

Burkevale Protestant Separate School

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

November 1st, 2021

A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE



“The Remembrance Day Ceremony has played a major role in Remembrance since 1931. Every year, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we gather in memorial parks, community halls, workplaces, schools and homes to stand in honour of all who have fallen. Pandemic restrictions have meant smaller ceremonies, or their outright cancellation. Other gatherings are being replaced with virtual ceremonies. Nevertheless, the tradition of Remembrance will continue, and Canada’s Fallen will not be forgotten. The Royal Canadian Legion



encourages all Canadians to observe a moment of silence on November 11, to mark the sacrifice of the many who have fallen in the service of their country, and to acknowledge the courage of those who still serve.”

(<https://www.legion.ca/remembrance/remembrance-day>)

At the School: We will be running a virtual assembly for everyone with the playing of The First Post, followed by a moment of silence and the playing of the Reveille/Rouse. Ms. Wright’s class has offered to read In Flanders Fields. We will have our Remembrance Assembly on Thursday, November 11 (start time to be confirmed). Other classes who are interested in sharing poems, stories and videos during our virtual assembly have been invited to do so as well. The virtual assembly will commence at 12:00, as the students are at recess at 11:11.

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences: Progress reports will be coming home on Friday, November 12th, 2021. Student-teacher-parent conferences will take place the week of November 15th to the 19th. All interviews will be held virtually this year. Families may book their interviews on School Days and teachers will send out invitations via Google Meet for conferences. For those families without internet access, a phone interview will be available.



Winter Weather:



We have been blessed with another mild fall and some abnormally warm days. The fall leaves were vibrant this year, but with the arrival of November, I fear the winter weather is just around the corner. With the snow comes a happy cheer by children for potential SNOW DAYS. As has been past practice, we will attempt to notify parents of bus cancellations in the morning. School bus cancellations for Simcoe County can also be found online at <http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca> or on our local radio station 104.1 The Dock. We are considered the North Simcoe

Zone for bussing purposes.

AS WAS THE PRACTICE LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR COHORTING, THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED ON SNOW DAYS, BUT ACTIVITIES WILL BE POSTED ON THE GOOGLE CLASSROOM FOR OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION. THESE WILL BE SOLELY ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING ACTIVITIES.

Health and Safety

Fire Drills and Lockdown:



All three fall fire drills have taken place, with the students becoming more confident and capable each time. Way to go staff and students!

There will be a lockdown with the OPP at some point on November 16th.

In the event of an emergency where students are required to evacuate our building, the kindergarten to grade 3 students will be going to the Penetanguishene Public Library and grades 4-8 will be going to the Huronia Museum.

School Immunization Program

Message to Families of Grade 7 and 8 students from the SMD Health Unit,



“Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Grade 7 School Immunization Program continues to be on hold. Students who are in Grade 7 in this school year will be offered their vaccines at school clinics next year in Grade 8. Students currently in Grade 8 and Grade 9 who have not completed their Hepatitis B, Meningitis ACWY and HPV vaccines will be provided with catch up opportunities as soon as we are able.” <https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Immunization/Clinics-and-Programs>

Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being

It's hard to stay CALM when life gets stressful, practicing small steps every day can help you feel better overall. Need help staying connected to positive mental health tips? Sign up for our Twitter account where we post ideas: Account is @BurkevalePSS

Take A BREATH of Fresh Air:

- Get outdoors and enjoy nature
- Move, run, dance, play
- Try reading, colouring or listening to music
- Cook and eat together
- Practice slow deep breathing together
- Sleep (kids need 10 hours, adults need 8)
- Practice Gratitude, think of 3 things that you're grateful for daily
- Random acts of Kindness, good for you and those you are kind to

Social Work services are available at Burkevale, for more information email Heather, hjohnston@pssbp.ca or Christy, chamill@pssbp.ca.

You can find a link to the social work services pamphlet here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QZvPCFSXKpM6DFXaJgPrge-ZiVKbMVly/view?usp=sharing>

LOCAL SUPPORTS:

- See your family doctor
- Call In Mental Health Support for youth and families:
- Still available virtually for more info check out: <https://newpath.ca/call-in-clinics/>
- students age 12+ can access service at the HUB: <https://youthhubs.ca/en/sites/north-simcoe/>
- Check in with your mental health lead, chamill@pssbp.ca
- COVID-19 Youth Mental Health Resource Hub: <https://jack.org/covid>
- Multiple resources for parents and students at: <https://smho-smso.ca>



TECHNOLOGY AT SCHOOL:

Mr. Kent is irreplaceable at the school. He quietly ensures all of our technology pieces run smoothly and has been on the cutting edge of new technology since his published book, "Six Steps to Success in Teaching with Technology" in 2008. We are so lucky to have him as part of our Burkevale team! Below is some pertinent information from Mr. Kent that is related to students and technology.

Google for Education - Burkevale is once again using Google for Education and is fortunate to have a variety of subscriptions to websites for school and home use. To login to your child's Google for Education account follow the steps in [this video link](#). (**Security note:** *If you use the Google Chrome browser at home but do not have a google account linked to it but have added bookmarks to the browser these may sync to your child's account...double check this before linking the account and either delete the bookmarks or create a personal Google Account first*).

