



December 2019 Newsletter

Kettle Creek Public School
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Pt. Stanley, Ontario, N5L 1B6
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<https://kettlecreek.tvdsb.ca/>

Principal: Mrs. W-C

Vice Principal: Mr. Ritter

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Sutherland

Administrative Team Message

November was a wonderful month at Kettle Creek with many meaningful learning opportunities for our students. Our Remembrance Day Service provided a great focus for us to explicitly teach our role as PEACEMAKERS throughout the world and in our own community. We are thankful for the community members who were able to join us for this beautiful celebration and the staff and students who willingly shared their talents with us in this capacity.

November also provided opportunities for families to work with their children to set academic goals for learning and growth. The Progress Reports went home and many parents took the opportunity to discuss their child's progress during our Parent-Teacher interview day. Along with Hot Lunch day, our Peacemaker Training sessions, Popcorn Day, Spirit Days and our BOOK FAIR, we also had a successful on-line auction with proceeds going to our Grade 8 Montreal trip. A HUGE thanks to our parent volunteers for their outstanding work organizing and making this event a reality, our Port Stanley businesses who donated items and the community members who promoted and supported our auction on line. All of these efforts raised approximately \$6000 to help cover our students' cost toward their trip to Montreal! That is just AMAZING! Our Home and School and School Council met last month and continue to work hard to support opportunities for our students to learn and grow. We are so grateful to all of these volunteers who give tirelessly to help us support student learning. Our next meeting will take place on January 13th at 6:30 p.m. and we would like to extend an invitation to all members of our community. Many hands make light work.

The anticipation of the holidays and the festive spirit makes December a great month to learn with many exciting events happening at Kettle Creek P.S. We are thrilled to provide a Christmas Dinner to every student on Dec 18th. If you are willing to help out that day, please call and let us know. As well, our HOLIDAY CONCERT will take place on Dec 12th at 10:00 a.m. for the Kindergarten division. We will also feature the musical contributions of students in Grades 1-8 in 2 performances that same day at 12:30 and 6:00 p.m. We welcome all members of the community to join us if you wish.

It is an absolute pleasure to work with such an amazing community and we would like to thank you for your positive and ongoing support! These efforts really make a huge impact and help us make Kettle Creek P.S. a great place to learn. On behalf of our staff and students, we wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season and a healthy and happy New Year.

Ms.W-C, Mr. Ritter and Mrs. Sutherland

Volunteers

We are always looking for more volunteers to support our efforts at Kettle Creek. If you are interested, please give us a call at the school so we can get you set up. THANKS!

Craft Club

Our Primary CRAFT CLUB and our Junior CRAFT CLUB began this month and we are very grateful to our teacher volunteer, Ms. Kunder who is offering these clubs for our students.

Kettle Creek P.S. IS NUT SAFE

Due to students with allergies, KCPS is nut safe. 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.

As 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**

PLANNING AROUND SCHOOL HOURS

In an effort to minimize classroom disruptions and ensure that curriculum can be covered appropriately, we are asking parents to consider booking appointments after school or during our nutrition breaks whenever possible. We recognize that this isn't always possible however, doing so will help us to minimize disruption during the learning time. If you do need to pick your child up at the end of the school day, please call Mrs. Sutherland at the school by 3:20 p.m. so that we can make sure they don't get on the bus. Our school day begins at 9:15 a.m. and ends at 3:45 p.m. Our 2 nutrition breaks are from 10:55-11:45 a.m. and 1:45-2:25 p.m. each day. Thank you for considering this request.

Green Team

Our ECO CLASS Leaders have been working very hard to get our GREEN TEAM organized. All our recycling programs have been launched and we are moving forward with all the initiatives previously started at our school last year. All of these steps will help us in our quest to maintain our PLATINUM ECO SCHOOL certification level.

This month our members have launched 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. As well, Green Team members will be working with students to explore GREEN CHRISTMAS ideas to reduce the waste we create this holiday season.

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.

ME TO WE

This month our club members were able to deliver our canned goods to the Port Stanley Food Bank. We had a great walk over and were inspired by Edna who shared some information and stories about the important work they do to support those in need. We continue to be inspired and amazed at how compassionate and caring our students are. We will be collecting canned goods for the Port Stanley Christmas care from December 2-13, to support families in need during this holiday season.

Health Curriculum

Messages have been sent home on several occasions now regarding the Thames Valley District School Board's policy regarding exemptions from certain portions of the Health Curriculum. Please read and respond to them within the timelines presented if you have concerns in this potentially sensitive area.

