



September 2020 Newsletter

Kettle Creek Public School
350 Carlow Rd.
Pt. Stanley, Ontario, N5L 1B6
(519)782-3983

<https://kettlecreek.tvdsb.ca/en/index.aspx>

Principal: Mrs. W-C

Vice Principal: Mr. Ritter

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Sutherland

Administrative Team Message

WELCOME back to Kettle Creek P.S! We have really missed working with our students and families and hope that everyone has had a restful summer. Our team has been diligently working to ensure that all the details are organized and we are **READY FOR LEARNING AND GROWING** together again.

The renovations are complete and our facility is absolutely gorgeous! While we celebrate this transformation and get back to learning together, we also recognize that our transition back to school may be more challenging and unsettling for some this year. We want to be sensitive to this reality and would like to assure you that our staff will be working to create a school community where all protocols are followed and we diligently work together to ensure a safe and positive learning environment for everyone.

We know that students who have engaged family support succeed academically and socially and to that end, we invite you to "stay in the game" when it comes to your child's learning this year. Our teachers are always willing to discuss concerns and keep families in the know. As a school, we will share information through Messenger, our website and our Facebook page. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, we will not be able to have parents in the building so if you have anything you need to discuss or are picking a student up, don't hesitate to call the office and we will make arrangements with you to get that organized.

Thank you for your patience while we work through the challenges that this new way of learning may bring-we might have a few blips along the way and we invite you to give us a call if you have suggestions or feedback. This will be a collective effort and we will need everyone to "lean in" and patiently lend their hands, voices and ideas.

Thanks again for all your positive support. We are truly excited about being together again and look forward to having a GREAT year of learning for everyone!

Cheers!

Ms.W-C and Mr. Ritter

Technology Returns

If you have borrowed technology from us and are **NOT doing REMOTE LEARNING**, please have your child return that technology on their first day back. Thanks so much for your help with that.

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.

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.

PLEASE



**NO PEANUTS
OR
NUT PRODUCTS**

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.

2020/2021 Staffing

We would like to welcome everyone to Kettle Creek! We are looking forward to meeting new people and getting to know everyone in our school community. AT THIS TIME, our 2020/2021 staffing is as follows:

Kindergarten - Mrs. Hayslip/Ms. Oegema
Kindergarten - Mrs. Mahovich / Ms. MacPherson
Kindergarten – Mrs. Howie/Mrs. Anderson
Gr 1 - Mrs Moyes Gr 2- Ms. Johnson
Gr 2/3- Ms. Smith Gr 3- Ms. Doupe
Gr 4 - Mr. Bevan Gr 4 - Mrs. Ewaskiw
Gr. 5 – Ms. Mageean (Mrs. Robbins-mat leave)
Gr 5/6 - Mrs. Steele (mat leave) – Mr. Saghier
Gr 6 - Mrs. Kelders
Gr 7 - Mrs. Rooke
Gr. 7 – Mr. McCurdy
Gr 8 - Mrs Basson
Gr 8 - Mr. Anderson
Music - Mr. Murray
Prep – Mrs. Ambrose
Learning Support Teachers/Prep - Mr. Jamieson
French/Phys. Ed.- Mr. Roy
Library Learning Commons/Prep - Mr. Durston
E.A's - Mrs. Williams / Ms. Jackson
Administrative Assistant - Mrs. Sutherland
Custodians - Mr. Allen, Mr. Lunn
Vice Principal - Mr. Ritter
Principal - Ms. W-C

PLEASE NOTE that depending on enrollment, online learners and other factors, we could face a reorganization so this list may change.

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.

Class organizations

As many of you know, we have face multiple reorganization plans over the summer and have had the challenge of putting class lists together several times. We have spent HOURS doing our very best to ensure that classes are well balanced, parent requests put forth in the spring were honoured and everyone has a friend. Unfortunately, we were not always able to accommodate all requests in our class placement process this year and as a result, your child may not be thrilled with their placement. We would ask that as parents, you use this as a learning opportunity to teach your child the very important life lessons they will need to navigate this year and the rest of their lives:

1. There are WONDERFUL people everywhere and we need to be open to being kind and making new friends throughout our life.
2. Resistance to "what is" only brings pain. Acceptance brings joy.
3. We can't always get what we want. Sometime we have to do our best with what we have been given.
4. What we think we **want** isn't always what we **need**. Sometimes the adults/school staff in our life need to be trusted. They have my best interest at heart.
5. I need to be a positive person in all situations.
6. Through thankfulness comes joy. Be grateful and find the good in where you are.

