

students get to solving this "Health problem." Throughout the school teachers are finding new and exciting ways to incorporate numeracy into all areas of the curriculum.



The focus of our school improvement planning this year is on bringing out numeracy across the curriculum and promoting a positive mindset in our students. Posters and notes on bathroom mirrors remind student: "Mistakes Start New Learning" and "There's More than One way to Succeed." We are encouraging our students to think differently about what success and failure looks like. It's not a question of capacity anymore; it's a question of how we teach numeracy and how we encourage students to think about it.

Before, we taught the algorithms: You do this first; you do this next. Students had little or no understanding of what they were doing. Today, we look at the problems' parts, break it into pieces and encourage students to keep looking for ways to solve or approach the problem. In the end we are encouraging our students not to give up, keep trying, look for new ways of solving a problem. Students are developing a deeper understanding and have a sense of why a problem works the way it does.

At Knoxdale, students can't help but think about math. We are trying to embed it throughout the curriculum and throughout the school day. Calendar Math (daily math problems based on the day of the month), art, where the concepts of symmetry and pattern drive creativity, Number Talks are common places where students discuss how they are thinking and solving problems. We are trying to not just think of math as a subject.



Numeracy across the curriculum allows our students to reason and problem solve and it helps them to effectively communicate their thinking in all areas of the curriculum. If students can think conceptually, it opens up not just math; it makes connections for them in the real world. It also allows them to explore music, art, the sciences, and literature in new and deeper ways. It's all about seeing numeracy in every subject. If we get students to make that association, they have a new way of thinking about how they think.

OUR COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER

At school, students learn academics (Math, Science, Social Studies etc.) and they also learn how to build their character! Like we learn incrementally in the academic domains (e.g., we learn how to add before learning how to multiply), this is also true for our character! As such, we expect our eldest

students to be the leaders and models of excellent characters from which our younger students can learn. At Knoxdale, our character education is woven into everything we do. We are also very fortunate to have so many activities and clubs at school where our students are engaged in putting their character into action. One of the most amazing things is that to be kind is so easy and it is free! Something as simple as a smile can brighten someone's day! A true mark of good character, however, occurs when we are kind and make good choices even in difficult situations. I am reminded of the following quotes:

"Our character is what we do when we think no one is looking"- H. Jackson Brown Jr.

and

"Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not". - Oprah Winfrey

Looking for a great resource that has character development stories? A student recommends [Chicken Soup for the Kids Soul](#) by Jack Canfield and Mark Hansen. This book contains many short stories that demonstrate positive character choices such as; choosing to do the right thing, accepting and enjoying others' differences, staying true to yourself etc.

KNOXDALE ARTSCAPE

Once again this year Knoxdale is celebrating the Arts during Education Week on Wednesday evening, May 3rd from 5:30pm to 8pm. We would like to invite the Knoxdale community to our very own Knoxdale Artscape. Knoxdale's Artscape will be hosting a special dance and song performance, which will take place in the Greenbank gymnasium. We will also be holding an Art exhibit displaying the various masterpieces from all of our students in our

very own gymnasium at Knoxdale. The soirée will begin at 5:30 pm and end at 8 pm; families are welcome to walk through the exhibit between those times. The Artscape dance and song performance will begin at 6:00 pm and at the intermission, audience members will be encouraged to visit the Art exhibit as well. We will be raising money that evening to help support our school's playground initiative. Me to We Club will be selling delicious baked goods throughout the evening. All proceeds will be donated to CARE Canada to support the on-going famine in South Sudan.

For your own knowledge - <http://care.ca/story/fleeing-famine-south-sudan>

Admission to the Artscape is through donation. We are suggesting \$15 per family and a tax receipt can be issued for all donations over \$25.



CLASS PLACEMENTS

As a school team we put a great deal of thought and time into organizing classes. We consider a variety of criteria, putting the academic and social needs of each student as the highest priority. We also aim for a balance in classes - this includes gender, learning style, and ability. As in previous years, combined grades classes will be included in our organization next year. Combined grades offer many positive experiences for children. Information on combined classes is included in this newsletter. Appreciating that the development of classes is a thoughtful process, if you feel you have a very special need to be considered or feel that we need to have additional information to best place your child, please put it in writing and address it to the Principal by Friday, April 21st, 2017. All requests will be reviewed and considered.

