

Tommy Times - Parent Edition

Week of Mar.4 - Mar. 8, 2024



Link to Club Codes →

School Website: <http://tommydouglas.ss.yrdsb.ca>

General Email/Attendance: tommy.douglas.ss@yrdsb.ca

This week:

Mar. 18	Welcome back from March Break
Mar. 19	
Mar. 20	Iftar - 6:00 pm
Mar. 21	
Mar. 22	TPJ4M1-2 Trip to St. Michael's Hospital

Contact Us

4020 Major Mackenzie Drive West,
Woodbridge, ON L4H 4E9

Phone 289.342.0001

Extensions

Reception 0

Attendance 1

Guidance 3

Administrative Team

Sandra Sardone, Principal

Cynthia Therrien, Vice Principal (A - G)

Elizabeth Sloan, Vice Principal (H - O)

Milton Hart, Vice Principal (P - Z)

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

Mar. 27 - School Council - 6:30 pm Library Learning Commons

Mar. 28 - Squash @ York University

Mar. 29 - Good Friday (no school)

Apr. 1 - Easter Monday (no school)

Apr. 2 - Senior Badminton Tournament

Apr. 3 - Euclid Math Contest

Apr. 3 - Meeting with

Apr. 4 - Parent-Teacher Interview Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Apr. 4 - Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia Math Contests

To support your family planning, the 2023-2024 YRDSB School Year Calendar is available on the [YRDSB website](#).

IFTAR

On Wednesday March 20th, 2024, Tommy Douglas Secondary School will be hosting an Iftar from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. An Iftar is an evening meal eaten by Muslims after the sun has gone down to break their fast during the holy month of Ramadan. There will be a wide range of food choices, appropriate for the occasion. The Iftar is open to both Muslim and non-Muslim students and is **free** of charge. By coming together our hope is to foster community. All are welcome!

Please return the form to guidance no later than Monday March 18th at noon or upload your signed form to the folder below. **We will only be taking the first 120 students that return their forms by March 18th.**

LINK TO PERMISSION FORM

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mx1UD0f_9FO5kWRTgtq7hzhqYVg95kK8-QR11ON8wh4/edit?usp=sharing

LINK TO FOLDER TO UPLOAD OF PERMISSION FORM OR BRING THE FORM TO GUIDANCE

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aYxt0IkrrRngPPwhkc3cF08007loauzp?usp=sharing>

Parent-Teacher Interviews - Thursday, April 4, 2024 - 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will have an opportunity to set up a 5 minute interview time with each of their student's teachers. Schedules will be available on the Parent Portal of Teach Assist. If you have not done so already, please create a Parent Account on Teach Assist. Please follow the steps below to create your Parent Account.

Instructions to create Parent Teach Assist account

- Google - Teach Assist Parent Portal
- Enter the email address that is on file with the school (leave the password empty)
- Click "Continue"
- Go to your email
- There will be an email from "Teach Assist" - it may be in your junk or spam folder
- Open the email from "Teach Assist"
- Copy the link that is in the email
- Paste the link into a google search
- The link will take you to a screen where you will set up your password - you can use capitals, letters and numbers.
Do NOT use special signs.
- It asks you to verify your password - enter it again
- Congratulations - you have created a parent account for "Teach Assist"

PEER TUTORING LUNCH PROGRAM RETURNS - Room 109

The Peer Tutor Program is up and running and it's never too early to get some extra support and reinforcement. Please encourage your student(s) to attend if you think they could benefit from this support resource.

The program runs every **Tuesday and Thursday** at the beginning of each lunch. Period four Peer Tutoring will begin at 12:30 in room 109.

If you'd like some support from one of your peers for free, please join our classroom with this code [so62fle](#) and fill out the Tutee Request Form before each session so we can make sure to have a subject specific tutor for you.

Drop ins are also welcome.



