



Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday, November 11, 2022

201 Town Centre Blvd. Markham, ON
905-479-2787
Reception 431/Attendance 230/Guidance 458

Email: unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

Tweets: [@UHSupdate](https://twitter.com/UHSupdate)

Principal
Suelyn Cheong

Principal on Assignment
Susie Nunes

Vice-Principal
Amol Gheewala

Vice-Principal
Patrick Belmonte

Superintendent
Michael Cohen

Trustee
Ron Lynn

TECH REQUEST FORM – 2022-2023

CLUBS LIST 22-23

GUIDANCE UPDATES

Character Matters Trait of the Month: Courage

"Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can't be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest" - Maya Angelou

DATE	EVENT
NOVEMBER 7 - 23	Graduation Photos
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16	Gr 8 Open House @ UHS 6:30pm - 8:30pm CIMC & CSMC - Math Contests P1 & P2
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18	PA Day OUAC 1st Resubmission OCAS 1st Resubmission
NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 1	Fall OSSLT
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24	Semi-Formal

UHS Closed to Transfers for the 2023-2024 School Year

Each year, the YRDSB reviews system needs and determines available space in secondary schools. Balancing accommodation needs over time to ensure that students can be accommodated within their community school attendance area is a priority. Additionally, those accepted into courses and programs from outside the home school attendance area need to be accommodated without displacing or limiting opportunity for students who reside locally. In an attempt to assist schools in their planning and students in their course selection and pathways choices, it has been determined that Unionville High School will be closed to transfers for the 2023-2024 school year. This means that only students who are currently living within the UHS catchment area will be registered for the 2023-2024 school year.

Yearbooks Are Back!

Yearbook is finally back after 2 long years! Until **November 25**, you can pre-order your UHS 2022-23 Yearbook at a discounted Early-Bird price of only \$55! Don't miss your chance, login to School Cash Online to buy a yearbook today!
<https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

Book Your Grad Photos!

Attention Potential Graduates!
If you have not already done so please sign up to take your graduation photos!
Please click [here](#) for more information.

School Council Meeting November 28, 2022

The next School Council Meeting is on Monday, November 28, 2022, at 7:00p.m. All families are invited to the hybrid meeting. Please indicate if you plan to attend the meeting in person or virtually through this [form](#).

Parent/Caregiver Series Supporting Students of African Caribbean Canadian Heritage

The series, Moving Forward Hand in Hand, will provide a number of parent/caregiver in-person and web events to build community, support mental health, and promote healing. The first session in the series focuses on “Understanding the Impacts of Anti-Black Racism on Children and Youth Mental Health” and will be offered in person on **November 23rd** and repeated on **November 30th**. These sessions are offered to any parent/guardian of students who identify as Black.

Register by **November 20th, 2022**

The York Region District School Board, in collaboration with
Taibu Community Health Centre
Black Health Alliance: Pathways to Care Project &
Support and Growth, invites you to

Moving Forward Hand in Hand

Parent/caregiver series supporting students of African Caribbean
Canadian Heritage

Free 4-part workshop series for the 2022-2023 school year

Workshop 1 of 4

**Understanding the impacts of anti-Black racism on children and
youth mental health**

November 23rd, 5:00- 6:30 PM

LOCATION: [Thornhill Community Center](#)

November 30th, 5:00- 6:30 PM

LOCATION: [Newmarket Community Center](#)

Locations are accessible to persons using mobility devices

Join us for an evening of community, conversation, light
refreshments and knowledge exchange.

Please **[Register here](#)** by **November 20th**

For more information, please contact the YRDSB Community Care Team School
Social Workers for the African Caribbean Diaspora Tracy Thomas-Elleston,
tracy.thomas-elleston@yrdsb.ca or Melanie Beckford melanie.beckford@yrdsb.ca .

For more information on event registration, dates and locations, please click [here](#).

Questions and Answers from our last School Council Meeting

My daughter entered grade 9 this year, and I found there are no sports classes for 1st semester, and also no recess or other activities to consume their energy. Now she has become weak, and I am worried about her health. Can we have more physical activities for all students?	Students can participate in sports teams. A variety of sports are offered throughout the school year. Information about tryouts for teams are communicated via morning announcements, the student life webpage and through the Wolfpack app. Students can also check in with our Phys Ed Department with questions.
I would like to know how and when students can choose special courses, for example: my son would like to study business and technology.	Course selection for the 2023-2024 school year will begin in February. Students and parent/guardians will be provided with information regarding the process and will have access to the courses that are being offered for the school year. A presentation for parents/guardians will take place during the January school council meeting.
When will the cafeteria be open?	We are currently unsure about a specific date. Information will be shared as it becomes available.
In regards to mental health, I know my child would be more enthused to come to school if he was able to join a program only I've not seen where or how he can join. Please guide me in where to find what is available and how to join.	UHS offers a wide variety of clubs. Students can view which clubs are currently running by visiting the student life website or through the Wolfpack app. A clubs fair took place on October 26 and a list of all clubs and teacher advisors can be found in the Parent Bulletin.
Supporting Mental Health: It is important to plan with the awareness that many students have been participating in online learning throughout the intermediate grades and beyond. The pressures of the pandemic combined with decreased school engagement can have a large impact on the mental health and wellbeing of students and staff. In addition, students may be lacking some learning skills needed to support exam prep, pathway planning etc. Some may be feeling the shock of an intense start!	The Guidance department provided a study skills workshop for all students (October 19--every period) to help students prepare for exams/tests. The study skills workshop also focused on memorization strategies, a check list for handling stress, exam strategies (exam preparation, during the exam and exam format information), as well as what to do after the exam. This presentation will be posted to the UHS website, under the Guidance tab.

