

Thornlea SS



March 26, 2021

Principal: Joe Foti

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos

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Message from the Administration

Dear Families and Community Members,

We have entered Rotation #4 and are nearing the midway point of Semester 2. A reminder that Feedback Days are scheduled at the end of each rotation and prior to a new rotation. During the Feedback Days, students attend all classes online for the morning block; 35 min classes, both cohorts. The afternoon portion is asynchronous. Teachers may connect individually with students and families for targeted student needs, supports and/or feedback.

Our virtual Parent/Teacher Interviews took place on Thursday March 25. If you did not have the opportunity to connect with your child's teachers, please contact them via email to set up an alternate time.

Presently, we have a handful of virtual clubs running at Thornlea and we encourage our students to take part. It is a great opportunity to connect with other students and staff outside of the school setting. For information on the various clubs, please follow our school's official IG account @thornleayrdsb.

On Wednesday March 31 and Thursday April 1, Thornlea's Wellness Initiative Council (TWIC) is hosting some fun events. Please join them for their monthly *Virtual Coffee House* and *Mindfulness Egg and Matza Hunt*. To find out more information, please check out TWIC's IG account.

We are pleased to share some news: two Thornlea Students are semi-finalists in the People's Choice Awards, a national poetry competition. Congratulations to Ingrid Qin and Naomi Varnovitski for making it this far and to Mr. Capilongo and Ms. Pilaram for supporting our students in this process. Ingrid and Naomi are among 42 national, semi-finalists competing in this bilingual competition. To learn more information and vote, please click on this link: <https://www.poetryinvoice.com/peoples-choice>
<https://www.lesvoixdelapoesie.com/choix-du-public>

Some important dates looking ahead:

April 8-Semester 2, Term 2 begins (changeover Career/Civics)

April 2-Good Friday

April 12-16-April Break

April 22-The OCAS and OUAC uploads occur.

To those celebrating Easter and Passover, we would like to extend our best wishes.

Thank-you,

Joe Foti and Sofia Papadatos

Our team has been extremely busy with providing our students with their course request verification sheets for next year. Please make sure your child has submitted a signed course selection verification form if they would like to request a change.

Reminder: It will be very difficult after March 29th to make any new changes for next year's timetable.

The Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) deadline has now passed. We wish them all the best and will continue to answer their questions on the University selection process. The next marks transmission for OUAC will be on **April 25th**. More conditional offers will usually be given by May 10th. The last day Ontario Universities might give out conditional offers is: May 29th

Guidance will continue to monitor and support the College application process. No PinCodes are distributed for College Applications; students will create their own on-line at www.ontariocolleges.ca. Please note that the "equal consideration" deadline has passed (Feb. 1st), **but students can still apply**. The next marks transmission for OCAS will be on **April 25th**.

Guidance already offered a College application seminar. If you need further assistance please see Ms. Lovleen Rai in the Guidance Office.

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 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 you 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.

College and University Spring Open Houses are a popular way for prospective students to visit various Post-Secondary Institutions and evaluate them prior to applying and/or choosing. It is never too early to begin the search. The Guidance Department encourages all students, especially in grades 11 and 12 to attend the open house program of any potential future University/College. Please visit the University/College website to confirm Open House schedules during March Break. Spaces can be limited.

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. There are still approximately 45 of you that must submit their hours before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission.

Special Announcement: see below

Attention Grade 12 students, you may request Part-Time Status starting on Monday April 8th. Please come to the guidance office to pick up a drop request form. This form must be completed and handed in by Friday April 26th 3:00 PM. The Full Disclosure date is Thursday May 2nd, after that date, the mark will be recorded permanently on their official transcript.

Summer School Registration Information

Registration is open on Monday April 1st – register on-line in your myPathway Planner (myBlueprint) account, get your sheet signed by a parent/guardian and hand it in to your guidance counselor asap.

For summer school details:

Copy and paste this link:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Secondary-School-Summer.aspx>

Summer School E-Learning Information

Registration is open on Friday April 5th – register on-line

For details copy and paste this link:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Summer%20School%20e-Learning.aspx>

Attention all ESL students, if you are interested in taking ESLB, ESLC, ESLD, ELSE for CREDIT this summer with the YRDSB. Please register in your **myPathway Planner (myBlueprint)** account.

Attention all grade 9 French Immersion students – there will be a possible summer course in grade 10 academic history for French Immersion students offered at Pierre Elliot Trudeau – coded CHC2DF (no YRDSB transportation offered to this location). Go on **myPathway Planner (myBlueprint)** to register – starting April 1st.

Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education

A guide for Ontario high school students applying to **Ontario's Universities**

**I've applied to an
Ontario university...**

What's next?

**Need help responding to your
offer of admission?**



Application Guide

Read the complete guide for reviewing your application and responding to an offer.



How-to Videos

Watch tutorials to guide you through responding to your offer of admission.

For these resources and more,
visit the OUAC website:

www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-101

**Get to know Ontario's
universities.
Anywhere. Anytime.**

- Take virtual tours
- Attend virtual events
- Connect with university representatives
- View webinars
- Access other online resources



NEW on OUInfo: Upcoming Events

Check out the OUInfo website for information on spring events. Universities offer many March and spring break events, tours and webinars to help you make a more informed decision about your future.

Dates to Remember

**MAY
27
2021**

Last day you can expect a response from an Ontario university if you applied by the January 15 deadline.

**JUN
1
2021**

The earliest day you may be required to respond to an offer and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration or residence deposit, etc.).

Other Important Dates

Other Resources

- [Need help transitioning to university?](#) View a list of resources available for students who seek additional help with transitioning to university.
- [Future Further: Ontario Universities' Indigenous Student Resource Portal](#)
- [Transition Resource Guide for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Accessibility at the OUAC:](#) View our list of accessibility resources for Ontario universities, including how to request an accessible format.
- [Ontario Student Assistance Program \(OSAP\)](#)
- [Collaborative University and College Programs](#)
- [Contact the OUAC | Links to Ontario universities](#)

Future Majority opportunity for leaders in Markham

Although the City of Markham's Recreation volunteer positions are still suspended, there are other opportunities to participate in the community. See below for a Future Majority opportunities. Any questions can be direct to the contacts below:

Future Majority is recruiting volunteer *Riding Team Fellows* for young leaders (ages 16-38) in Markham.

Applications submitted after March 22nd may be considered on a rolling basis and anyone interested is encouraged to apply immediately.

Learn more and apply here

[Markham-Stouffville](#)

[Markham-Unionville](#)

What is it? Fellows will gain employable leadership skills, build digital communities with like-minded peers, and make a difference on issues that matter to young Canadians by putting them at the centre of the political agenda. This campaign will be centred on mental health, which we know is a concern for young people across Markham. As the largest voting bloc in the country, youth have the power to make a change by organizing together!

[Future Majority](#) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that organizes young people to vote in ridings across the country to unite the voice of youth and put youth priorities at the centre of Canadian politics.

APPLY ASAP! Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. If you're unsure if you can make the commitment, apply and FM's team will work with you to support you in whatever contribution you can make.

FORWARD this email to your friends and networks! We're looking for hardworking, passionate individuals who are interested in growing their skills, building community, and making a difference in Markham.

FOLLOW Future Majority on Instagram!

[@markhamstouffvillevotefuture](#)

[@futuremajorityunionville](#)

QUESTIONS? Contact one of our friendly Field Organizers!

Markham-Stouffville: Jon Yazer, jon@futuremajority.ca

Markham-Unionville: Sonam Vashisth, sonam@futuremajority.ca

Upcoming Events



March 31

Wellness Coffee House

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

May 24

Victoria Day (no school)

June 29-30

PA Day

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.

➤ **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*

NEWS FROM ARTS DEPARTMENT



Celebrating our Student's Success:

Brandon Baghaee graduated from Thornlea last year. He is currently studying at OCAD and he is actively involved in student life and in his College's community. Last November, he displayed his beautiful Portraits collection "Celebrating Black" at the Toronto Exhibition. This year, he was commissioned by Toronto City Council to paint large format portrait paintings for Black History Month. These paintings are now being displayed at 53 ice rinks in Toronto, including Toronto City Hall! We are all very proud of Brandon's accomplishments and his willingness to give back to our community. It is amazing to see how he can touch many people's lives through the power of his Art. We are celebrating Brandon's success and looking forward to seeing more of his amazing artworks soon. Bravo, Brandon!



NEWS FROM ARTS DEPARTMENT

Happy Nowruz!



Celebrating Nowruz with Aga Khan

Museum: Choreographer Sashar Zarif's new virtual performance for the Museum is an unabashed celebration of spring — and a bold expression of hope for a better post-COVID-19 future.

Re/Turning by Sashar Zarif:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrFjqt5bZC4>

Re/turning is a ritual dance story inspired by Nowruz and developed in collaboration with hybrid-media designer Luke Garwood. With Zarif and his artistic collaborators as your guides, go on a journey toward rebirth, from winter to spring, regeneration to awakening.

Attention, all Arts students: The Applied Arts Awards:

<https://www.appliedartsmag.com/awards/>

2021 STUDENT AWARDS

WATCH YOUR CAREER TAKE OFF

Go ahead and aspire to career stardom. Because nothing gives your career prospects a boost like winning awards.

Whether you're aiming to be an Animator, Art Director, Cinematographer, Creative Director, Digital Designer, Editorial Designer, Environmental Designer, Graphic Designer, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, Motion Designer, Photographer, Type Designer, UX Designer... or any of the myriad of careers available in visual communications, we've got a whole group of your future leaders.



Oxidation Theatre & CRC Arts - 21 Black Futures Short Films

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Frederick Douglass' "What is the Good of Education?" The current question is: the future of the world and the future of the world with 21 Black Futures Short Films. The current question is: the future of the world and the future of the world with 21 Black Futures Short Films.

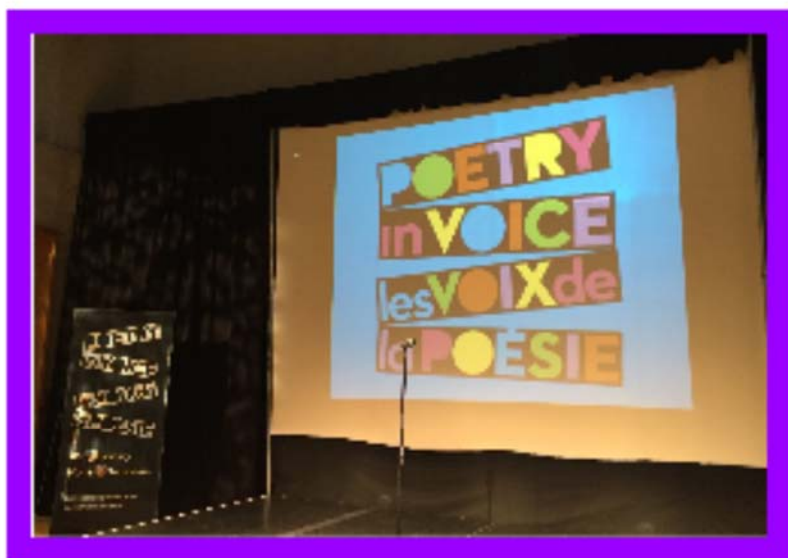
<https://www.oxi.ca/21-black-futures/season-1/>



Poetry is Alive and Well at Thornlea Secondary School

During these challenging times poetry is one of the most wonderful things to help keep us positive. At Thornlea we are doing what we can do to keep poetry alive and help our students feel good.

Poetry is being taught in our English classes and last month our Grade 12 Writer's Craft class had a two day class visit by award-winning poet, *Doyali Islam*. The student's enjoyed hearing about her writing journey and getting tips for their own writing.



Our Poetry in Voice Team was able to meet and practice poetry recitations to prepare for the Regional and the Senior Online National competitions.

We are proud to announce that two of our students, Ingrid (English Division) and Naomi (Bilingual Division), qualified for the Senior Online National Semifinals out of thousands of schools. Our English team won **second place** and our French team won **third place** in the 2021 Eastern Ontario Online Team Regionals.

Ingrid and Naomi were also selected for the *People's Choice Awards* which is an online voting competition.

Please vote for them here:

<https://www.poetryinvoice.com/peoples-choice>

and here: <https://www.lesvoixdelapoesie.com/peoples-choice>

Congratulations to all the team members and a big thank you to the coaches,

Mr. Domenico Capilongo (English) & Ms. Neda Pilaram (French)

Twic presents



WELLNESS COFFEE HOUSE

**Jeopardy
Mindfulness Presentation**

Wed March 31st | 4-5 pm
thornleawellness.wixsite.com/twic