



Windham Ridge P.S. Community Newsletter



Week ending: **November 4th, 2022**

Two Weeks



at a

Glance

Monday, November 7 (Day 1) Treaties Week Holocaust Education Week	Monday, November 14 (Day 1) York Hills presentations- grades 7, 8 "Managing Mental Health"
Tuesday, November 8 (Day 2)	Tuesday, November 15 (Day 2)
Wednesday, November 9 (Day 3)	Wednesday, November 16 (Day 3) Hard Copy of Progress Reports Sent Home
Thursday, November 10 (Day 4)	Thursday, November 17 (Day 4) Parent Teacher Interviews 3:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday, November 11 (Day 5) Remembrance Day Edsby Scheduler for bookings closes at 3:00pm	Friday, November 18 (Day 5) Parent Teacher Interviews 8:00 am-11:40 am PA Day (no school)

November is Hindu Heritage Month

Multifaith Observances



"The Lights That Shine" by Ruslana Levandovska

"This piece shows the resilience of the temporarily ghost-like city that is the effect of COVID-19, giving new character to our beloved streets. But it is sure to return in strength!"

Oil on canvas; 36" x 24"

For additional artist info, visit: <http://www.levandovska.com/>

- Wicca **31** Samhain
- Indigenous Spirituality **1** Hunting Moon (local Oneida)
- 1** Holocaust Education Week
- Christianity **1** All Saints Day (W)
- Bahá'í Faith **4** Qudrat
- Buddhism **6** Kathina ends
- 6** Daylight Saving Time ends (USA, Canada)
- Jainism **8** Birth date of Shrimad Rajchandra
- Jainism **8** Dev Diwali
- Sikhism 8 Birth date of Guru Nanak Dev Ji**
- Jainism **8** Chaturmas ends
- Astronomical Event **8** Total Lunar Eclipse
- 8** Full Moon
- 11** Remembrance Day

Guru Nanak Sahib was the founder of the Sikh tradition and was born in the year 1469, in the Punjab region of the South Asian subcontinent. His message of equality and the oneness of humanity has inspired social reform throughout the globe. Sikhi's three guiding are tenets; 1. Kirt Karna - Earn an honest living 2. Vand ke Chhakna - Share with others 3. Naam Japna - Meditate on the One Force. We extend our best wishes to staff, students and members of the Sikh community who will be celebrating this occasion.

November is Hindu Heritage Month

Mahatma Gandhi



Indian statesman and activist Mahatma Gandhi, 1940.
Dionisa Photography Images



What is Hinduism?

Hinduism is the world's oldest religion, according to many scholars, with roots and customs dating back more than 4,000 years.

- Today, with about 900 million followers, Hinduism is the third-largest religion behind Christianity and Islam.

- Roughly 95 percent of the world's Hindus live in India.
- Because the religion has no specific founder, it's difficult to trace its origins and history.
- Hinduism is unique in that it's not a single religion but a compilation of many traditions and philosophies.

<https://www.history.com/topics/religion/hinduism#:~:text=Hinduism%20is%20the%20world's%20oldest,world's%20Hindus%20live%20in%20India>

On December 8, 2016, the province of Ontario designated November as [Hindu Heritage Month](#) as outlined in the Hindu Heritage Month Act. Hindus first arrived in Canada at the beginning of the 20th century. During various waves of immigration, Hindus from all parts of the world continued to make Canada their home from the 1960s to present day. There are many Hindus who have settled in the Greater Toronto Area, including York Region. "By proclaiming the month of November as Hindu Heritage Month, the Province of Ontario recognizes the important contributions that Hindu Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political and cultural fabric. Hindu " *Heritage Month Act, 2016*



Holocaust Education Week

November 2-9

Learning about the Holocaust that may be discussed in the primary and junior divisions may include:

- Importance of being an upstander
- How to treat others with respect and kindness
- Importance of inclusion.
- It's okay to be different.
- Appreciating differences and unique qualities in peers
- How it feels when one is treated unfairly because they are different
- Recognizing bias and stereotyping

Classes will engage in age appropriate learning over the course of the week and this learning will continue throughout the school year.



Requests for Chromebooks

More information about requesting Chromebooks, for your child to engage in synchronous learning beginning Tuesday, November 8, will be shared in a separate email on Monday, November 7th.

Be sure to access this email on Monday to share your interest in borrowing a Chromebook.

Remembrance Day



November 11, 2022

On November 11, WRPS will participate in an assembly to recognize Remembrance Day. Across YRDSB, we will recognize the contributions of individuals from various groups and cultures.



Japanese Canadian Contributions



Chinese Canadian Contributions



Indigenous Canadian Contributions



Sikh Canadian Contributions



Black Canadian Contributions



Jewish Canadian Contributions



Muslim Canadian Contributions



Canadian Women Contributions



Unknown Soldiers

What is a promise?

What is a treaty?



November 6-12

What treaty Windham Ridge PS is located on?

We will be exploring this as a school community on morning

Treaties are promises that last forever. Like with most agreements that are made, treaties include both rights and responsibilities.

Our responsibilities to the first peoples of this land include:

- To be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations.
- To respect their relationship with these lands, as well as with the plants and the animals that have lived here since time immemorial.
- To acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.

What actions can you take to show that you truly understand the responsibilities outlined above?



