



Windham Ridge P.S. Community Newsletter



Week ending: **January 12, 2024**



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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.

Tamil Heritage Month



On October 5, 2016, Motion M-24 was passed in the Federal Parliament, officially proclaiming January as Tamil Heritage Month in Canada. Tamil Heritage Month aims to celebrate the richness of the Tamil language and its literature, and highlight Tamil Canadians' vibrant traditions, history, arts, and cultures. In addition, it seeks to recognize the significant contributions of Tamil Canadians in key areas of social, cultural, economic, and political spheres.

One community-based theme for 2024 THM is Tamil Culture and Food: Past, Present, and Future. There will also be an educational focus of professional learning for staff centred on "Histories and Healing - Tamil Heritage across Time, Space, and Identity." Educators are reminded to continue to support and uplift the stories of Tamil-Canadian students in their classrooms for justice, self-determination, and healing.

Also, of significance is January 15, 2024. According to the Tamil calendar, January 15, 2024, begins the month of "Thai." On this day, people of Tamil heritage celebrate Thai Pongal, the Tamil harvest festival. Thai Pongal is the most important and widely-celebrated festival amongst Tamils around the globe. Thai Pongal is a time to give thanks for the previous year's blessings and a time to look forward to the new year.

Grade 8 students

In order for your child to be mapped to the correct high School and to be able to start course selection on February 15th, please complete the Google Form below indicating which High School your child will be attending for Grade 9 by **Friday January 19th**. Please do not complete again, if you've done so already.

See link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEJ0G5B25ogdQQ5u_Lo9g74gV7l9Ces46bRZ-42YkeY11Ovw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Current YRDSB Grade 8 students who plan to attend a YRDSB secondary school must select secondary school courses in My Pathway Planner between **February 15, 2024, to February 23, 2024**.

If you have any questions, please email Mr Raha at surit.raha@yrdsb.ca

Arrival times



Windham Ridge PS school hours are from 8:40am-3:10pm. Students should be in classes and ready for learning after the last bell that rings at 8:40am.

Please note that when students arrive late in the mornings, students miss important routines and content offered at the start of the day.

If your child is late, please ensure that they check-in to the office before heading to class to avoid inaccurate attendance data for your child.

School Bus: delays and important information



Important information and reminders:

- Parents should know the school and bus company phone number in the event of an emergency;
 - [School: 905-773-5443](tel:905-773-5443)
 - [Student Transportation Services: 1-877-330-3001- press '0'](tel:1-877-330-3001) [to speak with an attendant until 5:00pm](#)
- Parents are reminded to refer to the Late Bus Report on the Student Transportation Services website at www.schoolbuscity.com prior to leaving for the bus stop in the mornings and afternoons.
- Parents should review the STS Late Bus Report each morning and afternoon and understand the need to make alternative arrangements for their child/children if the school bus is late or cancelled

More information about [Student Transportation policy and procedure is available online.](#)

Terra Cotta Cookies

Coming soon...

Terra Cotta Cookies - Vanilla Heart Cookies

Windham Ridge will be selling Terra Cotta (Vanilla Heart) Cookies for \$2.00 each. The cookies will go on sale on Friday January 19th and will be delivered during morning snack time on Thursday February 1st. These yummy cookies are individually wrapped, and made in a peanut and nut-free facility! 100% of the proceeds will go towards supporting school activities.



Cookies will be available for sale starting on Friday January 19th.

Limited quantity available.

Grade 1 French Immersion Registration for 2024-2025



Welcome to 2024-2025
grade 1 students!



Registration will take place from January 19 - February 5, 2024.
An in-person information session will be offered at Windham Ridge PS on January 18, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Registration is not first-come, first-served. Late registrations are those submitted after February 5, 2024. Late registrations will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period, should overflow be necessary.

Parents/guardians of Senior Kindergarten students **currently enrolled in a YRDSB school** entering Grade 1 in 2024 and wishing to enroll in the FI Program:

- can email or call their home school office (where your child currently attends) and declare their intention to register in FI.
- WRPS office will contact parents by email requesting that you forward **ONE** piece of identification showing your address to complete the registration.
- Please forward your documents by email to Windham Ridge at Windham.ridge.ps@yrdsb.ca. See below a list of acceptable documents.

Families registering students who **do not currently attend a YRDSB school** will need to complete [full registration paperwork](#) and email it to windham.ridge.ps@yrdsb.ca

Information required for FULL registration includes:

- Proof of child's age (Birth Certificate/Passport)
- Any legal documents related to custody arrangements if applicable
- Proof of Residency of the student - two documents, one from each of the categories below showing the home address;
 - **Category A** - notice of tax assessment, current rental/lease agreement, agreement to purchase including proof of purchase provided before the pupil attends the school, or property tax bill, and
 - **Category B** - utility bill, bank statement or other official document.

Lice- Information

Lice is not a public health concern and is not something that is reportable or actioned by Public Health.

There is some good, evidence-informed information for schools and families that the Canadian Pediatric Society on their caringforkids.cps.ca website: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/head_lice

Head lice

Head lice are tiny insects that live on the scalp, where they lay eggs. Head lice do not spread disease. It's not your fault if you or your child has head lice.

Having head lice does not mean you are not clean.

What do head lice look like?

Lice have 3 stages – the egg (nit), the nymph and the adult.

- Nits are whitish-grey, tan or yellow ovals, about the size of a grain of sand. They stick to the hair close to the scalp and can look like dandruff. Nits hatch into nymphs in 9 to 10 days.
- Nymphs are baby lice. They look like adult lice but smaller.
- Adult lice are hard to see since they are about the size of a sesame seed. Adult lice can live for up to 30 days on a person's head, but they die within 2 days away from the scalp.



