

Woodfield FIPS March Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

February was a month filled with meaningful learning and leadership at Woodfield. Students across the school engaged deeply with Black History Month, exploring the stories, achievements, and impact of Black leaders past and present. For more examples of our learning this month, please see page 3. Our Grade 5 students also led a thoughtful and spirited Pink Shirt Day, encouraging everyone to be an uplifter, who is someone who makes another person's day better. This year's theme, Sprinkle Kindness, will continue to guide our conversations and actions throughout March and for the rest of the school year.

We are excited to share that our new monthly electives for Grades 1–8 begin this afternoon. These electives bring students together from different classes to explore shared interests, build new connections, and learn in fresh, engaging ways. The energy and enthusiasm during the first half of the year were wonderful to see.

March has several important events. March Break will take place from March 16–20. Please note that the school office will close on Friday, March 13 at 3:30 p.m. and will reopen on Monday, March 23 at 7:30 a.m. We hope all families enjoy a restful and positive week.

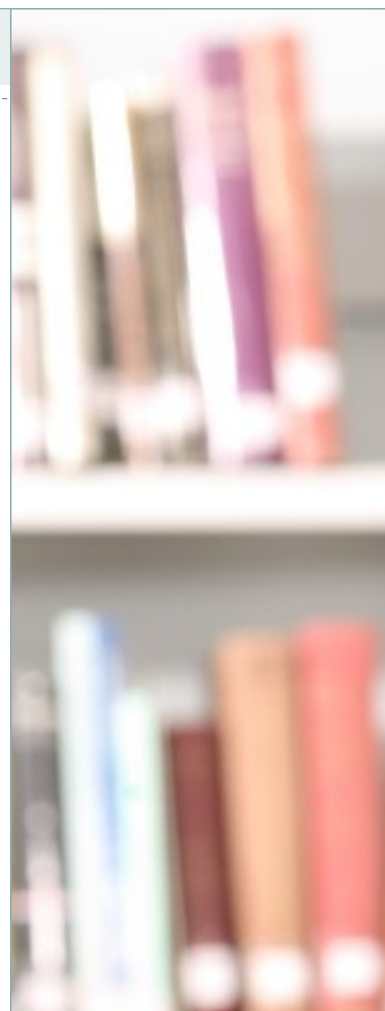
We look forward to welcoming families to our Family Literacy & Numeracy Event, presented in partnership with Investing in Children. This year's theme is Canada Coast to Coast. The event will offer hands-on, engaging activities for students and information for caregivers. Join us in the gym on Tuesday, March 24 from 2:45–4:15 p.m. for an afternoon of learning and fun. More details are available on page 2.

Our Kindergarten community walks will begin on Wednesday, March 11 from 1:15–2:15 p.m., and will continue on the second Wednesday afternoon of each month through June. Please return signed permission forms as soon as possible, and help your child choose comfortable walking shoes and appropriate outdoor clothing.

We are also preparing for our Used Book Sale, planned for late March or early April. We are still in need of many book donations to support this event. The confirmed date will be announced before March Break, and additional information can be found on pages 7–8 of this newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Mme A. Parsons, Directrice/Principal



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MARCH EVENTS

- March Break, March 16-20
- Family Literacy and Numeracy Event, March 23, 2:45-4:15 p.m.



MENTAL HEALTH BACKPACK RESOURCE FROM MLHU

The Middlesex London Health Unit has shared a resource for parents with our school. The School Mental Health Backpack contains resources and tips for parents and caregivers supporting your child or youth's mental health in elementary and high school. This toolkit can help to empower families who are concerned about their child's mental health and help you find further mental health supports if needed. You can access the backpack here:

[Mental Health Backpack](#)

MARCH HASA & SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Home & School Association (HASA) will have their next meeting on Monday, March 2 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the library. Childcare is available for school age children, provided by our Grade 6-9 volunteers. To join virtually, please use this link: [March HASA](#)

The next School Council meeting is Wednesday, March 4 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the library. Childcare is available for school age children, provided by our Grade 6-9 volunteers. To join virtually, please use this link: [March School Council](#)

FAMILY LITERACY 7 NUMERACY AFTER-NOON, TUESDAY, MARCH 24 2:45-4:15 P.M.

We are pleased to host a Family Literacy and Numeracy event on Tuesday, March 24 from 2:45-4:15 p.m. in our gym. The event is drop-in, so families can come and go between those times. There will be 10-12 activity stations that promote child and parent engagement with take-home activity cards and crafts, healthy snacks, and door prizes. We would like to thank our partners at Investing in Children for their support in running this event. We hope to see you there!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT WOODFIELD: LEARNING, REFLECTION, AND COMMUNITY

Throughout February, classrooms across Woodfield French Immersion Public School engaged in meaningful learning experiences to honour Black History Month. Students explored stories, art, music, and historical figures that highlight the strength, creativity, and contributions of Black communities in Canada and beyond.

