

Thornhill PS Email Information: Monday, September 25, 2023

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday, September 25 – Friday, September 29

- *Treaties Recognition Week*
- *Safety Week*

Wednesday, September 27

- *First School Council Meeting @ 7 p.m. in the library*

Thursday, September 28

- *Swan Lake – Outdoor Education Trip – Gr. 7*

Friday, September 29

- *Swan Lake – Outdoor Education Trip – Gr. 4*
- *Orange shirt day – please wear orange*

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

Monday, October 2

- *Swan Lake – Outdoor Education Trip – Gr. 2*

Friday, October 6

- *Picture Day!*

TERRY FOX FUNDRAISER

The staff and students participated in a meaningful run on Thursday! We are so proud of our community. At this point, we are halfway toward our goal of \$1200. We are still accepting donations until Tuesday, September 26th. Please consider making a donation online at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/40143>

HOT LUNCH PROGRAMS

As a part of our fundraising efforts to support school-based initiatives, TPS is pleased to offer Pizza Pizza, individually boxed cheese pizza slices and Subway

sandwiches for sale. Yesterday you would have received a message from School Cash Online for Pizza and Subway Lunches. Please see [this attached flyer](#) for more information. If you need to set up School Cash Online, please see instructions [here](#). The deadline to order is September 24th.

FIRST SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING is Wednesday, September 27th, 2023

All parents/guardians/community members are welcome to attend our first school council meeting. It is held from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in our school library. Elections for executive positions will be held that evening – nomination forms have been shared by the Board in the new electronic Start-Up package (information to come). If you have any questions or would like to learn more about School Council, please feel free to reach out to our current Chair, Sharon Kohl at Sharon.Kohl@yahoo.ca

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

September 30th marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a designated day of remembrance to honour victims and survivors of Canada's Indigenous residential school system. The federal government declared this day in 2021, also known as **Orange** Shirt Day.

It is a day to continue learning about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and our roles and responsibilities towards reconciliation as students, educators, researchers, and community members. The day is part of a larger conversation on the historical and ongoing impacts of colonization and systemic inequalities (including in education) that continue to marginalize Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

The Orange Shirt Day movement started in 2013 to highlight the pain and suffering of thousands of Indigenous children who were sent to residential school throughout the last century. The colour of the shirt is connected to the experience of Phyllis Webstad who was sent to Cariboo Residential School near Williams Lake, BC, in 1973.

Six-years old at the time, Phyllis went to her first day of school wearing a new bright orange shirt. New clothes were a rare thing for the young girl, who was being raised by her grandmother. However, upon arriving at the school, the nuns stripped her of the shirt, forcing her to wear the school's institutional uniform.

Webstad has felt the impact of that event long after it occurred, "that feeling of worthlessness and insignificance, ingrained in me from my first day at the mission, affected the way I lived my life for many years. Even now, when I know nothing could be further than the truth, I still sometimes feel that I don't matter."

The shirt has since gone on to become a symbol of a national movement that recognizes the suffering of Indigenous children at residential schools across the country and to show a renewed commitment to ensure that every child matters.

On Friday September 29th, if possible, please send your child to school wearing an **ORANGE shirt.**

CURRICULUM NIGHT

As you know, on October 5, 2023 at 6:15 p.m., our school had planned our Curriculum Night

Due to a scheduling conflict, we will have to reschedule this event to Tuesday, October 10th at 6:15 p.m. Families are our most important partner in education and we hope you are able to join us on this new date.

We are very sorry for any inconvenience. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, as always, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher, or to the main office.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

SAFETY WEEK

The York Region School Board is committed to ensuring the safety of students, staff, building occupants and visitors in the event of an emergency situation. As such, during Safety Week (September 25 to 29, 2023) and throughout the school

year, schools in our Board practise various safety drills including Fire Drills, Lockdown Drills, Hold and Secure Drills and the newly established Bomb Threat Drill. It is critical that all members of our school community become familiar with emergency protocols as they are designed to keep all of us safe at school. Please refer to Board Policy #669.0 for more information about Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Management. Practising drills may create some anxiety for some students. If you are concerned about how these situations might impact the mental health and well-being of your child, please contact school administrators, as we have school mental health professionals available to support your child.

General Supports for Emotional Well-Being:

- 310-COPE: 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) - available 24/7
- KidsHelpPhone: 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7, <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>
- Mental Health Helpline: 1-866-531-2600 - available 24/7
- York Hills Help Phone Line: 905-503-9561 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. for children and youth (0-18 years) and their parents, caregivers or adult supporters. Visit www.yorkhills.ca for more information.
- Trans Lifeline: <https://translifeline.org/>
- Black Youth Helpline: <https://blackyouth.ca/>
- Naseeha Helpline: <https://naseeha.org/>
- 2SLGBTQ+ Youthline: <https://www.youthline.ca/>

FREE MATH AND LANGUAGE TUTORING

Please see [this flyer](#) from Ready For Success regarding a free math and language tutoring program.