to no longer take the course.
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- If you DID NOT complete the 'Summer School Intention Form' but NOW wish to take a course, **PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- Grade **9 and 10** students must maintain a full timetable of **8 courses**
- Grade **11 and 12** students must maintain a full timetable with regard to staying on track for graduation. **Once students have earned 23 credits (typically after the end of Grade 11) they may be eligible to take a spare.**

Summer School Co-op:

- 2 credit co-op
- 1 credit co-op
- 1 credit ALEP

Grade 12 students who could not fit co-op into their regular timetables and require it for graduation will be given priority. Check out the flyer attached for details about each opportunity (important dates and deadlines). Our Guidance Team is available if students/parents have any questions. Deadlines are approaching quickly.

Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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Friday April 25, 2025

Monday, May 5	Tuesday, May 6	Wednesday, May 7	Thursday, May 8	Friday, May 9
PA Day		Gr 11 English ROM Trip	Guelph Battle STEM Toronto Zoo Trip Prom	

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2025-2026 school year calendars

The YRDSB 2025-2026 school year calendars have been approved by the Ministry. These calendars may be accessed on the YRDSB website at: <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/school-year-calendar>.

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.

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Korean **F**amily **E**ngagement **N**ight 2025



Register by April 24, 2025
Secure your spot using the Google form!

Kids are welcome!



Student Panel

Authentic story sharing from
students about their journeys
from secondary school to post-
secondary pathways



Elementary Workshop

Student Leadership
Extracurricular activities
Self-identity & sense of
belonging



Secondary Workshop

Post-secondary pathways
& application processes
Mental health & well-being

Thursday, May 1st, 2025

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Thornhill Secondary School, 167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill, ON

For more information, contact Jae Yeon (Jasmin) Kwak (jaeyeon.kwak@yrdsb.ca)

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Upcoming Dates:

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- ★ May 22 [Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session](#): 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. 🖥️
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Date: Wednesday, June 4th

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Presentation Type: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

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May 9, 2025

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday May 9, 2025

Monday, May 12	Tuesday, May 13	Wednesday, May 14	Thursday, May 15	Friday, May 16
PISA	Lunchtime Public Library Visit	OAPT Physics Contest Walk T.O. Kensington Market		Avogadro Chemistry contest

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

June Exams

Please find the June 2005 examination schedule below as well as the Exam/Mark Review Day schedule. The exam period is determined by YRDSB and approved by the Ministry of Education. **Attendance is taken on Exam/Mark Review Day as it is an Instructional Day.**

Missed Examinations Policy

All students are expected to write their final examinations during the scheduled date, time and place indicated on the exam schedule. A student who misses an examination **may** receive a mark of zero as the final mark for the exam.

Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances, alternate arrangements will be made to have the exam completed on a different date from the original schedule. If you have a question or need assistance please contact the office or Mr. Press at neil.press@yrdsb.ca

Exam Schedule

Jun 17, 2025	Gr 12 Per 4 Exams 9:25 am
Jun 18, 2025	Per 1 Exams 9:25 am
Jun 19, 2025	Per 2 Exams 9:25 am
Jun 20, 2025	Per 3 Exams 9:25
Jun 23, 2025	Per 4 Exams 9:25
Jun 24, 2024	Credit Salvaging Day (attendance isn't taken)
Jun 25, 2024	Exam/Marks Review Day - Instructional Day (attendance is taken)
Jun 26, 2025 June 27, 2025	PA Day

Exam / Marks Review Day Schedule Wednesday June 25, 2025	
9:25-10:00	Period 1
10:05-10:40	Period 2
10:45-11:20	Period 3
11:25-12:00	Period 4
12:00-12:50	Lunch
12:55-3:30	Conferencing with students

Graduation Update

1. Graduation Refreshments and Rehearsal

– Tuesday, June 10, 2025, period 1. Students will have a short assembly and light refreshments in the cafeteria followed by a walk-through of the graduation ceremony.

2. Graduation Evening Outline:

- Pre-Reception for Award Donors and Recipients: 5:00 – 6:15 pm in Staff Room
- Ceremony: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 @ 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Reception Immediately following the ceremony, Cafeteria and Atrium

3. Valedictorian Selection Process

- The graduating students will participate in the selection of a student to represent their peers as the 2025 Valedictorian. The nomination and voting process will begin on Thursday, May 22, 2025. Information on the nomination and selection process will be shared shortly via your gaps account.

4. Gowns, Invitations and Tickets

- Students should receive caps and gowns, invitations and tickets at the graduation rehearsal
- Each graduate will receive 2 tickets.
- Graduates can [request extra tickets](#) by completing the form by May 30th. The graduation committee will review each request and will notify students by email should we be able to honour their request. We do our best to meet everyone's wants; however, seating is limited, as posted in the Fire Safety Plan. We endeavor to honour parents of blended families as a priority.

5. New this year! Flowers available for pre-order

- Students and families can pre-order flowers for their graduates. They will be available for pick up prior to the graduation ceremony. Interested families can purchase by following this [link](#).

Further information will be available in the Parent Bulletin. Should you have any questions, please contact:
laura.taccone@yrdsb.ca

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Jewish Heritage Month Event

Honouring Jewish Heritage – A Celebration of Culture and Community

- Celebrate the richness of Jewish culture, history and resilience through an engaging presentation and hands-on activities
- **Author Kathy Kacer**, who will present her powerful book *To Hope and Back*, sharing stories of Jewish survival and strength. Each family will receive a free book signed by the author.
- Children will have the opportunity to participate in interactive activities.
- Enjoy a Sufganiyot tasting experience, offering a sweet lens into Jewish culinary tradition.

Everyone is welcome to join us for an exciting celebration!

