



Queen Elizabeth Public School

January 2023



Principal

Mr. Drew Beaton

Drew_beaton@kprdsb.ca

Superintendent of Student Achievement

Mr. John Ford

John_ford@kprdsb.ca

Trustees

Ms. Rose Kitney

Rose_kitney@kprdsb.ca

Mr. Steve Russell

Steve_russell@kprdsb.ca

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Jennifer Naus

Head Custodian

Mr. Jamie Munro

830 Barnardo Avenue,
Peterborough, Ontario.

Tel: (705) 742-6331

Fax: (705) 748-9782

Safe Arrival: 1-844-434-8119

School Website:

<https://queenelizabeth.kprdsb.ca/>

Transportation Information:

www.stsco.ca

Twitter: @QEagles

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Queen Elizabeth Staff, we would like to extend a warm welcome back and our best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year to all of you!

For many of us, the idea of a new year conjures up a vision of a clean slate, a fresh start, another chance to do something we've always wanted to do. Even though we may break some of our New Year's Resolutions, we know that the act of setting new goals remains a very healthy process. It can be a good motivator and when we set our minds to it, it truly is amazing what we can accomplish!

As with all goals we set, it's important to set specific, achievable and realistic goals for ourselves and our families. We provide a positive role model for our children when we determine to do something and then go out and work hard to accomplish it. It's certainly a great feeling and one the entire family can share.

This year, in addition to your other resolutions, we ask you to consider renewing your commitment to being as involved in your child's education as you can. By involvement, we mean more than just coming to school for interviews and special events. We mean becoming more active in facilitating your child's academic growth. Find out what they are doing in class and familiarize yourself with the curriculum expectations for their grade level. Have your child read a book to you each night. Ask them what they're doing in class and have them teach you what they are learning. Ask your child's teacher about the learning goals they are working on and how your child can know that they are achieving success. The research is clear. There is an overwhelmingly positive relationship between meaningful parental involvement and children's success in school. Benefits include better long-term academic achievement; higher motivation and more positive attitudes;

increased commitment to learning; fewer behavioural problems; more successful programs and ultimately more effective schools. Together, we can make it happen.

Wishing you all the very best in 2023!

Sincerely,

Drew Beaton

Principal

Upcoming Events

Jan. 27th

Family Literacy Day

Feb. 6th

School Council Meeting
@6:30pm – In-person in
our Library

Hybrid Meeting Link:

https://kprdsb.webex.com/meet/drew_beaton

Feb. 21st

Family Day - Schools
Closed

Feb. 23rd

Pink Shirt Day

January is “Spirit Moon” - Mnidoo-Giizis (Anishinaabe First Nation)



Spirit Moon is the first moon of Creation. A time when the teachings of life is being honoured in silence. In this great moment of the full moon, we understand this time as a time of Nookomis or the spirit that teaches the meanings of the continuum of life from this world to the next.

At this time our spirits are called to sit at the sacred fire with our tobacco and listen to these teachings from Nookomis. When the sacred fire begins, the path of the spirits can be seen clearer than any other time. Following the teachings the spirits return to earth

and can be seen travelling across the night sky. They are the healers of the universe or the Northern Lights.

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Character Trait for January: Initiative

To demonstrate initiative, we need to be eager to do what needs to be done without being prompted by others. We need to seize opportunities and willingly take the steps necessary towards achieving our goals.

“People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I do not believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they cannot find them, make them.” - George Bernard Shaw

Top 10 New Year’s Resolutions for Students!

Here are our top 10 to help students start the New Year off on a positive note.

10. Get plenty of sleep. Scientists have found that students who do not get enough sleep have difficulty paying attention in class and do not do as well in school. Recommended amounts of sleep range from about 8½ to 11 hours a night for elementary students.

9. Eat healthy. Eat more fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Drink at least eight (8 oz) glasses of water every day. Limit the amount of sodas and snack foods you eat.

8. Exercise your body and your mind daily.

7. Follow the Golden Rule – Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

6. Time + Effort = Achievement. Take the time to carefully complete all assignments at school and home; ask questions when you do not understand a task; demonstrate perseverance (that means keep trying – even when the work is difficult), and eliminate the word “can’t” from your vocabulary. Make it a goal to do your personal best at school every day.

5. Read, read, read. Success in school depends, in large part, on a student’s ability to read and understand what they have read. Read to get information, read for fun, read to someone in your family...just read!

4. Attend school regularly and on time. First bell goes at 9:00 a.m. We miss you when you are not here!

3. Write out your Plan for Success. The plan may include getting better grades, making new friends, studying harder, being positive, etc.

2. Share your Plan. Talk with someone who can help you to reach your goal.

1. Have a fantastic year!

Cold Weather!

As we all know, the cold weather has arrived! As such, it is very important that students come to school wearing warm clothing. Sending an extra pair of socks, mitts and pants is also a good idea. Extra mitts and hats are available at the school, if needed. This is a reminder that students do go outside, even when it is very cold, so students need to be dressed appropriately.

Winter Blizzards & Busses

It's that time of year when the weather changes, the snow starts to fall, and the driving conditions become a little more dangerous. The bus companies monitor the roads and determine whether there will be bus cancellations. If your child/children take the bus to school, please visit the STSCO Website to review which bus routes are cancelled or delayed at www.stsco.ca and click on the Delay & Cancellation Information Icon on the right hand side. Cancellations will also be announced on local radio stations.

Kindergarten Registration

Your child can begin Kindergarten in September 2023, as follows:

- **Junior Kindergarten** – your child is four years of age by December 31, 2023
- **Senior Kindergarten** – your child is five years of age by December 31, 2023

Registration for September 2023 is now open!

