



BURFORD DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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Important Dates

March 1– Black History Assembly

March 7– Scientists in the School
(Woodburn, Kinrade & Coates)

March 8– Hot Lunch Orders
Online

March 9-17– March Break

March 20– the Saidat Show

March 21– School Council
Meeting (6:30)

March 22– Hotdog Lunch

March 24– Hot Lunch Orders Close
Online

April 1– Fred Penner Trip

April 15th– Sibling, SK and Grade
8 Picture Day

Message from the Administrators’ Desks . . .

Many teachers and parents have commented that this February was one of the strangest months of their school lives. All of the disruptions did not prevent us from having one of the most exciting months of the year so far. Black History Month was recognized in a variety of ways around the school and the school was full of pink on Pink Shirt Day showing our students’ and community’s commitment to equality and fairness. We also had three exciting activities take place to get our students active in the winter months. Our annual Tubing Trip was a huge success and Mr. Zondag has already secured a date for next year. Many of our Junior and Intermediate classes took part in a lacrosse and traditional Indigenous games workshop that was both physically and mentally engaging. Finally, Mrs. Caldwell and Mrs. Oakley’s classes took part in an hour of “Pound” where they actively drummed with 1 lb. drum sticks to build their strength, cardiovascular health and coordination. Pictures and information about events at the school can be found on our facebook page.

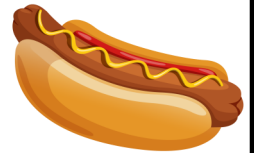
The disruptions did force the rescheduling of a number of events. Our Primary Fred Penner trip will take place on April 1st and our sibling, SK and Grade 8 pictures will be rescheduled for April 15th. All missed hot lunches have now been made up, leaving only missed milk to account for. Traditionally, we have not taken milk orders for the month of June. To compensate families for the milk that was missed in the month of February, milk will be delivered for the first 7 days of June to students who ordered it.

BDES will be acting as a pilot school for the GEDSB Student Census to test connectivity and strain on the network. Information about the Student Census was sent home with your child’s Report Card. We will begin the Student Census on March 6th and complete it before March Break. This process will give us valuable information to improve learning conditions for students across the Board.

March Break is approaching, and the staff at BDES would like to wish all of the families in the community a safe and happy holiday.

Hot Dog Day

Give your child a warm lunch on Friday, March



22nd! The Kindergarten classes are hosting a Hot Dog Day fundraiser this month. Hot dogs will be for sale through Cash Online for \$1.75 until March 8th. Ketchup and mustard will be provided.

All proceeds from the hot dog lunch go to support our Kindergarten program.

The **Saidat Show** is coming to Burford



Elementary to promote positive self-image and healthy interactions on March 20th. This event was supported by the Burford School Council and will motivate our students to be the best version of themselves.

Newspaper Fundraiser

The Burford Times is offering a subsidy to BDES for all new subscriptions and renewals purchased from the school. Information about this 100% locally-sourced fundraiser will come home later this month. Thank you to Emma Johnston for her support of our school!

Focus on Math

The Seven Math Processes

The curriculum identifies seven key processes students engage in as they learn and use math throughout the grade. This month's Math Focus continues to look at these processes, specifically on Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies and Connecting.

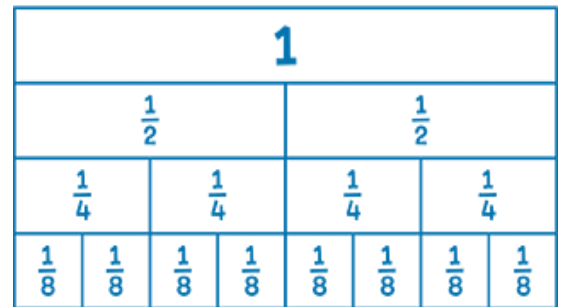
Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies

Tools used in math class include measuring tools such as rulers and protractors, physical manipulatives such as fraction strips, and digital learning tools such as graphing tools. Digital tools offer many ways to enhance learning by allowing students to see math unfold in ways that can't happen with a physical object. Such tools can be used to reduce the time spent on routine tasks and allow more time for concept development.

