

Thornlea SS



**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY**

February 12, 2021

Principal: Joe Foti

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos

Inside this Edition.....

Message from our Administration	3
Message from the Guidance Team	4-6
Upcoming Events	7
Parents' Corner	8

Happy Family Day!
Stay well, stay safe!

Message from the Administration

Dear Families and Community Members,

Semester 2 has begun and we look forward to receiving our students back in the school building on February 16th.

Update Course Requests

The Guidance Department has worked through many course requests and contacted most students with updates. If there are still outstanding concerns, students can schedule an appointment with their alpha guidance counselor:

Mr. Alkins	A-KEB
Ms. Rai	KEL-TAY
Ms. Estafanos	TEL-Z

Semester 1 Final Report Cards

Semester one final report cards will be emailed to student GAPPs accounts between February 11-16.

Course Selection 2021-2022

Over the next couple of weeks, our Guidance Department will be offering after school workshops to help students select courses for the following school year. Please consult the Guidance section in this bulletin for additional information.

School Council

On February 16, at 7pm, please join us for our virtual School Council Meeting. Tamara Gord, our Head of Special Education, will host a workshop on supporting your child in an online learning environment. A meet link will be sent in a separate email.

Cohorts

Our Guidance Department has updated student cohorts throughout the week. This has resulted in changes to student groupings. Please ask your child to verify his/her cohort for Period 1 in TeachAssist prior to coming to school on Tuesday February 16. Cohorts will be updated one week prior to each rotation.

With Family Day upon us, we would like to wish all families a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Wishing all students a successful semester!

Sincerely,

Joe Foti and Sofia Papadatos

Message from your Guidance Team

GUIDANCE UPDATE

Greetings from the Guidance Department! The team has been working hard to provide students with timetable request changes for 2nd semester. We reviewed hundreds of student request changes and tried our best to support individual student requests during these challenging times.

Guidance Team for Semester 2

For semester 2, the Guidance Team consists of the following members:

Mrs. Gail Burdett (Guidance Secretary) Ext 207

gail.burdett@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance (Counselor A to KEB) Ext 330

nizam.alkins@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Lovleen Rai (Counselor KEL to TAY) Ext 258

lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Viviane Estafanos (Counselor TEL to Z) Ext 251

viviane.estafanos@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Andrea Tse (ELL student success support) Ext 259

andrea.tse@yrdsb.ca

Guidance Appointments

If students need to make a guidance appointment, please ask them to complete this [link](#). They can request an appointment with their alpha counsellor.

Course Selection Process 2021-2022

The Course Selection process for next year will begin on Monday February 16th at 9:00 AM and will close on Wednesday Feb. 24th at 4:00 PM.

After students have selected their courses, they must click SUBMIT, then PRINT. Printed forms must be SIGNED by a parent/guardian. Students must email signed form to their Guidance Counselor on Feb. 25th or Feb. 26th.

To assist students with the course selection process, we are offering virtual presentations. The virtual presentations will take place on the following dates. A Zoom meet link will be sent to student school gapps account/email.

Please make sure your child joins these presentations. Important information will be shared as it relates to selecting courses for next year.

Tuesday Feb. 8	Grade 9's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)
Wednesday Feb. 9	Grade 10's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)
Thursday Feb. 10	Grade 11's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)
Friday Feb. 11	Grade 12's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)

A **repeat** and live presentation will occur on:

Tuesday Feb. 16	Grade 9's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)
Wednesday Feb. 17	Grade 10's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)
Thursday Feb. 18	Grade 11's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)
Friday Feb. 19	Grade 12's (3:25 to 4:00 PM)

Guidance looks forward to supporting our students during this very important time.

Guidance Google Classroom

If your child has not joined our Grade-specific Guidance Google Classrooms, please ensure they join via:

Please note that the "equal consideration" deadline has passed (Feb. 1st), **but students can still apply**.

The Guidance Team has already conducted two virtual seminars to review college application details. If you need further assistance, please email your counselor.

Final marks will be automatically sent to Ontario Universities and Colleges from the School.

The next OUAC University grades transmission is scheduled for February 11th, 2021.

The next OCAS College grades transmission is scheduled for February 11th, 2021.

Important Notice: For all grade 12's that have applied to OUAC for university and OCAS for College.

Your grades from semester one have been processed on Feb. 11th by OUAC and OCAS and sent to the Universities and Colleges to which you have applied. Please log on to your online application in order to review your academic information. This verification is especially important if OUAC does not have a valid email address on file, or you are not able to receive emails from OUAC/your Universities because of a junk-mail setting with your inbox. If you see an error in your OUAC file, it is very important that you contact your Guidance Counsellor as soon as possible to have it corrected.

Community Service Hours

We would also like to remind our learning community that there is a process in place for Community Service Hours. All students must complete 40 community hours to obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The Guidance department must approve your community service opportunity before you start your hours. Please see your counselor for pre-approval. It should be at a Not-For-Profit organization.

A reminder to all grade 12 students; that they should hand in their community service hours ASAP. Before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission, if possible.

Other YRDSB credit options:

Night School Course registration has started, if interested please see link below:

www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Night-School-Credit-Courses.aspx

Night School E-Learning Course registration has started – register on-line today. (Note: Only if you have 3 or less courses on your Timetable or had a spare in semester 1)

www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Winter-Catalog.aspx

On behalf our Guidance Team, best of luck this semester!

Sincerely,

Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education

Upcoming Events



February 15

Family Day (no school)

February 16

**Adaptive students
back to school**

February 17

**COHORT A
COHORT B**

February 16

School Council Meeting

April 2

Good Friday (no school)

April 5

Easter Monday (no school)

April 12-16

Spring Break

April 19

School Council Meeting

May 17

School Council Meeting

Parents' Corner:

Parents' School Council 2020-2021, 7:00PM

Our meetings will be virtual meetings until further notice. A link will be sent the week before the meeting.



Please mark your calendar.

➤ **February 16th 2021**

- Tamara Gord, Head of Special Education, to present a webinar to parents on how to best support their child in the online learning environment. Followed by Q&A.

➤ **April 19th, 2021**

- Dr. Bernardini: Teen stress and anxiety presentation.]

➤ **May 17th, 2021 TBD**

TBD: We'll provide the topics as soon as they are available.

*From: Geneviève Seabrook
Chair of Parents' Council*