Regional Kindergarten Information Sessions are taking place in January and February for parents interested in learning more about the Kindergarten program, and discussing strategies to help your child get ready for school!

Online registration - Click here [Registration Form](#) and register TODAY!

Online registration allows parents to sign up for Kindergarten using any device connected to the Internet, any day of the week, and any time of day. It's easy, fast and convenient.

First, create an account using your email address. Then, complete the fillable fields, providing all of the information requested. Once complete, the form is sent to the school for review. The school secretary receives the registration form and checks for completeness and accuracy. The form may be sent back and forth between the parent/guardian and school until the form is complete.

As a final step, once the form is complete, parents/guardians will need to visit the school to provide the following information:

- Birth certificate
- Proof of address
- Citizen verification
- Custody documents (if applicable).

Parents will receive a Kindergarten Registration Package when they visit the school, containing a welcome letter, a book, information about busing, and strategies to support a successful start to school.

If you do not wish to register online, please print and complete the following form.

[PDF Version of our Registration Form](#) - Please print, then bring the completed form to your school.

Families, please contact your child's school directly if you have any questions regarding its Kindergarten programs, registration and information nights.

Anaphylactic Allergies

Again this year, we have several students who have severe anaphylactic reactions to peanuts or nut products. Currently, we ask everyone not to send peanut products in their children's lunches. However, we believe we can continue to do more. In school, these students are not only exposed to their classmates, but to others on the yard. Taking this into consideration, we ask that all parents continue to avoid sending peanut butter and other nut products to school. Although this request will cause some inconvenience, if you reflect upon the potential tragedy that could occur, we believe you will agree that this is a reasonable request. Although we cannot guarantee a Nut Free school, we can certainly aim toward this goal. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping to keep a safe environment for all our students.

KPR Personal Electronic Device Policy

Our school follows the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board's policy on use of personal electronic devices (PEDs) - such as cell phones and MP3 players - in schools. The policy states PEDs may be used only during designated non-instructional times, and in areas designated by principals. At Queen Elizabeth, our designated time and place to access PED's is during the indoor portion of Nutrition Breaks only. More precisely, students will have access to their PED's between 11:20 and 11:40 in the morning, and between 1:40 and 2:00 in the afternoon. Cell phones and other PEDs must be turned off and stored out of sight at all other times. PEDs are not allowed on the school yard at recess, and they may never, under any circumstances, be used in washrooms. Please note that this policy was approved after extensive consultation with students, parents, school councils, teachers, principals, support staff and community members. Parents are also reminded that we strongly discourage the use of electronic games or other toys at school. These items can be a huge distraction to learning and the school cannot be responsible for these items when they are lost or stolen. Your assistance to ensure that students do not bring these items to school is greatly appreciated!

Plans of Care

Every year, we re-establish Individual Plans of Care for everyone in our building who has a medical



condition that could potentially be life-threatening. It is our belief that collaboratively creating a Plan of Care is vital to promoting the safety of everyone who suffers from a life-threatening condition.

Essentially, these plans are a set of directions and cautionary advice to help our staff through a potential emergency medical situation that an individual might face. The plan includes all the information that a first responder would require, as well as step-by-step instructions on how to respond to the medical crisis.

All our staff members are familiarized with the plans, and they are posted in central locations for administration to refer to in the event of an emergency. If you are a parent / guardian of a child with a potentially life-threatening illness or a medical condition, please ensure that you:

1. Inform the school of your child's medical needs.
2. Schedule a meeting with your child's teacher to review the medical needs of your child.
3. Working with our Secretary, complete a Plan of Care for your child. If this has already been established, please make necessary changes to the form, and send back to the school as soon as possible.
4. Complete the Administration of Medication form which details the request and authorizes the administration of prescription medication.
5. Provide the school with up-to-date epinephrine auto injectors (preferably a minimum of two), and any other prescribed medication, and keep them current.
6. Teach your child to take as much responsibility as possible for his/her safety.
7. Provide your child with a medic alert bracelet.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the office - and thank you for your full cooperation in keeping all our students and staff safe!

Bullying Prevention Measures



At Queen Elizabeth, we take the issue of bullying extremely seriously. We believe that everyone has the absolute right to be safe and feel safe at our school, and we consistently strive to make our school environment a secure place for everyone. Students are given consequences such as restricted recess times or community service for smaller issues, and they are suspended for more serious infractions. Research indicates, however, that sometimes children don't report when they are being bullied, so we rely on you for information. Please call Mr. Beaton at the school if you ever think your child is either being bullied or is bullying others.

Picking and Dropping Off Your Child



First, another reminder that parents and guardians are not allowed to enter the school at this time. For the safety of all students, please notify the school if anyone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child or children. Without notification, students must follow the regular arrangements made for travelling home.

If you need to take your child out during school hours for an appointment, etc., please come at least 10 minutes early to the front doors and buzz the office. The secretary or the principal will then call in to the classroom to have your child or children meet you at the office. We will not be able to have students waiting for you at the office, so please make sure you leave yourself ample time.

School Council



Our next hybrid School Council meeting is February 6th at 6:30, and you can either join us in person in our Library or join by clicking on this WebEx link: https://kprdsb.webex.com/meet/drew_beaton. All parents and guardians are welcome to join us – and we greatly appreciate your involvement.

If you are interested in knowing what we will be discussing, please feel free to look for our agendas which will be posted to the School Council page of our school website at <https://queenelizabeth.kprdsb.ca/Community/School%20Council> by the weekend immediately before each meeting. And if you are really, really interested, you can also find past minutes and financial information on this page as well.

And finally, if you have any comments or questions about any aspect of School Council, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Beaton, the Principal @ drew_beaton@kprdsb.ca or to your School Council Chair, Matt Riley @ mattriley33@hotmail.ca
Thanks and hope to see you soon!