



# October 2022 Newsletter

Kettle Creek Public School  
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[www.tvdsb.on.ca/portstanley](http://www.tvdsb.on.ca/portstanley)

Principal: Mrs. W-C

Vice Principal: Mr. Ritter

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Sutherland

## Administrative Team Message

Our team has had an absolutely fantastic month back with our students and the building is humming with energy. Already we have enjoyed a wide range of activities including Soccer tournaments, Cross Country team practices, our Terry Fox Run and our Orange Shirt day. A special thanks to the Grade 6 teachers and classes for their leadership with the Terry Fox event. We are also so thankful to the community because with your support, we were able to TRIPLE our goal and raised \$ 2995.00 for Cancer research. Students certainly enjoyed watching the long line of staff members who volunteered to get a pie in the face as a reward for reaching the set goal. What a fun afternoon we had!

We are very pleased to report that our many new students seem to be feeling more and more comfortable and although it may take a little more time for some, we will continue to do whatever we can as a community to make everyone feel welcome and included here.

Our MEET THE FAMILY event was a great success and our staff really enjoyed the opportunity to connect with caregivers and parents. It was also really wonderful to see all the families visiting and putting faces to the names of their child's friends. A HUGE thanks to our wonderful Home and School volunteers for all the time and effort making that happen for us. It was really appreciated !

We are pleased to report that our Home and School/School Council group have not only been busy organizing school wide events but they also already had their first meeting with a really great turnout. This amazing group of volunteers are already busy planning loads of fun and exciting activities as well as hot lunch days for our students. If you want to stay in the loop, please join the mailing list at: [kettlecreekhomeschool@gmail.com](mailto:kettlecreekhomeschool@gmail.com)

As we look forward to the Autumn season, we do so in a spirit of gratitude for the many wonderful people who make up our school community. As a staff we will be focusing on gratitude as our mindfulness practice and we encourage you as a family to join in by reflecting each day on 3 things you are grateful for. We know that doing so is good for our mental and emotional health and it also impacts how we connect with others in this world.

On that note, I stand in awe and gratitude for the beautiful humans that surround me each day and thank all of you for entrusting these amazing children to our care. We wish all of you a month that is filled with joy as you reflect on the wonders of this world and your children.

Gratefully yours!

Cheers! Ms.W-C and Mr. Ritter

### 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, Kettle Creek P.S. 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](http://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.



## Student Voice

Our Grade 8 students have volunteered to take on the leadership for our Spirit Days and have outlined the days as follows. Please mark your calendars. Other fun activities are in the works so stay tuned. Thank you to our wonderful students for their time and effort making our school community a fun place to learn.

### Student Voice Spirit Days 2022-2023

Month/Date	Spirit Day
Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> -	Red and White/Terry Fox ORANGE SHIRT DAY
Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	FUN Costume OR Orange and Black Day ( <b>NO</b> scary masks or weapons)
Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> -	Funky Hat Day (Best Hat Recognition)
Dec 19 <sup>th</sup> -	-Red and Green Day
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup> -	-Tacky Sweater Day
Dec 21 <sup>st</sup> -	-Festive Sock Day
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup> -	-Festive Head Wear Day
Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup> -	-Door Decorating/clean up day
Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> -	-Jersey Day
Feb 14 <sup>th</sup> -	-RED WHITE AND PINK DAY
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> -	-PINK SHIRT/ANTIBULLYING DAY
Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> -	-Funky Sock Day
Mar 10 <sup>th</sup> -	-Green Day
Mar 31 <sup>st</sup> -	- Crazy Hair Day
Apr 28 <sup>th</sup> -	-Same Day
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	May the 4 <sup>th</sup> -BE WITH YOU DAY
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	-Band T-Shirt Day
Jun 23 <sup>th</sup>	-Perk Day

## Drop off and Pick up

Thank you for your cooperation by allowing your child to ride the bus to school or saying goodbye to your child AT THE ARENA parking lot. It speaks volumes when you allow your child to be independent and take safe risks because you are saying, "I trust you." and "You are capable." Hovering and fearful parenting tells children that they should be fearful and that they are not capable. We know that when your child is struggling, it is really hard. Mama and Papa Bears do not like that! No one wants to see their child struggle but please remember that without struggle, there is no growth. When we as humans struggle, we learn, we grow, we become more confident and empathetic. Please help us as we work to help children to grow, gain confidence and become courageous and independent people. That my friends, is really what it's all about.

If you are picking your child up at the end of the day, write a note in your child's planner. 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.

## 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 our's, that would be fantastic.

Our learning skill focus for **OCTOBER** is:

### **SELF REGULATION**

### **Green Tip of the Month:**

Composting is a great way to reduce your garbage.

### **Want to VOLUNTEER?**

We are looking for MANY volunteers and invite you to complete your Criminal Background check. Forms for those can be found on our website. Once those are complete, call us at the school, tell us what you would like to do and we will make it happen! Thank you for considering this opportunity.