MOVING? SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2017-2018



We are in the beginning stages of planning for next year. If your child is not returning to Knoxdale in September because you are moving out of our attendance area, please let us know as soon as possible. This information will help us plan for September. Please also encourage any new neighbours in your area to come in to register as soon as possible or to give us a call and we will be pleased to guide them in this process.

NOMINATE A CROSSING GUARD

Adult Crossing Guards have a very important (and sometimes stressful) job. Students and parents depend on their Crossing Guard to help them cross the road safely all year long, in all kinds of weather and traffic.



ottawa
safety
council | conseil de
sécurité
d'ottawa

To nominate your Crossing Guard click on

<https://ottawasafetycouncil.ca/saythanks/>

To that end, we would like to give students, parents, school faculty and the community in general the opportunity to recognize the Adult Crossing Guards efforts. The Ottawa's Favourite Crossing Guard contest will run from March 27th through April 30th. The winner receives a \$500 cash prize and is awarded the Marie Armstrong Crossing Guard award.

From Kelly Banks

Program Manager, School Zone Safety

Web: ottawasafetycouncil.ca

COMMUNITY NEWS

Once in awhile, we receive requests from the community to share information in our newsletter. Please note that these activities are not endorsed by or connected to Knoxdale Public School.

'Calm Down' and Other Stuff that Doesn't Work with Anxious Children, and (Hopefully) Some Stuff That Does

You are invited to participate in a
Briargreen Public School Evening
with
Dr. Phil Ritchie, Psychologist

Wednesday, April 5, 2017, 7pm
Briargreen Public School
19 Parkfield Crescent

Anxiety is a normal part of childhood. As parents, we want to do what is best for our kids but don't always know the right thing to say. Come and listen to Dr Phil Ritchie as he presents ways to help calm anxiety in our children and build resilience. He joins us from CHEO and has worked with the OCDSB for 17 years providing workshops to the teachers and leading the Tragic Events Response Team. We have the privilege of having him present to us to help us deal with those times where our children may become anxious.

Complimentary Refreshments Provided
Free babysitting available (upon request)

Please RSVP to: bgpscouncil@gmail.com

This was made possible by a Parents Reaching Out grant, and BPS School Council

BIKE RODEO - Please see additional information in attached flyer.

The Royal City Soccer Club is celebrating our 25th annual summer soccer camp, the #1 grassroots soccer day camp in Canada. Our program is designed to offer a soccer focus in the morning with a leisure swim and camp activities in the afternoons. Boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 13 can register for full day, morning and afternoon sessions with



early drop off and late pickup times at no extra charge. We operate during July and August. For more information call [1-800-427-0536](tel:1-800-427-0536) or visit www.royalsoccer.com. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

After School Tennis Camps

Any students interested in participating in fun after school tennis camps are invited to attend the Trend-Arlington Tennis Club open house this Saturday April 1st from 12:00-4:00 p.m. You may also register directly by emailing Arthur at: ptitennis2017@gmail.com. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

After School Art Program

Young Rembrandts is offering a new 6-week session of drawing classes to students of Knoxdale Public School (grade 1-5), starting on April 5. Classes are held after school on Wednesdays, 2:40-3:40 in the library of Greenbank Middle School. Lessons are never repeated - all lessons are new. For more information or to register online, please visit youngrembrandts.com/ottawa or call [613-889-8531](tel:613-889-8531). Please note: This program is not available to students in the EDP. Please see flyer attached.

City of Ottawa Programs:

Theatre Arts - Acting Up

An introduction to basic acting skills in a game themed environment. Expand your creativity through the use of playful theatre games, vocal exercises and actions. Develop characters, settings, and themes while creating stories as a class.

