



May 2022 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Well it is May and it appears Spring has finally arrived!! These sunny days ahead will do a lot of good for everyone. We will get to spend more time outside exploring, and learning. This seems like the longest and toughest winter we have had in a long time, but better days are ahead. I hope everyone is managing as best they can considering all of the water on the ground. After this week, I am hopeful much of it will be gone into the ground or sky. Puddles are fun and all—but many of our students are looking forward to a dry game of soccer or tag outside!

This Friday we will be having our Jump Rope For Heart event at the school throughout the day. All students and classrooms will be participating in high intensity jumping, hopping, and skipping activities for about an hour. Through these mainly aerobic activities, our children will learn the importance of heart health, and leading an active lifestyle. A big part of this event is fundraising monies for the Heart & Stroke Foundation. We have set a goal of \$2000 this year. At press time, we have raised \$500 so we still have a ways to go. If we reach our goal all students will get a pizza lunch. Please consider making a donation—refer to the letter that was sent via email last week for details on how to donate.

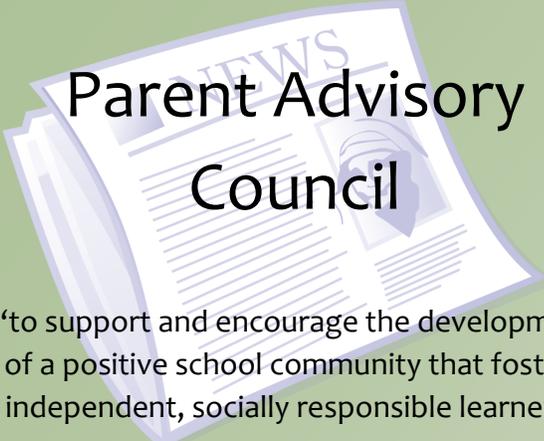
Our Middle Years Badminton team has been practicing and developing over the last 3 weeks. There have been so many improvements in terms of skill development to date. We have a number of after school games planned leading up to our divisional tournament which will be taking place on May 19th in Stonewall.

On Wednesday May 25th we will be having a playground meeting at the school to talk about the next phase of our playground revitalization project. We encourage all parents and community members that have ideas or suggestions to come to this meeting. We have all done a great job in when it comes to fundraising, and now it is time for us to decide on what a next step will look like. Exciting times!

These last approximately 40 school days are an important time of year. With us losing 13 school days due to inclement weather in addition to other absences, we have many learning targets to meet before June 30th. It is important our students are at school the majority of these days unless they are sick. We will be planning many field trips and other fun activities and we want all of our students to take part. Please make every effort to ensure your child is at school as much as possible for the remainder of the school year.

Yours in education,

Tim Lee



Parent Advisory Council

“to support and encourage the development of a positive school community that fosters independent, socially responsible learners”

Hot Lunch

A new fundraiser initiative...and something fun for the kids! Our first hot lunch is from CCL—chicken bites, wedges and a drink. Please see the order form for options.

Order forms can be found at the end of the Newsletter (gold sheet). Please have orders returned by May 13th. Hot lunch will be served on May 27th.

Playground

The playground committee is hoping to hold its first official meeting on May 25th @ 5:30. An email will go out to those who have expressed interest in helping. If you are unable to attend that day but would still like to help, please make sure you let us know.

It is exciting to get things started!

Meetings

Our next meeting is:

Date: Monday, June 6th
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: School Library

Everyone is welcome to participate in our meetings! If you are unable to attend in person but would still like to take part in the meeting, please contact Lynnette at the email below for information.



Fundraising

Pursuant to Lottery License #4610 issued by the RM of Woodlands, our 50/50 draw was held on Friday, April 29th, 2022. The winning ticket was # 274. Congratulations to Stephanie Elskamp who won \$2,507.50.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported our fundraising efforts this year.

We look forward to another successful year next year.

Volunteer

We are looking for energetic individuals who are willing to join our PAC group. We work together to raise funds for the continued development of our playground and assist the school with various events. For more information on how to volunteer, please contact Lynnette Lindell @ 204-982-9372 or by email at lynnette@lansard.ca



**Woodlands Parent Advisory Council
April 2022 Meeting Minutes**

- Present:** Lynnette Lindell; Billie Jean Oliver, Tara-Lee Koss and Tim Lee
- Called to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 4:50 pm
- Minutes:** March 2022 Minutes were read. Lynnette moved to have the Minutes accepted as read; Tara-Lee 2nd the motion.
- Treasurer's Report:**
- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Regular PAC Chequeing: | \$ 5,686.45 |
| Playground Chequeing: | \$ 4,384.24 |
| Playground Savings: | \$19,510.58 |
- Fundraising:**
- 50/50 –we have, to date, collected just over ½ of the tickets and money; we still have a number of tickets that came back unsold; still one week to go before draw so hopefully able to sell more;
 - Townes Apparel – Lynnette provided information; will obtain order form and do it as a fall fundraiser
 - Monthly Hot Lunch – Billie Jean raised the idea of doing a hot lunch once a month. Cost would be more just to cover the cost of the lunch not an actual “fundraiser”. Each month would be something different. Will start in May to see how well it is received; and have hotdogs and burgers in June.
- Principal's Report:**
- Staffing numbers for teachers have been finalized; we are status quo;
 - Will have Kindergarten; 2 grades of 1/2's; 3/4; 4/5; 5/6 and 7/8;
 - Kindergarten will be Mrs. Ross; 1/2 – Ms. Peltz; 1/2 – split between Mrs. Hoas and Mrs. Ross; 3/4 – Ms. Gray; 4/5 – Mr. McLean; and 7/8 – Mrs. O'Keke (hired for Mrs. Fisher's mat leave)
 - EA numbers not yet finalized
 - Badminton for Grades 7/8's have started
 - Jump Rope for Heart will take place on May 6th
 - Playground is muddy – need to wear rubber boots
 - April 29th – is Grad Pictures and spring pictures
 - June 27th – Grade 8 “grad” – celebration of learning
 - June 22nd is the fun in the sun; June 24th will be the rain date
 - Discussed having an overnight camping trip for the 7/8's as they've missed out on the ski trip the last couple of years;
 - Have two new students starting on May 2nd.
 - Will look into swimming for next year
- Old Business:** Playground – set a meeting for May 25th @ 5:30; an email will be sent to those who have replied that they are interested in helping; suggested that we invite Lana Cowling-Mason to the next meeting to assist in finding and applying for grant applications to move onto next phases of playground development
- New Business:** PAC Constitution – ran through the proposed changes. All looked good, however, an additional change was requested. Billie Jean to type out and print and prepare for reading at next meeting;
- Next Meeting:** The next meeting is schedule for Monday, June 6th @ 5:00 pm in school library
- Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm

Mrs. Hoas's Grade 1/2s

ELA: In ELA we have been working on creating our own stories. We started off by creating a story map, writing a rough draft, editing and finally publishing a good copy. It was amazing to see how creative each student was in developing their own story.



Math: Our class has continued to develop their math fact fluency for both addition and subtraction. Grade 1s are working on addition and subtraction from 0-18 and Grade 2s are working on double digit addition and subtraction. The month of April we also learned about measurement both standard and non-standard.

Social Studies: During the last month we have been studying our community and maps. First, we started off designing our own zoo maps and community map. We went on a walk to see different buildings and community helpers in Woodlands. After we researched important components of a community and what we should include in our own. We finally we built our own community. Students each selected an important part of the community, created it with recyclable materials, painted the structure, made sure it was to scale, and put the entire community together.



3/4M CLASSROOM NEWS



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It's hard to believe that we are moving into the month of May! Only 2 more months until the end of the school year. That's hard to believe! Let's hope that April showers and yes, snow, bring May flowers!

Many fun and exciting learning events are happening in the 3/4M classroom.

In ELA, we started a novel study on *Charlotte's Web*. Ask your child what this novel is all about and you should get some interesting responses. We have also been doing a lot of writing this month – including summaries of fiction and non-fiction texts. One writing prompt asked students to pick an ideal age that they would like to be. Wow! What great responses we all shared as a class. Another writing prompt had students discuss what they would do if they won \$1 million. Buying a mansion and fancy cars were top of the list but so was sharing the money with family and friends, and giving money to charity were also mentioned. We definitely are a class of caring individuals!

In Math, students are working hard on multiplication skills, mental math strategies, problem solving, reading digital and analog clocks, and playing many games that make learning math fun!

In Social Studies, students just recently completed a continent and country project – making me want to travel to many of these locations when I retire! In Science, we have started our next unit on Materials and Structures. Students will have many opportunities to build structures in class – a hands-on approach to learning!

Other notable events that took place in our classroom in the months of March and April included transplanting our living plants into new pots with Mrs. Marttila leading the class in this endeavour; an Oak Hammock Marsh presentation on reptiles and amphibians; a skating field trip to Warren; and Jump Rope for Heart.

We are so happy that warmer weather has arrived so that we can be outside more often! A reminder to dress for the weather and bring an extra pair of socks and even pants to school as the field and playground areas are still very wet and muddy.



Grade 7/8 Classroom News

I cannot believe we are already into May! Where have the last 8 months gone!?

In ELA we have been very busy! From a creative writing unit to Sci fi unit to novel study, we've been busy!

The students got a chance to design and create their "dream home" as a part of our creative writing unit. Let me tell you I would love to live in any of these homes! Some of them included infinity shaped pools, slides inside the house, dirt bike tracks, tree houses, and more!

