



Queen Elizabeth Public School

December 2024



Principal

Mr. Drew Beaton

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Superintendent of Student Achievement

Mr. John Ford

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Trustees

Ms. Rose Kitney

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Mr. Steve Russell

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Mrs. Sydney Grice

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Head Custodian

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School Website:

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

Transportation Information :

www.stsco.ca

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,



Wow, it's already December! The holidays are upon us, and soon we'll all be enjoying Winter Break. We know that many families in our school community will soon be celebrating a variety of traditions, including Hanukkah, Christmas, Solstice, and Kwanzaa. Most importantly, we recognize that all faiths share the core values of goodwill toward others and the importance of family. This season reminds us all of how essential it is to spend precious time with loved ones.

Holidays are often a focal point in our curriculum because of their universal appeal to both children and teachers. Through exploring holiday celebrations around the world, students have the opportunity to appreciate diverse cultures, lifestyles, and beliefs, while also fostering an understanding of the larger society. Moreover, holidays provide engaging ways to teach academic skills across subjects. They offer a chance for us to reflect on the many blessings we have in Canada—where most of us are fortunate enough to have access to food, clean water, and shelter.

As the holidays approach, we also enter a season of giving and sharing. It is a special time when we think of those we love, reflect on how we can show goodwill to others, and work toward a more peaceful world. We hope that through our example as adults, students will learn the true meaning of peace and goodwill—not only within our community, but across the globe. After all, we are all part of one global village, and now, more than ever, we must learn to live together in harmony.

Please keep in your thoughts those who are less fortunate, and encourage your older children to volunteer during this season and support those in need within our community. As we know, this time of year can be difficult for some families, even under the best of circumstances. We ask everyone to keep an eye out for neighbors who may be experiencing loneliness or hardship. If we all take a moment to reflect on how fortunate we are, perhaps we

will see more kindness and mutual respect around us.

On behalf of the staff at Queen Elizabeth School, we would like to wish you all the very best for the upcoming holiday season. Stay safe and warm, enjoy your time with family, and treasure these special moments together.

Sincerely,

Drew Beaton

Upcoming Events

December 2nd:

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

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

December 16th – 22th SPIRIT WEEK

December 16th: Holiday Hat/ Hair

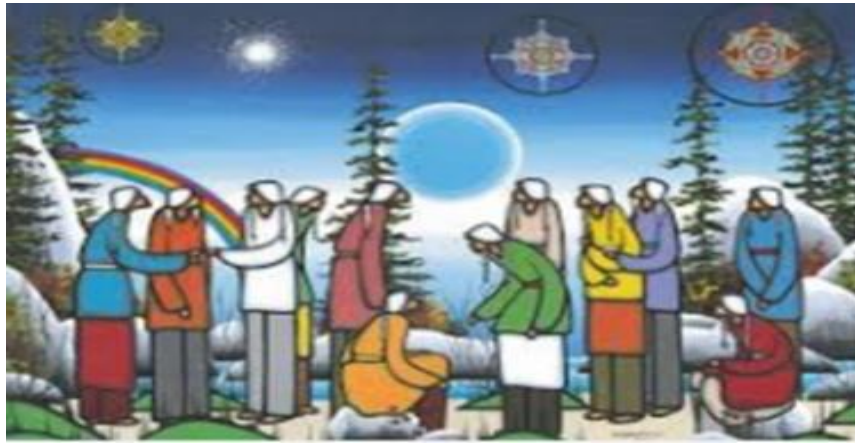
December 17th: Flannel/ Plaid Day

December 18th: Holiday Sweater and School Dance

December 19th: Character Day

December 20th: PJ Day, Movie Day and Pancake Breakfast

December is “Little Spirit Moon” - Mnidoo-Giisoons (Anishinaabe First Nation)



Character Attribute for December is: R E S P E C T

At Queen Elizabeth, we believe in treating all people with dignity, kindness, and fairness, and in valuing the well-being of our communities and the planet. We show respect by listening to others, being mindful of their needs, and taking care of shared spaces. Respect is the foundation of strong relationships and a peaceful society. When we treat each other with respect, we create an environment where everyone feels valued. Let's all commit to showing respect in our daily actions and making a positive difference together."



Cold Weather Has Arrived!!

The cold weather has arrived, and it's important for students to come to school dressed warmly. Please ensure your child wears layers to stay comfortable, and consider sending an extra pair of socks, mittens, and pants. During recess, the temperature can drop quickly, so being properly dressed is key to staying safe and healthy. Thank you for helping your child stay warm this winter!

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.

Pancake Breakfast



On Friday, December 20th Queen Elizabeth School Council invites you and your family to join us for a FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!!

Families are welcome in the school gym beginning at 8am.
Students without guardians are welcome after 8:30am.

Please consider bringing a donation for Kawartha Food Share (Non-perishable food or cash donations accepted).

Additional details will be emailed out once we get closer to the event. We look forward to seeing everyone on the last day of school before the holidays!

Pizza Lunch Orders

We are happy to share that **Domino's Pizza Lunch** is available at our school for the 2024/2025 school year. Orders are available for purchase until the end of the school year. Pizza lunches are every Thursday unless it is a PA Day or Holiday. Orders are due the Sunday before the pizza lunch and can be found on your **SchoolCash Online** items page.



