

Meet the Community

Join us for our Meet the Community evening next Thursday, September 28 from 4:30 – 6:00 pm. Classrooms will be open for our students to show to their families. We hope to see you there!

School Council Executive Elections Meeting

The first meeting of Plattsville's School Council will take place **VIRTUALLY on Monday, September 25 at 6:30 pm** to elect our 2023-2024 Executive. as Executive or Members of the Council. We benefit greatly from the tremendous support provided by Plattsville's school community and eagerly anticipate the ongoing involvement of our parents and other community members as the year proceeds. If you do not wish to be part of the executive, we encourage all families to participate and contribute to our school community by joining our School Council meetings which meet monthly throughout the year.

To join the meeting on September 25, please click on https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZWU2NzJkMTctMmQ5My00ZWY2LTg4NzQtZjNjN2Y2ZmJlZDE3%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%222024c5d6-bed5-4705-98ac-f83e64a78e99%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c927c512-4dd0-4e97-8ec7-33fdd469b776%22%7d

You should be able to join without downloading Microsoft Teams by choosing the 'web' version.

Truth & Reconciliation Week and Orange Shirt Day

Our school will be participating in various activities to recognize Truth and Reconciliation Week from Sept. 25 to 29. We would ask everyone to **wear orange on Friday, September 29**. National 'Orange Shirt Day' recognizes and honours Residential School Survivors and remembers those who didn't make it home on Saturday, September 30.

Rowan's Law Day

Every year, the last Wednesday in September is Rowan's Law Day – a day to increase awareness for students, staff, and parents/guardians about concussions and to share the story of Rowan Stringer, a 17 year-old rugby player who died after being hit in the head twice in less than a week while playing high school rugby. It was the belief that she could shake it off and get back in the game that ultimately ended Rowan Stringer's life. Concussions in sport are a recognized health concern – but brain injuries are not limited to people who play sports. Everyone is at risk. All TVDSB students and staff are encouraged to **wear purple** in recognition of Rowan's Law on **Wednesday, September 27, 2023**.

Terry Fox Run

We had a fantastic Terry Fox Run today at PDPS. This was our 30th year hosting a run at PDPS, and we have surpassed our \$1000 fundraising goal through online donations, staff shirt sales, Toonie Treat Tuesday and cash donations! It's not too late...please see the link attached for our school donation page. <https://schools.terryfox.ca/37872>. Thanks so much for your generosity!

School Council's Hot Lunch Program

The Hot Lunch Program began this week with pizza on Tuesday and subs on Thursday. Please remember that orders must be done through your Parent Portal with "SchoolCash Online" (<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/Home/SignIn>). Orders for the upcoming week are due SUNDAY BY NOON! Every hot lunch ordered provides a small contribution to our School Council Fundraising initiatives for the academic year that will be set at the first official council meeting. As always, thank you for your support! We will send out messaging when our Ontario Student Nutrition Program is ready to begin early next month.

Popcorn & Milk Sales

Popcorn and Milk sales are back too! We have added a new flavour of popcorn on Wednesdays to test out – Chipotle Cheddar. This is in addition to the 5 'regular' flavours available for \$2 each – Butter and Salt, Salt and Vinegar, Sweet and Salty, Dill Pickle and White Cheddar. Profits from popcorn sales will be used for a variety of items and activities which may include school-wide presentations, technology, field trips, special art supplies, etc. Cartons of both white and chocolate milk will be available for \$1 every day as long as inventory lasts. A page of 20 milk tickets can be purchased through SchoolCash online for \$20 and for 20 bags of popcorn for \$40 by NOON on Sundays (to align with Hot Lunch timelines). New tickets will only be printed and distributed on Mondays. Families who have tickets left from last year for both popcorn and milk can use them again this year.

Toonie Treat Tuesdays

Our second Toonie Treat Tuesdays will be this coming Tuesday, September 26 for the United Way Oxford. Students can choose from Frenzies, Ice Cream Sandwiches and Creamsicles for \$2 each during first recess break. Thanks for your support!

Socketober

Throughout the month of **October**, PDPS will be partnering with The INN in Woodstock to help the shelter during its busiest time to support the homeless. This movement, called "Socketober", is dedicated to gathering and donating items to people in need. There are several things The INN needs in order to support the homeless population in Oxford County. We are looking for winter coats, boots, hats, scarves, gloves, and **new, warm socks**. We also will accept men's and women's underwear (smaller sizes), toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors and shaving cream, and deodorant. The INN is opening a new location this year in Tillsonburg, so they need all the support they can get! Money donations will also be accepted through School Cash Online starting next week and will be used to purchase other items The INN needs. Please consider donating and thank you for your support.

