



Windham Ridge P.S. Community Newsletter



Week ending: **October 27, 2023**

Two Weeks at a Glance



Monday, October 30 (Day 2) -Swiss Chalet Lunch -Grade 8s at Cedar Glen -Coffee Chat- 9:00-10:30- see below	Monday, November 6 (Day 2) Swiss Chalet Lunch Treaties Recognition Week- Nov. 5-11
Tuesday, October 31 (Day 3) -Halloween- see messaging below -Pizza lunch -Grade 8s at Cedar Glen	Tuesday, November 7 (Day 3) Pizza lunch
Wednesday, November 1 (Day 4) -Astoria Lunch -Terra Cotta Cookies delivered -Grade 8 Visit KCSS -Holocaust Education Week begins -School Council meeting- 6:30pm	Wednesday, November 8 (Day 4) Astoria Lunch
Thursday, November 2 (Day 5)	Thursday, November 9 (Day 5)
Friday, November 3 (Day 1) Kid's Kitchen	Friday, November 10 (Day 1) Kid's Kitchen

Sunday October 29- last day to order Big Box Cards- WRPS Fundraiser

Multifaith Observances

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 Anoushka Poonji Dues Pevsner Day	30 Kathina begins	31 Ganesh	1 Hunting Moon (Local Creeks) Holocaust Education Week Karas Chauth All Saints Day (AO)	2	3	4 Qudus
5 Daylight Saving Time ends (USA, Canada)	6	7	8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day

November is Hindu Heritage Month

Mahatma Gandhi



<https://www.history.com/topics/religion/hinduism#hinduism-beliefs>



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%20Hindu%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 1-9



November 1 - November 9, 2023 marks the annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW). Learning about the Holocaust in classrooms, schools, and workplaces across the YRDSB is critical to countering antisemitism and other forms of hate.

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.

What is a promise? What is a treaty?

During the week of November 5-11, 2023, we recognize the importance of treaties and bring awareness to the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the province.



[Heritage Minutes: Naskumituwin \(Treaty\)](#)



November 5-11 2023

“Today, some Canadians see treaties as artefacts of another era in their history, with no current relevance.

First Nations people view treaties as “living” agreements that respect their status as nations, as recognized in the Royal Proclamation of 1763. They see this as their “inherent right” referred to in Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution.”

(Maurice Switzer, “We are all... Treaty People” p.34)

There are 46 treaties in Ontario and we all have a responsibility to honour the treaties.

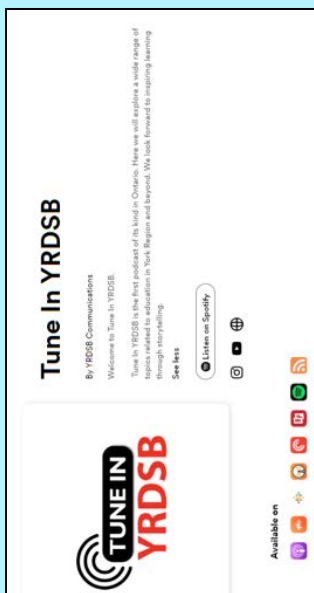
At Windham Ridge PS, we will begin our learning with the question “What is a promise?” during our virtual morning announcements and we will engage in learning as a school community, supported by continued learning in classrooms.

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.

Myth #1: Treaties are land sale agreements

Historically, treaties were not purchase agreements where Indigenous nations were offered compensation in exchange for the surrender of their lands. Instead, they were nation-to-nation agreements that established the terms for how sovereign entities would coexist peacefully while sharing the land. But because treaty texts were written from the British perspective — often before negotiations had even begun — the paper terms of the agreement differed from other historical accounts.