Thursday, May 22, 2025

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Anne Frank Public School, 431 Ilan Ramon Blvd., Maple

Please register here: [Jewish Heritage Month Event](#)

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



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CHALLAH BAKE EVENT

Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Location: Langstaff Secondary School

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**Celebrate Tradition. Create Together.
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Open to all YRDSB students, families, and staff

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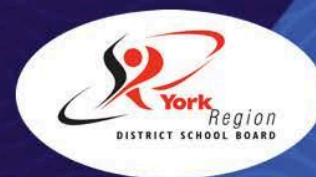
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Y² LEGACY: A Black-Centred Approach to Leadership, Innovation, and Excellence 2025 Summer Program



Y² LEGACY is a transformative summer learning program that empowers students through a Black-centred lens celebrating leadership, innovation, and academic excellence. By building foundational knowledge and identity-affirming skills, students emerge with the confidence and capabilities to lead in their schools and communities. The foundational skills students gain in the summer will support them in navigating the school year with confidence and leadership.

The program enables students to:

- Gain skills for a future driven by innovation, leadership, and adaptability
- Learn in an affirming, identity-centred environment that celebrates Black excellence
- Build a multi-year learning pathway that supports academic and career achievement
- Earn secondary credits while exploring post-secondary options
- Access mentorship, Black community partnerships, and university-level experiences
- Become eligible for a Schulich Certificate and Fall York University course

Registration

Participation in Y² LEGACY is competitive, and space is limited. To be considered for enrollment, interested students must complete two steps:

1. Students currently attending a YRDSB day school must register for their selected course using My Pathway Planner (myBlueprint), while students who do not attend a YRDSB day school must register using the Non-YRDSB Registration Form.
2. All students must complete the [Y² LEGACY Google Application Form](#).

We are now accepting applications for the second round of acceptances to the Y² LEGACY Program.

Dates

July 2 - July 25, 2025

8:45 a.m. - 3:32 p.m.



Apply by May 30, 2025! Space is limited!

For more information visit www2.yrdsb.ca/Y2LEGACY

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| ★ May 2 | Graduating Students Community Hours Due ☀️ |
| ★ May 22 | Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session : 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. 🖥️ |
| ★ June 4 | Support Ontario Youth (SOY) Transition to the Trades Virtual Presentation : 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. |
| ★ July 7 | Schulich Business Excellence Academy (SBEA) . |

Schulich Business Excellence Academy (SBEA)

We are happy to announce that registrations are open for the 2025 [Schulich Business Excellence Academy \(SBEA\)](#). SBEA is a summer business education and mentorship program supporting Grade 10, 11, and 12 high school students who self-identify from equity-deserving groups including Black, Indigenous, people of colour (BIPOC), 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and people with disabilities.

The SBEA program will commence on July 7, 2025. Sessions will run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm for three weeks, concluding with an in-person session on July 24, 2025. Click on the link below for more information and to register: [CLICK HERE](#)

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Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Presentation Type: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

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360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310)

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Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday May 16, 2025

Monday, May 19	Tuesday, May 20	Wednesday, May 21	Thursday, May 22	Friday, May 23
Victoria Day	Baseball Girl's Sr Flag Football Leadership Team Meeting @ 3:45	Boy's Rugby Ultimate Frisbee	SHSM Promo Event (Library) Slow Pitch Baseball Track & Field	SHSM Wonderland Trip Step Out Dance Competition Track & Field Ultimate Frisbee

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

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Jun 23, 2025	Per 4 Exams 9:25
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Jun 26, 2025 June 27, 2025	PA Day

Exam / Marks Review Day Schedule Wednesday June 25, 2025	
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10:45-11:20	Period 3
11:25-12:00	Period 4
12:00-12:50	Lunch
12:55-3:30	Conferencing with students

Graduation Update

1. Graduation Refreshments and Rehearsal

– Tuesday, June 10, 2025, period 1. Students will have a short assembly and light refreshments in the cafeteria followed by a walk-through of the graduation ceremony.

2. Graduation Evening Outline:

- Pre-Reception for Award Donors and Recipients: 5:00 – 6:15 pm in Staff Room
- Ceremony: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 @ 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Reception Immediately following the ceremony, Cafeteria and Atrium

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- The graduating students will participate in the selection of a student to represent their peers as the 2025 Valedictorian. The nomination and voting process will begin on Thursday, May 22, 2025. Information on the nomination and selection process will be shared shortly via your gapps account.

4. Gowns, Invitations and Tickets

- Students should receive caps and gowns, invitations and tickets at the graduation rehearsal
- Each graduate will receive 2 tickets.
- Graduates can [request extra tickets](#) by completing the form by May 30th. The graduation committee will review each request and will notify students by email should we be able to honour their request. We do our best to meet everyone's wants; however, seating is limited, as posted in the Fire Safety Plan. We endeavor to honour parents of blended families as a priority.

5. New this year! Flowers available for pre-order

- Students and families can pre-order flowers for their graduates. They will be available for pick up prior to the graduation ceremony. Interested families can purchase by following this [link](#).

Further information will be available in the Parent Bulletin. Should you have any questions, please contact:
laura.taccone@yrdsb.ca

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.

Jewish Heritage Month

[Canadian Jewish Heritage Month](#) 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.

Polish Heritage Month

The month of May is Polish Heritage Month. Polish Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the [Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2021](#). 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.

Dutch Heritage Month

The month of May is Dutch Heritage Month. Dutch Heritage Month was given Royal Assent in the [Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2011](#). 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.

Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter - May 2025

Dear Families and Caregivers,

Every year, the first week of May is recognized as Children's Mental Health Awareness week. This year's theme, "Unmasking Mental Health," reflects an ongoing commitment to increasing mental health literacy, reducing stigma, and promoting awareness about topics related to mental health.

One of the ways the YRDSB is acknowledging this important week is by offering toolkits for parents/caregivers and students. We encourage you to take a look at the [School Toolkit](#) that supports educators and students, as part of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. These toolkits provide virtual workshops, activities, and strategies to encourage daily mental health practices through five themed days: Mindful Monday (May 5th), Thoughtful Tuesday (May 6th), Wellness Wednesday (May 7th), Take Care Thursday (May 8th), and Focus Friday (May 9th).

