



Queen Elizabeth Public School

January 2025



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Principal

Mr. Drew Beaton

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Superintendent of Student Achievement

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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,

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

As the new year begins, many of us view it as an opportunity for a fresh start—a clean slate, a chance to try something new or accomplish a long-held goal. Even if some New Year's resolutions don't always stick, the simple act of setting goals is a valuable and motivating process. When we set our sights on something and put in the effort, the results can be truly remarkable! Just as we set goals for ourselves, it's essential to set specific, achievable, and realistic goals for ourselves and our families. When we commit to goals and work towards them, we not only make progress but also serve as positive role models for our children. The sense of accomplishment that comes with achieving a goal is one that the whole family can celebrate together.

This year, we encourage you to include a renewed commitment to being actively involved in your child's education. Involvement goes beyond attending school events or parent-teacher interviews. It means becoming more engaged in your child's academic journey. Take time to learn about what they're studying in class and familiarize yourself with the curriculum expectations for their grade. Encourage your child to read to you each night, ask them what they've learned in class, and invite them to share their knowledge. Communicate with your child's teacher to understand the learning goals they're focusing on and how you can support your child in meeting them.

Research shows that meaningful parental involvement has a powerful and positive impact on children's success in school. The benefits are clear: better academic performance, increased motivation, positive attitudes toward learning, fewer behavioral issues, and more successful educational experiences overall. By working together, we can help your child achieve their best.

All the very best in 2025!

Sincerely,

Drew Beaton
Principal

Upcoming Events

January 6th – Welcome back to School

January 8th – Dental Screening JK, SK, Grade 2 & 7 only

January 13th – School Council Meeting
@6:30pm – In-person in our Library
Hybrid Meeting Link:
https://kprdsb.webex.com/meet/drew_beaton

January 15th – Grade 8 Night at Adam Scott CVI from 5:30 – 7pm

January 20th – Class Photo Day

January 27th – Family Literacy Day

January 31st – PA Day

January is “Spirit Moon” - Mnidoo-Giizis



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

Grade 8 Parent Night at Adam Scott CVI



On the evening of January 15th, 2025, the staff of Adam Scott C.V.I. is hosting an Information Meeting for current Grade 8 students and their parents.

The evening will start at 5:30 in the Auditorium and those in attendance will learn more about:

- ‘Elective’ Course Options
- How to make the ‘Course Choices’ with your son or daughter
- The Course Selection process
- How High School ‘works’
- What happens after Grade 9.

Compulsory Program Lead Teachers will be available in the Auditorium from 6:30 – 7:00 to share information about Programs with Parents.

Welcome To Adam Scott!

Field Trip Financial Help

As the school year progresses, students will have more opportunities to learn outside the classroom through field trips. At Queen Elizabeth, we believe every student should have the chance to participate in these valuable experiences.

If your family requires financial assistance to support your child's participation in a field trip, please don't hesitate to reach out to their homeroom teacher. We are here to help ensure that every student can take part in these enriching opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support!

Lunch Program Donations and NO FUN Fundraiser

Since the beginning of the school year, we have been accepting donations for our Lunch Program through School Cash Online. The rising costs of food have been impacting many families in our school community, and as a result, we've seen a significant increase in students relying on our Nutrition Program, as well as more parents requesting assistance to provide hot lunches for their children.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your generous donations to our Lunch Program. Every contribution goes directly toward providing healthy lunches and nutritious snacks for students in need.

Starting January 1st, we will also be launching our first NO FUN Fundraiser. No stress, no hassle, no baking—just a simple, straightforward way to contribute. This fundraiser will be available on School Cash Online until the end of the school year, with the goal of supporting students who cannot afford to attend field trips. Please note that no charitable donation receipts will be issued for this fundraiser.

We deeply appreciate your kindness and generosity in supporting our students and their well-being.

Thank you once again for making a difference!

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.

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 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 January 13th 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!

Active School Travel Survey

Active School Travel Survey Results Are In!

This November, alongside 25 other elementary schools in the City and County of Peterborough, Queen Elizabeth PS participated in a school-wide student travel survey with Active School Travel Peterborough (AST Ptbo). With the incredible support of our teachers and administrators, we conducted a five-day poll to track how students traveled to school each day. Using a simple hands-up survey, we collected valuable data quickly and efficiently—just 2 minutes a day over the course of a week.

Together we tracked:

- 316 walking trips
- 26 biking or rolling trips
- 33 bus trips
- 404 car trips
- 31 park 'n' stride trips (where families parked a few blocks from the school and walked the rest of the way)

In total, our school gathered data on 810 trips, providing a snapshot of how our student's commute.

Why Does This Matter?

AST Ptbo and its partner organizations use this data to identify trends in student travel and understand how changes to infrastructure, services, and education programs influence family choices.

What's Next?

In the new year, we'll receive a visual report summarizing our results. This report will answer questions like:

- How do we travel to school? A breakdown of our hands-up survey results.
- How do we compare? Insights into how our actual travel choices align (or differ) from those assigned by the Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this survey! Your involvement helps us work toward safer, healthier, and more sustainable school travel for all.

Treat Trolley

All Aboard the QE Treat Trolley!

The students in room 107 are excited to share their newest adventure - the QE Treat Trolley! The students in Ms. Fenno's Learning and Life Skills Classroom have created a weekly coffee cart that delivers hot beverages and delicious treats to staff around the building, all for a small donation to support the associated costs. This program supports the life and social skills development taking place in Room 107, through financial literacy, as well as hands-on learning of both social and vocational skills. As a class, we are excited to continue to learn while making someone's day brighter with the Treat Trolley this upcoming year!