



# Unionville High School Weekly Parent/Guardian Bulletin

**January 24, 2025**

201 Town Centre Blvd. Markham, ON  
905-479-2787

Reception 431/Attendance 230/Guidance 458

Email: [unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca)

UHS Website: [Unionville High School](https://www.unionvillehighschool.ca)

Principal <a href="#">Susie Nunes</a>	Vice-Principal (R - Z) <a href="#">Patrick Belmonte</a>	Vice-Principal (A - I) <a href="#">Catherine Clarke</a>	Vice-Principal (J - Q) <a href="#">Raymond Luong</a>	Superintendent <a href="#">Kien Nam Luu</a>	Trustee <a href="#">Ron Lynn</a>
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**TECH REQUEST FORM – 2024-2025**

**CLUBS**

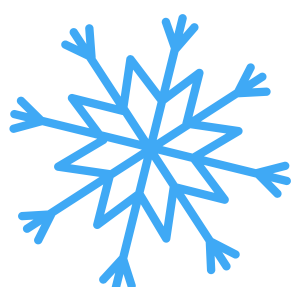
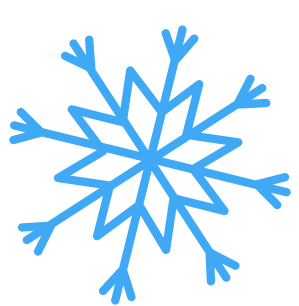
**GUIDANCE UPDATES**

## Character Matters Trait of the Month: Initiative

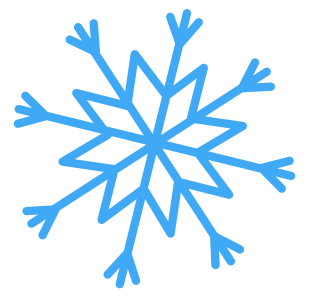
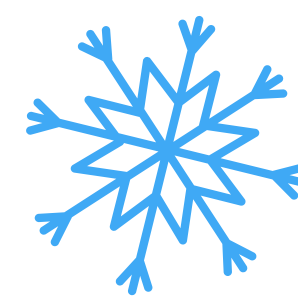
“Initiative is doing the right thing without being told.”  
- Victor Hugo

## Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
January 22 - January 28	Exam Week
January 29	In Class Instructional Day (Full Day) Lunar New Year
January 30	Exam Review Day (Modified Schedule)
January 31	Professional Development Day (No classes)



# JANUARY



## AN EYE-OPENING WEBINAR FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29TH 7:30PM

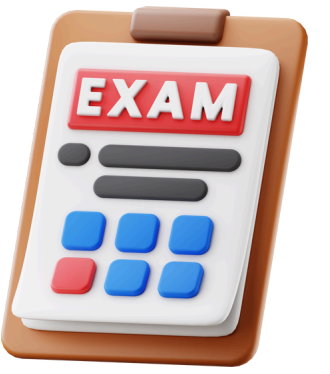
This Lung Health Foundation webinar will boost your knowledge about vaping and its dangers while preparing you to start a judgement-free dialogue with a teen you care about. Yes, you can help your teen start their quit journey – and with our help, you can get started right now, when New Year’s Resolutions are top-of-mind. Strategically scheduled at the midpoint of the school year, this webinar will also touch on the role of stress in your teen’s decision to vape.

This Lung Health Foundation webinar will help parents and caregivers refresh their knowledge about vaping and plan for supportive, empowering conversations with a young person they care for. Parents and guardians can register for the webinar using this registration link:

[https://cvent.me/nvqQXq?  
utm\\_source=halththehazeweb&utm\\_campaign=halththehaze  
&utm\\_medium=halththehazeweb](https://cvent.me/nvqQXq?utm_source=halththehazeweb&utm_campaign=halththehaze&utm_medium=halththehazeweb)



# THIS WEEK



## January Exam Week Important Message

Dear families,

We wanted to remind you that the last day of semester one classes is **Tuesday, January 21**.

Exams run from **Wednesday, January 22 to Tuesday, January 28** according to the following period by day schedule:

STUDENT Exam Schedule - Semester 1 - January 2025				
PERIOD 1 Wed, January 22 9:00 AM	PERIOD 2 Thurs, January 23 9:00 AM	PERIOD 5 Fri, January 24 9:00 AM	PERIOD 4 Mon, January 27 9:00 AM	PERIOD 3 Tues, January 28 9:00 AM

Students have been provided by their teacher with a full listing of all exams on each day. Students can access this full listing via their gapps account. Please speak to your child to review their exam schedule.