Once they link to their GSuite school account any bookmarks, usernames and passwords for the programs they use in class should be synchronized. Many teachers will also provide usernames and passwords that may be needed as well via Seesaw, Google Classroom or by physical notes. If you have any questions please contact your classroom teacher or email Mr. Kent at lkent@pssbp.ca.

Our rollable Makerspace carts filled with lots of STEAM activities are up and running and students couldn't be more thrilled. Students can also join our Google Classroom Maker Academy to access videos and activities of Coding, 3-D Printing, crafts and more. (Note: We are always looking for shoeboxes for our crafting station).

Finally our Grade 4-8 students will once again have the opportunity to use a Fitbit this year to help encourage fitness and well-being throughout the school year. Parents will have to sign the permission slip on School-Day before students can take one home for the year.

For a more extensive list of websites available for students visit our [Learn@Home link](#) and for additional parent resources visit our [Parent Resource Link](#).



Turtle
Teaches Us
Truth

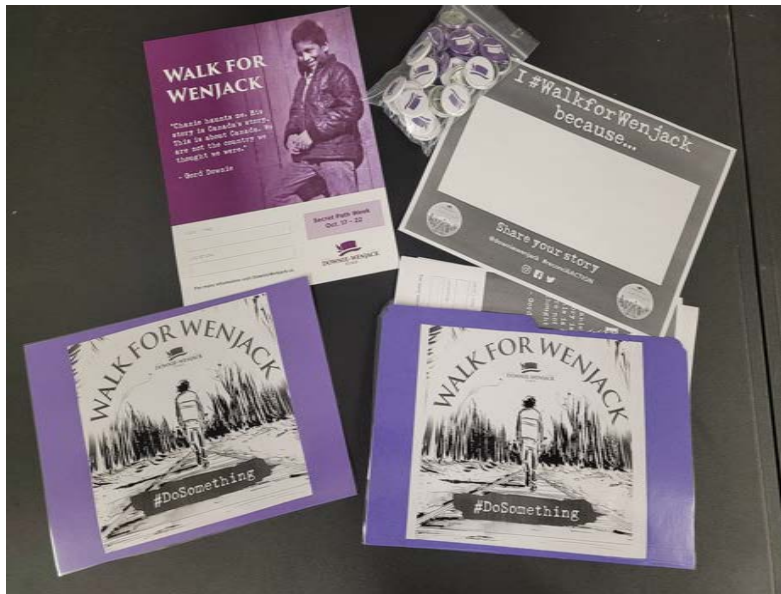
Grandfather Teachings for the Month of November:

For the month of November, our school community will be focusing on the grandfather teaching of **TRUTH**. Truth is represented by the turtle as he was here during the creation of Earth and carries the teachings of life on his back. The turtle lives life in a slow and meticulous manner because he

understands the importance of both the journey and the destination.

Secret Path Week (October 17th-22nd):

Secret Path Week is a national movement commemorating the legacies Chanie Wenjack and Gord Downie. This is a meaningful week as October 17th and 22nd respectively mark the dates that Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack joined the spirit world. We call on all Canadians to use Secret path Week to answer Gord Downie's call, to "Do Something" by creating reconciliACTION and furthering the conversation about the history of residential schools.



Walk for Wenjack: Our school participated in Walk for Wenjack during Secret path Week. Our goal was to walk 600km to reach the distance Chanie Wenjack would have had to walk to reach his home. In reality Chanie made it 51 km before the elements were too much for him. This national movement is a reflective time to remember all those children who attended residential schools and honour those who never made it back home.





Railway track sections were added in our hallway to represent 10km walked. Each class added their unique sections to bring Chanie home.



Upcoming Days of Significance:

Treaties Recognition week (Nov 1st - 7th): Treaty Education Week is recognized the first full school week of November. This is a recurring opportunity to intentionally deepen our knowledge and understanding of Treaties, Indigenous perspectives, our collective history, and align with #62 & #63 of the Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action.

National Inuit Day Nov 7th: A day to honour the vibrant culture and rich history of Inuit communities in Canada and around the world.

National Aboriginal Veterans Day Nov 8th: Indigenous people in Canada have reason to be proud of their wartime contributions. More than 7,000 First Nations members served in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War, and an unknown number of Inuit, Métis and other Indigenous people also participated. One Veterans group estimates that 12,000 Indigenous men and women served in the three wars.

November 16th: Louis Riel Day: As stated by former Métis Nation of Ontario President, Tony Belcourt, "November 16th marks a significant occasion of observance for the Métis Nation. This date gives us an opportunity to bring about an enlightened focus on the significant role and achievements of Louis Riel and the Métis Nation in the building of Canada."

**Art Created in classrooms for last month's Grandfather teaching of LOVE.
Burkevale Art Gallery:**



YMCA: The YMCA is looking for employees to join their team. Please see the poster on the right for more information.



Y Building healthy communities

Now Hiring

Before and After School Staff in this Community

For more information on opportunities in this community call 705-427-5808 or 705-549-8013

For information about other communities visit www.ymcareers.ca