The [Parent/Caregiver Toolkit](#) includes themed mental health resources that parents/caregivers may utilize with their children, conversation starters on important mental health related topics, as well as links to recorded YRDSB Learning about Mental Health Presentations (LAMPS) on a variety of topics like anxiety, social media and mental health, and

much more!

We are also excited to announce that Dr. Gillian White will be offering a free virtual presentation for parents/caregivers entitled *Turning Stress into Success* on May 8th from 6:00-7:00 PM. You can find more information about the presentation in our Parent/Caregiver Toolkit. If you are interested in attending this presentation, please register as space is limited.

[Online registration](#)

We hope that you and your children will be able to utilize some of the resources and knowledge offered in the toolkits throughout Children's Mental Health Awareness Week and beyond. Visit [School Mental Health Ontario](#) for more information on children's mental health trends in Ontario, and for ideas on how to build and sustain mental health promotion and knowledge.

Supportive Resources

- For more community resources, check out: [YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page](#)
- Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#) for updated information as well as the X account [@YRDSB](#) and Instagram [@mh_yrdsb](#).

Community Mental Health Events

Explore a variety of community programs and workshops designed to support mental health and well-being for students, families, and caregivers.

Students

The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA)

- T.E.A.C.H. Mental Health Workshop Series: The YSSI T.E.A.C.H. (Training, Empowerment, Advocacy, Counseling, Help) is an Afrocentric program that offers education on mental health and well-being practices for Black children/youth. The eight-week workshop series is on mental health for Black children/youth in grades 6-8.
- [Registration: T.E.A.C.H. Mental Health Workshop Series](#)

Doane House Hospice

- Monthly Art Studio Series: On the first Friday of every month, Doane House Hospice will be hosting a free art-making studio from 2:00pm-4:00pm for individuals navigating significant loss or challenging health circumstances. Participants can create art projects with provided supplies or bring their own. For more information, please contact Doane House Art Therapist Cynthia Gardner at cgardner@myhospice.ca or call 905 967 0259 ext. 155

Caregivers

Family Services York Region

- [Free To Be](#)
 - Third Wednesday of Each Month, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
 - This is a free virtual group for parents/caregivers of gender diverse children, regardless of age which meets once a month. The goal of this program is to destigmatize gender diversity

Yorkhills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

- Please visit Yorkhills Event Page, to find information on upcoming workshops available to the community both in-person and online.

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.
- [Online Registration](#)

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| ★ May 2 | Graduating Students Community Hours Due ☀️ |
| ★ May 22 | Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session : 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. 🖥️ |
| ★ June 4 | Support Ontario Youth (SOY) Transition to the Trades Virtual Presentation : 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. |
| ★ July 7 | Schulich Business Excellence Academy (SBEA) . |

Schulich Business Excellence Academy (SBEA)

We are happy to announce that registrations are open for the 2025 [Schulich Business Excellence Academy \(SBEA\)](#). SBEA is a summer business education and mentorship program supporting Grade 10, 11, and 12 high school students who self-identify from equity-deserving groups including Black, Indigenous, people of colour (BIPOC), 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and people with disabilities.

The SBEA program will commence on July 7, 2025. Sessions will run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm for three weeks, concluding with an in-person session on July 24, 2025. Click on the link below for more information and to register: [CLICK HERE](#)

Grade 12 Students: First Year & Beyond and OSAP Webinars:

Check out the two new webinars! The first is expectations on students' first year in a post-secondary institution. The second webinar covers everything related to OSAP. A handout is also available on the right side of the website page.

1. [Grade 12 Workshop: First Year and Beyond \(22:48\)](#)

Password: webinar253

2. [All About OSAP \(18:38\)](#)

Password: webinar254

OUAC and OCAS:

Guidance uploaded your mid-term marks for semester 2 into OUAC on April 24 and to OCAS on April 25. We encourage students to log in over the weekend to confirm the following:

- their personal information is correct
- that marks are correct
- that their currently enrolled courses are listed

It is a student's responsibility to ensure that the information in OUAC and OCAS is accurate and to report any errors to their guidance counsellor as soon as possible. Marks usually take 24-48 hours to upload.

Support Ontario Youth (SOY) Transition to the Trades Virtual Presentation

Join [Support Ontario Youth \(SOY\)](#) for an evening virtual presentation designed for graduating students wanting to pursue a career in the skilled trades. The SOY team are subject matter experts in the skilled trades and apprenticeship sectors and provide information to help graduates navigate and understand the apprenticeship pathway. SOY will provide resources and tips on how to transition from high school to mainstream apprenticeship and

better equip graduates to find that employer/sponsor. To add a real-world perspective, a licensed journeyperson will also join the discussion—sharing their personal journey in the trades and answering questions from attendees.

Date: Wednesday, June 4th

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Presentation Type: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Summer School Courses:

Summer School Registration Now Open

SUMMER SCHOOL ACCELERATION PROGRAMS are for students who wish to earn a credit in a subject they have not previously studied OR for those who wish to upgrade a mark in a course that they have successfully completed. These courses can be taken through an **in-Person program, Monday-Friday (8:45am-3:33pm)** at a variety of YRDSB schools (other than SDSS) from **July 2-25** OR they can be taken through an **Online Learning Program**, using an asynchronous model with check-in opportunities with the teacher.

Students can only take one acceleration course during the summer session and transportation for the in-person program is not provided.

Students are encouraged to register early to avoid disappointment. Course offerings are not guaranteed as they are based on sufficient enrollment and teacher availability.

TO REGISTER:

- Log-in to MyBluePrint and sign up under 'Continuing Education'.
- Look for the 'Sec - In Person (various locations)' or 'Sec - Online Asynchronous (D2L)' or Synchronous***
- If needed, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor on Teach Assist.
- If you completed the 'Summer School Intention Form' for course selection, please sign up for that course or speak with your guidance counsellor if you decide to no longer take the course.
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May 23, 2025

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday May 23, 2025

Monday, May 26	Tuesday, May 27	Wednesday, May 28	Thursday, May 29	Friday, May 30
Slow Pitch Baseball Ultimate Frisbee School Council	Drama Performance (P2)	Boy's Rugby Track & Field Ultimate Frisbee Music Banquet	Drama Performance @ 6 pm Track & Field	Drama Performance (P2)

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

2025-2026 School Year Calendar

The [Regular Secondary School Year Calendar for 2025-2026 \(PDF\)](#) has now been published on the YRDSB website.

