



Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

November 13, 2020

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos A-L

Vice-Principal: Lana Fisher M-Z



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Message from our VP's.....

Dear Parents/guardians,

Midterm Report Cards

Distribution of your child's mid-semester report card will begin on November 18, 2020. These reports will be distributed using the same process used for Interim Reports via student GAPS accounts.

Our mid-semester reports provide you information about your child's achievement during the first part of the semester. Of note is that this reporting period reflects learning that has occurred in a modified learning environment as required by the provincial public health guidelines. As a result, the rate of progress described on this report may differ from previous years due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on student learning, nevertheless this is a very important opportunity for your child to reflect on their progress so far this school year.

Additionally, here's some food for thought from *People for Education* concerning report cards: What's the first thing you look at? Be honest. It's the grades, isn't it? But there are more important things for parents to focus on. That's why our report card format starts with your child's learning skills—responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative, and self-regulation.

The information about your child's learning skills can help you support them in the areas that need improvement. Report cards are also a great tool parents can use to initiate conversations about school. Go over the report card with your child, talk about where they do well and where they may be struggling. Whether your child is struggling or doing very well, connect with your child's teachers via *teach assist* or board's email. Conversations with teachers are great opportunities to learn more about ways child and his/her teachers can co-operate on strategies to help in subjects where your child is having difficulty. If there are comments or parts of the report card that you do not understand, ask the teacher about them.

Fraser Report

We wanted to let you know that Thornlea S.S. has been ranked number 72 out of 739 schools in Ontario in the updated School Fraser Report. For more than 20 years, the Fraser Institute's school ranking report has been the go-to source for parents and educators to measure school performance. Thornlea has received an impressive score of 7.9 out of 10. For more information on the Fraser report please go [here](#).

2020-2021 OSSLT

In a recent memo, the Ministry of Education indicated that the literacy graduation requirement will be waived for all students graduating during the 2020-21 school year. The Ministry is continuing to explore a field test of the online OSSLT in spring 2021, which could allow the opportunity for non-graduating students to write the test and have successful attempts counted on their transcript. More information from the Ministry of Education will be forthcoming at a later date.

Upcoming Dates:

OUAC/OCAS transmission for all Gr. 12 students will occur on Friday, Nov. 20th

Equal consideration University Application deadline (OUAC) – January, 15th, 2021

Equal consideration College Application deadline (OCAS) – February 1st, 2021

Book an appointment with a guidance counsellor bit.ly/Thornlea or administration if you require assistance with your application

Sincerely,

Lana Fisher and Sofia Papadatos

Upcoming Events



November 16

School Council Meeting
All about Scholarships

November 18

Mid-terms sent electronically
This week

November 26

Virtual Graduation
Class of 2020

December 21-January 1

Christmas Break

January 18

School Council Meeting

February 1

PA Day

YRDSB COMMUNICATION

Youth Racial Justice Summit on Education

November 14th to 15th: - "Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline" - "Building an Anti-Racist Curriculum" - "Foundations of Community Organizing" - "Introductions to policy and Advocacy". Registration details and further information can be found [here](#).

Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre in Toronto annually partners with Chapman University's Roger Center for Holocaust Education on a Holocaust Art & Writing Competition for students grades 6 to 12. Students create an artwork or piece of writing inspired by their testimonies of Holocaust survivors and rescuers. Participating schools may submit a total of three entries (one entry per student) in any combination of the following categories: art, film, poetry, or prose. Registration details and further information can be found [here](#).

BFCN Friday Focus Parent Forum Workshop #1: I Am Focused

The Friday Focus Parent Forum is returning with a new workshop series! The workshop series is open to all Black parents. Please use this link for additional information. Parents for Children's Mental Health (PCMH) Virtual meeting being held November 16, 2020 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Topic: Anxiety in COVID times. Please use this [link](#) for additional information.

Online Program Opportunities

As many of our YRDSB community partner organizations continue to offer on-line opportunities for your children and youth, we are happy to provide you with a comprehensive list of these opportunities, including those that are continuing and also new [programs and services](#).

[Please visit 2020-2021 Online Program Opportunities for Children, Youth and Families](#) to find a list of programs organized by category and age group. We encourage you to check the link regularly as the Community and Partnership Developer Team will be making regular updates to available programs and resources. For more information, please contact iscs@yrdsb.ca



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.

➤ **November 16th, 2020**

- "Ways to Pay". All you need to know about scholarships and bursaries.

