



Thornlea Secondary School

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

Bi-Weekly e-Bulletin

June 06, 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

June 1	PROM - Chateau Le Parc
June 2	Luminary Awards 6pm
June 6	Athletic Banquet Crystal Fountain
June 14 June 15	EQAO Assessments
June 20 - June 26	Exam Week
June 27	Graduation - Parkview Manor

SCHOOL email:

thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

ATTENDANCE email:

thornleass.attendance@yrdsb.ca

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE:

thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

THORNLEA ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE



Dear Thornlea Families,

The last few weeks have been very busy at Thornlea. For many grade twelves the highlight of their year took place last Thursday with our Prom at the Chateau Le Parc. I would like to thank the students for a wonderful evening, everyone had a great time at Prom. A special thank you to the organizers of Prom Ms. Ceausu, Ms. Elliott and Ms. Smedzik and their army of student volunteers who planned the evening. On Friday we held our annual awards night for students in the arts. The evening also included several musical performance. The Luminary awards was put together by the student organizing committee and Mr. Belchevski. A special thank you to the Tech crew you provided the sound, lighting and staging for the event.

The school play opens tonight in Theatre 219 and there are still some tickets available. This year's production is Anne of Green Gables and it runs Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights. On Tuesday night we honor our student athletes with an athletic banquet that takes place at the Crystal Fountain. This Wednesday the Sr. Girl's Rugby team competes in the York Region Finals against Keswick High School. I would like to congratulate the team and their coach Ms. Bendavid for a great season.

Finally, I need to let you know about a change in Thornlea administration for September 2023. There will be a new principal next year. Paolo Burzese is an experienced High School principal and he has previously worked at Maple, Emily Carr and Stephen Lewis Secondary Schools. He will be visiting Thornlea on Wednesday saying hello to staff and students. I will be transferring to Richmond Green next year as principal. I have had the privilege of being the principal at Thornlea since November of 2014 and it has been the most rewarding experience of my professional career. I have had opportunity to work with wonderful staff and students and I will miss the daily interactions with our students and staff. I wish the entire Thornlea community nothing but the best moving forward.

Warmest regards,

Joe Foti

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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](#)
[18+ Consent Form](#)
[York Region Public Health](#)

MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE

June 2023

Dear families,

As we approach the end of the school year and the start of the summer break, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for helping to make this school year a positive one. This is our first school year since 2018-2019 that has not been interrupted by closures as a result of COVID-19, and it has been such a pleasure to visit schools and school events over the past few months and see students, staff and families connecting and learning together.

I think it's important to acknowledge the effect the pandemic has had on students; and we have made it a priority to put supports in place for student learning, achievement, mental health and well-being. We also continue to work hard to create safe, inclusive and caring learning environments where our students know and feel that they matter and belong.

June is also a time when we look ahead to transitions - students moving ahead to new grades, new schools and new adventures. Thank you to the school staff who support students through these transitions. Congratulations to all of our graduating students moving on to secondary school or post-secondary pathways. We are so proud of all that you have achieved, class of 2023, and wish you all the very best in what comes next.

I also want to acknowledge all that you have done, as family members, to support your child and our schools - whether that's asking your child about their learning, communicating with their educators, attending school events, reading the information that comes home from the school, sharing feedback, completing surveys, tracking down library books, volunteering on field trips and in the classroom, participating in school councils, and so much more. We are grateful for all of the ways you support your child's learning and our public education system.

Communicating with families remains an important priority for us. I have had the pleasure of meeting and connecting with many families throughout the school year and appreciate how important it is that we remain connected to you. In addition to communication from your child's school, there are also many ways you can stay connected with what is happening in the Board, including our [newsroom](#),

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[Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [award-winning podcast](#). We were also very pleased to launch this year the [Centre for Black Student Excellence Mailing List](#) for families looking to receive information directly related to supporting Black students, celebrating Black excellence and dismantling anti-Black racism.

As we approach the summer, we look forward to welcoming students who will be participating in our variety of [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) summer learning programs. I wish everyone a happy, safe and restful summer break.

