

# P.W.W. News

## December Events

- 4 H&S Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- 7 NMDHS Grade 8 Parent Info  
6:30—8:00 p.m.
- 4 -15 The 12 Days of Giving:  
PWW Christmas Food Drive
- 19 Tacky Sweater Day  
H & S Xmas dinner and skate
- 21 P.W.W. Holiday Concert  
12:00 p.m. performance  
5:30 pm. performance
- 22—Jan 5 Christmas Break

December 2023

## From the Principal's Pen

It's hard to believe that December is already here. The first three months of the school year seem to have flown by! Our students have been engaged in many exciting learning activities throughout the school with lots of challenges and successes along the way. We are so proud of them! Our staff is so proud to hold our monthly character trait and academic achievement assemblies. November's focus was on showing kindness and cooperation. December's focus is on demonstrating a Growth Mindset. We are so thankful to the generosity of our community. The Optimist Club of Parkhill has made a donation for our snack program. We have started our food drive for the Ailsa Craig and Area Food Bank and have received several donations already.

We're excited to share that our Home and School Association will be bringing back our holiday lunch. On December 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be going to the community center for a meal prepared by our amazing Home and School members. We will also be skating at certain times of the day. More specific details will follow in the coming weeks.

We are excited to be able to host our annual Holiday Concert on December 21st. We are holding an afternoon concert at 12:00 –1:00 p.m. and an evening concert at 5:30—6:30 p.m. We hope you're able to come! More information on tickets will be sent home at a later date.

On behalf of the PWW staff, I would like to wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Olson  
Principal

### Parkhill-West Williams

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Wendy Olson

Principal

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Superintendent

Arlene Morell &

Christian Sachs

Trustees



## **School Council and Home and School—Looking for Volunteers**

Our annual Christmas Dinner and Skate will be on Tuesday, December 19th. This grand event takes a village to help. If you are available for any of the following times, please send an email to Nicole Thachuk at [Melph79@aol.com](mailto:Melph79@aol.com).

Volunteers needed at the Community Center for:

Monday, December 18th after 5 p.m. for food preparation

Tuesday, December 19th 9—12 p.m. food preparation

12—1 p.m. serving

1—? Help clean up

Tickets will be for sale by the H & S at both Holiday concerts on December 21st for Raffle Baskets. All proceeds will go towards the music program.

Our next home and school meeting will be on **Monday, January 8th at 6:30 p.m.**

## **Festive/ Tacky Sweater Day**

Wear your tacky Christmas sweater on Tuesday, December 19th. Be creative and have some fun with it!



## **Lost and Found**

Lost and found will be set out the week of December 18th, please have your child(ren) have a look for any missing items. It will be set out on the night of the concert as well. All leftover items will be donated to the local Thrift Store.

Mrs. Miles

## **News from the Library Learning Commons**

I cannot believe that it is December already! This month, our school will be kicking off the Forest of Reading program! We will be running three different programs for our students.

The Blue Spruce Program will take place in the classrooms in our primary division. The Silver Birch Program for our junior classes and The Red Maple Program for our intermediate classes will be running as an extra-curricular during activity breaks. I look forward to sharing this wonderful Canadian Reading Program with our keen readers over the winter!

I would also like to thank our Home and School for helping to fund this great Canadian Reading Program for our school! We truly appreciate your support!

Until next time, Happy Reading and Happy Holidays!

Mrs. Hayter

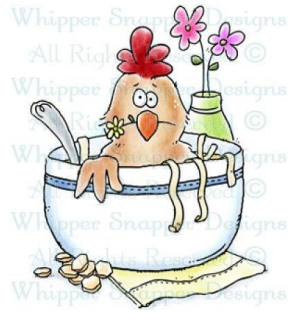
## **Milk Bags**

If you have any extra milk bags (the bag that the 3 litres come in) can you please send them in to Mrs. Hodgins and Ms. Reinelts, thank you!

## Chicken Noodle Soup Hot Lunch

We will be offering a hot, homemade chicken noodle soup and whole wheat bun lunch on Monday, December 11th for the first break from the Caddyshack by the tracks. The cost will be \$6.75 and all proceeds will go towards our 2023 –24 Snack Program.

We appreciate your support and stay tuned for January's hot lunch!



## Winter Weather Conditions

Cold, windy, snowy and icy conditions are sure to make their way here to stay soon. We are asking parents and guardians to encourage children to come to school dressed and prepared for the cold and varying weather conditions that can develop this time of year. Students go outside daily during the 25 and 20-minute outdoor break times. The decision to keep students indoors are when temperatures reach extreme lows (e.g., -20 windchill and lower), or if temperature and weather conditions are deemed too wet or extreme.

If any of our families are experiencing challenges in getting coats, mittens, boots, etc., please contact our school office so that we can look at ways of assisting you in obtaining these items.

