

**Issue No. 15** April 4, 2025

Dates At A Glance		
April	Autism Month Earth Month	
Apr 8-9	OSSLT Session A&B	
Apr 10-11	Elementary School Tournament	
Apr 11	Sem 2 Term 1 End	
Apr 14	Passover Vaisakhi	
Apr 18	Good Friday/ Holy Friday	
Apr 21	Ridvan Easter Monday	
Apr 24-28	Midterm eDistribution	
May 2	Culture Day	
May 5	PA Day - No School	
May 6	Full Disclosure	
May 12	<u>Wesak</u>	
May 17	Irish Heritage Day	
May 19	<u>Victoria Day</u> - No School	
May 22	Prom	
May 30	John Sims Tournament	
Jun 2-3	Shavuot	
Jun 6	Eid-ul-Adha	
Jun 18-24	Exams	
Jun 25	Graduation	
Jun 26-27	PA Day - No School	

DAILY SCHEDULE		
PERIOD	TIME	
Warning Bell	8:50 a.m.	Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.
HR	8:55 a.m 9:00 a.m.	
1	9:00 a.m 10:15 a.m.	
2	10:20 a.m 11:35 a.m.	
Lunch	11:35 a.m 12:40 p.m.	
3	12:40 p.m 1:55 p.m.	
4	2:00 p.m 3:15 p.m.	© International Feng Shul Guild
HELPFUL LINKS:		CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:
WC Website, YRDSB Website WC Twitter, WC Instagram		Crimestoppers, Kids Help Phone Report It (YRDSB)

#### **EARTH DAY/ WEEK/ MONTH**

Earth Day is April 22nd. Earth Day is a time to reflect on our habits and consider making small changes to our routines. Taking the school bus and walking, riding or biking to school helps reduce pollution and traffic congestion in our neighbourhoods. It's also great for your mental health, well-being and academic performance. Use an environmentally friendly mode to travel to and from school on April 22 to show your spirit.





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#### Attendance at WC

#### ATTENDANCE ABSENCE REPORTING

Parents/ guardians please email attendance absences to <u>woodbridgecollege.attendance@yrdsb.ca</u> Please note, EDSBY is **not** monitored for student absenteeism.

#### **School Council Upcoming Dates**

Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Families wishing to connect directly with our School Council can do so by emailing: woodbridge.college@sc.yrdsb.ca

#### YRDSB Resources and Opportunities

#### York Regional Muslim Student Association Eid Celebration

The York Regional Muslim Students Association (MSA) is holding its very first Eid celebration. The celebration is open to all YRDSB students in Grade 7-12. We also welcome MSA staff supervisors.

<u>Date</u>: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 <u>Time</u>: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

<u>Venue</u>: Richmond Hill H.S. cafeteria <u>Registration</u>: Please <u>register</u> for this event

Participants will have the opportunity to celebrate Eid with a variety of activities, including cultural tables, traditional food, and a henna station. This will be a wonderful chance for students and staff to network with MSAs from across the board, fostering connections and a sense of community among our diverse student body.

Want to stay connected, join our <u>Google Classroom</u> or reach out to the York Regional Muslim Students Association (MSA) contacts <u>Saeideh.Haghjoo@yrdsb.ca</u> or <u>Zahra.Murad@yrdsb.ca</u>

#### Post-Secondary Day Program Fair

Students, Parents/Caregivers and School Staff:

- Meet representatives from more than 20 York Region day programs and 2 community agencies.
- Gather information about the programs offered to help prepare for life after high school: program structure, hours, cost, support ratio, etc.

Date: Thursday April 10, 2025 Time: 6-8 p.m.

Location: Richmond Green S.S. - 1 William F. Pkwy, Richmond Hill ON (Leslie and Elgin Mills)

Day Programs/Community Participation Supports: A variety of community-based activities related to work or volunteerism, daily living skills, social skills, independent living, personal management and employment preparation for individuals.

Hosted by: The YRDSB's Work Experience Transition Department



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#### Iranian/Afghan Educator Alliance (IAEA) Persian Heritage Month Celebration

The Iranian/Afghan Educator Alliance (IAEA) is hosting a meaningful **Persian Heritage Month** celebration to honour the rich cultural and historical contributions of the Persian community to our society. Together, we'll explore Persian heritage, enjoy cultural performances, and deepen our understanding of the diverse world around us.

