



Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday, October 21, 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](#)

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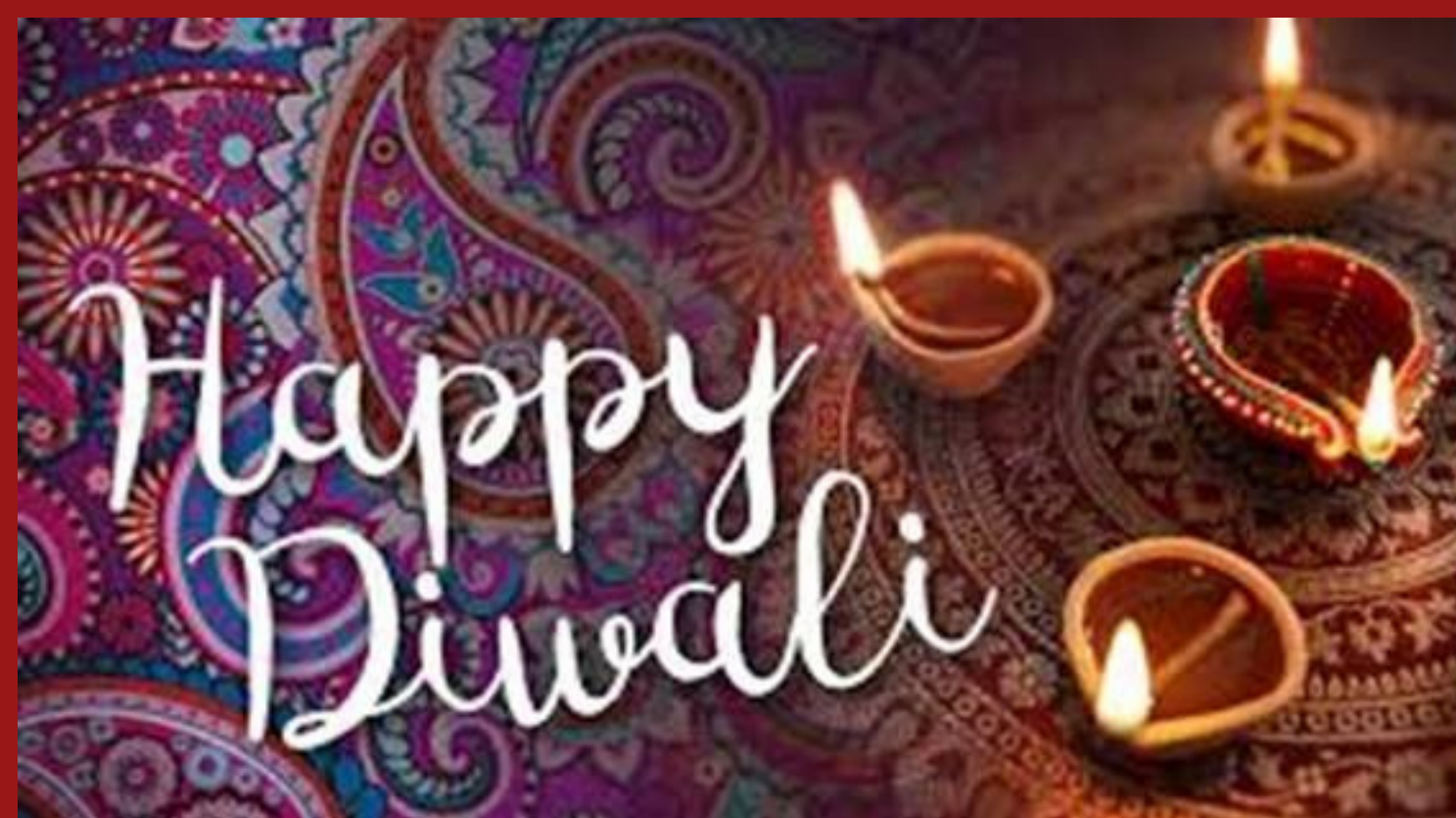
[TECHNOLOGY REQUEST FORM – 2022-2023](#)

[GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES](#)

Character Matters Trait of the Month: *Responsibility*

“The time is always right to do what is right.” – Martin Luther King Jr.

Happy Diwali!



Diwali, or Deepavali, is the Hindu festival of lights, which is celebrated annually in the northern hemisphere. One of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, Diwali symbolizes the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance." During the celebration, temples, homes, shops and office buildings are brightly illuminated. The preparations and rituals for the festival typically last five days, with the climax occurring on the third day coinciding with the darkest night of the month Kartika of the Hindu calendar.

In the lead up to Diwali, celebrants will prepare by cleaning, renovating and decorating their homes and offices. During the climax, Hindus adorn themselves in their finest clothes, illuminate the interior and exterior of their homes with diyas (lamps and candles), offer puja (prayers) to Lakshmi – the goddess of prosperity and wealth, light fireworks and partake in family feasts, where mithai (sweets) and gifts are shared. Diwali is a major cultural event for all members of Hindu and Jain faiths. We would like to wish all members of the UHS Community who are celebrating a very happy Diwali!

We Need Your Feedback!

Thank you so much to all those who attended our School Council Meeting this past Monday evening. We had a great turnout both in person and online! We would love to have some feedback from our Parent/Guardian community. When you have a moment, please complete the following Google Form to answer questions that were asked by our partners from Inclusive School & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developers (CPDs) and our Community Care Social Worker (CCSW). Thank you in advance for your feedback!

[Google Form Link](#)

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.

Clubs at UHS!

UHS families are you wondering which clubs are running at UHS? If so, please be on the lookout in next week's Bulletin as we will have a list of all the clubs that are currently running at UHS. As a reminder, if there is a club that your child would want to be part of, teacher advisors will be listed. If you would like to start a club that isn't listed, please connect with a teacher to get the process started!



