

PDPS Update Dec. 8, 2023

NEW! PDPS Instagram

Want to know more about the fun cool things going on around Plattsville school? A quick picture with a line or two to explain or that you could ask your child about? We think you do! Mrs. Schultz and Mrs. Dickson have created an Instagram account for just that reason! Acceptance will be only for parents/guardians with children currently attending Plattsville school. It may take us a bit to approve your request to follow so we apologize in advance. We would appreciate a DM with your child's name and teacher to make the process faster. Find us at [*pdpsrocks*](#). We will try to keep you up to date with all the spectacular and amazing things that are happening at school. We will not post any pictures of children. At this time we will leave commenting 'on' as long as they are meeting Plattsville's expectation, "Be Kind"! If you have a question about anything school-related please contact the office, as this account will not be monitored for questions! ENJOY!!!!

School Council Fundraisers

Thanks once again to the generosity of the PDPS Community! Almost \$1400 has been raised to support various events and activities at the school this year. All pizza coupons, soup packages and mint smoothies have now been distributed to families. Please reach out to Dawn Richmond, parent volunteer and organizer of our fundraising initiatives, if you have any questions or if an order was incorrect. boomer_dawn@hotmail.com

Food Drive & Treat Tuesday

Just a few more days to bring in non-perishable items for our Salvation Army food drive. Please remember that we cannot accept expired, open or perishable items at the school. SchoolCash online is open until December 13 to pre-order festive treats (peppermint ice cream sandwiches, ice cream cone twister). On Treat Tuesday, December 19, we will also have \$2 regular ice cream sandwiches and freezies available for cash purchases. All monetary proceeds will go to the Salvation Army as well so they may purchase perishable items needed to support their charitable initiatives. Thank for your continued support for our community and the youth of Plattsville School.

Festive Feast December 18

The PDPS School Council and Nutrition Program will partner once again to host a Festive Feast for all students on Monday, December 18 to 'kick-off' our Spirit Week! 'Breakfast for Lunch', family style, will be the theme, and we look forward to some tasty selections and an opportunity to socialize with other students during the meal. If your child has food limitations, please reach out to Jaime Braunig (ibraunig@yahoo.ca) to discuss alternate options to purchase so everyone can participate!

Winter Concert – December 20

Our classes are already busy preparing for our Winter Concerts on Wednesday, December 20. Kindergarten classes will share their presentations in the Gym between 12:00 and 12:30 pm, then from 2:00 to 3:15 pm our Grade 1-8 classes will perform. For those family members unable to attend, the presentations will be recorded and posted to our school's YouTube channel by the end of that week. Students will be able to see all of the performances at our dress rehearsal on Monday, December 18.

Lost & Found

Please see the attached photos for this week's lost and found items. Please let us know what belongs in your home and we'll make sure it gets back to your child! **PHOTOS**

Ongoing Fundraisers

Milk is sold daily, and Popcorn each Wednesday. Tickets may be purchased through SchoolCash online. **Please note that we will not be ordering additional milk before the break when we run out. We will let families know when this occurs. Milk sales will resume at the end of the first week back in January (usually Thursday am delivery). Thanks for your continued support!**

Produce Express will continue to support our school's Nutrition Program by donating 5% of all sales back to PDPS when you use the code **PLATT2023** at checkout.

School Council receives a small percentage of all sales back from [Mabel's Labels](#) when our school is selected before checkout.

Ongoing Collections

We are collecting pop tabs to support Thames Valley Children's Centre in purchasing a new wheelchair for a needy child in our greater TVDSB community.

We continue to collect dead batteries for e-waste. The collection bins are located in the main office.

TVDSB Family Well-Being Community Workshop Series

We are very excited to share with you two more upcoming webinars in the Family Well-Being Community Workshop Series.

1. As the cold weather draws near, we know that there is an increased need to support our youth, families, and community who face homelessness and housing instability. We are honoured to partner with Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U) to learn more about [Supporting Our Youth Out of Homelessness and Housing Instability](#).

"This presentation will begin to examine the complexities of youth experiencing housing instability in the London community. We will discuss misconceptions and stereotypes, introduce informed language, the Housing First Philosophy and explore the barriers youth experience when navigating housing within our community. We will explore case studies to illuminate the diversity of experiences of our community members and how we as a community can collectively support our most vulnerable populations."

- o December 14th, 2023- 6:30-7:30pm (virtual) Register at: <https://bit.ly/fwbcws22>

2. The new year often brings forward a lot of conversations related to "diets" and body image, which we know can be challenging for children, youth, and their families. In partnership with Southwestern Public Health and Middlesex-London Health Unit, we are excited to offer [Supporting Children and Youth and Their Relationship with Food and Body](#).

