

Happy holidays



Orchard Park Public School

50 Wychwood Park, London, Ontario N6G 1R6
Telephone: (519) 452-8450 Attendance: 1-844-305-3756 Fax: (519) 452-8459
Website: orchardpark.tvdsb.ca Email: orchardpark@tvdsb.ca
Principal: Mrs. Jennifer Tait / Mrs. Regina Smith / Mrs. Liz Gonser
Administrative Secretary: Ms. Rita Verberne

Trustees for Ward 6: Mr. Leroy Osbourne and Ms. Marianne Larsen
Superintendent of Education: Mrs. Purveen Skinner (p.skinner@tvdsb.ca)

December 2023

KINDNESS IS FREE, SPRINKLE THAT STUFF EVERYWHERE.

Milk Program: Tickets are \$23.00 for 20 tickets; payment is made via School Cash Online. Please see Ms. Verberne to pick up tickets. Proceeds to grad / grade 8 trip.

Pizza Days

Pizza lunches are available every Wednesday. To order, click on the LunchBox link in your School Cash Online account or go to lunchboxorders.net; order by noon the Sunday before. Proceeds to Home & School Association.

Upcoming Dates

Mon, Dec 4 @ 6:30pm Home & School / School Council Meeting; Angels Are Due

Fri, Dec 8 – White Elephant Sale

Book Fair, Dec 11 – 15
Dec 12, 3:30-6:45pm Family Time
Dec 13, 1:00-3:15pm Family Time

Seasonal Concerts:
Tue, Dec 12, 1:00 & 7:00pm (1-8)
Wed, Dec 13, 2:15pm (JKSK)

Fri, Dec 15 – Food Drive Ends

Fri, Dec 22 – Fun Holiday Wear & Last Day of School

Dec 23 to Jan 7 – Winter Break

Mon, Jan 8, 2024--Back to School

When Calling the School

519-452-8450

- Press 1 – Address & Hours
- Press 2 – School Office
- Press 3 – Learning Support Teacher
- Press 4 – Library
- Press 5 – Principal

Bell Times

9:00 am School Begins
10:20 – 10:35 AM Recess
11:55 – 12:55 Lunch
2:15 – 2:30 PM Recess
3:30 pm School Ends

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome December! We have a busy month of learning and exciting events ahead. Our Student Council has planned a non-perishable food drive, staff and students have been diligently preparing and practising for seasonal concerts and a book fair is coming. Thank you to our families who have generously supported our angels this year.

Now that the cold weather is upon us, we are asking you to encourage your children to come to school dressed for the cold and varying weather conditions. If any families are experiencing challenges in getting winter clothing, please contact your child's teacher and we will assist you in obtaining these items.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Rita Verberne who will be retiring at Christmas time. We are so grateful for everything she has done for Orchard Park over the past seven years, and we will miss her smiling face (and her purple hair!). Best wishes for happiness and relaxation! We welcome Ms. Meredith Duggan who will be our new administrative secretary starting January 8, 2024.

Wishing you a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season!

STUDENT COUNCIL, NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DRIVE, NOVEMBER 28TH TO DECEMBER 14TH

The Student Council is hosting a food drive to support the London Food Bank. Please have your child bring non-perishable items to the front foyer of the school. Some of the items they are most in need of include canned goods and some sweet treats.



SEASONAL CONCERTS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

We are so excited to present Seasonal Concerts for our Orchard Park School and community. Students and staff have been practicing diligently for several weeks. We have two presentation times on December 12th and one on December 13th.

DECEMBER 12TH: 1:00 PM AND 7:00 PM, ALL ARE WELCOME (GRADES 1-8 STUDENTS PERFORMING)

DECEMBER 13TH: 2:15PM, ALL ARE WELCOME (KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS PERFORMING)

THE GIFT OF GIVING

Orchard Park has once again shown their incredible generosity by sponsoring all the angels that landed in the office. Just a gentle reminder to **please have angel gifts in the office by Monday, December 4th**. Know that you have made a family's holiday a more joyous occasion.



BOOK FAIR, MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

The fun and excitement of a Scholastic Book Fair is here! From Monday, December 11th to Friday, December 15th, books will be displayed in the library and students will have the opportunity to purchase in the moment. We invite parents, family, and friends to come in-person on Tuesday, December 12th (3:30 - 6:45pm) which is concert night and/or Wednesday, December 13th (1:00 - 3:15pm) which is the kindergarten concert.