How to Order:

1. Go to your child's SchoolCash Online account items page and click "ORDER NOW".
2. Confirm your child's account information including their teacher and grade for the current school year.
**Please ensure the correct teacher and grade are selected to prevent errors on delivery days.
3. Proceed with ordering your child's pizza lunch.
4. All orders are submitted on the website and payment is processed online.

Things to Remember:

- The Pizza Lunch ordering deadline is by end of day Sunday for the upcoming week's deliveries.
- New orders will not be accepted after the Sunday deadline.
- If there is a school closure, lunches will be cancelled, and a credit will be issued to your account

Popcorn Orders

Kernels Popcorn is delivered every Tuesday at Queen Elizabeth! Orders are available for purchase until the end of the school year. Popcorn can be ordered through School Cash Online for \$2.50/bag.

There will be 7 flavours to choose from: Butter Salt, Dill Pickle, Ketchup, Salt & Vinegar, White Cheddar Cheese, Jalapeno Jack, Creamy Caramel, Say Cheese Cheese, Cheesy Dill, Thai Sweet Chili. Orders must be placed before the Friday the week of the order.



Spirit Week

From December 16th – 20th Queen Elizabeth will be having our Holiday Spirit Week. December 16th will be Holiday Hat/ Hair Day, December 17th will be Plaid/ Flannel Day, December 18th will be Holiday Sweater Day, December 19th is Character Day and December 20th is PJ Day. We look forward to seeing YOUR school spirit!

Movie Day

On December 20th we will be hosting a movie day for our students. Kernels Popcorn is available to purchase for this event. The school will be covering 50 cents per bag making bags only \$2.00! Orders are available now through School Cash Online and due December 13th. There will be 7 flavours to choose from: Butter Salt, Dill Pickle, Ketchup, Salt & Vinegar, White Cheddar Cheese, Jalapeno Jack, Creamy Caramel, Say Cheese Cheese, Cheesy Dill, Thai Sweet Chili. Students are welcome to bring a pillow or blanket for comfort during the movie.



Anaphylactic Allergies

Again this year, we have students who have 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

At Queen Elizabeth, we continue to follow the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board's policy on the use of mobile devices in schools. A mobile device includes any personal electronic device (P.E.D.) that can be used for communication or accessing the Internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet, or smart watch.

To maintain a focused and engaging learning environment, we ask that all personal mobile devices be turned off and stored out of sight during the school day. If a student needs to contact home, they may request to use the phone in the office. Should there be an urgent need for a student to access their phone during the day, they are encouraged to speak directly with their teacher to find an appropriate solution.

Additionally, we remind parents that electronic games and other toys should not be brought to school, as they can be a significant distraction to learning. The school is not responsible for these items if they are lost or stolen. Your support in helping ensure that students do not bring these items to school is greatly appreciated!"

Plans of Care

Each year, we re-establish Individual Plans of Care for all students with medical conditions that could potentially be life-threatening. We believe that creating these plans collaboratively is essential for ensuring the safety of students with serious medical conditions.

These plans are detailed instructions and guidelines to help our staff respond effectively in the event of a medical emergency. They include all the critical information that first responders would need, along with step-by-step procedures for handling the specific medical situation.

All staff members are familiarized with the Plans of Care, and they are posted in central locations for easy reference in case of an emergency. If you are the parent or guardian of a child with a potentially life-threatening condition, please ensure the following steps are taken:

1. **Inform the school** about your child's medical needs.
2. **Schedule a meeting** with your child's teacher to review their medical requirements.

3. Work with our Secretary, **Mrs. Grice**, to complete a **Plan of Care** for your child. If a plan has already been established, please review and update it, then return it to the school as soon as possible.
4. Complete the **Administration of Medication form**, which outlines your request and authorizes the school to administer prescribed medications.
5. Provide the school with **up-to-date epinephrine auto-injectors** (preferably two) and any other prescribed medications, ensuring they remain current.
6. **Teach your child** to take responsibility for their safety as much as possible.
7. Provide your child with a **medicalert bracelet**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school office. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep all our students and staff safe.

Bullying Prevention Measures

At Queen Elizabeth, we take the issue of bullying very seriously. We believe that every student has the right to feel safe and secure at school, and we are committed to creating an environment where all students can learn and grow without fear.

We address bullying by implementing appropriate consequences, such as restricted recess time or community service for minor incidents, and suspensions for more serious infractions. However, research shows that children sometimes don't report when they are being bullied, which is why we rely on you, as parents, to help us stay informed.



If you ever believe your child is being bullied, or if your child is bullying others, please contact Mr. Beaton at the school. Your involvement and communication are crucial in helping us maintain a safe and supportive environment for all students.

Picking and Dropping Off Your Child



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 front door. 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 School Council meeting is on Monday, December 2nd at 6:30 in our School Library. If you are unable to join in-person, you can join us virtually as well at 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_Council 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 at drew_beaton@kprdsb.ca or to your School Council Chair, Matt Riley at mattriley33@hotmail.com. Thanks, and hope to see you soon!