



DR. EMILY STOWE P.S.

December 2021

“Soaring to Victory”

Principal’s Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am not sure about you, but the arrival of December always comes as a surprise! We anticipate the holidays all year long and all of a sudden, they are here! The year goes by so quickly. It is a good time of year to take pause and be grateful for all of the blessings we do have.

We are contributing to Bethesda House again this year to support all of the good work they do. If you are interested in donating on School Cash Online or contributing food to their food drive, I know your donations are truly appreciated! Thank you to Mrs. Luke-Hewitt for organizing this with the grade eight class this year. We understand that everyone is at a different place at this time of year, especially due to Covid, and we recognize that this might be a more difficult holiday for some than other years. Please be compassionate to all and understanding of their varying needs.

This season, we will enjoy our special Spirit Week the last week of school. See the information included in the newsletter for more specifics. We will finish our week off with a Virtual Holiday Assembly, organized by Mr. Roberts, and with the Holiday Door Decorating Contest. This is the time of year to celebrate all of the hard work that we have done in the good company of our Stowe friends!

On behalf of all of the staff of Dr. Emily Stowe, we wish you all the best for a very Happy Holiday and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Madame Haley-Twiss

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Stowe Holiday Spirit Week

Monday, Dec 13th – Red, White and Green Day

Tuesday, December 14th – Holiday Shirt/Sweater Day

Wednesday, December 15th – Winter Vacation Day

Thursday, December 16th – Hat/Headgear Day

Friday, December 17th – PJ Day

School Council

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is already upon us! The first part of the school year seems to have just flown by!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraisers! Sprit Wear was a success, raising an amazing \$1,100! Poinsettias raised \$900. Kernels popcorn days will also continue in the New Year. Keep your eye out for more information. Information on your Purdy's order pick up will be coming out shortly. Just a reminder that Healthy Hunger will continue with Subway on Mondays and Booster Juice on Fridays.

The School Council wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season! Our next council meeting is Tuesday January 25th at 6:15 p.m. in the library. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend. Proof of double vaccination will be required.

Colleen Smiles, Chair
colleensmiles1@gmail.com

Character in the School

December's Character Attribute

Responsibility

I am responsible for my thoughts, words and actions. I am accountable for my choices. I admit my mistakes and work to correct them. People can depend on me to honour my commitments. I demonstrate active citizenship.



Report Cards

Report cards were published electronically through Edsby on Friday, November 19th. A School Messenger email was sent to all families with the instructions about accessing them. If you continue to have difficulties, please see information noted here and if not successful, contact Edsby support at support@edsby.com
Remember that you cannot access report cards from a cell phone.

Viewing Report Cards in Edsby

Parents/guardians can quickly view their child's Report Card/Progress Report through Edsby. Please note, parents/guardians can only access report cards via a laptop/computer. Report cards are not available on mobile devices.

1. Login to Edsby – <https://kpr.edsby.com>
2. Locate Classes section
3. Select View Report Cards

*Note: The below images show a grade 9-12 report card, but the process is the same for all grade levels.

A screenshot of the Edsby 'Classes' page. On the left, there is a list of classes with a 'View Report Cards' button highlighted in blue. An orange arrow points from this button to the right-hand screenshot.

4. Child's Report Card will display (you may need to toggle between periods)

A screenshot of a child's Provincial Report Card in Edsby. The page shows the student's name (Lisa J Lee), school (Stouffville High School), and a table of courses with their respective grades. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'Term 1 Mid Term' selected, with an orange arrow pointing to it.

Remembrance Day

We recognized Remembrance Day in a different fashion this year, and held a ceremony over WebEx. Classes were also asked to contribute a class wreath. Here are some examples of the creativeness of all classes, of which we are very proud. Also shown is our wreath from Dr. Emily Stowe, placed at the Cenotaph in Bowmanville.



Diwali

Every year around early November, “more than a billion people worldwide celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights, with warm family meals, bursting fireworks, glowing lamps and an ornate ancient Indian folk art known as rangoli. These geometric patterns, religious symbols and floral designs are drawn on the floor of one’s home, often using chalk and colorful powders, as a way to ward off evil spirits and welcome the good faith of gods and goddesses. The word “rangoli” is derived from the Sanskrit word “rangavalli” and roughly translates to “rows of colors,” a fitting image for Diwali’s message of light conquering darkness” (New York Times, 2021).

