

UPDATES FROM KNOXDALE PS AND KCSC

CURRICULUM CORNER

On October 7th our school team participated in a PA Day. We always appreciate time to learn Together! Our focus was on our School Learning Plan. This year, all schools in our district will have a School Learning Plan that focuses on numeracy. We have taken a great deal of time to look carefully at multiple sources of data in order to inform our thinking and next steps. This included EQAO data, report card data, and classroom data including observational data. As a staff we had the opportunity to ask ourselves some powerful questions in conjunction with a review of teaching practices and delivery of program.

One piece of evidence that we noted from our data was that our students struggled in the face of multi-step problems and/or difficult problems. In fact, there was a marked percentage of students who left answers blank and did not attempt (as compared with the board and province). As such, in conjunction with having a theory of action for our School Learning Plan that focuses on numeracy across the curriculum, we have also identified a need to work on Growth Mindset. This is tied to our theory of action, as well as, to our Student Well-Being Plan.

The achievement chart below outlines four areas of academic assessment; Communication,

Achievement Chart				
Achievement Area	Academic Assessment			
Communication	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Communication for different audiences with expression and organization of ideas with information presented in an oral, visual, or written form	– when communicating to others the student uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology of the with limited effectiveness	– when communicating to others the student uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology of the discipline with some effectiveness	– when communicating to others the student uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology of the discipline with considerable effectiveness	– when communicating to others the student uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology of the discipline with a high degree of effectiveness
Knowledge & Understanding				
Knowledge of content and understanding of the foundation concepts; ideas, opinions and relationships among facts	– when working on the discipline the student demonstrates limited understanding of content and relationships among concepts	– when working on the discipline the student demonstrates some understanding of content and relationships among concepts	– when working on the discipline the student demonstrates considerable understanding of content and relationships among concepts	– when working on the discipline the student demonstrates a thorough understanding of content and relationships among concepts
Application				
Application of knowledge and skills in familiar and similar contexts results in connections within and between various concepts	– when completing task the student applies knowledge and skills in contexts with limited effectiveness	– when completing task the student applies knowledge and skills in contexts with some effectiveness	– when completing task the student applies knowledge and skills in contexts with considerable effectiveness	– when completing task the student applies knowledge and skills in contexts with excellent effectiveness
Thinking				
Use of planning, processing and evaluation skills to develop a critical or creative analysis to design an outcome	– student uses critical or creative thinking processes in designing an outcome with limited effectiveness	– student uses critical or creative thinking processes in designing an outcome with some effectiveness	– student uses critical or creative thinking processes in designing an outcome with above average effectiveness	– student uses critical or creative thinking processes in designing an outcome with outstanding effectiveness

NB. This achievement chart represents the assessment direction as mandated by the Ministry of Education and ODCSB

Knowledge and Understanding, Application and Thinking. This achievement chart is applicable to all subject areas and is included as part of curricular documents. We also considered our data in light of the achievement chart to see where were our students' strengths and areas for growth. We

noted that our students needed to strengthen their skills in Thinking and Communication. To this end, we identified the following strategies:

- 1) Self-verbalization
- 2) Number talks

3) Accountable talk (which formed part of our previous SLP)

4) Math journals/thought journals (thought journals were also part of our previous SLP)

* Stay tuned to our next update for more information on each of these strategies!

Our School Learning Plan has a theory of action as follows:

If students have regular opportunities to develop their self-verbalization skills in numeracy across the curriculum, then they will increase their capacity (in thinking and communication) and develop confidence in their numeracy skills (growth mindset).

AT KNOXDALE PS WE ARE WORKING ON OUR MINDSET!

In our School Well Being Plan, one of our goals is focused on mindset. It is as follows:

If we explicitly teach/model for students growth mindset strategies/language, then students will be more confident in their abilities when faced with challenging tasks.

When we have a growth mindset, we believe that we can learn, change, and develop our skills. We are also more likely to be able to persevere in the face of a challenge and we believe that with hard work we can accomplish our goals. Below are some examples of explicit teaching of mindset at

Knoxdale PS. In our next communication, we will share how feedback is related to mindset, as well as, ideas on how to phrase your feedback in a way that develops more of a growth mindset.

