

Week of April 24, 2023

Upcoming Dates	
April 30	Class Placement Parent Input Form Due
May 5	Every Student Counts Survey (Gr. 4-8)
May 10	School Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
May 15-19	VDPS Wellness Week
May 17	Discover Kindergarten Event for students starting FDK in 2023
May 24	York Region Public Health Dental Screening and Gr. 7/8 Immunizations (more details to follow)

We extend good wishes to all staff, students and members of the Baha'i community who are celebrating Ridvan.

We extend good wishes to all staff, students and members of the Muslim community who are celebrating Eid-ul-Fitr.

[VDPS website and Calendar](#)

Lunch Assistants Needed

Are you available from 1:00–2:00 p.m. and interested in working as a lunch assistant? If so, please contact the office for more information.

VDPS Wellness Week

We are excited to be celebrating our second annual VDPS Wellness Week in May. During the week of May 15–19 students will explore different aspects of wellness including physical health as well as mental health and well-being. Some of things planned include:

- We will be offering a healthy snack to all students each day that week.
- Morning announcements related to wellness

-All students will be participating in 3 days of engaging workshops run by X-Movement through their "X-Me" program focusing on self-regulation, self-awareness and coping with stress. This program is being paid for through fundraising that was done throughout this school year.



PROGRAM INFO

X ME

I AM EXTRAORDINARY

SELF-REGULATION + SELF-AWARENESS + COPING WITH STRESS

WHAT IS X ME?

X ME FOSTERS MAGIC FOR EVERY X'ER THROUGH THE POWER OF SELF-AWARENESS, FUN CHALLENGES AND COPING SKILLS.

X Me helps X'ers to identify and expand their extraordinary through *dance, fitness challenges, mindfulness activities, and interactive games.*

This experience is suitable for all age groups, as the concepts and movements are delivered in an age appropriate way for each grade level.

X'ers will not only learn to *Pause, Breathe and Observe* but also *Choose to Move and Practice* all these tools throughout the experience.



DAY ONE

LEARN TO OBSERVE MY 4
X'ers will learn to be self-aware and observe the impact their mind, body, emotions, and 'X' have on their Extraordinary Self.



DAY TWO

CHOOSE TO BE A CHAMPION
X'ers learn about their Circle of Comfort and are challenged in a series of stations to get out of their comfort zone to become a CHAMPION.



DAY THREE

PRACTICE AND REFLECT
X'ers apply all the concepts learned, to overcome a practical situation; a series of 'move', 'mind' and 'mystery' challenges & reflections.

 www.xmovement.com

 (647) 343-7439

 info@xmovement.com

Earth Day

Thanks to Ms. White's and Ms. Wilson's Kindergarten class for being earth heroes during their clean up in recognition of Earth Day.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Junior Robotics team for placing second and earning our first school banner at the area Robotics competition on Thursday. We are so proud of all the participants. Thank you to Mr. Chalouh and Ms. Fisher for coaching the team. They will be moving on to the Area Finals competition in May.



Every Student Counts Survey

The York Region District School Board will be conducting the Every Student Counts Survey with students (Grades K-12) to help us better understand our student population and school communities.

On May 5, students in Grades 4-8 at Viola Desmond P.S. will be invited to complete the student survey and will be provided with in-class time to complete it. We will be sending a letter home with students from Grades K-3 who are invited to complete a survey at home with their parent, guardian or caregiver.

Parent input form for 2023-2024 School Year

Each year we invite parents to complete a **[Class Placement Parent Input Form](#)**. This form is for Parents/Guardians of children who will be attending Kindergarten to Grade 8 at Viola Desmond P.S. or Grade 3 French Immersion at Romeo Dallaire P.S. for the 2023-24 school year



Ph: (905) 585-0033 & (647) 749-4316 Email: viola.desmond.ps@yrdsb.ca
Twitter: @ViolaDesmondYR

Input that is received via this form by **Sunday, April 30th 2023** will be considered and shared during placement meetings. Please **DO NOT** send messages directly to your child's teacher. **Only** requests submitted via this form will be taken into consideration.

Please note that we DO NOT accept specific teacher requests. Final decisions regarding student placements remain the responsibility of the Principal and the school staff.

Ministry mandates on class size may impact class placements into September, as a result, we are unable to share class placement information with families until the first day of school.

Thank you for partnering with us.

PEAC Regional Symposium: Parent Voice Matters!

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 6:50 pm – 9:00 pm

Viola Desmond P.S. is seeking interested parents/community members to attend PEAC Regional Symposium. If you are interested, please email tamar.swerling@yrdsb.ca

Who May Register: Up to 10 school community members who are representative of our diverse parent communities, in particular those who are representative of racialized or marginalized community groups. Invitees may include, but should not be limited to, school council members.

How to Register: Please register by accessing the [PEAC Regional Symposium webpage](#) where you will find the [registration form](#) as well as more information about the PEAC Regional Symposium.

Questions: Questions about the PEAC Regional Symposium may be directed to leadership.development.engagement@yrdsb.ca.



Health and Safety

A reminder that families are still asked to use the [School Screening Tool](#) before sending your child(ren) to school each day. We want to help one another stay healthy, so please do not send ill children to school.

School Cash Online



Field trips, yearbooks, fundraisers and some **hot lunch programs** are paid for by families using School Cash Online. If you already have an account, ensure it is set up to provide you with **notifications** of new items.

If you do not yet have an account, please see the attached information page with instructions for setting up an account.

Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)

We are continuing to receive calls and emails from families who are not receiving commercial emails (fundraisers, lunch time programming, hot lunch programs). If you wish to receive this information, you **must** [opt in](#).

Workshops



Virtual Black Parent/Guardian Workshop Series

2023 Summer Program


Is your child a YRDSB student?
Is your child transitioning to Grade 9 or 10?
Is your child registered in the Come Up Program?
Does your child self-identify as Black?

Join us for a workshop series on navigating the secondary school system.

Session # 1 - Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Understanding the Secondary System
(Structure, Rights, Policies, Attendance, Credit Recovery, IEPs and more)

Session # 2 - Tuesday, July 11, 2023, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Supporting your Child (Mental Health Supports, Tips and Strategies)

Families of all students for the summer school program will receive registration information for the Black Parent/ Guardian Workshop Series via email once student registration is complete.



For more information email: TheComeUP@yrdsb.ca