

KEEWATIN PRAIRIE SCHOOL

October Newsletter 2023

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[Keewatin Prairie Website](#)
SAFE ARRIVAL: 1.855.278.4513





ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

It seems the right month with Thanksgiving on the horizon to say how thankful Ms. Perrun and I are to work here at Keewatin Prairie. Everywhere we turn, we see commitment to children and to rich learning opportunities. There has been much enthusiasm as students have engaged in their activities this past month. A big thank you to all of our families for your support and your cooperation as we came back to school. We continue to send our newsletter out by 'School Messenger' (e-mail) as an alternative to the paper copy as well it is posted on our website. Please ensure your e-mail is up to date so that you do not miss important information.

Each school in the WSD follows the division protocol for preparing for school emergencies. This includes: bus evacuation drills (Bus Ridership), school evacuation drills (e.g. fire drills and relocation practice) and lockdown drills. We have now completed our first fire drill (out of 10 per year), two lockdown practices, and our evacuation practice to the Adolescent Parent Centre at the end of our playground. Students did a marvellous job listening and following instructions as we discussed the process.

Congratulations to James in Grade 9. He competed in the 2800m (2.8km) event at the Cross-Country meet at the Old Ex Grounds this past week and he placed 13th in his category. We are so proud of him.

A special thanks to Mr. Tam this month as he has filled in for us in the elementary gym program. Ms. Desrosier will be returning for October and she will be pleased with the great start the students have had. We wish Mr. Tam all the best. In staffing news, this month we welcomed Ms. Lefebvre to the clerical team in the Office. We are happy to have our Office team solidified.

Once more this year we will be part of the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry Variety Children's Dental Outreach Program. This program offers free dental service to our students who need. We have had our initial screening and you will be invited to participate if your child is requiring dental work. Children are transported to the Dental College and are provided supervision from our staff.

September 29 marks an important day for us all as we recognized the detrimental and systemic affects of the residential school system and its impact on so many children and their families. All classrooms have been having age appropriate discussions from understanding diversity, belonging, love and community to understanding the history and how we move forward in a positive way. We know that the conversations and the work will continue throughout the year and we are very proud of the students and the conversations.

This coming month we look forward to regular Halloween parties in our school. We will have a short parade to kick off the afternoon parties in our Big Gym and we welcome our families to join us at 1:15 pm on October 31.

A reminder that there are two 'No School' days in October: on Election Day-October 03 and on Friday, October 20. Have a great month!

MRS. DUCHNYCZ AND MS. PERRUN

HALLOWEEN



Halloween is one of the most anticipated days during the year!
At Keewatin Prairie elementary students will enjoy 'Halloweek' activities in the gym all week, a whole school parade in our big gym at 1:15 pm as well as individual classroom parties.



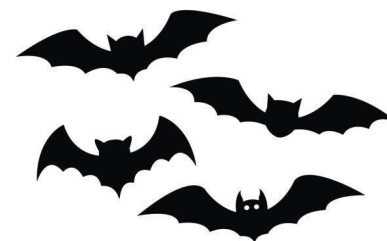
Notes will be coming home from elementary teachers regarding parties and food that is permitted in their classroom. We are particularly aware of allergies this time of the year.



COSTUMES

We ask that you respect the following guidelines. They are in place to keep our school day positive and fun for all.

- No blood or gore on costumes or masks; no scary masks
- No weapons of any kind (swords, knives, guns, etc.)



Thank You for Your Support!

SCHOOL REMINDERS

PLAYGROUND REMINDER:

We have noticed that students are arriving to school earlier than 8:30 am in the morning. Please note that we do not have any supervision on the playground until this time. Our Breakfast Program begins at 8:30 am and we permit students into the school for this purpose only. Our bell rings to come in is at 8:50 am. Please ensure that your child does not come to school prior to 8:30 am. Thank you for your support. ☺

HALLOWEEN FOOD GUIDELINES:

We will be having our Halloween Parties on Tuesday, October 31. Students may bring their own individual treats to eat or they can bring for their class. Classroom Teachers will be sending you information later on in the month about class decisions regarding snacks. If you are bringing for the class, please know that food handling protocols are in place. Hand hygiene continues to be in place.

