



Week of November 29, 2021

Upcoming Dates	
December 6- Dec. 10	Food Drive in support of Vaughan Food Bank
December 13	Save the date: Virtual School Council Meeting
December 20- 31	Winter Break (return to school on Monday, January 3)
January 11, 2022	Grad Photos and Photo Retakes

Wishing Happy Chanukah to all who are celebrating this week!

Food Drive in Support of Vaughan Food Bank

Dear Families,

Our school will be collecting canned and dry food items to donate to the Vaughan Food Bank in an effort to help families in our community that are struggling.

Did you know that each month, more than one million Canadians benefit from food bank services, and that one third of them are children? Community food drives help ensure that children and their families have access to food assistance when needed. Every donation helps and we hope that our combined donations will make a meaningful difference for those in need.

Items will be collected daily in classrooms and in bins outside the main office.

Thank you for your help.

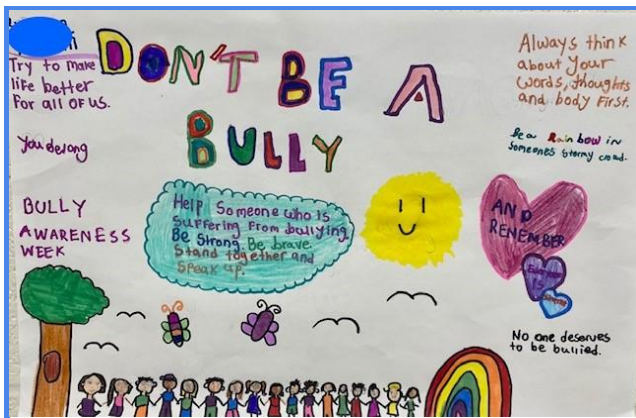
Here are some donation suggestions:

Rice	Juice boxes
Flour	Soups
Canned meats/fish	Stews
Pasta	Cooking oil
Pasta sauce	Apple sauce
Peanut butter	Jam or jelly
Dried and canned beans	Gluten free products
Sugar	Sugar free items
Milk powder	Meal replacements
Baby formula	Hot/cold cereals
Diapers and wipes	



Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week

Our students engaged in meaningful learning during Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week. Our halls are filled with posters with anti-bullying messages and our bulletin board is filled with kindness notes. We are so proud of our students who exemplify our school motto, *Be Safe. Be kind.*



School Council

All VDPS parents and guardians are invited to participate in our School Council.

We are looking for people to join our fundraising initiatives. If you are interested in learning more about how you can get involved with School Council, please send an email to viola.desmond.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca

Our next (virtual) meeting will be on December 13. Please complete [this form](#) to register for the meeting, and we will share the Zoom link on December 13.

YRDSB FAQ page

The YRDSB has a helpful FAQ page that includes information about learning as well as health and safety. [Covid-19 FAQ](#)



Chilly Weather Ahead

With December around the corner the weather is starting to cool down. We want our students to be comfortable at recess and to enjoy their time outdoors. Please ensure they come dressed to go outside each day.

Vacation Information – As shared on November 17

Dear VDPS Families,

We have had a number of families ask about procedures around possible upcoming student absences due to vacation. Please see the information below as recently shared by YRDSB:

Absences due to vacation

- Model learning changes (face-to-face to Hybrid learning) are not intended for the purpose of vacation or any other reasons where the family has control of the schedule.
- Remote learning is not intended to provide temporary education while students are on vacation.
- The number of days of the vacation changes *how* an absence is coded
 - *14 Days or Less*
 - If the vacation is 14 days or less the student is marked AA – Approved Absence.
 - *15 Days or More*
 - If the absence is 15 or more days and the school has an *expected return date*, we will keep the student on the register if contact with the school is made every 15 days. Please call the office for additional information about extended absences such as this. The absence is *coded as EV* – Excused Vacation.

At this time, **unvaccinated children who have travelled outside of Canada must self-isolate for a period of 14 days upon arrival in Canada.** Students may **not** attend school/child care during this period of self-isolation. If a student has travelled for a vacation, the student would be marked absent using the code for COVID19 self-isolation. However, as the self-isolation requirement is due to the



family decision to take a vacation, the creation of a hybrid class is not necessary. The student may be supported through regular classroom/school practice which may include Google Classroom asynchronous work and/or a work package.

For additional information about health and safety, student absences, and learning models please see the Board's [Covid-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#) page online.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Kindly,

Tamar Swerling

Principal

Jacqueline Stone

Vice Principal

Message From Our Trustee – December 2021

With case counts remaining relatively stable, I want to take this opportunity to thank our students, families and staff members for continuing to adhere to health and safety protocols. Your efforts are appreciated and important to protecting the health and safety of our school community members. As we have since the start of the pandemic, the school board continues to meet regularly with public health and follow their guidance. Families looking for more information or resources on COVID-19 and our schools, including health and safety guidelines, frequently asked questions and mental health resources, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening or York Region's www.york.ca/safeatschool.

In November, we held the school council forums. I appreciated the opportunity to participate in shared learning with school council representatives on priority topics including the ABCs of mental health and actioning anti-racism practices. Thank you to all of the participants and to all school council members for your partnership. There are so many valuable [ways](#)



[families help to strengthen our schools and support student learning and achievement](#). We value the partnership that we have with families, and thank you for your ongoing support.

As partners, we want to support you in supporting your child's learning, achievement and well-being. The Family Resources page on the Board website provides quick access to online tools such as Google Classroom, School Cash Online, Edsby and more. It also provides links to information to support you in engaging in your child's learning - resources like translation tools, IT support for families and tips on protecting your child's privacy online. It also includes links to other information you may find helpful. Find it at www.yrdsb.ca/familyresources or from the link on the homepage.

Over the past few months, York Region District School Board has been conducting a review of its Trustee Areas. The boundaries of the areas that school board trustees represent change over time. The goal of the Trustee Determination and Distribution Study is to ensure fair and equitable representation of all public school supporters. Thank you to everyone who participated in the consultation on the proposed options. The final report will be presented at the Board of Trustees meeting on February 8. You can find more [information about the study and the recommendations on the Board website](#).

The upcoming winter season is a time of celebration for many, and I want to wish you and your families a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. I hope that over the winter break, you find time to rest, relax and rejuvenate and we look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

Trustee – Vaughan Wards 3 and 4



Parent Engagement Panel Discussion (In Tamil Session)

தமிழில் பெற்றோருடன் ஓர் கலந்துரையாடல்

- **Course Selection for Grade 9**
9 ஆம் வகுப்புக்கான பாடத் தேர்வு
- **Destreaming of Grade 9 Math**
புதிய Academic, Applied நீக்கப்பட்ட தரம் 9க்கான கணிதம்

Hosted by

Educators for Tamil Student Success
and
Inclusive School and Community Services

யோக் பிராந்திய பாடசாலை வாரியத்தின் தமிழ் மாணவர்கள்
வெற்றிக்கான அமைப்பும்,
யோக் பிராந்திய பாடசாலை சமூக சேவைகளுடன் இணைந்து நடாத்தும்
பயிற்சிப் பட்டறை

Date / திகதி: December 8, 2021
Time / மாலை: 6:30 - 8:00 pm வரை

[Registration பதிவு செய்ய இணைப்பு இங்கே](#)

If you have any questions please contact:
உங்களுக்கு ஏதாவது கேள்விகள் இருந்தால்

Nageswary Srikumaraguru/ Community Partnership Developer,
Inclusive School and Community Services (YRDSB)
nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca

[Registration Form](#)