Student Information Verification

A reminder to make sure to verify the student information forms and privacy form in the Parent Portal as soon as possible. If you have any changes (e.g., emergency contact, cell #, etc.), please print a copy of the form, write out the changes and return the form to Ms. Charlton, or email them to plattsville@tvdsb.ca. If you have any questions or issues with the portal, please contact plattsville@tvdsb.ca as well. You will not be able to make changes to the student information in the portal – they must be received by the school in writing. Please note that there are some other important documents to be completed but will not be accessible until the student information has been verified online.

Lost & Found

Our table is full this week. Please see the photo below. We have managed to find homes for many of our 'last chance' items, but we still have a very full box of items left over from last spring. Please have a careful look at these items as anything from this lot remaining at the end of the month will be donated. If you recognize anything belonging to your household, please contact your child's teacher to let them know and we'll get the item(s) back to your homes!

Orange Shirt Day/Truth and Reconciliation Week

Our school will be participating in various activities to recognize Truth and Reconciliation Week from Sept. 25 to 29. We would ask everyone to **wear orange on Friday, September 29**, to acknowledge 'Orange Shirt Day'. Saturday, September 30 will be recognized as the National Day for Truth and Recognition across Canada to honour Residential School Survivors and remember those who didn't make it home.

Police/Vulnerable Sector Checks & Offence Declarations for School Volunteers

Vulnerable sector checks can now be completed online. See <https://opp.ca/recordchecks> for more information and links to the vulnerable sector forms (LE220). In order to accompany students on end-of-year trips, to volunteer at the school, or act as a driver to team events, you must have a copy of a Police Record Check (Vulnerable Screening) and signed Confidentiality Statement on file at the school, and have completed an Offence Declaration for 2023-2024. To complete your online screening, you will still need to have an agency letter from Ms. Elcombe (contact the school and this can be sent home – one per volunteer) as well as 2 pieces of identification (e.g., Drivers' License, Birth Certificate, Valid Passport, etc.) to include with the online application. Please note that we must have an original copy of a Police Check specific to the school. New Offence Declarations and Confidentiality Statements will be sent home for community members who have a valid Police Check on file. Please make sure these are signed and returned to the school as soon as possible.

Individual Plan of Care (IPOC)

If your child has any health conditions requiring an Individual Plan of Care (asthma, anaphylactic allergy, diabetes, epilepsy, or other potentially life-threatening health condition, please complete the IPOC notification to the school in the Parent Portal. **The IPOC must be updated each year, or whenever changes to the plan are made.** Once you have indicated your child's need for an IPOC, you should immediately receive an email stating the school has been notified that a condition exists. You will then need to go into the IPOC section again to complete and submit the forms. If **prescription** medication is to be administered DAILY by staff at the school, you will need to complete the "Authorization for Daily Administration of Prescription Medication" form; if **prescription** medication is to be administered AS NEEDED by staff at the school, you will need to complete the "Authorization for Administration of PRN Prescription Medication" form. These two forms will need to be signed by a medical professional. If your child can take their medication on their own without staff support (e.g., asthma inhaler), you will need to complete the appropriate section of the "Authorization for Administration of PRN Prescription Medication" form. Please note that staff will not be able to administer non-prescription medications to students. Please provide paper copies of these forms to the school as soon as possible. If you have any questions concerning IPOCs, please contact Ms. Elcombe directly at t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca or 519-684-7436 ext. 4.

Safe and Inclusive Schools Plan

Each year our Safe Schools team, comprised of community members, parents, staff and students, works together to determine our [Safe and Inclusive Schools Plan](#) (SISP link at bottom of webpage). As a school, we are focusing on understanding our own feelings and the feelings of others. We are doing this because our School Climate Survey responses from our students indicate this is an area where students have revealed a need, and through understanding of feelings may be more empathetic toward others.

Mabel's Labels Fundraiser

School Council is once again running an ongoing fundraiser throughout the year. With the new year upon us, now is a great time to LABEL, LABEL, LABEL everything! This really does help the school to get everyone's belongings home, and not on the Lost & Found table. School Council receives a small percentage of all sales when our school is selected before checkout.

https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/

School Accident Insurance

If you are interested in student accident insurance, for the 2022-23 school year TVDSB is pleased to offer families the option of two student accident insurance providers to choose from to purchase insurance for your children.