This event will focus on fostering equity, inclusion, and community engagement and is open to all YRDSB students, families and staff.

Please join us on <u>Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.</u> at the Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning, 36 Regatta Ave, Richmond Hill, L4E 4R1.

Please <u>register</u> by Friday, April 4, 2025, as space is limited. Please see <u>flyer</u> for more information or email Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS) at <u>iscs@yrdsb.ca</u>.

#### Get Involved. Volunteer in Education. G.I.V.E. - 2025 Spring Session

Parents, guardians and caregivers empower yourself to support your school community and enrich your child's learning experience!

Join this 5-morning workshop series and discover how you can make a difference in your child's education by volunteering in schools. The spring session is <u>April 7-11, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</u> at Sharon Public School Library. Please see this <u>flyer</u> for more information and to register.

This free information session is organized by York Region District School Board in partnership with Catholic Community Services of York Region. For more information, please contact Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS) at <a href="mailto:ics@yrdsb.ca">ics@yrdsb.ca</a>.

#### Celebrating Student Excellence Event

The CBSE is delighted to invite you to our event Celebrating Student Excellence. This will be a special celebration showcasing the outstanding achievements of our Black Student Alliances across the York Region District School Board. Please see <u>flyer</u> for more information. Wednesday, April 16, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

### **Understanding and Navigating the Education System - Families of YRDSB Black Students - April Information Session**

Families, parents, caregivers, please join us for our monthly virtual meeting, where families with Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary and secondary schools. Please see our flyer for more information and to register. Virtual Information Session on Monday, April 28, 2025 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

#### **Victims of Crime Week**

Parents, caregivers, guardians, community members and youth 11+ are welcome to attend the **3rd Annual Anti-Human Trafficking Conference** in York Region.

Join us at **Seneca Polytechnic College King Campus** on <u>May 13 and 14, 2025 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.</u> for an evening of learning, networking, and collaboration in the fight against human trafficking. <u>Registration for the 3rd Annual York Region Anti-Human Trafficking Conference</u>. Please see <u>flyer</u> for more information.

Our conference brings together experts, advocates, and community members to raise awareness and education. Through engaging workshops, inspirational talks and community booths, we gain valuable knowledge and tools to protect and empower our community. Free refreshments and a light dinner will be provided.

For more information, please contact Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS) at iscs@yrdsb.ca.



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#### City of Vaughan's Transportation Youth Ambassador Program Announcement

Hey Woodbridge College! Ready to make a difference in your community? Join the City of Vaughan's Transportation Youth Ambassador Program.

#### Why Join?

- You can work alongside the City staff and gain real-life work experience.
- Earn volunteer hours and receive a certificate of completion.
- · Voice your ideas on transportation and help shape the future of our city!
- Host fun events and learn to engage with different audiences.
- Build useful skills like leadership, teamwork, and critical thinking.

The program will run from: February 24th to May 30th

And the application deadline is: February 16th

To learn more about how to send in your application, go to

vaughan.ca/YouthAmbassador for more information.

Don't miss out on this chance to make an impact! Please see <u>poster</u> for more information.

#### **Centre for Black Excellence Mailing List**

We would like to encourage families to subscribe to the mailing list to stay up to date with information about school board and community events and programs that would benefit Black students and families with Black children and updates on Board efforts to dismantle anti-Black racism.

Please see our <u>flyer</u> for more information on how to subscribe to the mailing list.

#### **Tenants Rights Workshop**

You are invited to free Virtual Tenant Rights Workshops offered in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Housing Rights from January through April 2025. Please see <u>link</u> for more information and registration.

#### 360°Kids Information Flyer

360°kids is dedicated to helping at-risk and unhoused youth by providing essential support services in housing, employment, health, and education. Please see our <u>flyer</u> for more information.

