

WOLVERINES

WILLIAM DUNBAR PUBLIC SCHOOL

STRIVING TO REACH OUR POTENTIAL



WILLIAM DUNBAR PUBLIC SCHOOL- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Can you believe we are already halfway through October already?

We were delighted so many families joined us for our annual school Curriculum Information night and Pizza dinner on September 12th. The Curriculum evening was an excellent opportunity for you to meet your child(ren)'s teacher(s) in an informal setting. If you want more information about your child's progress, we encourage you to contact your child's teacher directly to set up a meeting at a mutually convenient time.

We are also thrilled with the response to our Walk to School Wednesdays. This initiative, spearheaded by a member of our SCC and supported by the entire Council, is an excellent example of home, school and community involvement. It is a commitment to well-being for our students - and ourselves. We plan to continue this program throughout the school year and hope you will join us each Wednesday.

As a staff, we understand the importance of the home-school partnership in student achievement. Our students' continuing success in the annual province-wide EQAO assessment results is a result of teachers and parents working together. As a staff, we continue to target literacy and numeracy skills as well as higher order thinking strategies in the classroom with a particular focus and professional development on teaching mathematics, writing, STEM and student wellness.

Our SCC elections were held on September 13. You will find the names of this year's SCC committee and the executive in this newsletter. Even if you are not a member, please join us at our meetings. It's a great way to hear about school initiatives and plans. We welcome your voice and want to hear your views. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m. in our school library.

With Halloween on the horizon, we are aware that families have differing approaches to this annual event. We know some students will elect to dress up, some will wear black and orange, and others will opt for regular clothes. As in previous years, we ask that students who choose to wear a costume, change at lunch time for the afternoon. Our SCC is hosting a Dance-a-thon fundraiser that day as well. The funds raised by our SCC through events such as this are used to support school resources such as technology, recess equipment, and an electronic sign for the front of our school. We appreciate your ongoing support.

Thank you also for your generous support of our Food drive going on this week. This event is spearheaded by our student council. We are very proud of our student leaders and their community outreach. As you look through the pages of this newsletter, you will find pages of our student's faces engaging in a wide range of school activities. We continue our commitment to building community and honouring student identity in our school.

On behalf of the WDPS Team, we would like to wish a happy Thanksgiving to everyone in our William Dunbar community!

~ Jill Foster & Tanya Hawthorne



J. Markovski

M. Bowman

Trustees:

Superintendent

Administrative Officer

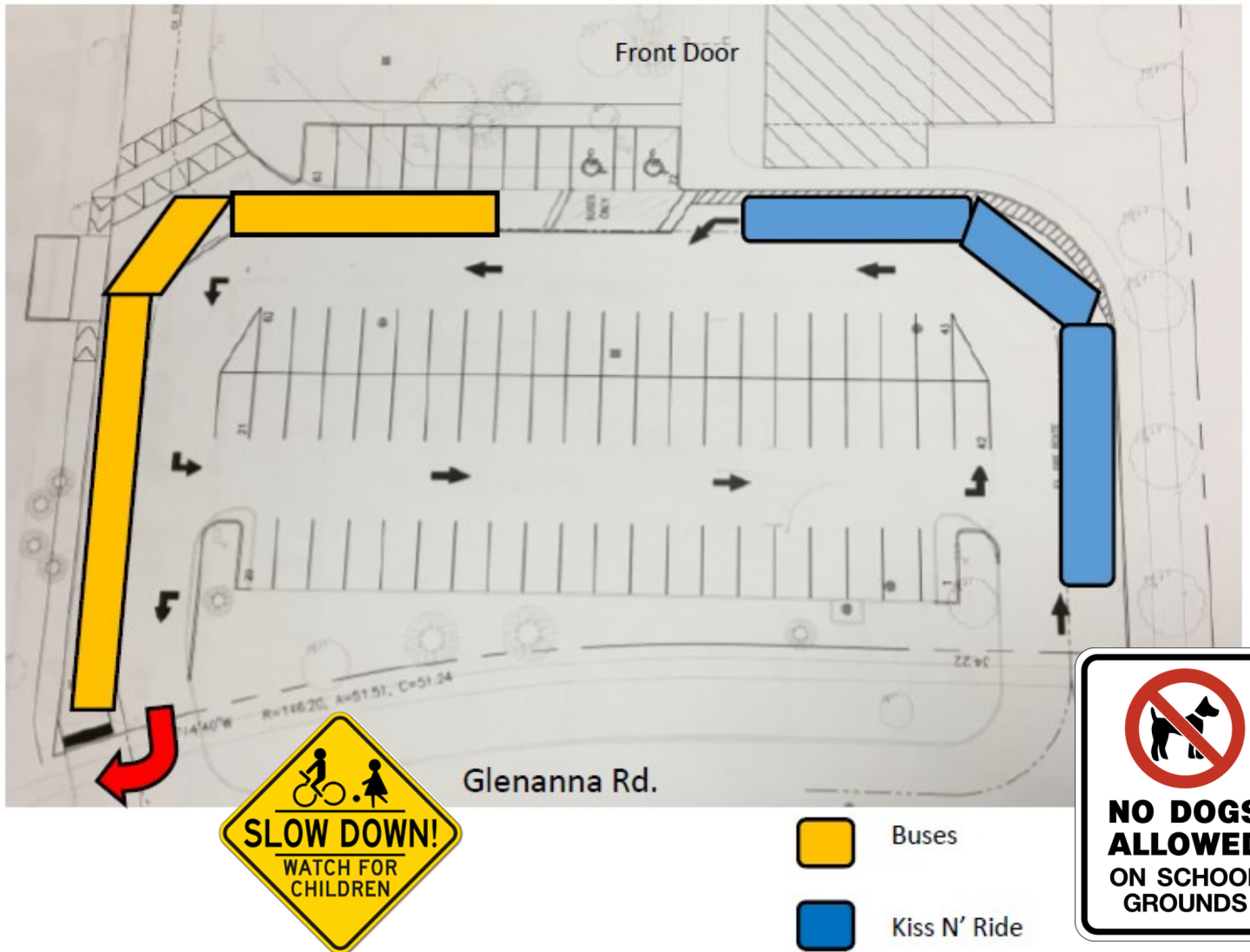
Chris Braney 905-509-2426 chris.braney@ddsb.ca

905-666-6376

905-666-6368

Paul Crawford 905-852-0575 paul.crawford@ddsb.ca

Parking Lot Reminder



- ⇒ **Kiss and Ride is one lane wide. The second lane is for busses.**
- ⇒ **We do not recommend parking in our lot during Kiss and Ride times. However, if you need to, please use a designated spot. This allows buses and Kiss and Ride to flow smoothly.**
- ⇒ **When exiting onto Glenanna Rd, IT IS A RIGHT TURN ONLY during Kiss and Ride times. This improves flow of traffic and safety.**
- ⇒ **Please share this information with anyone dropping off or picking up your child(ren), for example grandparents or daycare.**

LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS NEEDED

We are in need of adult lunchroom supervisors who are available from 11:30am to 12:30pm Monday to Friday.

Supervisors are assigned to monitor classes while the students are eating their lunch. They also supervise students in the yard with the assistance of other staff members. This is a paid DDSB position.

Please drop by the Main Office and see Ms. Hawthorne if you are interested in pursuing this important responsibility.

Dates to Remember

Oct. 7-10—Food Drive

Oct. 11—PA Day

Oct. 14—Thanksgiving

Oct. 16—Walk to School Wednesday

Oct. 21—Federal Election—we are a polling station

Oct. 22-24—Gifted Testing

Oct. 23—Walk to School Wednesday

Oct. 24—Volunteer of Distinction Ceremony at DDSB Board Office

Oct. 30—Walk to School Wednesday

Oct. 31—Hallowe'en, SCC Dance-a-thon fundraiser

Nov. 4—Spoken Word Poet in to work with grades 7 & 8

Nov. 5—Photo retake day

Nov. 11—Remembrance Day

Nov. 13—Progress Reports go home

Nov. 14-15—Parent-Teacher Interviews/Student-Led Conferences

Nov. 15—PA Day



SCC NEWS:

Stay up to date on the latest SCC news and events. Find us at Facebook.com under groups, "William Dunbar SCC".

