



April 2022 Newsletter

Kettle Creek Public School

350 Carlow Rd.

Pt. Stanley, Ontario, N5L 1B6

(519)782-3983

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

Principal: Mrs. W-C

Vice Principal: Mr. Ritter

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Sutherland

Administrative Team Message

Spring has sprung and it has been absolutely wonderful to enjoy the beautiful weather and the signs of growth that are becoming evident all around us. It has been a great month of learning at school and students and staff have enjoyed being together and carrying on with the learning agenda.

April is EARTH MONTH at Kettle Creek P.S. and we have many wonderful activities lined up for the teaching and celebration of this amazing planet we share. The leadership of our students is so important for this and we appreciate all GREEN TEAM and ECO Class members for their dedication in making these crucial lessons meaningful for all students.

Our Home and School and School Council continue to do amazing work bringing our school community together and our next meeting Home and School/ School Council meeting will take place on Wednesday April 27th at 6:30 p.m. and the link for that will be posted on our Website, Facebook page and sent to your email. The meetings are only an hour and the team does a dynamite job bringing in great ideas to make our school a great place to learn. ALL WELCOME! We hope you will consider joining us.

We are really pleased to announce that this month, we will provide a prayer room for any students who would like use it during the recess time. We hope that it will be a wonderful way for students of all faiths to express their sense of spirituality.

Thank you for the many ways you support us here in the waters at Kettle Creek P.S. We really appreciate it and certainly can't do it without you!

Cheers!

Ms.W-C and Mr. Ritter

Outdoor Play / Extra Clothes

Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed to learn inside or outside as we know that learning outside is healthy for the mind, body and spirit (hat, mitts, coat and snow pants). As well, if it is possible, please send a change of clothing so that if your child gets wet playing outside, they are able to change into dry comfortable clothing.

Thanks for your help!

COVID Screening

Please remember to complete the online COVID screening everyday before sending your child to school. Thank you for your ongoing diligence keeping sick children home and ensuring that we are all safe at our school.

EARTH MONTH at KETTLE CREEK!

We will be celebrating this amazing planet with a number of exciting activities such as Environmental Book Vote, Recycled Art Show, Earth Week-daily activities and..... our E-Waste Collection event.



Our GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH IS:

Try to spend at least half an hour outside today and think about 1 thing in nature

GREEN TEAM

Our ECO CLASS Leaders have been continuing to work very hard to get our GREEN TEAM programs running smoothly. All our recycling programs have been launched including our composting program. All of these steps will help us in our quest to maintain our PLATINUM ECO SCHOOL certification level.

We continue with our **WASTELESS WEDNESDAY campaign** and we are working very hard to ensure that all students make an effort to reduce the waste they create everyday but especially on Wednesdays.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

MILK BAGS-We are recycling Milk Bags and are weaving them into mats.

POP TABS- We are recycling pop tabs to support a student who needs a new wheelchair.

INK JET CARTRIDGES-We are recycling cartridges. Please send to school if you have any.

CREATE SHOP

A special thanks to Paula Morrit who has volunteered her time and talents to provide a CREATE SHOP opportunity for our students in GRADES 4-8. CREATE SHOP is a place where students come together and mindfully express and explore themselves and their emotions through the creative process. We are so grateful to Paula, our parent volunteer, for giving of her time and talents to support our students this way. If you are interested in volunteering to run a club or do something at the school, all you need is proof of vaccination and a willing heart-we will put you to work. Call Ms. W-C or Mr. Ritter at the school and we will keep you busy.

Grade 8 PARENTS:

Mark your calendar - our Graduation ceremony will take place at the school in person on Tuesday, June 28 from 6-7 p.m. and we are getting things organized for a great ceremony!

We would like to thank Heather Derks for her leadership organizing a Parent Grad committee. If you haven't had a chance to let Heather know that you are interested in helping out, please send her an email at: hderks.author@gmail.com

We are appreciative to Heather and her team for taking on the after party portion of this celebration.

Mark your Calendars

April 2 – May 2

- Ramadan

Wednesday, April 6

- Mrs. Basson/Mrs. Robbins' classes - Walking Trip

Friday, April 8

- Pizza Day
- Big Box of Cards Fundraiser begins

Thursday, April 14

- Spirit Day – Hoodie Day

Friday, April 15

- Good Friday – no school

Monday, April 18

- Easter Monday – no school

Tuesday, April 19

- Green Team (gr.2-4) Jaffa Trip

Wednesday, April 20

- Green Team (gr. 5-8) Jaffa Trip

Friday, April 22

- Pizza Day
- Earth Day – wear Green today

Monday, April 25

- Big Box of Card Fundraiser orders due
- Last Day for E-Waste to be dropped off

Wednesday, April 27

- School Council / Home & School Meeting – virtual – 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 29

- Pizza Day
- Spirit Day – PJ Day

Home and School and School Council Corner

The Home and School along with the School Council members continue to work tirelessly to support our efforts at Kettle Creek. They organize our hot lunch and many other events to support our school community. Our next virtual meeting on **April 27 at 6:30 p.m.** and we would like to invite everyone to join us. You can also stay in touch with our Home and School/School Council activities by joining us on Facebook

Clubs/Intramural Activities

We are pleased to let you know that our LEGO club, GREEN TEAM, Basketball, Chess Club and Intramural Activities are up and running and students are enjoying the opportunity to do different things at recess time. We are thankful to our staff volunteers who are giving up breaks to facilitate these opportunities.