#### Sankofa Mentoring Program

The Sankofa Mentoring Program is for students in grades seven to twelve, online on Thursdays from 6:30pm to 8:30pm and two Saturday's per month in person 10 am to 1pm at Bur Oak Secondary School, Markham Ontario. The environment creates a safe space for students, and mentors to come together in unity and learn more about their heritage. Through collective work/responsibility, we have created an environment where creativity and cooperative economics work together to engender self-determination. The program was developed in the follow structure:

- Rooted in an Afrocentric Framework
- Three tier model (life skills, community engagement and civic responsibility)
- Highlights the principles of the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles) Unity, Self-Determination Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith, and Self-Respect

Register Here

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#### **CO-OP & Pathway Opportunities**



#### Co-op Program Application Deadline - April 4th

Dear Students,

Thank you for expressing interest in the Co-op Program for the upcoming school year. We are currently in the process of scheduling interviews and securing community partnerships.

To help us accommodate your placement preferences, we kindly ask that you complete the co-op application via the link below to the best of your ability. Please ensure that your application is submitted no later than Friday, April 4th, 2025.

Application Link: <a href="https://forms.gle/jZLG27K5hjJwrwX38">https://forms.gle/jZLG27K5hjJwrwX38</a>

We appreciate your time and effort in this process and look forward to working with you.

Best regards,

The Cooperative Education Department



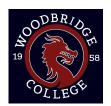
#### Young Women in Trades Bootcamp – A Day of Hands-On Learning

On Friday, March 21, thirty young women from grades 9 through 12 had the incredible opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of skilled trades at Enercare's training facility, located at 30 High Meadow Place (Finch & Weston). This unique experience provided students with direct, hands-on exposure to the fields of HVAC, electrical work, and plumbing—guided by experienced Enercare technicians.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a series of practical workshops designed to spark interest and build confidence in the skilled trades:

- HVAC Workshop: Students worked with measuring and fabrication tools to understand natural gas and propane piping and tubing systems.
- Electrical Workshop: Students were given an outlet box and a light fixture and were carefully
  guided through the wiring process—culminating in the moment they successfully turned on a light





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Plumbing Workshop: Students learned the fundamentals of assembling a toilet and installing a
faucet by attaching water lines and assembling drainage fittings on a bathroom vanity.



The day was not only educational but also deeply inspiring. Each participant had the chance to explore potential career paths, develop new skills, and gain a better understanding of the vast opportunities within the trades industry. The enthusiasm and engagement throughout the bootcamp reflected the growing interest in skilled trades among young women—an important step toward breaking barriers and diversifying the industry.

Woodbridge College is proud to support initiatives that empower students to explore diverse career opportunities and gain practical experience that could shape their futures. A huge thank you to Enercare and their expert technicians for making this event a success, and congratulations to all the participants who took part in this valuable learning experience!

Let's continue encouraging young women to explore the trades and discover their potential. #EmpoweringFutureTradeswomen

#### **Health Care Plans for Students**

If your child has a serious life-threatening allergy or medical condition, please inform the office to complete the appropriate medical forms. There are students and staff members in our school who have life-threatening allergies to nuts and other allergens. To help create an allergen-safe environment, do not bring nuts or nut products to school.

It is critical that parents and guardians share information with us about students' serious or life-threatening medical conditions or other health-related matters so that we can create fulsome Health Care Plans that help keep students safe. We encourage students, who are able, to contribute to the creation of these plans too.

Please access forms below as needed. Completed forms and medication can be placed in a sealable bag, with the student's name marked on the bag and left in the Main Office As always, please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Health Care Plan Form

Diabetes Health Care Plan

Asthma Health Care Plan

Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan

Epilepsy/Seizure Disorder Health Care Plan

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#### **Guidance Corner**

Students and/or parents are able to make a Guidance appointment with Ms. Kolianou or Ms. Neally through teachassist. Please wait for a response to see if your chosen date and time are available.

#### Full Disclosure Date for Semester Two - May 6, 2025

The Full Disclosure date for Grade 11 and Grade 12 courses is

May 6, 2025. If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course on or prior to May 6, 2025, then the course will not be recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript. The full disclosure date for YRDSB Fall Session night school is Tuesday, April 29, 2025.

