

October, 2017



**From the Withrow Public School Staff, Teachers
and Students**

Withrow Bulletin

Special Dates

October 31— Halloween
Parade 1pm

November 2 — Picture Re-
take Day

November 10 — Remem-
brance Day Assembly
10:40am

November 15 — Progress
Reports go home

November 16 and 17 — Par-
ent Teacher Interviews

November 17 — P.A. Day

November 30 — Pizza Lunch

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Mental Health and Well Being

Achieving Excellence: Promoting Well-Being

Our Goal: Promoting Well-Being Children and students who have strong relationships and a positive sense of self – and who can understand and manage their own health and emotions – are in a better position to reach their full potential in the future. Their sense of well-being supports their learning because it makes them more resilient and better able to overcome challenges.



Creating a classroom environment that promotes caring and well being

A calming/mindfulness area in our kindergarten class.



Our Native Plant Garden

Students in room 116 have been busy cleaning up the Native Plant Garden on the Bain side of the school yard. We have trimmed back some of the plants that had crept over the main path and also pulled weeds from the walking areas. Students have discovered worms,



snails, potato bugs, burrs, sunflowers and milkweed in the garden. We have decided to take this garden on as a class project - to keep it healthy, happy and a peaceful place for all to enjoy. Two years ago a parent helped one of our JK classes construct an outdoor loom on the garden fence. The loom is back in operation again....and there are plans in the mix to create some art in the garden.



Room 116 is going to partner with the coming soon 'Textile Arts Club' to make our garden fence an installation zone. Parents of potentially interested grade 1 to 3 students keep your eyes open for club info. Any creatives out there in the parent community - yarn bombers among you - come see Ms. Kingstone if you are interested in being part of something new and exciting!

Withrow PALS

Playground Activity Leaders in School



*Withrow's PALS are now out in full effect at recess and the Primary kids couldn't have been happier. What's a PAL you say? Myself (Mr. Steve) and Ms. Noiles have been hard at work over the past few months prepping some of our Junior students for their roles as **PALS (Playground Activity Leaders in School)**. If you're unfamiliar with the program, it trains students on how to mediate problems in the school yard, but also how to facilitate the playing of fun and interactive games. The belief is that if kids are active in play, they are less likely to be involved in inappropriate behaviour and poor decision making. The stats are in and as a result of the program, we notice a marked decline in the number of issues brought to teachers last year. The program also provides a positive play opportunity for students who often have a hard time finding someone else to play with at recess. Now they have a whole group of kids! We're very proud of our Junior students for taking on such amazing leadership roles in the school, and we're sure they'll have an outstanding year!*

Thanks!!
Steven Massa

Coat Drive

Students from 343 and 340 are running a coat drive at Withrow. They are doing most of the planning and wanted me to pass along the following information:

- 1) It will run from Monday October 30 - Friday November 10
- 2) There will be a large box outside the office for used coats to go (beginning Oct 30)
- 3) Only coats will be accepted at this time - no hats, mitts etc.
- 4) Coats will be donated to New Circles

Thank you for your support!

Katie Sebestyen



Withrow Hallowe'en Costume Parade

This year at Withrow, our students in grades 1 to 6 will be having a short costume parade. Our Kindergarten classes may join in but parents should check with their kindergarten teacher. The parade of costumes will start at 1pm on October 31. Our students and teachers will exit out of the front doors of the school (Bain Avenue) and walk around the field and return to the school through the front door. Parents are welcome to come and watch the parade of costumes. If it is raining the parade will be in the gym.



Withrow WE Club

The WE club at Withrow P.S. does a variety of fundraisers to help people in our community or around the world. Some of our key fundraisers include food drives, coat drives and bake sales. WE club members also help to raise awareness in our school about local and global issues. This year, we did a bake sale to help raise money for the victims of the natural disasters in the Caribbean, South America, Central America and the United States. Each member of the club baked an item at home and brought it to school to sell to students in Grades 1-6, along with baked items from other students, staff and parents. Grade 6 volunteers were in charge of setting up and selling their baked goods.