**Wednesday, January 29** is an **in-class instructional day**.

The schedule for **Exam Review Day** on **Thursday, January 30** will be as follows:

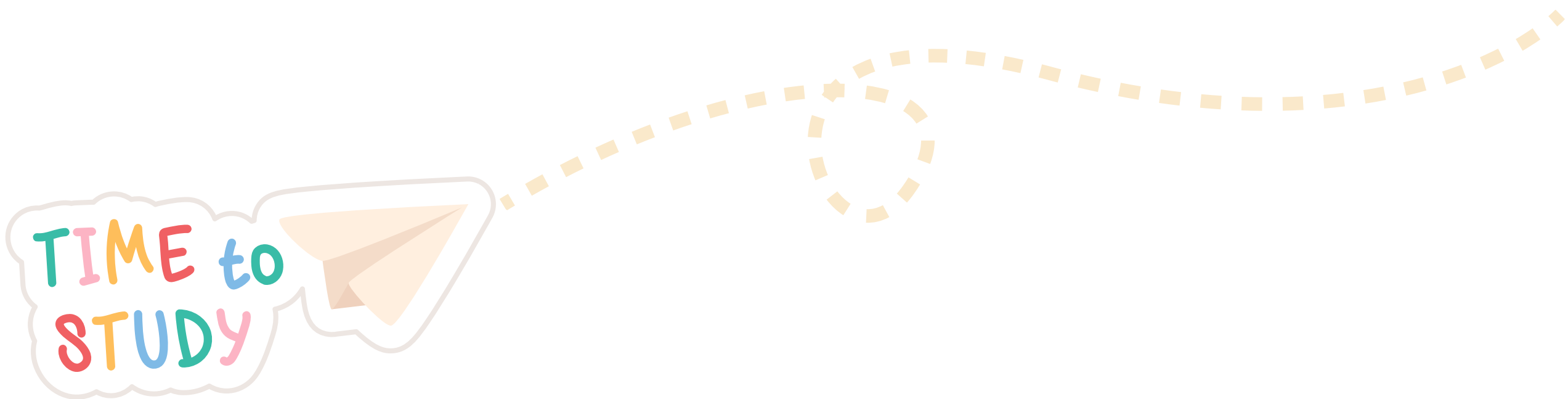
Homeroom/Period 1	8:25 am - 9:05 am
Period 2	9:10 am - 9:45 am
Period 3	9:50 am - 10:25 am
Period 4	10:30 am - 11:05 am
Period 5	11:10 am - 11:45 am



- Should an **“Inclement Weather Day”** occur during the scheduled exam period forcing the cancellation of all exams on a given day, the day for rescheduling those exams will be the Exam Review Day.
- **Friday, January 31 is a PA Day.** The school will be closed to students on this day. **The first day of semester two classes is Monday, February 3.**
- All exams start at **9:00 AM**, except those that are being scheduled “by appointment.” By appointment exams are arranged by the classroom teacher.
- Students who have “by appointment” exams should arrive 15 minutes prior and wait in the cafeteria.
- After the “by appointment” exam is over, students are kindly asked to leave the premises. Students who have “by appointment” exams should not linger in corridors as other exams are in progress.
- During exams, the cafeteria servery and library will be closed.
- Students are expected to attend school only for the days/times when they have an exam. Students leave the premises when the exam is over. Students should make transportation arrangements accordingly.
- Community Classes will continue to run during the exam period as per their regular hours. Community class start times, end times and transportation continue as normal during exams.
- Courses that do not have exams will not appear on the exam schedule. Parents with students in these courses should be aware that students are required to complete project based work in lieu of an exam activity. Teachers may arrange appointments to support students in completing this project work during exams.

If you have questions, please contact us at [unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca) or at 905-479-2787.

Kind regards,  
The UHS Administration





# Guidance

## NEWS

### Semester 2 Course Change Requests:

Students looking to make changes for semester 2 must contact their alpha Guidance counsellor (in-person or via email), prior to the start of Semester 2 (Wednesday, January 22 until Friday, January 31).

Changes to semester 2 timetables during the first week of semester 2 will only be processed for students who were unsuccessful in a semester 1 course. Final semester 2 timetables will be available to students via Teach Assist on Sunday, February 2, 2025.

Please note, students who have already been added to a wait list will only be contacted if space is available in the course and they are next on the list.



### Course Selection Information:

From Monday, February 3 to Friday, February 21, the Guidance office will be open to walk-ins only, to support all students with course selection. A Guidance pop-up station will also be available in the cafeteria during the lunch periods (periods 3 and 4).

Course selection submissions will be completed through myPathway Planner and will open for submissions on Thursday, February 13 at 9am and will close on Friday, February 21, 4pm. This is NOT a first come, first served. Course requests will only be processed once course selection closes.

Information regarding the course selection process will be shared with students during the grade assemblies taking place on Monday, February 10 (Grade 9 and 10) and Tuesday, February 11 (Grade 11 and 12).