<https://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com/> <https://insuremykids.com/>

From Southwestern Public Health

ACT-i-Pass for Grade 5 Children

The ACT-i-Pass is a physical activity program that offers grade 5 children access to free or low-cost recreational programming at participating recreation partners. We know that physical activity levels drop off around the ages of 9-11 and the ACT-i-Pass tries to counteract this problem by providing additional physical activity opportunities to children after school and on weekends. If children can access physical activity opportunities, they will be given a chance at better health, longer lives, less illness, reduced screen time, and more play! The ACT-i-Pass program has expanded to Middlesex, **Oxford**, Elgin, and St. Thomas from the London area this year. The program will run from July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2024. Children in grade 5 can register on the ACT-i-Pass website www.playeveryday.ca to receive their card that will be mailed to your home 2-4 weeks after registering. Your child can use this card to access recreational opportunities throughout the region (London, Middlesex, Oxford, Elgin-St. Thomas) at participating locations. Check the ACT-i-Pass website often as new physical activity opportunities will be added on an ongoing basis to the schedule of activities, and our list of our service providers will be updated as well.

Physical Activity

We all know that physical activity helps keep our children healthy – both physically and mentally. Did you know that the physical activity habits your child learns now will shape their health as adults? The number one predictor of a child's activity throughout their lifetime is the activity of their parents (particularly their mothers). Luckily, when it comes to physical activity it is more important to have consistent moderate activity, than large bursts of intense exercise. October is International Walk to School Month; which can feel inaccessible to rural and busy families. Your child doesn't have to walk to school to get the health benefits of daily activity. Whether it is walking to the bus stop, dropping your child off a five minute walk from the school, or starting a cycling club with other families, the possibilities are endless. Check out the new [Active and Safe Routes to School website](http://www.activesaferoutes.ca) (www.activesaferoutes.ca) for ideas, safety tips, and ways to get involved (both as a family and as school). Your child's long-term health is built on many small decisions which you can enjoy together. Looking for more information on physical activity benefits your child's mental health? Check out our [mental health resource here](#) (available in [French](#)) (or go to www.swpublichealth.ca and type Mental Health in Schools into the search bar).

Community Events

Clothed in Love

The Plattsville Missionary Church is hosting their Clothed In Love event again this fall on Sat. Sept 30 from 10-12. This will be a fully free event for everyone in and out of the community!

Drumbo Fair

The Drumbo Fall Fair is taking place this Saturday and Sunday. Check out our school's art display! For more details, please visit <https://www.drumbofair.com/jdas4/>.

Storybook Gardens

StoryBOO is back from October 12-October 29 at Storybook Gardens in London. This event is designed for young children and their families and is available locally, offers a day-time sensory-friendly, mini BOO and dog trick-or-treating experience in addition to their classic night time event. Please see the poster attached for further details.

Brightside Youth Hub

Brightside Youth Hub is a one-stop-shop for youth to get access to the services they need, when they need them, under one roof, at the right place and time. The services at Brightside are provided at no cost and will be open for walk-ins to youth aged 12-25, with no referral necessary. Drop-in services and scheduled activities every Wednesday from 2-5pm, in the CMHA Thames Valley building (Oxford site), located at 522 Peel Street in Woodstock. Pizza and drinks are provided!

[Monthly schedule of activities](#)

[Volunteer opportunity for students](#)

Important Upcoming Dates

Sat., Sept. 23	Drumbo Fair (entry booklets and tags available at Office), Fall begins,
Sun., Sept. 24	Drumbo Fair, Yom Kippur begins at sundown, Police and Peace Officers National Day of Mourning
Mon., Sept. 25	School Council Elections meeting 6:30 pm
Tue., Sept. 26	Fire Drill #2, *Toonie Treat Tuesday for United Way
Wed., Sept. 27	Rowan's Law Day – wear purple
Thurs., Sept. 28	Gr. 7/8 to Vansittart Woods Meet the Community
Fri., Sept. 29	Gr. 7/8 to Vansittart Woods, Orange Shirt Day
Sat., Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Clothed in Love event
Oct. 3 – 6	Plattsville Watermain Flushing (may affect water colour at school)
Tues., Oct. 3	Individual School Photos, Grade 4s to Dairy Days (photos will be taken first)
Wed., Oct. 4	Cross Country Meet at Pittock
Fri., Oct. 6	PA Day
Mon., Oct. 9	Thanksgiving Monday
Fri., Oct. 13	Gr. 7 Immunizations, Dairy Educator visit

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