We then did a Science Fiction short story and film unit where we looked at varying aspects of sci fi; AI, robots, and aliens, oh my!

Currently we are halfway through our novel study. We are reading the novel *Restart* by Gordon Korman. This book focuses on themes such as rediscovering oneself, bullying, empathy, second chances, and much more. This novel is really engaging, where our main character, Chase, a grade 8 boy falls off the roof of his house and gets amnesia. Chase then is trying to discover who he was and who he is becoming. Ask your child more about the book and they can fill you in on how much Chase's character has grown from the beginning to middle of the novel. We should be finished our novel in the next couple of weeks!

In Social Studies we have been learning about Ancient Greece. We have focused on the geography, different philosophers, and the different types of government. Next up we will learn about Ancient Rome and then the Middle Ages!

Our grade 8s just had their Farewell photos and I can't believe they are off to high school in just a few months! This year has flown by and I know the next two months are going to go just as fast.



HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD WITH... SPELLING



DOES SPELLING REALLY MATTER? AREN'T SOME PEOPLE JUST BORN TO BE POOR SPELLERS?

You may have heard that spelling doesn't really matter. After all, we all have spell-check, right? But did you know that you have to be able to spell at about a 5th grade reading level in order for spell check to be effective?

Spelling is important, and children are not destined to be poor spellers. All spelling can improve.

When thinking about spelling, it is important to remember this: spelling is about matching the sounds (phonemes) in our language, to the symbols (graphemes) that match those sounds.

WHAT IS TAPPING SOUNDS?

Tapping your sounds means touching something each time you say a sound. For example, when I say cat, I can touch three blocks and say /c/-/a/-/t/. I can also just hold up a finger for each new sound. This helps students to see and understand how many sounds must be represented in a word.

WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN I DO?

Top tip: When your child is spelling, have them do the following:

1. Say the word.
2. Tap the sounds in the word (If the word is wish, they'd say /w/-/i/-/sh/.)
3. Say the sounds as they spell.

This one simple tip can give you BIG payout when it comes to spelling.

Top tip for more advanced spellers: When your child is spelling, have them do the following:

1. Say the word.
2. Tap the syllables. (Ex: Operation would be op-er-a-tion.)
3. Draw a line for each syllable.
4. Say the sounds as they spell.

Guidance

We have been very busy in our guidance classes this spring! I can't believe we are near the end of the school year with summer soon approaching. Where has this year gone?

All grade 3-8 classes continue to work on activities around developing a Growth Mindset in the classroom and doing their best not to give up! A lot of students have been using growth mindset language in their classrooms and have a positive outlook towards challenges as they are allowing their brain to grow!! While we continue to incorporate Growth Mindset into our classrooms, students also focus on other topics in their classrooms during our guidance blocks.

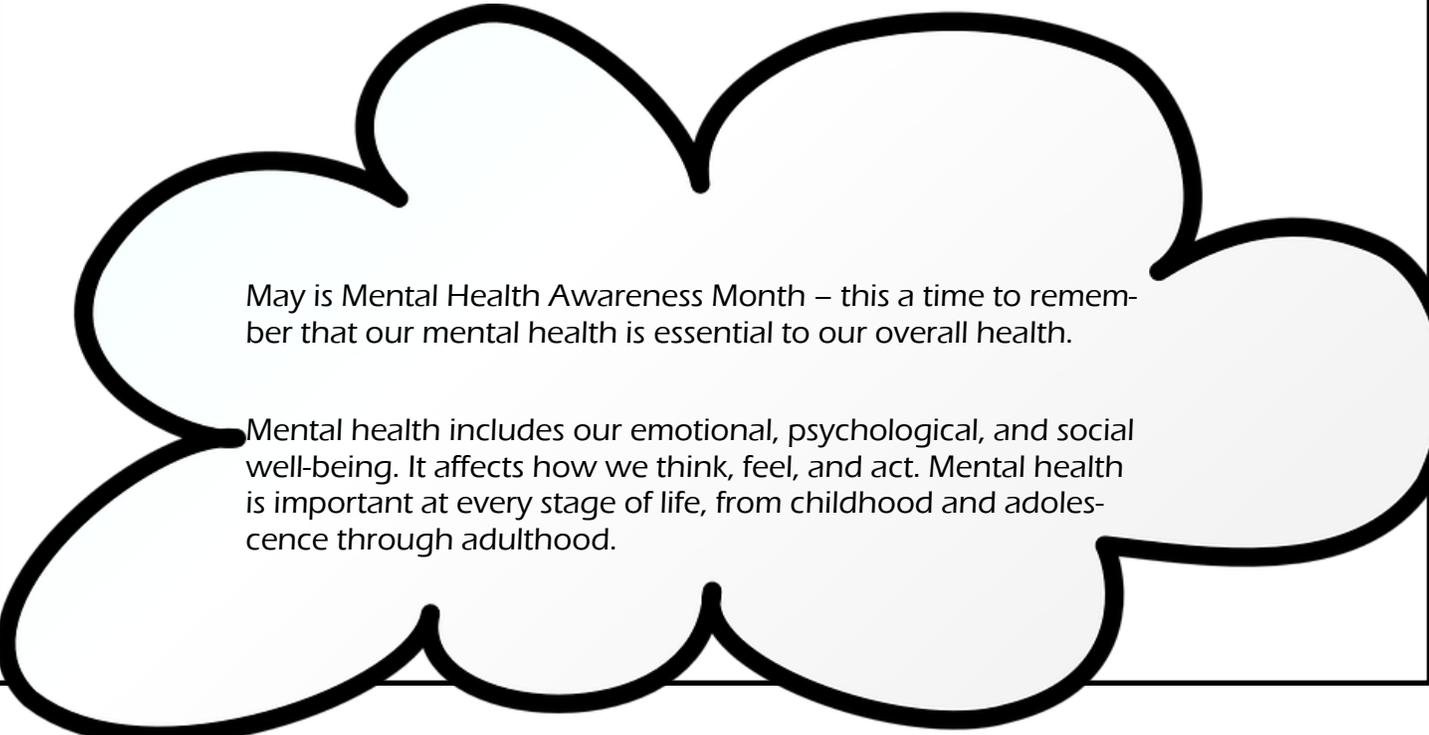
Our Kinders and Grade 1/2s have been focusing on little deals vs big deals and how we can problem solve.

