

The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7

November 29, 2024

Dates At A Glance

Dec 9-13	Grad Photos
Dec 23-Jan 3	Winter Break
Jan 7	Christmas (Eastern)
Jan 22-28	Exams
Jan 29	Exam review day Lunar New Year
Jan 31	PA Day - No School
Feb 4-11	Course Selection Classroom Visits
Feb 10	Grad Retakes/ S2
Feb 11-13	S1F1 Report Cards eDistribution
Feb 12	Immunization Clinic
Feb 13	Course Selection Night OUAC Transmission
Feb 14	OCAS Transmission
Feb 17	Family Day - No School
Mar 1-30	Ramadan Begins
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday
Mar 20	Naw-Ruz
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 \(YRDSB\)](#)

Student Trustee Election Applications Open

If you will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and are passionate about student voice, consider becoming a student trustee, and representing students across YRDSB.

Student trustees network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Learn more about the role and how you can apply at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees.

Applications can be submitted between November 25-December 9. The deadline to apply is December 9, 2024, 11:59 p.m.

All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who represents our area of the Board. There are four areas of the Board (central, east, north and west). Once the four final candidates are announced, students can vote for two of the four candidates to represent them as student trustees in the 2025-2026 school year.

Students will receive information on how to vote in the election during the campaign and voting. Roles and Responsibilities Video - Link: [Roles and Responsibilities Video](#)

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

Tim Wesson

905-851-2843

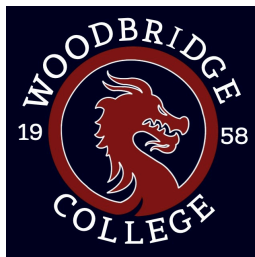
timothy.wesson@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal

Janice Bordonali

905-851-2843

janice.bordonali@yrdsb.ca



The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7

November 29, 2024

Message from Our Trustee

December 2024

As we approach the winter break, I am happy to share a few updates from the Board of Trustees and to wish you all the very best for the approaching break and holiday season.

Multi-Year Strategic Plan

In October, we launched our new Multi-Year Strategic Plan: Building Unity, Achieving Excellence. The plan sets out three priorities that will guide our direction and decision-making as a school board: student achievement, health and well-being, and human rights and inclusive education. It was developed by the Board of Trustees based on feedback received from the community, and we are grateful to everyone who shared their input. It was important to Trustees to ensure that this is a plan that serves the needs of our students and community. I invite you to [learn more about this plan](#).

Family Engagement

Earlier in the fall, we hosted a series of **school council forums**, bringing together school council representatives for an evening of shared learning and discussion. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognize the important role school councils play in our system and to connect with families. Thank you to all of the family members who are supporting the work that we do in schools, including participating on school councils, volunteering in schools, attending events and meetings, sharing information and getting involved in any way to support and strengthen our schools and school communities. Your partnership matters and makes a difference both to your child and to our schools and school communities. Thank you for all that you do.

Some families have asked for tips on encouraging their children to share more information about their school day. Here are [some tips](#) that I hope you find helpful.

As part of our ongoing commitment to working in partnership with families to support your child's education, we also recently introduced the **Family Dashboard**. The dashboard will offer you secure, one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. If you have not yet signed up, you can find more [information on the Board website](#).

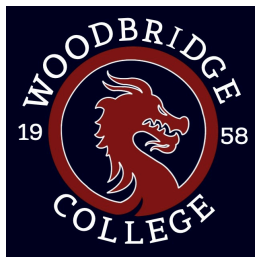
We hope you continue to see evidence of your child's learning. This year, that includes welcoming [school police](#) presentations in partnership with York Regional Police on community safety topics, such as road, bike and pedestrian safety for elementary school students.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and recognize the outstanding, dedicated and professional staff members throughout our system who work hard to provide your children with clean, safe, caring and inclusive learning environments. They provide students with learning supports, resources and opportunities that will help them develop skills, knowledge and experiences that will benefit them now and in the future. They collaborate with families and community partners, knowing that these partnerships make a difference to student achievement and well-being. To our staff members, thank you for all that you do.