Please take note of important dates such as holidays and exams before making any future plans.

Get Ready for Spartanfest 2025!

The ultimate end-of-year celebration is almost here, and it's time to bring your school spirit to life! Join us for **Spartanfest 2025**, an exciting school carnival that's going to be filled with fun, food, games, music, and memories.

WHEN?

Date: Thursday, June 5th, 2025

Period 1: 9:25–10:15

Period 2: 10:20–11:10

Period 3: 11:15–12:05

Period 4: 12:10–1:00

Spartanfest: 1:00–3:30pm

☀️ **WHAT'S HAPPENING?** ☀️

Here's a sneak peek at all the awesome events that'll be waiting for you at Spartanfest:


OUTSIDE (Back Field):

 **Music On The Rocks (Open mic)** – Grab the mic and show us what you've got!

 **BBQ** – Delicious grilled GRIND goodness, ready to fuel your fun!

 **Field Games** – Get in the action with games that'll get your heart racing!

 **Mr. Treats Ice Cream Trucks** – Cool off with a sweet treat!

 **Pie in the Face** – Here's your chance to pie your favorite teacher! (You won't want to miss this!)


INSIDE (Atrium):

☀️ **Clubs Showcase** – Discover all the amazing clubs and activities at SDSS.

INSIDE (Cafeteria):

 **Bake Sale** – Yummy homemade goodies to satisfy your sweet tooth!

 **Photo Booth** – Strike a pose and capture the moment!

 **Yearbook Distribution / Signing Area** – Grab your yearbook and get it signed by your friends!

♥️ **SDSS Bracelet Sales** – Show your Spartan pride with a cool SDSS bracelet.

 **Face Painting** – Get your face painted and show off your school spirit!

 **Just Dance (cafeteria) & Smash Bros Tournament (library)**– Get ready to dance and game with your friends.

 **Raffle Table** – Win amazing prizes!

 **SPARTANFEST TICKETS** 

Tickets are your ticket to all the fun at Spartanfest!

Tickets = Spartanfest cash. You must purchase tickets in advance on School Cash Online. A limited number of tickets will be available to purchase for cash on the day of the event.

Ticket distribution: Tickets purchased on School Cash Online will be delivered to homerooms on June 5th during Period 1.

- **1 ticket for \$1**
- **12 tickets for \$10**
No refunds—please limit your purchase to 10 tickets.

TICKET PRICES FOR ACTIVITIES:

- **Photo Booth:** 1 ticket per picture
- **Pie in the Face:** 1 ticket
- **Bracelets:** 2 tickets
- **Face Paint:** 1 ticket
- **Popcorn:** 1 ticket
- **Jumbo Freezies:** 1 ticket
- **Bake Sale:** 1 ticket
- **Raffle:** 1 ticket for a ballot
- **BBQ/ Mr. Treats Ice Cream Trucks:** Cash/Debit only (No tickets will be accepted)

💥 **Don't miss out on the fun!** Get your tickets, grab your friends, and let's make Spartanfest 2025 the best one yet! See you there, Spartans! 💥

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YRDSB Math Resources Family Survey

As part of the York Region District School Board's Math Achievement Action Plan, our school is committed to enhancing student success in mathematics through improved teaching strategies, in-class support, and access to resources.

Your input is valuable in helping us better understand how current resources are supporting your child's learning and how we can continue to improve. Please take a moment to complete the 2 question [Family](#)

[Feedback Survey on Math Resources](#) (<https://bit.ly/YRDSBFamilyMathSurvey>) and share your thoughts on the math resources available to your child to support learning at home and in the classroom. Please complete this survey by Friday, June 6, 2025.

Free Bike Safety Event

June 7th, 2025

Win prizes
courtesy of
our sponsors!

Bring your bicycle
and helmet!

JOIN THE YORK REGIONAL POLICE
SERVICE, ROAD WATCH AND OTHER
COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO LEARN
ABOUT BICYCLE SAFETY

Richmond Green Sports Centre
1300 Elgin Mills Road East
Richmond Hill
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Rain or shine!



Please bring your completed
waiver to the event. Scan the
QR code now!

York Regional Police

City of Richmond Hill

Road Watch Committee of Richmond Hill

Canadian Tire - Richmond Hill North

Canadian Automobile Association (CAA)

Curtis International Limited

Evolution Cycles

Loblaws

Costco Wholesale

Ontario Ministry of Transportation

Visit different stations to learn about:



Bicycle Tire Pressure



Proper Helmet Fit



Rules of the Road



Hand and Arm Signals

And much more!

FREE Bicycle Lights

While supplies last.



1

/ 1



National Indigenous History Month

June is National Indigenous History Month and is a time to celebrate the diverse cultures of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities, as opposed to focusing on what has been done to them. The Canadian Government unanimously declared June as National Indigenous History Month in 2009 through a motion in the House of Commons. The month, which includes National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21), is a perfect time to reflect upon the long relationship between the many different First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Turtle Island and Canadians throughout history. For students and Educators, it is a good time to become better acquainted with the different First Peoples who share this land with us.

June 21 was declared National Indigenous Peoples Day in 1996 by then Governor General Roméo Leblanc. The day was chosen in consultation with some national organizations for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples including the Assembly of First Nations, and coincides with the summer solstice which is significant for some First Nations people.