Two Mindsets!

Fixed Mindset	Growth Mindset
Intelligence is STATIC	Intelligence can be DEVELOPED
Leads to a desire to look smart and thus a tendency to:	Leads to a desire to learn and therefore a tendency to:
Avoid challenges	Embrace challenges
Give up easily due to obstacles	Persist despite obstacles
See effort as fruitless	See effort as a path to mastery
Ignore useful feedback	Learn from feedback
Be threatened by others' success	Be inspired by others' success



8/5/2015

DEVELOPING A GROWTH MINDSET

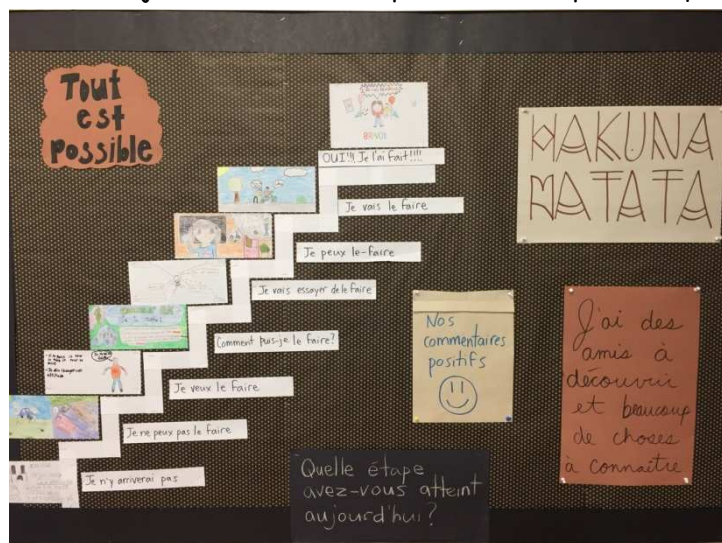
INSTEAD OF.....	TRY THINKING
I'm not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I'll use a different strategy
It's good enough	Is this really my best?
I can't make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can't do this	I am going to train myself
I'll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn't work	There's always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

Growth Mindset

Written/Écrit par: Cassidy H. & Alex P.

Dans la classe de Mme. Desjardins, les enfants ont créé un mur qui représente une mentalité positive et ouverte envers nos travaux et notre vie quotidienne (Growth Mindset.) "Growth Mindset" est une échelle qui commence à « *Je n'y arriverai pas* » jusqu'à la fin où il est écrit « *Oui! Je l'ai fait!* ». Après « *Je n'y arriverai pas* » ça dit, « *Je ne peux pas le faire* ». Puis, ça dit, « *Je veux le faire* ». Tu dois te poser une question importante après ceci: « *Comment puis-je le faire?* ». Quand tu as trouvé une réponse, tu vas probablement te dire, « *Je peux le faire!* ». Ensuite, nous montons à « *Je vais le faire* ». Finalement, à la fin de l'échelle, nous célébrons parce que: « *Oui! Je l'ai fait!* ». Les enfants dans la classe de Mme. Desjardins ont fait des petits dessins pour chaque

étape. Que faisons-nous avec cette échelle? Cette échelle nous aide à penser à la question suivante: « *Quelle étape avez-vous atteint aujourd'hui?* ». Si tu te dis: « *Je n'y arriverai pas* », tu n'arriveras pas à réussir parce que tu n'es pas convaincu de tes habiletés et tu ne crois pas dans toi-même. Mais si tu te dis, « *Je veux le faire* », ceci est meilleur parce que tu commences à croire dans tes habiletés et tu réussis à développer une pensée positive! Un exemple de "Growth Mindset" est si tu dis « *Je ne suis pas bon dans les maths!* », mais au lieu tu devrais dire: « *Je vais pratiquer les mathématiques! Je suis capable!* ». Vous pouvez aussi dire, « *Je ne suis pas bon aux mathématiques ENCORE* ». Encore étant le mot clé ici!



Growth mindset is going from "I'm never going to do it" to "I did it!". Above you will find the Growth Mindset stages we use in Mme Desjardins' class.

