



# Windham Ridge P.S. Community Newsletter



Week ending: **December 1st, 2023**



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## What's Up Windham Community Calendar

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



## Multifaith Observances

Best wishes to all families observing celebrations over the next two weeks!

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

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

## Student Absences

Please notify the school office if your child/ren will be leaving on an early vacation before the start of the winter break or will not be returning to school on Monday January 8th. A PLANNED ABSENCE can be reported by parents In [Edsby](#).

## and Reporting Extended Absences and Vacations

If students are absent more than 15 days, a [Notification of Expected Return to School form](#) will need to be filled out by parents and handed in to the school before the student starts on the extended leave. A copy of this [form](#) can be found on the School's Website.

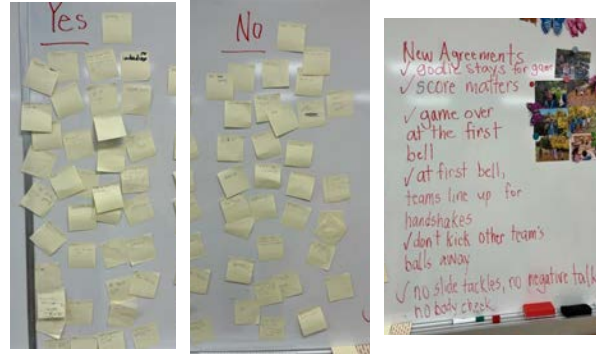
If the parents/guardians do not report the absence before January 8th and If the office is unsuccessful in reaching parents or emergency contacts in the new year, the school is required to call the police to ensure the safety and location of the student.



## Student Soccer Symposium

## WRPS Non-Competitive Soccer Agreements

All students were invited to a conversation about recess soccer games at Windham Ridge. Insightful input and thinking resulted into new agreements that were shared school-wide this week on the morning announcements.



### The results are in..... WRPS Soccer Agreements



1. Score matters
2. Game over at first bell. All players from both teams line up to shake hands.
3. Don't kick other team's ball away while in soccer game area.
4. Goalie stays for the entire game.
5. No slide tackles and no body checking.
6. No negative talk (e.g., speaking badly about someone's skills, someone's gender).

We look forward to continuing soccer games during recesses that are inclusive, safe, and fun!

## Grade 8 Popcorn Fundraiser



Our grade 8 students will be distributing *Kernels* popcorn for \$3 each during lunch time every Friday, from December 8th to December 22nd to support Grade 8 Graduation events, June 2024. Orders must be placed in advance on [School Cash Online](#) and no cash orders will be permitted.

- Orders placed by Thurs Nov. 30 - delivery will be Fri Dec 8th
- Orders placed by Thurs Dec. 7th - delivery will be Fri Dec 15th
- Orders placed by Thurs Dec. 14 - delivery will be Friday Dec 22nd

**PLAY Leaders  
training & leadership  
opportunity  
for students in grades  
6-8**



WRPS has partnered with the York Region Public Health Nurse to bring the PLAY program to Windham Ridge. This week, this leadership opportunity was opened to students for a brief meeting and to access an \*application package.

**What is the PLAY Program?**

It is a great way for students in grade one to grade three to get active and have fun at recess. You will be the leaders who help create a more active playground!

**What are PLAY student leaders?**

PLAY student leaders are students in grades six to eight who are trained to lead fun games and enjoy learning. Leaders are active, helpful, responsible, and enthusiastic and like working with younger students.

**What are some of my roles and responsibilities?**

Your role is to encourage students to try new games that help them move, get active, and have fun! You will teach them how to play the games, suggest games they might want to try like obstacle courses or large games of tag.

PLAY student leaders will role model active, healthy living and being positive and fair. You will be responsible for organizing equipment and also to commit to a schedule. PLAY leaders encourage respect and a safe and inclusive playground.

**Time commitment:** one or two recesses per week, plus lunch-hour training sessions as needed.

**Initial training sessions by York Region Public Health Nurse:**  
December 11, 12 (over lunch and small portions during class time)

**Application packages to be returned to office by:** Wednesday,  
December 6th, 2023

\*Application packages are available in the office for students who are interested. The program can accommodate up to 20 students for training.



Presentations:

Thursday November 30, 2023

We were so happy to have Youth Speak back to Windham Ridge to support our students with continued learning about mental health and well being. The students were very engaged in the sessions.

See program descriptions below of the learning that your child(ren) engaged in:

### Grades 1-3: Building a Self-Care Toolkit:

An interactive program that is designed to introduce primary aged children to emotions, feelings words and coping tools. Participants will follow along on a forest adventure with Skippy and Rory. As they face obstacles, they will use tools they collect along the way. Skippy and Rory will use teamwork to overcome and work through these challenges to make it through the forest. Participants will learn coping skills and strategies to use in their lives when they face challenges and obstacles.

### Grades 4-6, 7-8: Online Overdrive

@YouthSpeakCAN presenters shared authentic stories with students in grades 4-8, specific to online habits & well being. This one-hour assembly will provide students with a deeper look into the impact that online use may have on their mental health and overall well-being. Youth Speakers sharing their personal stories of how online use affected their self-esteem, choices, social groups, and self-concept. Students will leave with a greater understanding of the choices they are making online and how to interact and use technology in a healthier way.

**Online Overdrive**  
Student Tip Sheet (Gr. 4-6)

**PRACTICE SAFE ONLINE HABITS**

- USE PRIVACY SETTINGS.
- Turn your LOCATION off while on devices and apps.
- BE MINDFUL OF TIME SPENT ONLINE. Being mindful helps you to not overuse time spent on apps and devices. Try not to spend more time on your device before bed.
- Only go to chat rooms that are credible. For example, Kids Help Phone (www.kidshelpphone.ca)
- BE CAREFUL what you post on social media.
- Only accept and add people you know.
- DO NOT ACCEPT STRANGERS.

**EFFECTS OF ONLINE OVERUSE**

- Poor sleep quality
- Body image concerns
- Negative thoughts & comparisons
- Isolation
- Lack of social skills
- May cause procrastination and short attention span
- A strain on shoulders, neck, and back

**FLIP THE SWITCH**

ASK YOURSELF  
Are my comments helping someone, hurting someone, including myself?

THINK BEFORE YOU HIT SEND.

LOOK TO YOUTHSPEAK FOR SELF-CARE STRATEGIES, RESOURCES, INFO AND MUCH MORE!

www.youthspeak.ca (905) 987-0504 office@youthspeak.ca  
@YouthSpeakCAN @YouthSpeakCAN @YouthSpeakCAN YouthSpeak Performance Charity

**Online Overdrive**  
Student Tip Sheet (Gr. 7-12)

**PRACTICE SAFE ONLINE HABITS**

- USE PRIVACY SETTINGS.
- Turn your LOCATION off while on devices and apps.
- use SOCIAL MEDIA TIME. This helps to not overuse your time spent on apps and devices. Try not to spend more time on your device before bed.
- Only go to chat rooms that are credible. For example, Kids Help Phone (www.kidshelpphone.ca)
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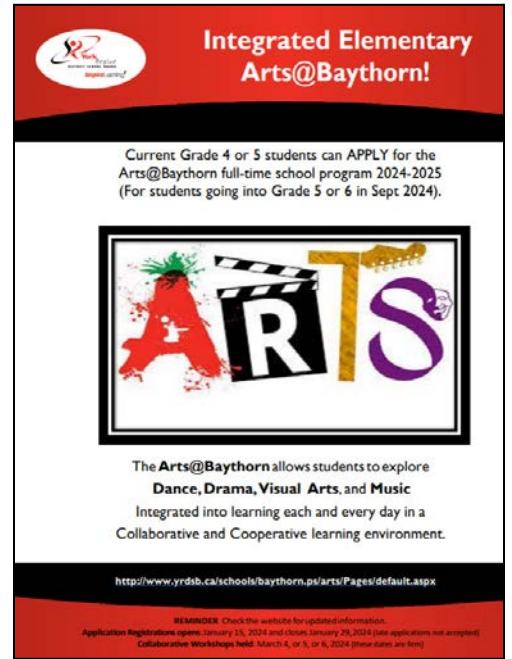
We look forward to continued learning and partnerships with Youth Speak as the year progresses.

## Arts@Baythorn

Registration opens January 15, 2024 for the 2024-2025 Arts@Baythorn program and closes January 29, 2024.

Current Grade 4 and 5 students can apply.

[Please see the flyer for more information.](#)



The flyer features the Windham Ridge School Council logo at the top left. The title "Integrated Elementary Arts@Baythorn!" is in white on a red background. Below, it states: "Current Grade 4 or 5 students can APPLY for the Arts@Baythorn full-time school program 2024-2025 (For students going into Grade 5 or 6 in Sept 2024)." A central graphic shows the word "ARTS" in large, colorful letters (A: red, R: black, T: yellow, S: purple) with a clapperboard and a paint palette. Below the graphic, it says: "The Arts@Baythorn allows students to explore Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music Integrated into learning each and every day in a Collaborative and Cooperative learning environment." At the bottom, a URL is provided: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/baythorn.ps/arts/Pages/default.aspx>. A small "REMEMBER" note at the very bottom reads: "Check the website for updated information. Application Registrations open January 15, 2024 and close January 29, 2024 (late applications not accepted). Collaborative Workshops held: March 4, or 5, or 6, 2024 (these dates are firm)." The flyer has a red and black border.