Cold Weather Checklist:

- Hooded, Winter Jacket
- Snow boots (and rain boots for milder weather)
- Toques/Ear warmers/Head bands
- Mittens (an extra pair never hurts)
- Extra dry pair of socks (in case feet get wet)  Snow pants (especially for younger students)

## We are looking for more Supervisors during our Nutrition Breaks:

Are you available during the school day and interested in helping supervise students during our Nutrition Breaks? We are looking to supplement our team of student supervisors at PWW. This is a paid position at \$22 per hour. A student supervisor helps supervise students during our lunch hour and on the yard, from 11:am to 11:50am and/or from 1:30pm to 2:10pm. If you are interested, please contact us at the school. We will provide you with the TVDSB Student Supervisor documents to complete. We would love to have you be part of our team!

## Field Trips

Field trips are voluntary opportunities organized by your child's teacher, that pertain to enhancing and extending curriculum topics. There are different ratios for the number of supervisors required to maintain safety on field trips. If you are interested in being a parent supervisor, please ensure that the school has a Vulnerable Sector Police Record Check (VSPC). An offense declaration can be printed from your Parent Portal and submitted to the office. If you don't have a valid or current VSPC on file at the school, please contact Mrs. Miles to request a school volunteer letter to submit to the O.P.P. when you complete your application online through their website.

## The 12 Days of Giving: PWW's Winter Food Drive

Parkhill-West Williams Public School is organizing a winter food drive **beginning Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and ending Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** in support of the Ailsa Craig and Area Food Bank. Suggested donations are listed below. Please feel free to send in other items any day, including hats and mitts. All donations are appreciated.

**Please leave items in their original packaging** (i.e., juice boxes, snack packs of pudding, etc.) and ensure that products have not reached their expiration dates. Which class will donate the most for the food bank?

Monday, Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>
Rice, dry noodles, pasta sauce, Hamburger Helper, Side kicks	Breakfast items (i.e., oatmeal, dry cereal)	Juice Boxes & Cans Condiments: BBQ Sauce, Mustard, Ketchup, etc.	Paper goods (i.e., facial and bathroom tissue, paper towels)	Canned vegetables and fruit
Monday, Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>
Snacks: Granola bars, cereal bars, cookies, popcorn	Baby food, diapers and wipes	Canned fish, soup, stew, meat	Cake Mixes and Frosting Pudding Mix/Jello	Hygiene products (i.e., toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, feminine products)

### **GRADE 8 SECONDARY SCHOOL INFORMATION**

Grade 8 parents are invited to learn more about the secondary schools and the programs they have to offer by going to their secondary school's website, Guidance, Information for Grade 8 Students.

<https://www.tvdsb.ca/EN/SCHOOLS/SECONDARY-SCHOOL-GRADE-8-INFORMATION-NIGHTS.ASPX>

These events include a special presentation about the high school, its programs, and the registration process. Parents and their child can access this information now. If you have any questions about planning for high school, please contact Ms. Kuipers or Mr. Bridge.

### **North Middlesex D.H.S. Grade 8 Parent Night**

If you have a child in Grade 8 please mark this date on your calendar, lots of important information will be shared.

Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>  
6:30—8:00 p.m.  
@ North Middlesex District High School

# TVDSB EARLY LITERACY GUIDE FOR FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS

Thames Valley's Learning Support Services Department is pleased to share the Early Literacy Guide for Families and Caregivers. This document is intended to be shared with families, guardians and caregivers of students who are working to build their early literacy skills. It can be helpful to support parent and caregivers understanding of how to help their children develop foundational literacy skills and provides helpful tips as well as fun activities that families can engage in together to build these important skills outside of school. Click to access the electronic and accessible version of TVDSB Early Literacy Guide for Families and Caregivers to access an electronic and accessible version.

[Early Literacy Guide](#)

## **EQAO Results**

We recently shared our 2022/23 Primary and Junior EQAO results with the members of our School Council. This provincial assessment tool provides schools with a snapshot of our students' levels of achievement. Parents are encouraged to visit [www.eqao.com/](http://www.eqao.com/) to learn more about what this assessment is all about. Our results showed that the percentage of students meeting the Ministry of Education standards at levels 3 and 4 are as follows:

Grade 3:	Grade 6:
Reading: 64%	Reading: 53%
Writing: 58%	Writing: 53%
Math: 50%	Math: 5%

Our grade three and six classes are very fortunate to be working with a Classroom Math Support Teacher to further our student's achievement and conceptual understanding in mathematics. All of our educators have had time to assess this data along with several other sources they have been collecting over the past few months in each classroom. Together, we have developed specific literacy and numeracy goals for our students which are as follows:

**Numeracy Goal:** To build fundamental mathematical skills (Early Years: Counting Principles; Primary: Working With Numbers; Jr/ Int Divisions: Developing Proficiency with Operations)

**Literacy Goal:** To improve use of writing conventions (ie: spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar/usage, and paragraph structure).

Please contact your child's teachers if you would like to learn more about how these goals are being achieved in the classroom.