



DUKE OF CONNAUGHT



OCTOBER 2020



Halloween At the Duke !



[Here is a link to a video of more images from our staff!](#)



It's hard to believe that we are already two months into the school year! Kudos to everyone—students, caregivers and staff—for adapting with patience, kindness and innovation. SAC is no exception, and we have been busy behind the scenes planning Duke's fundraising events for the school year along with a few COVID-safe social events.

On Monday October 26th, we held our second virtual SAC meeting and the proposed budget for the school year was presented. The main focus of our fundraising efforts this year will be upgrading technology as well as monthly coffee mornings where coffee and treats will be provided to Duke staff and administration to show our appreciation for all their hard work and dedication to keeping our kids engaged and safe while learning.

November 1st marks the launch of our first fundraiser of the year - Recipes in a Jar will be available to order from now until Sunday, November 22nd. Please visit the Fundraising page on the SAC website for more details: Duke Fundraising.

Students in Grades 7 & 8 will soon begin equity work with PFLAG and SAC will be hosting a one-hour virtual PFLAG workshop for parents on November 24th – time to be confirmed later. The topics covered will be:

- the basics of sexual orientation and gender;
- inclusive parenting;
- the Golden Rule (wait for them to tell you and let them drive); and
- the coming out conversation and how it is so easy to go off the rails.

This time last year, Duke held a very successful dance-a-thon campaign and we're hoping that this year's READ-A-THON will also be a resounding success. Stay tuned for more details about this fun and engaging event.

Each week we distribute the Need To Read (NTR) via email to keep you informed of goings-on at the school. 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 more involved, please email us at info@dukesac.ca. We hope to see you (online) at our next SAC meeting on Monday, November 30th - a link to join the meeting will be provided in future communications.

SAC Fundraiser: Recipes in a Jar

SAC is embarking on a new fundraising campaign aimed at supporting the school in the purchase of critical resources like technology to support student learning and achievement:

- The Recipe in a Jar fundraiser will run until Sunday November 22.
- Jars can be ordered here: dukeofconnaught2020.recettesenpot.com
- Funds raised will support teacher appreciated activities as Duke. Any funds raised beyond our goal will be rolled into support other SAC activities.
- Jars are made by a Canadian owned social enterprise. For every jar sold a donation is also made to our local Glen Rhodes Food Bank.
- Free shipping is available when you purchase six jars or more at dukeofconnaught2020.recettesenpot.com
- For those ordering less than that there is a \$15 flat shipping rate or you can participate in a bulk order where you pickup at a local home by using the following google form: <https://forms.gle/k3skWvKmqoBP73kV6>
- New this year! Gift a jar to Duke staff: Order as part of the Duke SAC bulk order and for an extra \$5/jar we will deliver your jar to a Duke staff member of your choice. We will add a beautiful locally made gift tag from [Gotomago.com](https://gotomago.com) and include a short message of your choice! If you would like to gift a jar to a Duke staff member order here: <https://forms.gle/k3skWvKmqoBP73kV6>
- Note that while none of the jars contain nuts as ingredients Recipes in a Jar is not a nut-free facility
- Questions? contact DukeJarFundraiser@gmail.com



Attention Kindergarten and Grade 1 Families: Virtual Start Right Social Skills Program Through the Child Development institute:

One of our Community Partners, the Child Development Institute, is excited to announce that they will be offering the ten-session manualized Start Right Social Skills program virtually to children in kindergarten and grade one! We will support the building of pro-social skills and positive interactions between children and their facilitators in a play-based virtual setting.

Start Right Social Skills will consist of ten weekly sessions running Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday at 4:30 or 6 PM for one hour in length. A caregiver should be present to assist with technology and activities as needed. Families will be able to give their first and second choice for date and time of the week, with programming running October 26-January 22 with a two-week break over the winter school holiday.

Families will receive a package prior to beginning the program with the materials needed for the activities that will occur during the sessions. In each session, two facilitators will run the session consisting of a story, discussion, activity or craft, and relaxation activity. The session topics for the program are: 1) Getting to know you and group rules 2) All about me 3) Feelings 4) Problem solving 5) Making good friends 6) Friendships 7) Building empathy 8) Feeling good about yourself

The program is most appropriate for children who have difficulties with: sharing or interacting appropriately with peers, expressing their needs, following directions, focusing or paying attention, recognizing and appropriately expressing feelings, making and/or keeping friends, internalizing behaviours such as being withdrawn or shy. The program is not appropriate for children who have significant aggressive or externalizing behaviours, are demonstrating unsafe behaviours such as running away, or have a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Please see the brochure which follows, for more information and registration details:



Virtual Start Right Social Skills

Start Right Social Skills (SRSS) is an early intervention program for children in kindergarten to grade one. The ten-session program is typically offered in schools and provides “play and learn” opportunities through manualized sessions for groups of four to five children. We are excited to announce we will be offering the program virtually to continue to support children and families.

