

THORNLEA S.S.

E-BULLETIN

Principal

patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principals

victoria.johnson-lee@yrdsb.ca

jacqueline.sandercock@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent

donna.donalds@yrdsb.ca

Trustee

jenny.chen@yrdsb.ca

APRIL 4, 2025

April 9, 2025 is the **International Day of Pink**. The **International Day of Pink** is a day when communities across Canada and the world unite to celebrate diversity and raise awareness about the need to stop homophobia, transphobia, discrimination and all forms of bullying. On this annual day in April, individuals wear pink to show respect for diversity and to demonstrate support for learning and working environments which are safe and inclusive of people from all different backgrounds.

IMPORTANT DATES

| Date | Event |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| April 7 | School Council Meeting 7pm |
| April 10 | OSSLT |
| April 11 | End of Semester 2, Term 1 |
| April 11 | Team & Club Photos 12:30-3:00 |

YEARBOOK

Photo day portraits will appear in the yearbook UNLESS the parent/18+ student contacts the principal in writing by May 30, 2025.

It's time to Pre-Order your Yearbook for this 2024-2025 School Year!

The Thornlea S.S. Yearbook is a hardcover color book of memories for the current school year!

It includes student photos, sports teams, student activities/events, and staff photos.

ORDER ONE TODAY so that you may remember the wonderful memories created here at Thornlea Secondary School.

THORNLEA SCHOOL COUNCIL



The School Council at Thornlea Secondary School invites parents to a learning event:

This free workshop is designed to promote family digital wellness by helping parents to better understand how students are using social networking.

Discover ways to help your children use social media technology wisely and avoid its negative effects.

Speaker Jennifer Casa-Todd is an innovative leader and educator who works with schools and organizations around the globe on literacy, digital wellness and technology-enabled learning.

Presented on behalf of MediaSmarts, Canada's centre for digital media literacy

Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Location: Thornlea Secondary School

Please RSVP using [this Google Form](#)



FlipGive

Love online shopping?

You can support Thornlea School Council by making purchases at your favorite online stores via FlipGive's website or buying gift cards to pay for your in-store purchases.



A percentage of your purchases will support our various events. Visit <https://shop.flipgive.com/onboarding/join> and enter code 5FLXC7 to join!

3rd Annual Career Night for Students

Our annual Career Night offers Thornlea students an excellent opportunity to explore various post-secondary and career pathways through insightful presentations from our parent/guardian volunteers. This event will take place at the school on the evening of **Thursday, May 22, 2025.**

We are looking for parents/guardians to share their career journey with our students on Career Night as a speaker. Please email us if you are interested: Thornlea.sc@gmail.com

Pitch Workshop @Thornlea

This week (on March 27th), Thornlea welcomed Ms. Karen O'Meara, a Community Connected Experiential Learning Consultant with YRDSB. She led an exciting Elevator Pitch Workshop for our business students in grade 10 to foster innovation, creativity, and to further help students develop problem solving, leadership, communication, and collaboration skills. The students were so enthusiastic and passionate to present their entrepreneurial ideas to their peers. The workshop proved to be a great experience for the students! The Elevator Pitch Workshop was a great platform for nurturing the students' innovative and entrepreneurial spirit. It was wonderful to see the students' efforts in action!

Presentation for Parents by Hong Fook

Hannah Xu from Hong Fook provided our Mandarin speaking parents with tips and strategies they can use to support their children's digital health. In her presentation on Wednesday, April 2, Hannah addressed youth stress and mental health, the negative effects of technology and social media, and how to communicate effectively with teenagers. She also provided specific information about where parents can go to seek support. This event was hosted by our ESL Department with representatives from International Education Services also attending. Feedback from parents was very positive, and we are already looking forward to inviting Hannah back to Thornlea.

To learn about the services provided by Hong Fook, please see below.

[Brief Counselling Services at Hong Fook](#)

Youth Ambassador Program

WHAT IS IT?
Hong Fook Mental Health Association is looking for passionate Asian-identifying youth leaders to promote mental health and issues facing the Asian community.

Youth Ambassadors will develop leadership skills by identifying pressing youth mental health needs and how they can be addressed through a series of workshop presentations in the community.

Volunteer Hours & Reference Provided!

WHY JOIN?

- Become a mental health ambassador at schools and in the community
- Develop public speaking and leadership experience
- Receive training from previous Youth Ambassadors

To Register
✉ hxu@hongfook.ca
Fill out the application form



WHO Asian-identifying youth ages 16-25
WHERE Virtual and in-person meetings
WHEN June 2025 - April 2026

HONG FOOK
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

Funded by
The Regional Municipality of York

York Region

IN-PERSON WALK IN COUNSELLING

First Come First Serve
No Appointment | No Health Card Needed
WEDNESDAYS 4 PM - 8 PM
LAST APPOINTMENT 6:30 PM
Limited walk-in spots available. Capacity may be reached before last registration.

| 1ST WEDNESDAY | 2ND WEDNESDAY | 3RD WEDNESDAY |
|---|--|--|
| MARKHAM 3621 Highway 7 E. Unit 301 | NORTH YORK 1751 Sheppard Ave. E. Ground Floor | NORTH YORK 1751 Sheppard Ave. E. Ground Floor |
| April 2, 2025 | April 9, 2025 | April 16, 2025 |
| MAY 7, 2025 | MAY 14, 2025 | MAY 21, 2025 |
| JUN 4, 2025 | JUN 11, 2025 | JUN 18, 2025 |
| JUL 2, 2025 | JUL 9, 2025 | JUL 16, 2025 |

Free Mental Health Counselling
Asian-identifying youth age 12 - 25 and their families

Counselling Available in: English, 普通话, 廣東話, 한국어
Mandarin Cantonese Korean

For more information, please call **647-534-8493** or email youthandfamily@hongfook.ca
Virtual counselling is still available. Please call or email to schedule.

HONG FOOK
MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
416-493-4242
www.hongfook.ca

TD Bank

Ontario
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

York Region

Experiential Learning - Grade 10 FI Business

Last week the Grade 10 Business FI students participated in another experiential learning activity taking on the role of a team of engineers hired by Canada's Wonderland to build a new roller coaster. Their task was to figure out how to make the roller coaster work within "Wonderland's guidelines" and using only the building materials provided. This engaging in-class activities allowed students to explore their own management styles and those of others, apply transferable skills such as collaboration and critical thinking and gain a bit of insight into project management with constraints such as time, budget and resources. Students thrived during this activity and showed off their creativity and an entrepreneurial mindset. - Mme Volfovsky



Thornlea Students Achieve High Ranking at Carnegie Mellon Competition

Thornlea's very own "Team YYZ" has ranked in the top 16.5% of the 10,460 international teams that participated in Carnegie Mellon University's PicoCTF (capture the flag) competition—a reflection of their steadfast ability and determination. Since the club just started this year and competing teams could have up to 5 members, the trio decided to dedicate an average of 15 hours each per student to this annual March Break competition. In this game, competitors must reverse-engineer, break, hack, decrypt, and think creatively and critically to solve the challenges and capture the digital flags, which earned Team YYZ a remarkable score of 1,535 points. Go, team!



Prom 2025



WELCOME TO THE PARTY

*"Your Prom -
the Great Night to Remember..."*

Save the Date: **Thursday, May 29th, 2025**

Ticket Price: \$110

(Purchase your Ticket on CashOnline)

Dress Code: Glam and Fancy 20s

*Photobooth with Instant Photos,
Great DJ Music,
Delicious Menu*

BOARD NEWS

Budget - YRDSB is inviting families, community members and staff to participate in the Board's **annual budget consultation** process. You can fill out the [online survey](#) before April 18 or take part in a virtual consultation on Monday, April 7, 2025. More information on how to join the virtual consultation is available on the YRDSB [website](#). We look forward to hearing from you.

Upcoming Information Session Presented by The Centre for Black Student Excellence

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

SCHOOL REMINDERS

Our main office is here to help you regarding student absences. Here are a few notes:
Edsby does not support absence reporting for high school students.

To report a student's absence, parents or guardians can either email thornleass.attendance@yrdsb.ca or call 905-889-9696.

When sending an email or leaving a message, please provide the following details:

- 1) Student Name (First & Last name)
- 2) Student #
- 3) Current Grade
- 4) Absent date and/or period
- 5) Reason

ANTICIPATED ABSENCE FORM

If your student will be absent 5 days or more, please come to the office to obtain the anticipated absence form. It must be completed by their teachers then signed by the parent. This form needs to be returned to the office BEFORE their absence.

USEFUL LINKS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ATTENDANCE CHANGE | <u>thornleass.attendance@yrdsb.ca</u> |
| CONTACT/TELEPHONE DATA CHANGE | <u>thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca</u> |
| STUDENT DATA ACCESS 18+ | <u>18+Student Consent Form</u> |
| SCHOOLCASH ONLINE | <u>SchoolCash Online</u> |
| THORNLEA SHOP | <u>Thornlea Merchandise</u> |

SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION UPDATE:

Registration for Summer School is online through myBlueprint starting **April 15**.

Summer School courses will take place between July 2 to July 25 for BOTH Online Learning Model and In-person Learning Model.

Online Learning Model

- designed to be taught in a fully online format
- classes occur online using an asynchronous model with synchronous check-in opportunities with the teacher
- flexible schedule (6 hours minimum per day)

In-person Learning Model

- classes take place in person at 1 of the summer school sites in YRDSB
- classes run from 8:45am to 3:33pm

Classes offered through both the Online Learning Model and In-person Learning Model will be available by the end of March.

The Guidance Team

Guidance Questions? Visit our [website](#)!