TVDSB EARLY LITERACY GUIDE FOR FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS

Learning Support Services is pleased to share the *TVDSB Early Literacy Guide for Families and Caregivers*. This document is intended to be shared with families, guardians and caregivers of students who are working to build their early literacy skills. It can be helpful to support parent and caregivers understanding of how to help their children develop foundational literacy skills and provides helpful tips as well as fun activities that families can engage in together to build these important skills outside of school. Click [TVDSB Early Literacy Guide for Families and Caregivers - DIGITAL.pdf](#) to access an **electronic and accessible** version.

VOLUNTEERS

Do you want to volunteer for your child's field trip? Or maybe you want to help in the school? You must have both documents below on file at the school to do so. Please understand that once you have submitted a VSC, it is good for the elementary career of your child; however, you must complete an Offence Declaration each school year.

1. VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECK (VSC) AKA POLICE RECORD CHECK
2. OFFENCE DECLARATION

TVDSB policy states that *all volunteers must have a vulnerable sector check (i.e. police record check) and a current Offence Declaration* on file at the school. Offence declarations must be signed each school year.

Vulnerable Sector Check
You can obtain a VSC by visiting the London Police website and following these instructions. Cost is \$16.95 (inc tax).

- a) www.londonpolice.ca
- b) Services
- c) Record Checks
- d) Level 3 (Vulnerable Sector Check)

Once you have your VSC, please submit it to the school for our file. We will make a copy if you wish to keep the original.

Offence Declaration
As stated, you must have an offence declaration on file for each school year. For this school year, you must have completed one after September 6, 2023. You may obtain one by contacting the office.



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION AND SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

*Next Meetings: Monday, December 4, 2023 @ 6:30pm Home & School and School Council
Monday, January 15, 2024 @ 6:30pm Home & School and School Council*

Please join us if you are interested in joining our Association. All are welcome to attend both meetings.
Home & School Contact: Email ophomeandschool@outlook.com; Facebook 'Families of Orchard Park Public School'

FOOD ORDERS, GO TO SCHOOL CASH ONLINE, LUNCHBOXORDERS.NET

Home & School is selling the following food items on the days specified. *Please note that you must place your order by noon the Sunday before the delivery date.*

Pizza from Dominos: every Wednesday

Frozen Yogurt from Marble Slab: Thursday, December 14th

Subs from Subway: Tuesday, December 19th

MUSIC PROGRAM NOT A FUNDRAISER (FUNDRAISER)

Home & School is collecting money for our amazing music program. With your donations we will be able to achieve our goal of \$10,000. Please see the attached flyer and return the form to the school by December 15th.

We are looking for volunteers for the sale; please email Mrs. Knight s.knight@tvdsb.ca if you are interested.



WHITE ELEPHANT SALE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

Once again, Orchard Park will be holding a White Elephant Holiday Sale. Students only will have an opportunity to shop for gifts in the gym during school hours.

We need your new and gently used items to resell at our sale; items can be dropped off at the front lobby. *We also need donations of gift bags / boxes, tissue, wrap, bows, tape, and gift tags.* See the donation ideas on the attached flyer.

KERNELS POPCORN FUND RAISER FOR GRADE 8 JUNE TRIP

Grade 8 students are planning several fundraisers to raise money for their June field trip. Every Friday, for the next five months (mid November 2023 to end of April 2024) they are selling Kernels popcorn. There are four delicious flavours available: Buttersalt Salt & Vinegar Low Fat Caramel White Cheddar.

Payment for popcorn is via School Cash Online only; there will be no cash sales. The cost is \$2.75 per bag. The payment system is like our milk program in that you will purchase a sheet of five tickets for \$13.75. Mrs. Ayres and grade 8 students will ensure your child receives their popcorn.

GRADE 8 SECONDARY SCHOOL INFORMATION

[HTTPS://WWW.TVDSB.CA/EN/SCHOOLS/SECONDARY-SCHOOL-GRADE-8-INFORMATION-NIGHTS.ASPX#](https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/schools/secondary-school-grade-8-information-nights.aspx#)

This is a link to all secondary school grade 8 information nights. Grade 8 parents are invited to learn more about the secondary schools and the programs they have to offer by going to their secondary school's website, Guidance, Information for Grade 8 Students. Most parent information includes a special presentation about the high school, its programs, and the registration process. Parents and their child can access this information now; be sure to check in regularly as information is continually updated.

BASKETBALL FANS...

On November 21st, we celebrate a SPIRITED and PROUD conclusion to our basketball team's season. The quarter final game versus Riverside was fast and physical. Our team dug deep and represented our school with their heads held high. From tryouts eight weeks ago to the final game, our athletes have learned a lot about the sport and have shown incredible individual growth. More importantly, they have become a TEAM COMMUNITY, collectively working hard, and showing good-hearted encouragement to one another. Thanks to all our fans who have shared in our enthusiasm throughout the season! GO OPBEARS GO!

