



February 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

2022 has arrived at Kettle Creek P.S. we are enjoying the best of this Canadian winter with fantastic indoor and outdoor learning opportunities for everyone. Although our interschool sport competition is on hold, we are able to have fun intramural games for various classes/cohorts during the recess break times.

This month, your child's Term 1 reports will come home and we hope that you take this opportunity to celebrate their success and work with them to set goals for Term 2 growth. We look forward February Spirit Days and Kindergarten registration which continues until Feb 4th. Our parent volunteers have also been busy this month and we would like to thank all the members of the HOME and SCHOOL and the SCHOOL COUNCIL for their time and effort organizing Hot Lunch Days which will be starting this month as well. HOORAY!

As always, it is an absolute pleasure to work with such amazing families at Kettle Creek as well as the members of this community. Thank you for your positive and ongoing support-we really do appreciate it!

Cheers!

Ms.W-C and Mr. Ritter

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2022/23 school year will continue through until Feb 4th. If you or anyone you know has a child ready for Kindergarten, please register on line using the TVDSB website.

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.

Community Support

Thank you to the Optimist Club of Port Stanley for their donation of \$500 for our snack program. We would also like to say thank you to the Port Stanley & Area Community Cupboard for their monthly donation of \$300, also for the snack program. With the continued support of these wonderful community partners, we are able to offer a daily snack program and special events like the Christmas dinner that was served to all our students in December. Thank You!

Want to Volunteer

We are always looking for volunteers to support our efforts at Kettle Creek. If you have proof of vaccination and are interested in helping out, please give us a call at the school so we can get you set up. THANKS!

GREEN TEAM

Our ECO CLASS Leaders have been continuing to work very hard to keep 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 earn a PLATINUM SCHOOL certification level.

This month our team members will continue to meet and we will be looking how to support animals who are endangered or facing extinction. We appreciate our executive members who are providing fantastic leadership for these club members.

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.

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.

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 remind grandparents or others about our procedures when they need to drop off students. Thank you!**

Mark your Calendars

Monday, February 14

- Spirit Day – Pink, Red & White Day

Friday, February 18

- Term 1 Report Cards go home

Monday, February 21

- Family Day – no school

Wednesday, February 23

- Pink Shirt Day (Antibullying awareness)

Friday, February 25

- 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 **March 23rd 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

FUNDRAISING

As part of the fundraising efforts of our Home and School, we are promoting the use of FLIP GIVE for family or personal purchases. For all purchases made using this app, the Home and School receives a percentage and it can be applied to just about every purchase you make including groceries. The details about how to set it up and use it have been included in our newsletter for your reference. Thanks for considering this and for your part giving back to our school community. We really appreciate it.

Noon Hour Supervisors

Now that the school year is halfway over, Kettle Creek Public School is still looking for a few more adults to be Noon Hour Supervisors.

This opportunity is a paid position supervising our students for one recess each day the students are in school. We are looking for adults who could fill this role on a supply, or occasional basis as well for some as a long-term commitment. The time for which we need supervisors is 10:55 to 11:45 am.

If you are interested in more information, please call: Mr. Rick Ritter, Vice Principal at 519-782-3983, extension 4. We hope to hear from you soon!

Home Connections in Mathematics

Supporting Subtraction Understanding

"What people who are numerate really do is that, when they are given a problem, they look to the numbers first, they look for a strategy—a strategy that will be a really efficient, elegant strategy given those numbers. Someone who is not numerate uses the same strategy for all problems no matter what the numbers are."

Cathy Fosnot (2014)

Many TVDSB students have been working with their teachers to develop a deeper understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division and strategies that may support them in producing reasonable answers.

Parents/caregivers often express concern that their children are learning methods that they did not learn in school and wonder how they can support their children in this context. This newsletter is intended to offer some support.

Subtraction is more than 'take-away'

When we subtract, we find the difference between two numbers. We do this in a variety of contexts. Subtraction means: take away or remove, difference, comparisons, how much more, determining range, how much further, and much more.

- Separating/Removing:** "Faizal had 3 erasers and gave 2 to his friends. How many does he have left?"
- Joining/Adding:** "Cara had some markers and got 3 more. She now has 11. How many did she have at the beginning?"
- Part-Whole:** "The fruit bowl has 8 pieces of fruit in it: all are bananas or mangoes. If 6 are mangoes, how many are bananas?"
- Comparison:** "The green team has 3 more players than the yellow team. The yellow team has 6 players. How many players are on the green team?"

Each of these situations is important. Students need to understand that these situations call for

finding the difference between two numbers. Ontario students are quite good at *performing subtraction*, but need to understand when subtraction is required.

What strategies help deal with difference?

Consider the following subtraction:

$$27$$

$$-9$$

High-achieving students deal with this difference using reasoning strategies which may include strategies shown below – they may rarely use the standard North American algorithm.

Decomposition: This strategy involves an understanding that all numbers can be broken up to make working with the numbers easier. This student sees the hidden 7 inside the 9 and subtracts in two parts (7 and then 2) to make the work easier.

$$\begin{array}{r} 27 - 9 \\ 27 - 7 - 2 \\ \hline 20 - 2 = 18 \end{array}$$

Jumping: This strategy involves an understanding that numbers can be shown on a number line and if subtraction is difference or distance, we can travel that distance in a way that makes sense. This student jumps to a friendly number (10), jumps by 10, and then covers those last 7 spaces to see a big jump of 18.



Compensating: Sometimes it may be more helpful to do too much and then undo the extra that you did. In this case, the student knows the patterns in subtracting 10 to get to 17 and then knows she took off 1 too many and puts that back on to get to 18.

I jumped back up 1 row (removed 10) then put 1 back on...the difference is 18.

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

Ultimately, we would like our students to understand how our number system works and what operations mean. When those understandings are in place, students will have a variety of strategies at their fingertips and be truly numerate.