➤ **January 18th, 2021**

- TBD

➤ **February 16th 2021**

- TBD

➤ **April 19th, 2021**

- TBD

- **May 17th, 2021**

- TBD

We'll provide next year's topics as soon as they are available.

*From: Geneviève Seabrook
Chair of Parents' Council*



GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION – NOVEMBER 16 at 7:15 p.m. ET

Join former Admissions Officer Janet MacDonald for "What You Need to Know About Scholarships". Janet will provide information on the different kinds of scholarships available for high school students, plus key pieces of information students and parents need to know, such as how to find them, and when and how to apply for them.

The information is suitable for students in Grades 10, 11, and 12, and their parents. It could save you thousands of dollars!

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SESSION

The presentation is about 45 minutes and students can ask questions at any point using the chat feature. Janet will let them know this at the start of the session. She will answer the questions at the end, so the session should be 60 minutes.

Cameras will be off and mics will be muted (Janet will be on screen as she presents).

Students and parents should be in a location with good internet, and have the volume up on their computer. They might want to have a pen and paper to take notes.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89259015416?pwd=WitMRkNxQkEwTFFNZ0UzZUR3T3ZzZz09>

Meeting ID: 892 5901 5416

Passcode: 756567

BIOGRAPHY

Janet MacDonald has over 10 years of experience with university admissions and scholarship coaching. Janet was an Assistant Registrar of Admissions at Dalhousie University and an Admissions Officer at The University of British Columbia.

For six years she was the Program Coordinator for a national science and engineering research scholarship program.

Through her company, **mycampusGPS** (<https://www.mycampusgps.ca/>), Janet has helped Canadian students save hundreds of thousands of dollars. She loves her job! Janet's blog was named one of the top education blogs in Canada.

ARTS DEPARTMENT NEWS...

Dear Thornlea,

We want to celebrate our alumni student, **Brandon Baghaee's** success with you all! Brandon graduated last year from our Arts Program and this is his first year in OCAD. He is already having his personal exhibition "Celebrating Black", featuring his cultural identity and his connection with the community. Please click on View 3D Exhibition Below and help spread the word to inspire our students!



Black = Exhibition NOW OPEN! [View 3D Exhibition Below \(Copy and Paste the Link\):](https://artsnaces.kunstmatrix.com/en/exhibition/2736466/black)

<https://artsnaces.kunstmatrix.com/en/exhibition/2736466/black>

A history of anti-black culture and systemic racism continues to shape Canadian frameworks. This extends to the devaluation of Black lives within the Canadian ethos. Black artists continuously create work that reflects and educates others on Black experiences, stories, and Black histories to create social change.

In light of this struggle, this exhibition was created in response to the current political landscape revolving around the Black Lives Matter movement. It is not just a tool for education to be viewed through the white gaze but also as a method to boost representational imagery within the Black community. Expanding upon the idea that Black art is not restricted to mythologized imagery or trauma-based motivation to be valid or valued. If art is for everyone, everyone should be seen within art.

Exhibiting artist's experiences vary within the community. This show looks to reflect the diversity that is Blackness. The artists involved in this show have created visual representations to expand the collective thinking and create transformational change within our society. This includes empowering and amplifying the voices of those within the Black Art Community.

Artists varying from OCAD University first year to the fourth year consider terms that help define their Blackness. Through this lens, the artists seek the reconnection of imagery with terms integral to highlighting the strengths and complexities within the Black community.

Thornlea Secondary School has a creative way of teaching chemistry students the periodic table; Dr. Manivannan's chemistry students carve periodic table of pumpkins!!!

table, Dr. Mann and his chemistry students carved tables of periodic elements.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

This year's Remembrance Day was different from past years however we did not have COVID19 prevent us from recognizing this day. We took time on November 11 at 11:00 a.m. to acknowledge the sacrifices that our veterans of the past made, and the sacrifice soldiers of today are making for us with a moment of silence and reflection.

Thornlea's History Department provided a [Remembrance Day Tribute](#) for staff and students to watch on November 11 & November 12. Feel free to watch the film at home. The film was created in collaboration with one of our very own Grade 12 ACAM students.

The school also participated in the Poppy Campaign, with students and staff donating funds to the Legion.

A separate donation has also been made by Mr. Foti, on behalf of Thornlea to the Legion in support of our veterans.

Lest we forget. N'oublions pas.

We Will Remember Them



**ldayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region**

The right to learn, the power to achieve

For students in grades 8-12 who are preparing for or in high school and are identified with a Learning Disability and/or ADHD

This 4 session program focuses on building skills for vocational and academic success, such as, self advocacy, learning strategies, study and test skills, learning your accommodations, etc.