Each morning, our video announcements featured short biographies of influential Black Canadians, including several local figures. For example, students learned about Barry Howson of London, Ontario who was the first Black Canadian to play on Canada's Olympic basketball team, competing in the 1964 Tokyo Games, the Elite softball team who was composed of Black women from London and the area, Joey Hollingsworth who is a tap dancer, actor and singer in the 1950s he was an early Black performer on CBC , and Stan 'Gabby' Anderson who played baseball for the Intercounty Baseball League London Majors. These daily spotlights helped students see the impact of Black Canadians in our own community and across the country.

In many classrooms, students also began their day with a quote, a brief life story, a photograph, and a short video clip about a Black hero. Teachers connected this work to our school-wide focus on making meaningful text-to-self and text-to-world connections, encouraging students to reflect on how these individuals' experiences relate to their own lives.

In Literacy, several classes read *The Woman Who Wouldn't Be Budged*, the story of Viola Desmond. Students discussed what bravery looks like, why standing up for what is right matters, and how rights differ from wants. These conversations helped students think deeply about fairness, dignity, and the responsibilities we share in creating inclusive communities. Other classes explored *Mae Among the Stars*, learning about Mae Jemison's dream of becoming an astronaut, and *The Year I Learned to Fly* by Jacqueline Woodson, which inspired discussions about courage, imagination, and personal growth. Older students also completed a reading comprehension activity on Amanda Parris, a Canadian actress, writer, and television host whose work promotes Black voices in the arts and media.

In Visual Arts, students learned about the powerful quilting traditions of Black Nova Scotian communities. These quilts, rich with storytelling and cultural expression, often capture personal histories and community experiences. Inspired by this heritage, students created their own paper quilt blocks to represent something meaningful they wished to share with the school. These blocks will be displayed together as a collaborative paper quilt, celebrating both student creativity and the artists who inspired them.

Music classes explored the work of influential Black Canadian musicians, including Salome Bey, Oscar Peterson, Eleanor Collins, and July Black. Through MusicPlay Online, students listened to their music, learned about their lives, and discussed how each artist helped shape Canada's cultural landscape.

To extend learning beyond the classroom, some teachers shared podcast links through Google Classroom. This month's featured podcast focused on African folktales, prompting conversations about the importance of oral storytelling and the lessons these stories continue to teach.

Across the school, students demonstrated empathy, curiosity, and respect as they engaged in this important learning. We are proud of the thoughtful discussions happening in our classrooms and the ways students are developing a deeper understanding of history, identity, and community.



Babysitters Training

"A new way to learn!" A SAFE, FUN and EFFECTIVE course for youth aged 10-14

- London** Friday, March 20th, 2026 9am-3pm **MARCH BREAK**
- London** Friday, April 24th, 2026 9am-3pm **PA DAY**
- Strathroy** Saturday, May 30th, 2026 10am-4pm
- Woodstock** Friday, June 26th, 2026 9am-3pm **PA DAY**
- London** Friday, July 10th, 2026 9am-3pm **SUMMER BREAK**

Space is Limited - You must Pre-Register - Choose 1 Date

Courses are taught by Certified Instructors and teaches:

Getting your first job safely Interview tips, resume and prep skills to impress!

Keep others SAFE while in your care and control, understanding babysitter responsibilities and specific care and requirements for children of all ages.

Advanced First Aid including airway management, choking/obstruction and rescue breathing in addition to common injuries and illnesses.

Emergency Readiness and response to critical situations such as: Fire Safety, Kitchen Safety, poisons, staying calm and proper use of 911/EMS

Having Fun! Creative games, ideas and helpful tips to make you a great sitter!

Instructor Led Training on feeding, bathing and changing infants etc..

Enroll in the most **TRUSTED, SAFE and EFFECTIVE** Babysitters Course today!

Register Online:

Safe



Vari SAFE Education

Course locations, FAQ and more available online 24/7

Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation email including all course details such as: **course location & directions** and what to bring to the course. **Course cost: \$75.00 plus HST.**

Participants will receive a **Wallet Certification Card** and **Babysitters Training Manual**, with **First Aid**. Questions? info@varisafe.ca

Do you want to stay Home Alone?



Home Alone & Stranger Safety

"A new way to learn!"
A Fun and Interactive course for youth aged 8-11 years of age

- London** Friday, March 20th, 2026 9am-3pm **MARCH BREAK**
- London** Friday, April 24th, 2026 9am-3pm **PA DAY**
- Strathroy** Saturday, April 25th, 2026 10am-4pm
- Woodstock** Friday, May 29th, 2026 9am-3pm **PA DAY**
- London** Friday, May 29th, 2026 9am-3pm **PA DAY**

Space is Limited - You must Pre-Register - Choose 1 Date

THE ONLY FULL DAY, FULL FUN and EFFECTIVE HOME ALONE COURSE available!
Courses are taught by Certified Instructors. Students learn, and will be able to demonstrate:

Communication skills to support family safety

Honesty, limitations, your Home Safe route and Home Alone agreement

Prevention techniques to avoid dangerous situations

Household fires and accidents, injuries, stranger dangers and street smarts

Safety skills by interactive training, hands on practice and coaching

Identify strangers and risks, door, phone and kitchen safety & beginner First Aid

Responsibility and building maturity to stay Home Alone

Home Safe messages, Home Alone productivity, house rules and schedule

Confidence to handle unexpected dangers or emergencies

With strangers and situations, how to call 911, the power of NO and keeping self SAFE!

