

Thornhill PS Email Information: Monday January 13, 2025

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, January 14

- *"Sip and Share" at 8:15 a.m.*
- *Homework Club – Ms. Sacks*
- *Pizza Day – for those who ordered*
- *Jr. Boys Volleyball game after school at EJ Sand*

Wednesday, January 15

- *Homework Club – Ms. Rehan*

Thursday, January 16

- *Spirit Day –Active/Jersey wear*
- *Subway Sandwich Day– for those who ordered*

Friday, January 17

- *PA Day – No School*
- *Kindergarten Registration Begins*

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

Monday, January 20

- *Homework Club – Ms. Noordeh*
- *Young Rembrandts Winter Session begins for those who signed up*

Tuesday, January 21

- *Junior Boys Volleyball Area Meet*
- *Pizza Day – for those who ordered*

Wednesday, January 22

- *Homework Club – Ms. Sacks*
- *Popcorn Delivery for those who ordered*
- *Intermediate Boys Basketball Game at Woodland with Baythorn after school*
- *Jr. Girls Volleyball game after school at EJ Sand*

Thursday, January 23

- *Homework Club – Ms. Rehan*
- *Subway Sandwich Day– for those who ordered*
- *Thornhill Secondary School visit for Grade 8s*

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PREVIOUSLY COMMUNICATED

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- *Save the Date- Learning Through Play Evening*
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- *Kindergarten Registration*
- *French Immersion Registration*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LIBRARIAN – MS. FINKELSTEIN

TPS is excited to announce that The Forest of Reading program is back! The Forest of Reading® is Canada’s largest recreational reading program! This initiative offers ten reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. The Forest helps celebrate Canadian books, publishers, authors and illustrators. More than 270,000 readers participate annually from their school and/or public library.

Our primary classes will be reading each Blue Spruce nominated book (there are 10 in total) and voting on their favourites! Students in grades 4-8 are welcome to join our Silver Birch and Red Maple book clubs. There are 20 books in total, and students will have an opportunity to read some different titles and vote! We are looking forward to this exciting opportunity!

PREVIOUSLY COMMUNICATED

INTRODUCING “SIP AND SHARE”

We love getting to know our TPS families and we would like to provide you all with an opportunity to get to know each other, learn more about our school, and discuss ways we can support our children at home. Please come and join our school Principal, Lisa Hascal, for an informal gathering and discussion with coffee/tea provided on Tuesday, January 14th from 8:15-9:30 a.m. in our staff lounge. Our topic of discussion will be centered around student mental health and well-being. If you need a translator present, please email Mrs. Hascal at Lisa.Hascal@yrdsb.ca

SAVE THE DATE – LEARNING THROUGH PLAY EVENING

On Thursday, February 13th at 6 p.m. we will be hosting a “Learning Through Play” evening for all of our students and families. Our staff will prepare some wonderful activities that you and your child can participate in together and they will highlight how these fun activities support learning too! Stay tuned for more information.

DRESSING FOR COLD WEATHER

Before the holidays I noted that many students were not dressing appropriately outside. Teachers will be reminding students about the importance of protecting their bodies against the extreme cold. We are asking that families discuss this at home as well and please ensure your children come to school with appropriate winter wear. We only move to indoor recess when the windchill hits -18, so they will be out in the cold many times this month. If your family is unable to purchase winter wear due to financial constraints, you may have a confidential discussion with Ms. Hascal who will help you find support.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration for September 2025 begins on **Friday, January 17, 2025**. Children who turn four or five years’ old during 2025, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. The Board has included a page dedicated to the Kindergarten Registration process linked [here](#). Within this link you will find simple instructions to follow in order to register remotely. If your child is presently attending Junior Kindergarten at Thornhill P.S. there is no need to re-register. More information about our Kindergarten Program can be found [here](#).

FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION SESSION AND REGISTRATION

Any SK family who is looking for information regarding French Immersion should read the message below from our Board.

Grade 1 French Immersion (FI) Information Sessions and Registrations

What is French Immersion?

- Provides opportunities for students to develop enhanced proficiency in French.
- Students receive instruction in French from teachers who are fluent in French.
- Begins in Grade 1 and is designed for children whose first language is not French.
- In Grades 1, 2 and 3, all subjects are taught in French. Starting in Grade 4, instructional time is shared equally between French and English.
- Program continues in secondary school.
- Secondary school students must earn at least 10 French Immersion credits to qualify for the French Immersion Certificate upon graduation.

Important Considerations

- Grade 1 is the only entry point into French immersion in YRDSB.
- Communication with parents/guardians is in English including, but not limited to, report cards, newsletters and parent-teacher interviews.
- For the first few months of Grade 1, children may not acquire skills identical to those learned by children in an English program as the focus is on learning in French.
- During the first few years of the FI program, students may not develop the same level of English proficiency as their peers in an English program, however children should acquire these skills by the end of Grade 8. Families are encouraged to continue to read to their children in their first language.

FI Accommodation Plan

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enroll. The FI program is offered in Dual Track or Single-Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. Space requirements at some schools may mean that siblings are in different schools for primary dual track French Immersion programs due to differing grade structures. Like any of our schools across the Board,

changes to school boundaries, and/or the accommodation model for the French Immersion program may need to be considered when new schools open, a school experiences enrolment growth, and program changes occur. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools.

More information is available on the [Board's website](#). **Please note:** Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.

Information Sessions

This year, our Information session for Grade 1 entry into the French Immersion program will take place in French Immersion schools on January 16, 2025, at 7 p.m. Program locations and additional information is available on our [website](#). If families are unable to attend the information session, they can hear about the French Immersion program on the [Tune In YRDSB: French Immersion Podcast](#).

Registration

FI registration will begin on January 17, 2025. Parents or guardians of Year 2 Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2025, and wishing to enroll in the FI Program, can email or call their home school office and indicate their intention to enrol. The home school will notify the French Immersion school, and the French Immersion school will contact families by phone or email to collect any necessary information. Families are asked to register by February 10, 2025. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

Late Registrations

Late registrations are those submitted after February 10, 2025. Late registrations will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period should overflow be necessary.