You can see it is a scale that starts with "I am never going to do it", to "I can't do it", to "I want to do it", to "How can I do it?", to "I am going to try to do it", to "I can do it!", to "I am going to do it!" and finally, "Yay, I did it!!!". In class you can use the scale when you have hard work and you think "I can't do it". You look up at the chart, find your next step and say "How could I do it?" or "I am going to try to do it".

So that is the chart but what is growth mindset? It's saying "I can do it!", instead of saying "I can't do it", when something is difficult. You use growth mindset sometimes when you get evaluated. For example, you get a test back and you see you got a C+. Instead of thinking, "Oh that is a horrible mark", you can change your words and say, "I'll get a better mark next time". When you have a fixed mindset and you receive a poor mark on a test you may say things like; "I am bad" and "I can't do

math -it's impossible-I am never getting better". So, as you can see, if you change words you can change your mindset!

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress Reports were sent home on November 10th. Opportunities for Parent Consultation to discuss your child(ren's) progress will take place on the evening of Thursday, November 17th and the morning of Friday, November 18th. The home/school partnership is vital to success and we appreciate the time parents take to meet with us and discuss strategies and plans for your child(ren) to help them meet their full potential.

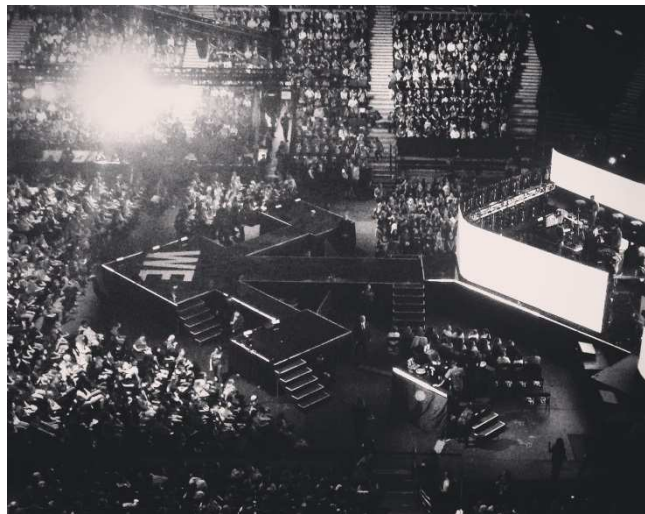
CHARACTER CORNER

WE DAY!!!!

By Lauryn, Kieran, and Katrina

About We Day

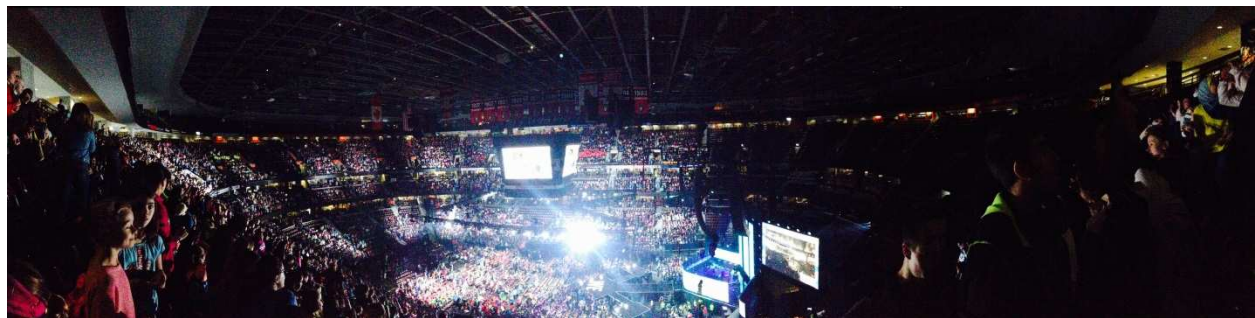
We Day is an inspirational day to help get you motivated to make an impact/change. Over the past 5 years, We Day Ottawa has taken place at the Canadian Tire Centre. There are usually motivational speakers who are meant to get you inspired. There are also singers meant to get you pumped up and encouraged. You can't buy a ticket to We Day, you have to earn it.