Grade 3/4 students most recently have been focusing on good personal space and how to respect others comfort bubbles! We also just started Thrival Kits which promotes positive mental health.

Grade 5/6 students have been working on Thrival Kits as well, where we are learning mindfulness strategies and ways to help our brain feel healthy and take care of ourselves!

Grade 7/8 students have been working on cyber awareness and cyber safety. With May being Mental Health Awareness Month, grade 7/8 students will be participating in a program called, *Speak Up*, which focuses on Mental health literacy, stigma reduction, and empowerment of students.

With summer approaching, students will also be given tips and strategies for personal safety, using the *Kids in the Know Program* helps students build skills that increase their personal safety.

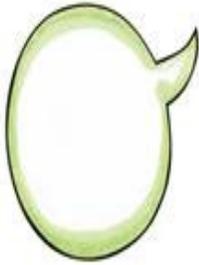


May is Mental Health Awareness Month – this a time to remember that our mental health is essential to our overall health.

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.

Keys to emotional well-being

Use
positive
self-talk



Remind
yourself that
you're a work
in progress



Work
towards
your goals
& dreams



Stay
physically
active

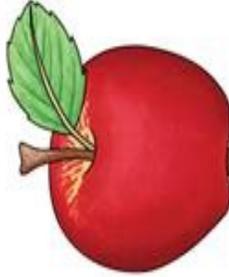


Get enough
sleep and
rest

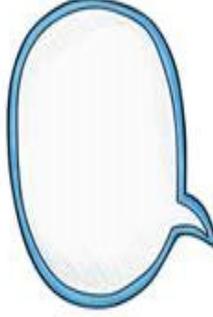


Spend time
with family
& friends

Eat a
balanced
diet



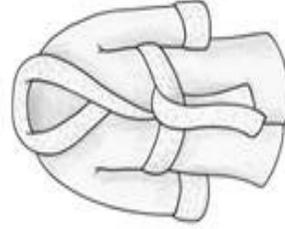
Talk about
your
thoughts &
feelings



Do
activities
you love



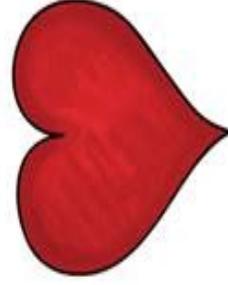
Care
for
yourself



Keep learning
things that
interest you



Give
back to
others



Pathway
2 SUCCESS

May 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|------------------|--|-----------------|--|-----|
| 1 | 2 Day 5 | 3 Day 6 K | 4 Day 1  Early Dismissal | 5 Day 2 K | 6 Day 3  Jump Rope for Heart | 7 |
| 8  Mother's Day | 9 Day 4 K | 10 Day 5 | 11 Day 6 K | 12 Day 1 | 13 Day 2 K | 14 |
| 15 | 16 Inservice No Classes | 17 Day 3 | 18 Day 4 K | 19 Day 5 | 20 Day 6 K  The CURE Foundation National Denim Day | 21 |
| 22 | 23  Victoria Day No School | 24 Day 1 | 25 Day 2 K | 26 Day 3 | 27 Day 4 K Hot Lunch | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Day 5 | 31 Day 6 K | | | | |