

Week of June 5, 2023

Upcoming Dates	
June 6	Track and Field Area Event - Grades 4-8
June 7	Tour for Humanity - Grades 4-8 School Spirit Day: Anything but a Backpack Day
June 9	VDPS 2nd Annual Play Day
June 22	Save the Date: Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony at 5:45 p.m.
June 26	Save the Date: VDPS Summer Party 4:30-6:30 p.m.
June 28	Save the Date: Volunteer Appreciation event

[VDPS website and Calendar](#)

Bike to School Week

Thanks to everyone who was able to participate in Bike to School Week! It was wonderful to see so many students using different types of active travel to get to school.



School Spirit Day!!

What: *Anything but a Backpack Day*

When: Wednesday, June 7th (Day 5)

How: Bring a purse / bag / suitcase

*It must fit in the school & in the class

Pride Month

June is Pride Month around the globe. It's a time when people in the 2SLGBTQAI+ community (Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Asexual, Intersex and additional identities) recognize 2SLGBTQAI+ history and leaders in activism. Pride Month is an opportunity for schools to embrace inclusion and celebrate diversity.

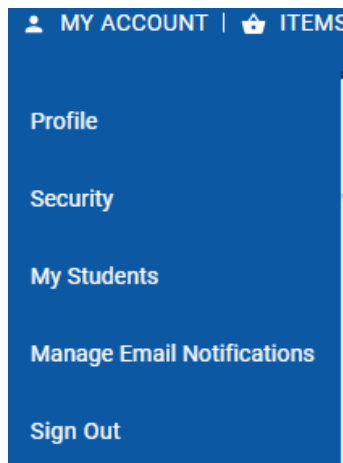
This week, we gathered as a school community to raise our Progress Pride Flag. Viola Desmond P.S. is proud to be a school where everyone matters and belongs.



School Cash Online Settings

Have you been missing information about hot lunches or other programs? Please check your settings on School Cash Online. You must *opt in* to receiving notifications.

- ① Log in to your account and click on MY ACCOUNT
- ② Choose MANAGE EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS from the drop down menu
- ③ Select I WANT TO RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS FOR NEW FEES ASSIGNED TO MY STUDENT AND UPDATES ON SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES



Change Email Notifications

☒ I want to receive email notifications for new fees assigned to my student and updates on school-related activities.

Preferred Language for E-mails English

School Council and VDPS Summer BBQ

Save the date for our first VDPS Summer BBQ on Monday June 26
4:30-6:30p.m.

Additional details will be on School Cash Online soon.

Every Student Counts Survey – Kindergarten to Grade 3

The Every Student Counts Survey was scheduled to close on Friday, May 19, 2023. In order to ensure families have enough time to complete the survey, we are extending the deadline for the Kindergarten – Grade 3 survey until June 23, 2023.

During the week of June 5, families of students in Kindergarten – Grade 3 will receive another invitation letter to complete the survey. If you have already completed the survey, or do not wish to complete the survey, please disregard the invitation letter.

Participating in the Every Student Counts Survey is a unique opportunity for you, as families, to voice your child's experiences. Your input is crucial in helping us understand the diverse needs, strengths, and goals of our student community.

The information you provide will guide us in making informed decisions about programming, supports, and resources, ultimately benefiting your child's learning experience. By participating, you are directly contributing to the improvement of our schools and student success.

We appreciate your time and effort in helping us make Viola Desmond Public School a better place for all students.

School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week

It's almost School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week! From Monday, June 5 to Friday, June 9, the City of Vaughan is celebrating and recognizing the dedicated team of 120 crossing guards who help students, parents and guardians travel safely to and from school each day. This [School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week](#) video showcases the passion and dedication the crossing guards have for their very important role.

The City recruits, trains and hires crossing guards, conducts pedestrian studies, selects crosswalk locations and installs appropriate signage and pavement markings. With more than 115 crosswalk locations throughout Vaughan, both permanent and standby crossing guards are needed to service all locations. Interested in becoming a school crossing guard? Visit vaughan.ca/CrossingGuard to learn more.

Please join us in celebrating our crossing guards by taking the time to thank them for what they do and by spreading the word!

Volunteer Appreciation

The poster is a light gray rectangle with decorative floral and leaf illustrations in the corners. The text is centered and reads: 'Have you volunteered for any of these events this year?' followed by 'Pizza Lunch Book Fair Athletic Events' and 'School Council Field Trips' on separate lines. Below this is 'Please save the date!' and then 'VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CELEBRATION' in large, bold, dark blue letters. The date and time 'Wednesday, June 28th at 8:30 AM' are in red, and the location 'Viola Desmond Public School' is in green. At the bottom, it says 'More details to follow'.

Free and/or Subsidized Recreation, Sport Programs, Summer and Overnight Camps

For Children and Youth ages 4-18 whose families participate in one of the following:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
- Rent Subsidy (including STAR and Ontario Housing Benefit)
- Child Care Fee Subsidy (income below \$36,000)

VDPS Weekly



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

Some programs are only eligible to families in York Region Housing Communities

- Housing York Inc.
- Non-Profit Housing
- Cooperative Housing

For More Program Information and Eligibility: Call Access York at 1-877-464-9675
or visit york.ca/recreationsubsidies



Workshops/Events - [Register Here](#)

Promoting Racial Literacy in Schools

Differences That Make A Difference
with Dr. Howard C. Stevenson



Monday June 19, 2023

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Event

Parents/guardians and students are invited to attend a virtual workshop with Dr. Howard C. Stevenson, author of Promoting Racial Literacy in Schools: Differences That Make a Difference.

Join the conversation on how to help children learn healthier ways to resolve racial stress.

All participants in this FREE workshop must RSVP using the link below.



[Register here](#)

Presented by Inclusive School and Community Services

Workshop funded through the

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant



PROMOTING RACIAL LITERACY IN SCHOOLS

Differences
That Make a
Difference



HOWARD C. STEVENSON



Scholarship Application Workshop

A FREE online workshop to show Black students and their families how to search, prepare, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. If you are in high school or Grade 8, this workshop is especially for YOU!

Friday, June 2, 2023
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM | ONLINE (ZOOM)

Learn more and register at:
bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJune2



For more information about the session or the Black Foundation of Community Networks contact Cheryl Yarde at info@bfcn.ca

Learn more about our work and how to support at bfcn.ca.

[Register for BFCN Workshop here or using the QR code](https://bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJune2)



PARENTING STRATEGIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SUMMER BREAK!

Let's talk about it!


Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.

June 13, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers and
community members to attend this virtual session!**

This session will focus on how to ensure a safe and engaging environment for children with strategies to:

- how parents may get “trapped” in escalations and power struggles;
- understanding various traps ways to avoid these traps and develop age appropriate and do-able strategies; and
- how parents can have a successful, stress free summer break

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families 

Register Today!

This free parent presentation is brought to you in a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families.

For more information contact:
Oksana Majaski, Community & Partnership Developer, YRDSB
Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

Register Here