



STITTSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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November 2018

Message from the Principal

If you have questions about anything you read in the newsletter or about things that are happening at school that you are wondering about – please give me a call at 613-836-2818 or send an e-mail to catherine.donnelly@ocdsb.ca - I would be happy to connect!

We are excited to have launched our Twitter account as another way to communicate with our families and community. You will notice a new look to our website with our “tweets” displayed at the top of the page, above school news and the school calendar. If you would like to follow the SPS twitter account our handle is @StittsvillePS.

Our school learning plan goal this year is for students to become better at math, in particular, to be able to flexibly use fundamental math strategies, including mental math, for adding, subtracting (k-3) and multiplying and dividing (4-6). We will keep you in the loop, about what we are learning about math, through our tweets, the school newsletter and classroom news.

Our Safe Schools (Safe and Caring) team of parents, teachers and administration has been hard at work organizing a variety of initiatives to improve student wellbeing and safety at school. Everything from bus safety presentations to classroom learning about self-regulation to participation in anti-bullying learning, activities and presentations will be covered this year. Many thanks go to our parent representatives and teachers who volunteer their time for this important work.

Many thanks also to our families and the SPS school council for fundraising that helps with enhancing the school experience for students – just recently each class received a bag of outdoor recess play equipment and grades 2 and up will benefit from the upcoming “Mathletes” event in early December. Just two examples of the many great things that you support!



"Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

Ontario has designated the week beginning on the third Sunday of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to help promote safe schools and a positive learning environment.

During Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week – **November 18-24, 2018** – Ontario students, school staff and parents are encouraged to learn more about bullying and its effect on student learning and well-being.

Bullying is defined as a form of repeated, persistent and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

Schools are encouraged to use this opportunity to explain the different forms bullying can take. These include:

1. **Physical** – hitting, shoving, stealing or damaging property
2. **Verbal** – name calling, mocking, or making sexist, racist or homophobic comments
3. **Social** – excluding others from a group or spreading gossip or rumours about them
4. **Electronic** (commonly known as **cyberbullying**) – spreading rumours and hurtful comments through the use of cellphones, e-mail, text messaging and through social media."

5.

Scholastic Book Fair – Next Week! Nov 19th -20th

Stittsville Public School library is hosting the Fall Scholastic Book Fair to foster a love of reading for all our students.

Our Fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held during the Parent/Teacher Interview Week, in the Library, on Monday, November 19th, Tuesday, November 20th and Wednesday, November 21st, 2018. The Fair will be open from 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, all three days.

The flyers were sent home the first week of November. We encourage you to attend our Book Fair to experience the excitement your child will feel. Be sure to enter the **Family Event Draw** and win \$25 worth of books for your family and \$25 worth of books for your child's classroom.

The "**Classroom Wish List**" will also be on display. Show your appreciation for what your child's teacher has done this year – buy a book and donate it to the classroom library. A donation book plate will be put inside the book cover.

Every sale benefits our school. Every \$10 purchase returns **up to \$6 in book profit** to our school! The book profits will be used towards new titles for all our classes to enhance our existing library holdings. We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair. Thank you for believing in books and the impact of reading on your child's future.

Sincerely, Manjeet Sembi, Book Fair Coordinator

Free Online French Homework Help

Free Online French Homework Help - Bonnes Nouvelles!

Visit voilalearning.com, click on 'My school board is registered' and enter the code: OCDSB0. The Virtual Immersion Campus will be open Monday to Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for homework help and from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for French practice. Learn more about [Homework Help](#).

Outdoor Classroom gets Some TLC!

Thanks to SPS Chief Custodian, Mr. Hammell, custodian Mrs. Tysick, Mme Kupo's grade 4 class, and the generous funding of School Council, our outdoor classroom received a new layer of mulch. The space gets used so much that an annual top up is much needed!



Islamic Heritage Month

The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) recognized Islamic Heritage Month in October. Islamic Heritage Month provides an opportunity for all citizens to learn about the history, culture and contributions that Ontarians of Muslim heritage make in our communities. It is a time to reflect, celebrate and learn about these contributions together.

The OCDSB is committed to promoting equity and inclusion in every one of our schools and workplaces. We believe honouring and sharing the rich cultural diversity within our schools helps to dispel harmful biases and enlighten our understanding of each other.

Treaty Recognition Week

Treaty Recognition Week is held on the first full week of November (November 4-11, 2018) to promote public education and awareness about treaties and treaty relationships. All students, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, are enriched by learning about the histories, cultures, contributions and perspectives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people in Canada.

