

## **PDPS Update Nov. 3, 2023**

### **Service of Remembrance**

On Friday, November 10, the students of PDPS will take part in a Service of Remembrance here at the school. All students will be provided with a poppy to wear. Donations for the Legion's Poppy Fund will be collected at the school, or you can donate online at <https://legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy-campaign/donate-to-the-poppy-fund> .

### **Socktober**

Thanks to the generosity of this community, we have donated a car full of new warm socks, underwear, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, and deodorant, as well as gently used and clean winter coats, boots, hats, scarves and gloves for The INN in Woodstock to support the homeless in Oxford County. We also collected about \$150 in financial donations to help with the purchase of other items The INN needs for both their Woodstock and new Tillsonburg donations. Thank you so much! Thank you to the Grade 5/6 class and Ms. Wesselson for all of the time and effort that you put into organizing this campaign - our original goal has been far exceeded...amazing!

### **Pumpkin Carving Showcase**

We have some pretty creative students here at Plattsville. Check out the video from our annual Pumpkin Carving Showcase! Well done, Panthers! <https://youtu.be/liGPlzSmsrl>

### **Kitchener Rangers Anthem Choir**

Parents/Guardians of students participating in the Ranger Anthem Sing on November 17<sup>th</sup> are reminded to complete the form sent to each family, and payment through SchoolCash Online as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Finnie at [e.finnie@tvdsb.ca](mailto:e.finnie@tvdsb.ca) or 519-684-7436.

### **School Council Fall Fundraiser**

Please see the attached flyer for more information regarding School Council's Fall Fundraiser 2023. The fundraiser will begin on Monday, November 6 and will close on Tuesday, November 21, 2023. 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, which may include but are not limited to annual initiatives such as graduation support, Forest of Reading, Festive Feast, year-end trip equity fund and possibly guest speakers, workshop for students, etc. 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: Mitchell's Soup Co. (direct to company online), Rheo Thompson mint smoothies (milk or dark chocolate) and Domino's Pizza Gift Card for the New Hamburg location (SchoolCash Online). Also attached are tracking forms for the mint smoothies and gift cards to help you keep track of your sales. We will notify you of the delivery and pick-up dates in December once they have been determined. Thank you for your support!

### **Safe and Inclusive Schools Plan**

Over the past few weeks, our school has seen an increase in students who are struggling to regulate their emotions leading to negative choices and behaviours. As a school, our Safe and Inclusive Schools Plan (SISP) is focused on understanding our own feelings and also the feelings of others. A strategy we are focusing on at school is STOP, THINK, ACT. We would encourage you to review the steps listed on the attached poster. A copy of the poster will be sent home to each family this week.

### **Lost & Found**

We have been doing pretty well with our Lost and Found items this week! Please see the photos below and contact your child's teacher to let them know of items 'found' on the table. We will make sure they get back to them as soon as possible. There are two items in our 'Last Chance' bin this week. Please let us know if they belong to you. Items not claimed by November 15 will be donated to a local charity. We also are looking for a lost grey 'Canadiana' sweatshirt with a round patch on the arm from Walmart as seen in the two photos attached. We know that several PDPS students own this same sweatshirt, and would appreciate families checking to make sure you haven't ended up with 2 at home. If located, please send it to the office. Thanks for your assistance!

### **Grade 8 Night at Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School**

W-O is hosting a Grade 8 Night on November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Grade 8 students and their families are invited to learn about the different classes offered at W-O.

## **Ongoing Fundraisers**

Milk is sold daily, and Popcorn each Wednesday. Tickets may be purchased through SchoolCash online. Produce Express for the Nutrition Program (5% of all sales). Please use the code **PLATT2023** at checkout. Select PDPS at checkout to support the School Council's [Mabel's Labels](#) fundraiser. We are collecting pop tabs to support Thames Valley Children's Centre.

## **TVDSB Events**

### **International Baccalaureate Information**

An in-person IB Family Information Night for Grade 7 – 9 students is scheduled for **Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8:30 PM** in the auditorium at Oakridge Secondary School. This information session will also be recorded so it can be viewed from home and shared on Oakridge's website for future viewing. Families can find more information on the [Oakridge website](#) or poster attached.

### **Lester B. Pearson School of the Arts**

Please see the attached poster for information regarding an information night for families of current Grade 3 – 7 students who are interested in an art-enriched opportunity for students on Wednesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at 795 Trafalgar St., London. Please register at [pearson.tvdsb.ca/registration](http://pearson.tvdsb.ca/registration) or call 519-452-8300 for more information.

## **Safe Schools and Well-Being**

The Family Well-Being Community Workshop Series team is excited to share our first news update of the 2023-2024 school year!

1. There will be a mini-series of webinars happening in November in recognition of Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week.

