



Wortley Road News



Principal: C. Santa
Secretary: J. Benedict
Superintendent: P. Skinner
Trustees: L. Pizzolato & S. Polhill
TVDSB Director: M. Fisher

Phone 519-452-8720 ext 2
Fax: 519-452-8729
Attendance: 1-844-305-3756
www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger
www.wortley.tvdsb.ca

Dear Wortley families;

Although this has been a very different beginning to the year, we have had a great start-up to date! Thank you to all our families for their cooperation and patience as we have worked to put into place new safety protocols. We will continue to adjust and tweak routines and practices as necessary to ensure that the safety of our students and staff remain our number one priority.

Safety Measures

We appreciate all of our families who are continuing to use the government's online screening tool prior to going to school each day, and for reinforcing the wearing of masks indoors for all our students. If your child is sick and needs to stay home, please consult the Health Unit decision tree found here:
<https://www.healthunit.com/covid-19-schools>

We have regular mandatory hand washing/sanitization occurring throughout the day, and student are continually supported and reminded to practice physical distancing. Starting this week, students will be asked to wear masks outdoors when they engage in closer contact activities like playing team sports or playing on the climbers where physical distancing is harder to maintain.

Our students stay in their classrooms during the day unless they are brought outside for outdoor learning, which is occurring regularly for many classes. There are no more than three teachers who are teaching in each class. During our two breaks, eating times and outdoor times are staggered to ensure we have a reduced number of students on the yard at recess time. The Kindergarten classes are grouped together for play on the yard, the K/1, 1/2, and grade 2 classes are grouped together, while our grade 3's and 4's make another cohort. Our last two cohorts consist of our 5's 6's and Accelerate class, and the last cohort is made up of the two 7/8 classes.

How You Can Help

Families can help us by ensuring their child(ren) comes to school each day with two personally labelled masks: one to wear, and the other one as a replacement if the one worn is soiled.

In addition to this, please ensure your child(ren) brings a filled and labelled water bottle from home.

Also, it is important that our students come dressed for the weather, whether it be sun, rain, or snow, as we want our students to spend a lot of time outdoors. If necessary, please send your child to school with additional clothing.

Lastly, when you come to drop off your child(ren) in the morning or pick them up in the afternoon, please be aware of other families around you so that you can ensure the two metre distancing as much as possible, especially on the sidewalks.

School Council, and Home and School Association

If you are interested in getting involved with our school this year, a great way to do this is by joining our School Council and/or Home and School Association. This year, involvement will be a little different as meetings will be held virtually. Meetings typically happen on the first Tuesday of the month, with Home and School convening at 6:00 p.m. and School Council meeting right after at 7:00 p.m. There is information regarding both Home and School in this newsletter. Nomination forms for School Council will be coming home shortly. Parents and guardians may nominate themselves or another parent or guardian for a position on the executive or as a member-at-large. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school for more information.

Upcoming Events this Week

Terry Fox Run on Tuesday: Tomorrow students will be able to participate in a run/walk for Terry Fox within the school grounds and within cohorts in recognition of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope. Everyone is invited to wear red and white for Terry Fox that day. More information about The Terry Fox Run is included in this newsletter. Thank you to Mrs. Howard for organizing this event for our students!

Orange Shirt Day on Wednesday, September 30th: Our children are encouraged to wear orange for Orange Shirt Day in recognition of the harm caused by the residential school system and our commitment to heal and grow together. O Canada will be played in Cree, and we will follow this with a moment's silence in recognition of the children and families who experienced loss and hardship due to the residential school system.

Please do not hesitate to phone or email the school to discuss any concerns or questions that you may have. We value your input, and we appreciate your involvement and support! You are also invited to follow us on Twitter at @WortleyTVDSB .

On behalf of the staff here at Wortley Road PS, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and healthy year ahead!

Corinne Santa
Principal

Attendance Line for Lates and Absences

If your child is going to be late or is absent from school, please call the attendance line at 1-844-305-3756 to report it. Please leave the name of the child, their teacher's name, and the reason for their late or absence. This will be helpful to our secretary, Mrs. Benedict, when she is taking attendance and is making safe school phone calls. The safety and well-being of our students is a high priority for us; your support of this request is much appreciated!

Planner Use, Code of Conduct and Dress Code

Please set aside time each evening to review your child's planner for homework, assignments, and other school related information. This is a organizational and communication tool that assists our students in developing their organizational habits, as well as facilitating communication between home and school. The planner is also important to refer to for our school's Code of Conduct and Dress Code. The Dress Code is reviewed each year by our School Council. Both are important to review with your child(ren) at home. Please note that for the safety of others, students are not permitted to wear roller blades, or to ride skateboards or scooters on school property.

