



Windham Ridge P.S. Community Newsletter



Week ending: **December 9th, 2022**



Monday, December 12 (Day 5) Windham Winter Giving donations accepted!	Monday, December 19 (Day 5) Spirit Week Begins! Stay Tuned!
Tuesday, December 13 (Day 1) Pizza lunch	Tuesday, December 20 (Day 1) Pizza lunch
Wednesday, December 14 (Day 2)	Wednesday, December 21 (Day 2)
Thursday, December 15 (Day 3) Subway lunch Gingerbread house Fundraiser ends	Thursday, December 22 (Day 3) Subway lunch
Friday, December 16 (Day 4) Gingerbread house draw	Friday, December 23 (Day 4) Last day of school School resumes on Mon. January 9th

**Stay tuned for more information about our
WRPS Spirit Week- December 19-23!**

Multifaith Observances



"Looking to a New Day"
by Ann Hilton

- Bahá'í Faith* **12** *Masá'il*
- Islam* **13** *Birth Date of the Aga Khan*
- Mexican Culture* **16** *Las Posadas*
- Judaism* **18** *Eve of Hanukkah*
- Judaism* **19** *First Day of Hanukkah*
- 21** *Pancha Ganapati*
- Shinto* **21** *Tohji-taisai*
- Wicca* **21** *Yule*
- Astronomical Event* **21** *December Solstice*
- New Moon* **23** *New Moon*
- 24** *Christmas Eve (W)*
- 25** *Christmas (W) Christianity & (W, E - New Calendar)*
- Zarathushti (Zoroastrianism)* **26** *Anniversary of the Death of Prophet Zarathustra*
- Judaism* **26** *Last Day of Hanukkah*
- Bahá'í Faith* **31** *Sharaf*
- Zarathushti (Zoroastrianism)* **31** *Ghambar Maidyarem begins*

Families and educators can support children and youth in understanding and coping with the impact of the protests in Iran. Most children and youth will cope well with the support and caring of their families, teachers, friends, and other caring adults, however some may require additional support.

YRDSB has collaborated with Family Services of York Region (FSYR) to offer three supportive mental health gatherings for Iranian parents/caregivers, students grades 6-8, and students grades 9-12.

The series:

**YRDSB in Collaboration with FSYR (Family Services of York Region):
Mental Health Event for Families and Youth
in Light of the Protests in Iran :**

**An event to
“Acknowledge - Bridge - and Connect” During Global Protests**

The events are open to Iranian parents, caregivers, and families acknowledging that we all may have different experiences in relation to the protest in Iran.

At the events, Iranian families will hear about common reactions to stress and trauma as well as potential ways to cope and support their mental health and their child using the ABCs (i.e., Acknowledge, Bridge, Connection) of Mental Health.

Youth will hear about common reactions to stress and trauma as well as potential ways to cope and support their mental health using the ABCs of Mental Health. Each event will end with a brief panel discussion responding to pre-submitted participant questions.

- **Elementary (Grades 6-8):** December 16, 2022 (Red Maple PS, 155 Red Maple Rd, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4P9) *Gym A – from 4:00 – 6:00 pm*
- **Parent /Caregiver Session**(for parents/caregivers of **elementary** students): (Red Maple PS, 155 Red Maple Rd, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4P9) *Gym B - from 4:00-6:00 pm*
- **Secondary (Grades 9-12):** December 19, 2022 (Alexander Mackenzie HS, 300 Major MacKenzie Dr W, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 3S3) *6:00 – 8:00 pm*
- **Parent/Caregiver Session** (for parents/ caregivers of **secondary** students): December 19, 2022 (Alexander Mackenzie HS, 300 Major MacKenzie Dr W, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 3S3) *from 6:00– 8:00 pm*

Session information and registration for the parents/caregivers session and the student session is available on [the registration form](#).

Registration closes on December 14, 2022.



**After School and
Evening
Mental Health
Supports
in Light of the
Protests in Iran 2022**

WRPS Winter Giving- supporting

360 Kids



Food Drive!

Our **Student Social Justice Committee** has researched needs in our YRDSB community and have determined that, as a school community, we will be donating to the York Region [organization 360*Kids](#) who “support at-risk youth and surrounding them with care, recognizing that these kids need a wide range of supports to help them rebuild their lives.”

Windham Winter Giving- Updated!

Classroom Giving

Each class will receive a box to fill with non-perishable food items to support 360Kids. Here is a list of items that they are currently needing to stock shelves at their drop-in center in Richmond Hill:

- Dry Goods (bags of rice, lentils)
- Cereals, granola bars, cookies, crackers, chips, peanut butter, jam
- Canned meats (tuna, salmon, corned beef)
- Cup of soups/Cup of noodles (Mr. Noodles Cups)
- Canned stews and chilies
 - eg. Chunky Beef, Healthy Choice, Campbells, Puritan brands)
- Individual cups of KD (Kraft dinner microwaveable), regular boxes of KD
- Packages of Sidekicks pasta, Uncle Bens Rice
- Frozen individual meals for youth
 - Michelinas, Healthy Cuisine, Stouffers, Swanson (we have freezers at Home Base to store items for youth meals.)
- Snack foods
 - pudding cups, fruit cups, crackers, cookies, fruit snacks, juice boxes, instant oatmeals (preferred flavours are maple/brown sugar, apple cinnamon), variety of teas, goldfish crackers and variety cracker boxes, chips, popcorn
- Cans of Tomatoes and tomato sauce
- Canned vegetables
- Condiments – ketchup, mustard, soy sauces, hot sauces, BBQ sauces

Students will also be creating personalized cards/crafts to send positive messages and winter greetings to specific youth from the 360Kids community.

If you would like to donate to this Windham Winter Giving initiative, please send your donations with your child to school, beginning on Monday December 12, to be placed into their classroom giving box.



Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Giving Tree!



WRPS School Council

Our WRPS School Council have set up a Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Giving Tree in our main foyer.

Students and families are invited to bring in hats, gloves, and scarves that will be donated and delivered to [360*Kids](#) before the winter break!

If you would like to donate to this Windham Winter Giving initiative, please send your hats, scarves, and gloves with your child to school, beginning on Monday December 12.

Your child will be welcomed to place their items onto the Giving Tree in the main school foyer!

Gingerbread House Creations

benefitting



Windham Ridge staff will continue with the tradition of creating beautiful works of art through gingerbread house creations. Students can donate money to get tickets, that can then be placed into the buckets of their choice, to get a chance to win that specific gingerbread creation.

Donations will be accepted and tickets will be distributed beginning on Monday December 5th until Thursday December 15th.

The draw will take place on Friday December 16 and the gingerbread houses/ creations will be sent home with the lucky winners the same day. Parents will be called to help transport the gingerbread houses/creations home.

**1 ticket for \$1 donation
7 tickets for \$5 donation**

All donations will go towards the [Yellow Brick House](#), which has been researched and decided upon by student members of our Social Justice Committee. The [Yellow Brick House](#) 'provides life-saving services for women and children escaping domestic violence in York Region.'

Well Being Wednesday At Windham Ridge PS!

At Windham Ridge
À Windham Ridge

We believe that every day is a new beginning

Nous croyons que chaque jour est un nouveau départ

We express our joie de vivre in French
Notre joie de vivre s'exprime en français

We respect ourselves, each other and the environment

Nous avons du respect pour notre personne, les autres et notre environnement

We love to learn and laugh

Nous aimons apprendre et nous amuser

We believe that character matters
Nous croyons que le caractère compte

We have the courage to tell the truth and try our best

Nous avons le courage de dire la vérité et de faire de notre mieux

We believe anything is possible and we dare to dream

Nous croyons que tout est possible et nous osons rêver

Parent/Caregiver Series

Supporting Students of Chinese Heritage

Community Building and Engagement Event

Dec 14th, 2022 at
6:00pm-8:30pm

Armadale Community Centre

2401 Denison Street,
Markham, ON L3S 1E7

[Registration for Cantonese](#)
[Registration for Mandarin](#)



Wellbeing Wednesday le 7 decembre

Dreamers | FIFA World Cup 2022 Soundtrack.

Arabic lyrics sung by Fahad Al Kubaisi - translation:

We dream of a better world and to live with love

We'd gather and let our voices fill this world with love

We'd come together and we'll raise (all these flags)

We'd cooperate, create and achieve (all of our dreams)

We'll never give up, we'll keep challenging and overcoming all difficulties

And sing with love

During our virtual morning announcements on Wednesday, we listened to [more of the song and lyrics in Arabic sung by Qatari artist Fahad Al-Kubaisi](#). We continued learning about the Fifa World Cup song- "Dreamers" which we started listening to last week. The song inspires us to think about our dreams and to never give up. We linked this to our WRPS touchstone as we follow and celebrate the Fifa World Cup!

Parent/caregiver series supporting students of Chinese Heritage.

The series will provide a number of parent/caregiver in-person events to build community, support mental health, and promote healing. The second session in the series is offered for any parent/guardian of students of Chinese Heritage.

Parents, caregivers and students are invited to come together to 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 in-person event. Light refreshments will be provided.



Community Building and Engagement Event

共建美好家庭座談會 / 共建美好家庭座談會

Please join us at our 2022-2023 community building event! We are thrilled to build connections with the Chinese Heritage parents and students, and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school.

我們渴望對話，了解學生的情況並分享有關家庭關係和情感健康的技巧。我們誠邀您加入對話，好讓華裔學生的情況能夠得到更多的支持。

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To register for this Cantonese/ Mandarin session:

[Click here to register](#) or scan the QR code



[Click here to register](#) or scan QR code



Parents, Guardians, Caregiver and Students

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

Date: Wednesday, Dec 14th, 2022

Time: 6-8:30pm

Location: Armadale Community Centre
2401 Denison Street, Markham, ON L3S 1E7

Presenters:

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

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

Hannah Xu (MPH)

Hong Fook Mental Health Association
Youth Program Worker

For more information, please contact:

Community Care Team
School Social Worker
Charmaine Tong
charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca

Light refreshments will be provided

Registration will be closed after we have reached the maximum number of registrations for the event. 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



Grade 8 News

-Transfers-

As we approach the course selection timelines for high schools in YRDSB, please make **very** careful note of the following schools both OPEN and CLOSED for transfers.

A transfer for us would mean a student that is leaving their assigned English or French high school, and *transferring* to another YRDSB school for grade 9.

If this information does pertain to you and your family, take time to review the letter sent through the office, and ensure you contact Mr. Raha and clarify any questions or concerns.

Remember, you can always check your assigned English and French school through the school locator tool on <https://schoollocator.yrdsb.ca/>.

Mr. Raha

Student absences And Reporting Extended Absences and Vacations

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 9th. An absence can be reported by parents, in advance, by one of the 2 methods:

- 1) enter a planned absence on Edsby or the Edsby App
- 2) report through the iNFORM system by calling 905-773-5443 (press 1)

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. Please contact the school to get a copy of this form.

YRDSB Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

December 2022



In the
November
edition of the
Student
Mental
Health and
Addictions
Newsletter

Addictions Newsletter

We took a closer look at the concept of Within. In this edition, we continue to focus on the [Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy \(SMHAS\): A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us](#) by taking a closer look at the concept of “Between” and “Around” and the associated priority actions.