

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT



NOVEMBER 2020



Duke Read-a-thon: Nov 23 - Dec 13, 2020

The Read-a-thon has kicked off and we hope everyone has gotten into the "read" of things. Be sure to check out all the **Read-a-thon** information (instructions, reading log, pledge sheet) on the SAC website (dukesac.ca).

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 and if we reach that, we are done fundraising for the school year! Funds will be used to purchase devices for the classrooms (75%) and shared with another school in our community (25%).

Giving Tree & Read-a-thon:

Duke traditionally, at this time of year, has a **Giving Tree** where donations can be made to help others. In light of COVID restrictions, we won't be following that tradition but will be replacing that act of kindness with another - sharing with a school in our community. If you normally give to the **Tree**, please consider making a pleage to the read-a-thon.

Recommended Reading List

Young Reader	In-between Reader	Older Reader
Hicotea & Nightlights	The Thing About Jellyfish	New Kid & Class Act
The Snowy Day	American Born Chinese	All Summer Long
Madeline	Snapdragon	Sidetracked
Last Stop on Market Street	Stargazing	l am Malala
Lost & Found	Wrinkle in Time	The Breadwinner Trilogy
Julian is a Mermaid	Hello Universe	When Stars are Scattered
Jabari Jumps	Brave, Crush & Awkward	Noise

Audiobooks also count! You can find out how to access audiobooks for free from the Toronto Public Library by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

Indigenous Education Month

A big thanks to SAC and Mme Mowat for organizing a wonderful learning experience for our primary students. November was *Indigenous Education Month* and the students in grades 1-3 were lucky to have a virtual visit with Karen Chaboyer and her daughter and grandchildren.

During our virtual presentation they shared with us a small drum circle and songs. We learnt a lot: about how they always begin each song with tapping on their drums in the 4 directions of a compass, to honour the elements of their being, (Earth, Water, Air and Fire) with EAST always first, as the sun rises in the East. We heard the song "Wichita", a song about the waters moving fast and slow.

Karen shared with us her experiences at a residential school, where she had to go to at the age of 6. She shared some of the sad experiences, like having no toys or teddy bear with her, missing her family dearly and having her beautiful long hair cut really short. She told us she got to got home at Christmas, Easter and the summers where she would celebrate her and her sibling birthdays in the summertime.

We also learned how to make Indigenous Dream Catchers and how they work, as well we learnt all about the meanings behind the coloured feathers.

Thank you SAC and Mme Mowat for such this unique learning experience!





Duke has Spirit – Hat Day and Wacky Hair day!



We are holding a series of special Spirit Days to bring us closers together and build community during these unprecedented times. And our kids responded as only they can for our two latest spirit days – Hat Day and Crazy Hair Day! Thanks to Ms. Dunn for the collage of kids form Room 4! Our next Spirit Day will feature patterns and design!





















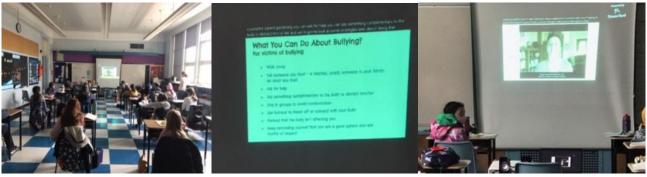


Anti-Bullying Week



The Duke of Connaught joined school communities everywhere in observing National Anti-Bullying week from the 16th to the 20th. Classroom activities included hands-on creations such as the Peace Tree in Mme Kirk's Grade 1 French Immersion class and a TDSB student produced webinair which was shared in several classrooms such as Mme Rattalade's Junior Extended French room.









We're so close to the Winter Break! Congratulations to everyone on making it this far. While we won't be able to do our annual Giving Tree this year, we invite everyone to make a donation through the Read-a-Thon so that we can share our fundraising with another school.

Our very first **Read-a-Thon** launched on November 23, 2020. For more information on this you can CLICK HERE.

We will be holding a **Food Drive** from December 2 – December 11, 2020. Boxes will be placed inside every entrance the classes go through so that donations can be dropped off without having to worry about cohorts mixing. This year we will be supporting Winter Solstice boxes made through Kapapamahchakwew – Wandering Spirits School. While all donations are appreciated some of their most requested items are beans, canned fruit, canned vegetables, rice, tomato sauce and plain pasta.