Thank you so much for your help with this important work!! We know that while it is difficult to have a child struggling, these struggles can often be the best learning opportunities for all of us to demonstrate growth and resilience.

Remote Learning Students

We are thrilled that approximately 375 students will be coming back to learn with us at school and we are also pleased that we were able to offer the remote learning option for approximately 70 Kettle Creek P.S. students. Please be advised that due to supervision ratios, students who are signed up for the remote/ home learning option are not permitted to be on the playground during the school day. Thanks so much for your cooperation with this.

Insurance

Your child has received information from "Insure My Kids" because they are the new student accident insurance provider for TVDSB. If this insurance is of interest to you and your family, please go to the website for more information.

<https://insuremykids.com/> Please note that this is not a requirement for TVDSB families. It is simply an option provided through our school board.

Drop off and Pick up

If your child is not taking a school bus to school, please drop them off between 9-9:15 AT THE ARENA parking lot. Our "Kiss and Ride" program will include bright pylons and staff in yellow vests directing you to pull up. Staff will proceed to welcome and direct your child to the back playground area using their designated pathways. (Junior/Intermediate students will use the arena walkway and Kindergarten and Primary students will use the front sidewalk.)

If you are picking your child up at the end of the day, please write a note in your child's planner so the teacher can remind your child at the end of the day. Please try your best to organize the pick up plans **in the morning and avoid calling the school unless it is a last minute change of plan/emergency.** It really makes our end of day dismissal chaotic when we have last minute calls coming in to the school.

All NON-BUS students will walk with a supervisor to the arena parking lot and parent/guardians are asked to give us a wave from your car and we will escort your child right to you. If you need further clarification, please give Ms. W-C a call and we will discuss it more thoroughly. THANKS so much for all your help. We really appreciate each of you!

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.

Protocols Updates

We will be doing our best to follow all of the Board/Ministry protocols to ensure safety at school. This will result in a few changes that include but are not limited to:

1. Cohort recess breaks in designated areas of the yard (no more than 50 students outside together)
2. Masks worn in the building. Optional masks worn outside.
3. Morning gathering zone areas with cohort students.
4. Entry and exits through classroom doors so entry and exits are not clustered.
5. Designated bathroom break times with limited capacity students in the bathrooms at any given time.
6. Large portions of the instructional day taking place on our beautiful yard.
7. P.E instruction will take place outside.
8. Modified games will be used to keep physical distancing requirements.
9. No parents or volunteers in the building.
10. All seating plans and cohort groupings names will be kept at the office for contact tracing purposes.
11. Limited movements through hallways during the school day.

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

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.

Mark your Calendars

School Begins

Students with the last name beginning with the letters A-L will begin

- Monday, September 14, Tuesday, September 15 and Friday, September 18

Students with the last name beginning with the letters M-Z will begin

- Wednesday, September 16, Thursday, September 17 and Friday, September 18

Monday, October

- Thanksgiving Monday – no school

HOME & SCHOOL/SCHOOL COUNCIL

Welcome to Kettle Creek P.S.

On behalf of our parent community, we would like to welcome you to the Kettle Creek P.S. community! We are confident that your child will love learning here!

The research is clear that student success in school improves significantly when parents are engaged and involved in their child's school community. To that end, we would like to provide an opportunity for you to join us in your child's Elementary School experience as a volunteer on our School Council or Home and School team.

We meet together approximately 5 times a year and those meetings are never too lengthy with child care available for families who need it. Our team organizes the hot lunch program, the milk program and many other fun events to support our school community and even though we aren't running those programs right now, we are hopeful that we will be able to start those programs soon.

If you would like to be in the loop about what we are planning, we are happy to add you to our email list. Please send the following information to the school at kettlecreek@tvdsb.ca

Your name: _____

Your child's name: _____

Email address: _____

You can also stay in touch with our Home and School/School Council activities by joining us on Facebook:

Thanks for considering this opportunity. We look forward to welcoming you to our school community in person very soon!

Sincerely,

Home and School Co-Chairs: Natasha Dunn,
Meagan Ruddock

School Council Co-Chairs: Heather Derks, Jocelyne Asselin