### **LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS**

October is Women's History month and we will be sharing stories and arts throughout the month celebrating Women's History in Canada and around the world. We will also be recognizing Yom-Kippur (4th-5th), the WHO World Mental Health Day (10th), the UNs International Day of the Girl (Oct 11th) and Canadian School Library Day (Oct 22nd).

## Mark your Calendars

Monday, October 3

- Gr. 6 & 7's to Carolinian Forest Festival

Tuesday, October 4

- Hayslip/Mahovlich K's to Great Lake Farms
- Peer Power sessions (Gr. 6's)

Wednesday, October 5

- Cross Country Regional Meet
- Howie/BT/Vansickle's classes to Great Lake Farms

Thursday, October 6

- Hydro One Arbour Day presentations

Monday, October 10

- Thanksgiving Monday (no school)

Wednesday, October 12

- School Bus Safety Day

Thursday, October 13

- Photo Day

Thursday, October 20

- Great Big Crunch

Monday, October 24

- PA Day

Thursday, October 27

- CBC Music Challenge recording (Primary Division)

Monday, October 31

- Costume / Black and Orange Day (no scary masks or weapons)

## STAY CONNECTED to KETTLE CREEK P.S

1. SCHOOL MESSENGER – all of our information is sent out through School Messenger
2. Check out our school website:  
<https://kettlecreek.tvdsb.ca/en/index.aspx>  
Also check out our school Facebook page

## 2022/2023 Staffing Updates

We are relieved that we did not have to reorganize our classes this year and that our staffing changes are minimal. We did receive a 0.2 increase and that has allowed us to bump our Grade 2 teacher, Ms. Green to a 1.0 full time position in the Grade 2 classroom. Ms. Smith will now be freed up to provide additional Literacy support for our Primary division students.

Our ECE vacancy in Ms. Mahovlich's room has been filled by Ms. Patti Simon who comes to us from Forest Park P.S. Ms. Simon is an amazing educator and we are so excited to welcome her aboard. We are extremely sad to bid farewell to Ms. Rodgers who has done an absolutely outstanding job filling in that role but we know that wherever she goes, she will shine bright.

Our newest EA, Ms. Alyssa Blair will also be leaving us for an exciting career opportunity at CPRI. We have really enjoyed getting to know her and our pleased to announce that Ms. Brooke Guryn will step into her role beginning Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. We also welcome Ms. Guryn to the DREAM TEAM and know she will be a welcome addition to the community.

## **Home and School / School Council**

Our team of volunteers met and we are pleased to announce that the following positions have been filled for the 2022/23 school year.

### **School Council**

Co-Chair: Tara Lenaghan

Co-Chair: Jessica Kooger

### **Home & School:**

Co-Chair: Beth Pfeffer

Co-Chair: Sara Hennessy

Secretary: Meagan Guest

Treasurer: Kelly Ward

Our meetings moving forward will be limited to 1 hour (6:30-7:30). Child care is available and you can attend in person at the school or attend virtually using the link sent to your email the week of the meeting.

### **The 2022-2023 meeting dates are as follows:**

Thurs. Nov 17<sup>th</sup>-6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thurs. Jan 19<sup>th</sup>-6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thurs Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>-6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thurs May 18<sup>th</sup>-6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thurs June 22<sup>nd</sup>-6:30-7:30 p.m.

Please consider pitching in and joining us for 1 or more meetings. We know that many hands make light work!



## SWPH School Health Newsletter

Autumn is many people's favourite time of year, with pumpkin spice everything and fall/Halloween décor wherever you look. Weather forecasters are predicting that Ontarians could be in for warmer temperatures for much of the new season. Heading outdoors as fall colours emerge is always an attraction but extended periods of pleasant weather through October should make outdoor activity an easy choice for everyone in 2022.

Getting outdoors at school allows for increased vigorous physical activity during the learning day and has the added mental health benefits of reduced stress, depression, and anxiety, as well as increased happiness.

Two great active outdoors events happening in October are:

- [International Walk to School Day \(IWALK\)](#) on October 5th, 2022. This is an annual mass celebration of active transportation to school that takes place around the world. But don't stop with just one day – October is iWalk month!
- [Take Me Outside Day](#) on Wednesday October 19, 2022 is a celebration to raise awareness of nature connection and outdoor learning in schools across Canada. TMO's vision is a future in which spending time outside playing, exploring and learning is a significant part of every student's day. Extending the learning environment beyond the desk and four walls can balance out excessive screen time and extended periods sitting still.

Click on the links above to find out more about these active October possibilities. Both websites include posters, resources, challenges and activities for the classroom and at home.

Happy October from your SWPH Healthy Schools Team! Find out more about school health at [www.swpublichealth.ca/en/community-health/school-health.aspx](http://www.swpublichealth.ca/en/community-health/school-health.aspx)