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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](#)

Anonymous Anti Asian Racism Survey

Please note the following message on behalf of Superintendent Kien Nam Luu and Associate Professor, OISE/UT Dr. Mary Reid; mary.reid@utoronto.ca
If you are an Asian identifying student of the YRDSB, then you are invited to complete an anonymous survey. This research will support YRDSB's efforts to dismantle anti-Asian racism and foster belonging for Asian members of the YRDSB organization. The survey will close on Oct. 31st.

[Survey for YRDSB Students \(grades 7-12\)](#)

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to

YRDSB Anti-Asian Racism Research Project

Are you interested in being part of the YRDSB's Anti-Asian Research Project? [See here for more information](#)

YRDSB Anti-Asian Racism Research Project

York Region District School Board (YRDSB) is conducting research on the experiences of Asian students, educators, staff, and community members, in an effort to dismantle anti-Asian racism and to foster belonging and create safer spaces for Asian members of the YRDSB organization.

If you are an Asian identifying member (East Asian, South Asian, South East Asian) of the YRDSB, then you are invited to participate in a virtual focus group (small discussion group) to talk about your experiences within the YRDSB institution. For your participation, you will receive a small gift.

If you are interested, please RSVP by deadline.

Who	Session Date	Time	RSVP Deadline	Link
Community Members	Thursday October 6	5 to 7 pm	October 3	Community Registration
Students (G 7-12)	Tuesday October 11	5 to 7 pm	October 3	Student Registration
Teachers	Monday October 17	5 to 7 pm	October 11	Teacher Registration
Administrators	Wednesday October 19	5 to 7 pm	October 11	Administrator Registration
Non-teaching Staff	Wednesday November 2	5 to 7 pm	October 26	Non-Teaching Staff Registration

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.



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Parent/Guardian - Teacher Interviews

Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews will take place on Wednesday, October 26 from 6:30pm - 8:30pm in-person at UHS. This evening will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about your child's programming and achievement.

Please use TeachAssist, to schedule a meeting time with each of your child's teachers.

All students in our school currently have a TeachAssist account to access information about their class assessments.

Parents/Guardians may begin accessing appointment bookings on Thursday, October 20th at 9:00 am through the TeachAssist Parent Portal available at <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>.

From there, enter your e-mail address and leave the password blank to set up a one-time access link or to reset a password that you've created.

An e-mail will be sent with a time limited link that will look similar to this:



Once logged in, parents/guardians will have the option to set up a password. For instructions on how to book an interview through TeachAssist, please click [here](#).

Parents/Guardians may book appointments until **Tuesday, October 25th at 3:00pm**

If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office at 905-479-2787.

Parents/Guardians who do not wish to book a time online can contact their child's teacher directly to book an appointment.

Important Timelines	
Wed. Oct 19 - Thurs. Oct 20	Electronic Interim Report Distribution to Families
Thurs. Oct 20 9:00 AM	TeachAssist Appointment Manager Opens
Tues. Oct 25 3:00 PM	TeachAssist Appointment Manager Closes
Wed. Oct 26 6:30 - 8:30 PM	Interview Night (in-person at UHS)

We look forward to meeting you in-person on **Wednesday, October 26th**.

If Parents/Guardians require a translator, please bring a trusted adult with you to translate. Please avoid using the child you are discussing as your translator to avoid any mixed messages.

Visual Arts Department Announcement

The Visual Arts Department would love your cleaned plastic food containers. We'll be putting them to good use as paint pallets. Feel free to drop them off in the Visual Art/Dance office.



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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](#)



Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day

“Take Our Kids to Work” (TOKW) is an initiative that provides Grade 9 students with the opportunity to OBSERVE a work environment for one day.

This program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On **Wednesday, November 2, 2022** Grade 9 students will have an opportunity to spend the day at the workplace of a parent/guardian, relative, friend or volunteer. There is a Family Guide Resource available to support families with planning.

Please be advised that permission forms to participate in Take Our Kids to Work Day will be sent to your child’s GAPPS account. We ask that you review the form with your child and then sign off as per the instructions and submit the completed online form on or before **Wednesday, October 26, 2022**.

Parents/Guardians can also choose to have their child participate independently in career exploration activities at home or at school. Please indicate this choice on the permission form so that schools can plan appropriately.

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](#)



York Region 2022 Anti-Human Trafficking Conference

Human Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a prevalent issue and one of the fastest growing and most lucrative crimes worldwide and it is happening in York Region. It is predatory and devastatingly damaging to victims, survivors, their families and communities. At the Anti-Human Trafficking York Region Conference, attendees will learn about what human trafficking is, signs and indicators, risk factors, laws, what we can collectively do to eradicate human trafficking in our communities and more. [Please click here for more information.](#)

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.



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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!

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/BecomeTutorUHS0>

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 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	Who
October 25 - November 22 2022	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 - October 2022

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24	Diwali
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26	Parent/Guardian Teacher Interviews 6:30pm - 8:30pm
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27	COMC - Math Contest
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31	Halloween

Upcoming Events - November 2022

DATE	EVENT
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2	Grade 9 Take Your Kids to Work Day Post-Secondary Information Fair @ Markville SS 6:00pm - 8:00pm
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3	Fire Drill #3
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4	Fire Drill #3 Rain date
NOVEMBER 7 - 17	Graduation Photos
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10	Semester 1 Term 2 Begins AU Information Night @ Markham Theatre/UHS 6:30pm - 8:30pm
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11	Remembrance Day
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
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28	School Council Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29	Semester 1 Full Disclosure