TDSS STUDENT SUPPORTS

PEER TUTORING

TUESDAY AND THURSDAYS PERIODS 2,3,4- TUTEES REGISTER EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY BY FOLLOWING THE LINK IN THE CLASSROOM. CODE- [so62fle](#)

MATH SUPPORT

**MONDAY - FRIDAY DURING PERIOD 4 IN ROOM 109/239
WEDNESDAY :PERIOD 3, 2ND HALF IN ROOM 229 EXTRA HELP FOR ALL GRADES & PERIOD 4, 1ST HALF IN ROOM 232**

MULTI- LANGUAGE LEARNERS

**MON, WED, FRI:
ROOM 229 - P3
ROOM 232 - P4
FOR EXTRA-HELP OR A QUIET SPACE TO WORK.**

SPECIAL EDUCATION

**P1,2,3,4,5
RESOURCE ROOM
REGULAR IN-CLASS SUPPORT ALSO OFFERED.**

SCIENCE

FOR ALL OTHER SUBJECTS PLEASE CONNECT WITH THE CLASSROOM TEACHER.

Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
2	Phys 11/12. Room 246	Chem 11/12. Room 246		Bio 11/12. Room 246
3	Grade 9. Room 258	Bio 11/12. Room 258	Grade 9. Room 253	Chem 11/12. Room 253
4	Chem 11/12. Room 257	Grade 10. Room 257	Phys 11/12. Room 268	Grade 10. Room 268 Bio 11/12. Room 257



JUNE EXAM SCHEDULE

Second semester exams will begin on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19TH until WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH, 2023.

All secondary students must participate in the final summative assessment(s). These assessments make up the final evaluation representing 30 percent of the report card grade. **You are expected to complete all final summative assessments at the place, date and time indicated by the teacher and by the examination schedule provided by the school. Students cannot leave early for vacations, employment or other activities such as summer camps during the examination schedule. Students who do not write a final exam will earn a mark of "0" for that portion of the culminating.**

Wednesday, June 19th - Day 1 of exams
Thursday, June 20th - Day 2 of exams
Friday, June 21st - Day 3 of exams
Monday, June 24th - Day 4 of exams
Tuesday, June 25th - Day 5 of exams
Wednesday, June 26th - Exam Review Day

ATTENTION GRADUATES!!! GRADUATION DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 27TH, 2024.

Graduation from high school is a milestone reserved for those who have met the criteria. You are eligible to participate in this year's ceremony and commence with your classmates if you have successfully achieved the criteria below:

- You must have obtained 26 credits by the end of Semester 1 towards the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- You must have completed your forty (40) hours of volunteer work by May 3, 2024
- You must have passed the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to report any credits that you have earned at night school, summer school or through private school to the guidance office **by May 2, 2024**. If you do not meet all three criteria listed above, you may not be eligible to take part in this year's graduation ceremony and you may be considered as part of next year's graduating class.

Our Graduation Ceremony will be held at Paramount Eventspace, 222 Rowntree Dairy Rd., Woodbridge, ON L4L 9T2.

Please go to our school cash online to complete the purchase of the Graduation package. This package includes your gown, cap, tassel and **two guest tickets**. There will be no substitutions for the gown package.

