

PDPS Update Sept. 29, 2023

School Council Meeting

The first meeting of Plattsville's new 2023-2024 School Council will take place **In-Person on Monday, October 2 at 7:00 pm** in our Library Learning Commons. The agenda is attached. We encourage all families to participate and contribute to our school community by joining our School Council meetings which formally meet several times in the year.

Individual School Photos

All students will have their individual school photos taken on Tuesday, October 3. Retakes will be scheduled for November 2. Students scheduled for the field trip on Tuesday will have their pictures taken before they leave. Please see the attached flyer for ordering information.

Truth and Reconciliation Week

Although the official week has ended, tomorrow, September 30, is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and the official 'Orange Shirt Day' across Canada. All week long your children have been learning about Truth and Reconciliation and we hope that they are sharing their learning with their families and remembering this learning beyond just the week. *"We still have a long way to travel on the path to reconciliation, and to truly repair the damage, steps must be taken every day of the year – not just one."*
Camille Awada (President of CAPE)

Saying 'Goodbye'

This coming week will be Ms. Charlton's last week with us as our temporary secretary. She has been instrumental in helping us to have as smooth a start to our year as possible! We wish her all the best in her future endeavours and hope she will be able to 'visit' PDPS again sometime. We will be welcoming our new permanent secretary on October 10.

Meet the Community

It was wonderful to see and chat with so many families at our Meet the Community this week. We look forward to more opportunities to bring everyone together throughout this year!

School Nutrition Program

The School Nutrition Program began this week. We are looking for one or two volunteers who might be able to assist with the program. If you're interested, please contact Ms. Elcombe. For the remainder of the year, Produce Express will continue to support this program by donating 5% of all sales back to PDPS when you use the code **PLATT2023** at checkout.

Spiritwear Sales

Once again, we are offering a variety of Plattsville & District PS Spiritwear for sale directly through WSC – this is not a fundraiser. We have added different colour options for t-shirts this year. All sales will be completed through the WSC link below, and items will be delivered and distributed by the school for students to bring home. If you would prefer to pick up your items from the school, please let Ms. Elcombe know. Orders must be completed no later than noon on Sunday, October 15.

<https://plattsvilleps.schoolmerchcanada.com/>

Service Dog on Yard

One of our families now has a Skilled Companion Dog who will be accompanying them to and from school each day. Families and students on the yard are reminded that Endura is supporting a specific student's needs and should not be approached or touched unless you have explicit permission to do so from the family. It is important that during drop off and pick up times, there are no other dogs on the yard as per Board policy. Thank you.

Socktober

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 "Socktober", is dedicated to gathering and donating items to people in need. There are several things The INN needs 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! Monetary donations will also be accepted through SchoolCash Online starting next week and will be used to purchase other items The INN needs. You are welcome to start sending in donations which will be picked up every few days from your child's classroom by the Grade 5/6 students who are running this collection. Please consider donating and thank you for your support.

Hot Lunch, Popcorn and Milk Sales

A reminder that orders for hot lunches (Lunchbox), Popcorn and Milk tickets are all available through your Parent Portal with "SchoolCash Online" (<https://www.schoolcashionline.com/Home/SignIn>). Orders for the upcoming week are due SUNDAY BY NOON! Hot lunch orders provide a small contribution to our School Council Fundraising initiatives for the academic year, while Popcorn and Milk sales will be used for a variety of items and activities which may include school-wide presentations, technology, field trips, special art supplies, etc. As always, thank you for your support!

Lost & Found

Please see the lost and found photos for this week below. This is our last chance for our 'last chance' items. Anything not claimed this week will be donated to a local charity. 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!

Ventilation in Schools

We have been receiving questions about Thames Valley's Ventilation Strategy. The Ministry of Education's ventilation report has been updated, and is now available on the [Ventilation in Schools page of the TVDSB website](#). Specifics regarding ventilation measures completed at each school can be found on the [School Ventilation List webpage](#).

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.

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/

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!

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](#)

Thoughts of the Day (September)

Mindful Mondays

When life gives you Monday, dip it in glitter and sparkle all day!

Deep breaths are like little love notes to your body.

Our life is shaped by our mind, for we become what we think.

Grati-Tuesdays

If someone isn't thankful for what they've got, they aren't likely to be thankful for what they're going to get.

Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.

A grateful heart is the best kind to have.

Wellness Wednesdays

Remember Plattsville's two expectations: try your best and be kind!

Talk to yourself like you would talk to someone else. Be kind!

If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours!

Tears fall for a reason and they are your strength, not weakness.

Thoughtful Thursdays

Thoughts have energy. Make sure your thoughts are positive and powerful."

Start your Thursday with an attitude of optimism. It's going to be a great day!

Anything is possible.

It's not what happens to you but how you react to it that matters.

Fun Fridays

We made it! It's Friday!

Life is good...especially on a Friday!

What do you call a bear with no teeth? A GUMMY bear!"

Why did the student eat their homework? Because their teacher said it would be a piece of cake!

Important Upcoming Dates

Sat., Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Clothed in Love event
October	Islamic Heritage Month, Women's History Month, Cyber Safety Month
Mon., Oct. 2	School Council Meeting
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
Thurs., Oct. 5	World Teachers' Day
Fri., Oct. 6	PA Day
Mon., Oct. 9	Thanksgiving Monday
Tues., Oct. 10	Student-Teacher begins with Gr. 4/5A
Wed., Oct. 11	Grade 1s to Vansittart Woods
Fri., Oct. 13	Gr. 7 Immunizations, Dairy Educator visit
Sun., Oct. 15	Spiritwear orders due by noon
Oct. 16 – 20	Secret Path Week
Wed., Oct. 18	Gr. 1 – 3 Fire Station visits
Tues., Oct. 24	Educational Assistant Students begin placements
Tues., Oct. 31	Pumpkin Carving Showcase

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