**Dates available throughout October 2020
Via Zoom**

**\$35/session for members
\$50/session for non-members**

To register e-mail
tresa.jules@ldayr.org

SOAR Academic Skills Program

Grades 8-12





**Idayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region**
The place to learn, the power to achieve

SOCIAL SKILLS

FALL 2020



Social Skills
Program
**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!**
"Space is limited"

Register

For registration information and
pricing please contact

Deondra Duncan
905-884-7833 ext. 05
deondra.duncan@idayr.org

Fall/Winter Sessions

Online Via Zoom

Partial subsidies available for qualified individuals,
please contact us for more information.

Designed for children ages 6-18 with a primary diagnosis of
learning disabilities and/or ADHD

Pricing

\$300 for Members
\$350 for non-Members
Fees are non-refundable

With Support From



In a safe, encouraging and positive environment,
**learning social skills
has never been so much fun!**

Skills learned include introducing oneself, ways to make
friends, responding to teasing, being a good winner and
a good loser, dealing with emotions, problem solving,
relaxations, and self-esteem. Maximum 6 kids per session,
with a caring staff to child ratio of 1:3.

8040 Leslie Street, Suite 203 Richmond Hill, ON L4B 3M4
Phone: (905) 884-7833 | Fax: (905) 770-8377 | Email: info@idayr.org | Website: www.idayr.org



Idayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region



PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Occurs every second Tuesday at
9:30AM of each month via Zoom

Welcomed to parent(s) and/or
guardian(s) who are
accepting and managing their
child's Learning Disability and
or ADHD.

Our Support Group shares
common experiences, handles
emotions and strategizes for
strengths and challenges in a
positive way.

Contact

renee.flannery@ldayr.org
or 905-884-7933 ext. 004



Idayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region

The right to learn, the power to achieve

We're here to support you!

Online Tutor Program

- For students in grades 3-7 with a primary diagnosis* of a Learning Disability and/or ADHD
- Support in homework help, literacy, and numeracy
- 4 1-hour virtual sessions per month on a platform of your choice (e.g. Zoom, FaceTime, Google Meet, etc.)
- Cost: \$60/month (4 1-hour virtual sessions)

To apply, email
tresa.jules@ldayr.org

*Must submit IEP



Thornlea Secondary School
2020 – 2021

Schedule		Time (minutes)
8:50 - 11:20	In Person - Block 1 (Alternate between face-to-face and online daily)	150
11:20 - 12:50	Travel Home / Lunch or Lunch / Study Hall	90
12:50 – 1:40	Synchronous Online - Block 2	50
1:40 – 2:30	Synchronous Online - Block 3	50
2:30 – 3:20	Synchronous Online - Block 4	50

Course Rotation for 4 Period School								
Rotation	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Dates	Sept 14- Sept 25	Sept 28- Oct 9	Oct 13- Oct 26	Oct 27- Nov 9	Nov 10- Nov 26	Nov 27- Dec 14	Dec 15- Jan 13	Jan 14- Jan 29
F2F	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Block 2	2	1	4	3	2	1	4	3
Block 3	3	3	1	1	3	3	1	1
Block 4	4	4	2	2	4	4	2	2



Thornlea Secondary School COHORT CALENDAR 2020

September						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10A	11B	12
13	14A	15B	16A	17B	18A	19
20	21B	22A	23B	24A	25B	26
27	28A	29B	30A			

December						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
		1A	2B	3A	4B	5
6	7A	8B	9A	10B	11A	12
13	14B	15A	16B	17A	18B	H
H	H	H	H	H	H	H
H	H	H	H	H		

October						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
				1B	2A	3
4	5B	6A	7B	8A	9B	10
11	H	13A	14B	15A	16B	17
18	19A	20B	21A	22B	23A	24
25	26B	27A	28B	29A	30B	31

January						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
					H	H
H	4A	5B	6A	7B	8A	9
10	11B	12A	13B	14A	15B	16
17	18A	19B	20A	21B	22A	23
24	25B	26A	27B	28A	29B	30
31						

November						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
1	2A	3B	4A	5B	6A	7
8	9B	10A	11B	12A	PA	14
15	16B	17A	18B	19A	20B	21
22	23A	24B	25A	26B	27A	28
29	30B					

A=Cohort A

H=Holiday (no school)

B=Cohort B

PA=PA Day (no school)