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## Week of November 13, 2023

### Upcoming Dates

Nov.	Hindu Heritage Month
Nov. 6-20	Terra Cotta Cookie Dough Fundraiser - details below
Nov. 16 (PM) and Nov. 17 (AM)	Parent teacher conferences
Nov. 17	PA Day (parent teacher conferences). Students do not attend school.
Nov. 28	Gr. 7 and 8 Immunization Clinic

[VDPS Website and Calendar](#)

[YRDSB 2023-2024 School Year Calendar](#)

*To all those celebrating Diwali on Sunday, we would like to wish you and your families a very happy celebration.*

### **A Walk Through Our Halls**

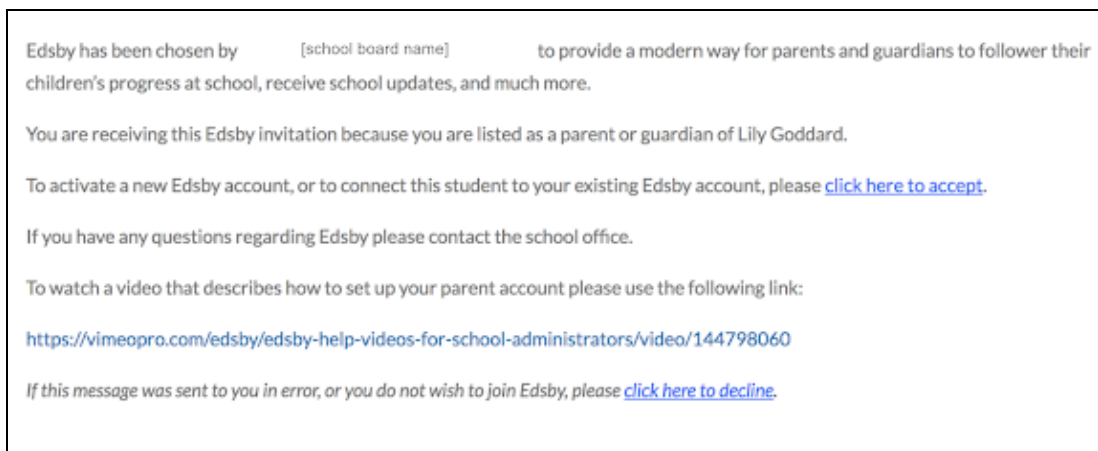
Students and staff have created meaningful displays for Islamic Heritage Month (October), Hindu Heritage Month, Holocaust Education Week and Remembrance Day.



## **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Parent Teacher Conferences for students in SK-Gr. 8 will be held in person on November 16th (after school) and 17th (morning). You will have an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and learn more about the classroom.

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



## **Important Timelines**

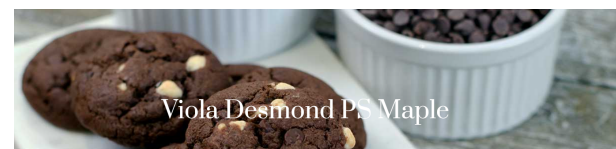
**November 8th** Interview scheduler opens at 9:00 a.m. for booking. Log into your Edsby account. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby account and a notification to your email. Instructions for signing up for interview slots are found [here](#).

**November 14th** Interview Scheduler closes at 4:00 p.m.

**November 16 - 17th** Parent Teacher Conferences. Students are welcome to attend with their parents.

## **Terra Cotta Cookie Dough Fundraiser** **November 6-20**

We are raising money for our school and participating with Terra Cotta Cookies to bring you delicious, peanut and nut-free cookies you will love. There are 13 items to choose from total. There are 12 flavours of delicious



# VDPS Weekly



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cookie dough (including 2 gluten free choices and a vegan option!) each box contains 40 x 20g "Dough Drops™".

Store the compact boxes in your freezer and easily bake when you want warm, fresh cookies. You can bake as few or as many as you would like at a time! (Make sure you stock up because they won't last long once you taste them!) There is also an option for already baked shortbread in a lovely gift box, perfect for gift giving.

Cookie Dough Drop Boxes are \$15.00 each and Shortbread Gift boxes are \$10.00.

For more information and to place an order please go to [our fundraising page](#).

## **School Start-Up Forms**

If you haven't already done so, please complete the School Start-Up forms as soon as possible. We require these forms for many aspects of school programming. They can be found here: <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>

## **Workshops and Events**



### **Youth Gambling Awareness Series**

This workshop series offers educational prevention sessions to parents and caregivers. Participants will engage in learning on gambling awareness, including potential risks, making informed decisions and healthy and active living.

We welcome all parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these free virtual sessions!

**November 7, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

#### **Game Bling: When Gaming Meets Gambling**

This session explores unconventional forms of gambling available to minors, the signs of problem gaming and gambling, and explores the potential risks of these activities. Parents will learn strategies on how to help your child make safe and healthy decisions and information on community support services will be provided.

**November 14, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

#### **Gambling, Money and Decision Making: Financial Literacy and Gambling**

This session discusses items of value used by youth to bet with, and analyzes factors leading them to participate in games of chance to make money. Financial risks of gambling will be explored while providing safety tips and information on community support services.

**November 21, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

#### **Media Impact**

This session will explore the increased youth exposure to gambling-related content on social media platforms while providing media safety tips for parents as well as information on community support services.

**November 28, 2023: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

#### **Stigma and Gambling**

This session will define stigma associated with gambling while providing factual knowledge and awareness to support a compassionate approach to reducing stigma and facilitating an open dialogue. Information on community support services will also be shared.



**[Register](#) Now For These Free Sessions Today!**

These free information sessions are organized by York Region District School Board in collaboration with YMCA of Greater Toronto Youth Gambling Awareness Program (YGAP).

For more information please feel free to contact: Oksana Majaski, Community & Partnership Developer at [oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca](mailto:oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca) or 416-568-2252.

**[Register Here](#)**



## Keep the Door Open: Understand Your Child's Inner World 敞開孩子的心房/敞開孩子的心房

This session in Mandarin and Cantonese will share tips on ways that lead your child to open their inner world and take care of their emotional wellbeing under the influence of both traditional Chinese culture and Western culture.

本次研討會將探討傳統華裔文化和西方文化的影響下如何有效地關愛和照顧孩子的心理健康。

這次的講座將探討傳統華裔文化和西方文化的影響下如何有效地關懷和照顧孩子的心理健康。

To register for a Mandarin session:  
[点击这里报名普通话讲座](#) or scan QR code



To register for a Cantonese session:  
[點擊這裡報名粵語講座](#) or scan the QR code



## Parents, Guardians, Caregiver and Students

Join us to learn and share with your community how the families are supported!

Date: **Tuesday, Nov 21st, 2023**

Time: **6:00pm-7:00pm (Mandarin 普通话)**  
**7:00pm-8:00pm (Cantonese 粵語)**

Location: **Virtually**

### Presenters:

#### Hannah Xu (MPH)

Hong Fook Mental Health Association  
Youth Program Worker

#### Charmaine Tong (M.S.W., R.S.W.)

York Region District School Board  
Community Care Social Worker (Chinese Heritage Community)

### For more information, please contact:

Community Care Social Worker (Chinese Heritage)  
Charmaine Tong  
[charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca](mailto:charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca)

This free session is brought to you in partnership with Hong Fook Mental Health Association and Community Care Team of York Region District School Board