



# Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

Thursday, November 3, 2022

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)

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

“All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.” – Walt Disney

DATE	EVENT
NOVEMBER 7 - 23	Graduation Photos
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10	Fire Drill #3 Semester 1 Term 2 Begins AU Information Night @ Markham Theatre/UHS 6:30pm - 8:30pm
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11	Remembrance Day
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14	Fire Drill #3 Rain Date
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

## 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 will be 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 will receive specific details as to when they will be writing the OSSLT very soon. Students are encouraged to keep practicing for the test (many exercises can be found on the OSSLT Google Classroom) and to check their GAPPS email for more information.

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



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

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



## Yearbooks Are Back!

Yearbook is finally back after 2 long years! For a very limited time, 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.

## Thursday November 10 - Arts Unionville Information Session

This is our annual performance and presentation for hopeful applicants to the Arts Unionville Program. Participating students may be field tripped for rehearsals throughout the day.  
We have added an open dress rehearsal in period 5 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. Teachers are invited to bring their class (full classes, please) to watch. A sign up form will be sent out in advance.  
The evening performance and presentations are sold out!

## Friday November 11 - Remembrance Day Ceremony

We are returning to our live Remembrance Day Ceremony. The ceremony will take place in the second half of period 2. A form will be shared for interested teachers to sign up to bring their class to the cafeteria to watch (limit of 10 classes). Remaining classes will be sent a link to participate via livestream from their classroom.

## Phys Ed Update

UHS' Physical Education classes were fortunate to have The Spartan Lacrosse School visit this past week to teach some of our classes. They ran a two day program introducing the sport of lacrosse through indigenous teachings. Our students learned the fundamentals and skills needed to play the sport while also gaining insight into its heritage by instructors who have played all across North America. It was the first time most students had participated in lacrosse but that didn't stop them from progressing quickly into modified game play! Thank you Spartan Lacrosse for supporting UHS Athletics!

## Library News

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

Please note: As of November 7th Grad Photos will be taking place in the Library for approximately 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 7th.  
[School Start-up forms](#)

## Wellness Reminder of the Week:

*"November is Men's Health Awareness Month so Todd Minerson, the Canada Country Director of Movember says "Talk to the men you care about in your life about their health and wellness. Don't be afraid to have the courageous conversations."*

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.







## UHS' Semi Formal 2022 – Winter Wonderland!

**What:** Semi Formal Dance, Dinner (included), & Games

**Who:** Grades 9-12 (ALL ARE WELCOME!)

**When:** Thursday November 24, 2022 6-10:30pm

**Where:** Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall (60 McDowell Gate, Markham)

**Why:** To provide students with an opportunity to socialize in a safe, chaperoned environment AND to have fun (after a LONG 3 years...)

**How:** Pay on schoolcashonline

\$65 (SAC fee paid), \$75 (no SAC fee paid)

Attention families, UHS' Semi Formal 2022 – Winter Wonderland – is fast approaching! Semi Formal is your time to dress up, have a delicious dinner, hear some amazing music and show off your dance moves; best of all, this is finally your chance to socialize IN PERSON after 3 long years! There will also be prizes drawn in a raffle and you can capture your memories in two different Photobooths! You do not want to miss out on this awesome time!! Tickets are on sale until **Friday, November 4th** on SchoolCash Online. Here is the breakdown of your ticket cost (based on 200 attendees):

Venue (including food, unlimited soft drinks & HST): \$56

Security: \$5.43

DJ: \$5.65

Photobooth: \$9.99

Decorations: \$1

Rounded Total: \$78

As we have now surpassed 200 attendees additional funds will go towards more decorations and prizes! Get your tickets NOW!!!

## 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.schoolcashonline.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.

## YRDSB Black Excellence Program



### 2022-2023 Black Excellence Program – Secondary Panel

The vision of the Black Excellence Program, (BEP), is to advance the achievement, wellbeing and sense of belonging of Black students in YRDSB schools through responsive programming that affirms their identity, builds on their strengths, and enhances their access to academic opportunities after high school. Students will have opportunities to learn from each other, experts from diverse fields, and mentors who will uplift, inspire and encourage them.