This year, Mrs. Miriam’s class celebrated Diwali by creating some Rangoli inspired artworks. After learning about Diwali throughout the week, students were challenged to use bright colours and create symmetrical artworks using geometric shapes cut out of construction paper.



Bethesda House

The Stowe community is once again accepting donations of non-perishable food items and School Cash Online donations to help support Bethesda House during this holiday season. Food items can be brought to the school and School Cash Online donations can be made in denominations of \$5, \$10, or \$25. We have opened up the item on School Cash Online to accept donations until Tuesday, December 7th. Thank you for your support. An excerpt from a letter sent to us from Bethesda House:

“Your support is needed. In times of crisis, even the simplest act of kindness often provides us with tremendous hope. Your donation will bring joy and much gratitude. On behalf of the Board Staff and volunteers of Bethesda House, we would like to thank you for your generous donations and wish you and your families a safe, healthy and happy holiday season.”

Volunteers

KPR schools are now permitting volunteers. Please contact your child’s teacher to inquire of the availability of volunteering, and provide the office with the following:

1. Proof of being fully vaccinated.
2. A valid, current police check with vulnerable sector search completed. The police check (with VSS) should have the seal from the police services. Checks from companies such as My Back Check are **not** acceptable. If you need the link to apply for a police check online, please go to <https://members.drps.ca/PRCOnline/default.aspx>
3. Confirmation that you have completed the attestation using the online KPR form, [available by clicking here](#).
4. If your volunteer activity will involve supervising students, you will also be asked to sign an Annual Release and Indemnification Agreement Form.

<https://www.kprschools.ca/content/dam/kpr/documents/annualreleaseagreementforvolunteersupervisors.pdf>

As a reminder, **all visitors to schools must also complete the provincial COVID 19 school self-screener prior to attending school each day:** <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Book Fair

Thank you very much to the families that supported our virtual book fair. We sold more than 150 books. This will allow us to purchase new books for the school library. Happy reading everyone!

Important Reminders

Please send your child with adequate food for lunches and breaks and all required items. Also please be sure to include extra forks and spoons in plastic baggies in your child’s backpack so that they do not need to leave class and ask for one at the office. **All students will need a water bottle. Water fountains will be closed, but water filling stations are available. Our supply of water bottles is almost empty. We would greatly appreciate your assisting in reminding your older children to bring their own bottles for refilling.**

Additional COVID Resources

It is critical to screen ourselves every morning for possible symptoms of COVID-19. Students and staff who feel unwell should remain at home, even if their symptoms seem as minor as a mild cold.

For daily screening, simply use Ontario's online self-screening tool at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> or print it from <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid19-cms-assets/2020-10/Screening%20Children%20v1.0%202020-10-01%20FINAL%20EN%20AODA.pdf>

Edsby & School Messenger

Our primary tool for communication between parents and teachers will be EDSBY. Invitations will be sent from time to time to your email, if you have not yet activated your account. Bookmark the parent portal from the Board website for ease of access. <https://parents.kprdsb.ca/>. If you have difficulties logging in, please email Edsby support at support@edsby.com

Healthy Hunger

Subway is available on Mondays, and Booster Juice every Friday, both at first break. Visit the healthyhunger.ca website at **Healthy Hunger** and register your child in his/her classroom which are listed by teacher and grade. You will be able to view all upcoming lunches and place your orders.



Please note there is a cut off of 5 days prior to each lunch date. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact colleensmiles1@gmail.com
Thanks for participating.

Website/Twitter



Be sure to check out our school website! Follow us on Twitter too! Keep in the know with what's happening and stay in the loop. Our school website can be found at <https://emilystowe.kprdsb.ca/> and should be the first point of access for our school community. If you need to email a staff member, please refer to the Staff Directory tab of our school website for all staff email addresses.

No Dogs



For the safety of our children please do not bring your dogs on school property, especially during entrance and dismissal times. Thank you for your support!