Students are encouraged to speak with departments if they require more information about courses. A schedule for meeting department representatives will be shared with students during the grade assemblies.

Please note, graduating students are required to submit the 'Not Returning' and Exit Survey in myPathway Planner.



The Guidance office will resume appointment bookings after course selection closes on **February 21**.





# What's happening in the school

## UHS STEM Expo - Feb 19, 2025 at 3:15 PM

This is your time to show off those **STEM projects** and to **explore STEM** your way.

**Registration:** [Google Form](#)

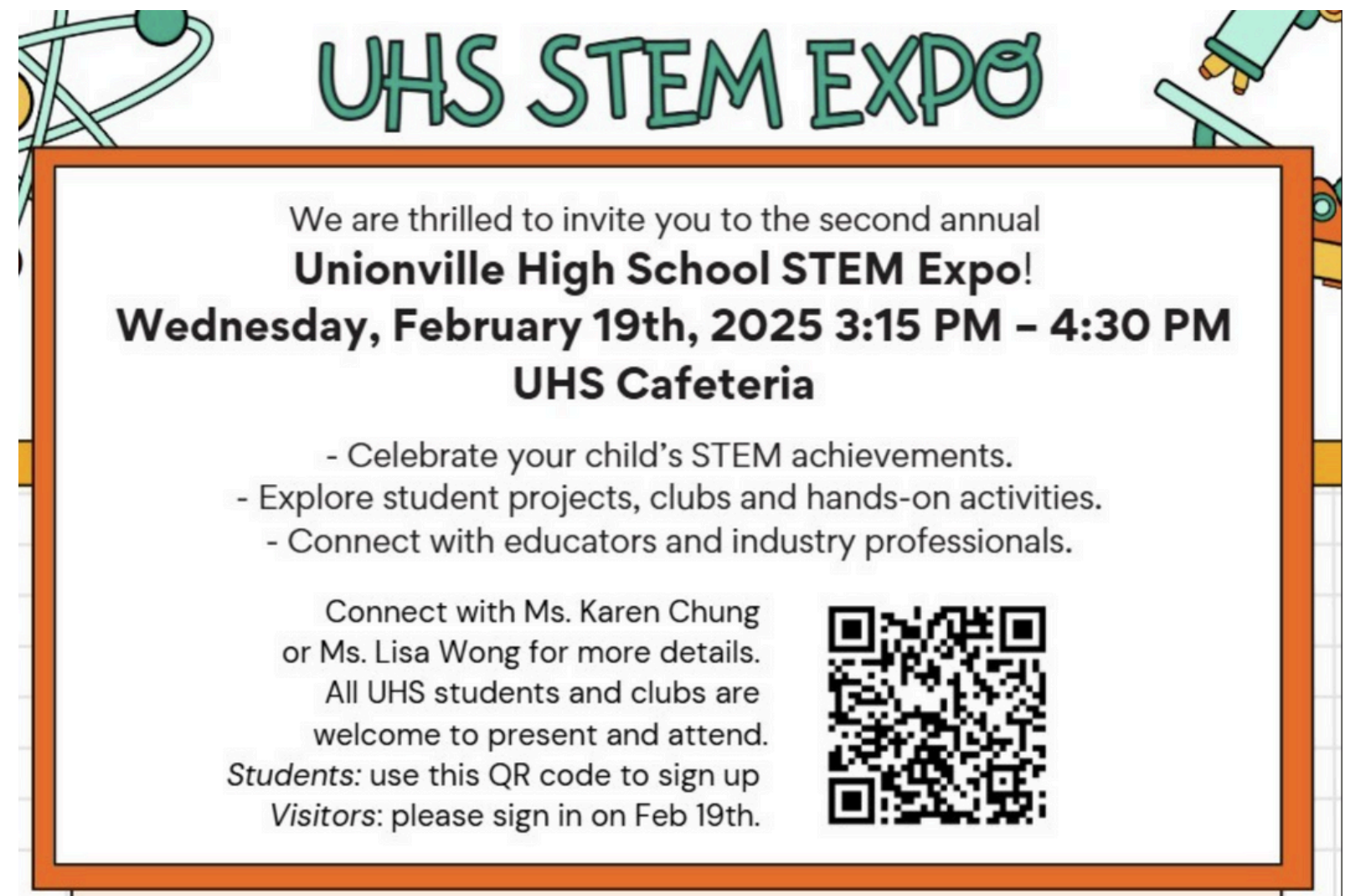
**Deadline** for this Form is **Feb 10 at 8:25 AM**

All presenters / clubs are responsible for bringing all required materials + a poster board on Feb 19 to the cafeteria.

Feel free to ask your teachers about your STEM Expo project and how you can best demonstrate it.

