



Windham Ridge Public School Community Newsletter



Week ending February 10th, 2023



Monday, February 13 (Day 3) Dance-a-Palooza Pledge-a-lopers due	Monday, February 20 (Day 3) Family Day (no school)
Tuesday, February 14 (Day 4) Valentine's Day Pizza lunch Dance-a-Palooza	Tuesday, February 21 (Day 4) Pizza lunch
Wednesday, February 15 (Day 5) Astoria Hot Lunch	Wednesday, February 22 (Day 5) Astoria Hot Lunch Pink Shirt Day
Thursday, February 16 (Day 1) Subway lunch	Thursday, February 23 (Day 1) Subway Lunch
Friday, February 17 (Day 2) Kids Kitchen	Friday, February 24 (Day 2) Kids Kitchen Carnaval



Save the date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Multifaith Observances



For additional artist info, visit:
<https://www.tammingapaton.com/>

- Buddhism 15 Nehan-e (Nirvana Day)*
- Buddhism 16 Nichiren Shonin's Birth date*
- Islam 16 Laylat al-Mi'rāj*
- Hinduism 18 Mahashivaratri*
- New Moon 20 New Moon*
- Christianity 21 Shrove Tuesday (W)*
- Buddhism 21 Losar - Tibetan New Year*
- Christianity 22 Ash Wednesday (W)*
- Bahá'í Faith 26 Ayyám-i-Há*
- Christianity 27 Great Fast begins (E)*
- Indigenous Spirituality 1 Half Days Moon (local Oneida)*
- Bahá'í Faith 2 19-Day Fast begins*
- Bahá'í Faith 2 'Alá'*
- Christianity 3 World Day of Prayer*
- Islam 6 Laylat al Baraat (Nisf Sha'bān)*

February is Black History Month



In celebration of Black History Month, we engaged in learning as a school community over our virtual morning announcements over the course of the week. We invite families to partner with the learning about Black excellence by exploring the links below that have been viewed and discussed by the students:

- ▶ Celebrating Black Excellence 2022
- ▶ Hockey Night In Canada Opening: Celebrating Black History...
- ▶ Mary Ann Shadd - The Black teacher who owned her own n...
- ▶ Lincoln Alexander--Part of our series for Black History Month



In addition to this learning, WRPS hosted the African International Travelling Museum! All students visited the exhibit in our library on Friday, February 10th and engaged in a scavenger hunt to learn about the inventions and contributions of the Black community.



Thank you to families who were able to visit the exhibit during the lunch hour!



Supporting your Children with Special Needs



<https://bit.ly/3XI8CTo>



**Inclusive School and Community Services
in Partnership With
Community Living York South**



Supporting your Children with Special Needs

Information Series Part One: Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder

This session will be delivered in English, to help parents, guardians and caregivers learn:

- What is Autism?
- Diagnosis process
- Common characteristics
- At-home strategies
- Resources available in the community

Presenter: Winny Ho, Community Support Coordinator at Community Living York South

When: Thursday, March 2, 2023, 6:30-8:00pm

Register this event now!

English Session Virtual



<https://bit.ly/3XI8CTo>



For more information, please contact Community and Partnership Developer
Shani Blake - shani.blake@yrdsb.ca

PARENTING SESSIONS
Let's talk about it!

Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.

Parenting Sessions

Let's Talk About It!

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

February 1, 2023 | 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. **The Power of Positive Parenting**
For parents of children 0-12. This session will focus on ensuring a safe engagement environment for children. Strategies for creating a positive learning environment, using assertive discipline, having realistic expectations, taking care of yourself as a parent and available community resources and supports will be discussed.
[REGISTER NOW](#)

February 7, 2023 | 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. **Raising Confident Competent Children**
For parents of children 0-12. This session will focus on strategies to: encourage respect and cooperation, learning to be independent, developing healthy self-esteem and how to be a good problem solver.
[REGISTER NOW](#)

February 14, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Raising Resilient Children**
For parents of children 0-12 years of age. This session will focus on how to ensure a safe and engaging environment for children with strategies to: recognize and accept feelings, express their feeling appropriately, build positive feelings, deal with negative feelings and deal with upsetting or stressful events.
[REGISTER NOW](#)

February 21, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Nurturing Healthy Self-Esteem**
For parents of children and teens. This session will focus on how to create a supportive and engaging environment that helps your child develop and maintain confidence and healthy self-esteem.
[REGISTER NOW](#)

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

These free virtual parent presentations are brought to you in a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families.