How we got there...

Every year, multiple schools are selected to attend We Day. At Knoxdale, we have a Free the Children Club. These clubs exist at many schools. The Free the Children club at Knoxdale is open to all grade 5 and 6 students.

We participate in at least 1 local and 1 global action of change.



This is how our school acquired the tickets. We got them from the We to Me organization because we have participated in local and global acts of change.

What happened...

At We Day they usually have some celebrities to get you excited for the rest of the day. This year at We Day Ottawa, they had performances by Classified, Serena Ryder, Hedley, Tyler Shaw, and Kaliandrews Dance Company. Goodlife fitness showed us the We Day dance. The We Day dance was to loosen up from sitting and of course, for fun! They also had speeches by Justin Trudeau, Margaret Trudeau, the Governor General of Canada, Paula Abdul, Craig and Marc Kielburger (the founders of We Day), Spencer West, and many more!

Stay tuned for more information about We Day and how to aid the world around us!

Fundraising For Child Haven

By: Annie and Emily

Knoxdale Public School has decided to do a fundraiser to help support Child Haven. Child Haven is a program to help women and children in need all over India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Tibet. This year Knoxdale Public School raised \$459.82 from holding a craft sale. The craft sale includes a raffle for guessing a certain amount of jelly beans and gummy worms. The money raised can help lives of people, in need of education. It can also give school supplies, a monthly supply of soya milk for a month for 250+ children. This fundraiser is important for children across the world. Knoxdale Public School will continue fundraising money for child haven and others.

SPORTS AND CLUBS UPDATE

Congratulations to the Junior Boys' Soccer Team who won GOLD on Oct 24th! The boys were great ambassadors for Knoxdale, demonstrating teamwork, sportsmanship and respect. Way to go Eagles! Please help Knoxdale in congratulating our team: Ethan, Nathaniel, Luca, Sam, Trevor, Noam, Dylan, Casey, Kevin, Richard, David, Rajan, Raymond and Kushal.

Congratulations to the Knoxdale girls' soccer team for their silver medal!

The girls showed a lot of hard work and determination, and played with maximum effort during the competition. From the first practice to the end of the tournament, the team was united and showed true team spirit. The Knoxdale community is extremely proud of Pardis, Teagan, Fiona, Haley, Meaghan, Arianna, Milena, Erin, Olwyn, Ella, Krista, Avery, Katrina, Celina and Melanie. Bravo les Aigles! Enjoy your medal, you earned it!



Knoxdale is a vibrant learning community that encourages student growth, success and mental well-being through the various extra-curricular activities provided throughout the school year. Each of these teams/clubs/committees provide students with an opportunity to actively participate in the school community as well develop important learning skills such as responsibility, collaboration, initiative, self-regulation, leadership, etc.

Many of these teams/clubs/committees include:

- Glee Club *
- Milk Monitors *
- Free the Children Club *
- Craft Club *
- Recycling Club *
- Spirit Squad/Student Council *
- Dance Club *
- Lunch Monitors *
- Environmental Club (November)
- WITS (November)
- Comic Club (November)
- Bordenball (November)
- Volleyball (January)

*= active and ongoing throughout the year

WEBSITE

Last year, all schools in the OCDSB started using a common website template. We are continuing to work on keeping our website up to date. Key events and dates will be on the calendar, along with School Council minutes and our "Updates from School and KCSC". Our goal is to make the site a "go to" for all important information. Thank you for your patience as we continue to work on this.

CRAFT AND BAKE SALE

The Annual Craft and Bake Sale was a huge success! Thank you to co-ordinators Katherine Montuoro, Susan Villeneuve, Margaret Moores and their team of volunteers. Thank you as well to all the wonderful bakers who contributed to the sale - we know they poured their hearts (as well as lots of butter and sugar!) into this event!

LOST AND FOUND

We have many items in our Lost and Found! We have been encouraging students to check it for missing items. At the **end of every month**, we will be donating unclaimed items to a local charity. We will also be putting the items out this week during parent/teacher consultations, please take time to look through the displayed items!

