

PDPS Update Oct. 22, 2021

PDPS Pumpkin Carving Contest

We are excited to bring back the PDPS Pumpkin Carving Contest to our building on Friday, October 29. Please see the poster for further details.

Community Conversation: A Teachable Moment About Islamophobia

In partnership with The National Council of Canadian Muslims, the TVDSB Equity Team is pleased to provide a free virtual community conversation titled: "A Teachable Moment About Islamophobia" on Tuesday, October 26 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Please see the poster for registration information.

Lester B. Pearson School for the Arts

Lester B. Pearson School for the Arts has opened the online registration for the 22-23 Selections Workshop. The link to the google form is on our website as well as here <https://forms.gle/JR5xaRRKpdWqesN9A>. Students in Grades 3 - 7, with a passion for the arts can register to attend our workshop being held virtually, in person or a combination of both (to be determined in February) sometime in March 2022. Students will participate in Music, Visual Art, Dance and Drama at the workshop and be observed and evaluated based on their participation in these areas. The registration to attend the workshop closes January 2022. The cost this year is \$40 and the link for payment will be emailed to those that register with the Google Form. We offer 56 Grade 3 students the option to attend starting September 2022. The higher grades are placed on a waiting list and if we have a student leave our school, the first person on the waitlist will be offered the place in the respective grade. Students who are placed on the waitlist stay on the waitlist until the completion of the following years Selection Workshop.

Pearson runs on a 6-day cycle and a slightly longer day so we can rotate through the Arts as well as our regular curriculum. Our school hours are 9:35am - 4:05pm. We have 5 buses that cover most of the city, they are parent paid and not part of mybigyellowbus. Bus rides may be slightly longer and the walk to the stop may be further than usual in some cases. There is an option to pay monthly through SchoolCashOnline and this year's fee was \$1250 (or \$125/10months). More information can be found on our website pearson.tvdsb.ca.

Save the Date

The next meeting of the PDPS School Council will be **Monday, November 1 7:00 – 8:30 pm**. An agenda and TEAMS link will be posted in next week's update.

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 September 27. Please continue to use the Covid-19 School Screening tool daily to determine whether or not your child should be attending school. <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. Also, our new doorbell and camera system at the front of the school is not yet 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.

Opportunities for Students

Investing in Children has had an ongoing partnership with TVDSB for over 20 years. The Let's Chat: Live Different Circles program is a 7- week free virtual program that brings students together with trained mentors to provide this well-designed program. ***Let's Chat: Live Different Circles helps students to explore important values. They build stronger relationships and activate them in kindness - leaving students more compassionate, resilient, and hopeful.*** The weekly program will run from Wed. Oct. 27th to Wed. Dec. 8th with the Grade 7 & 8 group commencing from 4:30- 6:00 pm and the Grade 9 & 10 group from 6:30-8:00 pm. Students can register on our website as indicated on the promotional flyer.

Please check out some of the testimonials about this wonderful program at https://youtu.be/yYUKsC6q_5A

CyberSafety

October is CyberSafety month. Here is a link to a calendar of activities to do at home to promote cyber security.

<https://ecno.org/cyber/calendar/#October>

Important Upcoming Dates

October	Islamic Heritage and History Month, Canadian Women's History Month, CyberSafety Month
Monday, October 25	Gr. 7 Immunizations
Tuesday, October 26	Parent Presentation "A Teachable Moment About Islamophobia"
Wednesday, October 27	Let's Chat group begins
Friday, October 29	PDPS Pumpkin Carving Contest
Sunday, October 31	Halloween
Monday, November 1	School Council Meeting

Have a wonderful weekend, Panther families!