Click on the following links for the sessions noted in the above flyer:

February 14 -

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BKV9bf2Q2KpsjtOLnx8xc1bqNf9ceG52AoPrvKH1EHw/viewform?edit_requested=true

February 21 -

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OYeol08vkuTdS3zH8cCTOQu8YfPiRoUuxnYHsaGu17s/viewform?edit_requested=true

Dance-A-Palooza

A message from our WRPS School Council:



As our Windham Ridge Dance-a-Palooza is quickly approaching on **Tuesday, February 14th**, we would like to thank students and families who have already brought in their Pledge-a-lope to the office!

Remember:

- the **last day** to bring in your pledge-a-lope is **Monday February 13th**;
- all students will be provided with one complimentary ticket;
- all prize tickets will be provided to students between February 14th and 16th at school;
- **the draw** for all the great prizes will be taking place on **Friday February 17th**;
 - Some great prizes include beautiful prize baskets, games, school experiences.
 - The **grand prize** is a **pair of Canada's Wonderland Season Tickets plus Season unlimited drinks.**

100% of all funds raised will be going directly to Windham Ridge! Thank you as always for your continued support! ~WRPS School Council

Town Hall on Antisemitism



Parents of Jewish Learners - York Region
Invites public & private school students & parents and community members to attend a:
TOWN HALL ON ANTISEMITISM

#ENDJEWHATRED
Let your voice be heard.

Wednesday, February 15, 2023
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Schwartz Reisman Centre
9600 Bathurst St., Maple, ON

Registration required.
Scan QR code or go to: bit.ly/17vR6m5

With financial support in part by:
JTeach.ca







Well Being Wednesday at Windham


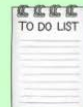


Wednesday
February 8, 2023

Wellbeing Wednesday le 8 février

Practicing mindfulness:

-  Stop what you are doing
-  Take three breaths.
-  Observe around you.
-  Picture a calming place


Clipart by Sarah Pecorino & Kate Hadfield www.thepat

 Practicing Mindfulness	 Exercising	 Checking in with Feelings
 Coloring & Drawing	 Making a Plan	 Talking with Someone
 Writing in a Journal	 Listening to Music	 Unplugging from Technology

Parent/Guardian Engagement Event


Advocacy and Allyship

[Click here to register](#)



Stages of Allyship
Allyship is a Journey that we take. It will be a little different for each of us but starts with a foundational desire to learn about allyship, what it means and how to become an ally. Allyship recognizes when it happens.

Championship
Advocacy
Allyship



Inclusive School and Community Services is hosting A Guardian/Parent Engagement Event

Advocacy and Allyship

YRDSB is hosting a 3 part Information series that looks at how to engage and help build shared solutions. Families will build on knowledge about discrimination, racism, bias, stereotypes and how to advocate and become an ally.