Purpose

Develop pro-social skills, increase positive peer and adult interactions, and learn and practice social skills with adult Facilitators.

Benefits

Small group experiences allow for more fundamental and satisfying experiences to develop a more positive sense of self. Children improve their social skills and positively interact with other children. They learn to identify and articulate their feelings and most importantly, to have fun.

Session Topics

Week one: Getting To Know You

- Participants will learn all about the Start Right Group and get to know their Facilitators and group members through activities and discussion
- Rules and routines are created for the full ten weeks

Week Two: All About Me

- Participants learn about what makes them unique and what their strengths are
- Participants will learn to value differences in others

Week Three: Feelings

- Participants will learn how to identify feelings and feeling words

Week Four: Feelings Part Two

- Participants will continue to learn about feelings and begin to identify body cues associated with different feelings in themselves and others

Week Five: Introduction to SNAP and Problem Solving

- Participants will begin to understand how to solve problems on their own and how to ask for help when needed

Week Six: Problem Solving and Making a Good Plan

- Participants will continue to discuss problem solving and how to make a good plan

Week Seven: Making Good Friends

- Participants will learn how to be a good friend and how to make friends

Week Eight: Friendship

- Participants will learn about the qualities of a good friend and how to get along with others

Week Nine: Building Empathy

- Participants will learn how to understand others’ feelings in order to interact in a positive and caring way

Week Ten: Feeling Good About Yourself

- Participants will learn ways of building self esteem



Dates and Time

Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 Sessions

One evening a week

(Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday)

Starting time: 4:30-5:30 or 6-7 PM

Duration: One hour

Session Outline

Welcome: Introduction

Discussion: Topic of the day

Story: Book or Video

Activity: Game or a craft activity

Relaxation exercise and Goodbye

Group Facilitators



Rosa



Jimmy



Rolando



Kathy



Cindy



Marcia

To register or for more information, please contact Alyssa Keel at akeel@childdevelop.ca or your family’s consultant/clinician/worker

Virtual Classes from Art in Action

Art in Action is [ONLINE](#) this Fall...create with us! Join Art in Action for our [Autumn Art Lessons](#) and receive the supplies to create 4 unique paintings - one to do each week. Click [here](#) for more information.

Here's how Art in Action ONLINE works:

- Art in Action **delivers** the art material to your home
- Students **create** along with a teacher *live* online
- Students can ask questions and **interact**
- Parents can choose a variety of days and class times

These painting classes are geared for students 6 years and up and each project will take approximately one hour to complete.

We are also offering Adult Art lessons, if you interested please click [here](#) to learn more.

Curriculum Night

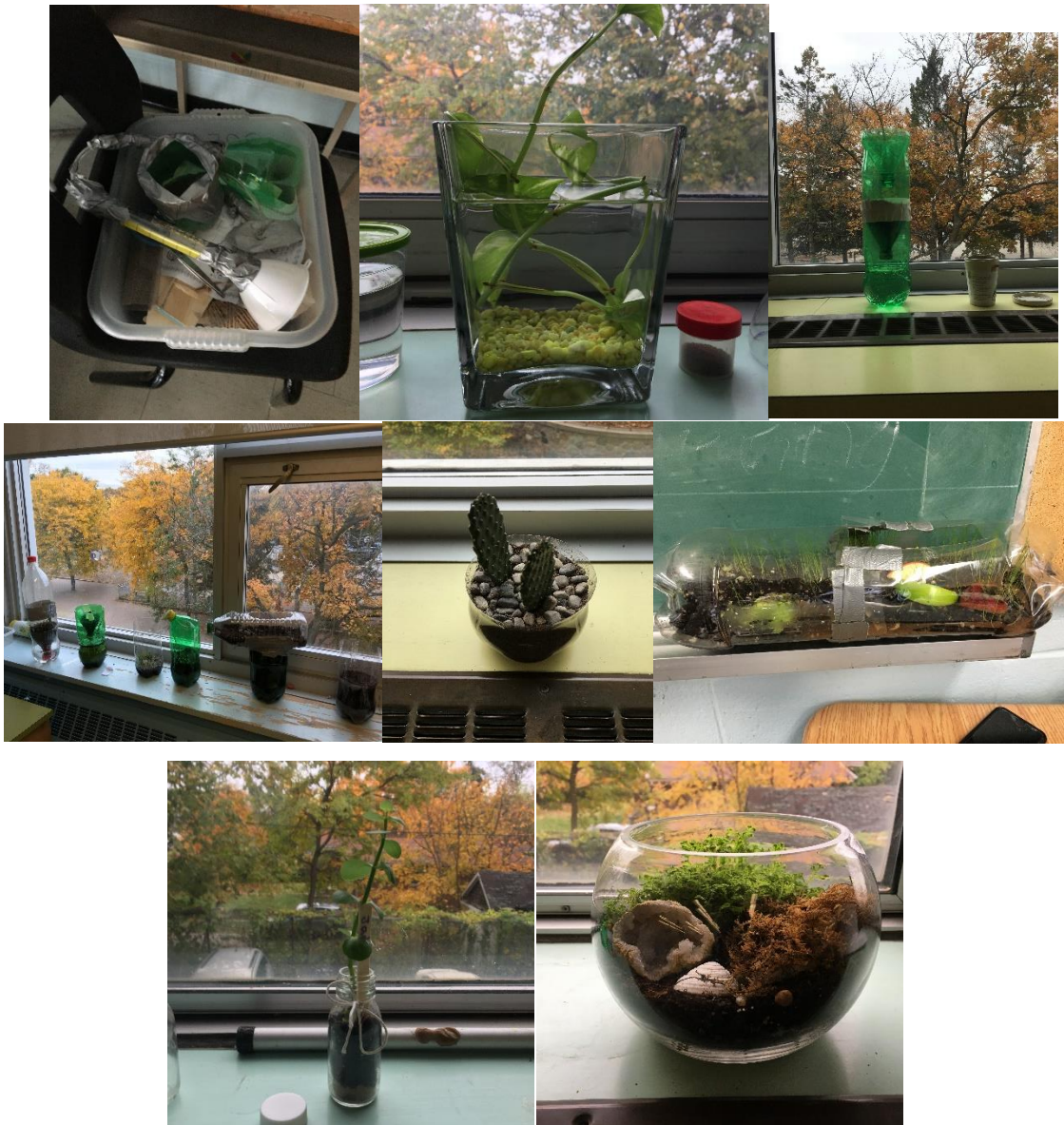
Kindergarten to Grade 3 classes held Curriculum Night last Thursday. Junior and Intermediate Curriculum Nights are scheduled for this week. Teachers are using various video presentations, slide shows and video chats to allow parents, guardians and caregivers and opportunities to peek inside the classroom and learn more about their child's program.



