



North Cavan Public School
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<http://northcavan.kprdsb.ca>

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February 2021

Principal's Message:

Things have been going smoothly at school and the kids are back into a good school routine with their teachers and support staff. The students have been very patient wearing their masks both inside the school and out in the yard. This is a good thing because it keeps everyone safer from catching and/or sharing Covid.

The weather has resumed normal winter temperatures (freezing cold) so please continue to send the kids with all the winter gear such as hats, mitts, snow-pants and a warm winter coat. They need these items each day and they enjoy recess when they are appropriately dressed for the cold.

To help break up the winter doldrums we have some fun things planned for the kids this month. First we have booked Nancy Thompson to come and do some outdoor education games with the kids. Since we have lots of snow still, we are hoping the kids can try using snowshoes again. Each class will get 100 minutes outside with Nancy to have some fun.

Valentine's Day falls on a Sunday this year so we will be celebrating it at school on **Friday, February 12th**. That day, we will encourage the kids to wear red, white and pink. Due to Covid, we have to manage Valentine's cards a little differently. If your child wants to give their classmates Valentine's cards, teachers are asking that **all Valentine's cards be brought to school in a baggie on Monday, February 8th**. That way Teachers can quarantine them and then give them to the kids safely in their own baggie on the Friday. Any cards that come in after Monday will have to wait until the following week to be distributed. On February 12th we ask that you **not** send treats to school for Covid safety reasons. Instead, Mr. Twiss will make sure that everyone gets a small nut and gluten free treat that day. We are also planning spirit days on **Friday, February 19th – Sports Jersey or Spirit Wear Day and Friday February 26th – Pyjama Day.**

In addition, we will be having our annual speech contest for the students who enjoy participating in this competition. Some of the students have been asking for a bit more time to do their speeches so we have moved the date to Thursday, February 25th for Gr. 4-6 students and Friday, February 26th for the grade 2-3 students. There will be school prizes for the winners in each division.

Sincerely,

Mr. Twiss

Kindergarten Registration:

Please help us spread the word! Kindergarten registration for the 2021 – 2022 school year has begun. If you know someone who has a child to register for September, please encourage them to do so now. We want to make sure that we will have optimal staffing for our Kindergarten's in September and staffing decisions are made soon based on enrolment.



If your child will be four years old by December 31, 2021 they are eligible for Year 1 Kindergarten. If they are five years old by December 31, 2021 they are eligible for Year 2 Kindergarten.

Please contact the office to register your child and share this news with friends and neighbours who have kindergarten aged children.

Necessary Documents:

- Proof of address (Tax bill, Utility bill etc.)
- Birth Certificate or registration
- Record of immunization

Think Outside:

On Friday, February 5th, Monday February 8th and Tuesday February 9th, Nancy Thompson, local outdoor educator, will visit with our classes. Nancy Thompson will be bringing along a class set of snowshoes that we can use to travel around the schoolyard,

play nature games, and learn about the importance of snowshoes to Canada's history. Students will be outside for 100 minutes, so it is important that your child arrives at school with warm clothing for the day.

You can visit her website at:
<http://www.thinkoutside.life/>

- Fri., Feb. 5th -Mr. Heuvel (Gr. 1)
-Mrs. Bate/Mrs. Szusz (JK/SK)
- Mon. Feb. 8th -Mrs. Woollacott/Ms. Moore (JK/SK)
-Mrs. Moncrieff (Gr. 3/4)
-Mr. Woollacott (Gr. 5/6)
- Tue., Feb. 9th -Mrs. McGrattan (Gr. 1/2)
-Mrs. Morrallee (Gr. 2/3)
-Mrs. Caravaggio (Gr. 4/5)

Pink Shirt Day - February 24th

Wednesday, February 24th is 'Pink Shirt Day' in support of BULLYING PREVENTION. If we all do our part to treat people well, and be aware of the words and actions that we choose, we can help reduce or maybe even eliminate bullying!



We encourage all students to wear their pink shirts that day or something else that is pink, if possible.

Stay Safe on the Internet

You can use the link below to explore quick tips and how-to's that explain what you can do to stay safe and secure on the web.

<http://www.google.ca/goodtoknow/>



Character Education (FEBRUARY)

Our character education attribute for February is Fairness: I am sensitive to the needs of individuals. I include others and value their uniqueness. I celebrate diversity. I treat people with the dignity and consideration with which I would like to be treated. I gather as much information as possible in order to make a decision that is just.

School Council News

The next North Cavan School Council meeting is on Wednesday, February 10th at 6:30 p.m. via WebEx. Parents are always welcome to join School Council meetings. Just email Mr. Twiss if you would like to join this month's meeting and he will send you the link.

The School Council is pleased to be offering the 'Think Outside' program this February for all students. This will hopefully give our students some fun in lieu of skating and ski trips this winter!

