

Family Fun Night - Thursday, June 9 4:30 – 7:30pm!

School Council is planning an in-person, fun 'Family Engagement' event on Thursday, June 9, from 4:30 – 7:30 pm (rain date Thursday, June 16), here at the school. There will also be an opportunity for your child(ren) to show you their classrooms...inside!!! We are looking forward to families being able to meet and mingle with one another, and to welcome the families of our virtual classroom, and new JK students as well! We have confirmed 2 food trucks (Beaver Tails, Born2Eat), community partners from the OPP, Fire Department, Ambulance and Public Library, games and activities, open house, raffles, fun, fun, and more fun! Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs/blankets and umbrellas for shade. Parking will be limited. Each family will receive 1 raffle ticket (to be sent home with the oldest/only on Wednesday) and there will be opportunities throughout the evening to 'win' more tickets! Look for the community members 'wearing' their balloons to get more information! We can't wait to see you there!!!

Library Books

The end of the school year is approaching, which means that all school library books will need to be returned for the summer. **All library books need to be returned by Wednesday June 15th.** If your book has been misplaced or lost, information will be sent home w students regarding replacements. Thank you to all our families and students for enjoying and caring for our school's library books this year.

Toonie Treat Tuesdays

Throughout the month of June we will be having a toonie treat day every Tuesday. There will be freezies, ice cream sandwiches and rocket popsicles. The students will be able to bring in a toonie and when they come outside for first recess, will be able to buy a treat. IF it is raining, the treats will be sold door to door during the first break. Proceeds from the sales will go toward the purchase of 'extras' for the school (e.g., special art materials, technology peripherals, alternative seating, etc.).

London Family Commemoration

On the anniversary of the terrorist attack, which took place on June 6, 2021, the Thames Valley community continue to feel the loss of this tragic event, including one of our own students. Hate has no place in our school system or in our community. As a school board, we deeply respect and support our Muslim community. Alongside the City of London, community partners and members of London's Muslim community, Thames Valley remains steadfastly committed to combatting racism, Islamophobia, and discrimination in all its forms and creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students and staff.

Our safe schools plan has focused all year on 'empathy', and this will be another opportunity to demonstrate how we can turn feelings of 'helplessness' or 'fear' into acts of selflessness and community connection, even with strangers. At PDPS, we will be **wearing the colours green and/or purple** on Monday and will be having a moment of silence and commemorative walk to remember our London Family.

EQAO Assessments Completed

Thanks to everyone's patience over the past week...we were able to complete the EQAO assessment with our Grade 3 and 6 students on Wednesday. Students who were absent on that day will complete their portions when they return to school.

PDPS Spirit Days

Friday, June 10 - Fancy Day (can have fancy hair/wear a fancy outfit)

Friday, June 17 - Duet Day (match with a friend or something that goes together)

Friday, June 24 - Spirit Day (wear Panther clothing or Panther colours)

Police Record Checks for School Volunteers

End of year trips are now being planned and will require parent volunteers! If you wish to accompany your child(ren) on a school trip, or drive students to events, **you must have a copy of a Police Record Check** (Vulnerable Screening) on file at the school and have completed an Offence Declaration for 2021-2022. If you do not currently have a Police Check on file at PDPS, you can obtain one from the Tillsonburg or Ingersoll OPP detachments **with an appointment**. You will need to take with you a **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.). The wait time is approximately 2 weeks to have these completed. If you have a Police Check on file but have not completed an Offence Declaration for this year, please contact the school and we will send a copy home for you to complete.

Kindergarten Registration

If you know of anyone who has a child eligible to register (born 2018), please encourage them to do so online as soon as possible.

<https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/schools/kindergarten-registration.aspx>

Outdoor Safety

With the heat and sunshine finally here, students will be spending more time outside for both instruction and break times. Everyone is reminded that they should always have a hat and sunscreen to protect them, as well as a refillable water bottle to keep hydrated.

Strong Start™ Volunteer Reading Program

PDPS has been chosen as one of 13 schools in TVDSB to begin a 'Strong Start' Volunteer Reading program in September 2022. "Our *Letters, Sounds and Words*™ program targets children in Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1 who cannot read at the expected level. This program uses short games and activities to help young children recognize letters, a sound each letter represents, how to learn words by sight and how to learn a word using the sounds of its letters. Such children are identified for Strong Start by their teachers and matched with community volunteers trained by us, for one-on-one, in-school coaching sessions, two to three times per week, for a 10-week period." To learn more about the program, and to access some free downloadable resources for families, please go to <https://strongstart.ca/>. **We will need volunteers from the community at large to support this initiative.** There will be two online volunteer coach training sessions provided. To learn more about volunteering, please see <https://youtu.be/yF8O7VqalT8>. If you are interested, or if you know of someone in the community who may be interested in volunteering, please contact Ms. Elcombe (t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca or 519-684-7436).

Rapid Antigen Test Kits and Student Masks

If you would like some RAT tests to have on hand, please let Ms. Elcombe (t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca) or the office know and we can send them home with your child. We have been notified that extra Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) we have remaining in the school, including cloth masks, will be collected and disposed of. We still have an abundance of masks, and would love for them to go to good homes, rather than the landfill!

Lost & Found

Our Lost and Found continues to grow as the weather changes from morning to afternoon and clothing is 'shed' and forgotten outside. We also still have many winter items that have not been claimed. Please have a careful look at the lost and found and 'last chance' photos, and let Ms. Elcombe know if any items belong in your home so they can be returned to you. When you are at the school for the open house, we would encourage you to have a closer look at the tables outside the Library as well! Items not claimed by the last day of school will be donated, hopefully to a Ukrainian refugee support charity.

Plattsville Community Opportunities and Reminders

Please see the attached flyer for the "Moms Wellness Workshop" on June 12, 2022.

Upcoming Important Dates

June 6	London Family Commemoration Day (wear green and/or purple)
June 7	Twoonie Treat Tuesdays begins
June 9	Family Fun Night at Plattsville
June 12	Moms Wellness Workshop
June 19	Father's Day
June 20	School Council Meeting (in-person)
June 27	Reports & IEPs home
June 28	Grade 8 Graduation at PDPS
June 29	Last day of school
June 30	PA Day

Have a great weekend, Panther Families!