For a balanced view of what each treaty really means, you have to understand the Indigenous perspective. Wampum belts, oral histories and written records of what was said during treaty negotiations provide invaluable corrections to any misinterpretations. *(6 Common Myths about Treaties in Canada By Taylor Maclean)*

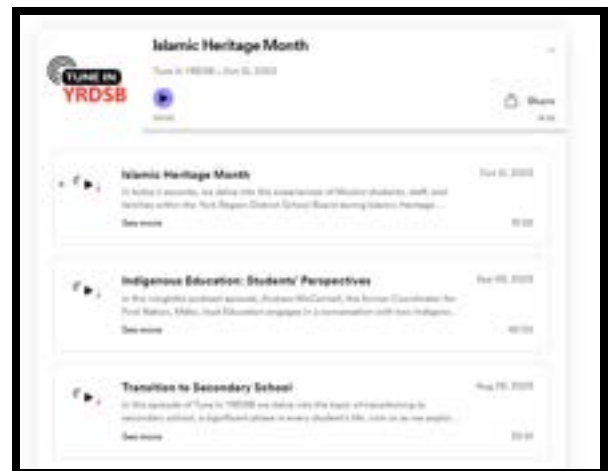


Welcome to Tune In YRDSB.

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.

Recent podcasts include:

- Islamic Heritage Month
- Indigenous Education- Students’ Perspectives
- Transition to Secondary School



[Click here to access Tune In YRDSB!](#)

King City Secondary School

Take Our Kids to High School Day

Take Our Kids to High School Day! Students in Grade 8 have been invited to visit King City Secondary School.

They will have an opportunity to rotate through three grade 9 classes where they will engage in subject related activities, tour the school, and take part in a student panel Q&A. Students will also participate in educational Kahoots with King City Secondary School during the 2023-2024 school year.

Cafeteria lunch options will be available for students for \$5.15 (a true high school experience). Students may also bring their own lunch if they wish. Please visit this link to [School Cash Online](#) if you choose to purchase a cafeteria lunch item. For those students that prefer two servings, please order 2 lunches or bring food to supplement.

Date: Wednesday November 1st 2023

Departure time from WRPS: 9:30 am

Departure time from KCSS: 1:45 pm

The deadline to order is Sunday October 29th at 11:59 pm.

WRPS goes to Regionals!



A big congratulations goes out to our *Regional Cross Country Team* who represented Windham Ridge at Regionals this past Tuesday. Our athletes were amazing! Congratulations to Michael in grade 4; Olivia, Aidan, Zaidan, and Ryan in grade 5; and Julian and Teresa in grade 7.

Special mention goes out to Madelyn in grade 5 who placed 2nd in all of York Region, wow!

In addition, our grade 5 boys team placed first in the team category in our area race! We are so very proud of all of our runners.





Character Matters at WRPS!

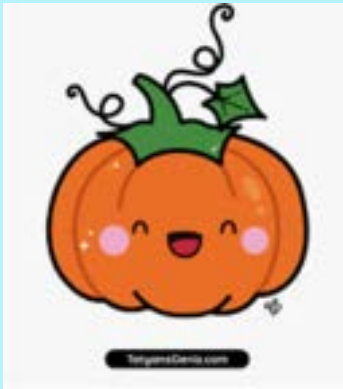
Golden Broom and Dustpan Awards!



Congratulations Mme Priore's, Mr. McInnis', and Mme Pirvu's homeroom classes for winning the first Golden Broom and Dustpan awards! These classes have shown great improvements in showing respect and care for their

