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Week of November 1, 2021

Upcoming Dates		
November 1-7	Treaty Recognition Week	
	Holocaust Education Week	
November 3	School Photo Day	
November 18 & 19	Parent Teacher Conferences (Virtual)	
November 19	PA Day - Parent Teacher Conferences (Virtual)	

Dear VDPS Families,

We've had another great week at VDPS! It was wonderful to see so many students and staff showcasing their creativity with our dress up day today.

Wishing Happy Diwali to all who are celebrating this week!

Your partners in education,

Tamar Swerling Jacqueline Stone

Covid-19 Communication

We have received some questions regarding Covid-19 procedures when we learn of a positive case in our school community. We have outlined the communication procedure below:

- We communicate with York Region Public Health and YRDSB as soon as we are notified about a Covid-19 case
- YR Public Health determines which cohort(s) (students and staff) needs to isolate and move to online learning
- Public Health provides us with letters that we share with the community.
- One letter gets sent to the dismissed cohort(s) with detailed instructions about isolation, testing, and a return to school date. This letter also explains procedures for household members and now differentiates for vaccinated and unvaccinated household members.
- A *different* letter is sent to the general community informing everyone of a confirmed case in the school.
- We continue to be monitored by Public Health until the period of surveillance closes.



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• During this time, deep cleaning of the classroom is completed by our caretaking staff.

As a reminder:

- Anyone experiencing symptoms, including mild symptoms not included on the provincial screening tool (e.g., runny nose, sore throat, etc.) should NOT attend school or child care.
- If your child has mild symptoms not listed in the screening tool, they can return to school or child care once their symptoms have improved for 24 hours.
- If your child does have symptoms listed on the screening tool, or their symptoms get worse, they are required to have a PCR COVID-19 test or stay home for 10 days.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Family Virtual Conferences will be held on November 18th and 19th. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) and learn more about the classroom. We regret that for health and safety reasons, we are unable to host an event at the school as we normally would, however we look forward to meeting with you virtually.

Families can use Edsby, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their child(ren)'s teacher(s) on Parents' Night. You will receive an invitation to sign up for a meeting time once the schedules are available.

Edsby is a cloud-based platform that lets families easily reserve times to meet with your child(ren)'s teachers. YRDSB in partnership with Edsby have created a secure platform that protects the privacy of information for families.

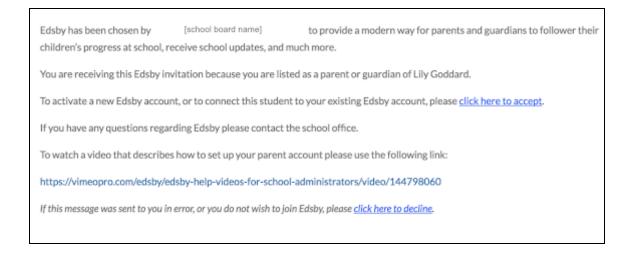
Families that already have an Edsby account may use their previously created account. The username is the full email address that is on file at your child(ren)'s home school and the password is the one created at activation. If you have forgotten your password, you can find <u>resources on the Board website</u> to help, including how to reset your password.

Families who **do not have** an Edsby account will need to create one to access the online appointment scheduler for their child's teachers for the virtual conference. **An up-to-date and valid email address must be provided to your child's home school.** For help creating an Edsby account, <u>instructions can be found on the Board website</u>. An email from York Region District School Board with instructions on how to create an Edsby account will be sent to your email inbox. If you do not receive the email, please check your junk mail folder to ensure you do not miss this opportunity.

Below is the sample invitation email sent to parent(s)/guardian(s) on behalf of YRDSB.



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If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office. Families who do not wish to book a time online can contact the school office.

For help signing up for Parent-Teacher interviews, please visit our board website.

Important Timelines

November 3rd	Parents' Night schedule opens at 9:00 a.m. for booking. Log into your Edsby account. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby account and a notification to your email. Instructions for signing up for interview slots are found <u>here</u> .
November 11th	Interview Scheduler closes at (9:00 a.m.)
November 16th	Families to receive virtual links and information for accessing the virtual conferences
November 18 - 19th	Virtual Interviews

Student Leadership

We are so happy to be able to provide leadership opportunities for our students. This week our Intermediate Announcement Committee began doing the morning announcements. Students very capably managed the PA system and reading of the announcements.

