

The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No. 12
February 21, 2025

Dates At A Glance

Feb 26	Pink Shirt Day
Mar 1-30	Ramadan Begins
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday
Mar 10-14	Mid-Winter Break
Mar 20	Nowruz
Mar 21-24	Interim Report Card eDistribution
Mar 31	Eid-ul-Fitr
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 19	Victoria Day - No School
May 22	Prom
June 25	Graduation

DAILY SCHEDULE

PERIOD	TIME
Warning Bell	8:50 a.m.
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.



HELPFUL LINKS:

[WC Website](#), [YRDSB Website](#)
[WC Twitter](#), [WC Instagram](#)

CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:

[Crimestoppers](#), [Kids Help Phone](#)
[Report It \(YRDSB\)](#)

Families planning to move or students not returning in September

Dear Families,

As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 school year, we kindly ask you to inform the school office if your family has plans to move over the summer, or if your children will not be returning in September for any reason. This information helps us to ensure a smooth transition for all students and to make necessary staffing arrangements for the upcoming academic year.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us in planning effectively for the new school year.

Thank you for your support.

Board Trustee

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

905-953-0562

elizabeth.sinclair@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent of Schools

Otilia Olteanu

905-764-6830

otilia.olteanu@yrdsb.ca

Principal

Michelle Randall

905-851-2843

michelle.randall@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal

Talat Sadiq

905-851-2843

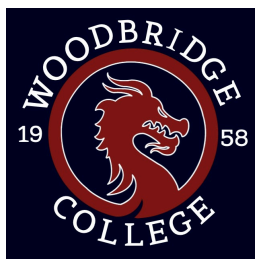
talat.sadiq@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal

Janice Bordonali

905-851-2843

janice.bordonali@yrdsb.ca



Attendance at WC

ATTENDANCE ABSENCE REPORTING

Parents/ guardians please email attendance absences to woodbridgecollege.attendance@yrdsb.ca
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

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.

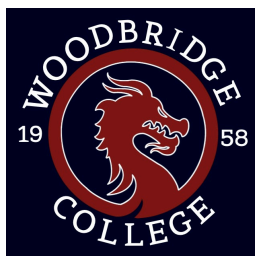
Don't miss out on this chance to make an impact! Please see [poster](#) for more information.

Black History Month Events

Students, families and staff are invited to inspiring evenings as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner. Please register one week before each event.
Please also note that this is a revised flyer as the date of the last event has been changed as a result of the upcoming elections.

[YRDSB Black History Month Events](#)

For further information, please email the Centre for Black Student Excellence at
blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca.



Understanding and Navigating the Education System - Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Info Session - February

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.

[Info-Session-Flyer-February 24, 2025](#)

Black History Month events at Oak Valley Health Network

Oak Valley Health Network is hosting an art contest for Black History Month, for all students in York and Durham Regions who self-identify as Black. Deadline to submit is February 26, 2025. Please see website for more information.

https://www.oakvalleyhealth.ca/upcoming_event/black-history-month-student-art-competition/

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 [flyer](#) for more information on how to subscribe to the mailing list.

Chinese Arts and Literary Festival 2025

This festival aims to deepen participants' understanding of Chinese cultural heritage, promote appreciation and respect for cultural diversity, and enhance social harmony. Please see the [link](#) for more information and registration. Register by March 5, 2025.

Workshop Supporting Students of the Chinese Heritage Community

The YRDSB Community Care Social Work has been dedicated to offer this parent/caregiver virtual event to build community, support mental health, and promote healing.

The session is offered for any parent/guardian of students of Chinese Heritage Parents, caregivers are invited to join this workshop and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school. Tips on ways that help strengthen family relationships and emotional wellbeing will be shared. This will be a free virtual event. Please see the [flyer](#) for more information and registration.

A Compassionate Approach to Support Your Child's Emotional Well-being

Feb 25th, 2025 at 6:00pm-7:00pm Mandarin Session

[Registration for Mandarin Session](#)

Feb 25th, 2025 at 7:00pm-8:00pm Cantonese Session

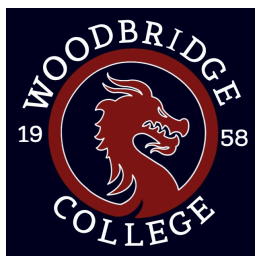
[Registration for Cantonese Session](#)

Please email charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or difficulties in accessing the registration link.