You can also email [karen.chung@yrdsb.ca](mailto:karen.chung@yrdsb.ca) or [lisa.wong@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lisa.wong@yrdsb.ca)

Expo




**UHS STEM EXPO**

We are thrilled to invite you to the second annual  
**Unionville High School STEM Expo!**  
**Wednesday, February 19th, 2025 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM**  
**UHS Cafeteria**

- Celebrate your child's STEM achievements.
- Explore student projects, clubs and hands-on activities.
- Connect with educators and industry professionals.

Connect with Ms. Karen Chung  
or Ms. Lisa Wong for more details.  
All UHS students and clubs are  
welcome to present and attend.  
*Students:* use this QR code to sign up  
*Visitors:* please sign in on Feb 19th.



## Yearbook 2025 -- Order Now!

Yearbooks are selling out fast and we ordered a limited quantity. There is so much that goes into the Unionville High School yearbook this year and every year. It's an important part of your journey. Each year you are in high school is a different experience. Your friends, your courses, your involvement in school life will change. These times will become treasured memories. Go to [School Cash Online](#) to order a copy today before they are all gone.

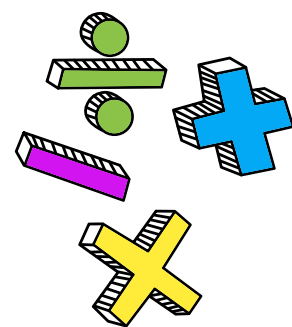
**100** BOOKS  
LEFT

**ORDER A  
YEARBOOK**

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

VARSITY  YEARBOOK

**MATH**



**CONTEST**

### Math Contests for the second semester:

The Pascal, Cayley, and Fermat math contests for students in grades 9 to 11, will be written on Wednesday, February 26th. The cost of the PCF is \$6.50. There will be a limited number of seats available for each contest. The registration will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Contest registration will open up on School Cash Online on Monday, February 3rd at 8:30 am and close on Friday, February 7th at 4:00 pm. There will be a reminder on the Google Classroom (code: 2mmm25) on January 30th to remind students to sign up.

Only students who have paid their Student Activity fee (SAC fee) will be eligible to participate in these contests. If your child hasn't paid their SAC fee and would like to participate in any upcoming math contests, please pay it on School Cash Online as soon as possible. If SAC fee is not paid, you will not see these contests on School Cash Online at all. They will only be available to students who have paid their SAC fee.

### EUCLID (APR 2nd) / FRYER, GALOIS, HYPATIA (APR 3rd)

Registration for Euclid, Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia will open up on February 24th and end on February 28th. More details to come! "



# COURSES AND PROGRAMS



## Aquatic Leadership Program - Registration

If you are interested in joining the Aquatic Leadership Program, please view the flyer attached here and visit the [registration link](#).



## Black History Month Event

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

### Dates:

**Monday, February 3, 2025**, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.

**Wednesday, February 12, 2025**, at Bill Hogarth S.S.

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

**Thursday, February 27, 2025**, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

**Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.**

**Registration:** Please fill out the [Google Form](#)

## Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

**Dates:** **Monday, February 3, 2025**, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.

**Wednesday, February 12, 2025**, at Bill Hogarth S.S.

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

**Thursday, February 27, 2025**, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

**Time:** **6:00–8:00 p.m.**

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

### To Register

Please fill out a registration form by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to [blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca](mailto:blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca)



FEBRUARY

BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH



## Registration for Night School is Open Now!

Students will **register** on **MyBlueprint/My Pathway Planner**.

If you would like more information, you can view the poster inside the guidance office.

**Night school (semester 2) runs from February 13th 2025 - June 5th 2025**

Classes follow the Remote learning delivery model and will be delivered virtually in real-time (synchronous).

Classes are held on **Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:45 p.m.**

You can visit the following link for more information.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/adult-learning/night-school-credit-courses/night-school-courses-offered>

# Night School

REGISTRATION



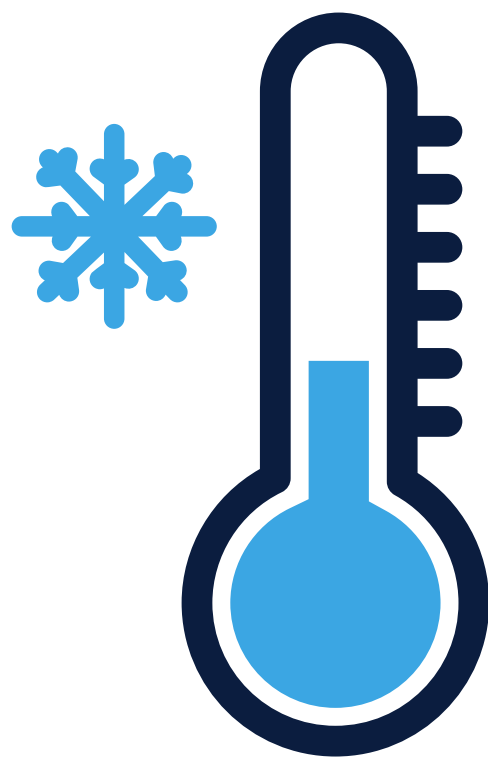


Online Payments (School Cash Online)

All YRDSB schools are now using School Cash Online as an online payment system. School Cash Online is an easy, safe and convenient way for families to pay online for extracurricular items or events, including yearbooks and field trips. It helps to reduce paper and the amount of cash/cheques handled by parents and students. Families may make payments using School Cash Online, or by cash or cheque.

How do I access the tool?  
You can register for **School Cash Online** at any time by visiting the website. Once you are registered, you will be notified of any new items available for your child.

How do I register? Please click [here](#) for instructions.



Severe Weather Policy and Procedures

Winter is here! The York Region District School Board is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all students, staff, families and community members on days that are deemed to be **severe weather**. Please check the link for information on snow days at YRDSB.

Safety First - Message from UHS Administration Team

**IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE FOR PARENTS: ENSURE SAFE CROSSING FOR YOUR CHILDREN!**

Dear Parents and Guardians,  
The safety of our Unionville HS students is our top priority, especially when it comes to crossing roads. As we know, crossing busy streets such as Highway 7 and Warden, poses potential risks. Here are some essential reminders to ensure our students cross the road safely:

1. Understand and adhere to school zone rules. These areas often have reduced speed limits and additional safety measures to protect pedestrians.
2. Ensure your child understands the basic rules of road safety - looking both ways before crossing, waiting for the signal, and only crossing at designated crosswalks.
3. Emphasize the importance of using designated crosswalks. Explain that these areas are specifically designed for safe pedestrian crossing, reducing the risk of accidents.
4. Discourage the use of electronic devices while crossing the road. Remind them that paying attention to their surroundings is crucial for their safety.

Let's work together to create a community where our UHS students can navigate the roads confidently and safely. By reinforcing these simple yet crucial guidelines, we can contribute to a secure environment for all.  
Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to the safety of our students at UHS!

#SafetyFirst #CrossWithCare





## Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter - January 2025

Continuing the Journey: Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being:

As we step into this new season together, we are reminded that every journey is unique. Whether we're celebrating milestones, tackling challenges, or simply finding our rhythm after the winter break, this time of year offers a chance to reflect and grow.

To read the whole Newsletter, please click [here](#).

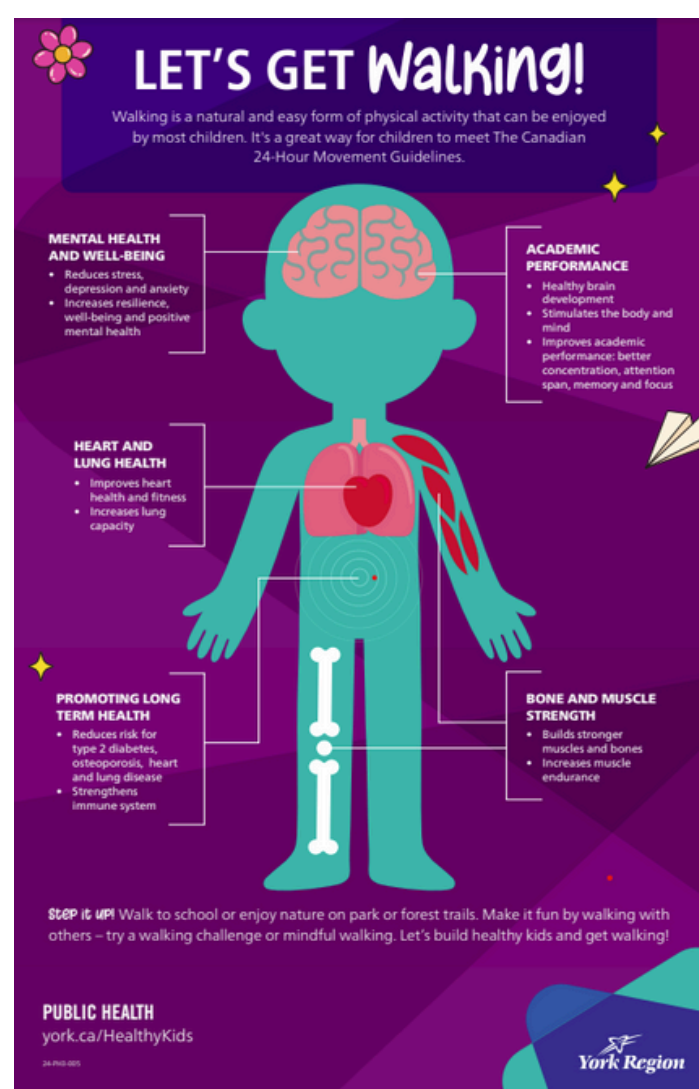
*"you are"*  
**NOT ALONE**  
*"in this"*

### LET'S GET Walking!

Walking is a natural and easy form of physical activity that can be enjoyed by most children.