For the 2019/20 school year the SCC executives are:

Co-Chairs: Shannon Balmore & Katie Coppolino

Secretary: Lisa Appelbohm

Treasurer: Alina Popa

All meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and daycare is provided. The dates are as follows:

- October 17, 2019
- November 21, 2019
- January 9, 2020
- February 6, 2020
- March 5, 2020
- April 2, 2020
- May 7, 2020
- June 18, 2020

If you are interested in attending SCC meetings, helping at school Community events, or want to know more about the SCC, please email us @

SCC.williamdunbarps@scc.ddsb.ca



Terry Fox Run

On Friday September 27, 2019, the students of William Dunbar participated in our 28th Terry Fox Run. Since 1991, our school has raised \$66,484.93 for cancer research. Dunbar students were inspired by the fact that during the Marathon of Hope, Terry Fox ran 42 km a day for 143 days! Unfortunately, Terry had to stop running in Thunder Bay when his cancer spread to his lungs. This year our goal was to raise \$1,500 for cancer research. We are proud to announce that we exceeded that goal and raised \$1,690.20. Way to go Dunbar!

By: Claire W. and Isabelle Y.



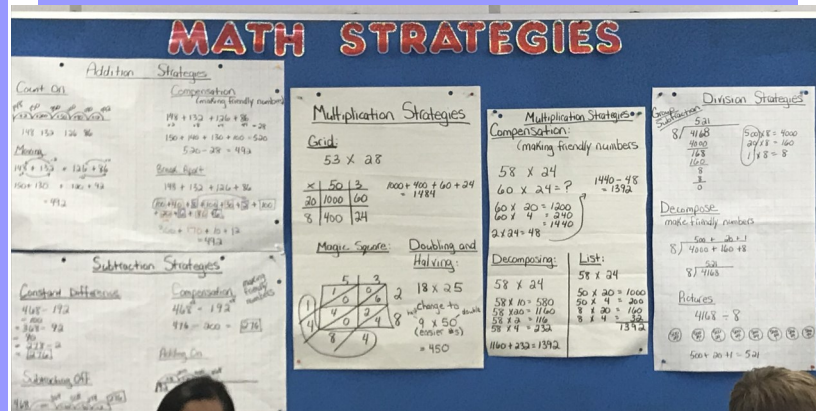
Math Strategies

My favourite Math strategy is Magic Square. I like magic square because of how simple and efficient it is. All you have to do is add some single-digit numbers and you got your answer! The other strategies are good, but magic square is the BEST.

By: Charlie W.

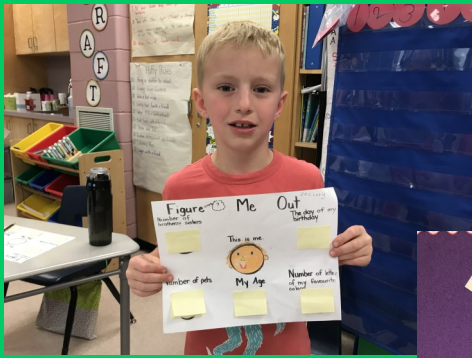
Hi I am Hannah. The math strategies we have learned have helped us make learning math a lot easier. They allowed us to find the answer much easier and that is why math strategies are so helpful.

By: Hannah M.

