

PDPS Update Nov. 19, 2021

Scholastic Book Fair

NEXT WEEK! We are pleased to be able to offer the Scholastic Book Fair, both online and in-person for students, during the week of November 22 – 26. Please see the attached flyer for further details.

Winter Clothing

Winter is here and the students are having a LOT of fun playing in the yard – this makes for some very wet and/or muddy clothing. At all grade levels, it would be great if students had a change of clothes – especially socks and pants – to change into in case theirs get wet or muddy outside. We also suggest mitts or gloves that are water-resistant, or sending one or 2 extra pairs to use for extra times outside. Here is a great graphic geared for our younger students, but with good information for everyone! Thanks for your help!

Police Record Checks for School Volunteers

We are excited that the school is opening for SOME volunteers (e.g., Nutrition Program, Hot Lunch) beginning in the next couple of weeks. This is just a reminder that if you wish to volunteer in the building, 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. In-school volunteers at this time must also show proof of double vaccination. 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.

Daily Covid School Screening

The daily Covid-19 School Screening has been updated as of **October 18, 2021**. Please continue to use the Covid-19 School Screening tool daily to determine whether or not your child should be attending school. ***Please remember that if one child fails the screener, any unvaccinated siblings must stay at home as well. **If your child is sent home from school exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms, BEFORE using the daily screening tool, the student MUST either receive a negative Covid test result, receive an alternative diagnosis from a medical professional OR stay home for 10 days in quarantine.***** This is because they may have passed the screener before school, but no longer will 'pass' with the new symptom. Please see the bottom portion of the attached pdf screener for clarification under 'Results of screening questions: If you answered 'YES' to any symptoms included under question 1...'. ** <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Food Drive

PDPS will be continuing to collect non-perishable food items for the rest of the month of November. Thank you so much for your generosity! Items will be picked up from the classrooms each day by members of the Grade 6/7 class and will be donated to Wilmot Family Resource and the Woodstock Salvation Army at the end of the month. Thanks to Mrs. Johnson's Grade 6/7 class for taking on this project and creating the posters for our school community!

Nutrition Program Fundraiser

As part of our grant to run our Nutrition Program at PDPS, we are required to do one fundraiser per year to help with the costs of the foods being provided. We will be partnering with Produce Express during the month of November and will receive back 5% of all sales that month. Please see the attached flyer for more information ahead of our December 1st starting date.

School Council Fundraiser

Thanks to everyone who ordered from Dieleman's for our first fundraiser of the year. Proceeds from all sales will go to supporting the school Library and its programs.

Community Contest

Plattsville Lights Up for the Holidays is making its 2021 return! By December 10, families in this community are encouraged to decorate their homes for the holidays. During the week of Dec. 13 to 17, students will be voting for their favourite decorated home. You will help bring some Christmas cheer to our town and may also win a prize – that's a 'win-win'. Please see the attached flyer for further information. Thanks to our sponsors, Trails Edge Tavern, Plattsville Home Hardware and Plattsville Lions Club.

Parking Lot

Please remember that families are **not to be parking, dropping off or picking up students** in the main school parking lot from 8:45 – 9:15 am and 3:15 to 3:45 pm to allow our buses to enter and exit safely. This is especially important on inclement weather days to avoid having people crossing from the sidewalks to the cars in front of the buses. Thank you for your cooperation.

Upcoming Spirit Days

Friday, November 26	Anything but a backpack day
Monday, December 13	Dress as a Christmas or Winter thing
Tuesday, December 14	Ugly Sweater Day
Wednesday, December 15	Red, Green and White Day
Thursday, December 16	Wear your favorite Christmas or Winter hat
Friday, December 17.	PJ DAY

Path to Back of School

Another reminder that we will no longer be able to snow plow a pathway along the west side of the building (from the lower parking lot) around to the Primary/Kindergarten tarmac at the back of the school due to the condition of the ground under the snow. Knowing that many families use this area daily, we are hoping you may begin to form a 'new habit' before the snow arrives, by following the sidewalk around the front of the school to the back tarmac area.

TVDSB Employment Opportunity

Our Board is temporarily hiring unqualified temporary Educational Assistants. If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please have them visit the TVDSB website, under 'Employment Opportunities' or share the link below:

<https://tvdsb.knighthunter.com/JobView.aspx?JID=d89375e0-1e69-4522-953e-1431df150196>

TVDSB still continues to accept applications for anyone who has completed their education. The link for the temporary EA posting is below, please share if you know of anyone. We are particularly short in this geographical area of TVDSB!

<https://tvdsb.knighthunter.com/JobView.aspx?JID=a1e9f3cb-7894-49b6-92a4-b20b0c0716c9>

School Office Hours & Front Door

The school office is open from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm for phone calls. Unfortunately, visitors, including parents, are not able to enter the building. If you call during these hours and do not get an answer, please leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience as we still continue to wait for our new doorbell and camera system at the front of the school to be operational. If you are picking up or dropping off a student, please call the school office at 519-684-7436 and someone will meet them at the front door. If you do not get an immediate answer, please wait a minute or two and call back. When dropping students off during school hours, please do not leave until a staff member has brought your child inside. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Before and After School - Families on the Yard

Although masks are not mandatory for parents on the yard, we thank you for modeling safe Covid-19 practices when you are unable to maintain the 2m distancing from others not from your household by wearing your mask while waiting to drop off and pick up your children. All staff are mandated to wear masks when outside with students. We also remind families that the outdoor school equipment is closed before school and after school until 4:00 pm. ***Our climbers are now closed to students also due to the unpredictable and changing conditions throughout the school day with the temperature fluctuations. They are closed annually around this time of year.***

Lost & Found

Please see the attached photos of items that have accumulated during our first three weeks. If you see anything belonging to your household, please contact Ms. Elcombe directly (t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca) and we'll make sure they find their way home on Monday.

Important Upcoming Dates

November 22 – 26	Scholastic Book Fair Grade 4 CCAT Testing week Bullying Awareness Week
Friday, November 26	Anything But A Backpack Day
Monday, November 29	Hanukkah
Wednesday, December 1	Produce Express Fundraiser begins
Tuesday, December 7	Hot Lunch Program begins
Tuesday, December 14	Grade 8 Graduation Photos in the afternoon

Have a wonderful weekend, Panther families!