The Centre for Black Student Excellence is pleased to announce that in the 2022-2023 school year, the program will be extended to 100 students from YRDSB secondary schools who self-identify as Black or African descended. This year's programming includes:

- 3 Full-day Master Classes in November, February and May
- 5 After school "We are Wednesdays" workshops in December, January, March, April and June
- The sharing of Black-affirming books, resources, and networks



**Please see the link below for important information on the upcoming Black Excellence Programs available to secondary students. The first Master Class is on November 11.**

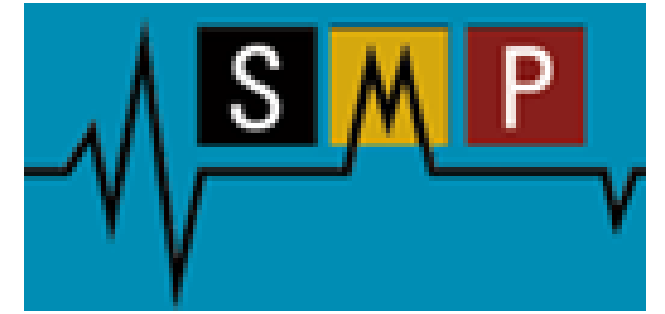
[Black Excellence Programs – Secondary](#)

## **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](#)



## **House of Commons Page Program Recruitment Campaign**

We are pleased to announce the official launch of the recruitment campaign for the House of Commons Page Program.

Each year, we recruit 40 bilingual students graduating from high schools and CEGEPs from across Canada to participate in the House of Commons Page Program. Pages work directly on the floor of the House of Commons and are responsible for a wide range of tasks related to Chamber activities. This provides them with the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of Parliament by playing a role in the rich traditions of the Canadian parliamentary system. Our recruitment campaign for the 2023-2024 academic year is taking place from **September 26 to November 6, 2022**.

To be considered, candidates must submit a curriculum vitae (maximum of two pages), a cover letter which includes detailed examples clearly demonstrating how they meet the education, experience and asset prerequisites listed on the notice of job opportunity, and a proof of enrolment confirming their current or past student status (e.g. unofficial transcript, official transcript or report card from a high school or CEGEP).

To be selected, candidates must be starting full-time or part-time post-secondary studies in **September 2023** at the University of Ottawa, Carleton University, Saint Paul University, Université du Québec en Outaouais, Collège La Cité or Algonquin College. Successful candidates will be required to reside in the National Capital Region during their year of employment as a Page. We encourage you to visit our [website](#) to learn more.

## **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](mailto: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?

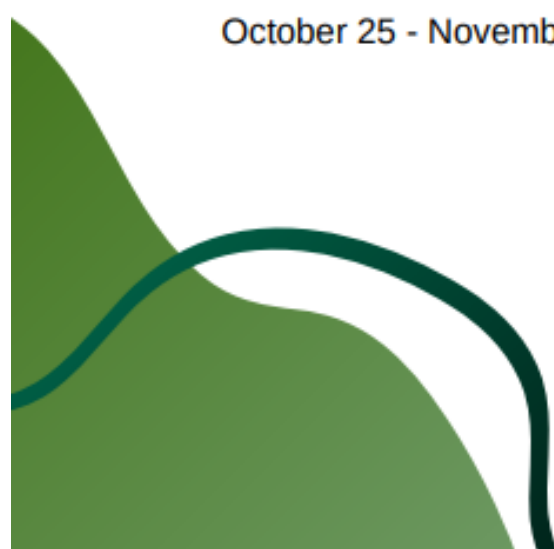
The Digital Storytelling Initiative is a workshop series where you will participate in arts-based mixed media activities to discuss anti-Asian racism and build resilience. Through group collaboration and critical reflection, you can redefine and represent your lived experience.

### 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](mailto:byeung@hongfook.ca)  
Phone: (647) 267-5013

## Upcoming Events - November 2022

DATE	EVENT
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24	Semi-Formal
NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 1	Fall OSSLT
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