

December 2020



Dear Families,

We are grateful for your hard work and support as you play a crucial role in keeping our students, staff and community healthy and safe.

It is hard to believe that we are only a couple of weeks away from our winter Holiday. I do wish everyone a safe and positive break and my best wishes for the season.

We would like to highlight that December 1 through 10 features significant human rights observances, including the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on the 3rd, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women on the 6<sup>th</sup> and International Human Rights day on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

As a staff, we have launched our school learning plan for the improvement of our literacy and numeracy skills. I thank Ms. Bonnici and Mrs. Walker for leading their divisional colleagues in their learning and planning during our staff meetings. The kindergarten team is focusing on phonological awareness as it is the foundational blocks for reading, the primary grades are working to improve students' reading behaviours in order to increase confidence, accuracy and fluency in reading, and lastly, our junior and intermediates have centered their action plan around developing students' understanding of numbers, and the relationship between numbers and numerical operations.

I thank all parents and families for their efforts in keeping our students safe during drop off and pick up. Our parking lot does have some spaces available. The kindergarten area is off limits and parking there is prohibited. We have placed pylons as a visual aid to indicate areas where we cannot park or stop. I am aware that some parents are parking briefly at Shoppers Drug Mart and walking their child(ren) to school. It is a short walk. We are always encouraging walking to school if possible, to also help with physical activity.

Best Wishes and Happy New Year 2021!

Sanaâ Soussan  
Principal/Directrice



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**Web page**

<http://stworden.kprdsb.ca>

**November 2020  
Newsletter**



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## Character Trait for December is: Empathy

November Character Trait –Responsibility

B. Cook/A. Stone- Mason G., Sean C.

S. Gallagher/S. Kingdon- Alyssa S., Sediqa W.

C. Patrick- Jaxon C.

S. Sharma- Jake O., Landon O.

N. Bonnici- Max C., Evelyn H.

K. Hossack- Sabrina G., Sofia B.

H. Graham /A. Haworth- Liam M.

D. Rizzi- Anna G.

C. Walker- Ben H., Reed M.

R. Johnston- Maddox N., Lorelai G.

M. Mohammadi - Nevaeh B.

Grandfather Teaching for December is: Love

## Free math tutoring

Free mathematics tutoring and online learning tools available at [TVO Mathify](https://www.tvomathify.com). Designed for Grades 6-10 students, Mathify offers live, one-on-one math tutoring with an Ontario Certified Teacher, as well as other digital learning tools. Tutors are available online Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sundays from 3:30-9 p.m. Students can start with Mathify at any time by registering at [www.tvomathify.com](https://www.tvomathify.com)



## Inclement Weather School Closures



The KPR Board has made an important change to how we handle inclement weather days (snow days) this winter. We wish to let all families know that schools will be **closed** on inclement weather days this year, to protect student health.

We know school closures are an inconvenience and hardship for parents and families. Ultimately, however, we must ensure student well-being at all times. To meet public health requirements and maintain student health, we are not able to combine groups or “cohorts” of students who attend school when buses are cancelled. We also cannot ensure that our schools would have enough staff on-site during snow days to safely supervise the much smaller groups of students in their existing cohorts.

**Therefore, if all buses are cancelled to a school, a region of schools or all schools board-wide, those schools will be closed for the day.**

More specifically:

- when ALL buses are cancelled across the entire board, ALL schools will be closed for the day
- when ALL buses are cancelled within a specific geographic region of the board, such as the Municipality of Clarington, Northumberland County or Peterborough County, schools in that region only will be closed for the day
- and, finally, if ALL buses are cancelled for a specific school or group of schools, only that school or group of schools will be closed for the day.

When only a few buses are cancelled, or buses are delayed, schools will remain open.

Schools will provide learning for students to work at home on these days in a variety of ways, either through previously assigned or new work through the classroom teachers’ regular communication platforms, based on the age and grade of the students. Virtual elementary and secondary school programming on snow days will continue as normal.

We will inform families of school closures on snow days in several ways, including local news media, on [www.kprschools.ca](https://www.kprschools.ca), through our social media channels (@kprschools on Twitter and Facebook), and by email or text from SchoolMessenger.

Please ensure that your school has up-to-date contact information for you, so that we can text or email you directly about what is happening at your child’s or teen’s school. You can sign up for our direct text service by sending a text message to **978338** with the message of “Y” or “Yes”.

## Personal Electronic Devices

- Computers
- Cell Phones
- Digital T.V.
- DVDs
- Digital Cameras
- Kindle
- iPods and MP3 players



The use of technology for student learning is a key 21<sup>st</sup> century skill to enable all of our students to learn and succeed. Under staff direction, Personal Electronic Devices can be used effectively as an educational resource, support or aid for teaching and learning. The teacher will determine and authorize the usage of a PED during instructional time. At all other times the device is to be powered off and kept in a students' backpack or locker. When the usage of a PED is inappropriate, the school designate or principal will apply progressive discipline strategies. Depending on the infraction, strategies may include, but are not limited to; speaking with the student, parent meeting, removal of the PED until the end of the school day, loss of privilege to have a PED at school or suspension. As with other personal property items, schools are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged PEDs. These guidelines apply to all stakeholders in the school including students, staff, parents, volunteers and visitors.

ST Worden School Council



Happy Holidays from your School Council. Although the pandemic offers its share of challenges this year, your council is still hard at work to improve on our children's experience at school. We have already launched our poinsettia fundraiser in partner with Kingsway. We are currently working on something special surrounding Anti-Bullying for the New Year so stay tuned. We hope to have a couple of other initiatives to share with you in the coming weeks. We are always looking for gracious volunteers for our council. The more people we have, the more creative ideas and work that can take place. No commitment required, if interested please attend one of our meetings. Reach out to Bill Leeder (Chair) or Ms. Soussan (Principal).

Thank you  
Bill Leeder - Council Chair

See our web page for more info on poinsettia  
<http://stworden.kprds.ca> .

## COVID -19 Self Screening

### Important: please self-screen daily!

We remind families that it is extremely important to self-screen for possible symptoms of COVID-19 every morning, before heading to school. Please use the Ontario government's updated, online self-screening tool for this purpose. It will help you make an informed decision about whether you should attend school or child care, consult a health care provider, or get tested for COVID-19.

The new self-screening tool can be completed online at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. A printable version also can be downloaded from <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid19-cms-assets/2020-10/Screening%20Children%20v1.0%202020-10-01%20FINAL%20EN%20AODA.pdf>

## Mental health resources

KPR has a variety of helpful resources for our students, families and staff at

<http://www.kprschools.ca/en/MentalHealthResources.html>

In addition, we have posted Dr. Alex Russell's presentation from our October 17 Virtual Parent Conference for those who missed it. To hear Dr. Russell speak about how to Drop the Worry Ball, and to visit a virtual information fair with links to agencies that support families, please visit

[http://www.kprschools.ca/en/our\\_schools/getinvolved/parentresources/parentsconference.html](http://www.kprschools.ca/en/our_schools/getinvolved/parentresources/parentsconference.html)

## Up Coming Dates

Nov 30-Dec 15	Poinsettia Fundraiser
Dec 18	Spirit Day- Holiday Sweater
Dec 21 - Jan 1	Winter Break
Jan 4 2021	School begins for the New Year