Pride Month

June is Pride Month, an opportunity for schools to celebrate diversity in our communities, and uplift the voices, accomplishments, and activism of 2SLGBTQIA+ people. While diverse identities and ways of being have always existed, much of the world has specifically celebrated Pride Month in June since 1969. June 1969 marked a turning point in the 2SLGBTQIA+ equity movement, when community members, led largely by Black and Latinx Trans Women and Drag Queens, pushed back against targeted police raids of The Stonewall Inn, a Queer space in New York, and unjust laws that limited gender expression and targeted the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. This important moment in 2SLGBTQIA+ history serves as a powerful example of Queer community strength, and an inspiring story to remember as we celebrate Pride in 2025 and continue to advocate for safety and inclusion for all 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Portuguese Heritage Month

The month of June is Portuguese Heritage Month as proclaimed by the government of Ontario in 2001. [Legislative Assembly of Ontario](#).

Canada is home to more than 480,000 Canadians of Portuguese descent, one of the largest Portuguese diasporas in the world. The Portuguese Canadian community has made and continues to make significant contributions to the cultural, social, and political fabric.

The month of June, particularly June 10th, holds significance for the Portuguese community. June 10 is the anniversary of the death of Luis de Camoes, a famous Portuguese poet who often wrote about the history of Portugal.

Italian Heritage Month

The month of June is Italian Heritage Month as proclaimed by the government of Ontario in 2010. [Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2010](#).

Ontario is home to more than 1,350,000 Italian Canadians. Since the 1880s, the Italian Canadian community has made and continues to make significant contributions to cultural, social, and political fabric.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ June 4 [Support Ontario Youth \(SOY\) Transition to the Trades Virtual Presentation](#): 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- ★ July 7 [Schulich Business Excellence Academy \(SBEA\)](#).
- ★ NOW OPEN! Fall 2025 Dual Credit. [FLYER](#). [REGISTRATION](#).

YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

2025 SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Acceleration Courses July 2 - 25 (18 Days)

For students who wish to earn a credit in a subject they have not previously studied or those who wish to upgrade a mark in a course that they have successfully completed.



Register early to avoid disappointment!
Decisions to run courses are based on sufficient enrolment and teacher availability.

IN-PERSON LEARNING

Locations: Bill Hogarth SS, Bur Oak SS, Keswick HS, Maple HS, Middlefield CI, Newmarket HS, Richmond Green SS, and Thornlea SS

Time: 8:45 am - 3:32 pm



REMOTE LEARNING

Synchronous Learning Model online through Google Meets
Time: 8:45 am - 3:32 pm

ONLINE LEARNING

Asynchronous Learning Model using Brightspace by D2L
For more information, please email: online.learning@yrdsb.ca

SCAN ME

HOW TO REGISTER!

YRDSB STUDENTS:
SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION BY JUNE 18, 2025

 YRDSB Students: [My Pathway Planner](#)

NON-YRDSB STUDENTS:
SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION BY JUNE 6, 2025

 Non-YRDSB Students: [Link On Website](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

 905-884-2046 OR 905-884-3434

 continuing.education@yrdsb.ca

 <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/summer-learning-opportunities>

We are happy to announce that registrations are open for the 2025 [Schulich Business Excellence Academy \(SBEA\)](#). SBEA is a summer business education and mentorship program supporting Grade 10, 11, and 12 high school students who self-identify from equity-deserving groups including Black, Indigenous, people of colour (BIPOC), 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and people with disabilities.

The SBEA program will commence on July 7, 2025. Sessions will run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm for three weeks, concluding with an in-person session on July 24, 2025. Click on the link below for more information and to register: [CLICK HERE](#)

Grade 12 Students: First Year & Beyond and OSAP Webinars:

Check out the two new webinars! The first is expectations on students' first year in a post-secondary institution. The second webinar covers everything related to OSAP. A handout is also available on the right side of the website page.

1. [Grade 12 Workshop: First Year and Beyond \(22:48\)](#)

Password: webinar253

2. [All About OSAP \(18:38\)](#)

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Fall 2025 Dual Credit:

Registration for the YRDSB Fall Dual Credit Program is also now open for registration. Students who are currently in grade 11 that selected a Dual Credit in their course selections for grade 12 can view the available courses on the [DUAL CREDIT FLYER](#) and can [REGISTER HERE](#).

Support Ontario Youth (SOY) Transition to the Trades Virtual Presentation

Join [Support Ontario Youth \(SOY\)](#) for an evening virtual presentation designed for graduating students wanting to pursue a career in the skilled trades. The SOY team are subject matter experts in the skilled trades and apprenticeship sectors and provide information to help graduates navigate and understand the apprenticeship pathway. SOY will provide resources and tips on how to transition from high school to mainstream apprenticeship and better equip graduates to find that employer/sponsor. To add a real-world perspective, a licensed journey person will also join the discussion—sharing their personal journey in the trades and answering questions from attendees.

Date: Wednesday, June 4th

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Presentation Type: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Summer School Courses:

Summer School Registration Now Open

SUMMER SCHOOL ACCELERATION PROGRAMS are for students who wish to earn a credit in a subject they have not previously studied OR for those who wish to upgrade a mark in a course that they have successfully completed. These courses can be taken through an **in-Person program, Monday-Friday (8:45am-3:33pm)** at a variety of YRDSB schools (other than SDSS) from **July 2-25** OR they can be taken through an **Online Learning Program**, using an asynchronous model with check-in opportunities with the teacher.

Students can only take one acceleration course during the summer session and transportation for the in-person program is not provided.

Students are encouraged to register early to avoid disappointment. Course offerings are not guaranteed as they are based on sufficient enrollment and teacher availability.

TO REGISTER:

- Log-in to MyBluePrint and sign up under 'Continuing Education'.
- Look for the 'Sec - In Person (various locations)' or 'Sec - Online Asynchronous (D2L)' or Synchronous***
- If needed, book an appointment with your guidance counsellor on Teach Assist.
- If you completed the 'Summer School Intention Form' for course selection, please sign up for that course or speak with your guidance counsellor if you decide to no longer take the course.
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- If you DID NOT complete the 'Summer School Intention Form' but NOW wish to take a course, **PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- Grade **9 and 10** students must maintain a full timetable of **8 courses**
- Grade **11 and 12** students must maintain a full timetable with regard to staying on track for graduation. **Once students have earned 23 credits (typically after the end of Grade 11) they may be eligible to take a spare.**

Summer School Co-op:

-2 credit co-op
-1 credit co-op
-1 credit ALEP

Grade 12 students who could not fit co-op into their regular timetables and require it for graduation will be given priority. Check out the flyer attached for details about each opportunity (important dates and deadlines). Our Guidance Team is available if students/parents have any questions. Deadlines are approaching quickly.