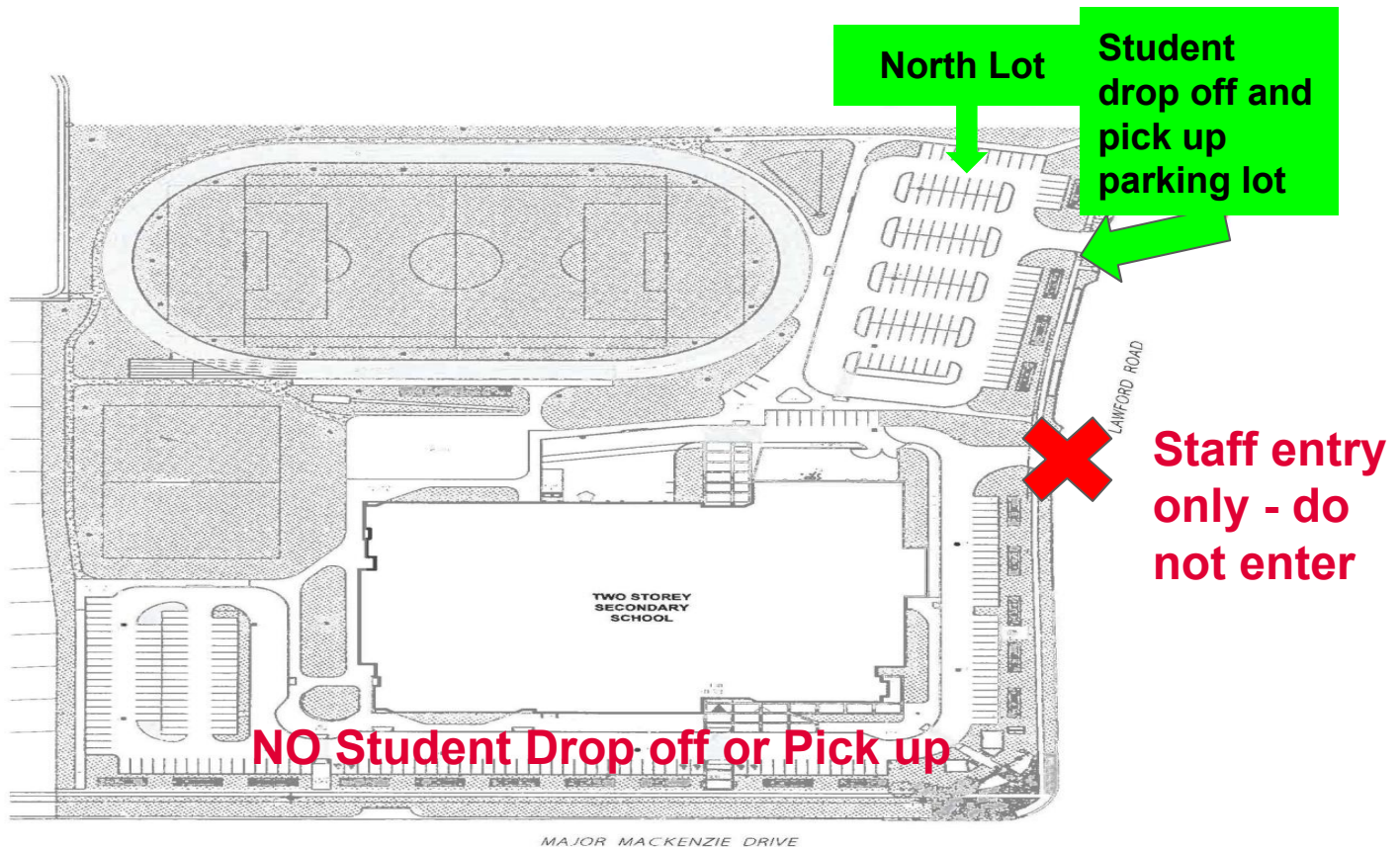


SCHOOL SAFETY - Student Drop Off and Pick Up

As the weather starts to warm up and students begin to bike and walk to school, we are sharing a reminder with parents/guardians of the need to help keep our students safe.

Students who are driven to school **must be dropped off and picked up** in the **North parking lot only.**

The South lot is for buses and Staff use only. Please help us ensure the safety of our school community. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.




WASHROOM HALL PASS:


We continue to remind all students that there is NO loitering allowed in the washrooms and that vaping is both illegal and harmful to them.

School staff will continue to monitor washrooms and move students along that are 'waiting for friends' or sitting on the floors visiting or eating (yes, students choose to eat on the washroom floors). We continue to hear from students that they feel unsafe in the washrooms. The best way we can improve safety is to ensure that students are not gathering and loitering in the washrooms. We have asked teachers to ensure that no more than 1 student is leaving their classroom at any one time and to follow-up with students that have been out of their classroom for lengthy amounts of time. Hall passes were implemented this year as we have been experiencing issues in certain washrooms with vandalism and inappropriate use of facilities. Replacing stall doors takes time which may impact access to affected areas for a period of time. Please reinforce this messaging with your children at home to support our safe school environment

STUDENT BATHROOM BREAKS




HONOUR OUR LEARNING TIME
Washroom breaks should **not** occur during the first 15, the last 15 minutes of class, or during direct instructional time.