Severe Weather - Bus or School Cancellations

With winter weather here, we want to share some important reminders for families.

When an inclement weather or extreme cold day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) is cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. If you drive your child to school, or your child takes alternate transportation, you must make arrangements for your child to get home at the



end of the day. Please call the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when emergency winter events occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media,

Board and school websites and on X @YRDSB.

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days is outlined in the Board's Severe Weather policy.

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 [link](#) 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 [flyer](#) for more information.

YRDSB Family Dashboard

A family portal including;

- parent/guardian authentication
- secure access to report card links
- links to useful information for parents/guardians

[Newsletter](#)

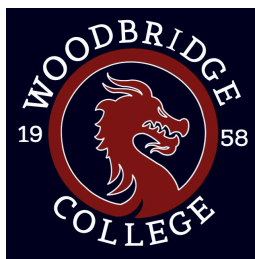
Sankofa Mentoring Program

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](#)



CO-OP & Pathway Opportunities

The 2025 Talent City Vaughan Youth Careers Expo

This event is designed to connect students with incredible **summer job opportunities** while helping them build valuable networks with local employers.

Why Should Your Students Attend?

Access Summer Jobs: Meet employers offering great summer jobs all in one place.

- **Networking Opportunities:** Build connections with businesses and organizations hiring for the upcoming season.
- **It's Free:** The entire event is free for students to attend!

Event Details:

- **Date:** Friday, March 7th, 2025
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- **Location:** Father E. Bulfon Community Centre, 8141 Martin Grove Rd, Woodbridge, ON L4L 3W9

You can find all the details and registration link here:

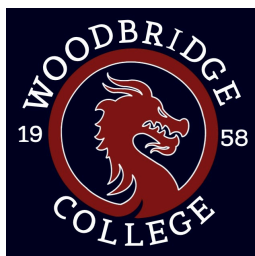
👉 [Register for the 2025 Talent City Vaughan Youth Careers Expo](#)

Valuable Learning Opportunities through Cooperative Education

Attention Students in Grades 10 and 11, Parents and Guardians,
We are excited to share with you an invaluable opportunity for students to explore real-world work experience and enhance their education through Cooperative Education. This program allows students to gain practical work experience in areas that complement their personal strengths, interests, and educational needs while preparing for the next stage of their lives, whether it be in apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace.

What is Cooperative Education?

Cooperative Education, or co-op, enables students to participate in learning experiences outside the classroom in real-world work environments. It connects classroom learning with workplace experience, providing students with a deeper understanding of their studies while preparing them for future career opportunities.




Benefits of Cooperative Education:

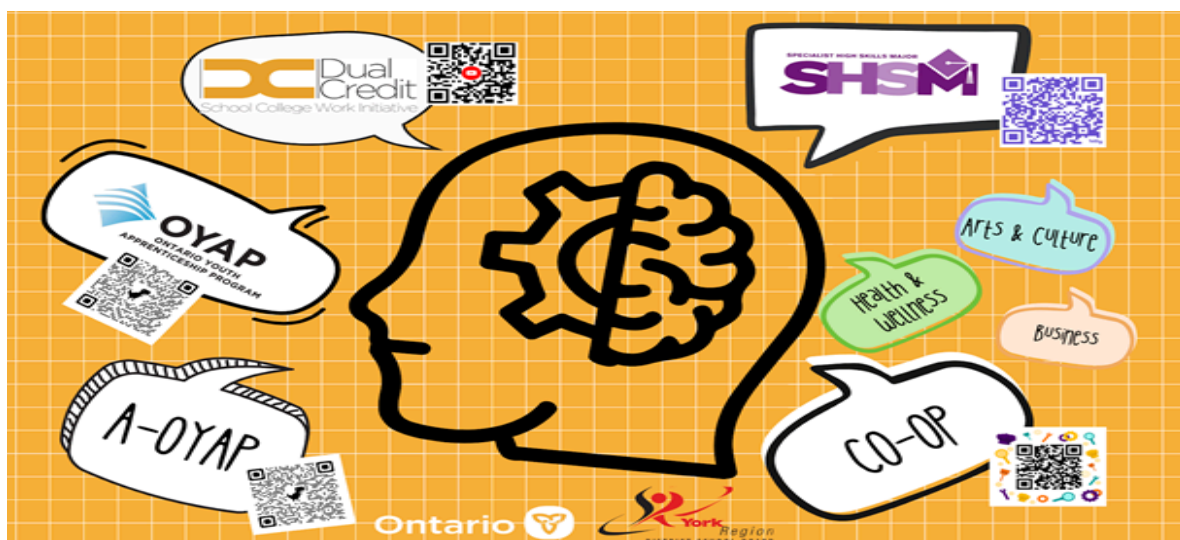
- **Gain Practical Work Experience:** Students have the chance to apply academic knowledge in real-world situations in areas that align with their personal strengths and career aspirations.
- **Discover New Personal Strengths and Skills:** Students will develop and strengthen key skills, both technical and interpersonal, in a work environment.
- **Actively Learn as a Responsible Team Member:** Experience life as a member of a professional team, learning the essential traits of reliability, communication, and collaboration.
- **Access Workplace Opportunities Not Available to Students Prior to Formal Training:** Co-op teachers assist in securing placements that may not be readily available to students without prior experience, opening doors to career fields that align with their interests.
- **Extend High School Experience:** Co-op allows students to gain hands-on experience before deciding on their post-secondary path, helping to confirm career interests and better understand career options.
- **Confirm Career Decisions:** Experience first-hand the job you're interested in before committing to post-secondary education, including apprenticeships, college, or university.
- **Network and Build Contacts:** Students will make valuable connections in their field of interest, providing future networking opportunities and gaining references for future employment.
- **Develop Marketable Skills for Success:** Co-op helps students acquire the professional skills necessary to thrive in today's workplace, giving them a competitive edge as they transition into post-secondary and employment.

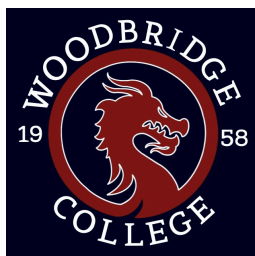
How to Get Involved:

We encourage students in grades 10 and 11 to consider this fantastic opportunity. Speak with your guidance counselor or email christina.bazzo@yrdsb.ca for more details. The co-op program will allow you to gain valuable experience that will benefit you in both your academic and career journey.

Thank you for supporting your student's growth and development as they embark on this exciting learning opportunity. We look forward to seeing the positive impact that Cooperative Education will have on their future.

Check out our Student Spotlight on Instagram: [@woodbridgecollege](https://www.instagram.com/woodbridgecollege) 





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](#)

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.

Course Selection:

Please be sure to approve your child's course selection via email, this will ensure they have an accurate timetable for next year.

Scholarship Report

Please view the [February Scholarship Report](#) for upcoming scholarships and tips for post-secondary.

Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) scholarships

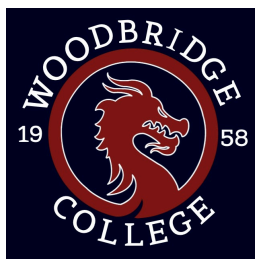
In 2025, the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) will award scholarships to up to 11 students, providing them with financial support as they pursue their educational goals. Applicants must apply by March 31, 2025 to be considered; winners to be announced early June.

We have some new scholarships to announce.

New Scholarships for 2025

- The Health Field Scholarship for \$2500 is for students who are entering health-related fields such as medicine, nursing, public health, or other healthcare disciplines.
- Rightsline Computer Science Scholarship for \$5,000 per year (for four years) + Internship (New for 2025). Awarded to a student pursuing computer science, technology, or a related field.

<https://www.naccacommunity.ca/scholarship-award-2025.html?authuser=0#/>



Mental Health Supports

Student Mental Health and Addictions Letter

[February 2025 - Wellness at Home: Building a Foundation for Mental Health](#)

[January 2025 - Continuing the Journey: Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being](#)

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 [YRDSB website](#) 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](#)

Supporting Mental Health:

Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:

- **310-COPE:** 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. BCreighton@taibuchc.ca



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@tubmancommunity.org or jdunn@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 - <https://tropicanacommunity.org/defy-your-label/>

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>

