



October 2020 Newsletter

Kettle Creek Public School
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www.tvdsb.on.ca/portstanley

Principal: Mrs. W-C

Vice Principal: Mr. Ritter

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Sutherland

Administrative Team Message

September was buzzing with activity and excitement in the halls at Kettle Creek Public School. We had such a fantastic start to the school year and our students exceeded all of our expectations as they adjusted and followed our new procedures and routines beautifully. We were also so proud and THRILLED with all the support our community provided as we adjusted to our new norms. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, our MEET THE FAMILY BBQ can't happen in the usual way but staff are discussing other ideas and we will have information for how we will adapt this event for our families in the next week.

Kettle Creek P.S. Spirit Days began with a Red and White Day where we celebrated and honoured the great Canadian hero, Terry Fox. Our Grade 4 students did a dynamite job demonstrating leadership as they promoted the run throughout the school. We have all the colours going on this month and Red and White Day was followed by ORANGE DAY. Staff and students spent time discussing the stories of our Aboriginal peoples, issues around equity and the profound contributions of our Aboriginal people to this country.

Our Student Voice initiative led by Ms. Basson will be starting this month and we are looking forward to hearing from our student leadership team about the creative, "COVID-Friendly" ways we can continue to build school spirit and have extra fun at school. We are also pleased to have an intermediate Math Team that will be starting this month for any interested students. Mr. McCurdy has generously organized this opportunity and we have over 20 students who have signed up to compete as part of this team. Go Captains-Go!

We must say how thankful we are to all of our families for all your efforts to help us stay healthy at school. Our parents are keeping their sick children home and following the Health Unit protocols which is making all of us feel confident, safe and relaxed at school. You have no idea how much we appreciate your help with that. We know that is not easy-your conscientiousness around that is the only way we can keep our doors open and make in person learning work for all of us. It takes a village to raise a child and we appreciate our village who pitch in to help us meet the wide variety of learning needs here at Kettle Creek. Our Home and School and School Council volunteers will be meeting remotely on Wed. Oct 7th at 6:30 p.m. and we invite EVERYONE to join us for this meeting following the link provided below.

As we approach the season of harvest, we are filled with profound gratitude for the fact that we are able to be at school with your beautiful children and for all the people who support our efforts to make Kettle Creek P.S. a wonderful place to learn and grow!

Ms.W-C and Mr. Ritter

Protocols Clarification

If your child is ill, without a pre-existing condition such as allergies or other, please follow the guidelines outlined by the Health Unit:

1. Call your health care provider to determine next steps.
2. If you are advised or choose to take a COVID test, please wait for the negative results AND 24 hours SYMPTOM FREE before sending them to school.
3. If you choose not to have your child get a COVID test, please have your child stay home for 14 days AND BE SYMPTOM free before sending them back to school

Kettle Creek P.S. IS NUT SAFE

Due to students with allergies, Port Stanley Public School is nut safe. To look for safe lunch ideas that do not contain or indicate "may contain" these products, please check out this website: www.snacksafely.com. Please do not send any nut products (or may contain) to school with your child. Please note that items from bulk food locations often come into contact with nuts. Please check their safety before sending them to school.

Per Thames Valley's Policy, please do not send **Wow Butter** or any items made with Wow Butter to school. Thank you for helping us to ensure the safety of each of our students.

PLEASE



**NO PEANUTS
OR
NUT PRODUCTS**

STAY CONNECTED to KETTLE CREEK P.S on your PHONE

1. Download the SCHOOL MESSENGER app to your phone. Follow the instructions from this link: <https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/parents/school-messenger-step-by-step-guide.aspx>
2. Log in using the email that you have provided to the school.
3. Follow the prompts on the app.
4. CHECK THE APP FREQUENTLY for school updates such as bus delays, pizza days, newsletters and everything else previously communicated through our school REMIND.

We will also communicate regularly through our school website and our school Facebook page.

Garden Club Harvest

The Garden Club is to be commended for their amazing work planting and harvesting the carrots and pumpkins from the garden in the back. The carrots will be served as part of our Healthy Snack program. We have also enjoyed grape tomatoes, zucchini, chives, sweet potatoes and beautiful flowers as part of our crop this year. Many thanks to Ms. Derks and Ms. Basson for their ongoing work with this valuable program.

Yearbooks

Thanks to our volunteers Mr. Charron and Ms. Sutherland, we were able to put together a yearbook with some fun memories of the 2019-2020 school year. It is our hope to be able to provide a free yearbook to all the families who attended here during that school year. Although it was a hard year, we are reminded through this project that we still have some wonderful memories to cherish about our last school year.

Want to VOLUNTEER?