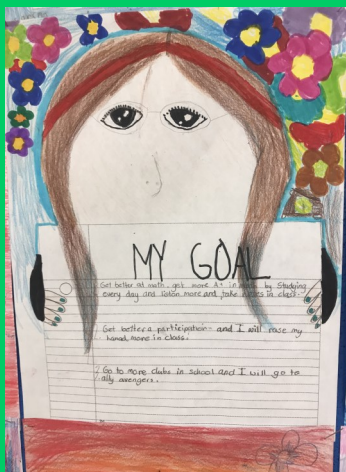
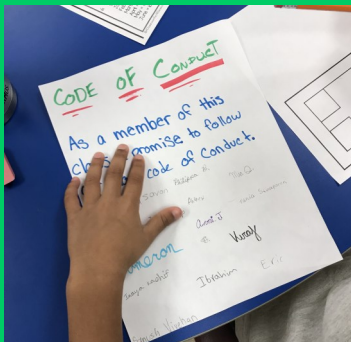
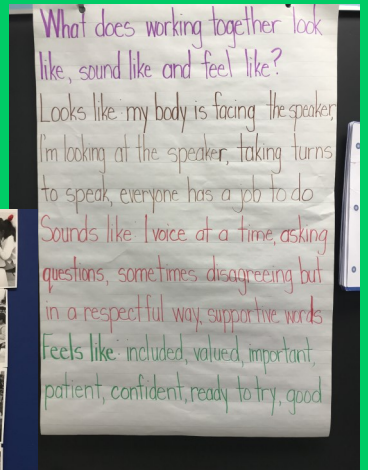
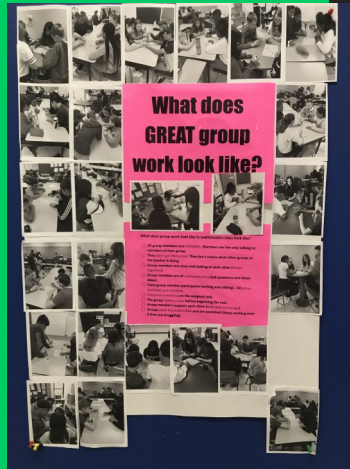
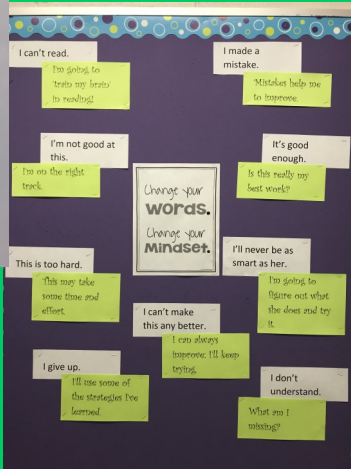
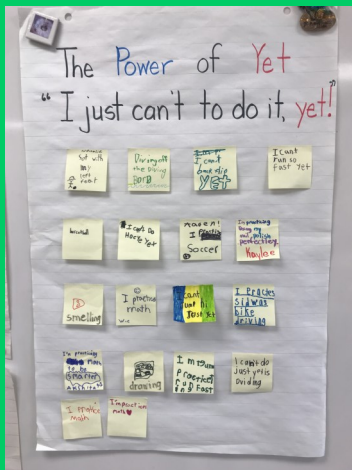


Walk to School Wednesdays





Community & Identity





Orange Shirt Day

On the week leading up to Orange Shirt Day, the Ally Avengers went around to the primary, junior and intermediate classrooms and told the story of a little girl named Phyllis who was sent to a residential school. After we told them about the story, we gave the intermediates and juniors tags to write positive messages and we gave the primaries a shirt to put a positive message and then they all put their names on it. We then put all the messages on a bulletin board across from the computer lab. The reason we went class to class was because we thought that Phyllis was treated unfairly and we hope every child is treated fairly. Now on September 30, we wear orange to honour all the people who survived residential schools and all the people who did not survive residential schools. Our final reason is as Ally Avengers, we feel that Phyllis's message has made an impact on many people in the world and Phyllis is now all grown up with a family of her own and her message is:

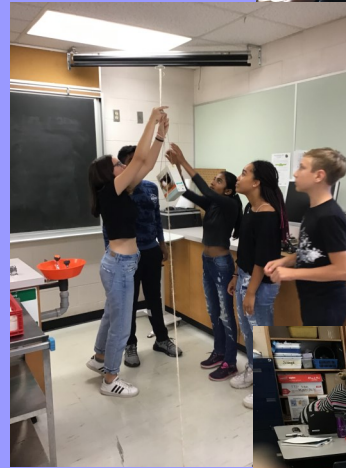
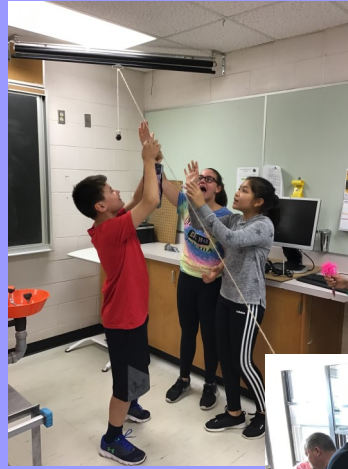
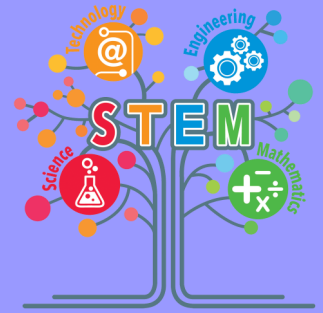


By: Hannah M. & Sophie J.



STEM at WDPS

STEM is a focus of our school improvement plan. In September, many classes—and our teachers—participated in STEM activities. Engagement was high!



SAFE SCHOOL REMINDERS



Digital Devices—Keeping our students safe and focused on learning.

Devices can be a valuable tool to augment learning, such as enabling research or the use of educational apps. However, they can also interfere with learning. Texting, engaging in social media and the taking of personal pictures or videos during class time is detrimental to a safe learning environment. The use of devices at recesses and lunch on school property is prohibited as there cannot be direct supervision to ensure appropriate use. This includes listening to music during these times. While we anticipate student compliance, here is the progressive response in the event of repeated issues:

First Offense: student receives a warning and they must take their phone and lock it in their locker (Please ensure your child has a Dudley lock that works.)

Second Offense: student brings phone to the office where it will be stored in the vault until the student leaves school property, either at lunch or the end of the day.

Third Offense: A guardian is contacted. The student brings phone to the office where it will be stored in the vault until the student leaves school property, either at lunch or the end of the day.

Anaphylaxis



Thanks for remembering
this is a



Peanut/Nut
Free School

NO NUTS PLEASE! Some allergies have the potential of being life threatening. As we have a number of students with life threatening allergies, we ask that all parents assist in our students' safety by reading the labels on all lunch products to ensure that they do not contain nuts or traces of nuts. Even trace elements could cause a severe life-threatening reaction. **Thank you to all community members for putting safety first!**

Also note that any nut alternative products, i.e., SoyaButter, WOWButter, are not permitted in the school. It is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish these products from real peanut butter which makes it difficult for school staff to control for a "peanut safe"

environment. As alternatives, other peanut-free spreads that don't look, smell and taste like peanut butter can be used as part of a nutritious lunch (e.g. hummus, low fat ricotta cheese, vegetable purees, bean dips, guacamole).



Homemade Baked Treats: We request that students and parents/guardians DO NOT bring in any homemade baked goods for special occasions. If you wish your child to bring in an item to celebrate a special event, we will allow any store-purchased, pre-packaged food item, with the ingredient label(s) clearly visible, indicating that it is a peanut/nut-free item and does not contain ingredients that any classmates are allergic to. As an alternative, we encourage any students wishing to bring a celebratory item to share with his/her classmates, to consider non-food items, i.e., pencils, stickers, etc.



Scents and Latex

We also have members of our community with severe allergies to latex and scents. We ask that no latex products, such as balloons, are brought to school. William Dunbar is committed to being a scent sensitive community so please do not wear or send scented products to school. **THIS INCLUDES HAND SANITIZER PRODUCTS.** These products also violate Health and Safety guidelines for our board.

Administration of Medication at School

Any medications that need to be administered at school require a special form completed and signed by your family doctor. These forms, **Administration of Oral Medication** or an **Administration of Medication by injection**, are available from the office. The completed form, and the medication in the **original** labeled container, must be provided to the school. The parent/guardian is also responsible for providing any special instructions or training to staff before we can begin administration. Please note, all forms expire at the end of the school year and must be renewed each September.

Good attendance patterns can become an important factor in a student's overall success at school.

Did you know?

- If your child is 20 minutes late every day, they will have missed 12 days of instruction by the end of the school year.
- If your child misses only two days per month of school, they will have missed one month of instruction by the end of the school year.
- Students who are absent 15 days of school each year will have lost one year of instruction by the end of grade 12.
- Students who attend school regularly tend to be more engaged in their learning, feel more connected to the school and tend to have better academic outcomes than students who miss a lot of school.

Families can support good attendance at school by:

- Setting a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Getting clothes, lunches and backpacks ready the night before.
- Communicating regularly with your child's teacher.
- Talking with your child about their school day.
- Taking part in school events and activities to show your child that you value school and education.
- Planning vacations and appointments around the school schedule whenever possible.
- Making sure your child goes to school, unless they are truly sick.



**Attendance
MATTERS** 



Act early! Let the school know right away if there is a problem or concern. There are lots of ways we can work together to get attendance back on track or prevent an attendance problem from starting.

Faith Days in October:

October 9 th -Yom Kippur
October 13-20 Sukkot
October 19-Dussehra
October 21 Simchat Torah
October 27 Diwali
October 29 Birth of the Bab



Hispanic Heritage Month

Ontario is home to more than 400,000 first-, second- and third-generation Canadians of Hispanic origin. As early as 1914, Canadians who originated from the 23 Hispanic countries began immigrating to the province and today the Hispanic community is one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Hispanic-Canadians represent a dynamic community that has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of the Province of Ontario.

October is a significant month for the Hispanic community. Each year, during the month of October, peoples of Hispanic origin around the world come together and pay tribute to their shared culture. Celebrations are held around the world, such as Hispanic Day (Dia de la Hispanidad), the Day of the Cultures (Dia de las Culturas), Day of the Race (Dia de la Raza), Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity (Dia del Respeto a la Diversidad Cultural), Day of Indigenous Resistance (Dia de la Resistencia Indigena), and the commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month in North America. In 2014, the City of Toronto joined in this commemoration and officially named October as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Source: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-41/session-1/bill-28>

Islamic History/Heritage Month

Muslims have been contributing to all aspect of Ontario's prosperity and diverse heritage for generations. Islamic history and culture encompasses a broad range of individual and collective experiences, as well as important contributions to literature, math, science, art and history.

In 2007 the Government of Canada declared the month of October in each year as Canadian Islamic History Month. The Province of Ontario recognizes and wishes to affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province.

Proclaiming a month to be Islamic Heritage Month in Ontario will provide all Ontarians, both today and in future generations, with an opportunity to reflect, celebrate and learn about the rich and longstanding Islamic history in the Province and the diverse roles and contributions of Muslim people in communities across Ontario. This new understanding will in turn help combat anti-Islamic sentiment.

Source: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-41/session-2/bill-23>

Women's History Month

October is Women's History Month in Canada, a time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women and girls across the country and throughout our history. This 2019 theme is still #MakeAnImpact, in honour of the women and girls who've made a lasting impact as pioneers in their field. Whether as business leaders, politicians, researchers, artists or activists, these women of impact have helped shape Canada into a thriving, diverse and prosperous country through their achievements and desire to make a difference.

As part of the celebrations, we launched Women of Impact in Canada, an online gallery that celebrates the achievements of more than 100 women and girls through photos and biographies that capture some of their many successes. The gallery is an educational resource, an introduction to the lives of these remarkable women, and a starting point for further discovery. Learn more about their contributions by exploring the gallery's interactive map and timelines, as well as the Learning Toolkit.

As always, educators are encouraged to seek to reflect and/or promote inquiry of a range of identities under the umbrella of people who identify as women. <https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/commemoration/whm-mhf/theme-en.html>

Additional Resource: <http://www.eto.ca/buildingajustsociety/womensissues/pages/whm.aspx>

LGBTQ+History Month

In 1994, a St. Louis high school history teacher named Rodney Wilson made a suggestion – LGBT history should have a dedicated month. It is said that Wilson chose October, to coincide with National Coming Out Day, Oct. 11.

As we celebrate LGBTQ History Month, we acknowledge that we have a long way to go to achieve full equality. We stand on the shoulders of giants, and we must honor them with action. It starts by centering the stories of our past as we deepen our connection to each other and our commitment to continuing to move equality forward.

Resource: <https://lgbthistorymonth.com/>



Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans
History Month

October 2nd National Custodial Worker's Day

On October 2nd National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day is a day set aside to show appreciation to the people who keep our schools and workplaces across the nation running smoothly.

Custodial workers operate behind the scenes and are often under-appreciated for the hard work they do day after day keeping schools, hospitals, office buildings, museums, churches and other buildings clean and well maintained. While delivering outstanding services and running a well-maintained operation building, they contribute to important first impressions and the success of any business.



HOW TO OBSERVE

If you know a custodial worker, THANK THEM.

Use #CustodialWorkersRecognitionDay to post on social media.

And we can all do our part to help them do their jobs too. We can be clean ourselves by keeping work stations clean, picking up after ourselves in the lunch/break room and even do some light dusting around our desks, office or cubicle. There is no reason to leave a mess for anyone else when we can simply do our part to help.

Source: <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-custodial-workers-recognition-day-october-2/>

October 5th World Teacher's Day (UNESCO)

World Teachers' Day commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. This Recommendation sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions. The Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel was adopted in 1997 to complement the 1966 Recommendation by covering teaching and research personnel in higher education.

With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, and the dedicated target (SDG 4.c) recognizing teachers as key to the achievement of the Education 2030 agenda, WTD has become the occasion to mark progress and reflect on ways to counter the remaining challenges for the promotion of the teaching profession.

World Teachers' Day is co-convened in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP, the International Labour Organization, and Education International.

In 2019, World Teachers' Day will celebrate teachers with the theme, "Young Teachers: The future of the Profession." The day provides the occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, to take stock of achievements, and to address some of the issues central for attracting and keeping the brightest minds and young talents in the profession.

Source: <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>

October 11th International Day of the Girl

On International Day of the Girl Child (11 October), themed "With Her: A Skilled Girl Force", join UN Women as we stand with girls everywhere as they inspire, innovate and take charge of their own future.

["This is a critical time for the girls of our world"](#)

On the International Day of the Girl Child, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, writes a letter to all the girls of the world to celebrate their strength and the potential. [Read more»](#)

The 1.1 billion girls of today's world are challenging the status quo. They're redefining girlhood, and they're doing so against the odds. Across the world, girls face adversities that hinder their education, training and entry into the workforce. They have less access to information, communication technology and resources, such as the internet [where the global gender gap is growing](#). A [quarter](#) of young people, most of them girls, are neither employed nor getting an education or training.

This year alone, [12 million girls under 18 will be married](#), and [21 million girls aged 15 to 19 years will become pregnant in developing regions](#).

And yet, they persist, they succeed. They are innovating technology to solve global challenges, they are standing up for the environment, they are raising their voices against violence and they are preparing to run for office.

Source: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child>

October 14th Thanksgiving Day

Traditions of giving thanks long predate the arrival of European settlers in North America. First Nations across Turtle Island have traditions of thanksgiving for surviving winter and for receiving crops and game as a reward for their hard work. These traditions may include feasting, prayer, dance, potlatch, and other ceremonies, depending on the peoples giving thanks.

When it comes to European thanksgivings in Canada, we have a few tales to tell.

Source: <https://www.canadahistory.ca/explore/arts-culture-society/the-history-of-thanksgiving-in-canada>

October 17th International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Theme: **“Acting together to empower children, their families and communities to end poverty”**

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on 20 November 1989. This landmark human rights treaty sets out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities.

In particular, the Convention recognizes the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. Poverty hurts children’s development and, in turn, leads to lower income and health in adulthood. When child poverty is recognized as a denial of children’s human rights then people in positions of responsibility and power are legally bound to promote, protect and fulfil children’s rights. Above all, it is imperative to recognize and address the specific discriminations experienced by the girl child.



Source: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/socialperspectiveondevelopment/international-day-for-the-eradication-of-poverty-homepage/2019-2.html>

October 24th United Nations Day

UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.

October 31st Halloween

Halloween is observed annually on the night of 31 October. It is believed to have originated primarily as a Celtic celebration marking the division of the light and dark halves of the year, when the boundary between the living and the dead was believed to be at its thinnest. Halloween customs, such as wearing disguises to ward off ghosts and offering food to appease malevolent spirits, were brought to Canada in the mid-to-late 1800s by Irish and Scottish immigrants. North America’s first recorded instance of dressing in disguise on Halloween was in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 1898, while the first recorded use of the term trick or treat was in Lethbridge, Alberta, in 1927. Halloween became increasingly popular with adults beginning in the 1990s and by 2014 was estimated to be a \$1-billion industry in Canada, making it the second most commercially successful holiday behind Christmas.

Source: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/halloween>

Considerations:

Are you using makeup to alter your natural skin tone? *Such uses of makeup cannot be separated from their [historical context](#).*

Does the name of your costume include an ethnicity in the title? *These are caricatures of a group of people, not costumes.*

Are you wearing garments or accessories traditional to a culture? *Wearing a culture is not a fashion statement. There is a fine line between appreciation and appropriation.*

Are you dressed as an offensive historical figure? *Dressing as offensive historical figures can be construed as glorification, even if your costume is meant to be satirical. Just don’t.*

Is your costume “funny” because it mocks the real life experiences of others? *Belittling the struggles of marginalized groups is never okay.*

Is your costume offensive? Answer “yes” to any of the aforementioned questions and it likely is. If your costume raises any of these red flags, you should probably (DEFINITELY) reconsider wearing it.

Source: <https://studentlife.ryerson.ca/cultural-appropriation-halloween-their-culture-is-not-your-costume/>

October is

Hispanic Heritage Month

Ontario is home to more than 400,000 first, second and third generation Canadians of Hispanic origin. As early as 1914, Canadians who originated from the 23 Hispanic countries began immigrating to the province and today the Hispanic community is one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Hispanic-Canadians represent a dynamic community that has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of the Province of Ontario.

Support all dimensions
of diversity.





October is... ISLAMIC HISTORY MONTH

On October 25, 2007, the Parliament of Canada officially declared October as Islamic History Month in Canada. This is intended to be a time for Canadians to celebrate and focus on Muslim cultural heritage and the over 1000 years of Muslim contribution to world history and knowledge in order to build bridges between Canadian Muslims and all Canadians.

Background image:

'Doorway in courtyard, Morocco, North Africa'



October is

Women's History Month

**International Day of the Girl Child (UN)
October 11**

October is Women's History Month in Canada, an opportunity for Canadians to learn about women's and girls' valuable contributions to our country's history – and to the quality of our lives in the 21st century.

For more information: <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/whm-mhf/idex-eng.html> ,
<http://www.nwhm.org/html/involved/donttellme/index.html>

Support all dimensions
of diversity





Positive Space

This is a SAFE SPACE where human rights are respected and where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender students, teachers, friends, families, and allies are welcome and supported.

CUPE Local 218
Durham District School Board
ETFO Durham Teachers' Local
OSSTF District 13