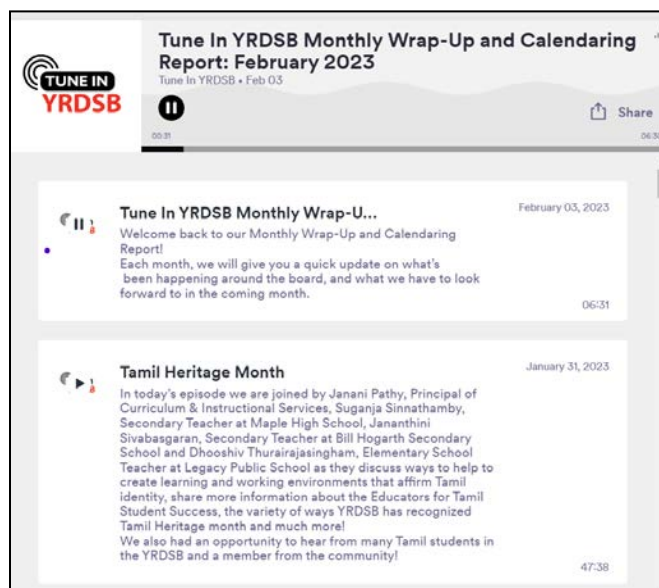
- 1. Understanding and Challenging our Bias**
Learn how to understand and challenge our biases. Challenge our Comfort Zones in order to change and grow in a positive direction. Connect with other parents and caregivers and share our ideas and experiences.
Presented by: Shafiq Aziz from Harmony Movement
When: January 31st 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
- 2. Recognizing and Responding to Hate**
Learn how to recognize and respond to hate and discrimination, through looking at data, talking through examples and further understanding bias.
Presented by: Shafiq Aziz from Harmony Movement
When: February 22nd 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
- 3. Becoming an Ally**
Learn how to become an ally through engaging and listening to lived experiences of discrimination and hate.
Presented by: Soha Mohammad from Working Women
When: March 22nd 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Registration at <http://bit.ly/3VZp0tt>
Registration closes: January 27th, 2023

Please reach out to Harpinder Kaur or Kenzie Wass if you have any questions
Harpinder.kaur@yrdsb.ca, Kenzie.Wass@yrdsb.ca

Tune In YRDSB

Tune In YRDSB is the first podcast of its kind in Ontario. Here we will explore a wide range of topics related to education in York Region and beyond. We look forward to inspiring learning through storytelling.



Pink Shirt Day **February 22, 2023**

<https://www.cbc.ca/kids/articles/what-is-pink-shirt-day>

What is Pink Shirt Day?

Pink Shirt Day is a globally recognized day in support of anti-bullying, upstanding behaviour and simple acts of kindness. **On February 22, 2023, we are encouraged to practice kindness and wear pink to show that we do not tolerate any form of bullying and uphold these values throughout the year!**

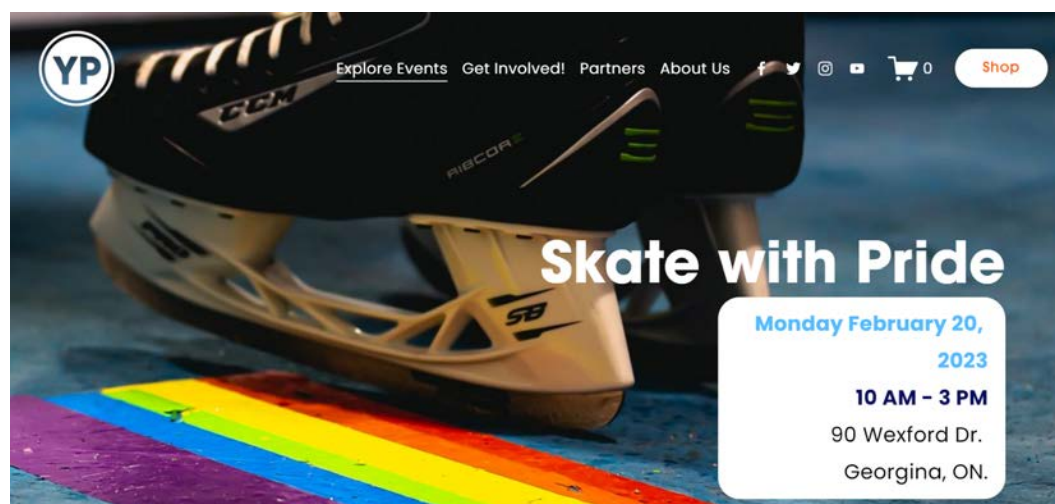
On February 22nd, we invite all students to wear pink to show support for this internationally recognized day.



[Click here to learn about the Canadian story behind Pink Shirt Day.](#)

Skate with Pride

<https://yorkpride.ca/skate-with-pride>



Pathways to Careers in Skilled Trades

[Click here to access
the resource!](#)

Pathways to Careers in Skilled Trades



*A guide that helps students
start a career in skilled
trades and assists educators
and parents in support of
that pathway.*

