

## PDPS Update Nov. 26, 2021

### Anything But A Backpack Day

What a fun morning it was to see all of our students arriving with such creative ways of carrying their items to the school and to see our online class methods as well! A few pictures have been attached. [Anything But A Backpack Day Photos](#)

### Upcoming Spirit Days

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

### Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you so much for your participation in this year's Scholastic Book Fair. We are excited about the new resources we will be able to add to our Library collection for students to enjoy for the next several years! Special thanks to Mrs. Finnie and many other PDPS staff who worked so hard to set up and support our in-person fair!

### Lost & Found

Please see the attached photos of items that have accumulated over the past 2 months. We will also begin sharing our 'last chance' items with larger pictures and descriptions in an effort to keep our Lost & Found area from getting out of control. These are items that have been on the table for the entire month of September onwards. Any of these items not claimed will be cleaned and donated at multiple points in the year. If you see anything

belonging to your household, please contact Ms. Elcombe directly ([t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca](mailto:t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca)) and we'll make sure they find their way home on Monday. If you are missing a specific item, please touch base first with your child's teacher to have a look in their classroom to see if it can be located there.

[Lost & Found Nov. 26](#)    [Last Chance Items Nov. 26](#)

### **A Message from Southwestern Public Health**

Please see the attached letter from Dr. Joyce Lock, Medical Officer of Health, to all parents and guardians of elementary school children in the Southwestern Public Health region to help inform vaccination decisions for their school-aged child.

In addition, there will be a pop-up COVID-19 testing clinic offered in Tillsonburg on Monday, November 29, 2021 from 5-8 pm at Westfield Public School. This clinic is open to anyone interested, not just Westfield Public School or Thames Valley District School board families. Anyone that is interested is welcome. Please see attached information.

[Letter From Dr. Lock](#)    [School Testing Clinic Poster](#)    [School Testing Clinic Information](#)

### **Food Drive**

We have just a couple more days left in November to collect non-perishable food items. We are excited that more than 700 items have been collected so far, and have set a goal to try to make it to 900! Thank you so much for your generosity! Thanks to Mrs. Johnson's Grade 6/7 class for taking on this project and creating the posters for our school community, and to Mrs. Schultz and her student helpers who have been working hard at getting the items sorted and boxed to donate to the Wilmot Family Resource Centre and the Woodstock Salvation Army next week.

[Food Drive Photos](#)    [Food Drive Poster](#)

### **Hot Lunch Program**

We are excited to be working with LunchBox to provide the opportunity for families to purchase hot lunch items for their children. All orders will be placed online through SchoolCash Online. Instructions on setting up your SchoolCash Online account can be

found at <https://plattsville.tvdsb.ca/en/parents/online-payments.aspx> and instructions for ordering from LunchBox on the attached flyer. First orders are due by noon on Sunday, December 5 with our first Hot Lunch Day on Tuesday, December 7. Thanks to School Council for organizing this ongoing fundraiser.

[LunchBox Ordering Information](#)

## **Student Resources**

The TVDSB Safe Schools and Well-Being Team have created posters and postcards with resources for students who may be feeling overwhelmed and in need of accessing supports. Please see the attached resources for Oxford County.

[Oxford County Resources](#)   [Mental Health Crisis Resources](#)

## **Parking Lot**

It is imperative that families are **not driving into, parking in, 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. We need to ensure that our buses are able to enter and exit safely and that students remain safe around these vehicles. This is especially important on inclement weather days to avoid having people crossing from the sidewalks to the cars in front of the buses. We would also remind our students (and families) that once they are on school property at the front of the school, they are to stay on the sidewalks, and not walk amongst the cars in the lot. Thank you for your cooperation and help in reiterating these cautions to our students at home.

## **Winter Clothing**

Just a reminder that it is advisable for all students to have an extra set of clothes in case they get wet or muddy when outside for learning opportunities or recesses.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> starting date. [Nutrition Program Fundraiser](#)

## School Photos

We have now been able to schedule individual school photos with Edgelmaging for ALL students on Wednesday, February 23. At this time, group photos (e.g., classes, teams, groups, etc.) are not able to be taken. Students who are learning remotely will be invited by their home school to book a time to come into the school to have their photos taken as well. More information will be provided as we get closer to the date.

## 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 and instructions as to 'next steps' under 'Results of screening

questions: If you answered 'YES' to any symptoms included under question 1 **do not go to school or child care....'** \*\* <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

## **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. [Plattsville Lights Up for the Holidays](#)

## **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**

We are STILL waiting for our new front doorbell entry system to be up and running. Thank you for your patience as we will continue to need you to call into the office to let us know when you are here to pick up or drop off a student. The office is open 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, but feel free to leave a message outside of those hours as well.

## **Before and After School - Families on the Yard**

As we start to see more snow falling, eventually it will be difficult for families to spread out on the 'grass' areas when picking up or dropping off students, especially in the Kindergarten/Primary end of the school. Although masks are not mandatory for parents on the yard, we would encourage you to model 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.\***

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

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!