



Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

September 6, 2019

Vice-Principal: Anthony Hu

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos



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Message from the Principal

Dear Families and Community Members,

We have had a busy start to the school year with many more students enrolled at Thornlea. This in many ways is a good thing but it has created a lot of work for our guidance department. Last week and this week the school is adjusting and creating new timetables for our students. We would like to thank our parents and students for their patience as we work through these issues. Today we have approximately 1085 students enrolled. Students in grade nine and twelve have had their timetables looked at by Guidance and Admin. Next week we will be helping grade ten and eleven students. These timetable changes should be completed by the end of next week, if you have any concerns please feel free to contact me.

Over the summer the school underwent a series of renovations new doors are still being installed at night and the weekends and a number of windows have also been replaced. Our gym has received a much needed upgrade. As I write this the gym floor will be getting its last coat of varnish and then will need a week to set up. We hope that we can use our gym again for Phys Ed classes and practices starting on Monday September 16th.

With the start of the school year sports and clubs are starting to meet. Our annual club fair takes place on September 17th at lunch. During that time students can learn about the 40 clubs we have at school and sign up for any clubs that interest them. Rugby, volleyball, basketball, soccer and cross country are starting up this week and next. For more information on sports running during the fall season students should check with Ms. Dawe in the physical education department. Also starting next week our breakfast program that runs out of room 150 from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. each day. All students are welcome and those interested in volunteering can speak to Mrs. Hanff in the library.

There are a couple of events that I would like to make everyone aware of. September 9th is our photo day and students can have their picture taken and have a brand new student card created. Our grade nine students will be travelling to Camp Green Acres on September 12th for Fit day rain or shine. Please dress to be outside for the entire day. Our first School Council meeting is on Monday September 16th in our library starting at 7:15, all parents and guardians are welcome.

Warmest regards,

Joe Foti

Principal



THE EDUCATION CENTRE

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 Box 40, Aurora, Ontario L4G 3H1
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Fax: 905.727.1931
 Website: www.yrb.edu.on.ca

September 3, 2019

Dear families,

We are so excited to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year at York Region District School Board. We hope that you are looking forward to a year of learning, growth and discovery. It is important to us that all of our students and families know that they are a valued part of our school community. Each and every child has important and unique contributions to offer and we aim to create learning environments where they feel safe, respected and supported in making those contributions.

It is a privilege to work alongside families to support your children in exploring their interests, learning more about the world around them and reaching their full potential. We are more successful in doing that when there are strong connections between our schools and families, and we hope you will find opportunities to build those important connections throughout the year.

Our work to provide your child with the best possible education is guided by four priorities set out by the Board of Trustees in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership. [Our plans](#) are available on the Board website or you can make a request through your school office.

As part of our commitment to build collaborative relationships, we will continue to keep you informed about our work at the board and important news and events through our website, social media and through your school. We look forward to connecting with you, and wish you a happy, safe and successful school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Sirisko'.

Louise Sirisko
 Director of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Corrie McBain'.

Corrie McBain
 Chair of the Board

Message from Our Trustee

I am so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families to another school year. As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The [Board of Trustees](#) makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#).

We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

As we start the new school year, I want to highlight the importance of relationships. We want to build and maintain relationships with our families that are built on trust, respect and responsive communication. To support that, I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities, and I encourage you to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website.

In addition, I invite you to share your feedback on our Board policies. Policies govern everything from field trips, school volunteers, equity and inclusive education, student discipline and much more, and we greatly value input from families on these important matters. We regularly post on our website the [policies that are under review](#) and available for comment as well as information about how to share your feedback. I hope you will take a look.

I know school staff are excited to welcome back students, and I look forward to meeting more of our families throughout the upcoming school year. I encourage you to build a relationship with the staff members and community at your school. There are so many [different ways to get involved](#) and support your child's education. I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

David Sherman
Trustee, Markham Ward 1, Vaughan Ward 5

Dear Parents/Guardians:

If your contact information has changed,
please don't forget to let us know



Email any changes to:

thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

Thank you!



LITERACY CORNER

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Hello Parents and Guardians,

My name is Lovleen Rai and I am the Literacy Lead for the 2019 – 2020 school year. I look forward to working with your child to support his/her preparation for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

Information about the Test:

- ⇒ Students are tested on basic reading and writing skills.
- ⇒ Successful completion of the OSSLT is a graduation requirement for all students who are working towards their diploma.
- ⇒ The OSSLT will take place on **March 31, 2020**.

