



## January 30, 2020

### Important School-Wide Upcoming Dates

Jan 31	PA Day
Feb 3	School Council Meeting

### LIVE! on School Cash Online

<https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

Item	Who does it apply to?	Deadline (11:59pm)
Mad Science	Grade 1	Feb 7
Term 2 Pizza	Everyone	Feb 13

### Kindergarten Registration

**Kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year is now open.** We are pleased to offer [online Kindergarten registration](#).

**Step 1: Create or access your Edsby account and complete the online registration.**

[Create a new account or access your existing Edsby parent account](#) to register your child.

**NOTE:** If you already have an Edsby account, please login with your existing username and password in order to link your Kindergarten child with your existing account. Once you are logged in, to register a new student for Kindergarten, go to "Registration Campaigns" under "Applications" on the left side of the welcome page.

**Step 2: Verify your registration at the school**

You will receive a message at the end of your registration that outlines which documents you need to take to the school to verify your registration. Your registration will be complete once you have verified these documents at the school.

Online registration is optional. You can register using paper documentation if you prefer.

### Adult English as a Second Language Class

We are surveying the community to determine if there is a need for an **adult English as a Second Language class**. Your feedback will help us determine if there is a need, where it is, and how to best serve the community. Please be as specific as possible with your answers. You will only be allowed to complete the survey once, however, if you know someone who would also be interested in attending an ESL class, please feel free to share this [survey link](#) with them.

Please complete the survey by **Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**.



## FREE Parenting Workshops

Through our partnership with York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families we are offering free parent workshops. Most workshops will be available during the day and in the evening. Childcare for school-aged children will be available for evening sessions. Please see the flyer below for details and information about how to register.

## Message from Our Trustee

As we enter another month of winter, this is a good time to be thinking about our health, well-being and the importance of self-care. We know that, like all of us, our students can focus better when they feel better. Our schools play an important role in health and mental health promotion and education, and fostering well-being and mental health is one of our [priorities as a school board](#).

There is a lot of work taking place in our schools and board to create [healthy schools](#) and promote [mental health](#) and well-being, including:

- Providing training and resources for educators on strategies to support mentally healthy classrooms for all students, including holding a mental health conference.
- Hiring identity specific mental health workers and developing partnerships with [community partners](#) to serve the diverse needs of our students.
- Developing a [Student Suicide Intervention Protocol](#) to help keep students safe in the event of suicidal thoughts or actions.
- Educating students about the risks of [substance use and misuse](#), including [vaping](#) and [cannabis](#).
- Providing strategies and supports for students in [preparing for exams](#) and [managing stress](#).

This commitment is also reflected in Board policy like the [Healthy Schools and Workplaces](#) policy and procedures. Setting policy, which governs the operation of the Board, is one of the [roles of trustees](#), and we greatly value the input provided by students, staff members, family and community members. I encourage you to look at the [policies under review](#) and share your feedback.

We have a lot to look forward to in 2020. At the Board meeting in December, trustees unanimously approved the addition of [new permanent Indigenous Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee positions](#). We are committed to Indigenous Education in our Board and it is important that these voices are represented at the table. We hope to fill the positions as soon as possible and will share more information as it becomes available.

A [message from the Chair of the Board of Trustees](#) is also available on the Board website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair  
Trustee, Vaughan, Wards 3 and 4

**FEBRUARY 2020**  
**PARENT PRESENTATIONS**

**For parents of children from birth to teens**  
**Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers are invited to attend!**

**Let's Talk About It!**

Join us to share, learn and build a school culture where mental health and well-being is valued and promoted.

**To register for any one of these free sessions please contact:**

Oksana Majaski,  
Community & Partnership  
Developer,  
Inclusive Schools &  
Community Services

[Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca)  
416-568-2252

**VIOLA DESMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Tuesday, February 4, 2020**

**9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Let's Talk 2 Anxiety: Youth Mental Health**

Anxiety is the most common health concern for children, youth and adults. This session will help parents better understand anxiety, explore effective coping strategies and how to help their child successfully manage anxiety.

**VIOLA DESMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Thursday, February 6, 2020**

**7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**The Lure of Video Gaming**

This session will help parents better understand what gaming is, the risks and benefits, high – risk situations, triggers, language and conversations, coping strategies and resources.

**VIOLA DESMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Tuesday, February 18, 2020**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Simple Gift: Emotional Regulation**

This session will provide parents with information the 8 principles of emotional regulation and how to teach your child to identify and cope with their feelings.

**VIOLA DESMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Wednesday, February 19, 2020**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**Let's Talk 2 Anxiety: Youth Mental Health**

Anxiety is the most common health concern for children, youth and adults. This session will help parents better understand anxiety, explore effective coping strategies and how to help their child successfully manage anxiety.

*These free Parent Presentations are brought to you in a collaborative partnership with Viola Desmond P.S., York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families, Addictions Services for York Region and York Region District School Board.*