Jenny Chen

Trustee, Markham Wards 1 and 8

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INDIGENOUS TRUSTEE GREETING

June 2023

Aaniin (Hello), I am Indigenous Trustee for the York Region District School Board and a member of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, the only First Nation in York Region and one you may recognize YRDSB acknowledging as their “partner in education” when providing land acknowledgements.

I would like to offer greetings for the month of June, the month when we recognize and celebrate the Indigenous People of Canada, our unique status as Canadians, our history on this land and our many significant contributions. In 1996, Governor General Romeo LeBlanc declared June 21 as National Aboriginal Peoples Day. He said, “On June 21st, this year and every year, Canada will honour the native peoples who first brought humanity to this great land.” In 2017, the name was formally changed, and we now recognize this day as National Indigenous Peoples Day.

June 21 was chosen because it is summer solstice, a time of spiritual significance for Indigenous people. It is a time when the sun is at the highest point in the sky and we experience the longest day of the year, and the most amount of daylight. This is considered powerful medicine and is a time for practicing ceremonies that honour our interconnection with the land and the cosmos.

The Anishinaabe also recognize June as the month of the Strawberry moon, Ode’min Giizis. The beautiful red heart shaped strawberry offers us the teaching of reconciliation and forgiveness. It is the first berry of the season that brings us that sweetness for life. June offers us many special gifts and much to be grateful for.

People ask what they can do to celebrate Indigenous People Day and as Canadians support Indigenous people in Canada?

We can build our awareness by reading Indigenous books, listening to Indigenous podcasts, and attending Indigenous events. We can create positive change and promote public awareness by lending our support to Indigenous issues. We can also offer land acknowledgements as we do at the beginning of meetings and events in the YRDSB.

However, I believe most importantly to Indigenous people across this planet is to recognize our right to reclaim and practice our Indigenous languages and the important significance of the earth under our feet. Our traditional knowledge and



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our cultures exist in our languages and without the opportunity to learn them in our schools and speak them in our communities much of our ancestral knowledge will be lost forever.

Further, recognizing Indigenous relationship with the land and taking the time to build land awareness and connection is imperative. We must practice environmental stewardship and protect our greenspaces. Walk in nature, plant, or hug a tree, help a turtle across the road, sing to the water, just be with the land. It does little to offer a land acknowledgement if we do not acknowledge the earth on which we live. The earth is our mother, this is why we call her “Mother Earth” in our Anishinaabe creation stories. We are extrinsically interconnected; without her we would not exist. As her children we must care for her and protect her. Stand with Indigenous people by honouring her, this is the most important land acknowledgement you can give.

Chi-Miigwech and Happy Indigenous People’s Day!

Your Indigenous Trustee, Lauri Hoeg

This is a good [resource and activity guide for students](#)

https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/DAM/DAM-CIRNAC-RCAANC/DAM-PPLCOM/STAGING/texte-text/nIPD_activity_guide_2018_1528380426091_eng.pdf

Wellness Fair - May 25th



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CLASSROOM CONNECTION

June Exams

→ Do you have exams this semester? Take a look at this [Exam Preparation Slideshow](#) for information and tips to help you study.

Exams will occur in some courses during the Exam/Culminating Week on the School Website Calendar which is Tuesday, June 20 - Tuesday, June 27, 2023. These dates are published early in the school year to assist families with planning as students are expected to be available. Planned absences (e.g., family vacations/trips, summer camp/employment, etc.) are not considered valid reasons to miss exams and should be planned outside of the published exam period. Please see the exam schedule organized by period below:

Tuesday, June 20 – Period 4 Exams (Gr 12 courses only) - 12:00 pm

Wednesday, June 21 – Period 1 Exams (Grade 9-12 courses) - 9:00 am

Thursday, June 22 – Period 2 Exams (Grade 9-12 courses) - 9:00 am

Friday, June 23 – Period 3 Exams (Grade 9-12 courses) - 9:00 am

Monday, June 26 – Period 4 Exams (Grade 9-11 courses only) - 9:00 am

Tuesday, June 27 - Exam / Culminating Activities

Wednesday, June 28 - Exam/Marks Review Day - see below for schedule

Wellness Fair - May 25th





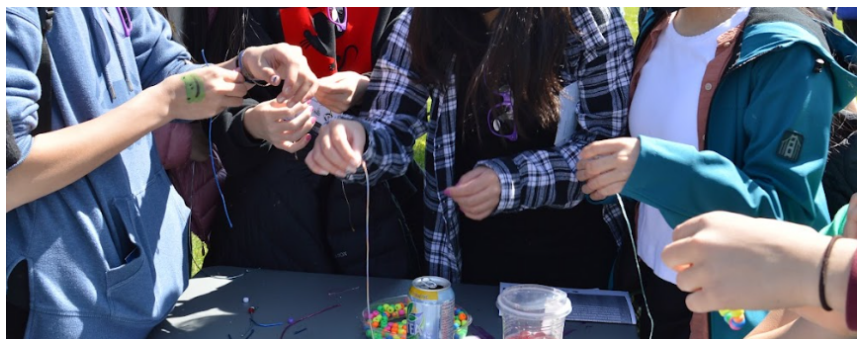
Exam/Marks Review Day - Wednesday, June 28

There will be a Special Schedule on Wednesday, June 28 for Marks/Exam Review Day. Class time will be used for providing feedback on exams and/or culminating activities. In the afternoon, teachers will be available to support students as needed on an individual basis.

Exam/Marks Review Day - Wednesday, June 28

Time	
8:50-9:25	Period 1 Exam/Marks Review
9:30-10:05	Period 2 Exam/Marks Review
10:10-10:45	Period 3 Exam/Marks Review
10:50-11:25	Period 4 Exam/Marks Review
11:25-12:30	Lunch
12:30-3:05	Individual Meetings/Support with Teachers

Wellness Fair - May 25th





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THORNLEA DRAMA PRESENTS:

**THORNLEA SS DRAMA CLUB
PRESENTS:**

A PLAY ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL OF L.M. MONTGOMERY

*Anne of Green
Gables*

DRAMA CLUB
THORNLEA
SECONDARY
SCHOOL

ROOM 219
TICKETS: 8\$ ON CASH ONLINE OR AT THE DOOR
SHOWTIME STARTS AT 6:30PM-8:30PM
INTERMISSION WILL BE INCLUDED

SHOWTIMES: JUNE 5/7/8/9

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Anne of Green Gables

Location: Thornlea Secondary School (Room 219 - Drama Room)

Length Time: 2 hours (including an intermission)

Ticket Prices: 8\$ at the door OR on school cash online

Doors open: 6:00pm

Start Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm

School cash online links are attached below:

June 5 - <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/253468/72/False/True>

June 7 - <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/261985/72/False/True>

June 8 - <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/261993/72/False/True>

June 9 - <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/261995/72/False/True>

We hope to see you there!

