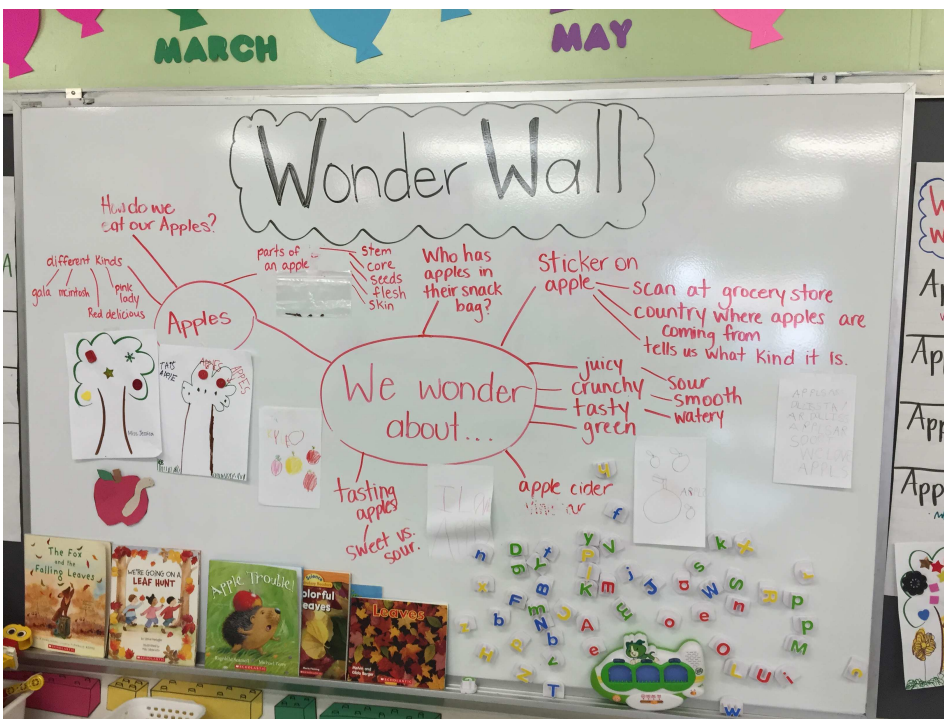


UPDATES FROM KNOXDALE PS AND KCSC

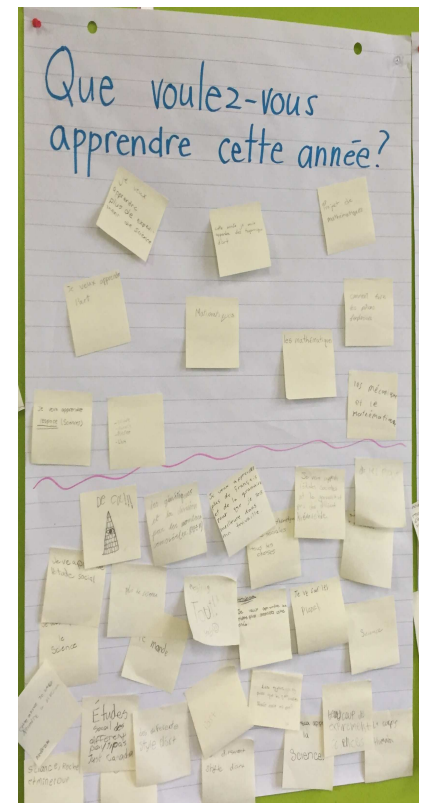
We have been enjoying amazing autumn weather and have enjoyed plenty of activities outside as well as inside the school. Cross-Country Running, Soccer, Recycling Club, and Glee Club are just some of the highlights.

Curriculum Corner

For those whose reference for school is their own education, what a classroom looks like, sounds like, and feels like is quite different than many years ago! There has been a great shift from rote learning and direct instruction to asking students to analyze, evaluate, share their thinking and to reflect on what they are learning. In this environment, the teacher is also a co-learner and a facilitator of information sharing and uncovering. Our students' ability to access information is very different than learners 15 years ago. When we were at school, we would often use encyclopedias and many visits to the library to do research for a project. Our students now have all that information at their fingertips! With this change also comes a shift in how students are learning. One of the greatest gifts we can give our students is the ability to critically evaluate the information they receive (i.e., determining reliability etc). In our classrooms you will often find



students sharing their thinking; with a peer, in a small group or with the larger group.



The goals of such discourse are to build knowledge together and to listen to and learn from different points of view and perspectives. We also nurture creativity in students and encourage a sense of wonder (i.e., What are you wondering about...? What are you noticing?). The Wonder Wall

in the picture above is a perfect example of capturing students' wonderings. Another important aspect to our teaching practices is personalization; taking into account students' interests to create learning opportunities that capitalize on their strengths and interests, as well as, allowing for flexibility in their learning. This is evidenced in the picture on the right wherein students were asked the question "What do you want to learn this year?". We continually strive to raise the bar for our students by creating authentic, engaging and meaningful learning experiences.

