



Central Public School

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MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Hello Central Families,

Officially, welcome back to school! We were delighted to see so many of our students and community members on February 1st as we returned to learning in person. We thank you for your understanding, flexibility and kindness as we all adjust to the changes in education in our province. As you may have heard, the Ministry of Education has announced that March Break has become April Break, and will take place during the week of April 12-16, 2021. We hope that we have a week of beautiful spring weather to enjoy! We also want to say hello to our Central families who are learning remotely this year; we miss you all and are looking forward to learning together again in the future.

This month, Central has welcomed many new students to our school. Our rapidly growing population means more new friends to learn with and learn from! Welcome to all of the families that have joined our school community.

This is a reminder to all families to be diligent in using the COVID-19 Screening Tool daily to determine if your child is able to attend school. If your child does not pass the screening, please do not send them to school. If your child exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, we MUST follow the protocols dictated by Southwestern Public Health, and your child MUST be picked up immediately. Please ensure that you have a reliable "back up plan" for days when you are unable to pick up your child yourself, as indicated in the TVDSB Student Health Agreement in your Parent Portal.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and communication. You are wonderful education partners!

Before leaving for school remember to use

Covid Screening Tool at

www.covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Feb. 14
Valentines Day

Monday Feb. 15
Family Day (no school)

Monday Feb 22
Parent Council Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday February 24th
Pink Shirt Day

Tuesday April 27
Parent Council Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Monday May 31
Parent Council Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



Electronic Communication

Parent Portal

The Parent Portal provides parents with the following functionality:

- ability to view student attendance for the current school year
- ability to view student information
- ability to update Parent/Guardian Consent (re: release of student personal information during the month of September and the month of February). All other time periods during the school year, the parent will only be able to view the information on-line and will have to contact the school if changes are required.
- ability to view student report cards for the current school year
- if applicable, ability for parent to consent to view his/her child's Individual Education Plan (IEP) on-line. Once consent is given the parent can view available IEPs for the current school year, and provide comments on the most recent one
- links to forms

In order to access the portal, parents/guardians are invited to visit the TVDSB Parent Portal (https://schoolapps2.tvdsb.ca/parents/tvdsb_parents/) to create a login account using an email address.



SchoolMessenger

Parents/guardians are to report student absences using SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival.

Accessing SchoolMessenger online

Navigate to www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger (add to bookmarks/favourites). Click Sign Up and follow the instructions to set up your account. Within minutes, you will receive an email with a link to complete the sign-up process.

Accessing SchoolMessenger using the Smartphone App (most time efficient option)

After setup up an account through www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger, download the SchoolMessenger app through the App Store or Google Play Store and log in using the credentials used after validating your account online.

Accessing SchoolMessenger by Phone

Parents/guardians who do not have access to a computer can access the system by calling 1-844-305-3756 (toll free) to report absences.

How to Report an Absence

Absences are to be reported prior to the start of the school day by selecting one of the following absence types:

- Full day
- Late
- Early departure
- Leave and return
- Multiple day

After selecting an absence type, you will then be given a list of options to choose for a reason. These options will vary by type of absence selected. *If reporting the absence by phone, it is necessary to remain on the line until you receive a confirmation number. This number confirms that the absence has been reported to the school. *



A confirmation email will be sent to parents/guardians containing the details of the reported absence.

Student safety is a priority and if a student is absent and a parent/guardian does not report it through SchoolMessenger, automated communication will be sent to the parent/guardian until a response is received from the parent/guardian. During this communication, the parent/guardian can interact with the system to provide a reason for the absence. Please remain on the line until a confirmation number is given. The automated system will continue to attempt to contact the parent/guardian until a reason for the absence is reported. The school secretary will make personal calls to those families who have not been contacted by the automated system.

School Cash Online



School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees like special lunches and field trips. The portal allows you to:

- add your students
- make payments
- check current balances/account history
- view receipts
- receive notification about upcoming events.

How to Register:

1. Create your profile
2. Go to <https://tvdsb.schoolcashonline.com> and click on 'Get Started Today'
3. Confirm your email
4. Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside. Sign in with your new login details
5. Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your child's details. You will need to know your child's student number (available on your TVDSB Parent Portal), last name and date of birth.
6. Stay in the loop by selecting 'Yes' to email notifications about upcoming fees. You'll receive email notifications

Supporting Understanding of Division

For many students, division is a procedure to be learned and an unfriendly one at that. Many of us learned to *Divide, Multiply, Subtract, Bring Down* in a digit-focused procedure. Granted, some do become proficient at this procedure. For many students and adults, however, the concept of division is lost in replicating the procedure. How can we keep the focus for children on understanding the meaning of division and help them to be fluent in tasks requiring division at the same time?

$$\begin{array}{r} 135 \\ 3 \overline{)405} \\ \underline{3} \\ 10 \\ \underline{9} \\ 15 \\ \underline{15} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$488 \div 8 = \square$

So how many groups of 8 makes 488?