PICTURE DAY:

We will be having Picture Day on Thursday, October 26. This picture day will focus on individual photos only. Lifetouch is our official photographer company and will be sending home proofs in two to three weeks following Picture Day.

Picture Retake Day will be on November 30.

KOATS FOR KIDS:

Need a coat? Koats for Kids (sponsored by United Way) can help! Contact our School Office to request and let us know your child's size. If you are looking for boots, mitts and toques, Koats for Kids can help also; just let us know. We will forward your information and the items will be brought to our school for distribution.

For families needing assistance accessing resources, there is now information on 211. Just dial 211 on your phone for free confidential service-available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Dial 211 or visit mb.211.ca.

You may also call or drop in any afternoon to see Ms. McNabb, our Community Support Worker in the Parent Room. She can help you out

ATTENDANCE SYSTEM
WE USE SAFE ARRIVAL
an automated system to record all student absenteeism. Please call or download the app onto your phone or computer.

by PHONE: 1.855.278.4513

OR

by WEBSITE

[HTTPS://GO.SCHOOLMESSENGER.CA](https://go.schoolmessenger.ca)



ORANGE SHIRT DAY

every child
matters

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

All of our teachers have been having valued conversations with students this past month which will continue throughout the year. Students in Grades 7-9 from Ms. Sands', Mr. Groot's, and Ms. Hunter's classes have been participating in activities this week through The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Our school was selected to participate in a Q&A session via Zoom from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. On Sept. 28 students who were interested, assembled together in Ms. Sands room to continue their learning journey. One of the standout moments of the Zoom event was our students' active participation. They posed thoughtful and probing questions, reflecting a genuine eagerness to learn and engage. The students' enthusiasm and commitment to this vital dialogue was truly commendable.

We are so proud of all of the work this week.



TERRY FOX RUN

Our Terry Fox Run was held at the end of September for all of our Elementary students.

Students ran to support cancer research, just as Terry did with the “Marathon of Hope” in 1980.

Terry Fox was born in Winnipeg in 1958 and students learned about Terry Fox and his achievements and the “Marathon of Hope” through gym class chats, videos and through discussions with classroom teachers.

Next year elementary students will run and we will work to raise funds to help support cancer research.



The miracle of the dream runs on!

TERRY FOX RUN PICS



GRADE 7-9 SPORTS START!

We are happy to report that our Cross Country Team and our Volleyball Teams are up and running and we have great participation.

We are also excited to showcase our new uniforms!

This year our coaches are as follows

Cross Country: Ms. Hunter, Ms. Malandrakis and Mr. Woloski

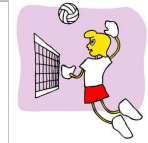
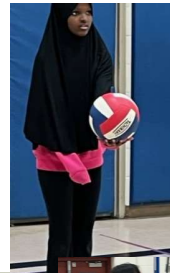
Grade 7 Girls Volleyball: Ms. Bauer

Grade 7 Boys Volleyball: Mr. Woloski

Grade 8 Girls: Ms. Sheppard

Grade 9 Girls: Mr. Ganaden

Grade 9 Boys: Mr. Gullden



KEEWATIN PRAIRIE DRIVING ZONE REMINDERS



Thank you for your support as we become more solidified in our routines here at school.

Please drop your child(ren) off at the playground entrances so that students can enjoy some fresh air and play time before school begins. Staff are on duty at 8:30 am. This will help alleviate congestions and frustrations at our main doors.

All elementary students enter the school from the playground and all Grade 7-9 students enter from the William Avenue doors.

If students are later than our entry times we request then that students come in the main door where they will be buzzed in.

Please always remember to stop, drop and continue on.