Wortley Road Home and School Association

Our Home and School Association is a parent run group along with a teacher representative and our principal. In the past, we have undertaken many fundraising initiatives such as movie nights, fun night, hot lunches, running two annual vendor markets, selling school spirit wear and much more! The funds raised have helped our students at Wortley Road PS. Home and School has purchased new smart boards, chromebooks, iPads, furniture and equipment for the Learning Commons, supported grade 8 graduation, funded buses for field trips and provided money for each class at the beginning of the school year.

We would love to have you come and join us for a meeting and welcome new members and ideas anytime. We, as a group, have always met once a month in the Learning Commons but given our current situation we will not be able to do that. Home and School will keep you posted as to what might happen and how we will go about our group meetings. Until then, we hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the year!

Thanks,

Wortley Road PS Home and School

Terry Fox Run Day: Tuesday, September 29

On Tuesday, September 29th, our students will take turns in their recess cohorts running and walking around the perimeter of the school yard in recognition of the 40th anniversary of the Terry Fox Run Marathon of Hope. We are not able to collect donations at this time, but we encourage our families to make a donation online to the Terry Fox Foundation at terryfox.org/donate. Please encourage your children to dress appropriately, bring a water bottle and to wear red and white on Tuesday in support of this event!

Mrs. Howard, Terry Fox Run Day Organizer

Habits to Start the Year

Good habits are important to a successful year. Some points to consider are listed below.

Sleep is vitally important to health, learning and mental well being. Sleep experts recommend that children three to five years old need 11 to 13 hours, children five to 10 years old need 10 to 11 hours, and pre-teen/teenagers 10 to 17 years need eight-and-a-half to nine-and-a-half hours of sleep each night. A regular bed time and routine is helpful. Preparing a healthy homework snack and preparing to do homework right after school ensures the homework gets done early and is a priority. Students should be off electronics an hour before bed, and no electronics should be stored or kept overnight in their bedrooms. A recharging station should be in an area like the living room or kitchen.

Eat vegetables and fruit together. Students typically eat more grains and proteins like meats and cheese. Aim to have your child eat some fresh vegetables and fruits daily.

Exercise helps with mood, thinking and performing in school, and sleeping. Children are typically more active when they are younger, but sometimes need encouragement to exercise daily as they get older. Encourage your child to do some exercise every day, like a walk around the block after school. If you are able, aim to exercise with your child!

Hello Wortley Road Families from the Learning Commons!

The Wortley Library Learning Commons is up and running on Monday, September 28. The Thames Valley District School Board has developed new protocols to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and families. I am very excited to be the new Teacher-Librarian of Wortley Road. All students will have the opportunity to take out 1-2 books at a time. With regards to Library visits, I will be visiting the Kindergarten and Primary students in their classes. For Junior and Intermediate students, classes will visit the Library in smaller groups in order to follow the new protocols. Once a book has been returned to the Library, the books are required to be in quarantine for 36 hours before being checked-in and put back onto the shelves for circulation

We want the Library Learning Commons to continue to be a place for collaborative and interactive learning, where students can learn and have fun.

Looking forward to an exciting year of new challenges,

Mrs. C. Rimbault
Teacher-Librarian

Wortley Spiritwear!

We are looking into the possibility of having Wortley Spiritwear available for purchase. The plan would be to give students and their families an opportunity to purchase various apparel such as t-shirts, hats, toques, hoodies and more.

All orders would be done all online. Families will have the opportunity to pick up the merchandise from the store or have the merchandise delivered right to your door.

More information will be available soon.



Home Connections in Mathematics

It's an exciting time in mathematics right now. In late June, the Ministry of Education announced the release of the new elementary mathematics curriculum for grades 1 to 8. This new elementary math curriculum describes the knowledge and skills that students are expected to learn in each grade. It is organized into six areas: number, algebra, data, spatial sense and financial literacy, with social-emotional learning skills in mathematics and mathematical processes being taught as part of the learning through all strands. Social-emotional learning skills help students build confidence in their math skills and think critically to support their overall well-being.

The Ministry has revised the assessment and reporting procedures for the math curriculum. There will be only one mark for math, instead of providing a separate mark for each strand.

Mathematics is an integral part of our daily lives. Therefore, The Curriculum Context outlines the vision, principles and goals of the new mathematics curriculum. We want students to see the value and beauty of mathematics. There is a lot of work to be done to support our students in learning mathematics and parents/guardians play an important part in the learning process.

The following link outlines the Roles and Responsibilities in Mathematics Education in Mathematics Education for all stakeholders including students, parents, teachers, principals, and community members.

Resources and additional information can be found on the Ministry's Curriculum and Resources website:

- [New Elementary Math Curriculum](#)
- [Key Changes – Ontario Mathematics Curriculum](#)

We will continue to provide any updates and support from the Ministry to all our families.