"Navigating diet culture as a parent/caregiver can be challenging. Tune in for strategies that help children and teens develop a positive relationship with food and their bodies. Learn how to encourage open and non-judgmental conversations around food and bodies and practical tips for how to model your own positive relationship with food and body."

- o January 16th, 2024- 6:30-7:30pm (virtual) Register at: <https://bit.ly/fwbcws23>

We have also attached the posters for these events, and ask that you share the information with others. We know that when we come together as a community, we can support everyone's well-being. For more information about the series in general, please visit <https://bit.ly/FWBCWS> and feel free to reach out should you have any questions or concerns.

Prime Minister Awards

Consider nominating an educator for a 2024 Prime Minister's Award! Download your [nomination package](#) today by visiting the [website](#). Help us celebrate those who go above and beyond to create safe spaces for their students, continue to work hard to make learning fun and inspire the next generation to be bold innovators and creators. Prime Minister's Awards recipients for Teaching Excellence, Teaching Excellence in STEM and Excellence in Early Childhood Education can receive:

- A certificate from the Prime Minister
- National recognition and promotion of their best teaching practices

Looking for inspiration? Check out some previous teaching and early childhood education award recipients. Nomination deadline is January 11, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time)

Community Events

Plattsville Ugly Sweater Youth Dance TONIGHT

Our Grade 6 – 8 students are invited to attend a [free youth dance](#) at the Plattsville Arena's Lions Hall from 7:00 – 10:00 pm. Students are asked to dress up in their favourite 'ugly sweater' and enjoy music, games and prizes. Chips, candy bars and pop will be sold throughout the evening.

Plattsville Light Up for the Holidays

TODAY is the last day to decorate your homes for the holidays to be eligible to be part of the 'top 10' most festive homes in Plattsville for [Light Up for the Holidays](#). Judges will be touring tomorrow and Sunday to find the 'top 10', and then the students of PDPS and the Plattsville Christian School will be helping to choose the winner. Good luck, everyone!

Little Critters Adventures

On Saturday, December 16, the Plattsville Library will be hosting [Little Critters Adventure Time](#) from 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Please see the linked poster or speak with Kathy for further information.

Lego Workshop at Lion's Hall

A company in Cambridge will be offering [Lego Robotics classes](#) here in Plattsville in January! Unfortunately the age 5-8 group is already full, but there are still spots available for the 9-12 age group. Please see the link attached.

<https://stemotics.com/eforms/blandford-blenheim-lego-spike-prime-invention-squad-ages9-12/261/>

Western Engineering Girls Club

Girls Club is an exciting opportunity for grade 3-8 girls, including all youth who identify as girls and non-binary, to learn about the wonderful world of engineering. Participants explore different strands of engineering through hands-on activities. Girls Club will run for three consecutive Saturdays from January 13 to January 27. If you have any questions about Girl's Club, or to inquire about bursary options, please email us at discover@uwo.ca.

Discovery Western Summer Camp

Western Engineering Outreach is looking forward to offering our summer camp programs again in 2024! In our Summer Day Camp you can look forward to a LOT of engineering and science fun! We program robots, design structures, and of course, a few engineers might be made in the process! Campers will register based on the grade they will be entering in fall 2024. Our camp groups are grades SK-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8 and Just For Girls camps. **Registration dates for elementary camps and camp themes will be released in the January newsletter.**

Thoughts of the Day

Each morning we are born again. What we do today matters most!

The more grateful I am, the more beauty I see.

There is hope, even when your brain tells you there isn't.

Stop the habit of wishful thinking and start the habit of thoughtful wishes.

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?.....Frosted Flakes and ICE Krispies!

Important Upcoming Dates

Dec. 15	Student Teacher Placement ends (K2)
Dec. 18	Festive Feast, Cozy Day, Winter Concert Dress Rehearsal
Dec. 19	Holiday/Tuesday Treat day, Ugly/Decorated Sweater Day, WO Feeder School Music Concert
Dec. 20	Winter Concerts, Red/White/Green Day
Dec. 21	Christmas/Winter Character Day
Dec. 22	PJ Day
Dec. 23 – Jan. 7/24	Winter Holidays
Jan. 8/24	Back to School!
Jan. 11	Prime Minister's Awards nominations due

Have a wonderful weekend, Panther families! Contact Us at plattsville@tvdsb.ca or 519-684-7436.