Community Hours:

Attention Grade 12 students, please complete and submit your 40 hours of community service as soon as possible. You need these to graduate. Check out the Guidance Google Classroom or Guidance Instagram for volunteer opportunities.

Mental Health Supports:

If students are in urgent need of mental health support they should come to Guidance to see a counsellor. If they are in a severe crisis they should access support by contacting one of the agencies below or should be taken to a local emergency room.

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Kids Help Phone (text 686868, call 800-668-6868 www.kidshelpphone.ca)

360 Kids (905-475-6694 www.360kids.ca)

York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

Mental Health Crisis (310-COPE, 855-310-2673)

Suicide Prevention Canada (text 45645, 833-456-4566)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310)

Black Youth Helpline (416-285-9944)

LGBT YouthLine (text) 647-694-4275

Trans Lifeline (1-877-330-6366)

Check us out on Instagram...



stuffvilledss



stuffville_guidance

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433
Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday June 6, 2025

Monday, June 9	Tuesday, June 10	Wednesday, June 11	Thursday, June 12	Friday, June 13
	Grad Tea (P1) Health & Safety Visit Gr 12 Recital Night	Gr 9 EQAO Gr 9 Drama Evening @ 6pm	Gr 9 EQAO Athletic Banquet @ 4:30	

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

2025-2026 School Year Calendar

The [Regular Secondary School Year Calendar for 2025-2026 \(PDF\)](#) has now been published on the YRDSB website. Please take note of important dates such as holidays and exams before making any future plans.

June Exams

Please find the June 2005 examination schedule below as well as the Exam/Mark Review Day schedule. The exam period is determined by YRDSB and approved by the Ministry of Education. **Attendance is taken on Exam/Mark Review Day as it is an Instructional Day.**

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Exceptional Circumstances

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Master Exam Schedule

Here is a copy of the

Exam Schedule

June 17, 2025	Gr 12 Per 4 Exams 9:25 am
June 18, 2025	Per 1 Exams 9:25 am
June 19, 2025	Per 2 Exams 9:25 am
June 20, 2025	Per 3 Exams 9:25
June 23, 2025	Per 4 Exams 9:25
June 24, 2025	Credit Salvaging Day (attendance isn't taken)
June 25, 2025	Exam/Marks Review Day - Instructional Day (attendance is taken) Period 1 9:25-10:00 Period 2 10:05-10:40 Period 3 10:45-11:20 Period 4 11:25-12:00 Lunch 12:00-12:50 Student Conferencing 12:55-3:30
June 26, 2025 June 27, 2025	PA Day

Graduation Update

1. Graduation Refreshments and Rehearsal

– Tuesday, June 10, 2025, period 1. Students will have a short assembly and light refreshments in the cafeteria followed by a walk-through of the graduation ceremony.

2. Graduation Evening Outline:

- Pre-Reception for Award Donors and Recipients: 5:00 – 6:15 pm in Staff Room
- Ceremony: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 @ 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Reception Immediately following the ceremony, Cafeteria and Atrium

3. Valedictorian Selection Process

- The graduating students will participate in the selection of a student to represent their peers as the 2025 Valedictorian. The nomination and voting process will begin on Thursday, May 22, 2025. Information on the nomination and selection process will be shared shortly via your gapps account.

4. Gowns, Invitations and Tickets

- Students should receive caps and gowns, invitations and tickets at the graduation rehearsal
- Each graduate will receive 2 tickets.
- Graduates can [request extra tickets](#) by completing the form by May 30th. The graduation committee will review each request and will notify students by email should we be able to honour their request. We do our best to meet everyone's wants; however, seating is limited, as posted in the Fire Safety Plan. We endeavor to honour parents of blended families as a priority.

5. New this year! Flowers available for pre-order

- Students and families can pre-order flowers for their graduates. They will be available for pick up prior to the graduation ceremony. Interested families can purchase by following this [link](#).

Message from Our Trustee

June 2025

As we approach the end of the 2024-2025 school year, I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the hard work, accomplishments, and commitment of students, staff and families. As I have visited schools, attended events and communicated with families, I continue to be proud of the dedication to public education and student achievement and well-being I see.

I want to wish my sincere congratulations to all of the graduates and proud families. This is an exciting time and I hope you enjoy this celebration of all of your hard work, perseverance and accomplishments. Whether you are moving on to secondary school, the workplace or post-secondary pathways, we wish you all the very best in this next exciting chapter of your journey. Remember to be fearless in your pursuit of what brings you joy!

We had an opportunity in April to celebrate the achievements of 20 students at our annual [Celebrating Student Success/Human Rights Ambassadors Awards event](#). It was a wonderful reminder of how much our students are capable of. While success and achievement looked different for each student, we saw a common theme of determination and care. Students demonstrated a real commitment to lifting up those around them. I see that everywhere in our system as I visit schools. It makes me so proud to see the ways our students are already shaping the future for the better.

Each month in the Boardroom, we also had the opportunity to recognize the achievements of staff and students through the [Applause awards](#). Congratulations to all of the award recipients. These awards capture a sampling of the incredible work happening around York Region District School Board and the successes we see students achieving.

These successes we have seen this school year would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of staff across the system, and I want to thank you for all that you do each and every day. I also want to recognize the contributions that have been made by school councils, volunteers and families. Your work to enhance family engagement and strengthen public education has a noticeable difference in our schools and in the achievement and well-being of students.

I was especially honored to take part in the opening of Whispering Pines PS and look forward to the opening of Spring Lakes PS in the fall.

This is a very busy time of year and I wish all of the students the best as you work on projects and prepare for upcoming exams.