Safe and Caring: Bus Safety

SPS students recently participated in bus safety programs brought to us by OSTA, our transportation consortium, the school board and the Ministry of Education. The programs focused on basic bus safety and behaviour.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Building on the success of intra-mural kinball run by Mme Jackson, Mme Kupo and Mme Reed last year, Ms. O'Halloran, Mlle Tessier and Mrs. Doherty are running borden-ball intramurals for grades 3 and 4. Six teams (over 90 students!) play on Tuesdays and Thursdays to build skills and experience and, of course, to have fun!



"Mad about the MADD bus!"



"MADD Canada's school programs bring high-energy drug and alcohol awareness and risk reduction messaging to the world of education." madd.ca.

Many of our Junior students participated in an interactive learning experience when the MADD bus paid a visit to our school in October. Students prepared ahead of time by considering how to effectively and confidently make safe and healthy decisions when faced with peer pressure. As well, they researched facts, statistics and laws pertaining to driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol and created memes to demonstrate their understanding. Students' feedback was very positive and their learning was deepened by the authenticity of the experience. Here are a few comments from students:

- "I liked the choice game. It was really fun and I liked how when you made a choice it said if you made it home safe. It taught me how, whatever choice you make it will make a big difference. The teacher told us that even if you think that a driver is impaired or high that you should still call the police."
- "If someone (no matter who) wants to drive you home, while they're drunk, you have to say "no".
- "I loved the high-tech aspect of it"
- "I learned that 4 people die every day in Canada due to drunk driving."
- "So many kids our age and older will know how dangerous impaired driving is and hopefully most of them will not do that when they get older."
- "I learned that people should never mix drinking and driving."

Mabel's Labels

mabel's labels

A great solution to reducing “lost forever” items is to label, label, label! Stittsville PS is registered with Mabel's Labels as a fundraiser. You can order a wide variety of label items which makes it so much easier to locate lost items and for items to make it back to their original owners. You can order through the link below:

<https://mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser/>

Ottawa Public Health Resources for School Readiness

Ottawa Public Health (OPH) has developed new resources designed to support school readiness.

The [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health](#) page has resources on the following areas that are fundamental to good mental health throughout life:

- Attachment; Temperament; Self-Regulation; Sense of Agency; Brain development; and Resiliency.

[The School Readiness page](#) addresses growth, development and health requirements. It also provides additional information and resources.

Please note that Ottawa Public Health is able to provide the assistance of an interpreter for parents who need language assistance. This service is available in over 170 different languages. When calling, they will be placed in a 3-way call with the interpreter to provide the opportunity to discuss inquiries in the language of choice. To access this service, please call (613) 580-6744, ext. 28020.

October “Gotcha” Awards

GOTCHA program:

Students caught displaying exceptional positive character are given a “Gotcha” and recognized for promoting a positive school climate.

Congratulations to

Mrs. Dobinson's class

Lilian W.

Broghan S.

Callum P.

Mme Castonguay's class

Rylan R.

Theo H.

Logan D.

Mme Reed's class

Katie O.

Ethan N.

Fedor V.

...for being Gotcha winners for October. Way to go!!!

School Cash Online



A quick and secure way to pay for student items online

We are pleased to inform you that the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will now be offering School Cash Online as its preferred method of payment for all school fees, including everything from field trips to yearbooks. **Our goal is to have over 90 percent of our families using School Cash Online – we are at 54% percent right now – help us reach our goal – register today!**

School Cash Online helps parents and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly and easily. By using School Cash Online, you help increase efficiency and security at schools by making payments directly into your school's bank account. This allows teachers and office staff to focus on helping students, and not counting cash. Plus, you get to stay informed of your child's activities and needs!

You are now able to register – a simple task that takes less than five minutes – by visiting <https://ocdsb.schoolcashonline.com>. Visit www.ocdsb.ca if you'd like more information and to view Frequently Asked Questions. Should you encounter any difficulties, you can use the Parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803 or email: parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com

News from the Classrooms!

Kindergarten:

- The Kindergarten students went on a field trip to Fallowfield Tree Farm on October 31st. They went on a tractor ride through the pumpkin patch learning about how different sizes and colours of pumpkins are grown. They got to meet some friendly farm animals and roasted a few marshmallows. The farm had a cool tunnel slide for them to roll their new mini pumpkins down! Lots of fun was had. As a culmination to learning about 'les citrouilles', classes made pumpkin cookies. Each student brought in a box of smarties from their trick or treat bag to make the cookies extra yummy!
- Yaki, a musical presenter, visited during the month of October. Students always love singing the Ketchup song!!

- We continue to collect letters of the alphabet from around Canada. Many of our letters are coming from Saskatchewan this year. One letter came from a school with 48 students!!! That is less than the duck and frog class combined. We mailed our letters Mm (duck and frog) and Zz (butterfly and caterpillar) by walking to the mailbox. We now have post offices in our classroom where writing letters to each other is a daily activity!

