



STONEHAVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

December 2020

*"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake,
it is necessary to stand out in the cold." ~ Aristotle*

December marks the end of the Gregorian calendar year. As we prepare to say farewell to 2020 and welcome in the New Year, let us take a moment to reflect upon the strength, courage, compassion, kindness, gratitude and adaptability that each of you displayed this past year.

Whether you are a student, parent or staff, we were faced with new challenges, and together we did our best to provide youth with an opportunity to foster their love for learning in a safe environment. Thank you!

As schools adapted to a new way of being, so too did the activities and events planned by School Council. This year's activities are designed to bring us together, while staying apart, and are inclusive for both our in-person and virtual students. We are planning events that are well-suited for family participation, and are appropriate for any age group.

The first of our activities was the Random Acts of Kindness campaign in November, and the first of our live engagement events was the virtual cooking class last weekend. Thank you to everyone who participated! We hope to see you all at the next event!

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LOL - LAUGH OUT LOUD

*Everyone can use a good chuckle!
Thanks to Grayson and Charlotte for
sharing these funny jokes.*

Q: What did Sushi A say to Sushi B?

A: Wasabi? ("What's up, B?")

Q: Where does a cow hang its pictures?

A: At the Moo-seum

SNAP SHOTS FROM SCHOOL



Payton enjoying a magic colour science experiment at virtual school.



Charlotte ready to "pop" with joy about her soda hair on Crazy Hair & Hat Day.

VIRTUAL COOKING CLASS

A number of families joined us for a virtual cooking class with Mary's Happy Belly food blogger and "One World Kitchen" TV show host, Mary Tang.

Together we learned how to properly season the rice, make a maki roll, a hand roll and even a "sushi sandwich!"



Photos of sushi made by Stonehaven families during the cooking class. Yum!

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDESS

Thank you to everyone who helped spread joy during Kindness Month.

Together, you came up with **274 ways to make someone happy!**

You're the reason someone smiled. Here are just a few examples of the many good deeds you shared with us.



My sister was feeling upset so I told jokes and acted silly to make her laugh and help her feel happy again

My friend needed help doing up his coat so I helped him before going out for recess

I noticed my friend forgot his gloves on the bus so I grabbed them and brought them to his home

I made a batch of chocolate chip cookies from scratch and delivered them to my grandparents house (but my sister and I taste tested a few before making the delivery :-)

I gave mommy a handmade card telling her that she brightens my day

I did some yard work in the back yard for the up coming winter season

Purchased Christmas gifts for a senior who lives in long term care and has no family visiting

I try to listen to my friends when they need to talk to me and I try to help them out if I can

I helped my mom decorate our Christmas Tree :)

Helped mom to tidy up (wipe the staircases).

I helped a classmate with an assignment

My teacher needed assistance with the lights and I rushed over to help

When my friends felt sad I cheered them up- I talk to them to make them feel better, gave a small present, I told a funny story.

I made breakfast for my sister and my dad

I helped my older sister rake the neighbours leaves

Our daughter came to us and said, "Mommy and Daddy, you do not get many gifts so I made this card for you." She showed us a beautiful card she made: two A4 sheets stapled together, each had a feather attached, hearts and stars drawn, Mom written on one part and Dad on the other. Needless to say our hearts melted.

I fundraised money to make 80 gift boxes for the children receiving mental health treatment. The gift boxes had 12 new items each and decorated with nice drawings. These boxes were delivered on November 30 to York Region CMHA.

I woke up early and cleaned the snow off of my dad's car before he left for work

CONGRATULATIONS TO AISHA FOR WINNING THE INDIGO GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY!
WATCH THE DRAW: [HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/NVXCD4YLGII](https://youtu.be/NVXCD4YLGII)

THE JOY OF GIVING

If you're looking for a gift this holiday season or into the new year, School Council has some options that might be perfect for that special someone. Every purchase helps support our school.



ARTSHINE IN A BOX

OPEN NOW

Give the gift that lets your child's creativity shine!

"Artshine in a Box" is an arts subscription service. When you enroll, your child will receive an art kit each month that explores a different art medium such as drawing, pastels, painting, 3D pens and more.

Supplies for each project, video tutorials and step-by-step instructions are included in the box.

The art boxes are tailored to your child's age and are delivered directly to your home. To order, visit www.artshine.ca/artshine-in-a-box and enter our school name at checkout.



INDIGO GIFT CARDS

ON-GOING (OPEN NOW)

Every purchase you make through our fundraising page will help benefit Stonehaven students!

Twenty per cent from Indigo e-gift cards and up to 5% from online purchases will be donated back to our school.

Gift cards are delivered instantly to your email and are available in various denominations. Products purchased through the online store are delivered to your home.

E-cards are excellent teacher's gifts, birthday gifts, thank you gifts and nice gifts for yourself, too! The site is open all year round.

Visit our [fundraising site](#) for more information.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Here is a brief summary of what was discussed at the December 3, 2020 Council Meeting. The minutes will be posted following approval at the next meeting.

Balance in our account: \$1,471.03

Staff Report:

- we have 383 face-to-face students in 20 classrooms
- past events: Treaty Recognition and Holocaust Week, Remembrance Day ceremony, parent-teacher interviews, virtual graduation, report cards sent home via email, Grade 3 gifted testing commenced and spirit days underway.
- identifying solutions for bags, shoes and coats in lieu of lockers
- received 64 Chromebooks from the Board and are planning an equitable distribution based on the number of students per classroom
- hosted a food drive for non-perishable items

Technology Fundraiser:

- received \$1,310 (as of Nov. 30th) of the \$2,500 goal, fundraiser open until June '21 (*Update: \$1,360 rec'd to date*)

Allocations:

- \$50 bursary for cooking class
 - \$250 for Angel Fund
- Council is requesting input from staff to better understand current needs and assist with future allocation of funds

Support for virtual students was raised and expansive reach of students identified as a challenge.

Upcoming events (highlights):

January (Winter Fun)

- Snowman contest and Netflix party

February (Literacy)

- Read-a-thon and virtual story time

March (Health & Wellness)

- Virtual martial arts fitness class

April (Diversity & Inclusivity)

- Cookbook and event TBD

May (Family Fun)

- Bingo/trivia night, spelling bee

June (Celebrating Achievements)

- Talent night and virtual campfire

HOW TO CONTACT SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council would like to hear from you. If you have a joke to share for our newsletter, a great picture of your child studying, an idea for a future event or questions about our activities, you may reach me at stonehaven.es@sc.yrdsb.ca

You may also visit our [webpage](#) for additional resources, information and updates from council.

Please note that additions to the meeting agenda must be received two weeks prior to the council meeting date.

Kindest regards,
Cathy Miles
(Chair, on behalf of Stonehaven School Council)

ENJOY THE WINTER BREAK!



Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday season and all the best for the New Year!

FROM STONEHAVEN SCHOOL COUNCIL