Let's celebrate another successful school year and look forward to an amazing summer break!

Melanie Wright

Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville

National Indigenous History Month

June is National Indigenous History Month and is a time to celebrate the diverse cultures of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities, as opposed to focusing on what has been done to them. The Canadian Government unanimously declared June as National Indigenous History Month in 2009 through a motion in the House of Commons. The month, which includes National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21), is a perfect time to reflect upon the long relationship between the many different First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Turtle Island and Canadians throughout history. For students and Educators, it is a good time to become better acquainted with the different First Peoples who share this land with us.

June 21 was declared National Indigenous Peoples Day in 1996 by then Governor General Roméo Leblanc. The day was chosen in consultation with some national organizations for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples including the Assembly of First Nations, and coincides with the summer solstice which is significant for some First Nations people.

Pride Month

June is Pride Month, an opportunity for schools to celebrate diversity in our communities, and uplift the voices, accomplishments, and activism of 2SLGBTQIA+ people. While diverse identities and ways of being have always existed, much of the world has specifically celebrated Pride Month in June since 1969. June 1969 marked a turning point in the 2SLGBTQIA+ equity movement, when community members, led largely by Black and Latinx Trans Women and Drag Queens, pushed back against targeted police raids of The Stonewall Inn, a Queer space in New York, and unjust laws that limited gender expression and targeted the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. This important moment in 2SLGBTQIA+ history serves as a powerful example of Queer community strength, and an inspiring story to remember as we celebrate Pride in 2025 and continue to advocate for safety and inclusion for all 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Portuguese Heritage Month

The month of June is Portuguese Heritage Month as proclaimed by the government of Ontario in 2001. [Legislative Assembly of Ontario](#). Canada is home to more than 480,000 Canadians of Portuguese descent, one of the largest Portuguese diasporas in the world. The Portuguese Canadian community has made and continues to make significant contributions to the cultural, social, and political fabric. The month of June, particularly June 10th, holds significance for the Portuguese community. June 10 is the anniversary of the death of Luis de Camoes, a famous Portuguese poet who often wrote about the history of Portugal.

Italian Heritage Month

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Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ July 7 [Schulich Business Excellence Academy \(SBEA\)](#).
- ★ NOW OPEN! Fall 2025 Dual Credit. [FLYER](#). [REGISTRATION](#).

YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

2025 SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Acceleration Courses July 2 - 25 (18 Days)

For students who wish to earn a credit in a subject they have not previously studied or those who wish to upgrade a mark in a course that they have successfully completed.



Register early to avoid disappointment!
Decisions to run courses are based on sufficient enrolment and teacher availability.

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Haven't received an Ontario university offer?

Use the Admission Information Service (AIS)

Starting June 4, 2025, Ontario high school students can use the AIS to find possible openings at Ontario universities.

To begin your search, visit www.ouac.on.ca/undergrad-guide and click:

[Search Open Programs](#)

Once you find an open program of interest, add it to your application.

Requirements:

- You will be completing or have completed the OSSD (or equivalent), including six 4U/M courses, by August 2025.
- You must have an average of at least 60%, although higher averages are usually required.

To find out more:

- Visit: www.ouac.on.ca/undergrad-guide
- Call: 519-823-1063
- Email: undergradsup@ouac.on.ca



Vous n'avez pas reçu d'offre d'une université de l'Ontario?

Utilisez le Service d'information sur l'admission (SIA)

À compter le 4 juin 2025, les élèves du secondaire de l'Ontario peuvent utiliser le SIA pour trouver d'autres possibilités d'études aux universités de l'Ontario.

Pour débiter votre recherche, rendez-vous à l'adresse www.ouac.on.ca/fr/premier-cycle-guide, puis cliquez sur :

[Chercher programmes ouverts](#)

Dès que vous aurez trouvé un programme ouvert, ajoutez-le à votre demande.

Exigences :

- Vous détenez, ou détiendrez, un DESO (ou l'équivalent) et avoir réussi 6 cours 4U/M, en août 2025 au plus tard.
- Vous devez avoir une moyenne minimale de 60 % – à noter toutefois que les moyennes exigées sont plus élevées, en règle générale.

Pour plus d'information :

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- Composez le : 519 823-1063
- Communiquez avec nous : aide@ouac.on.ca



Ontario Universities' Application Centre | Centre de demande d'admission aux universités de l'Ontario

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Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Presentation Type: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

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The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday June 13 2025

Monday, June 16	Tuesday, June 17	Wednesday, June 18	Thursday, June 19	Friday, June 20
Leadership Team Meeting @ 3:45pm	Gr 12 Period 4 Exams	Period 1 Exams	Period 2 Exams	Student Services Graduation Period 3 Exams

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

2025-2026 School Year Calendar

The [Regular Secondary School Year Calendar for 2025-2026 \(PDF\)](#) has now been published on the YRDSB website. Please take note of important dates such as holidays and exams before making any future plans.

Moving?

Please let the main office know if you are moving out of the area, or transferring to another school for the next school year.

FREE Summer Reading!

From now until August 26, students can access a collection of free ebooks and audiobooks through Sora—no holds, no waitlists! It's a great way to keep kids reading over the summer with engaging, high-interest titles. Learn more here: <https://resources.overdrive.com/sora-sweet-reads/>

Locker Clean out

All students are to clean out their lockers Tuesday morning. Lockers should be left empty, with the door open and the lock left closed on the locker.

