

Ranger's Game Choir

Our School Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Finnie, had a great performance of the National Anthem at tonight's Kitchener Rangers game. Thanks to Mrs. McIntyre for assisting 'on the ice, and to Mrs. Knelsen for capturing this [video](#) and [photo](#). We're so proud of you, Panthers!

School Council Fundraisers

Just a few days remaining...the School Council [Fall fundraiser](#) is on until TUESDAY, November 21. We hope that you will take this opportunity to participate in this fundraiser as it helps to support the many ongoing initiatives and activities of your school council that in return ensure our students have the tools, resources and opportunities they need for success. As winter approaches we have you covered for busy nights on the go, gift-giving, or just stocking your pantry with good food to keep you warm this season. We have partnered with three amazing local businesses to bring you a great variety to select from.

- 1) **Mitchell's Soup Co.** is a family-owned, Canadian business that makes high-quality dried soup, stew, chili and rice dish mixes. (35% of all sales will benefit our school) Just share the link with family & friends and a pick-up date will be set in early December at the school. <https://bit.ly/PlattsvillePublicSchool-OnlineOrders>
- 2) **Rheo Thompson mint smoothies** (milk or dark chocolate) \$2.50 ea. (up to 30% of sales will be returned to the school). Order through SchoolCash online. [Tracking Form](#)
- 3) **Domino's Pizza Gift Card** for 1 large 3-topping pizza from the New Hamburg location: \$15 each (\$9 from each sale will be returned to our school). **NEW** Please note that coupons have an expiry date of January 31, 2024. Order through SchoolCash Online. [Tracking Form](#)

For questions please reach out to Dawn Richmond, parent volunteer and organizer of our fundraising initiatives.

boomer_dawn@hotmail.com

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

November 19th-25th, 2023 is Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week in Ontario. Students, school staff and families are encouraged to learn more about bullying, its effect on student learning and well-being, and how we can all help stop it, to promote safe schools and a positive learning environment. At PDPS, we strive every day to implement our [Essential Conditions for Learning](#) and to meet our two expectations: Try your best and Be Kind. Please be on the lookout for an email from TVDSB with direct links to resources explaining our Essential Conditions, information on our [Family Well-Being Community Workshop series](#), and webinars on [Restorative Practices](#), [Combatting Cyberbullying](#), and [Understanding Bullying Prevention in TVDSB](#). The posters attached also provide information for families and caregivers.

Community Involvement Survey

Baking? Robotics? Yoga? Cake decorating? We would like to bring community members into the school to demonstrate and/or potentially work with students to share their different interests, hobbies and skills to expand our students' interests and experiences. If you have something you would be willing to share, please complete the [Google Form linked here](#). Please feel free to share the link with other community members as well (e.g., grandparents, neighbours without students at the school). The survey will close on Friday, December 1. Thank you in advance!

Spiritwear Delivery

WSC anticipates that our Spiritwear orders will be ready for delivery next week. Once received at the school, Spiritwear will be distributed to the students to bring home. If you wish for us to 'hold' your purchases for pick up, please notify Ms. Elcombe at t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca as soon as possible, if you have not already done so, and we will make those arrangements.

Lost & Found

The students are doing pretty well keeping track of their items, but there are a few 'hanging around' in our [Lost & Found](#). There are a couple of ['last chance' items](#) as well. Those not claimed by Friday, November 24 will be donated. Please let us know what belongs in your home and we'll make sure it gets back to your child!

Ongoing Fundraisers

Milk is sold daily, and Popcorn each Wednesday. Tickets may be purchased through SchoolCash online.

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.

From Southwestern Public Health

Bullying takes place in real and virtual reality. Unlike in-person bullying, cyberbullying is not always obvious. Yet it has tremendous impacts not only on your child's current circumstance but also on how they understand their self-worth, and relationships well into adulthood. We all want the best for our children. We want them to feel loved, be encouraged to reach their full potential and to be happy. Bullying is not just a part of childhood. It is a mental health and relationship skill issue which must be addressed. But how do you know if your child is being bullied online?

Keep an eye out for any of these signs of online bullying:

- Your child is emotionally upset after screen time
- Your child is secretive or protective of their digital life
- Your child withdraws from time with family and friends
- Your child is nervous about getting a message, text or email
- Your child suddenly does not want to use their devices
- Your child avoids discussions about their online life

If you notice these signs it is important that you:

1. Offer your child comfort and support
2. Notify the school, so that other caring adults can support your child
3. Encourage your child to not respond to cyberbullying
4. Keep detailed records of what was said, when and how. If necessary these records may be needed in conversations with the principal, the bully's parents or even the police.
5. Block the bully on your child's devices
6. Support your child in getting professional help to work through their feelings
7. Be a part of your child's online world. Know what sites they use, and ask to "friend" them online.

For more information, and strategies please visit <https://www.prevnet.ca/bullying/parents>

Community Events

Please see the attached posters for each of the events below for further information

Oxford County Library Opportunities for Teens (12-18)

Students aged 12 – 18 are invited to attend Brightside Youth Hub's '[FREE Games Night](#)' here at the Plattsville branch on Thursday, November 23 and to sign up for the [Winter Teen Book Boxes](#). You can also speak with Kathy in the Library for more information.

Plattsville Free Skate and Toy Drive

Otherside of the Fence is hosting a [free skate and toy drive](#) on Sunday, November 26 at the Plattsville Arena starting at 3:00 pm.

Plattsville Light Up for the Holidays

Once again, the students of PDPS will be 'judging' the most festively decorated home in Plattsville for [Light Up for the Holidays](#). Have your house ready for December 8 as preliminary selection of the 'top 10' homes will take place December 9 and 10. Best of luck!

Hindu Community Engagement Night

TVDSB will be hosting a [Hindu Community Engagement](#) in-person session on Wednesday, November 22 at Oakridge Secondary School in London, 5:00 – 7:00 with a free, light meal provided. Registration is required.

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)

Thoughts of the Day

Happiness can always be found, even in the darkest of times, if only one remembers to turn on the light!

Gratitude is the healthiest of all human emotions.

A healthy attitude is contagious but don't wait to catch it from others - be a carrier.

A little consideration, a little thought for others, makes all the difference.

Important Upcoming Dates

Nov. 22	Hindu Community Engagement Night
Nov. 23	Character Assembly, "Games Night" at the Plattsville Library
Nov. 24	W-O Feeder School Music Presentation
Nov. 26	Free Skate & Toy Drive
Nov. 27 – Dec. 1	Scholastic Book Fair (further details/times to follow)
Nov. 27 – Dec. 8	Student Council Food Drive (more information to follow)

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