

PDPS Update Nov. 12, 2021

Remembrance Day at PDPS

Students and Staff participated in a virtual Remembrance Day service yesterday, along with our Superintendent, Mr. Dennis Wright. We were able to 'live stream' our wreath laying ceremony to our classrooms, then watched a message from Rev. B. Pilkey from Peace United Church, followed by a video compilation for Remembrance Day from each classroom. The videos are posted to our private YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKGxBcGsWmXPAppOC4U_ClrGo3HN_NjyE. Please note that the video for the wreath laying is in its 'raw form' so there are some audio and video 'glitches' we were not able to edit out and we weren't able to attach the thumbnail for Rev. Pilkey's message, but if you click on 'play all', you should be able to see everything! Thanks to Mrs. McRorie and her husband for putting together the very professional student compilation video! Thank you also for your donations to the Legion's Poppy Fund.

Food Drive

PDPS will be continuing to collect non-perishable food items for the rest of the month of November. Have a look at the photo below to see how many boxes we have already filled. 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!

School Council Fundraiser

Don't forget to get your orders in to our Dieleman's holiday fundraiser, 'Merry and Bright'. All proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward resources for our school library, and sponsoring amazing programs like the 'Forest of Reading', a celebration and study of Canadian literature. **Deadline to order online is November 19...** just a few days left to order!. Be sure to register online so that family and friends can shop under your unique account (organization ID# 7167). <https://dfscanada.com/online-shopping/>

Scholastic Book Fair

COMING SOON! 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.

Opportunity for Students

Western Engineering Outreach is offering a virtual Winter **Girls Club** program for girls in grade 3-8. They will meet every Saturday virtually for 1 hour from January to February to explore different streams of engineering and welcome special guests. Registration includes all the materials for the program and a t-shirt. For more information and registration please visit: <https://www.eng.uwo.ca/outreach/pre-university-programs/just-for-girls/>. Please note bursaries are available for families to apply for so that we can continue to support everyone's interest in STEM. Please see the attached flyer for additional information

From Southwestern Public Health

Support regarding local food access and availability has been requested frequently during the pandemic. Please see our School Health Newsletter attached to learn more about the need in our communities and what resources are available to help students and families.

Parking Lot

Please remember that families are not to be parking 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>

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.***

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

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.

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

Tuesday, November 16	Louis Riel Day
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

Have a wonderful weekend, Panther families!