Primary:

- All grade 1 students went on a field trip to Baxter centre. Students thoroughly enjoyed participating in outdoor activities learning about animal habitats, seeds and looking for signs of fall.
- Mr Maisonneuve and Mrs. Welch's classes sang a song called "A Wish for Peace" at the Remembrance Day Ceremony.
- M.Maisonneuve, Mme Nadanyi and Mrs. Welch's classes participated in a variety of educational Halloween activities - rotating from class to class. This was enjoyed by all!!!!
- All grade 2-6 students will participate in one day of Mathletes activities in the gym, either Thursday December 6 or Friday December 7. Mathletes is a day to celebrate MATH!! The event is fully funded by SPS school council - thank you very much.
- All grade 3 classes (French & English) had the opportunity to take part in a very interesting presentation entitled "Are you ready for a pet?" from the Humane Society on Monday, November 5th. The students were able to take a look at their families and see which pet is best suited for their lifestyle. A PowerPoint presentation showed them what pets need on a daily basis.
- What great fun we have exploring our everyday world full of MATH!!! Mrs.Kerwin

Patterns and sorting
and graphing we do!

Grade one math,
is full of how to?

Talking and reading
and growing our brains.

Turning our numbers
into ten frames!

Singing and jumping
And finding our joy!

In numbers in math,
Even with toys!

Take a good peek
in the grade one hall

you will see math
from home on the wall!

Junior:

- Approximately 90 grade 3 and 4 students are participating during recesses in intramural Borden ball. Games will continue until mid-December. (Kelly Doherty, Natalie Tessier, Virginia O'Halloran)
- Student council was very busy organizing the Remembrance Day ceremony. They did an amazing job as the MCs and having various roles in the school assembly on Monday.
- The Eco Team is starting their Boomerang Lunch campaign this week with posters, announcements, PSA videos (to be shown in classrooms) and garbage can covers (that will soon be distributed to classrooms). Just a friendly reminder: everything in the student's lunchbox returns home to be recycled in their green and blue boxes; that includes all the containers, wrappers and leftover food. SPS produced over 16,000 kg of garbage last school year. We are hoping to reduce that number.
- There were 3 top 20 finishers at our Cross-Country meet last month. The SPS Team of 90 students represented us with pride and made their teachers very proud!
- The Knitting and Crochet Club has begun for this school year. We are meeting once a week at recess and have about 25-30 members in the club - most of whom are new to the group. We are looking forward to a great year!
- The Grade 5 and 6 French Immersion classes (*and many other classes) have been using resources provided by Veterans Affairs to guide discussions about Remembrance.
- The "Me to We" Group was busy a few weeks ago with our Food Drive. The group is now discussing their upcoming Holiday Art Sale.
- We have a new club at SPS. It is a Speed Stacking Club. It is currently running for the Grade 5 and Grade 6 students once a week at recess. It is a fun learning opportunity and quite competitive. It is a great opportunity for students to help other students.
- The Grade 6s had a Presentation from the Humane Society last week about animal rights and animal exploitation.

- The Grade 6s had a visit from the MADD Bus. The MADD Bus is an amazing experience!! It is a fully-functioning coach bus with seating for up to 35 students. Students each get their own tablet and their own virtual reality goggles and get to learn about and discuss issues relating to driving under the influence of alcohol. The presentation focused on empowering students to use strategies to make smart choices and avoid problematic situations.
- Global Read Aloud (GRA) EF6A/6B: The project was created in 2010 with a simple goal in mind; one book to connect the world. From its humble beginnings, the GRA has grown to make a truly global connection with more than 4,000,000 students having participated.

WHAT IS IT?

The premise is simple; we pick a book to read aloud to our students during a set 6-week period and during that time we try to make as many global connections as possible. Each teacher decides how much time they would like to dedicate and how involved they would like to be. Some people choose to connect with just one class, while others go for as many as possible. The scope and depth of the project is up to the teachers involved. While there are commonly used methods such as Skype, Twitter, WriteAbout or Flipgrid, and Kahoot, there are many other ways to connect!

WHEN IS IT?

Once a year, starting in early October and running through mid-November. Both EF 6A and EF 6B have participated in this year's GRA. This year's book for grade 6 was "Refugee" by Alan Gratz. The book follows the story of 3 different children, with one common goal - to escape. The students have connected with other classrooms around the world, sharing in reading responses through "Padlet", a postcard exchange with over 40 schools through North America, and a mystery "Padlet" where the students use clues provided to figure out where other schools are located.

Whole School:

- We had "Stranger" in for Inuit Games, Myths & Legends, and Visual Arts for grades 1-6; the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre (OICC) will be back to do the Inuit Kindergarten Interactive presentation, Inuit Games, and visual arts (for the kindergarten students) the week of Dec. 10th.