Ms. Bern

LTO History, Civics/Careers & Drama

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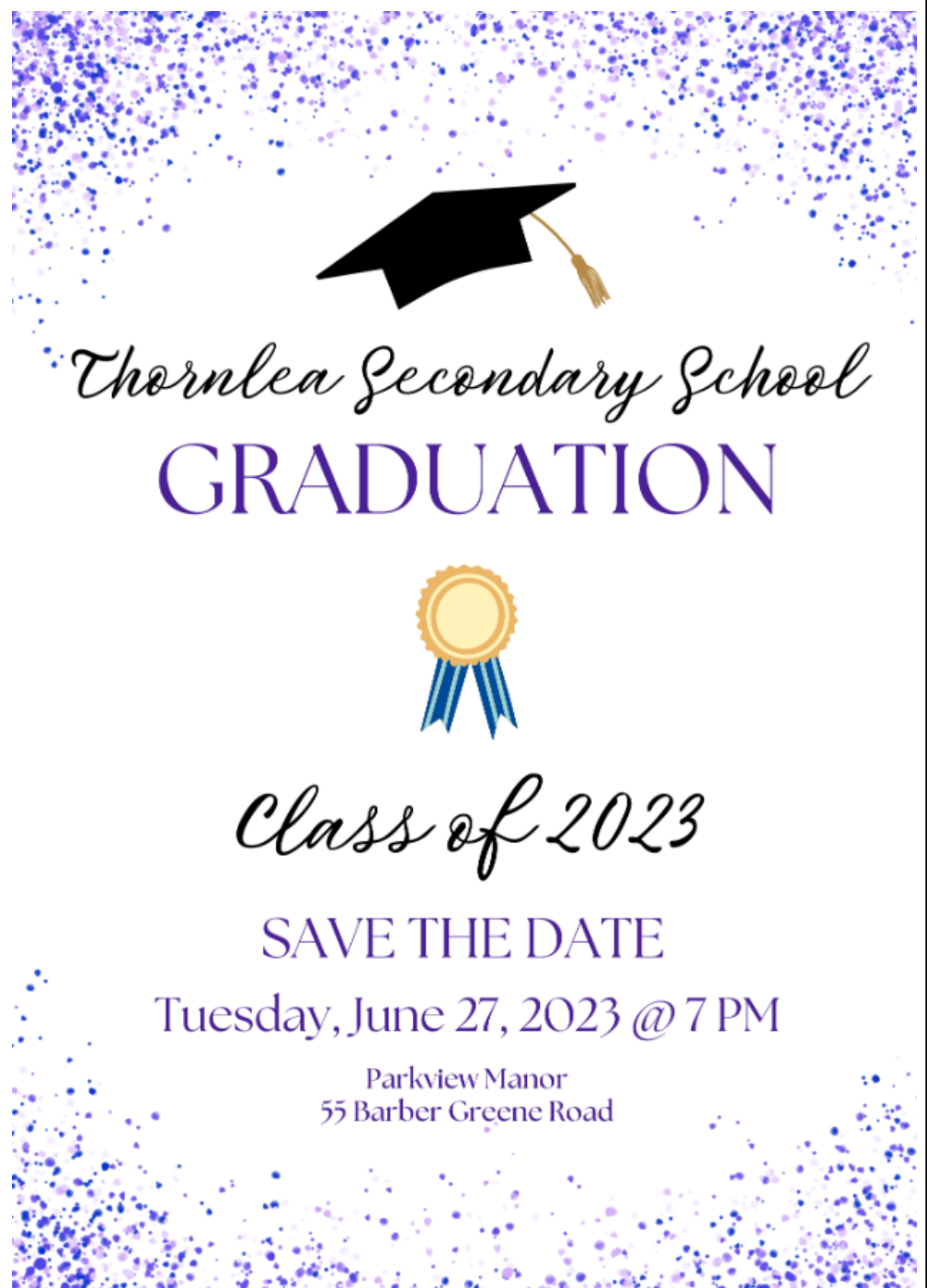


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Dear Amanda, Staff and Students of Thornhill Secondary School,

On behalf of the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank, I would like to thank you for the invitation to attend Thornlea's Annual Wellness Fair on May 25th, 2023. Our two volunteers Chuck Eisen and Demir Esner were very happy with the location allocated to our food bank van and as a result we received many food donations.

Our Food Bank currently serves over 2800 people each month, which is continuing to rise as each month passes. The demand to provide food to meet this need has become increasingly challenging and without the kind support of donors such as the staff and students at Thornlea SS, the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank would not be able to meet this urgent community need.

Thank you for taking the initiative to help your community and for partnering with us to provide urgently needed assistance to those in need.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lee Reynolds

General Manager / Richmond Hill Community Food Bank

(905) 508-4761 / rhfoodbank@bellnet.ca

Munchlea - May 31st



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The Secondary School Year Calendar 2023-2024

The Secondary School Year Calendar has been approved for the 2023-2024 school year. The calendar is shared early to help you plan your family holidays and appointments around your child's learning. Students are expected to attend school on all instructional and exam days.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/school-year-calendar>

YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

ALL REGULAR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

[Except Bill Crothers SS, Keswick HS, Maple HS, Markville SS and Sutton District HS]

Legend	
B	Board Holiday
S	Secondary Professional Activity Day
E/S	Elementary/Secondary Professional Activity Day
EX	Exam Days
M	Mandatory Holidays (Labour Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Family Day, March Break, Easter, Victoria Day)

Holidays		
Labour Day	September	4
Thanksgiving	October	9
Winter Break	Dec 25/23-Jan 5/24	
Family Day	February	19
March Break	March 11 - 15	
Good Friday	March	29
Easter Monday	April	1
Victoria Day	May	20