Looking for Club Information? Look no further!

Clubs List 22-23

Please Click Teachers Name to Contact

Club	Teacher Supervisors
Artisans Club	Jessica Li
Business & Sports	Neil Sareen
Charis Club	Peter Lansing
Chess Club	Afsana Ahmed
Chinese History Club	Shan-Chen Yu
Club de Français (French Club)	Peter Lansing
Community Council	Melissa Del Rosario - James Campbell - Felicia Sukdeo
Computer Science Club	Raymond Do
Cooking Club	Anna DiLorenzo - Frances Tom
Dance Council	Melissa Bettio - Kathleen Major
DECA	Kuo Pan - Wesley Guldemond - Neil Sareen
Dramatic Arts Council	Lazaros Geronikolos
Eco-Council	Michael Johnston
Film Club	Lauren Fridman - Shiraz Rafik - Zachary Layton
Gender & Sexuality Alliance	Sara Faulkner - Zachary Teitel
Guitar Ensemble	Niloufar Barazesh
Jazz Band	Niloufar Barazesh
Light Music Club	Jennifer Porter
Math Club	Daniela Panacci - Shan-Chen Yu - Liubov Chulkova - Shama Sharma
Newcomers Club	Tara Kapeluch
Prom Committee	Zafirah Damji - Daniela Panacci - Melissa Bettio
Science Club	Elaine Howard - Jeffrey Chan
Show Choir	Melissa Bettio - Julia Fong - Michelle Teh
Social Justice Club	Felicia Sukdeo - Jennifer Porter
Special Events Club	Zafirah Damji - Susan Sun
STEM Beyond	Georgina Mantelos
Target Alpha	Wesley Guldemond - Matthew Himelson
UHS Architecture Club	Zachary Layton
UHS Black Excellence	Sara Faulkner - Zachary Teitel - Beckey Serwaa
UHS Wellness Club	Michelle Farwell - Evan Mallin
UHS Writers Club	Zachary Layton
Unionville Howl	Keyan Wu
Zoology Club	Yiu Lun Leung - Daniel Dietrich

[Please click here to access teacher advisor emails](#)



Thank you parents for purchasing tickets to our UHS Semi-Formal on Thursday November 24th at Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall (located at 60 McDowell Gate, Markham).

This event is officially **SOLD OUT!** Just a reminder that doors will open for check in at 5:30pm and pick up time is 10:30pm.

Please ensure students are not bringing backpacks to the event as they will not be allowed in.

If you have any further questions, please contact Ms.Sun (shuai.sun@yrdsb.ca) or Ms.Damji (zafirah.damji@yrdsb.ca).

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

Attention to all students who will be writing the OSSLT this semester – this includes all eligible Grade 10s, previously unsuccessful and potential graduates who have not yet passed the OSSLT – this semester's OSSLT will take place during Period 3 on the following dates:

November 21/November 22
November 23/November 24
November 28/November 29
November 30/December 1

The OSSLT will take place over two days during Period 3. Students have been assigned to one of the groupings and are expected to attend both days, as the test is split up into two sessions. Students and families have received specific details as to when they will be writing the OSSLT. Students are encouraged to keep practicing for the test (many exercises can be found on the OSSLT Google Classroom).

Any questions about the OSSLT should be directed to our Literacy Teacher – Ms. Chankseliani – at alyssa.chankseliani@yrdsb.ca or Vice Principal – Mr. Gheewala – at amol.gheewala@yrdsb.ca

Library News

A friendly reminder that all students must sign in upon entering the Library.

Please note: Grad photos are taking place in the Library for the next 2 weeks.

We kindly ask students to be mindful of their noise levels and capacity limits during this time. There will be no access to browse the fiction novel section, this includes the chairs by the windows as well. To request fiction titles, please use our online catalogue to request a pick up of your materials. We thank you for your cooperation.

We ask that you remind students who will be attending their Grad photo appointment to follow all signage and directions in the Library.