All live presentations will be 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Topics will include:

- Tues., Nov. 21 **Understanding and Exploring Restorative Practices for Families and Caregivers**
- Wed., Nov. 22 **Combatting Cyberbullying: Internet Safety for Caregivers**
- Thurs., Nov. 23 **Understanding Bullying Prevention in Thames Valley District School Board**

\*This one will contain TVDSB-specific information, while the others are open/more general

For more information about the contents of these webinars and registration, visit <https://bit.ly/fwbcwsUpcoming>

2. Our team has been working hard to get recordings of past webinars edited, approved, and loaded onto the site. There are now 11 videos, on a wide range of topics, available on the website. Be sure to check them out! <https://bit.ly/fwbcwsPastEvents>
3. Our community partners are also hard at work and have a few events they'd like you to know about.

For more details, visit <https://bit.ly/fwbcwsCommunityPartnerships>

- Tues., Nov. 14 - 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Human Trafficking: Learning More From an Oxford Lens**
- It Takes a Village - free workshops, throughout the year, to support families of children and youth with disabilities
  - Topics include:
    - Navigating Mental Health Supports and Services
    - Taxes and Financial Planning
    - Navigating the Transition to Adult Services
    - Transition Planning and Building Effective Teams Around Your Child Throughout Their School Years

## **Community Events** (see posters)

### **Local Remembrance Day Ceremonies**

Please see the attached poster for information regarding local Remembrance Day ceremonies on Saturday, November 11.

### **North Dumfries Flu Clinics**

The North Dumfries Community Health Centre, a satellite location of Langs Community Health Centre in Cambridge, will be hosting four different free flu clinics starting in November. The clinic services North Dumfries (Ayr), New Dundee, Drumbo, Plattsville (our catchment area) and is open to the community, not just patients of LCHC. The clinic is located at the North Dumfries Community Centre (Ayr arena) at 2958 Greenfield Rd, Ayr. Please see the attached poster for specific dates and times.

### **Oxford County Trails Council Badge Program**

Students can now earn badges for exploring trails in the Oxford County region. They simply need to complete a specific distance, record it on their trail log and mail it in. For further details, please visit the [Oxford County Trails Council website](#).

### **Western Engineering Girl's 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. **Registration will open on November 13!** If you have any questions about Girl's Club, or to inquire about bursary options, please email us at [discover@uwo.ca](mailto:discover@uwo.ca).

### **Western Engineering Math Challenge**

Math + Science = Engineering! Engineers use math every day. If you want to exercise your problem-solving skills and math skills, you might want to check out Western Science's Math Challenge. The Math Challenge program is an enrichment opportunity for students in Grades 5-12 (or students who learn at that level) who are interested in preparing for mathematics competitions, learning beyond the school curriculum, and trying a variety of problem-solving techniques. The program runs once a month from October to April. For more information, check out this website: <https://www.math.uwo.ca/outreach/math-challenge/index.html>

### **From Southwestern Public Health**

#### ***Supporting students with accessing food***

In 2018-2020, an estimated 17.5% of households in the Southwestern Public Health region were food insecure. Given this high rate of food insecurity, it is likely that children and youth in every school and classroom are impacted. Most schools in Oxford and Elgin counties have a student nutrition program to help students access food at school.

#### ***Community Food Programs***

If a family/student at your school needs support accessing food in their community, refer to our [Local Food Programs and Services webpage](#). Community food programs (such as food banks) can provide temporary relief when people cannot afford to purchase food, however, it does not solve food insecurity. Food insecurity is not having enough money for food, the root cause being income.

### **Thoughts of the Day**

It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see!  
Gratitude sweetens even the smallest moment.  
No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted!  
Learning is never done without errors or defeat.  
Why was 6 afraid of 7? Because, 7...8...9!!

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

Sun., Nov. 5	Daylight Saving Time Ends
Tues., Nov. 7	Flu Clinic
Fri., Nov. 10	PDPS Remembrance Day Service, Progress Reports and Initial Communication of Learning home
Sat., Nov. 11	Remembrance Day – Community Services at Plattsville Memorial Gates and Chesterfield Cenotaph
Mon., Nov. 13	School Council Meeting
Tues., Nov. 14	Author Visit, Flu Clinic, IB Information Night, Human Trafficking from Oxford Lens webinar
Wed., Nov. 15	Bus Safety presentations
Thurs., Nov. 16	Flu Clinic
Fri., Nov. 17	PA Day, Rangers Anthem Choir
Tues., Nov. 21	Restorative Practices for Families webinar
Wed., Nov. 22	Waterloo-Oxford Grade 8 Night, Combatting Cyberbullying webinar
Thurs., Nov. 23	Understanding Bullying Prevention in TVDSB webinar
Wed., Nov. 29	Lester B. Pearson Information Night

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