



Windham Ridge P.S. Community Newsletter



Week ending: **April 5th, 2024**



(Click on the numbered items to be linked directly to your selection on this PDF.)

1. [Multifaith Observance](#)
2. [Windham Community Calendar](#)
3. [April is Sikh Heritage Month](#)
4. [April is Autism Awareness Month](#)
5. [International Day of Pink](#)
6. [Early Dismissal on April 8th due to the Solar Eclipse](#)
7. [Supports for Students with Autism and their Families](#)
8. [Summer Institute Registration](#)
9. [Parent/Caregiver Mental Health Series Supporting Students of the Chinese Heritage Community](#)
10. [Korean Community Engagement Night](#)
11. [School Council Meeting](#)

Multifaith Observances

Best wishes to all families observing celebrations!

[Here is the link](#) to the Multifaith calendar.

[Here is the link](#) to the YRDSB list of significant faith day observances.



Wishing staff, students, and families Eid Mubarak on April 10, 2024!

[Click here to view YRDSB's Diamond Day Series about Eid.](#)

What's Up Windham Community Calendar

[What's Up Windham Community Calendar](#)



April is Sikh Heritage Month



YRDSB Sikh Heritage Month: Preserving our Past (2023)

To build on our learning, we enjoyed a read-aloud for Sikh Heritage Month “The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh. You can access this story in the link below:

  Kids Book Read Aloud : The Many COLORS of Harpreet Singh

As a school, we continue to learn about the rich diversity in our community and how we can build on our knowledge and create more inclusive environments for everyone.

April is Autism Awareness Month



 [Dear Society... ..](#)



 [CMC Story Tim...](#)

The York Region District School Board (YRDSB) is officially launching a month-long World Autism Acceptance campaign alongside our community partners from [Autism Ontario](#), a member of our Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

This campaign launched on April 2, 2024. The purpose of [Autism Ontario's Celebrate the Spectrum](#) campaign is to bring attention to the triumphs, contributions and experiences of people from the Autistic community. By fostering acceptance, we can build stronger and more inclusive communities and learning environments for students with Autism.

Moving From Awareness to Acceptance

We continue to move away from raising awareness for Autism to increasing acceptance. Awareness seeks to highlight how dissimilar we are and emphasizes the differences and distance between our ways of being. Acceptance looks at commonalities we share and at the strength inherent in diversity. ([Autistic Self Advocacy Network, 2014](#))

Some students self-identify as an Autistic person as part of their social identity. At the YRDSB, the way we recognize World Autism Acceptance Month is through consultation with our students with Autism, their families and by using our professional judgment.

You are invited to watch this Ted Talk, [Dear Society...Signed, Autism](#) from the point of view of a self-advocate to learn more about Autism Acceptance. The most important thing to remember is that when you're talking about Autism, you're talking about a person. On World Autism Day, on Tuesday April 2nd, we all engaged in watching the story [▶ CMC Story Time: "A Friend for Henry"](#) , as we continue our awareness and acceptance and celebrate diversity at Windham Ridge PS.

International Day of Pink
is
April 10, 2024

Wear Pink on
Friday, April 12,
2024!

What is Pink Shirt Day?

By the CBC Kids team
© February 24, 2021 | Last updated February 16, 2023



April 10, 2024, is the International Day of Pink. The International Day of Pink is a day when communities across Canada and across the world unite to celebrate diversity and raise awareness about the need to stop homophobia, transphobia, discrimination and all forms of bullying. On this annual day in April, individuals wear pink to show respect for diversity and to demonstrate support for learning and working environments which are safe and inclusive of people from all different backgrounds.

International Day of Pink is intended to create a more inclusive and diverse world. The Day of Pink originated in Eastern Canada, after a few young students decided to stand up against homophobia, bullying and toxic masculinity ([CBC](#)). Although the first Day of Pink occurred 17 years ago, the 2SLGBTQI+ community and students continue to experience homophobia, transphobia and biphobia. Schools and workplaces need to commit to raising awareness, building inclusion and eliminating discrimination for students in 2SLGBTQI+ communities.

All students and staff have the right to learn and work in environments that are free from hate, discrimination, and harassment. Positive acts of advocacy, allyship and solidarity have an impact on our culture and society.

As a reminder, April 10 is Eid-ul-Fitr and is recognized by YRDSB as a [Diamond Day](#).

As a school community, we invite students to wear pink on Friday April 12th to represent commitment to raising awareness, building inclusion, and eliminating discrimination for students in 2SLGBTQI+ communities.

Early Dismissal on April 8th due to the Solar Eclipse

A reminder to families

On Monday, April 8, 2024, a full solar eclipse will occur, which will block the sun's light in some areas.

In York Region, we will experience effects of the eclipse between roughly 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., which coincides with the scheduled dismissal times for our school.

Out of concern for student safety, on April 8, 2024, WRPS students will be dismissed at **12:10pm**. Student after school activities will also be cancelled for that afternoon.

Transportation services such as busing and taxis will be adjusted for the early dismissal. The schedule for student transportation in the morning of April 8 will remain the same. Transportation in the afternoon will be modified to align with the early dismissal time and will be communicated to families.

If you have questions about the YMCA child care, please contact them directly.

Supports for Students with Autism and their families

Supports for Students with Autism and their Families

This session will support parents, guardians and families with:

- Understanding Autism
- Process for diagnosis
- YRDSB referral process
- School supports
- Community resources

Date: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Unionville High School, 201 Town Centre Blvd, Markham, ON L3R 8G5

Please **register** by Apr. 28, 2024.

This free information session is organized by Inclusive School and Community Services in partnership with Student Services of York Region District School Board. For more information, please email shani.blake@yrdsb.ca or pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca Please note that Childcare will not be provided.

Summer Institute Registration

Registration Information

Summer Institute 2024 registration is now open.

Registrations will be confirmed and a placement secured once payment has been processed. Spaces are limited at each Summer Institute site location.

[Register Now](#)

Summer Institute Registration

Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for six weeks during July and August. It is offered at nine school sites around York Region. For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the [Summer Institute webpage](#).

Registration opens March 27, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Families can register online.

Parent/Caregiver Mental Health Series Supporting Students of the Chinese Heritage Community

The YRDSB Community Care Social Work series will provide a number of parent/caregiver virtual events to build community, support mental health, and promote healing.

The first session in the series is offered for any parent/guardian of students of Chinese Heritage. Parents, caregivers are invited to join this workshop and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school. Tips on ways that help strengthen family relationships and emotional wellbeing will be shared. This will be a free virtual event.

Keep the Door Open (Repeated Session): Understand Your Child's Inner World

April 23, 2024 at 6:00pm-7:00pm Mandarin Session

LINK: [Registration for Mandarin Session](#)

点击这里报名普通话讲座 or scan QR code



April 23, 2024 at 7:00pm-8:00pm Cantonese Session

LINK: [Registration for Cantonese Session](#)

點擊這裡報名粵語講座 or scan the QR code



Please email charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or difficulties in accessing the registration link.

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.

本次研讨会将探讨传统华裔文化和西方文化的影响

下如何有效地关爱和照顾孩子的心理健康。

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。

Korean Community Engagement Night

Register online using this [Google form](#).



NEKS

The Network of Educators for Korean-Canadian Students

Korean Community Engagement Night

Connect with experienced Korean educators to ensure effective support for your child's academic journey and future success.

자녀들의 성공적인 학교생활과 진로를 위해 현직에 계신 한국의 선생님들을 만나보세요

Presented jointly by NEKS, and CCSYR Settlement and Education Partnership in York Region, this event offers valuable insights into YRDSB's diverse programs. Parents and families of Korean students are invited to join us for an informative session where they can learn how to help their child be successful in Ontario's education system.

NEKS(한인 학생들을 교육하는 교육자 모임)과 York Region 학교 정착 프로그램과 공동 주최하고 캘러리아가 후원하여 한인 학생들의 학부모를 대상으로 하는 캐나다 공립학교시스템의 다양한 프로그램 안내 및 질의 응답할 수 있는 자리를 마련하였습니다.

Date: April 11, 2024

Time: 6PM - 8PM

Location: Thornhill S.S.
167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill

Registration: Enrolment limited to first 100 registrants

온라인 등록 선착순 100명

*Registrations end on April 8th (등록마감일 4월8일)

Workshop Topics:

- **Opportunities and Pathways after High School (고등학교 이후의 기회와 진로):** Learn about different pathway opportunities after high school. What career opportunities are there? How do we prepare our students for life after high school?
- **Transitioning into High School (고등학교 진학-고등학교의 다양한 프로그램 및 성공 팁):** Learn about different programs at YRDSB schools. What are some tips for being successful in high school?
- **Special Education (특수교육 및 학생지원):** Learn about special education and Individualized Education Plans. How can students who are struggling in school be supported?

For additional inquiries, please contact (문의사항) jaeyeon.kwak@yrdsb.ca



School Council Meeting



The next **WRPS School Council Meeting** will take place on

Wednesday April 17, 2024

6:30pm-8:00pm

Virtually and in person (school library)

Agenda to be shared at a later date

Virtual login information: Microsoft Teams meeting

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 237 512 076 312

Passcode: SFKVcG