

**Issue No. 14** March 21, 2025

Dates At A Glance		
Mar 1-30	Ramadan Begins	
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 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	
June 25	Graduation	

DAILY SCHEDULE			
PERIOD	TIME	Even the tiniest of flowers can have the toughest roots  SHANNON MULLEN	
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.	martha brook	
3	12:40 p.m 1:55 p.m.		
4	2:00 p.m 3:15 p.m.	* * * *	
HELPFUL LINKS:		CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:	
WC Website, YRDSB Website WC Twitter, WC Instagram		Crimestoppers, Kids Help Phone Report It (YRDSB)	

### **Parent Interview Night**

See important timelines below:

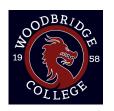
March 4 - March 26 - Parents/guardians to create Edsby accounts, if they do not yet have one.

March 21 - March 24 - Interim Reports will be distributed electronically to parents / guardians / 18+ students via the Electronic Distribution Process.

March 27 - Interview Night scheduler opens at 9:00 a.m. for booking. Log into your Edsby account. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby account and a notification to your email. Instructions for signing up for interview slots are found there.

April 3- Interview Scheduler closes at 12:00 p.m..

April 3 - Interview Night 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



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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

### 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

### 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>.

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 <a href="mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca">iscs@yrdsb.ca</a>.

### 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,

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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 iscs@yrdsb.ca.

### **Culturally Competent Care: Supporting Mental Health in Asian Communities**

Join York Regional Police at the Community Safety Village for the Hong Fook Mental Health Association workshop on <u>Friday, March 21, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</u> Please see <u>website</u> for more information.

### 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.

### Wrapped in Comfort: Trans Day of Visibility Celebration

We invite 2SLGBTQIA+ and allied students, families, and staff of all ages to join us on <u>March 25, 2025</u> for this free evening of community, connection, and celebration as we honour Trans Day of Visibility. Please see <u>link</u> for more information.

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

Monthly Virtual Information Session on Monday, March 24, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please see link for more information.



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### **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

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

### 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.

## OODBRIDGE PRINTS

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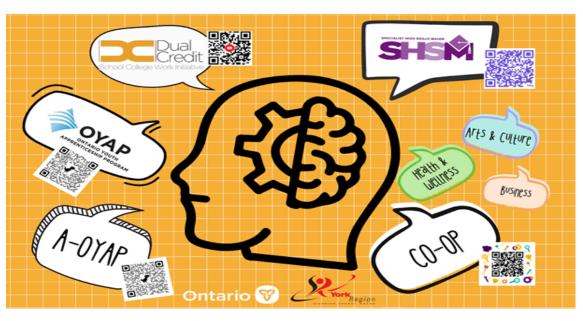
### **Benefits of Cooperative Education:**

- 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



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### **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

<u>Diabetes Health Care Plan</u>

<u>Asthma Health Care Plan</u>

<u>Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan</u>

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 Verification for 2025-2026

Course Selection Verification for 2025/2026 were sent to your parents/guardians yesterday. If a change needs to be made, there is a google form in the email to your parents/guardians. Please note that you must sign in with your gapps account to access the google form, if you are not seeing your 9th course, don't worry, the course is there, you can ask guidance.

This form will CLOSE on Friday, March 21st 2025 @ 11:59 pm.

Please note that requests are not guaranteed. This is one last opportunity to correct any errors before we start building the timetable.

- **1.** Verify your selected courses for the 2025-2026 school year, considering skills, interests, work habits and post-secondary plans.
- 2. Confirm alternate courses that you have chosen are correct.
- 3. If there are no changes to the courses listed above, **DO NOT** complete the Course Verification Request Change Form. We will presume you have verified and approved the course selection requests for next year.

Make an appointment with Guidance if you have questions.

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### **Thrive Program**

The Thrive program will be starting started on Mar 20, 2025

We will be starting our basketball league in March. There are only 40 spots open to WC students and you There will be uniforms, YRDSB officials, and it is all FREE!! We will also have guest speakers coming to speak with the youth participating. Below are the dates the events will be taking place.