Kettle Creek School Goals 2021/22



Our Learning Skill /Global Competency focus for this month:

Be RESPONSIBLE and think about how to COMMUNICATE well.

LEARNING SKILLS & GLOBAL COMPETENCIES

In order to support academic growth, we will be continuing to explicitly teach the 6 learning skills as outlined on the Provincial Report card . We will coordinate on a school wide level, the focused skill of the month. This will provide common language and consistency across the school and allow all staff to provide teachable moments throughout the school day with all the students. The monthly focus pages can be found in the front of each child's planner so if you would like to coordinate your home focus with ours, that would be fantastic.

ECO CLASS UPDATES – by Jessie Barendregt and Kade Kewley

Located in the small village of Port Stanley, Ontario, Kettle Creek Public School's E.C.O. class has been actively advocating for green space on the berm for 4 years. During this time, the plans and ideas for the berm have been an effort to balance the needs of the village and support natural and sustainable public green space on the north shore of Lake Erie. The E.C.O. class aims to learn the entire Grade 8 curriculum through an ecological lens and was therefore very pleased to learn that the development plans for the berm included a considerable amount of green space. As a class, our focus for the berm has been including Carolinian tree and plant species in the green space, as Carolinian forest land is becoming scarce. We have done our best to improve locals' knowledge and awareness of the dwindling Carolinian zone by holding an art gallery featuring Carolinian species and working collaboratively with community partners, such as the PSVA (Port Stanley Village Association). To further our own awareness of the environmental happenings within our county, we have a student representative from the E.C.O. class who attends monthly meetings with the Central Elgin Environmental Committee. We have also recently been working with the Green Leaders Program through the Upper Thames Conservation Authority. With this program, our class has developed an exceptional interest in preserving the wetlands on the berm. Feeling well informed, the E.C.O. made several suggestions that were well received on the Let's Talk Central Elgin Waterfront Master Plan Project site. Our next step was to create a larger voice to speak about our wishes for the berm, so along with members of the Kettle Creek Public School Student Voice team, we presented an informative slideshow to other classes in the school. We then polled them on what they wanted for the berm. Our school is a blended school, having students from St. Thomas, Union, Sparta, Port Bruce, Dexter, and Port Stanley, so this was a great opportunity to bring us together as one community. The poll sparked awareness, interest and creativity in many grades and classes. Students wanted anything from a runway for turtles to a minifridge with free water! After sorting through the data, the results are in! The number one suggestion by KCPS students was adding more plant and tree species. The number two suggestion was providing necessities for animals, including bird feeders, nesting boxes, pollinator gardens and watering stations. The third most popular suggestion was some sort of space for active play, including basketball nets, soccer fields, a skating rink, bike paths, etc. Other popular suggestions were: informative signs, ponds, playgrounds, and appropriate waste receptacles (garbage, recycling, compost). We look forward to reviewing the three proposed conceptual designs on the [website](#) and leaving our feedback. This is our future, and we are happy that the community has provided us with so many opportunities to be a part of this important process.

April 2022

Home Connections in Mathematics

Student Generated Algorithms

For most adults, learning to add, subtract, multiply, and divide involved learning standard methods and algorithms. Many adults are proficient in these procedures but many are not and still struggle to be able to justify how to be certain that the resulting solutions make sense. As students learn to understand operations and develop ways of solving problems, they move from counting, to reasoning, to mastery. The development of number sense involves learning reasoning strategies to make sense of calculations.

So, while many of us invested considerable time and effort working with standard methods, student-generated methods act as bridges toward mastery and are instrumental to developing number sense.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

$32 - 9$ is the same as $32 - 10 + 1$

Students who generate their own strategies:

1. Make fewer errors;
2. Require less re-teaching;
3. Develop number sense;
4. Foster stronger mental computation and estimation skills;
5. Often calculate more efficiently than those using standard algorithms; and
6. Feel more confident about their own abilities.

So, encourage sense-making as your child attempts calculations, the methods they use and continue to refine will support their development as successful mathematicians! For more information and reading please check out the following resource at the link below. [Learning Mathematics Vs Following Rules](#)

Skip Counting Up/Multiplying to Divide

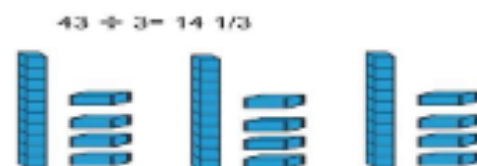
Ex: $43 \div 7$

Let's find how many times 7 appears in 43.



7 'goes into' or 'scales into' 43 6 times with 1 remaining that don't scale in OR with $\frac{1}{7}$ of a group of 7 remaining.

Divide Using Base Ten Ex: $43 \div 3$



Using base ten we can divide 43 into 3 groups which have 14 and $\frac{1}{3}$ in each group.

Flexible Division

Flexible division algorithms look similar to the standard "long division" algorithm. The flexible algorithm allows students to use known multiplication facts to decompose the dividend into friendly parts. The parts are subtracted from the whole, until no multiples of the divisor are left. Students keep track of the parts as they are removed.