Happy Holiday Season and Winter Break

For many in our community, this time of year includes significant dates and celebrations. For those who are celebrating, I wish you a happy and joyous celebration. It is also a valuable time to connect with family and friends, as well as to rest and recharge. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable winter break and we look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair, Trustee, Vaughan Wards 2 and 3



The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7
November 29, 2024

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, December 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, May 15, 2024 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

Kwanzaa Celebration Invitation

Please join us on Monday, December 9, 2024 as we come together to celebrate Kwanzaa. This special event will honour African heritage, unity and culture and will be a time to reflect on the seven principles of Kwanzaa, enjoy cultural traditions and foster community spirit.

Please see the [flyer invitation](#) for more information and [registration form](#) here.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to Blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca

The Jewish Rainbow Alliance

The Jewish Rainbow Alliance is hosting a monthly support group for parents and caregivers of LGBTQ+ individuals. Please contact sshedletsky@jfandcs.com for registration and view the [flyer](#) for more information. Wednesday, December 11, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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

TCC Heritage Month Video Essay Competition - 2025 Call for Entries!

The Tamil Community Centre's Tamil Heritage Month Video & Essay Competition. Students from all schools are invited to participate in this exciting contest. Submissions are due by January 7, 2025. Please visit our [flyer](#) for more details.

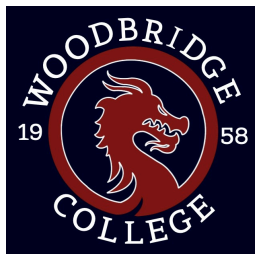
Caregiver Consultation - Coffee with Tamil Social Worker

For more information and/or to book a consultation, please contact Nijatha Subramaniam at nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca or 905-727-0022 ext. 4138 (voicemail only).

Please see flyer below..

[Caregivers Consults Flyer \(English\)](#)

[Caregivers Consults Flyer \(Tamil\)](#)



The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7

November 29, 2024

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 [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](#)

The Supreme Court of Canada's 150th Anniversary Art Contest

Students ages 5-17 are invited to participate in The Supreme Court of Canada's art contest, celebrating the SCC's 150th anniversary. For contest rules visit: [Rules](#)

Please see the flyer for more information. [SCC-Art-Contest.pdf](#)

Concours d'art Oratoire - FSL Programs

Once again, our school has the opportunity to participate in a French Speech competition in semester 2.

There is the option to prepare and present a speech or participate in an impromptu presentation. In previous years, we have had students move on to the provincial level and win cash prizes. It is an amazing opportunity for Core and Immersion students. If students are interested, they are to see Mme Wolf for more details and to sign up! For more info about the provincial competition, see:

<https://on.cpf.ca/en/concours-dart-oratoire/>

Gurpurab and Langar Celebration: An Evening of Learning and Langar

Families, students and educators, are invited to join the SEVA Affinity Group in a Gurpurab Celebration: An Evening of Learning and Langar on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Emily Carr Secondary School.

This event will honor the founder of the Sikh faith, Guru Nanak Dev Ji

Our [flyer](#) is available to share with your community. [Registration link](#).

Renewed Computer Technology Fall Applications

YRDSB will once again be working with Renewed Computer Technology to support limited income families with gaining access to technology.

Please read the [Letter to families](#) and see the [Renewed Computer Technology \(RCT\) Application Flyer](#).

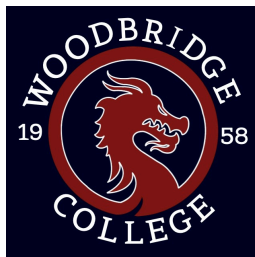
Sankofa Mentoring Program

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

Pathways to the Skilled Trades and Technology Open House

The Pathways Team in Curriculum & Instructional Services in collaboration with the York Catholic District School Board invites families of students in Grades 9-11 to attend a Skilled Trades and Technology Career Planning Information Night.

This event is taking place on Monday, December 9, 2024, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Richmond Hill High School (201 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill).

Students, their families and YRDSB educators are invited to register through our YRDSB

[Skilled Trades and Technology Open House Registration.](#)

[Pathways to Skilled Trades and Technology Flyer](#)

[Skilled Trades & Technology Information Flyer](#)

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

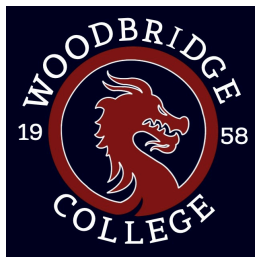
Learn more about Scholarship and Bursaries:

Thursday, December 5th, Parents and Guardians of Grade 12 students are invited to learn about scholarships and bursaries when applying to post-secondary institutions.