It's a great way for children to meet The Canadian 24-Hour

Movement Guidelines.



## SEAS Family Engagement Evening Series: Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

In partnership with Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) Employee Affinity Group, families, parents and caregivers are invited to the Family Engagement Evening Series - Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection event.

Join us on **February 5, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** at **Bill Crothers S.S.** for an evening to help gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System. Flyer with [registration](#) information.



Supporting East Asian Students  
Family Engagement Evening Series

### Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

Families, parents, caregivers please join us for this SEAS Family Engagement Evening to help you gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System.

YRDSB teachers and Guidance Counsellors will be delivering information focused on:

- Understanding the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements
- Exploring pathways and planning for post-secondary options
- Navigating high school course selection process in YRDSB

Presentations will be available in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Cafeteria, 3rd Floor

Bill Crothers Secondary School

44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4

Please scan the QR code

or click <https://bit.ly/4flwbhs> to register



For additional inquiries, please contact: [isac@yrdsb.ca](mailto:isac@yrdsb.ca)  
In partnership with YRDSB, Inclusive School & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developer team and Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) affinity group.

## Understanding and Navigating the Education System

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session - **Monday, January 27, 2025 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

Agenda:

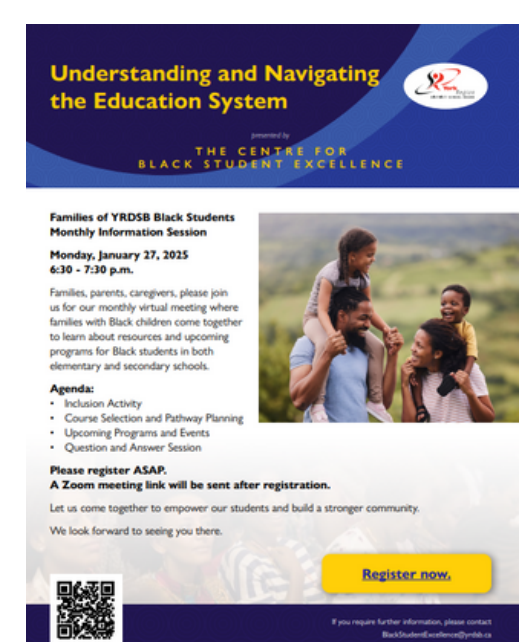
- Inclusion Activity
- Presentation- Course Selection
- Upcoming Programs and Events
- Question and Answer Session

RSVP: Please register ASAP

WHERE: Virtual meeting. Zoom link to follow.

RSVP: Please [register](#) ASAP

WHERE: Virtual meeting. Zoom link to follow.