Our learning skill focus for DECEMBER is:

COLLABORATION as a key
to **INNOVATION** and **CREATIVITY**.

School Goals

Math Goal - FLEX YOUR NUMBERS

Parts/Whole

Literacy Goal – OPEN RESPONSE

Open response questions.

School Culture Intention – I AM

Using mindfulness strategies to set positive intentions around who we are, how we interact with others and what we can do to make the world a better place.

Sports Updates

Our Intermediate Volleyball season has wrapped up and our Junior Volleyball season is almost finished as well. We are very proud of how our students represent our school and we are grateful to our volunteer coaches, Mr. Roy, Ms. Ambrose, Ms. Howie, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Goncalves and Ms. Falk who willingly volunteer their time to provide these opportunities for our students.

The Sounds of Music

Thank you to the members of the GLEE CLUB and Mr. Murray who did an amazing job singing beautiful songs of Peace for our Remembrance Day service. December has arrived and we are happy to let you know that we will be celebrating the holidays with concerts and music on THURSDAY DECEMBER 12th!

Our **Kindergarten students** will be sharing their music at the **10:00 a.m. show**. On the same day at **12:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.**, we will have 2 more concerts featuring students in the Primary Choir, Junior Glee, Senior Glee, Mr. Bennett's Grade 5/6, Mr. Bevan's Grade 4 class, the Guitar ensemble and the Grade 8's who will be accompanying Ms. Moyes' Grade 1 class as they sing. It is going to be a fabulous time to get into the Holiday spirit and we really hope you will join us! December 12th-10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found has been relocated to the hallway beside the music room. If your child is missing things, please remind them to check the Lost and Found or come to the school after hours to have a look. Every 6 weeks, the LOST AND FOUND is cleaned out and all items are donated to the community. As Ms. W-C is cleaning, she does notice some VERY EXPENSIVE and great pieces of clothing, hats, boots and many other great finds. If your child is missing things, it may be worth the time to have a look.

From the Learning Commons

Thank you for your support of our Book Fair. We were able to buy approximately \$1200.00 worth of books toward our school Library collection. Thanks to Mr. Durston and all the volunteers who worked so hard to organize and run this event. We really appreciate it.

Mark your Calendars

Wednesday, December 4th

- WASTELESS WEDNESDAY

Friday, December 4

- Pizza Day

Wednesday, December 11

- WASTELESS WEDNESDAY
- Hot Food Day – Boston Pizza
- Gr. 4-6 Trip – In the Woods Play at June Rose Callwood
- High School Counsellors visit Gr 8's at KC

Thursday, December 12

- Kindergarten Holiday Concert – 10:00 a.m.
- Gr. 1-8 Holiday Concert – 12:30 & 6:00 p.m.

Friday, December 13

- Pizza Day

Wednesday, December 18

- Holiday Lunch for all staff and students
- WASTELESS WEDNESDAY

Friday, December 20

- Spirit Day – Tacky Sweater
- Pizza Day

December 21 – January 5

- Christmas Holidays – Enjoy!

Monday, January 6

- Classes Resume

Secondary School Open Houses

- PCI – January 7 – 7:00 p.m.
- AVSS – January 8 – 7:00 p.m.
- CECI – January 9 – 7:00 p.m.

MEDI Tags

STS is pleased to introduce a new safety program to easily identify students who carry medication on their person. The medi-tag program is being rolled out across the district starting November 15, 2019

The tags, red with a white colored cross in the center, are designed to be placed on the student's backpack as an identifier that the student has personal medication. Use of the medi-tag is voluntary; it is up to each family to decide if they would like their child to have the medi-tag on their backpack. If you would like to receive a medi-tag for your child's backpack, please contact the school office.

Kettle Creek P.S. School Council and Home and School Corner

Our Home and School and School Council members continue to work tirelessly to support our efforts at Kettle Creek. Along with the hot lunch, pizza and milk program, they contribute tirelessly to make our school a great place to learn.

Our meeting will take place on:

Mon. January 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

We would like to invite everyone to join us.