We want to thank everyone who attended our **PFLAG parenting workshop**. It was very informative and a great way to learn more on how we can all be more inclusive. If you missed the workshop but want more information on what we learned you can **CLICK HERE**

Save the Date to Welcome Winter! To celebrate the *Winter Solstice*, SAC is very excited to announce our first **virtual community event** on *Sunday*, *Dec. 20th at 2 PM*. Please join Duke parent **Tamara Robbins Griffith** as she and her children lead us through a beautiful and easy winter craft. No stranger to the camera, Tamara is well known for her stunning crafts and amazing decorating skills. This **FREE** event promises to offer a fun-filled and engaging afternoon. <u>Click here to register</u> and stay tuned for a list of items required to complete the craft. We hope you will join us because crafting doesn't stop for COVID!

We want to host more FREE virtual events. Do you have a special skill that would work for a free virtual workshop? Please reach out to us at info@dukesac.ca

Each week we distribute information via email in the "Need to Read" (NTR) to keep you tuned in to the goings-on at Duke. If you have not done so already, you can sign up on the DukeSAC.ca home page. Previous subscribers may have noticed that the most recent NTR had a new look and feel. The new format was introduced to coincide with the launch of the new SAC website. Please bear with us while we update the new site with current information.

If you are a parent or caregiver of a Duke student and would like to be involved, please email us at info@dukesac.ca.

Attending a SAC meeting has never been easier and we hope to see you **online** at the next one. We won't be hosting a meeting in December but will be back again on Monday, January 25, 2021 – a link to join the meeting will be provided in future communications.



Mme Weber - Room 301

Students participated in making textile art with a social justice theme. The program was offered by Harbourfront. Materials were dropped off before the day. On the day, students saw a Zoom presentation on textile art that contained social justice messages and were guided by a Harbourfront to create their own pieces. These are the fantastic results:





Mme Riggs – Room 29

Grade 3 students experienced "Froot Loop Math". In their Data Management unit, they learned a tasty way to create draw bar graphs!







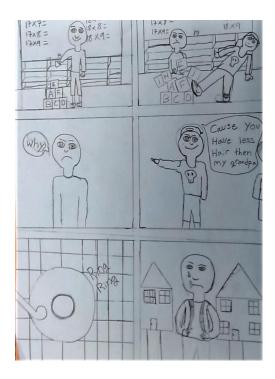


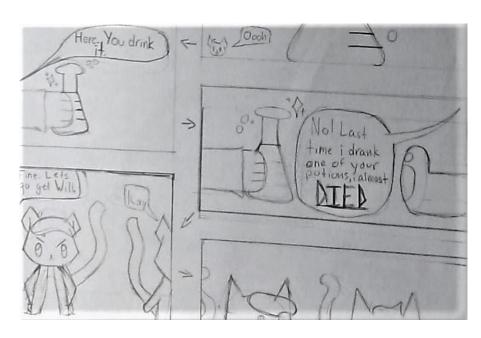


Room 205 - Mr. Ford

In 205, we are working on a HUGE Graphic Novel / Roman Graphique Project. Here are a few students' pages in progress!







Primary Health Education – Ms. Hodgins

Ms. Hodgins is using "Superpower Food Day" to promote healthy eating, starting this week. Parents can also get involved. See below!



Art in Room 103 by Kaillas:





Nutrition Update

Hi Duke Parent's and Guardians,

Some guick reminders when submitting your menu:

- . Please include your child's name, class, teachers name, and indicate if they are vegetarian or have any allergies
- . Your signature (important)
- . ONLY check off lunches wanted and fill in the amount in the space provided
- . Return the entire menu, take a picture for your reference.

December Menu is available in the NTR.

We appreciate your support of this program: we aim to offer simple but healthy food. Always know that if an issue arises, we do our best to address it and resolve it in a timely manner. We are in constant communication with the Administration and your child's teacher. If you have a concern please feel free to contact me(Maureen at madoorley62@hotmail.ca). I am available in the school Monday to Friday 8:30-2pm.

Thank you, Maureen SNPC



First Snow Of The Season. . .