ONE AT A TIME
Only **ONE** student should be out at a time. You should be back to class within 5 minutes.



SIGN-IN & SIGN-OUT
Ask your teacher at an appropriate time. When your teacher agrees to your request, fill in the **Google Form**. When you return, fill in the **Google Form** again.



USE HALL PASS
When you leave the classroom, use the hall pass. Staff in the hallways may ask to see your hall pass. The expectation is that you are **respectful** during interactions. Return the hall pass upon reentering the classroom.



CONTACT HOME
Regular issues like frequent or extended breaks will result in:
A) Your teacher addressing the expectations with you
B) Your teacher contacting parents or guardians with concerns
C) Your teacher contacting the school administration

ATTENDANCE IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

GUIDANCE CORNER: FAMILY BASED SUPPORTS - NEW

Student Wellbeing

- **LAMPS** February 28th Parent night [“Anxiety in School Aged Youth”](#) presented by the YRDSB Central Mental Health Team
 - Sign up: [here](#)
- [Understanding Online Safety and Youth Exploitation](#)
 - Webinar for parents and caregivers
 - Feb 21, 6:30-8:30pm
- [Triple P Series](#) (links to register in PDF)
 - Power of Positive Parenting
 - Raising Confident Children
 - Raising Resilient Children
- York Hills Supporting 2SLGBTQ Children and Youth: [A Caregiver Guide](#) (webinar) March 19, 2024

One Stop Talk

- NEW provincial Brief counseling service
- Accessed through web chat or by calling 1-855-416-8255
- Monday to Friday from 12PM to 8PM, and Saturday from 12PM to 4PM EST.
- Children and youth 18 years old and younger.

Free counseling by registered and culturally diverse therapists who also connect to longer term local support.

Peer Support Group for Parents and Caregivers

- This group is a support for parents and caregivers raising children and youth with mental health challenges
- 3rd Monday of each month
- Aurora Town Hall 6:30- 8pm
- This group takes a break in December and will return January 15, 2024

York Hills Winter Group and Webinar Series. Please distribute to families/caregivers:

o Groups

<https://www.yorkhills.ca/services/group-services/>

o Webinars

<https://www.yorkhills.ca/services/workshopsandwebinars/>

Food Banks and Community Food Programs- York Region

Provide free or low-cost food to individuals and families in need on an on-going, seasonal, and emergency basis.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS

The following resources are available to teens in need of mental health supports at any time.



Kids Help Phone

Text 686868

KidsHelpPhone.ca

Call 1-800-668-6868



360° kids

Surrounding kids in crisis with care

905-475-6694

www.360kids.ca

york hills
Centre for Children, Youth and Families

905-503-9560

yorkhills@yorkhills.ca

www.yorkhills.ca



MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS?

1.855.310.COPE (2673)



Suicide Prevention Canada

Call 1.833.456.4566

Text 45645

Mental Health Matters

Need Help Now?

Kids Help Phone Live Chat: www.kidshelpphone.ca Text 686868

Kids Help Phone Black Student Support: text 741741

Black Youth Helpline: 1-833-294-8650

LGBT Youthline: 1-800-268-9688 or text 647-694-4275

Trans Lifeline: (877) 330-6366

360 Outreach Worker: 647-459-2648 or 647-299-4861

Vaughan Food Bank: www.vaughanfoodbank.ca

Depressed or Suicidal: www.youthspace.ca or text 741741

MOBYSS: www.mobyss.ca

Community Crisis Response Services: 905-310-COPE

Naseeha Muslim Student Counselling Service: 1-866-627-3442

For more mental health resources check out bit.ly/tdssguidance