During the week of November 6-12, 2022, we recognize the importance of treaties and bring awareness to the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the province. There are 46 treaties in Ontario and we all have a responsibility to honour the treaties.

At Windham Ridge PS, we will begin our learning with the question “What is a promise?” during our virtual morning announcements and we will engage in learning as a school community, supported by continued learning in classrooms.

As a part of our connection with our WRPS, we will share this learning each week in our newsletter. Also, we will share commonly held myths (Taylor Maclean) as we partner with our families in learning about treaties in Canada.

announcements beginning on Monday, November 7th.

[Whose Land](#)

Interactive Treaty Locator Tool



Myth #5: Treaties have no relevance today

Many Canadians believe that treaties are a thing of the past. They think that all treaties were negotiated before Canada became a country and that they are no longer a part of the way that the Canadian Government engages with Indigenous nations. Not only are treaties still being made today in the form of comprehensive land claims, treaties made in the past remain legally-binding agreements between nations that must be adhered to by all settlers residing in this country.

The phrase, “we are all treaty people” is an effective way of expressing the legal obligations that all Canadians have to uphold the terms of the treaties. And in order to ensure that they are not breaking the contract, Canadians must educate themselves about the obligations and responsibilities they have to Indigenous nations and to the land.

(6 Common Myths about Treaties in Canada By Taylor Maclean)

Progress Report Cards &

Parent-Teacher Interviews/Student Led Conferences

Please note that you need to be registered with EDSBY in order to book an appointment for a Parent Teacher Interview or Student Led Conference with your child’s teacher(s).

Families book appointments	November 4 - 10
EDSBY scheduler closes	November 11, 3:00 p.m
Hard copy of Progress Reports sent home	November 16
Interviews/Student Led Conferences	November 17, 18
Digital copies of Progress Reports sent electronically	November 23-25



Programs:

- Black Excellence Program
- Ascending Sisters
- Rise Brothers

YRDSB is pleased to launch the **Centre for Black Student Excellence**, a space committed to the promotion of Dismantling Anti-Black racism and amplifying voices that have been historically marginalized.

We invite you to explore our new online presence at www.yrdsb.ca/blackexcellence to:

- Access videos, resources and information about community partners.
- Learn more about our work to dismantle anti-Black racism, guided by our strategy.
- Celebrate Black excellence through video, feature stories, podcasts and more.
- Find out about programs available to Black students and families.
- Check out [our new community newsletter](#)

T.E.A.C.H.

6 week Mental Health Workshop for youth

The logo for NACCA (Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association) features the word "NACCA" in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. The letter "A" is stylized with a yellow silhouette of the African continent inside it. The logo is set against a yellow rectangular background.

Inclusive School and Community Services is pleased to partner with The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) to offer a new program for youth. NACCA is delivering a six weeks mental health workshop series for Black youth ages 12-25 who reside in York Region.

The program

- will be delivered in a hybrid (in-person and online) format. If you choose to participate in-person, transportation is not provided.
- Sessions will be held at NACCA's community centre at 449 Eagle Street, Newmarket.
- More information regarding the workshops will be sent once you have signed up.
- All sessions will be supported by a mental health clinician.

To register, please access the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdxb7xEvnDzwZo3-WC4QS9CCF4Bgn5r2wls2Lmuqk-QI7Vwlg/viewform>

Youth School Success Initiative



The Youth School Success Initiative is an ethnic-specific collaborative made up of 7 York and Toronto based agencies working together to empower the educational and holistic success of Black youth in York and Toronto regions. This wrap-around program best meets the needs of identified Black youth in the York Region and Toronto District School Boards. The goals of the program are:

To support 100 Black youth from Grades 6-8 toward high school preparedness through:

- Academic supports
- Cultural history supports
- Social and emotional self-identity supports
- Life Skills Support

See link below to access more information and registration processes:

<https://macca1987.com/YSSI/>

Free Digital Resources for Families!

[Click here to access live links to these free Digital Resources!](#)

TVO Learn



In support of Ontario's families TVO has assembled curriculum-based, free digital learning resources.

[TVO Kids](#)

Is specific to preschool and school age from Kindergarten to Grade 5 with programming and games to get them ready for school and learning.

[TVO Learn](#)

Expanded to include new adult-guided Learning Activities for Grades 1 through 12 mathematics, language, science and technology and social studies.

[TVO Learn mPower](#) offers 65+ free games to support students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 to develop fundamental math skills through math and STEM games.

[TVO Learn Mathify](#)

Free 1:1 math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers for Grades 4 to 12. Now available 7 days a week, Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm ET, and Saturday and Sunday, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm ET.

[TVO Today](#) has articles, videos of stories, current affairs, documentaries and podcasts.

[TVO iLC](#)

High school students in Ontario can access 144 courses developed by Ontario Certified Teachers. These not-for-credit courses are designed for independent study or study support.



Our new 2022-2023 WRPS School Council Committee!

On Wednesday, October 13, 2022 our new 2022-2023 WRPS School Council was formed.

What is a School Council?

[YRDSB School Councils - An Overview](#)

A reminder that all parents/guardians are welcome to attend each School Council Meeting

We look forward to our continued partnership with the School Council as we collaborate to serve each student and family at Windham Ridge PS.



WRPS School Council

Next School Council meeting:

November 15, 2022
6:30pm to 8:30pm
(Virtual link to follow)