Register Online:

Safe



Vari SAFE Education

Course locations, FAQ and more available online 24/7

Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation email including all course details such as: location & directions and what to bring. **Course cost: \$75.00 plus HST**

Participants will receive a **Certificate of Completion** and **Guide Book** including **First Aid**. Questions? Email us: info@varisafe.ca

THE APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAY AT TVDSB

Parent Information Evening with Dr. Jon Callegher

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

7:00-8:30 PM

Location: Saunders Secondary School Auditorium
(941 Viscount Road)

Dr. Jon Callegher is an author, researcher, and an expert in the Skilled Trades industry. If your child is considering the Apprenticeship Pathway, this is an event not to be missed!



Register Online Here





SWIS Worker

Hello, I am Meryem Akcay I am a settlement worker in your school with the London Cross Cultural Learner Centre, part of the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) Program. The Cross-Cultural Learner Centre provides settlement assistance and other services to newcomers and minority groups in the London area. Its aim is to foster inclusivity, community involvement and cultural expression to both newcomers and Canadians.

Some of my responsibilities within SWIS are:

- To connect with newcomer families to determine their needs
- To provide settlement services to families within the school.
- To collaborate with teachers, parents, students, and community organizations to build positive relationships.
- To increase newcomers' understanding of the educational system and parenting issues in a Canadian context.
- To provide referrals and facilitate access to school and community resources.

I look forward to working with you. Please contact me if you have any questions, or if I can assist you or any of your students. Let's work together to keep our school a welcoming place for everyone!

Contact Information:

Cell phone: 519-282-2031

Email: makcay@lcclc.org

Funded by:  Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Finançé par :  Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada



Thames Valley
District School Board

Grade 6 Community Cares Project

The grade 6 class studied the 17 UN Goals in their social studies class. As a culminating activity, the students brainstormed ways they can help with the UN goals in their own community. Through discussions and research the students came up with a Community Cares Day, where each student makes a baked good or craft to raffle off to the other students in the school. The money and donations raised were then used to buy essential items to go into reusable bags. This week, the care-packages were handed to 2 local charities, 519 Pursuit and The Unity Project. These care-packages are already being handed out to our friends in the community facing homelessness and extreme poverty.





**DONATE
TODAY**

WOODFIELD IS
COLLECTING DONATIONS
TO PURCHASE A 3D
PRINTER

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE
BY CASH OR THROUGH
WOODFIELD'S HOME AND
SCHOOL ZEFFY ACCOUNT

SCAN TO
DONATE



HELP WOODFIELD RAISE MONEY FOR A 3D PRINTER!

BOOK FAIR

We are looking for donations of used or gently used books to sell at our Book Fair (March 2026). All proceeds to go towards the purchase of a 3D printer for all students!



PLEASE BRING IN YOUR
DONATIONS ANYTIME AFTER
THE BREAK. FOR MORE
INFORMATION EMAIL
J.PRINCE@TVDSB.CA

Looking for all ages and genres and
also French books!

HASA Presents

SCHOOLHOUSE SOCIAL

GAMES!

DRINKS!

FOOD!

MUSIC!

RAFFLE!

**18
april**

07PM - 10PM

doughEV

\$30 per ticket

**Join us for a night of fun
and fundraising! 19+**

woodfield@ofhsa.ca

UPCOMING EQAO WEBINARS FOR PARENTS

The Education Quality & Accountability Office (EQAO) assesses student achievement in reading, writing, and mathematics. In elementary schools, students complete these assessments in Grades 3 and 6. There are upcoming webinars for parents:

March 4, 12:00 p.m.—Register Here: [Reading Skills Webinar](#)

Join EQAO for a free live webinar about how EQAO assesses students' reading skills at key stages of their education. EQAO staff will discuss reading samples and questions from the Primary & Junior Reading Assessments, and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Participants will hear how these reading passages and questions help assess the skills students are learning in class. Staff will also highlight valuable insights and resources that can help parents and caregivers support their child's learning.

March 25, 12:00 p.m. - Register Here: [Writing Skills Webinar](#)

Join EQAO for a free live webinar about how EQAO assesses students' writing skills at key stages of their education. EQAO staff will discuss writing prompts and questions from the reading component of the primary- and junior-division assessments and from the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Participants will hear how these prompts and questions help assess the skills students are learning in class. Staff will also highlight valuable insights and resources that can help parents and guardians support their child's learning.



Since 1993

Soccer Day Camps 2026

...more than just a soccer camp!



Early Deals, Big Savings, Ends March 31, 2026

- ✓ July & August weeks
- ✓ Morning & Full Day sessions
- ✓ Ages 5 to 13
- ✓ Before & After Care available

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royalsoccer.com
800-427-0536

Mornings Starting from **\$165***/week
Full Days Starting from **\$249***/week

* Limited time, discounts vary, see website
Additional discounts for week 1 & 6 (4 day weeks)