NOTIFICATION TO DECLINE TRANSPORTATION

From time to time we have students who for various reasons may not utilize their assigned space on our school busses (for example students who are in our Extended Day Program). Conversely, we have students who have applied and are waiting on a space (empty seat) on one of our busses. We are asking parents to consider declining transportation privileges if their child(ren) may not be riding the school bus this school year. If this is acceptable to your family, then could you please visit the OSTA website at <http://www.ottawaschoolbus.ca> to locate and complete the form entitled '*Notification to Decline Transportation*'. In doing so, a space becomes available for another student to have transportation privileges. We have also attached a copy of the form to this email message for your convenience. Thank you for considering.

FROM THE OCDSB'S SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER...

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAM FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION

The district has just released a draft [Elementary School Program Framework](#) (ESPF). The Framework explains that the district's model for elementary school program delivery is the designated community school model. The framework outlines our elementary program offerings, school configuration models, school size, and addresses single and dual track schools.

It is a companion document to the [Secondary School Program Framework](#). Together these two documents describe our vision for school configuration models and program offerings from K-12. These two frameworks will inform decision making in accommodation planning in terms of how best to use District facilities and resources to offer exemplary programming in a fiscally responsible manner.

Consultation on the ESPF is underway and we are interested in your feedback. There are a number of ways to get involved:

- Discuss this issue at school council;
- complete the [survey](#); and/or
- Send an e-mail.

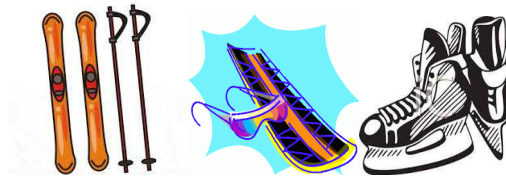
Consultation is planned between November 3 to December 21st. The survey deadline is December 13, 2016. The final staff report, including feedback gathered through consultation will be presented for discussion at the OCDSB Committee of the Whole meeting on January 17, 2017.

For more information, visit our [website](#) to read the ESPF. If you have questions, please email us at ElementaryProgramFrameworkConsultation@ocdsb.ca.

Register for Parent Conference and School Council Training Day

The conference theme this year is "Bridging Home and School - What we want for our Learners". The conference is an amazing opportunity for parents and educators to learn together about issues related to learning, well-being, special education and school council best practices. The conference is held in partnership with the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and the Ottawa-Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC). Everyone is welcome and the session is free - limited childcare spaces will be available. This year's conference will be held on November 19th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 [p.m. at](#) Longfields-Davidson Heights School. A limited number of childcare spaces will be available for children between the ages of 4 and 10. You can apply for a childcare space with your registration. [Register Now!](#)

Knoxdale Community School Council (KCSC)



KCSC Ski and Skate "Swap & Sale" **November 17th to 19th**

This week! Please see the flyer that came home from school with the attached tags for your sale items and check out the website!

Please remember to register your items before the event here:

<https://knoxdale-skiswap.herokuapp.com/swapitems>

Equipment Drop off: Nov 15-17th from 3pm - 6 pm

Sales: Nov 17th from 5pm - 7:30 pm

Nov 18th from 12 noon - 8 pm

Nov 19th from 9 am - 2 pm

Website: knoxdale-skiswap.herokuapp.com

Contact: knoxdale.skiswap@gmail.com

Register and sell your outgrown skis, skates, snowboards and related boots and poles (no helmets) and shop for more for at a reasonable price!; 70% of sale proceeds to the seller and 30% of sale proceeds will be directed to KCSC to support the Eagles' Nest playground renewal project. A fun ski movie will be shown and snacks will be available for sale. See you there!

Cash and PayPal accepted



Many thanks to all those who shopped the Samko & Miko Toy Sale last week!

Please keep a copy of your receipt and send the original receipt into the school.

The Toy Sale will donate **10%** of all Knoxdale families' purchases back to the playground project!



KCSC December Meeting *DATE CHANGE*

When: Tuesday, December 13th, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Knoxdale Public School Library, 2nd Floor

Please note that the monthly meeting date has been changed to Tuesday, December 13 to accommodate for the upcoming OCDSB Western area review meeting on Tuesday, December 6th. All are welcome! Please come out to hear what is happening in your school. We will have reports from the Chair, Principal and Vice Principal, and our KCSC representative attending the Western area review meetings. If there is anything you would like to discuss at the meeting, please email us in advance so that we may add it to the agenda. Thank you! knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com.