School Start Up Forms Reminder

The York Region District School Board sent out to families for completion earlier this September. This e-mail serves as a reminder that these forms must be completed at your earliest convenience, and no later than **Monday, November 21st.**
[School Start-up forms](#)



Wellness Reminder of the Week:

Did you know that according to the Canadian Cancer Society, 24,600 men in our country are diagnosed with prostate cancer each year? A healthy diet and lifestyle can increase your chances of preventing it, so do something positive for your health such as exercising and eating lots of fruits and vegetables.

The UHS Wellness Council is back! We are a student run council whose mission is dedicated to improve students' health and well-being by creating a positive school environment here at UHS. To learn more about how you can be part of the UHS Wellness Council, [please click here](#) for our Instagram page.

Student Activity Fees for 2022-2023...What does your \$45 get you?

In previous years, the student activity fee has supported a variety of school activities including Student Council activities such as spirit events, clubs & initiatives, dances, Fall Festival, Winter assembly, Mayfair, cultural events and celebrations, guest speakers, athletic team and field trip transportation subsidies, arts/ music competitions, snacks for students, and more.

We look forward to being able to offer similar type activities this school year. In order to do so, students will need to pay their Activity Fees. Once your fee has been paid, you will have reduced fees for school events throughout the school year! Please click on <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/> to pay your fees now!

Semester 1 Exams

All students and families need to ensure that students are present and available for the Semester 1 Exam block. Semester 1 Exams will take place **January 26 - February 1**. Please be aware that **February 2, 2023** is Mark Review Day and **February 3, 2023** is a PA Day.

Summer Mentorship Program 2023

The Summer Mentorship Program (SMP) gives high school students of Indigenous or African ancestry a chance to explore health sciences at the University of Toronto over four weeks in July.

Please see the following links for more details!

[Info & Deadlines](#) [Brochure](#)



School Zone Parking Safety

Parking safety is everyone's responsibility! Please see the attached links for more information from the City of Markham about how we can all contribute to road safety.

[Common Responsibilities of By-Law Enforcement & Regulatory Services](#)

[By-Law Enforcement & Regulatory Services Newsletter](#)

[School Zone Parking Safety Pamphlet](#)



Looking for Student Volunteers!

YRDSB Indigenous Languages and International Languages Elementary Program is looking for student volunteers to support their program. Information has been posted on the UHS Volunteer and Program Opportunities Google classroom. Students are encouraged to join the classroom to access this information. **Enrolment code: emu544b**

Prayer/Meditation Space Request

Does your child need a space to practice their faith? All students who would like to use our Prayer/Meditation Space for the 2022-2023 school year should complete the School Start Up forms: <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/> and email Ms. Kyriopoulos (effie.kyriopoulos@yrdsb.ca) for more information.

Peer Tutoring

All students **interested in becoming a peer tutor** for the 2022-2023 school year must submit their application through this link: <https://bit.ly/BecomeTutorUHSO>

This application must be completed using the **student's GAPPS email**. Upon submitting, students will **receive an email containing a PDF** that will need to be printed, signed and returned to the Guidance Department dropbox located outside the Guidance Office. **Please Note:** If students are applying to tutor a subject they are currently taking, please ask your subject teacher first, as students are required to indicate their subject teacher's name to confirm if they are recommended for tutoring that subject.

All students **requesting a peer tutor** must submit their application through this link: <https://bit.ly/RequestTutorUHS>

This application must be completed using the **student's GAPPS email**. Upon submitting, students will **receive an email containing a PDF** that will need to be printed, signed and returned to the Guidance Department dropbox located outside the Guidance Office.

[Please click here for the Peer Tutoring flyer](#)

Digital Storytelling Initiative

The Digital Storytelling initiative is a workshop series where you will participate in arts-based mixed media activities to discuss anti-Asian racism and build resilience. Through group collaboration and critical reflection, you can redefine and represent your lived experience.

Hong Fook Youth and Family Services

Digital Storytelling Initiative



Are you an Asian identifying young person who wants to...

- Talk with others about your racial identity and how anti-Asian racism has impacted your mental health?
- Use different arts media (video, photos, podcasts, etc.) to tell your story?
- Share your lived experiences and connect with other people?

The Digital Storytelling Initiative is a workshop series where you will participate in arts-based mixed media activities to discuss anti-Asian racism and build resilience. Through group collaboration and critical reflection, you can redefine and represent your lived experience.

Dates

October 25 - November 22 2022

Who

Asian youth age 16-24 living in the GTA with interest/experience in media or creating social media content

To register, please contact:

Bernie Yeung
Youth Program Worker
Email: byeung@hongfook.ca
Phone: (647) 267-5013

Upcoming Events - November 2022

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28	School Council Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29	Semester 1 Full Disclosure

Upcoming Events - December 2022

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5	UHS Dance at Markham Theatre UHS Music Winter Fantasia 7:30pm - 9:30pm
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6	UHS Dance at Markham Theatre UHS Music Winter Fantasia 7:30pm - 9:30pm
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7	UHS Drama at Markham Theatre 7:30pm - 9:30pm
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23	Winter Assembly at Markham Theatre
DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 6	Winter Break