GRADE 8 GRAD TRIP UPDATES

Thanks to all members of our community for supporting our online auction. We were able to cover the Dec 1st payment for all of our students with the extra \$ going toward the next payment. Our next event is a PAINT NITE on from 7-9 p.m. on January 14th at Debackere Farm. Everyone is welcome to join us and you can register online at:

https://www.yaymaker.com/ca/on/dorchester/30111/event/s/fundraiser-debackere-farm-market/january-14/01-14-20-paint-nite-fundraiser-for-school-fundraiser-10191716/?_ga=2.231197468.2026089049.1574728897-1721144431.1572638278&_gac=1.12722757.1572716326.CjwKCAjw0vTtBRBREiwA3URt7n9TfBZmcl9OZCXd9BMAmU8VoU0mlXATXB7aCAHCq7IMdUVjmqQOhBoCO PQQAvD_BwE

Morning Drop-Off and End of Day Dismissal

We continue to refine our procedures at Kettle Creek in order to keep students safe during these important parts of the school day. Parents are asked to not drive into the school parking lot at any time between 8:55 to 9:20 each morning during the bus drop off. Young children are unpredictable and can run out between the buses at any time. For the safety of all of our children, please continue to drop off students at the arena parking lot where staff are waiting to send your children across the sidewalk to the playground.

Please remember if you are picking up your child at the end of the day to remain in the arena parking lot where your children will be sent to you after the end of the day dismissal bell. This procedure continues to alleviate end of the day congestion and keeps all of our children safe.

Home Connections in Mathematics

Making Good Choices

A current advertisement promoting recreational vehicles and camping suggests that we, as parents, put down our devices, get outside with our children and offer them more opportunities to take risks and play. Our children benefit from being free to explore, make choices, and, perhaps get a little dirty!

This message aligns closely with the supportive conditions necessary for children to learn mathematics: opportunity, appropriate challenge and risk-taking with a supportive adult presence.

One of the mathematical process skills that educators and parents support children to develop is **selecting tools and computational strategies**.

Our Ontario Curriculum, Mathematics (2005) states that “students will select and use a variety of concrete, visual, and electronic learning tools and appropriate computational strategies to investigate mathematical ideas and to solve problems.”

When selecting tools successful students will:

- Understand when mental arithmetic or a pencil-and-paper calculation or estimation is more appropriate than technology.
- Use an appropriate tool when:
 - ~ An exact answer is needed.
 - ~ Computation involves several numbers or numbers with more than one digit.
 - ~ The numbers are not easily calculated mentally.
- Use technology to explore, gather, display, manipulate, and present data in a variety of ways.
- Use math tools and/or technology to develop understanding.

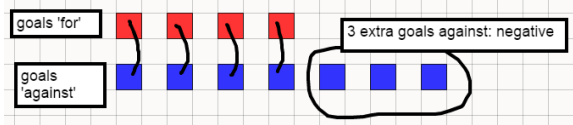
When selecting computational strategies, successful students will:

- Develop and use personal benchmarks for measurement, e.g., 1 cm is approximately the width of a baby finger.
- Select different computational strategies depending on the numbers involved, e.g., 25×16 , 23×16 , 19×16 .

Try This At Home

What model or strategy would help you solve this?

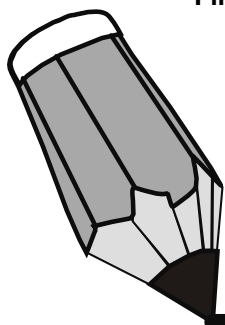
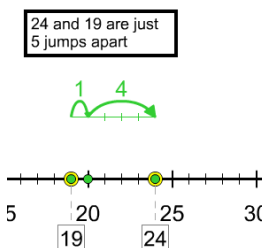
- Gr. 4: Our trip to Barrie will take about 4 hours. We have to be there by quarter after 3. What time should we leave? (e.g., number line, clock)
- Gr. 2: $14 + 9 = \underline{\quad} + 3$. What's the missing value in this equation? (e.g., Cuisenaire rods, connecting cubes)
- Gr. 7: Last week, Morgan was on the ice for 7 goals against his team and 4 goals for his team. How could you show whether he was 'positive' or 'negative' last week? (e.g., blue and red counters, number line)



Final Thoughts and an Online Resource:

Our children benefit from opportunities to engage in mathematical thinking and choice-making before we take on the thinking for them. We know that students who choose their own math tools and representations and choose ways of operating with numbers are higher achievers –more numerate—in math. They become these high achievers through experience and feedback. To access online tools to help your children think through, and solve, problems with understanding, consider exploring Mathies.ca with your child.

(www.mathies.ca/learningtools.php)



In support of our Eco-School program, newsletters are posted “on-line.” If you wish to have a paper copy sent home every month, please let the office know by returning the form below to the school. . Thank you!

Child(ren) Names: _____

- Please send home a paper copy of the monthly newsletter

Parent's Signature: _____