'Whole School Initiatives' (WSIs):

- ⇒ All Grade 10 students (including Grade 11 & 12 students without the requirement) will write a WSI. Each WSI will focus on providing students with an opportunity to practice the reading & writing tasks from past OSSLTs.
- ⇒ Dates for the WSI sessions during semester 1 are:
 Period 1 on **October 4** = Multiple-Choice Questions
 Period 2 on **October 28** = Writing Short Writing Tasks & Finding a Main Idea
 Period 3 on **November 26** = Writing Open Responses
 Period 4 on **December 12** = Writing a Series of Paragraphs

OSSLT Lessons for Grade 10 Students Only:

- ⇒ Grade 10 students will participate in a lesson prior to each WSI so they can practice strategies for completing the different tasks.
- ⇒ Grade 10 teachers will determine when the students will participate in the lesson.
- ⇒ Dates for the OSSLT Lessons are:
 Period 1 = **September 20, 24, 26 or October 2**
 Period 2 = **October 16, 18, 22 or 24**
 Period 3 = **November 11, 13, 18, 20 or 22**
 Period 4 = **December 2, 4, 6, or 10**

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact me either by phone or email

Lovleen Rai
905-889-9696 Ext/254
Lovleen.raai@yrdsb.ca

THORNLEA SECONDARY SCHOOL



GEORGIA HARDY TOURS

PARIS & BARCELONA

April 24 – May 2, 2020



Parent Information Session:

Join us on Monday, September 16th at 6:00pm for a presentation of the full 2020 trip itinerary.

Please RSVP at Melina@ghardytravels.com to confirm your attendance.



GEORGIA HARDY TOURS

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JOIN THE YRPC

DISCOVER STUDENT VOICE

Welcome to the York Region Presidents Council, a collective student senate of the YRDSB. We foster student voice and enhance communication and co-operation of YRDSB secondary school students by acting as a monthly forum and meeting place.

**We encourage you to join us
during our monthly GA's**
at Richmond Hill HS. from 7-9pm

@theyrpc

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For more information

Call 905-731-9557 / 905-305-4122

Aquatic Leadership Program – Fall 2019

Be certified as a lifeguard ready for employment

Program Information:

Effective September 2019, the Aquatic Leadership Program will be offered in partnership between the York Region District School Board, Continuing Education and the City of Markham, the Town of Aurora and the City of Vaughan. The program uses a blended learning format consisting of pool instruction, face-to-face instruction and on-line learning to deliver Ministry of Education credits and Swim, Lifeguarding and Instructor Certifications.

Part 1: City of Markham and Town of Aurora

Upon completion, successful students may earn the following courses and certifications:

- Secondary School Grade 10 Credit - Healthy Living and Aquatic Activities – PAQ201
- Bronze Cross (National Lifeguard Certification)
- Bronze Medallion (National Lifeguard Certification)
- Standard First Aid with CPR C

Part 2: City of Vaughan

Upon completion, successful students may earn the following courses and certifications:

- Secondary School Grade 12 Credit - Recreation and Healthy Active Living Leadership - PLF4M
- Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard Certification
- Lifesaving Society Swim and Lifesaving Instructor
-

Students must pass the final exam for each aquatic course including the in-water examinations in order to receive their Swim, Lifeguarding and Swim and Lifesaving instructor qualifications. Credits and aquatic certifications may be granted independently.

	City of Markham Part 1	Town of Aurora Part 1	City of Vaughan Part 2
Location	Aaniin Community Centre 5665 14 th Avenue Markham, ON L3S 3K5 905-475-4851	Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex 1400 Wellington St. East Aurora, ON L4G 7B6 905-726-4770	Woodbridge Pool 5020 Highway 7, Woodbridge, ON. L4L 1T1. 905-832-8576
Date	Tuesdays and Thursdays September 24, 2019 – January 14, 2020 Saturday Dec. 7, 2019	Mondays and Wednesdays September 25, 2019 – January 22, 2020 Saturday Dec. 7, 2019	Mondays and Wednesdays September 16, 2019 - January 22, 2020 Saturday, September 28, 2019 Saturday, October 19, 2019 Saturday, December 7, 2019
Time	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Eligibility	Participants must be 13 years or older Currently attending Secondary School Able to swim 400 metres continuously	Participants must be 13 years or older Currently attending Secondary School Able to swim 400 metres continuously	Participants must be 16 years or older by January, 2020 and hold Bronze Cross certification and Standard First Aid.
Cost	\$200 - Covers all materials and Exam Fees	\$200 Covers all materials and Exam Fees	\$250 – Covers all materials and Exam Fees

For more information visit: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/ALP-Overview.aspx>

Contact: YRDSB Continuing Education Services at (905) 884-3434 or aquaticleadership@yrdsb.ca

School Year 2019-2020

September 9	Photo Day
September 12	Gr. 9 Fit Day—Green Acres Camp
September 13	Safety Assemblies
September 16	School Council Meeting 7:15pm Library
September 16	Paris/Barcelona Meeting for Parents-Library
September 17	Club Fair @ Lunch
September 19	Terry Fox run
September 23	PA Day
October 15	Photo Retake Day
October 17	Awards Ceremony
October 21	PA Day
October 22	School Council Meeting 7:15pm Library
October 24	Parents' Night
November 6	Take Your Kids to Work Day
November 6	Take Your Kids to High school Day
November 11	Remembrance Day Assembly
November 12	Grade 8 Night
November 15	PA Day
November 18	School Council Meeting 7:15pm Library
December 21-January 5	Christmas Vacation
January 13-15	EQAO Math
January 20	School Council Meeting 7:15pm Library
January 22-29	EXAMS
January 30	EXAM Review Day
January 31	PA Day