Please also remember our 'One-Way' guidelines at entry and dismissal times.

Traffic flows the way the cars park from 3:15-3:45 pm, each Monday to Friday from East to West on Elgin Ave. W. and West to East on William Avenue.

Please also be reminded not to park in our Staff Parking Lot. Even though there may be open spaces, staff may be coming and going to meetings, etc.

Thank you for helping to improve our road safety.



LUNCH PROGRAM

Thanks for a great start! A couple of reminders.

Please ensure all registration forms and payments are returned to school.

If you are still requiring Lunch Program, your child can pick up a registration form for this year from the Office.

Fees are requested on or before the beginning of each month.

Forms not returned or missed payments may affect your child's ability to remain in the Lunch Program. Please inform us if there are any problems.

****Fees are due on or before the first of each month.**

Please do not forget to send utensils if your child requires. We are unable to provide.

**The Lunch Program is now hiring!
If you are interested in supporting us at lunchtime
for an hour, please give us a call.**

Thank you!

Ms. Francisco, Lunch Program Coordinator

*Please phone me at the school or email me
if you have any questions or concerns.

kpcslunchprogram@gmail.com

PARENT COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

Dear Keewatin Prairie families,

*We are excited to share with you that our Parent Council is having a Fundraiser with Peak of the Market: Farm to School is happening again this year! Funds raised will support Field Trips and Recess Equipment. The fundraiser structure has changed and now requires a longer time to process. You may order beginning **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19** up until our deadline of **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23** and your vegetables will ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13** ready to go home before the Winter Break.*

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

FUNDRAISER BEGINS ON **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19**

ORDER FORMS COMING HOME IN EARLY OCTOBER.

ORDER CAN BE MADE ONLINE OR at THE SCHOOL OFFICE (CASH ONLY)

ALL ORDERS ARE DUE BY: **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23.**

ORDERS CAN BE PICKED UP AT OUR SCHOOL:

DECEMBER 13-15.

*Please refer to information coming home soon to order your vegetables online or check the website peakfarmtoschool.com

Thank you for your support.

Parent Council Fundraising Team



SCENT FREE REMINDER

A reminder to families that Keewatin Prairie has been designated to be scent free, recognizing that individuals in our building have scent sensitivities.

People who have serious allergies or sensitivities to certain products may have a bad reaction to a much lower level of perfumes, chemicals or environmental triggers than the average person.

Reactions can cause illness and/or medical conditions and we try our best to reduce this possibility by having a policy that reduces the use of chemicals, having a policy, purchasing more natural based products and notifying staff and families.

These measures can prevent illness and reduce health and safety risks.

Thank you for your support in helping us to minimize risk factors.










Keewatin Health and Safety Committee

The logo for 'Scent Free Zone' features the word 'Scent' in a red cursive font at the top, 'Free' in a brown sans-serif font in the middle, and 'Zone' in a red cursive font at the bottom. The words are stacked and slightly overlapping.

Help us keep the air we share
healthy and fragrance-free



OCTOBER 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
02 Day 2	03 Day 3 NO SCHOOL Professional Development Day	04 Day 4  National Pumpkin Seed Day	05 Day 5 Fire Drill Practice 	06 Day 6 National Smile Day 
09 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Day	10 Day 1	11 Day 2 	12 Day 3	13 Day 4
16 Day 5	17 Day 6 Welcome to the Parent Council  Parent Council Mtg. 3:45 pm Staff Room	18 Day 1 	19 Day 2 Pizza Orders Due Parent Council Fundraiser begins	20 Day 3 NO SCHOOL Professional Development Day
23 Day 4	24 Day 5 Grade 1-9 Pizza Lunch Today 	25 Day 6	26 Day 1  Picture Day  National Pumpkin Day 	27 Day 2
30 Day 3 Bus Ridership Practice 	31 Day 4 Halloween Parade 11:5 pm Halloween Parties PM 	November 01 Day 5	02 Day 6	03 Day 1
November November 