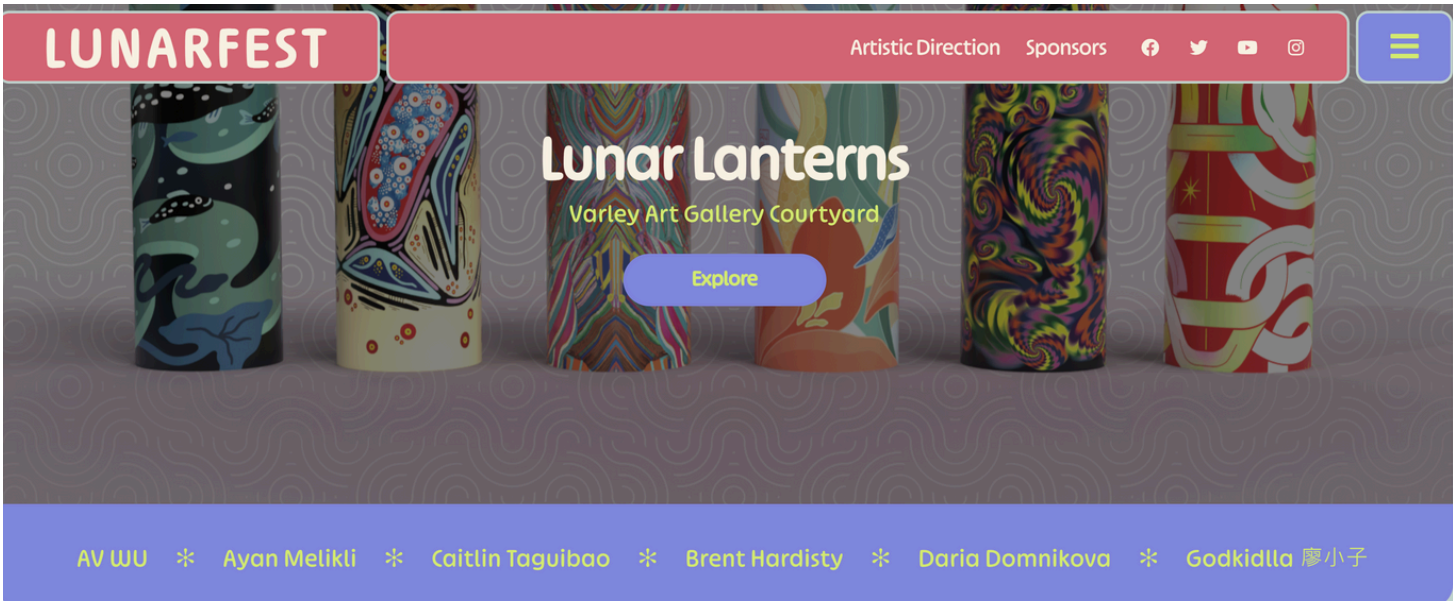
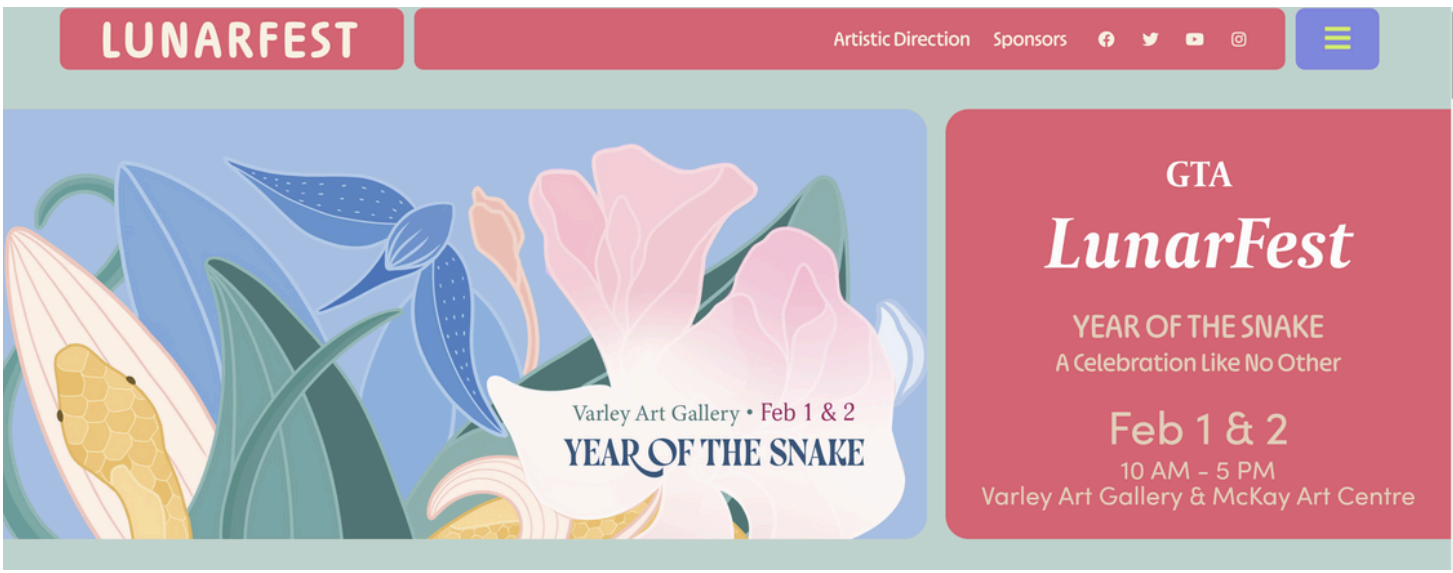
Lunar New Year Diamond Day January 29, 2025

The Lunar New Year is the time for new beginnings, and new choices. Every day, we navigate between dichotomies: witnessing authoritative systems walk the line between exercising power and exerting fear, asking ourselves if the risk and reward is worth our action. Striking a balance can be a compromise, where we are flexible to other ideas. When what is different is embraced and celebrated, diversity blooms. The snake is a creature of fluidity; what might appear as a straight line can also form a circle, reminding ourselves that we can never have one without the other.

During the Lunar New Year, we often wish for good things to come: prosperity and luck. Well-wishes, however, rarely come true without putting in good effort. To reflect on the spirit of the Snake, we must strive for a balance between giving and receiving.

The following resources and community events can support education around Lunar New Year, and they were supported by the board, ISCS (Inclusive School and Community Services)

Lunarfest at the Varley



Reboot Your Routine This Winter -- Build Healthy Habits for Your Family

You are your children’s biggest health champion, and York Region is here to support you every step of the way. [york.ca/HealthyKids](http://york.ca/HealthyKids) is your one-stop shop for building healthy kids with York Region Public Health.