Due to COVID restrictions, we can't have volunteers in the building right now but, we will eventually and when we do.....please call the school. Fingers crossed that will be happening sooner than later. As well, we are still allowed to have volunteers for the HOME AND SCHOOL and SCHOOL COUNCIL

Drop off and Pick up

Thank you for the help with our new DROP OFF AND PICK UP at the arena. The process has gone incredibly well and we couldn't do it without your cooperation. Very much appreciated.

Picking your child up during the school day

Due to COVID restrictions, we are not permitted to have parents entering our school building. If you have to pick your child up during the school day, we would ask that you call the office to let us know. Once you have arrived at the school, please use the doorbell to indicate that you are out front and we will escort your child to you. We will sign your child out electronically on your behalf. THANKS so much for your help with this new procedure.

Virtual Classrooms Continue

As part of our preparedness plan, all staff will continue using an online platform to support their in-classroom programming. While we are at school in person, the site will contain simple connections to curriculum. If your child is absent from school, general homework information will be made available on the site. Staff will review their virtual classroom areas with students at school so that they become more comfortable navigating those independently. Please ask your child for a tour of their virtual classroom so you can get a sense of what to look for as well. These virtual sites will be ready to go by the end of September at the latest.

Snack Program

With the generous financial assistance from the VON and Eat 2 Learn, we will once again be offering a snack program. Our goal is to encourage healthy snack choices and encourage children to be more aware of a healthy lifestyle. We have been in contact with the Health Unit to ensure safe delivery of this wonderful program. All snacks will be pre-packaged and handed out by the teacher.

Mark your Calendars

Wednesday, October 7

- School Council, Home and School meeting on Google meet at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, October 12

- Thanksgiving Monday – no school

Individual Plans of Care (IPOC)

If your child has medical concern such as allergies, asthma or other medical conditions, please go on line to fill out the IPOC information through the parent portal.



Snapshots of our wonderful new school.

HOME & SCHOOL/SCHOOL COUNCIL

Welcome to Kettle Creek P.S.

On behalf of the Home and School and School Council leadership, we are pleased to let you know that our first Home and School/School Council meeting will take place VIRTUALLY on Wed. Oct 7th at 6:30 p.m.

Both these groups play a vital role in creating connection between our school and community members and we are really hoping to have many new faces participating this year. A special invite to our new Kindergarten parents, REMOTE LEARNER parents and all parents who just want to be in the loop about what is happening at the school. Your voice matters and a wide range of representation ensures that many ideas are presented and all needs addressed. We hope that you will consider joining us!

The link to join WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7th at 6:30 p.m. at <https://meet.google.com/etz-mdvu-ydt>

We will also be looking for leadership for both of these groups and to that end, we ask you to consider stepping up to fill a role. The positions we need filled are as follows: 2 Co-chairs for School Council, 2 Co-chairs for Home and School, a School Council Secretary and a Home and School Treasurer.

As you can see, these 2 organizations work together with slightly different functions but they all meet together and work together for the improvement of our school. If you would like to nominate someone or you are interested in helping out with any of these positions, please email Ms. W-C

at e.wendelcaraher@tvdsb.ca by Tuesday October 6th with a name and contact phone number and she will follow up with a call to provide details.

If we have numerous people interested in serving in this capacity, we will have a vote and details will be explained at our meeting.

Thanks so much for considering this opportunity. We really hope that you are able to join us for the meeting next week and look forward to meeting all of you.

Sincerely,

Home and School Co-Chairs-Natasha Dunn,
Meagan Ruddock
School Council Co-Chairs-Heather Derks, Jocelyne Asselin

September 2020

It's an exciting time in mathematics right now. In late June, the Ministry of Education announced the release of the new elementary mathematics curriculum for grades 1 to 8. This new elementary math curriculum describes the knowledge and skills that students are expected to learn in each grade. It is organized into six areas: number, algebra, data, spatial sense and financial literacy, with social-emotional learning skills in mathematics and mathematical processes being taught as part of the learning through all strands. Social-emotional learning skills help students build confidence in their math skills and think critically to support their overall well-being.

The Ministry has revised the assessment and reporting procedures for the math curriculum. There will be only one mark for math, instead of providing a separate mark for each strand.

Mathematics is an integral part of our daily lives. Therefore, [The Curriculum Context](#) outlines the vision, principles and goals of the new mathematics curriculum. We want students to see the value and beauty of mathematics. There is a lot of work to be done to support our students in learning mathematics and parents/guardians play an important part in the learning process. The following link outlines the [Roles and Responsibilities in Mathematics Education](#) in Mathematics Education for all stakeholders including students, parents, teachers, principals, and community members.

Resources and additional information can be found on the Ministry's Curriculum and Resources website:

- [New Elementary Math Curriculum](#)
- [Key Changes – Ontario Mathematics Curriculum](#)

We will continue to provide any updates and support from the Ministry to all our families.