Absence Reporting

At Dr. Emily Stowe, the safety of our students is first and foremost. Our Absence Reporting System allows you to report an absence 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-844-434-8119 or register at studentabsence.kprdsb.ca or download the app (available through your app store). If late, please remind your child to report to the office on their way to class, so we can record that they have arrived safely. Thank you!





If you mention Dr. Emily Stowe before your items are scanned through, 10% of sales comes back to the school! Show your support for your school. Every little bit helps!

From The Board

KPR NEWS

Inclement Weather

On inclement weather days when buses are cancelled due to poor weather and roads, KPR schools will remain open for students and staff. As always, families have final say on whether they wish their children to attend school on those days.

International Travel

Families planning to travel during Winter Break have asked when their children will be able to return to school. We adhere to the following public health rules:

- unvaccinated children who travel outside of Canada must not attend school or day care for 14 days after arriving home; they also must follow public health requirements for testing
- children fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who travel outside Canada can return to school immediately if they are symptom-free and pass the [school screening questionnaire](#).

For details, visit: [Government of Canada Covid-19 Travel Requirements](#).

No restrictions were noted for children who travel within Canada, as long as they are symptom-free and pass the [school screening questionnaire](#).

Provincial Survey

The Ontario Public School Boards Association wants to hear from families about learning during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit <https://www.kprschools.ca/en/Survey.html>

Youth Vaccinations

Families can now book appointments for children ages 5-11 to be vaccinated against COVID-19. We are working with public health units on plans for many school-based vaccination clinics. Please note all clinics in our schools will take place **after the school day or on weekends, for families to attend together. Parental consent will be required** for the children to be immunized.

Please visit our [Youth Vaccination web page](#) for details on clinics being offered by the four health units in the KPR area. Families can book appointments at <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca> or by calling 1-833-943-3900, and at [select pharmacies](#). Children must turn 5 years of age by December 31 to qualify for vaccination.

2022-23 School Year Calendar Survey

KPR wants your input on two options for the 2022-23 school year calendar. The only difference in the options is timing of the 2022 Winter Break. Please [complete the survey](#) by Monday, December 13 to let us know if you would prefer next year's Winter Break to be held either December 19-30, 2022, or December 26, 2022 - January 6, 2023.

KEEP OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY SAFE



Do not come to school if...



You have any of the symptoms from the provincial screening tool and they are not related to known causes or conditions you already have (such as allergies, asthma, anxiety/depression, etc).

Students

- Fever and/or chills - 37.8° Celsius/ 100° Fahrenheit or higher
- Cough or barking cough (croup) - Continuous, more than usual
- Shortness of breath - Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply
- Decrease or loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea

Staff/Visitors

- Fever and/or chills - 37.8° Celsius/ 100° Fahrenheit or higher
- Cough or barking cough (croup) - Continuous, more than usual
- Shortness of breath - Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply
- Decrease or loss of taste or smell
- Extreme tiredness or muscle aches



You have travelled outside Canada in the past 14 days and were advised to quarantine.



A health care provider or health unit has told you to isolate/stay at home.



You tested positive on a rapid antigen or home-based test in the last 10 days.

In addition to the points above, if you are not fully vaccinated over 14 days ago, do not come to school if...



You were identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, or have you received a COVID Alert, within the last 10 days.



Someone you live with is experiencing COVID symptoms or awaiting a test result.

If you answer yes to any of these questions, stay home and follow the directions provided by the provincial screening tool: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening>



Help Stop the Spread of COVID-19

www.kprschoools.ca



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3 	4
5	6 National Day of Remembrance on Violence Against Women 	7 Purdy's Chocolate pickup	8	9	10 	11
12 Spirit Week	13 Red, White and Green Spirit Day 	14 Holiday Shirt/Sweater Spirit Day	15 Winter Vacation Spirit Day 	16 Winter Hat/Headgear Spirit Day	17 PJ Day/Door Decorating Contest Last Day of School 	18
19 Winter Break	20	21	22	23	24	25 
26 Winter Break	27	28	29	30	31 	Back to school Jan 3