



Central Public School

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March 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday March 11

Every Student Belongs Survey opens.

Wednesday March 17

St. Patrick Day

April 12 to April 16

No School – April Break

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Hello to our Central community, and hello to Spring. The robins are waking up and soon we will see the shoots of the first Spring flowers peeking through.

We want to thank all families for diligently using the COVID Screening Tool every morning, to ensure their children are healthy and safe to attend school. Thank you as well for promptly responding and picking your child up if they become ill at school. We recognize that this may require a quick reorganization of your day and appreciate your partnership in keeping all of our Central Cougars healthy and safe.

We also wish to thank you for your support as Central experienced its first classroom closure due to positive COVID-19 cases. The word “outbreak” can be startling to hear, but as defined by Southwestern Public Health, an “outbreak” means that there were two positive cases at Central within a 14 day period. These cases were connected to one classroom and are now considered resolved. We want to reassure you that Mr. Gordon and his custodial team have rigorous sanitizing procedures and all TVDSB health and safety protocols are being carefully followed. Central remains a safe place to learn and grow!

In the weeks ahead we are looking forward to the long Easter weekend and shortly after that, April Break.

Easter Weekend: April 2-5, 2021

April Break: April 12-16, 2021

We hope that you have the opportunity over the next few weeks for family time, relaxation and self-care.

Mrs. James and Miss Shushkewich

Remember March Break has moved!

In School March 15th to March 19th

April Break – April 12th to 16th

Before leaving for school remember to use

Covid Screening Tool at

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

Every Student Belongs Survey

The Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) is working to gain a better understanding of the diverse backgrounds of students and families across the district. To provide information that will help achieve this goal, TVDSB launched the Every Student Belongs Survey in December, 2020. The survey is guided by Ontario's Equity Action Plan, which asks school boards to collect information about students and staff related to their background (for example, their race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, disabilities).

Families of children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will now be invited to complete the survey on behalf of their children beginning on March 11th.

The primary parent or guardian contact of all students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will receive an email that contains a personalized link to the Every Student Belongs Survey. If you have more than one child, you will receive a separate email for each child. More information about the survey, including additional options for completing the survey, will be provided to you by email or in a letter home with your child.

For more information about the survey, please visit the website:
www.tvdsb.ca/everystudentbelongs.

School Yard

With the warmer weather approaching our school yard is wet and muddy. It would be helpful to remind your child to stay out of the mud while playing in the school yard. We will not be making calls home for extra shoes or clothes if your child chooses to play in the mud.

Early Pick up

We remind you if you need to pick up your student early to please input the absence into the School Messenger App on your smart phone. If you need help, please click on the link [Attendance App](#).

Home Connections in Mathematics

Are We There Yet?

Short jaunts in the car can be a great time to continue to build your child's sense of numbers and how they are used in the world around us. Below are a few things you might try.

Count

Young children love to count, and counting is a foundational skill. Driving anywhere can provide lots of opportunities to count types of cars, buses or trucks. Children sometimes struggle to count over the decade or century- up and over a ten or 100. You can help to count up and over the decade or century by modelling counting and then discussing patterns in our number system. It is also valuable to take opportunities to count by numbers other than one. For example, you might count by twos to count the tires on trucks, count by fours for legs on horses or cows.

Notice, Read and Talk About Numbers in the World

Students often struggle relating a number to the quantity it represents. Try a scavenger hunt for different numbers. Challenge your child to find a spot where she might find about five, ten, 50 or 100 people. Discuss with her how to determine if she is close to the target. Older children might benefit from comparing populations to numbers familiar to them. The populations of smaller centres might be compared to the number of students in their school. Larger centres might be compared to the population of the town or city in which you live. By doing activities like these, we can help students develop a sense of quantity and personal benchmarks to use when estimating.



Engage in Real-life Proportional Reasoning

As students move from grade to grade, the curriculum requires them to do more and more proportional reasoning. Travelling presents many opportunities to engage your child in authentic situations where he or she considers how two quantities scale together. When filling the gas tank, have your child check the level of the gas tank before filling. Share the capacity of the tank and ask them to predict the number of litres and the cost of the gas.



"Are we there yet?" is a great question to turn back on your children and play with. Share with them the length of the trip. Have them track on road signs the distance to the destination or the next stop. Predict the length of time to the destination based on the speed you are travelling, or the time taken to your current location. Check predictions against the predictions on the GPS or App.

Play With Numbers

Some of the long hours in the car can be spent playing with numbers to enhance students' understanding and enjoyment of math.

Guess My Number is a game that is easily played that reinforces some key ideas about the relative size of numbers. To play the game, select a range of numbers comfortable for the children playing. One player chooses a number and others try to guess that number. After each guess, a hint is given as to whether the guess is too high or too low. Challenge your child to develop a strategy to make the fewest guesses or develop a strategy with them.

McNugget Numbers are a set of numbers that can be fun to play with. Originally, Mc Nuggets were sold in boxes of 6, 9, and 20. A McNugget Number is a number you can make combining the numbers 6, 9 and 20. (For example, 15 is a McNugget number because you could order a box of 6 and a box of 9.) You could challenge younger children to find the numbers of McNuggets that could be ordered between 10 and 20 with only boxes of 6 and 9. Older students could be challenged to find numbers of McNuggets that could **not** be ordered with whole boxes of McNuggets or even the largest number that could not be ordered. (It is 43.) Finding all the McNugget numbers would be a great family challenge.



Children benefit from the opportunity to understand how numbers are used in the world in many useful and enjoyable ways.