SCHULICH BUILDERS SCHOLARSHIP

Schulich Builders:

Scholarships for Skilled Trades are scholarships for students enrolling in an eligible, full-time



The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7

November 29, 2024

skilled trades program at a participating college in Ontario. Ten colleges will award a total of 120 scholarships annually.

Each college will award:

Five
\$20,000
scholarships for one-year certificate programs, and

Five
\$40,000 scholarships for two-year diploma programs.

For more information: info@schulichbuilders.com AND see your child's grade 12 Google Classroom.

Applying to post secondary school for non-permanent residences.

The Guidance Dept would be running a workshop for students who are applying for post-secondary do not have permanent status (work or study permit or refugee status) in Canada. Please complete the following google form if you are interested in participating.. Students can complete the following [Google Form](#) letting if they are interested in attending the event.

OUAC and OCAS Mark Transmission Dates

This announcement is for Grade 11 and 12 students and their families who are planning to apply to Ontario colleges and universities this year.

This year, OUAC/OCAS transmission dates are before the YRDSB midterm report distribution dates. To support students in making informed decisions about their courses prior to mark transmissions, please be aware of these important dates:

- November 15 - This is the date that Grade 11 and 12 marks are uploaded to OCAS
- November 19 - This is the date that Grade 11 and 12 marks are uploaded to OUAC
- November 18 to 20 - report cards are e-transmitted
- November 27 - 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

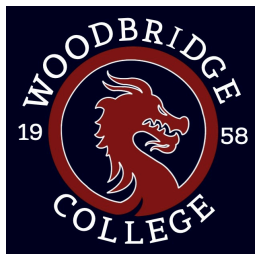
If you need assistance with your decision making, please speak with your parent/guardian and then make a Guidance appointment.

- If you do not want OCAS/OUAC to see your courses, then you must have a Guidance appointment before November 15th.
- If you do not want your courses to appear on your transcript, then you must have a Guidance appointment before November 27th.

Thrive Program at WC

After school opportunity for ALL WC students! This program is free to WC students and will last 7 weeks. It runs from 3:30-5:45 pm. Please fill out the [google form](#) for your child to participate.

Thrive Youth is a weekly youth program designed to cultivate resilience, develop key life skills, and promote a balanced lifestyle. By bringing the community together and bridging the gap between youth and sport, we aim to provide a transformative experience that inspires and empowers young people to thrive in all aspects of their lives. Thrive will include guest speakers, snacks, and open gym basketball! This is a FREE event for WC Students.



The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7

November 29, 2024

WC Dates:

- Wednesday November 20 @ 3:30pm.
- Wednesday November 27 @ 3:30pm.
- Thursday December 5th @ 3:30pm
- Thursday December 12th @ 3:30pm

Community Involvement

Tim Hortons is having their annual Holiday Smile Cookie fundraiser from November 18th to November 24th. All money goes to charity – 50% to Tim Hortons Camps and 50% to Woodbridge College for their morning and afternoon snack program (School Food and Nutrition).

*** Our location is the Tim Hortons at 25 Woodstream – Hwy 7 east of Martingrove on the south side.

Cookies are \$1.50 each. Buy your Smile cookies next week and support our school! Remember 50% of all Smile cookies sales will go directly to Woodbridge College.

Buy a box – say thank you or hello to your friends, families and coworkers.

Mental Health Supports

Student Mental Health and Addictions Letter

[November 2024 - Digital Wellness and Screen Time Balance](#)

[October 2024 - Resilience](#)

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

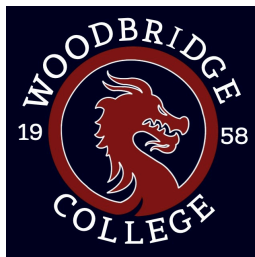
[YRDSB Student Tools and Supports](#)

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:



The Woodbridge Wyvern

Issue No.7

November 29, 2024

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>