Sick Kids also has information on [aboutkidshealth.ca](https://www.aboutkidshealth.ca): <https://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/Article?contentid=795&language=English>

Treatment can be done at home with medications purchased over the counter at a pharmacy. If your preference is to have someone come and do it, there are a number of private companies that offer services.

In the event that a case of head lice is reported to the office by parents/guardians, families of the students in the class will be notified by email from the office team.

[Click here to learn more about YRDSB's policy and procedure specific to pediculosis.](#)

Windham Ridge Talent Show



Our famous Windham Ridge Talent Show is fast approaching!

Auditions will begin the week of January 15th. Students will be informed as to which day their grade will audition during our morning announcements.

On audition day, students must come prepared with all necessary music and/or materials. Pianists will use our school piano to play their piece.

The Talent Show will take place on Thursday, February 29th.

We are looking forward to enjoying the phenomenal talents of WRPS students on February 29th, 2024!

Arts@Baythorn

Registration opens:
January 15, 2024

Registration closes:
January 29, 2024

Integrated Elementary Arts@Baythorn!

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).

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.

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/baythorn.ps/arts/Pages/default.aspx>

REMINDER Check the website for updated information.
Application Registrations opens January 15, 2024 and closes January 29, 2024 (late applications not accepted)
Collaborative Workshops held: March 4, or 5, or 6, 2024 (these dates are firm)

Hot Lunches Fundraiser

Windham Ridge PS Council is happy to announce the following Hot Lunch Fundraising Programs. **Please mark these dates in your calendar.**

Swiss Chalet	Monday January 15th to Monday March 4th
Pizza	Tuesday January 16th to Tuesday April 2nd
Subway	Wednesday January 17 to Wednesday March 6th
Sushi	Thursday January 18th to Thursday March 7th
Astoria	Friday January 26th to Friday March 8th

Parent/caregiver series supporting learning about mental health

Parent/caregiver series supporting learning about mental health

The YRDSB Central Mental Health Team is proud to be offering the ***Learning about Mental Health Presentation Series (LAMPS)***.

The objective of the series is to promote and enhance mental health literacy. The first session is

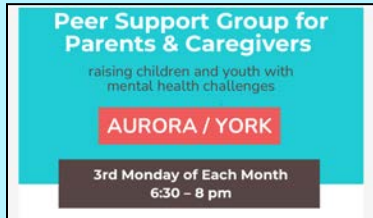
- **“Anxiety in School-Aged Youth, a Presentation for Parents and Caregivers”** and will occur virtually on February 28 from 6 - 7 p.m.
- The presentation will focus on the characteristics of anxiety, and some general strategies that may be beneficial in supporting your children and their anxiety.

These sessions are offered to any parent/guardian. Translation will be provided in a limited number of languages. If your preferred language is not offered, we recommend watching with a friend or family member who is able to translate.

To register please visit [this link](#).

Please Register by February 27, 2024

Mental Health and Well-Being Supports



See below resources to support YRDSB families:

1. Children's Mental Health Ontario organizes a peer support group for parents & caregivers raising children and youth with mental health challenges every third Monday of each month. Information found via this link:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn%3Aaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3Ab5a82f18-b3e4-3f2b-84b9-d7211ba71a93>

2. York Hills offers a variety of groups designed to meet the needs of children, youth and families.

This website <https://www.yorkhills.ca/services/group-services/> offers information about:

- The **Take ACTION Group**, which aims to create an action plan for anxiety. *There is currently a waitlist for registration, which begins Monday, January 25, 2024.*
- The **Mindful Teen Group** webinar, which is designed to equip adolescents (13-17) with vital skills of becoming attuned to their thoughts, feelings, and physical sensations in the present moment.

School Council Meeting



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

Wednesday February 7, 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

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 220 088 822 549

Passcode: prqAxN

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Volunteers Needed!



Hello dear community,

The hot lunches are back up and running next week and volunteers are needed to organize and distribute the lunches.

We would love your help. Please review the form linked below and see if there are any days or slots that you can chip in. Feel free to forward to other parents that may be able to assist.

Please note that volunteers new to the school will need to submit a vulnerable sector screening form, and returning volunteers will need to sign the annual defense declaration. All volunteers also must sign a confidentiality agreement. If you need help with any of these forms please email wrpscouncil3@gmail.com

Volunteer sign-up:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15LMTUJu2zReumZDKZ1T9Etn7BojAoB3i5DQ2sCKnIss/edit>

WRPS School Council Co-Chairs, Jodie and Parvaz

Babysitting Course:
for grades 6,7,& 8
students

Registration has
been extended to
Monday January
15th, 2024

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



Authorized
Provider

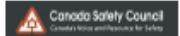
BABYSITTING



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 BY

Jan 8, 2024 ✂

COST PER STUDENT \$80.00

\$20.00 processing fee for any cancellations/NSF

Location: **Windham Ridge P.S** **PA. 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.

Kids Kitchen - January Specials

JANUARY SPECIALS

Our specials are sure to bring smiles.



Butter Chicken



Chickpea &
Spinach Curry

Gluten-friendly, vegetarian and other menu
options available online!

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

We're here to help!
information@kidskitchen.ca
905-944-0210 (M to F 8:30am-2pm)

 www.kidskitchen.ca



Kids Kitchen.ca

Ordering is Easy. Kid Approved. Stress Free.