Grade 6, 7 & 8 STEM

In STEM this past month, we have been learning about the importance of biodiversity, the various interactions within our environment, and the significance of natural and human-made water systems to our environment and in our daily lives. Students are now in varying stages of investigating these ideas through designing and building bottle ecosystems, water filtration systems, and irrigation systems. Here are some of the builds that are underway, or in the planning/beginning stages so far!

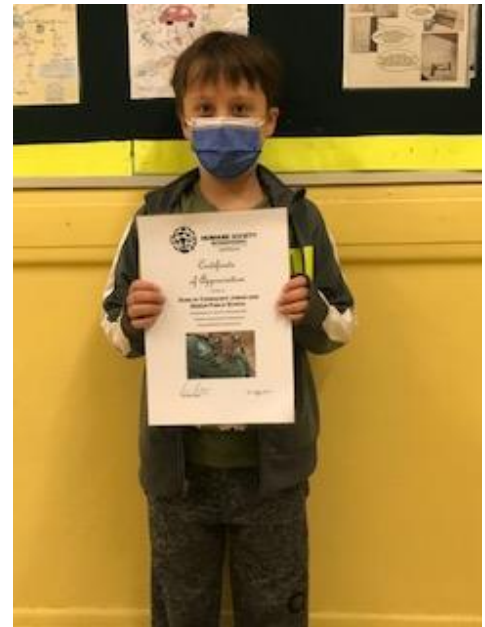
Ms. Kerr



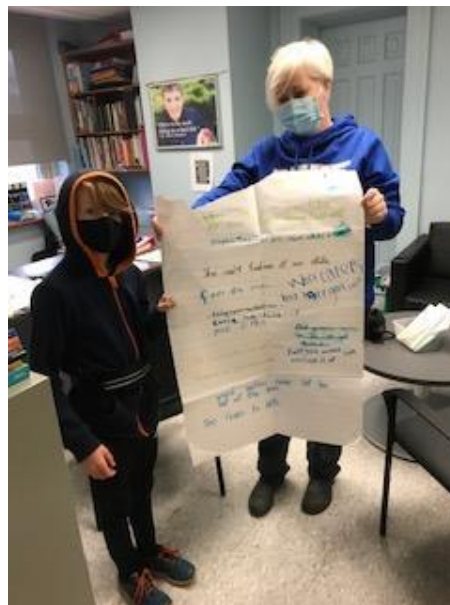
Around the School. . .



Soap stone Carving in Mr. Naimji's class



Thanks to a great idea from Julian, we were able to raise money to assist the World Wildlife Fund in its efforts to help during last year's Australian bush fires



Riddle: Why was Cinderella not good at hockey?
She had a pumpkin for a coach! We asked that riddle on the announcements and classes came up with their answers. We awarded 5 classes extra recess!

Art from Ms. Gheorghe's Students in Room 103

