



Thornlea Secondary School

8075 Bayview Ave., Thornhill L3T 4N4
Phone: (905) 889-9696, (647) 795-7692

Bi-Weekly e-Bulletin

November 25, 2022

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 30	Full Disclosure
Dec. 1	OSSLT (Previously eligible)
Dec. 6	OSSLT (First Time eligible)
Dec. 24 - Jan. 8	Winter Break
Jan. 9, 2023	First Day back to school in 2023

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Meeting Time: 7:00pm
Meeting Location:
Library (across from the office)
& Online

Meeting Dates:
Tuesday Feb 21, 2022
Monday April 17, 2022

SCHOOL email:

thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

ATTENDANCE email:

thornleass.attendance@yrdsb.ca

CONTACT INFORMATION

CHANGE:

thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Thornlea Families;

Hope this letter finds you well. Here at Thornlea we have been preparing for the upcoming literacy test that will take place on December 1st for previously eligible students and December 6th for Grade students. This test is a graduation requirement and we wish our students the best of luck on the day.

We hope to send home a panoramic picture of the new mural next week that is now installed along the hallway into the gym. We want to thank our Head of technology Rob Belchevski for designing the mural, we have had a lot of positive reviews from our staff and students. With the colder weather we have now transitioned to winter sports. Girls' Volleyball and Boys' Basketball have now started.

A number of students and parents have asked when our cafeteria is opening. We still have not been given a date but I do not expect that we will open until after the New Year. I apologize for this delay. We have been told the delays are a result of the company that was awarded the contract is unable to hire staff.

Warmest regards,

Joe Foti

Thornlea Secondary School

Phone: (905) 889-9696, (647) 795-7692

Email: Thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

Principal

Joe Foti joe.foti@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principals

Victoria Johnson-Lee victoria.johnson-lee@yrdsb.ca (A-L)

Leonie Patrick leonie.patrick@yrdsb.ca (M-Z)



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THORNLEA SECONDARY SCHOOL

8075 Bayview Avenue Tel: 905.889.9696
Thornhill, ON L3T 4N4 Fax: 905.889.2991
Email: thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca Website: <http://thornlea.ss.yrdsb.ca>

Friday, November 25, 2022

Dear parents and guardians:

Re: Upcoming EQAO Assessment

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is administered by the Government of Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). This test is administered to determine whether students have acquired the minimum literacy skills expected in the Ontario Curriculum, up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of this literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

The fall administration of the OSSLT will take place on **Thursday, December 1** for all previously eligible students and on **Tuesday, December 6** for students in Grade 10. See chart below for a general overview of the assessment days.

Students who are not participating in the test will follow the regular school schedule and attend all classes as usual. Grade 10 students **not** participating in the December 6 OSSLT assessment are required to attend school and will engage in learning to build upon reading and writing skills in preparation for the next OSSLT assessment and complete any outstanding work.

The OSSLT assessment consists of two Sessions, A and B. Students will write Session A during period 1 and Session B during period 2. Extra time is available for all students.

Thursday, December 1, 2022

All previously eligible students (discussions would have happened with Ms. Rai to determine eligibility)

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

All Grade 10 Students (except those who have been deferred - deferral discussions would have happened with Ms. Rai)

8:45 - 10:00 OSSLT Session A

Break 10:00 - 10:15

10:15 - 11:25 OSSLT Session B

Lunch 11:25 - 12:25

12:30 - 1:45 Students not requiring extra time will attend their period 3 class

1:50 - 3:05 Students not requiring extra time will attend their period 4 class

Students have the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's [online practice test](#). For more information about EQAO and to view the full practice test, you are encouraged to visit EQAO's website www.eqao.com. You can also receive more information and support by contacting Lovleen Rai, lovleen.raai@yrdsb.ca.