I know that 8×50 makes 400 /total 400

I know that 8×5 makes 40 /total 440

and another 8×5 makes 40 more /total 480

and then 8×1 makes the last 8 /total 488

how many 8s? $50 + 5 + 5 + 1 = 61$

First: Children need to understand that division and multiplication are related operations. Division shouldn't be scary. We want our children to think forwards and backwards in multiplicative situations and know they could use what they know about multiplication to handle division problems.

Second: Children need to get comfortable with a variety of situations where division makes sense.

Rate: Kyle earned \$72 for his 6 hours of work at the Sub Shack on Friday night. How much does he make per hour?

Comparison: Tina read 25 pages, which was 5 times as many pages as Gloria read. How many pages did Gloria read?

Area: The parallelogram covers 32 square units and has a base that is 8 units wide. How tall must the parallelogram be?

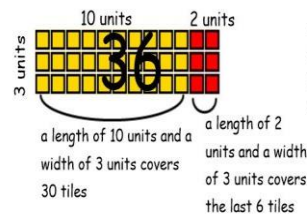
Combinations: Shirley's Pizza has 8 possible kids' combo meals with a main course and a side dish. If they offer 2 side dishes, how many main course dishes must they offer?

Third: Visuals and Strategies Help A Lot! Many children in Thames Valley schools are learning how to use arrays and number lines to facilitate their thinking in multiplication and division situations. These representations allow students to see and work with mathematical relationships and deepen understanding.

1) Building arrays are a particularly useful place for students to begin learning about

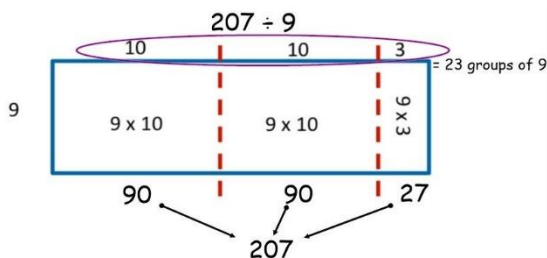
multiplication and division as they show equal rows and columns leading to a total number of squares. After building, our children can transition to using grids and open arrays to become

$36 \div 3$ means 36 tiles in a rectangular array with a width of 3. I have to find out how long the rectangle must be.



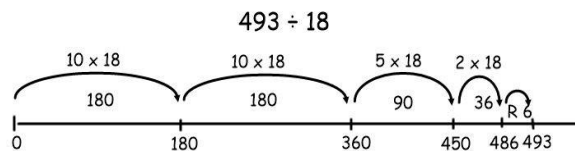
so an area of 36 squares and a width of 3 units must mean I have a length of 12 units

more efficient.



2) Number Lines also support our children to keep a sense of the numbers as they work to find a solution for division questions. There is no one best way to handle division.

Our children are much better off, however, if we encourage them to work from a place of understanding rather than rule-following.



so ...I found there are 27 equal jumps of 18 with a remainder of 6 inside 493

Tips for Families to Support Successful Remote Learning

TVDSB is appreciative of our families' efforts to support our students to be successful during this remote learning period. We KNOW everyone in our TVDSB community is doing their best!

If your family is looking for a few helpful tips, we are providing this list for your consideration:

- ✓ Establish a routine, much like a regular school day (e.g., wake up time, breakfast time).
- ✓ Help your child choose a space where they are comfortable to learn and work successfully each day; this space should be one where your child can focus on their learning with limited distractions.
- ✓ Review the daily activities and have necessary materials ready (e.g., pencil, paper, eraser).
- ✓ Review the provided timetable for the day the night before to ensure that your child is aware of what is happening.
- ✓ Ask your child's teacher(s) to explain a concept or anything that is unclear for your child.
- ✓ Encourage your child to also ask questions of clarification of the teacher during synchronous times.
- ✓ Set a time with your child each week to review assignments and daily activities.
- ✓ View the TVDSB BrightSpace or Google digital platform parent training tutorials www.tvdsb.ca/en/parents/supports-for-parents-and-guardians.
- ✓ Review your child's BrightSpace or Google Classroom content, portfolio, and emails. For older students, remind them to review this information regularly.
- ✓ Ask your child to teach someone in your home how to complete an electronic learning task.
- ✓ Let your child's teacher(s) know what is working well and areas that are a challenge.
- ✓ Remember to focus on all of the great things your child is achieving in remote learning and celebrate how as a family you are accomplishing this together!