Dates	Guest Speakers	Info for parent/guardian email
Tuesday April 1	Khalil Prescod - Routes Connecting Communities Inc. Community Engagement Lead - Newmarket CAT	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT The workshop will be centred around grant writing and program planning. The importance of answering descriptive questions (who, what, where, why, when and how), timeline particularities and impact. 20 minutes will be allocated to presenting, 20 mins towards group work and 10 mins to show work.
Tuesday April 8	Ala'a Adib - Smile4Sache Community leader and digital storyteller who advocates for youth empowerment	LEADERSHIP & CAPACITY BUILDING Sharing insights and strategies to help students develop confidence, initiative, and the skills needed to lead effectively in their communities.
Thursday April 24	Mohammed Al-Salem - EllisDon/Play Forever Community Benefit Manager/Executive Director	EMPLOYMENT This interactive workshop is designed to help high school students explore employment opportunities, understand job agencies, and access programs that support youth employment. Participants will learn about valuable community resources such as the YMCA, Tropicana Community Services, and other local organizations that offer job readiness training, employment placements, and career development support.
Thursday May 1	Ahmed Adan Hope & Hustle Heights	Mental Health and Wellness Grassroots Organization designed to promote mental health and wellness amongst community and youth.

### Spring College and University Open Houses

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

- <u>University</u> campuses
- College campuses

#### **Scholarships**

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.

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.



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### **Volunteering during March Break**

1. **The Earth Hour Vaughan Committee** is now planning its Vaughan Earth Hour Event to be held on Saturday, March 22, 2025.

The goal of our organization is to raise awareness and commitment to the necessity of personally addressing

climate change by taking continuous steps to live with smaller energy and resource "footprints". The event is held at Vaughan City Hall, draws over 500 participants, and has been very engaging for people. We ask your permission to distribute this information to the appropriate teachers in the school. We hope that many students will take advantage of this volunteer opportunity.

Volunteer at the event. Students may assist smaller children with paper lantern-making, assist with refreshments, or do various smaller tasks. Please bring your volunteer forms for signatures. – We will be offering 5 volunteer hours starting at 6pm.

Please contact Gina Ciampa – gina.ciampa@vaughan.ca to become a volunt

Earth Hour Vaughan Committee

### 2. The Canadian Junior Golf Association (CJGA)

We are sharing an exciting volunteer opportunity for high school students who are looking to complete their mandatory 40 volunteer hours.

The Canadian Junior Golf Association (CJGA), a nationally registered Canadian Athletic Association and non-profit organization, is offering students the chance to gain meaningful volunteer experience during the spring and summer of 2025. This opportunity allows students to work with a nationally recognized athletics association while assisting with programs that support children and youth aged 6–18.

Through their involvement with the CJGA, students will develop essential skills such as leadership, communication, event coordination, and teamwork, all while contributing to the growth and development of young athletes across Canada.

#### Volunteer Roles Include:

- ✓ Assisting with our outbound membership call center
- ✓ Supporting event operations at various locations
- ✓ Engaging in player and parent programs
- ✔ Providing general support to CJGA activities and initiatives

These positions offer students flexible opportunities in both indoor and outdoor environments, ensuring a dynamic and rewarding experience. Whether helping at tournaments, assisting with logistics, or working directly with young golfers and their families, students will gain valuable career and life skills in a fun and professional setting.

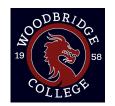
### 3. York Region Sports -volunteer opportunity

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

### 4. 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.



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#### Volunteer Positions available:

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

Email Rikki @ Easterhopfest@gmail.com

### 5. YRES programs for March Break and Spring

This free program is a Canada Service Corp funded project to empower youth aged 12 to 30 by offering meaningful volunteer service placements and professional development activities. YRES has 3,200 spots available across Canada to offer free mentorship, networking lunches, and training to students and we hope to serve students from your school. Flyer or email <a href="http://yorkeducation.org/volunteer?authuser=0">http://yorkeducation.org/volunteer?authuser=0</a>

### **Mental Health Supports**

#### Student Mental Health and Addictions Letter

<u>February 2025 - Wellness at Home: Building a Foundation for Mental Health</u>
<u>January 2025 - Continuing the Journey: Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being</u>

### **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: <a href="https://translifeline.org">https://translifeline.org</a>
- YRDSB Trans Student Support Group Bi-weekly meetings 3:30 4:30 contact Max at <a href="max.denley@yrdsb.ca">max.denley@yrdsb.ca</a> 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
- <u>KidsHelpPhone:</u> 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 available 24/7, <a href="https://kidshelpphone.ca">https://kidshelpphone.ca</a>
- 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:**

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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@tubmancommunity.org or jdunn@peacebuilders.ca for additional inquiries.

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

• Call 905-781-6222 - <a href="https://www.naccacommunity.ca/nacca-youth.html">https://www.naccacommunity.ca/nacca-youth.html</a>

### 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