Every School, Every Voice: Making Progress Together

2015-2019 Strategic Plan

The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) has approved a new Strategic Plan. The strategic plan is built on five key priority areas: Learning, Well-being, Equity, Engagement and Stewardship. Each priority areas include a specific strategic objective and targeted strategies for accomplishing the objective. I have included the plan as an attachment to this message for your review.

Early French Immersion Consultation

The OCDSB is considering changes to the delivery of French language instruction in the kindergarten program that will enhance learning opportunities, provide equity of access and opportunity and support both the English with Core French and French Immersion programs. These changes include:

- Moving to a 50/50 English and French delivery model in JK and SK;
- Adding English as a subject for 60 minutes per day in grade 1 Early French Immersion classes; and
- Changing math instruction from French to English in grades 1, 2 and 3.

Please find attached, to the email message, an updated flyer with further information.

Learning in the Classroom

This year four lucky classes got to participate in a project with Monarchs without Frontières. This project comes from the Biodome in Montreal, and has as a goal to help the Monarch butterfly population, which is at an all-time low of 10% of its population from 15 years ago. Thanks to the funding from School Council (which all students help fund by supporting the fundraising efforts!), we received four kits. Each kit included two chrysalises, and at least 4 caterpillars. In our classes, we watched the caterpillars turn into chrysalises, and the butterflies emerge a few days later. We put a tag on the butterflies, which helps the scientists understand the migration of the butterflies, and then released them into our Butterfly Oasis. Our butterflies are part of the "super generation", which will fly all the way to Mexico. It will take three generations for them to come back north to Canada. The Butterfly Oasis was created two years ago, again with the help of dedicated parent volunteers.

It was really magical to see the life cycle of the monarchs, to see the students so engaged, to see a student holding a butterfly and the bitter sweet letting go of our butterflies. (Mme Muller)



Cross Country Running 2015

Congratulations to the Knoxdale Eagles Cross Country Running Team who competed in their regional meet at Sir Robert Borden High School on October 13th. The overall team performed very well with all runners competing extremely well in spite of very difficult weather conditions. A special congratulations goes out to the following students who had top 10 finishes: Craig S, Melanie M, Krista D, Ryan F, Benjamin K, Evelyn W, Luca F, Zoe DT, Kyle P, Kasai MB, Eric A. Thank you to teachers: Miss Highmore, Mme Proulx, Mme Jackson, Ms. Charron, Mme Desjardins, Mr. Corbett, Monsieur Herbert and Monsieur Cameron for coaching the team and taking them to the meet. Thank you as well to all of the extremely helpful parent volunteers. Bravo les aigles!!

Cooler Weather

The temperatures are dropping and the days are often a little wetter. It's time to bring out our warm and snuggly clothes. Students are outside during the day and when dressed for the weather are much happier.

Halloween Celebrations

Halloween is coming soooooon! If your child wishes they may wear a costume to school please do not send any masks or weapons as, these are not permitted for safety reasons. We would also ask that you refrain from sending special treats as we are an allergy aware school. We will be holding our Annual Parade in the afternoon at 1:15 p.m. for all students in Kindergarten to grade six, where they will have the opportunity to show their costumes.

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. 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. Thank you for considering

Attendance Line

If your child is going to be absent or arriving late, please call and leave a message on our 24-Hour Attendance Line at 613-828-0010, Ext. 500 or you may e-mail the school at knoxstudentabsence@ocdsb.ca . If the busses are cancelled and the school is open please call and advise us that your child will be staying at home.

UPDATES FROM KNOXDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL COUNCIL (KCSC)

The KCSC Annual Craft and Bake Sale

Saturday, October 24th 2015

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Keep calm ~ the bake sale is coming!

Come on out to the 31st annual KCSC Craft and Bake Sale on Saturday October 24th! All are welcome!

Please see the orange bake sale flyer that came home with your child for information and suggestions for baked items and instructions for dropping them off.

Purchase some delicious baked goods and enjoy a fabulous lunch of soup, chili, hotdogs and sandwiches. Get started on some holiday shopping at the same time by visiting the craft fair put on by Creative Hands (Professional Craft Guild).

We will be awarding prizes for the Most Creative Baked Goods, Most Appealing Baked Goods, Best Parent/Child Joint Effort, Best Holiday Creation as well as other prizes. Remember the class that brings in the mostbaked goods for the sale will win a pizza party from Mr. Mozzerella!