Sincerely,

Joe Foti
Principal

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STUDENT MEDICAL FORMS:

[Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan](#)
[Asthma Health Care Plan](#)
[Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)
[Epilepsy Health Care Plan](#)
[Self Administration Of Medication](#)
[Staff Administration Of Medication](#)

YRDSB LINKS:

[What is De-Streaming](#)
[York Region Public Health](#)
[COVID-19 Mental Health](#)
[Resources for Students and Families](#)

USEFUL LINKS:

[YRDSB Website](#)
[Thornlea Website](#)
[Thornlea Calendar](#)
[Thornlea Instagram](#)
[York Region Public Health](#)

CLASSROOM CONNECTION



Message to our Grade 8 Community
To All Grade 8 Students,
The Arts and ACAM Program
The Arts and ACAM (Academy of Creativity and Multimedia) program with a potential package of up to TWELVE enrichment Arts, Drama, Music and Design courses for artistically talented students with a strong interest in Arts, Digital Media Design, ComTech Design, Performing Arts, Music and Photography.
The December 9 Deadline is Fast Approaching
WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR APPLICATIONS!!!
To Register for the ACAM Enrichment Program, use this Link: bit.ly/3tGW9Mx

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GUIDANCE NEWS

Important Notice for those grade 12's that have applied to, or are planning to apply to, OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) for University and OCAS (Ontario Colleges Application Services) for College.

Your mid-term grades from semester 1 have been processed by OUAC and OCAS and sent to the Universities and Colleges to which you have officially applied.

To date we currently have 15 students who have applied to an Ontario College and 60 students have applied to an Ontario University.

Please log on to your online application in order to review your academic information. This verification is especially important if OUAC/OCAS does not have a valid email address on file, or you are not able to receive emails from OUAC/OCAS or Universities/Colleges because of a junk-mail setting within your inbox.

If you see an error in your OUAC and/or OCAS file, it is very important that you contact your Guidance Counsellor as soon as possible to have it corrected.

Reminder: Equal Consideration Deadline for applications to Ontario Universities is January 12, 2023

Equal Consideration Deadline for applications to Ontario Colleges is February 1, 2023.

Your Guidance Team

Full Disclosure for Grade 11 and Grade 12 Courses For 2022/2023, the course withdrawal date (Full Disclosure) will be 5 instructional days after the mid-semester report is issued.

The Full Disclosure date for Grade 11 and Grade 12 courses is **November 30, 2022**. If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course prior to **November 30, 2022**, then the course will not be recorded on the Ontario Student transcript.

If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course after the Full Disclosure date, a withdrawal (W) is entered in the credit column, and the student's mark at the time of withdrawal will be recorded as a percentage in the achievement column of the transcript.

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Online Learning Graduation Requirement

Students are now required to earn two Online Learning credits to earn their OSSD, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. Meeting the Online Learning graduation requirement should not pose a barrier to graduation for students. **Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of the mandatory online courses required for graduation. Students aged 18 years of age or older or students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control can also opt out of the graduation requirement.**

Please read and return the attached completed form to Guidance to opt out. There is no disadvantage to opting out. The form is available in other languages if needed.

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Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt Out

About the Online Learning graduation requirement

Students are now required to earn two Online Learning credits to earn their OSSD, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with working and learning in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that will help prepare them for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

Meeting the Online Learning graduation requirement should not pose a barrier to graduation for students. As with all learning, students taking online courses will have access to the support they need through their school, (e.g., Individual Education Plans, guidance, and services for English-language learners).

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of the mandatory online courses required for graduation. Students aged 18 years of age or older or students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control can also opt out of the graduation requirement. Students and parents/guardians may opt back in to the Online Learning graduation requirement should their decision change.

