

P.W.W. News

October 2023

October Events

4	Gr. 7 Vaccinations
5	Dental Screening JK/ SK, 2 & 7
6	PD Day
10	Cross Country Meet
17	Cross Country Finals
25	Ticket to the Trades NMDHS
31	Happy Halloween

Principal's Message

In a blink of an eye, September has flown by! We were so excited to see many families come out to our Meet the Teacher and Family Open House last week! The students were proud to be able to show off their classrooms and wonderful school to their families and friends. It was my pleasure to meet so many of you! We are looking forward to having other opportunities to invite the community into our school.

As we enter the fall season, students are encouraged to start dressing in layers as the mornings can be quite cool with a change to warmer temperatures throughout the day. We ask for your assistance to talk with your children about keeping track of their personal clothing – in the month of September we found that many sweaters and jackets were left out in the school yard after recess and ended up in our lost and found area. We will continue to encourage our students to check the lost and found for missing items. In mid-November we will share photos of the items with you over School Messenger to help identify your child's missing items.

Health and Safety Drills

Throughout the school year, all Thames Valley schools conduct safety drills, such as fire, tornado and lock downs to ensure that the students are prepared in case such situations occur. According to the Ontario Fire Code, a school must conduct six fire drills, three in the fall and three in the spring. During these drills, students practice exiting the building to a predetermined meeting place on school grounds. We have already conducted our first two fire drills and will be holding our final Fall drill after Thanksgiving.

Two tornado drills must be practiced, one in the Fall and another in the Spring (April). Students will go to a predetermined spot in the hallway and kneel, covering their heads with their hands. The TVDSB Emergency Procedures Policy requires all schools perform two code red or lock down drills annually. The purpose of a code red drill is for staff and students to practice responding to an emergency situation (i.e., how to react should an actual lockdown situation occur). It is important to note that these are drills - NOT actual simulations. During the drills, all staff and students within the school will remain in a locked classroom with their teacher. The drill will last only a few minutes in its entirety.

Please take some time with your child to assure them that these are only drills, and with proper practice, we will be ready in the event of a real emergency. Reasons for a code red drill would be the result of there being an intruder in the school or other police work occurring outside in the school community. The goal of these drills is to keep students away from any potential danger and to keep them safe.

We will be conducting our emergency drills during the week of October 22nd, 2023. If you have any questions or concerns about any of the drills, please contact the school.

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Wendy Olson

Principal

Andrew Canham

Superintendent

Arlene Morell &

Christian Sachs

Trustees

Technology is a privilege, not a right.

Our job as educators is to teach students how to be responsible and respectful users of technology. Classes have been assigned technology as one of many tools for students to create content, and in some cases, students may choose to bring in their own devices, as individual teachers may allow the use of personal devices or ear pods for special circumstances. For any use of technology at school, however, it is to be used for educational purposes only.

Personal Devices (cell phones, Apple Watches, ear buds):

- If personal devices are brought to school, the owner is responsible for its care. The school is not responsible if the device is lost or stolen.
- If personal devices are brought to school, phones are to be kept silent and put away all day. Phones should not be used at lunchtimes, in the washrooms, or on the yard.
- Students should not wear their ear buds during the instructional day unless it is part of an approved supervised activity by the teacher.
- Students are not to access social media apps nor take photos while on school property.

TVDSB Chrome Books/iPads are the property of the school.

- Students are responsible for their own actions (i.e.: what is written, said, created and communicated, as well as responsible for any vandalism done to the device).
- When logged in, the account owner is responsible for whatever is done on the account. Students should NOT share their password with anyone other than their teacher.

Consequences of technology misuse:

- if students misuse personal technology, the student's device will be kept by the teacher or brought to the office, where it can be collected at day's end.
 - If repeated misuse of Board equipment (Chromebook, laptop, iPad, desktop, computer), the student's GOTVDSB account will be suspended for the day.

We are able to support students and families by getting messages to each other. If students need to contact home, they will be directed to use the phone in the school office.

If parents wish to send a message for their child, please call the school, or communicate directly with your child's teacher using email or School Messenger

Parents/guardians will be contacted by the classroom teacher regarding misuse of personal or board technology. Together we can teach our students how to be responsible and respectful users of technology.

If families have any questions or concerns about these expectations or discipline procedures, you are more than welcome to contact your child's teacher or call Mrs. Olson.

TVDSB's Technology Policy can be found at this link: https://www.tvdsb.ca/uploads/26/Doc_636730339829441832.pdf?ts=638321781255453684
The specific sections outlined in the policy that our expectations follow are sections 4 and 5.

Warm Regards,
Wendy Olson
Principal

From the Library Learning Commons...

It has been a great start to the year in the Library Learning Commons! Students have been enjoying many books, and we have just finished our fall Scholastic Book Fair! I would like to thank everyone who came out to support the book fair and helped to make it a success! We have been able to purchase some great new titles for our collection! Stay tuned for those!

This month is going to be a busy one, with classes taking part in activities during Digital Citizenship Week, which is the third week of October, and celebrating Canadian School Library Day on October 24th! Happy October everyone!

Until next time...

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Hayter :)

Cross Country

Good luck to our Cross Country Team attending the Longwoods meet on Tuesday, October 10th. Forms with information went home the end of September and the students have been practicing during their activity breaks. The Cross Country Finals will be on Tuesday, October 17th. Information will be sent home if your child qualifies.

GOOD LUCK PANTHERS!

Mrs. Tapper
Mrs. Barnett

Terry Fox Run

Thank you to all families who donated to our annual Terry Fox Run campaign. It was so incredible to see our whole school out participating in the run together, putting in our best efforts for a worthy cause! Together, the students of PWW were able to raise \$670 for the Terry Fox Foundation to support their efforts in cancer research. After our run, each class chose one member who did an amazing job showing Terry Fox spirit who received a small prize. Congratulations to **Cole from Mrs. Barnett and Mrs. McCann's class, Eva from Mrs. Hodgins and Ms. Reinelt's class, Jackson from Mrs. Masschelein's class, Zephyr from Mrs. Tapper's class, Andy from Mrs. Holbrook's class, Colby from Mrs. Walkers's class, Daphne from Mrs. Moore's class, Riley from Mrs. Horne's class, and Logan from Mrs. Kuipers class.**

Mrs. Walker

Home & School Meeting

Thank you to everyone who came out to our October meeting. Please mark your calendars for Monday, November 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the library. We encourage you to come out and join us!