June Exams

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June 26, 2025 June 27, 2025	PA Day

OSSLT Spring Results

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- ★ NOW OPEN! Fall 2025 Dual Credit. [FLYER](#). [REGISTRATION](#).
- ★ August 4 Fall 2025 [Aquatic Leadership Program](#)

York Region District School Board and The Town of Aurora, The City of Markham, The City of Richmond Hill and the City of Vaughan
Aquatic Leadership Program – Part 1 Program Information and Dates – Fall 2025

	Town of Aurora Part 1 – PAQ201	City of Markham Part 1 – PAQ201	City of Richmond Hill Part 1 – PAQ201	City of Vaughan Part 1 – PAQ201
Location	Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex 1400 Wellington St. East Aurora, ON L4G 7B6 905-726-4770	Milliken Mills Community Centre 7600 Kennedy Rd Markham, ON L3R 9S5 905-477-6410	The Wave Pool 5 Hopkins St. Richmond Hill, ON L4C 0C1 905-508-9283	Dufferin Clark Community Centre 1441 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill ON, L4J 7R4 905-832-8554
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Cost	\$225	\$200	\$200	\$200
Registration	https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/school-programs-nav/school-programs/aquatic-leadership-program			

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York Hills (905-503-9560) www.yorkhills.ca)

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LGBT YouthLine (text) 647-694-4275

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Check us out on Instagram...



stouffvilledss



stouffville_guidance

Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Melissa Schmidt, Principal - Jennifer Thom, Vice-Principal --Neil Press Vice-Principal 905-640-1433

Melanie Wright, School Trustee, Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville (289) 221-7393



The Week Ahead at a Glance:

Friday June 20, 2025

Monday, June 23	Tuesday, June 24	Wednesday, June 25	Thursday, June 26	Friday, June 27
Period 4 Exams	Credit Salvaging Graduation	Exam Review Day	PA Day	PA Day

More upcoming dates can be found on our [school website](#).

2025-2026 School Year Calendar

The [Regular Secondary School Year Calendar for 2025-2026 \(PDF\)](#) has now been published on the YRDSB website. Please take note of important dates such as holidays and exams before making any future plans.

Moving?

Please let the main office know if you are moving out of the area, or transferring to another school for the next school year.

Lost and Found

Please look through the lost and found items in the hall by the main office. Any items not claimed by end of day on June 25 will be donated.

June Exams

Please find the June 2005 examination schedule below as well as the Exam/Mark Review Day schedule. The exam period is determined by YRDSB and approved by the Ministry of Education. **Attendance is taken on Exam/Mark Review Day as it is an Instructional Day.**

Missed Examinations Policy

All students are expected to write their final examinations during the scheduled date, time and place indicated on the exam schedule. A student who misses an examination **may** receive a mark of zero as the final mark for the exam.

Exceptional Circumstances

It is a Ministry expectation that students write all of their exams. In exceptional circumstances, alternate arrangements may be made to have the exam completed on a different date from the original schedule. If you have a question or need assistance please contact the office or Mr. Press at neil.press@yrdsb.ca

Exam Schedule

June 17, 2025	Gr 12 Per 4 Exams 12:25 am
June 18, 2025	Per 1 Exams 9:25 am

June 19, 2025	Per 2 Exams 9:25 am
June 20, 2025	Per 3 Exams 9:25
June 23, 2025	Per 4 Exams 9:25
June 24, 2025	Credit Salvaging Day (attendance isn't taken)
June 25, 2025	Exam/Marks Review Day - Instructional Day (attendance is taken) Period 1 9:25-10:00 Period 2 10:05-10:40 Period 3 10:45-11:20 Period 4 11:25-12:00 Lunch 12:00-12:50 Student Conferencing 12:55-3:30
June 26, 2025 June 27, 2025	PA Day

National Indigenous History Month

June is National Indigenous History Month and is a time to celebrate the diverse cultures of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities, as opposed to focusing on what has been done to them. The Canadian Government unanimously declared June as National Indigenous History Month in 2009 through a motion in the House of Commons. The month, which includes National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21), is a perfect time to reflect upon the long relationship between the many different First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Turtle Island and Canadians throughout history. For students and Educators, it is a good time to become better acquainted with the different First Peoples who share this land with us.

June 21 was declared National Indigenous Peoples Day in 1996 by then Governor General Roméo Leblanc. The day was chosen in consultation with some national organizations for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples including the Assembly of First Nations, and coincides with the summer solstice which is significant for some First Nations people.

Pride Month

June is Pride Month, an opportunity for schools to celebrate diversity in our communities, and uplift the voices, accomplishments, and activism of 2SLGBTQIA+ people. While diverse identities and ways of being have always existed, much of the world has specifically celebrated Pride Month in June since 1969. June 1969 marked a turning point in the 2SLGBTQIA+ equity movement, when community members, led largely by Black and Latinx Trans Women and Drag Queens, pushed back against targeted police raids of The Stonewall Inn, a Queer space in New York, and unjust laws that limited gender expression and targeted the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. This important moment in 2SLGBTQIA+ history serves as a powerful example of Queer community strength, and an inspiring story to remember as we celebrate Pride in 2025 and continue to advocate for safety and inclusion for all 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Portuguese Heritage Month

The month of June is Portuguese Heritage Month as proclaimed by the government of Ontario in 2001. [Legislative Assembly of Ontario](#). Canada is home to more than 480,000 Canadians of Portuguese descent, one of the largest Portuguese diasporas in the world. The Portuguese Canadian community has made and continues to make significant contributions to the cultural, social, and political fabric. The month of June, particularly June 10th, holds significance for the Portuguese community. June 10 is the anniversary of the death of Luis de Camoes, a famous Portuguese poet who often wrote about the history of Portugal.

Italian Heritage Month

The month of June is Italian Heritage Month as proclaimed by the government of Ontario in 2010. [Legislative Assembly of Ontario in 2010](#). Ontario is home to more than 1,350,000 Italian Canadians. Since the 1880s, the Italian Canadian community has made and continues to make significant contributions to cultural, social, and political fabric.

Messages from Guidance

Upcoming Dates:

- ★ July 7 [Schulich Business Excellence Academy \(SBEA\)](#).
- ★ NOW OPEN! Fall 2025 Dual Credit. [FLYER](#). [REGISTRATION](#).
- ★ August 4 Fall 2025 [Aquatic Leadership Program](#)

York Region District School Board and The Town of Aurora, The City of Markham, The City of Richmond Hill and the City of Vaughan Aquatic Leadership Program – Part 1 Program Information and Dates – Fall 2025

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Password: webinar253

2.

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