We look forward to providing additional leadership opportunities to students as the year progresses.



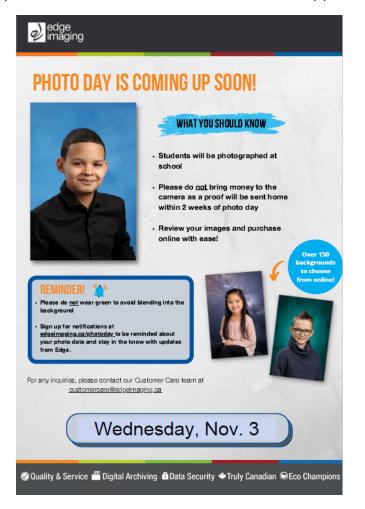
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School Photo Day

Wednesday, November 3 is school photo day. Each student will have the opportunity to have their individual photo taken.

Reminder: **Do not wear green** to avoid blending into the background.

If your child is learning in the hybrid model and you wish to have their photo taken, please contact the office to schedule an appointment.





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A Walk Through Our Halls

Students are learning what it means to be safe and kind at VDPS.



We also saw some outstanding creative skills from Ms. Ricciardi's class with their pumpkin designs.

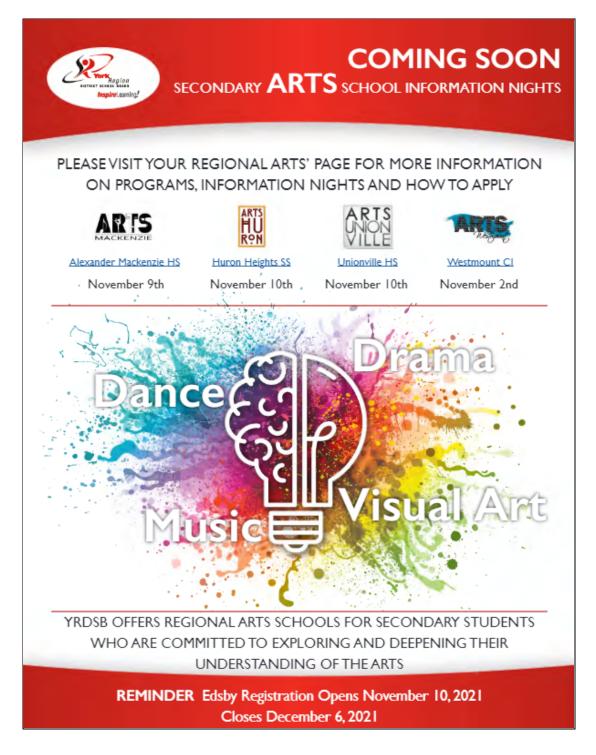






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Secondary School Information





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ELL Classes

Ongoing Open Registration for 2021-2022 Adult ESL, LINC & LBS Programs English as a Second Language (ESL); Language Instruction for New Comers (LINC); and Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) Classes			
YRDSB offers Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) programs for those who want to develop effective language skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing for daily life in Canada. We also offer specialized classes in <i>Citizenship</i> and <i>Conversation</i> .			
 Adult ESL Program Registration – In person and online options available! Email <u>uplands@yrdsb.ca</u> or call 905-731-9557 with the following information: your first and last name your telephone number CLARS identification number (those without a CLARS number will require an assessment, please contact us for further assistance). Our office will contact you if additional documentation is required. Visitors to Canada may also register and attend for a fee of \$10 per day, per class. For an assessment or to register, please call: 905-731-9557 			
If you are interested in improving your digital skills, want to work on your resume or interview skills, or prepare to take your GED exam, our Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) program is for you!			
Literacy and Basic Skill Assessment – In person and online options available! 1. Email uplands@yrdsb.ca or call 905-731-9557 Ext. 307 with the following information: • your first and last name • your telephone number • tell us that you are "interested in the LBS program" NOTE: Due to the high volume of inquires, it may take a few days to receive a reply communication from our office. We appreciate your patience. Thank you for your interest in our programs. We look forward to serving you.			



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