Potential graduates who are applying to an Ontario college and/or university who are planning to drop a course are encouraged to connect with their guidance counsellor in advance of these dates. Guidance appointments can be booked via teachassist.

#### **Important dates**

- April 15 night school report cards
- April 24 This is the date that Grade 11 and 12 marks are uploaded to OUAC
- April 25 This is the date that Grade 11 and 12 marks are uploaded to OCAS
- April 24-28- report cards are e-transmitted
- May 6 This is the date any Grade 11 and 12 courses will permanently appear on your transcript. Courses dropped by this date will not show on a student's transcript

#### **Spring College and University Open Houses**

This is a wonderful time to visit college and university campuses for students applying to post-secondary.

- University campuses
- College campuses

#### **Scholarships**

#### Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA)

The Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA) will be awarding scholarships of \$1,000 to selected recipients. <u>Deadline is June 30, 2025</u>.

2025 Scholarship Application Package

Please see the flyer for more information or visit the MACCA website.

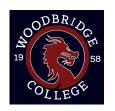
#### 2025 Healthy Democracy Student Leadership Award

Please see <u>Flyer</u> and <u>Information Sheet</u> for more information.

The deadline for receipt of application packages is June 6, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

#### **Scholar Tree**

With spring right around the corner, <u>ScholarTree.ca</u> wanted to share a list of scholarships (over 1,800 awards totalling over \$5,000,000) available to students over March/Spring Break. <u>Scholarship for March</u> If you have issues opening the links, you can either try right-clicking and copying the links into your browser.



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Not all awards will apply to all students. Students should create a profile on ScholarTree to get a customized list and weekly email reminders of deadlines. Students can use the "Applications Open" filter only to see those scholarships currently accepting applications at the top left of their scholarship list.

#### 1. York Region Sports - volunteer opportunity

Our organization is hosting a non-profit volleyball program in Woodbridge on Thursday Evenings. We are looking for both male and female volunteers between 14-18 years old, who are interested in helping out. Flyer They can contact us if interested - email York Region Sports info@yorkregionsports.ca

#### 2. Lions Club is looking for Student

Volunteers for Easter Weekend (April 18 - 21 from 11 am-6 pm daily) in Vaughan at 80 Interchange Way across from Dave & Busters We donate proceeds to help the Lions Club which gives money to charities that are near and dear to our community and heart.

Volunteer Positions available:

- Bouncy Castle Attendants
- Food Attendant
- Entrance/Exit
- Coat check Attendant

Email Rikki @ Easterhopfest@gmail.com

#### 3. Woodbridge Soccer House League Coaching or General Volunteer

The Woodbridge Soccer Club is a non-profit organization and volunteers are a vital part of our organizations' operations. Volunteering is an extremely rewarding experience and any bit helps. Below you will find a list of volunteer opportunities within Woodbridge Soccer Club.

Volunteer coaches are used by the Club for all levels of soccer. Coaches are the leaders and teachers of our young athletes. Their role is to help improve the players soccer skills and performance while also ensuring they have fun!

If you would like to be involved with Woodbridge Soccer, be it as a coach or in some other capacity, just fill out the form below and submit it. A WSC representative will get back to you soon. <a href="https://woodbridgesoccer.ca/volunteer/?authuser=0">https://woodbridgesoccer.ca/volunteer/?authuser=0</a>

#### 4. Volunteer at Rooks to Cooks

Practical cooking skills in a fun, hands-on environment. We operate camps across the GTA, led by professional chefs and culinary educators, and we place a strong emphasis on teamwork, confidence-building, and leadership.

We're currently accepting applications for our, and we'd love to connect with students who are eager to gain experience, contribute to a positive learning environment, and have some fun in the kitchen!

If you are interested, please feel free to share the application form below: <u>Volunteer ApplicationForm</u>

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#### **Mental Health Supports**

#### Dear Families,

The Ontario Ministry of Education released <u>Policy/Program Memorandum 128</u> in the fall of 2024, which included a directive to school boards to set out enforcement mechanisms to address the possession, use and provision of tobacco, electronic cigarettes, nicotine products, recreational cannabis, alcohol and illegal drugs. In support of a comprehensive approach, we are pleased to announce that in the coming months, vape-detecting devices will be installed at all YRDSB secondary schools.