The WE club raised \$1130.65 from this bake sale. We chose to donate the money to Oxfam Canada because based on our research, most of the money will go directly to the families in need.

Thank you Oxfam Canada for all of your work helping victims of natural disasters.



Withrow WE Club
Ashley Nickels, Caitlin McAllister, Katie
Sebestyen (Teacher supervisors)

Library and Learning Commons

French Book Fair in November - Volunteers needed!

The Scholastic French book fair will be held in the Withrow library in the middle of November. Adult volunteers are needed before school, after school and during the school day. Duties will include selling the books as well as helping the kindergarten and primary classes create possible wish lists during their classroom visit. Student-Librarians will also be helping out before and after school.

**BOOK
FAIR**
COMING SOON!

The hours are as follows:

Monday, Nov 13th	9am 11:45am, 12:45pm – 4pm
Tuesday, Nov 14th & Wednesday, Nov 15th	8:30am – 11:45am 12:45pm – 4pm
Thursday, Nov 16th	8:30am - 11:45am, 12:45pm - 6pm

Any help that you can provide would be most appreciated. A sign-up sheet for adult volunteers has been posted on the wall outside the library doors. You can also email me your availability at jane.mundell@tdsb.on.ca and I can add you to the schedule. The ability to speak French is not required!

Thank you! Jane Mundell, Teacher-Librarian

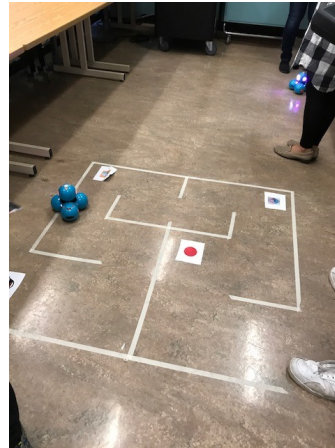


**Our Remembrance Assembly will be on
Friday November 10 at 10:40 a.m. in the gym.
Parents are welcome to join us.**

STEAM

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math

Staff from our Technology and STEAM teams worked with Annika Pint from the TDSB Robotics Program, to explore Dash and Dot robots and to learn more about coding. Our teams have many ideas on how we can continue this exploration with our students.



Grade 6 Reverse Integration Volunteer Program

We are excited that a small group of Withrow grade six students are volunteering at Beverley Street Public School as part of our "Reverse Integration Program." This is the third year that our grade sixes have the opportunity to participate in this experience. Beverley School is unique in that it is specifically designed for special needs students. Interested grade six students applied for one of ten volunteer spots. Many fantastic applications were prepared. As a group, the ten chosen students will visit Beverley school once a month to help out in five separate elementary classrooms. This program has proven to be a fantastic way to help our student develop understanding for those who have different abilities, to help them appreciate the challenges that some children face on a daily basis, to provide opportunities for them to act as role models and mentors to the children at Beverley school and for them to experience the impact of helping others. Our first visit to Beverly School was on Oct. 27. We had a great morning participating in daily life at Beverley School.

Mary Jane Noiles
Grade 5/6 Teacher



Coyote Visit Sparks Unexpected Learning Opportunity

The excitement of a Coyote walking through the yard before school sparked an unexpected learning inquiry for students at Withrow. Many students wanted to know more about this animal that visited our school yard. In several classes students used their research skills to gather information about coyotes including where they live and what they eat. It was also a great lesson about habitats and how many organisms (including animals and humans) share the same outdoor spaces. Students also wanted to find out more about The Toronto Wildlife Centre.



We know that the coyote was received at The Toronto Wildlife Centre and is doing just fine. It is receiving nourishment and being treated for some mange. So this adventure turned out to be a good thing for both the coyote and for students.



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Please check out the **Withrow Athletics Board** or Mr. Tarvit's website for updates on all sporting activities and events.

<https://sites.google.com/view/mrtshpeandwithrowathletics>



We are on the web! Check us out:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/withrow/Home.aspx>

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