I agree with the following statements:

- Having reviewed the Online Learning graduation requirement and the availability of support for Online Learning through my child's/my school, I would like to opt my child/myself out of this requirement.
- The benefits of Online Learning have been shared with me by the school, including how the development of digital literacy and other important transferable skills are intended to help prepare students for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

I understand the following statements:

- Upon receipt of this form by my child's school/my school, my child/I will not be required to earn two Online Learning credits to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- My child/I will face no academic penalties for opting out of this graduation requirement.
- My child/I will continue to complete all other applicable graduation requirements.
- This will be recorded on my child's/my transcript as "Online Learning Graduation Requirement - Non-Applicable".

If you do not wish to opt out, no action is required.

Students working towards other certificates (for example, the certificate of accomplishment or an Ontario Secondary School certificate) are not required to complete the Online Learning graduation requirement, yet may be encouraged to enroll in Online Learning courses to support the development of digital literacy and other important transferable skills that help prepare them for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt Out

I agree with the following statements:

- Having reviewed the Online Learning graduation requirement and the availability of support for Online Learning through my child's/my school, I would like to opt my child/myself out of this requirement.
- The benefits of Online Learning have been shared with me by the school, including how the development of digital literacy and other important transferable skills are intended to help prepare students for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

I understand the following statements:

- Upon receipt of this form by my child's school/my school, my child/I will not be required to earn two Online Learning credits to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- My child/I will face no academic penalties for opting out of this graduation requirement.
- My child/I will continue to complete all other applicable graduation requirements.
- This will be recorded on my child's/my transcript as "Online Learning Graduation Requirement - Non-Applicable".

Student's First Name

Student's Last Name

Parent/Guardian First Name
(if applicable)

Parent/Guardian Last Name
(if applicable)

Signature of Parent/Guardian or Student
Age 18 or Older, or Student who is 16 or 17
and has Withdrawn from Parental Control

Date

Please note:

Upon receipt, this form will be included in your child's/your Ontario Student Record.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Education Act and will be used to manage student records. Contact the school principal for more information.

Retain: Retirement + 5 years / shred

HANDWASHING REMINDERS

GermS can be spread through shared toys or other surfaces and when playing closely with others. Handwashing is one of the most important ways to stop the spread of germS. About 80% of common infectious diseases are transferred by hands alone. Teaching your children proper and timely hand hygiene, either by washing hands with soap and water or using hand sanitizer, is an easy and effective way to help stop the spread of illness. It is also important to remind children not to touch their face with unwashed hands.

Follow these simple tips to help your child wash away germS:

- Have your child sing the ABCs song for 15 seconds while scrubbing their hands with soap and water
- Hand sanitizer should only be used when hands are NOT visibly dirty, and soap and water are not available
- When hands are visibly dirty and soap and water are not available, use moistened towelettes followed by hand sanitizer
- Children should be supervised by an adult when using hand sanitizer
- **Remember to lead by example!**



This material is provided by York Region Public Health. For more information, visit york.ca/infectionprevention.

[This document has been prepared and approved by The Regional Municipality of York. We encourage you to share this information in your communications with families in its entirety. Any modification to wording or by reproducing it in part with other wording can alter the original meaning and may no longer be accurate.]

PUBLIC HEALTH

1-877-464-9675

TTY 1-866-512-6228

york.ca/infectionprevention

WHEN TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL

Children are in frequent contact with other individuals throughout the day. It's important to understand when it's safe to send your child to school to limit the spread of illnesses in these settings.

Parents should monitor for signs and symptoms of illness in their child to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. If children show signs and symptoms of illness they should stay home and not come to school. Signs and symptoms of illnesses may include:

- Vomiting
- Chills and fever
- Runny nose
- Diarrhea
- Sneezing
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Redness and irritation of the eye

If your child has developed **any** symptoms of illness (e.g., sore throat, cough, runny nose, fever, etc.), please consider staying at home and follow up with a health care provider as necessary.

For further information, please call Access York at 1-877-464-9675 or consult with a health care provider. For 24-hour support from a Registered Nurse on medical symptoms, please contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 or TTY: 1-866-797-0007 (for the deaf or hard of hearing).