Our schools continue to provide education and support regarding the harmful impact of these products. Please see resources listed below.

### Resources for Families QUASH

- A Logical Plan for Quitting
  - o free smoking and vaping cessation app (co-designed by youth for youth)

#### **School Mental Health Ontario**

- Vaping: What you need to know
  - general information about vaping; outlines important facts, associated risks, and additional resources to support educators/families in having informed conversations with students

#### York Region Public Health (YRPH)

- Vape Facts: What You Need to Know
  - o a website containing YRPH anti-vaping campaign videos and vaping facts
- Vaping and E-Cigarettes
  - o a website continuing YRPH information on vaping and health risks

#### **Canadian Lung Association**

- How to Talk to Your Child About Vaping
  - o a pdf guide for parents about talking with your child about vaping and the risks

#### Student Mental Health and Addictions Letter

April 2025 - Getting Ready for Mental Health Awareness Week March 2025 - A Fresh Start for Spring

#### **Inclusive School and Community Services**

Inclusive School and Community Services support schools in developing a learning and school environment that is respectful, supportive and welcoming to all. This includes building and maintaining strong partnerships with parents, community, community organizations and social service agencies to ensure the Board is able to meet the diverse needs of our school communities. See <a href="YRDSB website">YRDSB website</a> for details.

#### **Services to Support Mental Health**

- Family Services of York Region 905-883-6572
- Trans Lifeline: https://translifeline.org
- YRDSB Trans Student Support Group Bi-weekly meetings 3:30 4:30 contact Max at max.denley@yrdsb.ca Also offered in: Ukrainian, Russian, Dari, Mandarin and Arabic

#### **Academic Supports**

YRDSB Student Tools and Supports

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#### **Supporting Mental Health:**

#### Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:

- <u>310-COPE</u>: 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) avail.24/7
- KidsHelpPhone: 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 available 24/7, https://kidshelpphone.ca
- York Hills Help Phone Line: 905-503-9561 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30-4:00 p.m. for children and youth (0-18 years) and their parents, caregivers or adult supporters.
- Mental Health Helpline: 1-866-531-2600 available 24/7

#### **Culturally Relevant Mental Health Supports:**

We recognize the importance of supporting our students, families, and staff during these challenging times. While many remember and reflect on current events, in response, the following culturally responsive supports are available to our families:

#### 1) TAIBU Community Health Centre

- Clinic: 416-644-3536 http://taibuchc.ca/en/
- Taibu provides intersectional, equity-based and culturally affirming practices for YRDSB students who self-identify as Black:
- Individual Therapeutic Counselling for individuals and parents/families/caregivers.
- Referrals for individual counselling can be made via your school's Social Worker or Psychology Services Professional.
- Group workshops for students (after school). Inquiries regarding potential workshops can be addressed to: Brittany Creighton, BSW, MSW, RSW Diabetes Education Program Social Worker / Health Promoter - Mental Health and Wrap Around Services TAIBU. <u>BCreighton@taibuchc.ca</u>

#### 2) Black Youth Helpline

- Call 416-285-9944 Toll Free 1-833-294-8650
- https://blackyouth.ca/contact-us/
- Black Youth Helpline

#### 3) Harriet's Youth Support Line

- 24-hour emergency / crisis response line: 1-877-695-2673
- Text messaging available for young people who do not feel like speaking to someone, but are still in need of help
- Contact info@tubmancommunitv.org or idunn@peacebuilders.ca for additional inquiries.

#### 4) NACCA - Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA)

• Call 905-781-6222 - https://www.naccacommunity.ca/nacca-youth.html

#### 5) Tropicana

• (416) 439-9009 - <a href="https://tropicanacommunity.org/defy-your-label/">https://tropicanacommunity.org/defy-your-label/</a>

6) Sikh Family Helpline: Sikh Family Helpline (1-800-551-9128)

7) Naseeha Helpline: Naseeha Mental Health

8) 2SLGBTQ+ Youthline: LGBT Youthline

9) PFLAG Canada York Region: 1-866-YR-PFLAG (977-3524) https://plfagyork.ca