

## Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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### Great Beginnings Webinar Series 2025

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 2 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Join the Durham District School Board (DDSB) Early Years Department and community partners for the Great Beginnings Virtual Family Introduction Series. Parents/Guardians are invited to attend five webinar sessions to learn more about what they can expect as their child enters Kindergarten at the DDSB and hear helpful tips from the experts!

### Kindergarten kick-off at the DDSB!

April 2, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

[Register for April 2](#)

Is your child registered for Kindergarten at the DDSB? Are you curious about what they might learn during their first two years of school? Do you wonder about what a “typical Kindergarten day” might look like? This “kick-off to Kindergarten” webinar will provide families with information and tips to help prepare children for this new and exciting chapter in their young lives: Kindergarten! Families will be provided with general information about The Kindergarten Program, an explanation of play-based learning, things to consider when preparing for September, and helpful tips for a successful transition.

Presenters: Samantha Churchill, Lorra Walter, Amanda Gleed, Conor Jinkinson, Kristin Bennett, Karina Bogardts, Smita Sharma

### Getting Ready for Kindergarten: Building Social-Emotional Skills

April 16, 2025 @ 6:30 pm

[Register for April 16](#)

Starting kindergarten is a major milestone in a child’s life and preparing them for this transition goes beyond academic skills. Kindergarten readiness is not just about knowing letters and numbers; it’s about nurturing connection with others, navigating emotions, and adapting to new environments. In this session, you’ll discover how social emotional skills can help prepare your child for this exciting journey, while setting the stage for meaningful learning, connection, and well-being.

Presenter(s): Steffanie Pelleboer

### The Power of Loose Parts Play: Strengthening Whole Child Development

April 29, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

[Register for April 29](#)

Discover the power of “loose parts play” and how it fuels creativity, problem-solving, and overall development

in young children. In this fun and informative webinar, we'll explore what loose parts are, where to find them, and simple ways to incorporate them into your child's daily life. You'll gain practical tips and easy-to-implement strategies to create an environment that encourages curiosity, independent thinking, and whole-child development—without the need for expensive toys. Join us and unlock the endless possibilities of loose parts play! Join Angela Odusanya for this wonderful learning opportunity!

Presenter(s): Angela Odusanya

## **Fine Motor Skills for School**

**May 14, 2025 @ 6:00 pm**

[Register for May 14](#)

Join Grandview Kid's Occupational Therapists as they talk about the fine motor skills needed to support not only printing and using scissors, but also such important things as doing up zippers, and opening snack containers. We will learn about the development of fine motor skills and fun activities to do at home to help your child be ready for Kindergarten. We will also share information about OT services in your school.

Presenters: Anna Murray, Suvaathy Vigneswaran

## **Ready, Set, Kindergarten: Building Self-Care Skills for Success**

**May 29, 2025 @ 6:00 pm**

[Register for May 29](#)

Every child grows at a unique pace, but the important piece to focus on is that they are making progress as they get ready for kindergarten. Building self-care skills means supporting your child to look after their own needs (e.g., dressing themselves, toileting on their own). This session will help you gain knowledge about self-care skills and learn strategies to support your child in the areas of school readiness and physical independence skills.”

Presenters: Chandecia French, Jenn Sullivan, Carly Guile, *(additional staff from EarlyON still to be named)*

## **World Autism Awareness Day**

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 2 11:55 pm

## **Wednesday, April 9, 2025**

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### **Vimy Ridge Day**

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 9 11:55 pm

## **Saturday, April 12, 2025**

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### **Passover/Pesach (April 12-20)**

Date and Time: Saturday, April 12 5:00 pm

## Sunday, April 13, 2025

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### Tamil and Sinhala New Year (April 13-14)

Date and Time: Sunday, April 13 5:00 pm

### Palm Sunday

Date and Time: Sunday, April 13 11:55 pm

## Monday, April 14, 2025

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### Vaisakhi

Date and Time: Monday, April 14 11:55 pm

## Wednesday, April 16, 2025

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## **Friday, April 18, 2025**

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### **Good Friday - schools closed**

Date and Time: Friday, April 18 11:55 pm

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Date and Time: Friday, April 18 11:55 pm

### **Holy Friday**

Date and Time: Friday, April 18 11:55 pm

## **Sunday, April 20, 2025**

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### **Easter (Orthodox)**

Date and Time: Sunday, April 20 11:55 pm

### **Easter Sunday**

Date and Time: Sunday, April 20 11:55 pm

### **First Day of Ridvan**

Date and Time: Sunday, April 20 11:55 pm

## **Monday, April 21, 2025**

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### **Easter Monday - schools closed**

Date and Time: Monday, April 21 11:55 pm

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Date and Time: Monday, April 21 11:55 pm

## Tuesday, April 22, 2025

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### Earth Day

Date and Time: Tuesday, April 22 11:55 pm

## Wednesday, April 23, 2025

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### Yom HaShoah (April 23-24)

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 23 5:00 pm

### Administrative Professionals Day

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 23 5:00 pm

## Tuesday, April 29, 2025

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