Winter Weather

We are still having some very cold days. Please remember to send your child with appropriate warm clothing, including boots, hat, mitts and snow pants. The sliding hill continues to be very popular when there is snow. The teachers take their classes out for physical education one class at a time to enjoy the snow hill using the school's 'Krazy Carpets'. This way everyone can get a turn using the hill in a Covid safe manner.

Snowball throwing and kicking snow at others is not permitted at North Cavan for safety reasons. Students caught throwing snowballs or deliberately kicking snow at someone will lose privileges.



Covid Safe School Initiatives:

All parents are asked to please buzz at the door when you visit the school. We are not permitted to allow parents in the building right now except by appointment when absolutely needed. If you are picking your child up early please remain outside and we will bring them out to you. If your child is being picked up at the end of the day instead of riding the bus please meet them outside at the gate. We don't wish to have children walking through the parking lot alone for safety reasons.

Absent Child: When your child is going to be absent or late, please be sure to call the **Student Absence Reporting System at 1-844-434-8119** or go to studentabsence.kprdsb.ca



Inclement Weather

Snow Days or Ice Days are still a possibility. If you suspect bus cancellations please listen to any of the local radio stations for updates. Decisions regarding bus cancellations are usually made by 6:00 a.m. **This year because of Covid restrictions, if school buses are cancelled in the morning, schools are closed to students for the day.** Parents/Guardians can

also check www.stsco.ca and click on the small yellow bus to check for bus cancellations.

Good Character Makes a Difference

This month's character trait is **FAIRNESS**

"LIVE SO THAT WHEN YOUR CHILDREN THINK OF FAIRNESS, CARING AND INTEGRITY, THEY THINK OF YOU." (H. Jackson Brown Jr.)

At North Cavan we try to help create children of good character by encouraging students to be **responsible, respectful, honest and acting with integrity.**

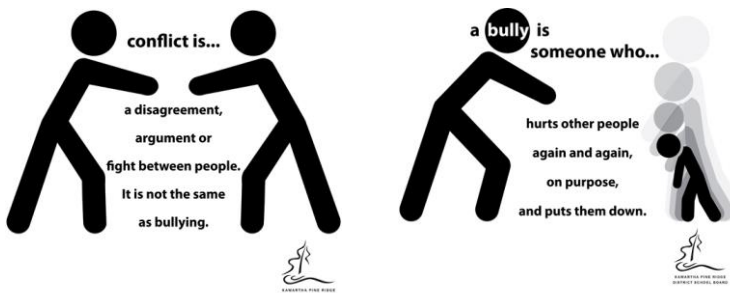
THINK before you SPEAK

Is it.....

T rue
H elpful
I nspiring
N ecessary
K ind

If we all use our words more carefully we'll be less likely to hurt someone with those words.

Information for parents: Bullying and Conflict:



A bully is someone who...hurts people again and again ON PURPOSE

Not only are bullies persistent, but they intend to cause hurt of some kind by their actions. The Ministry of Education's definition of bullying points out clearly that the bully either knows, or should know, the hurtful effect the behaviour will have on others. The Ministry's definition states:

"The behaviour is intended by the pupil to have the effect of, or the pupil ought to know that the behaviour would be likely to have the effect of:

- causing harm, fear, or distress to another individual, including physical, psychological, social or academic harm to the individual person's reputation or harm to the individual's property; or
- creating a negative environment at a school for another individual."

Sometimes it may be hard to tell whether the harm caused was deliberate. When a bully does not appear to know the effect or understand the impact of the behaviour, it is up to the adults in the bully's life to help teach the bully about the impact of the actions. This is one reason why KPR schools focus on empathy through a variety of day-to-day programs from the time students start Junior Kindergarten, until they graduate. It is also why schools focus on restorative practices in cases where someone has been harmed. With the parents' or guardians' permission, the school can arrange and oversee a safe, structured, restorative conversation in which the bully gets to hear from the student harmed about the hurtful impact the bullying had. Many schools have found the restorative approach can go a long way to stopping the bullying.

If you have concerns that your child or teen is being bullied, please tell us, as soon as possible. Please email or speak with the teacher, principal or vice-principal.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

February 1 st	-P.A. Day
February 2 nd	-Groundhog Day (Have we been here before??)
February 5 th , 8 th , 9 th	-Think Outside Days
February 8 th	-Valentine's Cards are due to the Teachers
February 10 th	-6:30 p.m. WebEx School Council Meeting
February 12 th	-Valentine's Day at N.C.P.S. (Wear your Red, White and Pink for Spirit!)
February 15 th	-Family Day Holiday (No School)
February 19 th	-Term 1 Report Cards Home via Edsby
	-Spirit Day: Wear your Favourite Sports Jersey or School Spirit Wear
February 24 th	-Pink Shirt Day
February 25 th	-Speech Day for Grade 4-6 students
February 26 th	-Speech Day for Grade 2-3 students
	-Spirit Day: Pyjama and Small Stuff Day
March 10 th	-6:30 p.m. WebEx School Council Meeting
March 12 th	-March Break Starts
March 22 nd	-First Day back after March Break

Happy Valentine's Day Everyone!