	<p>classroom spaces! Thank you to our Caretaking team for celebrating students for their care of our school! We look forward to announcing two more classes in two weeks who are showing care for their spaces.</p>
<p>Agendas</p>	<p>We have extra Primary Agendas available for sale. If you are interested in purchasing one, please sign into School Cash Online to order and let the classroom teacher know or email windham.ridge.ps@yrdsb.ca to ensure it gets delivered to your child.</p>
<p>Booking Parent Teacher Interviews in your Edsby Account</p> <p>Preparing for Parent Teacher Interviews on November 16, 17</p>	<p>Parent Teacher Interviews are fast approaching on the evening of November 16th and the morning of Friday November 17th.</p> <p>Families who do not have an Edsby account will need to create one to access the online appointment scheduler for their child’s teachers for Parents’ Night. An up-to-date and valid email address must be provided to the school office.</p> <p>For help creating an Edsby account, instructions can be found on the Board website. Parents/guardians who do not have an active account would have received an email from the school on Friday October 27th. Click on the link in the email to set up your account. If you do not receive the email, please check your junk mail folder to ensure you do not miss this opportunity.</p>
 <p>Next School Council meeting:</p> <p>November 1, 2023 6:30pm to 8:30pm</p>	<p>First 2023-2024 WRPS School Council Meeting November 1st, 6:30pm to 8:30pm WRPS Library</p> <p>What is a School Council?</p> <p>YRDSB School Councils - An Overview</p> <p>A reminder that all parents/guardians are welcome to attend all School Council Meetings</p> <p>We look forward to our continued partnership with the School Council as we collaborate to serve each student and family at Windham Ridge PS.</p> 
<p>A message from our School Council Fundraising Committee regarding Swiss Chalet sauces</p>	<p>As the Swiss Chalet sauce, (provided with Swiss Chalet hot lunches on Mondays), is not Halal, we understand some families may opt for a different sauce option with their meal.</p> <p>If you would prefer a vegetarian gravy sauce option with your order instead of chalet sauce, please email the school office by Monday October 30th so that we can ensure changes are made before the next lunch delivery.</p>

Guidelines for Halloween



Halloween may bring memories of dress-up parades, costume competitions, and classroom parties for some members of our community and carries a very different meaning for others.

It is important for us to recognize that not all families celebrate and participate in Halloween. The reasons for not participating may include cultural beliefs, faith, socioeconomic status, and personal reasons.

Halloween dress-up will continue to be offered as **an optional activity** at WRPS. Throughout the school day on October 31st, students will continue to engage in curriculum-based learning throughout the day. **If students and families choose, students will also be invited to wear fall colours on Halloween.**

As per YRDSB protocols:

- Students may bring their own snacks;
- Students will not be able to use washrooms to change into costumes, therefore if they choose to wear a costume, they must have it on when they arrive to school.
- No Halloween masks are to be worn and students should only use single use make-up (no sharing of make-up).
- No replica weapons of any kind are allowed.
- To limit personal items being brought to school, costumes should be of simple design.

In keeping with our school food policy to ensure safety for all students, we will not be accepting baked goods, cakes, items that contain/may contain traces of nuts, or are unclearly marked, sent to school for sharing with peers on Halloween.

Students are welcome to bring in treats that are individually wrapped which do not pose a risk to the safety of our students.

We ask that all families support this guideline on October 31st and throughout the week following Halloween, when students often bring in Halloween candy as part of their snacks.

If you need any further clarification, we encourage you to speak with your child's teacher or contact our main office. We appreciate your partnership in ensuring inclusive spaces and safety for all students.

Sikh Educators Voice Alliance

Click [here](#) to register

Sikh Educators Voice Alliance (SEVA)
Group Launch Invitation



Sikh staff and community members are invited to the SEVA Affinity Group Launch. All are welcome to come learn, celebrate, and grow with us.

Date: Thursday, November 30, 2023
Time: 4:30 - 6:30 PM
Location: Blue Willow Public School
250 Blue Willow Drive, Woodbridge ON

This event is an opportunity for parents, families and YRDSB staff members to network, share, and learn about ways to affirm and create positive spaces for students of Sikh identity. Light refreshments will be served.

To Register
Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **November, 23rd 2023**
If you have any further questions, please reach out to SEVA.YRDSB@gmail.com.



Join Us!

COFFEE TALK 

Join our
Parent Engagement Meet & Greet
to discuss school council, enjoy a hot beverage
and connect with other parents.

Monday October 30th
9am - 10:30am
Room 112

ORGANIZED BY THE WINDHAM RIDGE SCHOOL COUNCIL