York Region professionals offer confidential information and advice on public health-related topics, resources, services and other community programs, including pregnancy, parenting, family health, infectious disease, sexual health, sexually transmitted infections, health protection and dental health.  
Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
1-800-361-5653  
TTY 1-866-512-6228

[AccessYork@york.ca](mailto:AccessYork@york.ca)  
[ChildFamily@york.ca](mailto:ChildFamily@york.ca)  
[Health.Inspectors@york.ca](mailto:Health.Inspectors@york.ca)

[York.ca/NurseChat](http://York.ca/NurseChat)

BUILDING HEALTHY KIDS

This winter reboot your family's routine!

A new year is here, and it's a great time to think about your family's routines!

As you start to think about your family's goals for 2025 be realistic. Make sure to incorporate things you already enjoy, build upon on what's already working well, and be patient with yourself and your kids.

Help your family to continue building healthy habits for 2025 through daily movement, nutritious meals, and mental health promotion strategies you can use with your children all year round! During the winter months, try foods to keep you warm including soups, stews, casseroles, curries, and chili. Enjoy some family meals together and cooking with your children – it's a great way to connect, spend time together, and learn new skills.

If you are thinking about getting more active, consider getting outdoors to play! When children and youth are outside, they move more, get curious, and find joy. Interacting with nature, even when it is cold outside, has many benefits. It helps restore our ability to concentrate and pay attention. It improves mood, focus and our stress response. Remember to dress for the weather, it's the first step to enjoying being outside and the best way to do this is to layer clothing you can remove easily when it is warmer or put back on when it becomes colder. Make sure gaps such as wrists, ankles, neck, back and waist are covered and even though it is winter - don't forget sunscreen and sunglasses!

If you find things are tough at the start of the new year for you or your family, you can try breathing, visualization, muscle relaxation, journaling, listening to music, practising gratitude to help you cope. Try a variety of activities to see what works best. As a parent or caregiver, it is essential to take care of yourself, so you can care and support others. Your self care will help improve your energy, focus, ability to cope with challenges and you will be a model to your children.

For more tips on how you can reboot your family's routine this winter routine visit [york.ca/HealthyKids](http://york.ca/HealthyKids).





# 40 YEARS OF MUSIC @ UHS!



Join the UHS Music community of past and present to celebrate 40 years of excellent music making!

**Sunday May 25, 2025 - 2:00pm**

at

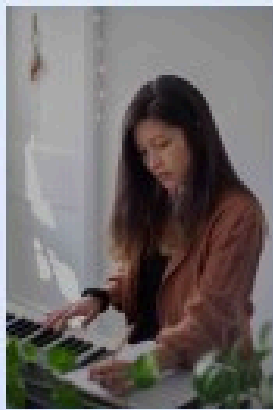
**Flato Markham Theatre**

Featuring current ensembles with special guest alumni and teachers performing our favourites, including music composed by UHS Music graduates

Reserve your tickets today at the **Flato Markham Theatre** Box Office

We want to hear from you. If you have a favourite memory, piece of music, story or special thought about your time with UHS Music, please consider sharing it [here](#).

Exciting news! Cait Nishimura (UHS 2009) has been commissioned to compose a piece of music in celebration of 40 Years of Music at UHS. The piece will feature all performing disciplines: Band, Choir, Strings and Piano and will be premiered at the concert on May 25, 2025. Join the consortium membership and support this world premiere performance. Consortium members will have their name appear in the introductory material of the score as well as the program for the concert.



Become a Consortium Member:

- up to \$50 - Ensemble
- \$50 - \$100 = Principal
- \$100 - \$200 = Conductor
- over \$200 = Artistic Director

[caitnishimura.com](http://caitnishimura.com)

Joining is simple. Create an account (for tax receipts) on [YRDSB School Cash Online](#). Once registered, click "I don't want to add a student" and then click "Make a Donation". Select your amount and choose Unionville High School under "destination". Skip Tribute Information and type "40 Years of Music at UHS" under "Message to the Board". Once complete, please consider sending an email ([jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca](mailto:jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca)) so we can confirm receipt of your generous donation. Tax receipts will be sent immediately. Thank you for supporting new music at UHS.

Please contact Jeff Wrigglesworth - Head of Music: [jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca](mailto:jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca) with any questions or ideas.



For more UHS Music updates & photos, visit:  
[@uhsmusicupdates](#) on Instagram



DATE	EVENT
February 17	Family Day (No classes)
February 18	York Public Health Vaccination Clinic - Gr. 11 - Library
February 24	School Council Meeting #5 (7:00 pm)
February 27	Arts Unionville Music Recital at Cafe (6:00 – 10:00pm)