In your child's math classroom, students:

- choose physical and digital learning tools and computational strategies to investigate, explore, represent, and solve problems
- use technology (tablets, computers, interactive whiteboards, etc.)
- use calculators for some tasks, but not for all tasks, depending on the goal of the lesson

Fraction Strips



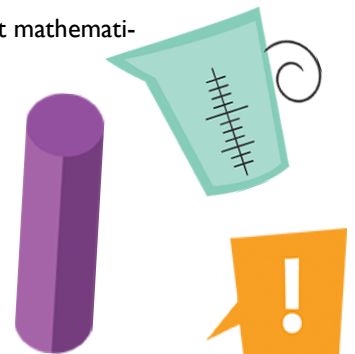
Connecting

Students learn best when they can connect new concepts with what they already know, and connect mathematical ideas to real-world situations.

In your child's math classroom, students:

- make connections between new knowledge and skills and prior learning
- make connections between math and other subjects

Taken from: Math Learning Today Council of Ontario Directors of Education



The Momo Challenge

The Momo challenge first appeared in 2016 on a mobile instant messaging application called Whatsapp. A phone number associated with the name Momo and a picture of a girl with bulging eyes and widespread mouth would use a feature of the app called quick add where the app would allow the user to add and message multiple numbers in a short period of time to then send messages back and forth.

The nature of the messages usually starts out innocent such as "wanna play a game?" and then evolve into Momo encouraging the child to engage in self-harm and suicidal behaviours. Users are threatened if they don't follow through that they will be cursed, or their family will be hurt. As adults, the threat of a curse may not faze us, but it can be terrifying to children. (Peel Children's Safety Village, 2019)

Recently the Momo challenge has reappeared in multiple YouTube videos that are specifically intended for younger audiences. Typically, the Momo challenge will be featured in videos (such as Peppa Pig, Paw Patrol, Minecraft gameplay) that come from new or unreliable YouTube accounts. Staff at BDES have been made aware of this issue and have been asked to address it in age-appropriate ways with their students and to be hyper-vigilant about monitoring the use of technology.

You may wish to discuss this issue with your children with a focus on online safety, appropriate decision-making and reporting dangerous content/behavior.


Count Us In! Grand Erie's Student Census takes place, March 18-29



The goal of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan is *Success for Every Student*. In order to achieve this, the Board must understand the needs of its students and their families. To assist the Board with this work, all students in Grades 4-12 will take part in Count Us In!, Grand Erie's first-ever student census from March 18-29.

This initiative is being led by Grand Erie's Safe and Inclusive Schools Team and has the support of the Board of Trustees, Senior Management and a host of community groups and organizations. It is also part of a larger initiative by the Ministry of Education and Ontario's Education Equity Action Plan.

The census findings will help Grand Erie better understand student populations and school communities; identify and eliminate barriers to student success, inclusion and well-being; and establish effective programs to increase student services. For more information, visit: granderie.ca.



The Cat Came Back: Fred Penner Show Rescheduled

The Fred Penner field trip that was cancelled due to inclement weather has been rescheduled for Monday, April 1st. All other details of the trip (location, time) remain unchanged. A new permission form will be needed for students attending.



New Ontario Law Makes All Grand Erie Schools Smoke-Free

Last fall, the Provincial Government passed the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, which prohibits smoking tobacco or

cannabis as well as vaping in public areas, such as schools.

The new Ontario law prohibits smoking or vaping within 20 metres of a school's property line. For reference, 20 metres is the approximate length of 1.5 school buses.

In addition to covering all indoor areas at a school, the new law applies to outdoor spaces such as playgrounds or sports fields. Anyone caught smoking or vaping in a prohibited area could face a minimum fine of \$305.

As a result of this new Ontario law, all Grand Erie schools and Board facility sites are now smoke-free.

The local Health Units are supporting Grand Erie with this change, providing new signage (see above), education and awareness information and materials as well as next steps for students and staff looking to quit smoking or vaping.

For more information on the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, visit: <https://bit.ly/2FGV4y5>.



The poster is titled "Canada's food guide" and "Eat well. Live well." It features six images of people eating and cooking, each with a caption: "Be mindful of your eating habits", "Cook more often", "Enjoy your food", "Eat meals with others", "Use food labels", "Limit foods high in sodium, sugars or saturated fat", and "Be aware of food marketing". At the bottom, it says "Discover your food guide at Canada.ca/FoodGuide" and includes the Canada logo.



March 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Black History Month Assembly	2
3	4	5	6	7 Scientists in the School (Woodburn, Coates & Kinrade)	8 Hot lunch orders go online	9
10	11 March Break 	12 March Break 	13 March Break 	14 March Break 	15 March Break 	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20 Saidat Show Assembly	21 School council Meeting	22 Hot Dog Day	23
24 Hot lunch orders close online	25	26	27	28		