Semester 1:
Term 1 -
Sept 5-Nov 8/23
Term 2 -
Nov 9/23-Feb 2/24
Semester 2:
Term 1 -
Feb 5-Apr 15/24
Term 2 -
Apr 16-Jun 28/24

Month	No. of Instruct. Days	No. of PA Days	1ST WEEK					2ND WEEK					3RD WEEK					4TH WEEK					5TH WEEK				
			M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
September	18	1						4 M	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22 E/S	25	26	27	28	29
October	20	1	2	3	4	5	6	9 M	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20 E/S	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
November	21	1			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16 E/S	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
December	16	0					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25 M	26 M	27 B	28 B	29 B
January	18	0	1 M	2 B	3 B	4 B	5 B	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25 EX	26 EX	29 EX	30 EX	31 EX		
February	19	1				1	2 E/S	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19 M	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	
March	15	0					1	4	5	6	7	8	11 B	12 B	13 B	14 B	15 B	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29 M
April	21	0	1 M	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			
May	21	1			1	2	3	6 S	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20 M	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31
June	18	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19 EX	20 EX	21 EX	24 EX	25 EX	26	27 S	28 E/S					
TOTALS	187	7																									

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Promoting Racial Literacy in Schools Differences That Make A Difference with Dr. Howard C. Stevenson



**Monday June 19, 2023
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Virtual Event**

Parents/guardians and students are invited to attend a virtual workshop with Dr. Howard C. Stevenson, author of Promoting Racial Literacy in Schools: Differences That Make a Difference.

Join the conversation on how to help children learn healthier ways to resolve racial stress.

All participants in this FREE workshop must RSVP using the link below.



[Register here](#)

Presented by Inclusive School and Community Services

Workshop funded through the
Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant



**PROMOTING
RACIAL LITERACY
IN SCHOOLS**

Differences
That Make a
Difference



HOWARD C. STEVENSON

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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GUIDANCE NEWS

2023 Secondary Summer School - Registration opens April 11 - please see the two links below for all the details.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/summer-learning-opportunities>

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/summer-learning-opportunities/secondary-summer-school/2023>

To register for a summer school course, you will need to login into your My Pathway Planner (also known as MyBlueprint).

Once you are in the Planner, you will need to:

Click on the "Continuing Education" button in the left-hand navigation menu

Click on "Explore Courses" button

Review the course options that are available.

Click the "submit course" button for the course you would like to take in summer school. **The closest "in-person" location to Thornlea S.S. is: Richmond Green S.S.**

Your Guidance Counselor will review your course selection for summer school once you either drop off the signed Sign Off form at the Guidance office or an email from a parent/guardian (using the email that is on school file) that they approve your summer school course selection. Once approved, you will see the word "Approved" beside the course you selected. I hope this helps.

Munchlea - May 31st



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The Guidance Team

J. Muench (Guidance Secretary) joanne.muench@yrdsb.ca	Student Surname
N. Alkins (Head of Guidance) nizam.alkins@yrdsb.ca	A - LEE
L. Rai lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca	LEI - SUN
A. Tse andrea.tse@yrdsb.ca	SUS - Z

[Thornlea Guidance Webpage](#)

[Grade 12 Guidance Google Classroom](#) contains all the latest news and information.

Communication between School and Home

Parents/guardians are our most important partners in educating children.

We communicate with you in a variety of ways throughout the year. It is important that the school has your correct contact information.

Please contact the school if your contact information has changed/changes throughout the school year via emailing: thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

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PARENTING STRATEGIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SUMMER BREAK!

Let's talk about it!


Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.

June 13, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend this virtual session!

This session will focus on how to ensure a safe and engaging environment for children with strategies to:

- how parents may get “trapped” in escalations and power struggles;
- understanding various traps ways to avoid these traps and develop age appropriate and do-able strategies; and
- how parents can have a successful, stress free summer break

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families 

[Register Today!](#)

This free parent presentation is brought to you in a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families.

For more information contact:
Oksana Majaski, Community & Partnership Developer, YRDSB
Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

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