## WRPS School Council Holiday Giving Campaign



This year, Windham Ridge School Council is partnering with TAIBU Community Health to support their holiday Santa program. The goal is to provide 300 new toys to children, ranging from infants to 14 years old. The most popular category of toys needed is for children ages 7 to 12 years old.

Please drop off your new, unwrapped, toy donation to the bins outside the front office **between Thursday November 30 and Monday December 11.** Thank you for helping us spread holiday cheer!

~ Windham Ridge School Council

We look forward to learning with TAIBU over the course of the year in the school as we continue to support all students in our community.



The flyer is titled "WRPS SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTS HOLIDAY GIVING campaign supporting TAIBU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE". It features a festive design with green Christmas trees, snowflakes, and various toys like a teddy bear, a soccer ball, and a skateboard. The text reads: "In the spirit of giving and caring, we are collecting **new** toys for ages 0-14 yrs to be distributed to 300 children this holiday." Below this, it specifies: "Event Date: November 30th - December 11th" and "Toys can be dropped off in the donation boxes near the office".

## Terra Cotta Cookies



Limited quantities are still available of the Vanilla Snow Cookies. Log into [School Cash Online](#) if you are interested. Proceeds will go towards supporting all WRPS students and school initiatives. The cookies are manufactured in a Peanut and Nut Free Facility. Cookies **contain wheat, soy, egg**. The cookies will be distributed for snack on the morning of **Friday December 8th**.



## Learning in grade 8!

## Watershed on Wheels

## Partnership with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

On Friday December 1, the grade 8s took part in "Clean water, Clear Choices" a workshop run by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.



Students learned about the water cycle and where our drinking water comes from. They explored common sources of pollution and how our daily choices impact our watersheds and ecosystems.



Working in small teams, students then explored miniature filtration tools and built a water filtration system to clean polluted water. They discussed which strategies were particularly helpful, and how their filtration systems mirrored processes used to clean our tap water in water treatment plants. Students also learned about types of pollution that are especially difficult to extract, such as medication and microplastics, and what they can do to minimize their impact.



## Kid's Kitchen December Specials

## DECEMBER SPECIALS

Ordering is Easy. Kid Approved. Stress Free.

Try our **Festive Special** just in time for the holidays!

Roasted Chicken Leg,  
Steamed Veggies,  
Mashed Potatoes with  
Gravy & a Festive Treat



Or try our **BLT** with crispy turkey bacon, lettuce and tomato on a kaiser.

Available as an entrée only or in a combo with chocolate pudding.

Online orders can be completed up until 10am the previous business day.

We're here to help!  
information@kidskitchen.ca

 [www.kidskitchen.ca](http://www.kidskitchen.ca)



**KidsKitchen.ca**

## Babysitting Certificate Course

January 19, 2024 at  
Windham Ridge PS

Paper Copies available  
in the office for access  
if needed.

**PERFORMANCE  
DEVELOPMENT**  
Special Interest Service Provider for YRDSB



Canadian  
Red Cross

Authorized  
Provider

# BABYSITTING



**CERTIFICATE COURSE**

**\$80.00** HST Inc.

Manual and Certificate per Student



**P.A. Day Course**  
**Jan 19, 2024**

PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT

PAULINE PEARSELL      JANET PEARSELL  
905-478-1744      289-231-9244  
pdbabysitting@hotmail.com

SUBMIT FORMS TO [PDBABYSITTING@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:PDBABYSITTING@HOTMAIL.COM) BY **Jan 8, 2024**

**COST PER STUDENT \$80.00** \$20.00 processing fee for any cancellations/NSF

Location: **Windham Ridge P.S.** **P.A. DAY PROGRAM**

Day of Program: **Jan 19, 2024** Time: 9:00am - 3:30pm

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency No: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### E-TRANSFERS ARE DIRECT DEPOSIT

WITHOUT THE ABOVE INFORMATION WE CANNOT ISSUE A  
CONFIRMATION BY EMAIL FOR THE STUDENT

FOR ALTERNATE PAYMENTS YOU WILL HAVE TO CONTACT THE OFFICE

HST#893821892RT0001

Please note that Performance Development is an independent provider of the York Region District School Board, and the YRDSB will not be held liable for the financial responsibilities of Performance Development. In the event that you are unable to complete the program an understanding has been reached to: a) Allow another service provider to complete the program. b) Refund the program fee on a prorated basis.

