



Message from the Admin

Dear Virtual Secondary School Students and Parents/Guardians,

Our VSS Student Council is hosting a social next Thursday during lunch. Please see below for more details. We hope to see you there!

Friday, February 28th is our first Pause and Pace day of the semester. Students will be provided with the opportunity to consolidate their thinking and work on incomplete term activities. This initiative is a part of this year’s Credit Rescue Plan to support students in their success this semester. Please [click here](#) to carefully review our full plan.

If you have missed or would like to review our past *Weekly Updates*, please visit our [school website](#).

Sincerely,

Praveena Sivarajah

Principal

Praveena.Sivarajah@tdsb.on.ca

Zorica Prekajski

Vice Principal (A - L)

Zorica.Prekajski@tdsb.on.ca

Marlena Rivett

Vice Principal (M - Z)

Marlena.Rivett@tdsb.on.ca

Reporting Student Absences:

Student absences must be reported to the school, not individual teachers.

To report a student absence, please 416 393 8240 or email

TDSBVirtualSecSchool@tdsb.on.ca.

VSS follows a remote, synchronous learning model. Asynchronous learning options are not available. Teachers cannot mark the work submitted by students who are not attending their class. VSS cannot award credits to students who are not demonstrating their attendance and engagement in class.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, February 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late Start - Staff Meeting
Thursday, February 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VSS Orientation and Icebreaker Social
Friday, February 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pause and Pace Day Course Selection Deadline
Wednesday, March 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grad Photos School Council Meeting (Virtual), 6:30p.m.
Thursday, March 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grad Photos
Friday, March 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grad Photos



Student of the Week		
Name	Teacher Nominator	Description
Umar M.	Ms. Ferguson	Umar is an outstanding drama student. His work is always complete and well done, he has his camera on and engages in all discussions. Umar is a gifted actor - he takes risks and is always fast to volunteer in anything performance. Umar has a great sense of humour and is an absolute joy to teach. His feedback to his peers is always positive and supportive. Umar is also a movie/film/theatre expert. Watch for him on the big screen one day - I have no doubt he will be there !

Course Selection - 2025/2026 School Year

This will be the last week to pick courses for next year. Please complete your course selection through the myBlueprint website: www.myblueprint.ca. The list of courses that Virtual School will be offering can be found on the [VSS Course Offerings List](#).

If extra help is required please come to the [Guidance Drop In](#) at lunch or after school on 3:15pm to 4:15pm. If students do not submit courses by Friday February 28th then the school will choose courses for the student.

Recordings of our course selection assemblies, slide decks and graduation requirements can be found on this [Course Selection FAQ Sheet](#).

Student Council - VSS Orientation and Icebreaker Social

Hey VSS! Student Council invites you to the VSS Orientation and Icebreaker Social this Thursday, February 27th at lunch! Join us to have an introduction to VSS and its vibrant school community, as well as get to know your peers better through fun activities and have your questions answered! We look forward to seeing you there at 11:40 am on Thursday! **The meet link will be posted on Brightspace.**

School Council Meeting

Our next School Council Meeting (virtual) will be on Wednesday, March 5th at 6:30p.m.

Please [click here](#) to register for the meeting. Please be sure to provide the email address on file with the school. All VSS parents/guardians who registered will receive a link for the meeting on the afternoon of March 5th.

We hope to see you at our meeting!

Guides for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers Video Series

Special Education and Inclusion is excited to share our Guides for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers [video series](#). These videos provide an overview of our Guides to Special Education, designed to



help families understand the programs, services, and supports available to students. From learning about Individual Education Plans (IEPs) to navigating the Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC) process, these resources are here to support you every step of the way. We also encourage you to explore the full guides on the [Special Education and Inclusion Website](#), where you will find additional Special Education resources for families.

ASD After School Skills Development Program – Spring 2025 Session

The Fall/Winter sessions of the ASD After School Leisure Program, available both in-person and virtually, will run every Tuesday from March 25, 2025 to June 10, 2025 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. The program is available to students in Grades 4-10 who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This program provides an opportunity for students to develop, build and enhance their social communication skills through either weekly in-person or weekly virtual sessions.

Please see this [information letter](#) for more information. The letter includes the link for registration.

The registration period will remain open until Friday, March 7, 2025.

Children's Mental Health Week - Poster Contest

Children's Mental Health Week is May 5-9, 2025. This year our theme is all about expressing the importance and power of students' use of their voice, what it means to them and how they demonstrate it.

The Child and Youth Services Poster Contest is open to all TDSB students, with prizes to be won in five categories. The winning designs will be announced in May, during Children's Mental Health week, when we visit schools to share the news with students and their communities. We will also feature the posters on Social Media and in some TDSB buildings.

Please see the [attached flyer](#) and instructions for contest details and submission information. Supplemental activities have been included to support students with exploring ideas that connect to this year's theme "Your Voice Matters"; engage students in sharing their story and ideas of how their voice matters; and how they might express those ideas visually through the creation of a poster.

A Certificate of Participation is also included to be given to each participating student.

The deadline to submit contest entries is April 4, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Follow us on social media to see supplemental material to support making your posters: X formerly know as Twitter [@TDSB_CYS](#) & Instagram [@TDSB.CYS](#)

For further information, please contact Koryn Marshall koryn.marshall@tdsb.on.ca

Travelling for March Break? Measles is just a plane ride away.



Measles continues to spread in many parts of the world and in Canada. If you are planning to travel over March Break, get the best protection for you and your loved ones by staying up-to-date with your routine vaccines, including the measles vaccine.

These vaccines are available from your health care provider or at a Toronto Public Health (TPH) community clinic for school-aged children, by appointment. Visit [TPHbookings.ca](https://www.toronto.ca/immunization) for more information.

If you are unsure of your child's vaccination status, check their yellow card (Ontario Immunization Record), TPH's Immunization Connect Ontario (ICON) or by speaking with their primary health care provider.

To learn more, visit toronto.ca/immunization. Questions? Contact TPH at publichealth@toronto.ca or 416-338-7600, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for more information. Service is available in multiple languages.

TRAVELLING FOR MARCH BREAK? STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH YOUR MEASLES VACCINES BEFORE YOU GO

The infographic features a world map background with four shield-shaped icons and their corresponding text:

- Icon 1:** A calendar icon with '1970' and a right-pointing arrow, above two vaccine vials. **Text:** 2 doses of the MMR vaccine are recommended if born in 1970 or later.
- Icon 2:** A birthday cake with a single candle, above a vaccine vial. **Text:** Children get their 1st dose after they turn 1 and their 2nd dose at 4-6 years old.
- Icon 3:** A baby stroller, above a vaccine vial. **Text:** Infants 6-11 months can get a dose if travelling.
- Icon 4:** A calendar icon with '1970' and a left-pointing arrow, above a vaccine vial. **Text:** Adults born before 1970 who are unsure if they had measles or were vaccinated can get an MMR dose.

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