[613-580-2424](tel:613-580-2424) ext. 41238

Trend-Arlington Comm. Bldg,

50 Bellman

6-10 yrs Thu. 3-4 pm

Apr 6-May 25 \$60 1093185

Muck and Mess

Get into your art with various projects, using lots of imagination and materials.

[613-580-2424](tel:613-580-2424) ext. 41238

Tanglewood Comm. Bldg.,

30 Woodfield

6-8 yrs Sat. 9:30-10:30 am

Mar 25-Jun 10 \$56.25 1091118

9-12 yrs Sat. 10:30-11:30 am

Mar 25-Jun 10 \$56.25 1091125

Trend-Arlington Comm. Bldg.,

50 Bellman

6-10 yrs Tue. 3-4 pm

Apr 4-May 23 \$45 1093184

Knoxdale Community School Council (KCSC)



Sunday Dinner at the Big Rig Kitchen and Eatery

Date: this Sunday, April 2nd

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

KCSC invites you to skip the cooking and enjoy Sunday dinner at the Big Rig Kitchen and Eatery in support of the playground renewal project.

EAT IN OR ORDER TAKE OUT ~ 20% OF ALL FOOD PURCHASED WILL BE DONATED TO THE PLAYGROUND FUND. WOW!!

RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED. Please mention that you are from Knoxdale when reserving your table or picking up your take-out order. See you there!



Spring Family Movie Night

Join us for KCSC's second Family Movie Night of the year! The feature presentation will be the recently released animated film Sing (PG). We will be hosting this event in the Greenbank M.S. gym. Please enter the school by the right side entrance from the parking lot. This is a community event and everyone is welcome! Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Date: Friday, April 7th

When: 6 to 8:30 p.m. (Doors open and food served at 6 pm, movie will start at 6:30)

Where: Greenbank M.S. Gym

Please see the flyer that came home with your child(ren) to pre-order your tickets and food. **The deadline for orders and payment is Tuesday, April 4th.** Some food will be available for purchase at the event but quantities are limited. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation in pre-ordering so we can ensure to have enough on hand.

The popcorn will be popping too!

Come dressed in your PJ's and bring your favourite pillow and blanket and please bring a pair of inside shoes; there will be a designated area for coats and boots. A reminder that folding/camping chairs are NOT permitted in the gym. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Keep an eye out for our Eagles' Playground Team, who will be on site hosting another 50/50 raffle!

If you have any questions, please contact our movie night coordinator, Renee at r.corbett.floyd@gmail.com

meeting

KCSC April Meeting

When: Tuesday, April 4th, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Knoxdale Public School Library, 2nd Floor

Please join us for our March meeting to hear what is happening in your school including upcoming spring events like the movie night, book sale, picnic and end of year celebrations. All are welcome! We will also have reports from the Principal and Vice Principal. If there is anything you would like to discuss at the meeting, please email us in advance so that we may add it to the agenda. knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com.



Dates: May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd during the school day

Times: 8:00am - 2:30pm each day, as well as the evening of May 3rd (in conjunction with Artscape night, 5:30pm - 8:00pm)

Where: Knoxdale Public School Library

KCSC's annual New & Used Book Fair needs your help! We are looking for people who are available during school hours on May 1, 2 and 3 to help kids spend their precious quarters and loonies on great books. And we can always use extra hands sorting books during the week of April 24-28 (mornings only), and cleanup after 8pm on May 3rd. If you can help out on any of these dates, please contact Stephanie.wille@gmail.com or Jennmclean@rogers.com

No time but still want to help? You can also support this popular fundraising event by donating

gently used English or French children's books. Donation boxes will be available in the classrooms and school lobby from April 18th - 28th. We gratefully accept hardcover and paperback fiction and non-fiction books for babies to teenagers.

Please no adult reference books (textbooks, old cookbooks, dictionaries etc.) Thank you very much in advance for your assistance and generous donations!

KCSC Contact

If you would like to know more about the KCSC, wish to request an agenda item for the next meeting, or to enquire about volunteer opportunities, please contact knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you! Please note that the Council email is checked every few days. Thank you for your interest!