Mabel's Labels Fundraiser! The personalized labels make excellent stocking stuffers and are terrific for all types of belongings. To place your order, visit www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com and search for Knoxdale Community School Council. KCSC will earn 20% from the sales. Samples and flyers are on the KCSC bulletin board in the Knoxdale lobby.

KCSC Representative - OCDSB Western Area Review

Our KCSC representative, along with Principal Williams, attended two advisory committee meetings; the first on October 20 and the second on November 9. There was also a parent and principal from each of the other schools in our family of schools. Many of our questions and concerns have been discussed at these meetings. The third and final advisory committee meeting will be on December 6. If you would like to hear more about these meetings, please come to our next monthly KCSC meeting in December. If you have any additional questions or concerns you wish brought forward by our representative at the December 6th meeting, please email knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com

Please note that the FAQ section on the OCDSB's website under Western area review has been updated. There is an OCDSB feedback process that can be joined anytime even if you have not yet participated in the first round.



The Knoxdale Community is kind and generous and supports important causes throughout the year. Now is the time of year where we launch our 'neighbours helping neighbours' initiative! Let's continue making a positive difference in the lives of less fortunate families in our neighbourhoods by collecting non-perishable food items and winter wear for kids. Your donations would be greatly appreciated! Please bring them in or send them in to the school with your children December 1st - December 14th.

- * Non-perishable food items
- * Gently used clean snowsuits (jackets/snowpants), hats, mitts, boots, scarves (please check the pockets!)
- * Cash or cheques are graciously accepted - made payable to "The Snowsuit Fund" or "FAMSAC"
Tax receipts issued for cheque donations over \$10, ensure your name /address are on the cheque.

Thank you for continuing to help support our community friends and families! The students take great pride in this initiative and enjoy watching the snow gear pile up and the FAMSAC train grow!
Trudy Price, Coordinator



Craft and Bake Sale Kudos

APPLAUSE PLEASE!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the 32nd annual Knoxdale craft and bake sale a huge success! This year we had an amazing amount of baked goods and raised approximately **\$3,400!!!** Thank you to all of the volunteers and students who gave their time to the event and to those who came early and stayed late to help. Thank you as well to the volunteers who supplied the delicious lunch items for our café and for the extra crock pots! We couldn't have done it without all of the parent volunteers and bakers that contributed their time and treats, **THANK YOU!!**

KCSC would like to sincerely thank the organizers Katherine Montuoro, Susan Ko and Margaret Moores for all of their time and effort in coordinating such a fabulous and fun event!

The winning class that contributed the largest amount of baked goods was Mme Highmore's grade 5 class!! Congratulations!

The prize winners are as follows: Best Creepiest Creation: Zombie Brain Cupcakes: Anne (Mme Proulx), Most Creative Baked Goods: Marshmellow Snacks: Agatha (Mme Martin), Cake Pops Max (Mme Martin), Cupcakes - Elliot (Mme Trudel), Chocolate Pretzels - Rachel (Mrs. Highmore), Best Parent Child joint effort - Cookies Kobe (Mrs. Davis), Puppy Halloween Bars - Veronica (Mrs. Charron), Most Appealing baked good - cupcakes Julia (Mr. Shepherd), Most Innovative baked good - Lego gummies Sophia (Mme Archambault), Garbage pails - Max (Mrs. Highmore), Best Holiday Creation - Salted caramel Bark Rebecca (Mme Chambers).

A huge KCSC thank you to our sponsors who generously contributed the prizes for this event! **Cozmos Souvlaki, Metro, Fitzs bar and grill, Greenbank Flowers, Parti Pizza, Metro, Tim Hortons, Authentic Vietnamese Pho House, Mr. Mozzarella and Franks Deli.**

KCSC Contact

For any information about the KCSC, to request an agenda item for the next meeting, or to enquire about volunteer opportunities, please contact knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!