

### **Noon Hour Supervisors**

Our students and staff are so fortunate to have several parents and community members supporting us as Student Support Supervisors (noon hour supervisors). Thanks to Mrs. Tickner, Mrs. Fletcher, Ms. Vance, Ms. Hyde and Ms. Maendel and ‘welcome’ to Mrs. Dicu and Mrs. Melo, our new ‘team’ members!

### **Office Support**

With Mrs. Knight off for a few more weeks, we're happy to welcome Mrs. Vink to support the office until her return. This coming Tuesday, however, both Mrs. Vink and Ms. Elcombe will be away, so staff and students will be helping us out. ***If you need to get hold of the school on Tuesday (e.g., early departure, changes to pick up routines, etc.), please phone the office (519-684-7436), or email your child's teacher directly rather than just using SchoolMessenger, as our helpers will not have access to this during the day on Tuesday.*** During the time of Mrs. Vink's tenure with us, please make sure to fill out the sign in/sign out sheet in the office to insure that we have accurate attendance records for Safe Arrival if you are dropping off your child late or picking up your child early. Thanks for your understanding and patience during this time.

### **Climber/Outdoor Equipment Safety**

With the incredible weather we experienced this past week, we were able to open our playground climbers earlier than usual, but may still need to close access to the equipment over the next several weeks, dependent on less ideal weather conditions. As a reminder, students must be wearing sturdy, closed-toe shoes on the climbers. Boots, sandals and flip-flops are not safe as these types of footwear can slip off when running, and often their soles do not provide any ‘grip’ on the equipment surfaces. Scarves, long necklaces, bike helmet straps and hoodies with strings can also be hazardous as they can become tangled with the equipment and choke a child. Please see <https://canadasafetycouncil.org/playground-safety/> for more information and climber safety expectations.

This is also a good time to remind families that the school's outdoor equipment and fields are closed before and after school, as we only have minimal supervision of students between 8:50 - 9:00 am and 3:30 – 3:40 pm. While we know that there are parents available to supervise their own children at these times, it is too difficult to know which students are or are not being supervised directly. In an effort to keep **all** of our students safe during these times, please refrain from using the climbers and equipment during these 20 minutes of the day. Thank you for your support.

### **French Language Supports**

The Canadian Parents for French (CPF) association will be offering FREE French language support and enrichment opportunities for French Immersion and Core French students in Grades 1 to 12 throughout the province. These voluntary programs will be offered remotely after-school from May 2023 to June 2023, and will feature a daily 45-minute class over a 2-week session. Summer sessions will also occur from July 2023 to August 2023. These programs are fully funded by the Ministry of Education and will be led by certified OCT Teachers and/or Teacher Candidates enrolled in an Ontario Bachelor of Education program. Participation is entirely optional.

Program Offerings:

- CPF VIRTUAL “Franco-Fun”: Students in Grades 1-8 will participate in fun and interactive games and activities, and will chat with new friends while building their French vocabulary, oral comprehension, and communication skills;
- CPF VIRTUAL Reading Circle: Students in Grades 1-8 will read accessible books, articles, poems and other reading materials with new friends, and will learn new vocabulary and improve their reading comprehension skills;
- CPF VIRTUAL “Vive la parole”: Students in Grades 7-12 will engage in fun, theme-based games and interactive activities that spark oral communication in French, and will learn about French culture, including the contemporary Franco-Ontarian pop culture scene.

For more information, please consult this [CPF poster](#). To enrol your child(ren), please [click here](#). Spaces are limited. Participation is optional.

Should you have any questions, please contact Marc Powell, Bilingual Learning Coordinator of FSL, Grades 1-12, at [m.powell@tvdsb.ca](mailto:m.powell@tvdsb.ca)

### **Milk & Popcorn**

Chocolate and white milk is sold daily for \$1 or 1 ticket, and popcorn on Wednesdays only for \$2 or 1 ticket. SchoolCash online is open daily until May 4 for purchasing tickets. These will continue to be printed and distributed on Mondays only.

### **Pop Tabs and Dead Batteries**

We continue to collect pop tabs to donate and dead batteries to e-waste. Feel free to send these to the office throughout the year.

### **Produce Express Fundraiser**

Throughout the month of April, Produce Express has offered us an additional month of fundraising for our school Nutrition Program. 10% of all sales during the month will be donated back to the school when you use the code PLATT2023 in the ‘fundraising code’ box at checkout. See the attached flyer for more details.

### **Lost & Found**

If anything belongs in your home, please contact Ms. Elcombe ([t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca](mailto:t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca)) or your child's teacher and we will get them back to you on Monday. Please also look carefully at the ‘last chance’ items. Any items not claimed by the end of the month will be donated. Don't forget that the Mabel's Labels fundraiser runs continually throughout the year (search Plattsville and District Public School). These also make great gifts for new JK families so feel free to pass on the information!

[https://mabelslabls.ca/en\\_CA/fundraising/support/](https://mabelslabls.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/)

### **From Southwestern Public Health**

Why is it important to be sun safe? Spending time outdoors is a great way to be physically active and reduce stress. It is important to work and play outside without raising your skin cancer risk by protecting your skin from the sun. Did you know that about 80% of UVR exposure occurs before the age of 18? Research indicates that childhood exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. Skin cancer is one of the most common types of

cancer diagnosed in Canada and it is on the rise. Although one of the most diagnosed cancers, skin cancer is also one of the most preventable types of cancer.

It is important to protect against UVR all year round, not just in the summer.

- Reflections off snow, water, sand and concrete can increase the effect of UV rays.
- In extreme heat, some medications may increase your health risk and/or make your skin more sensitive to UV rays. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about your medication.
- Tanning equipment will damage the skin and should be avoided. Sunless tanning products are an alternative to tanning and come in different forms (sprays, lotions, towelettes, etc.)

Others learn best by example, model sun-protective behavior yourself.

### **Free Mental Wellness Support for Kids**

Wellkin Child and Youth Mental Wellness offers accessible, compassionate programs and services to support families free of charge in Oxford County (branches in Woodstock, Ingersoll, Tillsonburg). They can help infants, children and youth learn to cope, and together build strengths to manage challenges. A new group for students experiencing anxiety is beginning. Please see the attached 'Coping Cats' information photo attached. Please visit <https://wellkin.ca/> for information regarding additional services offered.

### **Thoughts of the Day this past week**

In case no one told you today, Hello, Good morning, You belong here, You're doing great, We believe in you!

You will always have problems. Learn to enjoy life while you are solving them.

Be a hand that reaches out. Be a smile for those who have no reason to smile. Be a light for those who live in darkness.

You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you just might find you get what you need.

### **Upcoming Dates**

April 18	Holocaust Remembrance Day
April 22	(Eid) al Fitr, Earth Day
April 24 – 28	Autism Awareness Week
April 26	Superintendent Visit
April 28	Light it up Blue Day (wear blue) for Autism Awareness
May 1 – 5	Education Week, Grade 7/8s to Vansittart Woods Leadership Program
May 4	Evening 'Open House' (more details to be provided)
May 11	PDPS Track and Field Meet (Gr. 4-8)
May 12	PDPS T&F Raindate

Have a great weekend, Panther families! Contact Us at [plattsville@tvdsb.ca](mailto:plattsville@tvdsb.ca) or 519-684-7436.