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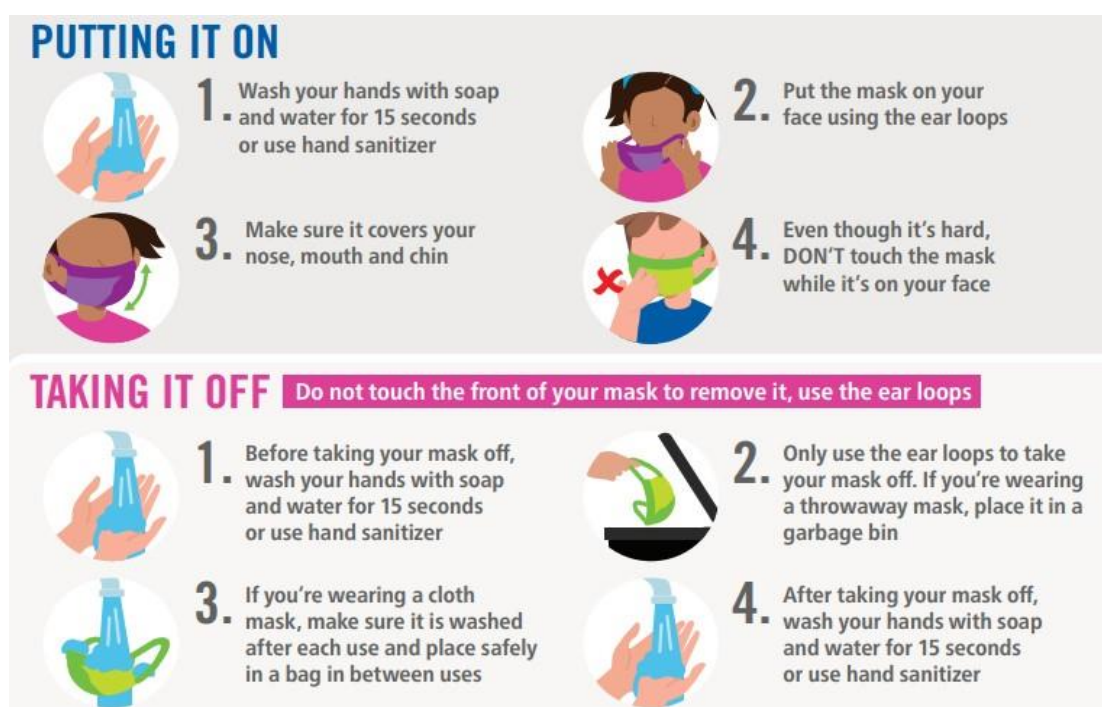
york.ca/infectionprevention



HOW TO PUT ON AND TAKE OFF YOUR FACE MASK

Face masks, when used safely and properly, can act as a barrier to prevent the spread of respiratory infections. While masks are no longer mandated, if students should opt to wear them, then please note the guidelines below for proper mask usage. Wearing a face mask should be combined with other infection prevention and control measures such as cleaning hands regularly, staying home when sick and coughing or sneezing into a mask, tissue, or sleeved elbow.

Teach your child these simple steps to safely put on and take off their face masks:



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HOW TO STORE YOUR FACE MASK

While masks are no longer mandated, if students should opt to wear them, then please note the guidelines below for proper mask storage. Face masks help to protect those around you by acting as a barrier to prevent the spread of respiratory infections. During the school day, children may remove their face mask for some activities such as consuming food and drink. It is important your child understands how to store their mask safely in between use.

Follow these simple tips to help your child safely use and store their face mask:

- Remind your child to wash their hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before and after removing their face mask
- Consider sending your child to school or child care with extra masks so they can be changed throughout the day if they become wet or dirty
- Have your child store their wet and dirty reusable mask in a labelled plastic bag until it can be washed
- Remind your child not to share or swap their face mask with others

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