



# DECEMBER 2023



## Library News

Each student will be receiving a Reading Advent Calendar from the library. The calendar does not need to be returned to the school as it is for your child to enjoy at home. There are 24 reading activities suggested, such as reading a book about snowmen, or building a cozy fort to read in. There are numbered books to color on a Christmas scene. As activities are completed, colour the corresponding numbered book and colour the whole scene to create a beautiful Christmas picture. Enjoy, and happy reading!

## Fundraising

Fundraising would like to thank all the families that ordered holiday plants through our Growing Smiles fundraiser! The funds raised will go towards extra activities for students during the year.

We are now looking forward to Christmas concerts! 50/50 tickets will be available for draws held at each concert December 13th and 14th.

Finally, our favourite Christmas fundraiser is back! We will be selling candy canes during lunch break December 19th – 21st. Candy canes are \$1.00 each.

Hope you enjoy a wonderful holiday season! 

## School Council

In this month's meeting we discussed the upcoming year, and the presentations we are looking to include for our parents during school council meetings. After a successful social media presentation we want to offer more educational events to bridge the educational gap from school to home.

We are looking to cooperate with some of the other schools in the district as well, so we can offer the best presenters possible. Make sure to keep an eye out for future info on the up and coming dates.

There will be no council meeting in December, we are going to enjoy the many events the school has for the kids before the holidays.

Have a wonderful December, and we will see you in the new year!

Megan Weiskopf  
School Council Chair



## Principal's Message

November has been a very busy and productive month at Steffie Woima. A huge thank you to our parents for attending Parent-Teacher conferences and for supporting our Book Fair! Our Remembrance Day service was very well done and meaningful with our grade four students performing, student leading the service, Legion members in attendance and poignant music and images. Thank you to the many parents who attended and to Mrs. Wolkowski for all of her time and work in putting together our Remembrance Day service.

Thank you for continuing to read with your child regularly and/or setting time aside for your older student to read. As we build skills for lifelong learning, education beyond high school and the world of work, these foundational reading skills are critically important. Reading regularly helps develop students' vocabulary which significantly improves comprehension with reading. Even a few minutes of reading regularly makes a significant difference in the achievement of students not only in elementary school but in the years ahead.

The Christmas season is approaching quickly with our kindergarten concerts on December 6 and 7, the Grade 1 and 2 concert will be December 13th and the grade 3 and 4 concert is scheduled for December 15th. Students in grades 5 and 6 will not be having a concert, but they were invited to join the drama club. Our older students will be doing the speaking roles in the concerts for the younger students. At the concert, we will be accepting food donations for our pantry and the food bank, items for our Christmas Store (garage sale), and there will be a 50-50 happening! The funds raised will be going into our playground fund!

Have a wonderful Christmas season and all the very best in 2024!

Ms. Eadie-Gyori—Principal



## Hot Lunch

Thank you to Leah Inkster for her partnership in coordinating hot lunch days!

Thank you to this month's volunteers:  
Christa Currier  
Jami Kowall



Deadline to Order January Hot Lunch is January 7 th!

If you need a hand finding where to order hot lunch, please contact the office.



## Steffie Woima Pantry

At our school, we have a little food pantry to help out our families as needed. We do food hampers periodically and our supply of items for our pantry is getting low. This year, we will be collecting food for the pantry and have a wish list of items that we could really use. Your support of the pantry and our Steffie families is greatly appreciated. Food items can be sent with your student or dropped off at the office and/or the Christmas concerts. Thank you in advance for your donation of food for our pantry!

Additionally, should your family need a little extra help with food at this time of year, please call the office. Once our pantry is filled, we will donate the extra items to the Sylvan Lake Food Bank.

**Steffie Pantry WISH LIST**

- Instant Potatoes
- Canned Veggies or Fruit
- Canned Pasta (eg Alphagetti)
- Canned Meats
- Canned Soups/Chili
- Hamburger Helper/ Taco Kits
- Fruit Cups/Granola Bars
- Crackers/ Rice
- Pancake Mix/ Muffin Mix
- Peanut Butter/ Jam/Honey
- Cereal/ Instant Oatmeal

Grocery store cash cards or frozen meats are welcome

\*We have freezer space at the school



SWES SAFE & CARING MESSAGE

*Staying Connected*  
**DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON**

**IMPORTANCE OF BEING CONNECTED DURING THE SEASON**

Christmas is such a busy time of the year filled with excitement as well as many stresses. Focusing on activities that connect is especially important. at this time of the year. Children feel a sense of love and belonging when we take the time to connect with them. Connecting with children helps them to feel understood and safe. When a child feels safe, they can relax their defences, becoming more cooperative, flexible and engaged. When their brains are stressed they can get stuck in that "fight, flight, or freeze" mode just like us adults. Children need us to assure them with our actions and words that we have the tough stuff (even when it feels like we might not) so their brains can rest. Connection and attachment does this! Find some time to give your child the gift of your undivided attention! When your child feels valued, seen, heard, and accepted for who they are, you are giving them the greatest gift of all.

Activies to enjoy together:

- PLAY BOARD GAMES WITH THEM
- PUT UP DECORATIONS TOGETHER
- SNUGGLE
- PLAY BOARD GAMES WITH THEM
- BAKE WITH THEM
- DECORATE THE TREE
- MAKE A SNOWMAN
- READ TOGETHER
- CREATE CRAFTS
- SPEND TIME IN NATURE
- MAKE CHRISTMAS CARDS
- HAVE A MOVIE NIGHT AT HOME
- ENJOY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS