

October 2021



Dear Northridge Families,

Together with our school community, we recognized and observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. As a school community we have been engaging in the recognition of Orange Shirt Day both as a school and individually in each of our classrooms, not only on September 30th but each day throughout this past week. Some highlights of this learning are highlighted below as we worked together to recognize the significance of this day and this learning. As a school community we are committed to this learning and recognition each and every day.

We have had a busy but very successful start to the 2021 – 2022 school year! All our students have learned the new routines of their classrooms and have been very busy learning each and every day! We have been so grateful for the amazing weather that has allowed us to enjoy our outdoor learning spaces frequently during September. We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all our students, families and staff for all they have done to make this an amazing start to the school year!

Ms. Tudhope and Ms. Gee



Middlesex – London Health Unit is excited to offer a monthly newsletter during the second week of each month of the school year. We will share this newsletter with our school community via School Messenger.

Newsletter topics may include:

- Key COVID-19 updates and resources
- Tips on a variety of health-related topics
- Announcements

TVDSB Family Health and Safety Protocol Updates

Thames Valley District School Board is pleased to provide updated health and safety protocols on a **NEW** website page to help parents and guardians find the information they need – quickly and easily at www.tvdsb.ca/Familyupdates.

How are decisions made about COVID-19 protocols

The Ontario Ministry of Education is responsible for the administration of all publicly funded elementary and secondary education systems in the province. All school boards are legally required to follow memorandums and directives from the Ministry and requirements under the Education Act.

School Boards are also legally required to follow directives from the Ministry of Health, the Chief Medical Officer of Health and local Public Health units.

Bus Delays and Cancellations

In the event that your child(ren)'s bus is delayed or cancelled we appreciate that you require this information as timely as possible. You can find this information:

Online at www.mybigyellowbus.ca

This is the official source of potential service disruption notifications.

Download the free BusPlanner Delay app (available for Android & iOS) to receive push notifications to your device if buses to our school are delayed or cancelled.

Login to the Parent Portal online at www.mybigyellowbus.ca to subscribe for email notifications.

- End-users are responsible for entering their email address accurately.
- Add notifications@mybigyellowbus.ca to your safe senders list to avoid spam filters.

Terry Fox

Northridge has a strong tradition of support and is proud to be participating in this years Terry Fox Run Tuesday, October 5th weather permitting. Classes will participate individually to maintain cohorting and follow Covid-19 protocols. A huge thank to all that have fundraised and ordered Terry Fox shirts. We can't wait to share our grand total raised in the November Newsletter! Great job Knights!

Instructions for Students/Parents/Guardians:

- ✓ Download the free app to your device.
- ✓ When asked for an access code, enter **MBYB**
- ✓ Select "For My Child's Transportation".
- ✓ Select the school(s) from the list.
- ✓ Select the bus run numbers (AVAILABLE IN THE
 - PARENT PORTAL) - make sure you add both AM and PM bus run numbers, especially if your student has different bus assignments in the morning and afternoon.



Caribou Math

Students are able to participate in the Caribou Math contest at home! The Caribou Math consists of online mathematics activities, games and 6 contests throughout the school year. There is a small fee (grade 1/2- free, grade 3/4-\$9, grade 5-8-\$15).

This math activity offers challenges for every child because:

- The questions are not strictly knowledge based and often feature mathematical puzzles,
- Each contest contains at least one interactive question (see cariboutests.com/games).

Parents choose this math enrichment because:

- questions train problem solving techniques which are a good complement to school mathematics,
- results are out on the evening of the 2nd contest day,
- there is a YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/CaribouContest) which features video clips presented by a school-aged boy solving a selection of previous contest questions,
 - previous contests with detailed written solutions are available for purchase,
 - website offers additional mathematical enrichment material (tutorials, mini courses, a puzzle solving book) for interested students or Caribou school math clubs.

Parents are able to enter their child in the Caribou math contest through the Caribou Math webpage (<https://cariboutests.com/>)

School Council

Thank you to all that attended our first meeting this past month. We would like to introduce the 2021- 2022 School Year Executive:

School Council Chairperson: Nancy Brooks

School Council Vice Chairperson: Lyndsey Denis

School Council Treasurer: Keri Lucier

School Council Secretary: Lyndsay Fitzgeorge

Our next meeting will be held virtually October 25th at 6:30pm. Closed captioning will be available. EVERYONE WELCOME!

Topic: Northridge School Council

Time: Oct 25, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

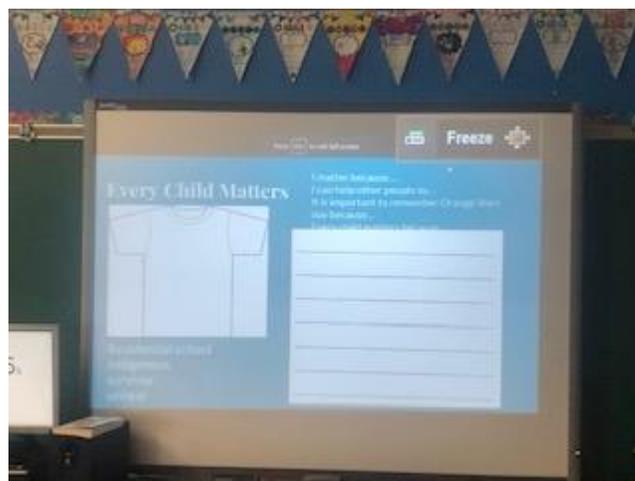
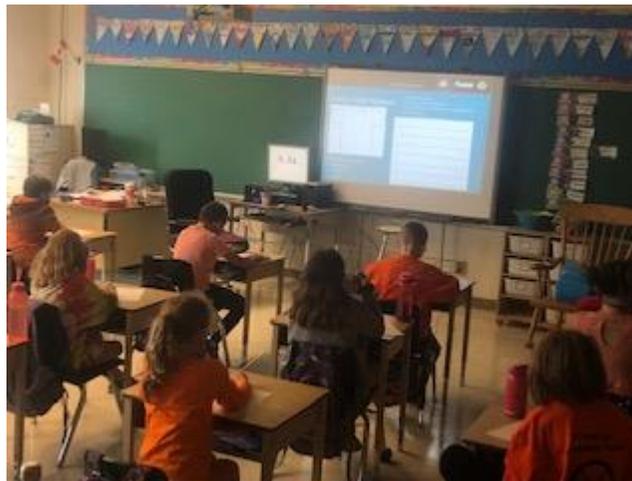
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83007318580>

Meeting ID: 830 0731 8580



Orange Shirt Day at Northridge





Some Highlights:

Gr. ½ - K

In grade 1/2, we learned some background information about the lives of First Nations people. We learned about their traditional homes, transportation and clothing. We also learned about the lives of First Nations people in the present. We discussed what a residential school is and how it was wrong to send children there. The students shared that every child matters and needs to feel safe, loved, happy, accepted and be able to live with their family.

Gr. ¾ - S

This week we have been focusing on learning about Residential Schools and how identities, languages, and cultures have been impacted.

We are listening, learning, and reflecting through read alouds (I Am Not a Number, When We Were Alone, and When I Was Eight), explicit learning on Residential Schools (truth), and eventually we will be writing poems to help us reflect on what we learned and what we will do (reconciliation). Students also created orange shirts/

We also started a KWL chart, on Monday we completed the "What do we Know" and today will complete What "We Want to Learn". Tomorrow or next Monday we will complete "What did we Learn".

Gr. 4 – Y

In our grade 4 class we looked at a slide show that helped us better understand the history of Canada's Residential Schools and had many discussions, we read aloud the books 'When I Was Eight' and 'I am Not a Number', and we created our own orange shirts.



Gr. 4 – M

Grade 4 students were learning about the issues concerning cleaning drinking water for Indigenous Peoples and the impacts. They created this bulletin board with their feelings about the topic and their commitment to work for change. Each student is writing a letter to the Prime Minister to ask for change.



Junior French

In junior French students learned about orange shirt day en français and the importance of preserving languages, including Indigenous languages. We looked at the culture and identity that language provides to people and communities and what is lost when languages disappear.



Gr. 6 - F and N

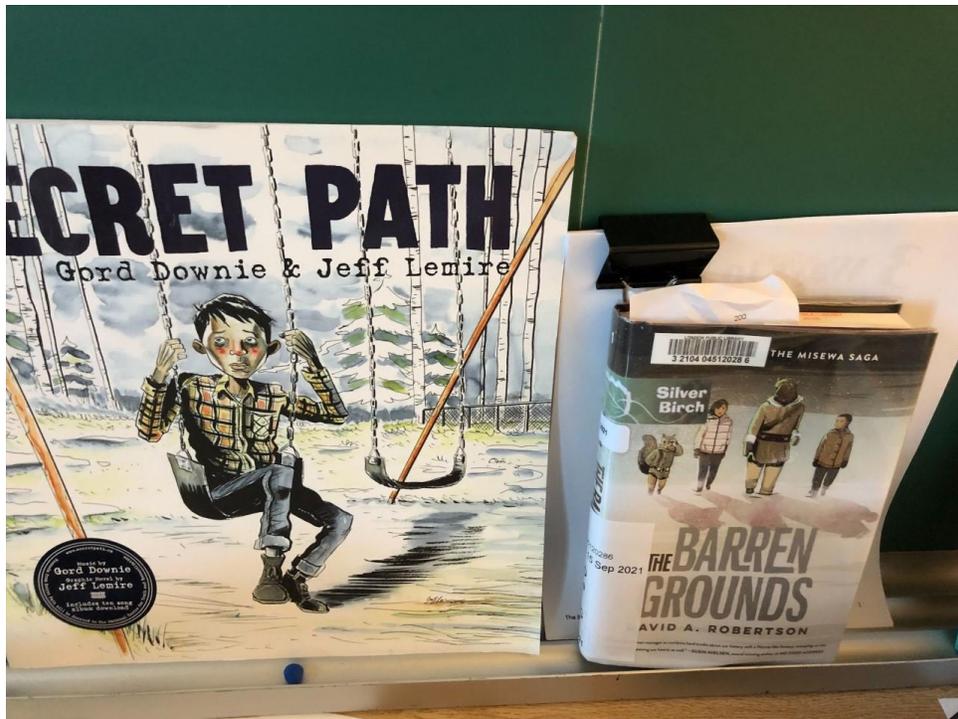
The Grade 6's created Indigenous art pieces to display in our school.



Gr. 7 D

In our class, we participated in Global Read Aloud and diving into the Canadian text, Barren Grounds. This text combines the truths about our history with residential schools and combines a Fantasy-like adventure.

Our class will be connecting with other classes around the world and we will be educating them on our history. We also sewed our own masks and practiced the art of sewing and weaving as described in the book.



Gr.7 - S/F

Day one: TRUTH

Our class started a Know/Wonder/Learn board about Residential schools in Canada and discussed terminology (systemic racism, internalized racism, truth, reconcile, etc.)

We engaged in a Quickwrite to List personal titles, roles, physical and personality character traits that define you. Next students were asked to narrow the list to the 20 words that outline who you are and what makes you special.

Students wrote the final list on white paper in orange marker. We then physically ripped up our identity pages and discarded them into recycling. (Symbolically showing the way the Indigenous children had their identities ripped away.)

Day two: RECONCILIATION

Mentor text - "When I was 8" and "Not my Girl" was read to the class.

Students identified words were taken back from being discarded on day one. Ripped identity words are placed on a feather outline and hung on our "Every Child Matters" display to show that we have understood the truth and that we understand our role in helping with the healing.