We are still in need of volunteers for this event on Friday evening for set up, Saturday morning for sales, and Saturday afternoon for clean up from 2:30-4:30. If you have some time to volunteer or have any questions, please contact one of the coordinators: Katherine Montuoro [\(613\) 795-2426](tel:6137952426), Susan Ko [\(613\)600-5199](tel:6136005199) or Margaret Moors at smre.wakeman@gmail.com

Family Fun Dance

Friday, November 6th, 2015

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming KCSC Family Fun Dance on Friday November 6th from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for kids and parents to have fun and socialize outside of the classroom. There will be a DJ with great music, prizes, games and pizza,

drinks, baked goods and snacks for purchase. Tickets for the dance will be sold at the door (Greenbank side entrance) at a cost of \$4 per person or \$10 per family; all ages are welcome!!! Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

All proceeds from this event will go toward resources and events that enhance our children's educational experience at Knoxdale!

Questions? Want to volunteer? Please email knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there, don't miss this fun event!!!

Pizza Lunch Program

Thanks to all who have signed up on-line for the pizza lunch program with Lunch Lady! Pizza lunch will be EVERY Monday instead of every second Monday. If you missed the on-line registration do not fear, you can still register by contacting Charles at the Lunch Lady at [613-667-9000](tel:613-667-9000).

KCSC Annual Report

Please find in the attachments to the email message our KSCS Annual Report which was presented at School Council in June.

KCSC November Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 3rd, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Knoxdale library, 2nd floor

Please come out to our next KCSC monthly meeting to hear about what is happening in your school, all are welcome!

We will be discussing upcoming events and activities and we will have reports from the Chair, Treasurer, Principal Williams and Vice Principal Williams DeAveiro. If there is something that you would like to have added to the agenda for discussion, please email knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com by Friday, October 30th, 2015. See you there!

OCDSB Speaker Series 2015/16

Physical Literacy with Dr. Rebecca Lloyd

Thursday, November 26th at 7:00 p.m.

Longfields-Davidson Heights Secondary School auditorium, 149 Berrigan Drive

Physical Literacy is more than just fitness and activity; it encourages a complete understanding of the way our bodies move, function and contribute to social, physical and emotional well-being. Dr. Lloyd will provide a historical perspective on physical literacy and what it means for the reformation of physical education. Hear practical examples of how we may become more physically literate in our own lives as students, teachers, and parents.

More details will be posted on the OCDSB [website](#).

Kudos

A sincere thank you to all of the parents who have come forward and volunteered their time for KCSC and the school by attending meetings, distributing flyers, organizing and coordinating events and volunteering their time. We couldn't do it without you! We are so pleased to see so many new to Knoxdale parents come forward this year and are so thankful for our returning volunteers. Becoming involved with KCSC is a great opportunity to become involved with your school, meet other Knoxdale families and forge new friendships. The funds raised through lunch programs and events are directed to resources and special activities like Scientists in School that support our children's education experience at Knoxdale. If you would like more information about KCSC or would like to become involved, please email knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com

Community News

From time to time we are asked to share news from the community. Please note that these are not school events.

Eastern Ontario Elementary Cross Country Championships

Saturday, October 17th, 2015

Mooney's Bay Park

If your child would like to race, it is an open registration through the Ottawa Lions Track and Field Club. If you have not already registered your child, you can do so on Saturday morning as a **LATE ENTRY**. Registration must be completed 1 hour **BEFORE** the schedule age group race start time. **BE EARLY**. Registration will be accepted on Race Day @ \$25 Cash paid per athlete. Entry and payment must be completed 1 hr. before the race. Please see the link for additional information: <https://ottawalions.com/> Best of luck to our participating Knoxdale Eagles!

The outdoor skating rink season will soon be upon us....

The Trend-Arlington community rink is gearing up for another busy season. The school makes good use of this rink, as do many members of the local community. This wonderful, free outdoor activity would not be possible without the hard work of our volunteer team. Please consider helping out.

10 Reasons to Become a Rink Volunteer

1. Great exercise, and no costly gym membership
2. Would you rather kids are inside on their devices, watching TV, or outside getting fresh air and exercise?
3. Many hands make light work. 21 volunteers = 3 people per night = piece of cake!
4. 1 night per week from 9:15 to 10:30 for about 10 weeks (Dec 25 through Mar 7).....that's it.
5. A chance to give back to the community and provide the kids with a safe, healthy, free winter activity
6. You don't need to have any experience. We have 1 veteran per shift that will show you the ropes.
7. It's OK if you can't make every shift. That's why we work in teams.
8. There is nothing more peaceful and satisfying than laying down a smooth flood on a quiet winter evening (seriously)
9. Get to know some of your neighbors in the community.....be part of a fantastic team!
10. Without your help, the rink can't exist

Please contact Paul Basarke at [\(613\)864-7285](tel:6138647285) or email him at: basarke@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer, or have further questions.

Also, Knoxdale Public School is always in need of skates and helmets to provide an opportunity for all students to participate in the school skating program. If you have any gently used equipment, please drop off to the school office.