

The Southwood Source



IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT OR LATE PLEASE SUBMIT ABSENCE ON EDSBY OR CALL: 519-969-3470.

Southwood Staff

2023-2024

JK/SK (EYA)- C. Djelebian

ECE - C. Woschenski

JK/SK (EYB)- S. Tessier

ECE - A. Dinham

Grade 1 (1A)- A. Mamo

Grade 1/2 (1/2A)- C. Coulter

Grade 2 (2A) - S. Forget

Grade 3 (3A)- Z. Hamadani

Grade 3/4 (3/4A) - M. Pfaff

Grade 4 (4A) - J. Piescic

Grade 5 (5A) - M. Dragicevic

Grade 5 (5B) - A. Noble

Grade 6 (6A) - K. Trudell

Grade 6 (6B)- J. Scherer

Grade 7 (7A) - J. Dunlop

Grade 7 (7B) - M. Cichon

Grade 8 (8A) - D. Chisholm

Grade 8 (8B) - N. Fitzsimmons

LST - D. Edgar

Library/LST - V. MacDonald

GAINS A - A. McKane

GAINS B - A. Bonadonna

GAINS C - S. Lysay

French - T. Laurendeau

French- S. Ruffolo

Prep Coverage - S. Drouillard

Gains Prep - S. Curley

ESL Itinerant - B. Beneteau

DSW - D. Branch

DSW - A. Quinn

DSW - T. Mickle

EA - A. Renaud

EA. - A. Parent

EA - A. Kaur

EA - F. Sami

EA - F. Zeinali

EA - A. Carter

CYW - J. Glover

Day Custodian - J. Pomponio

Afternoon Custodian - G. McMullen

Afternoon Custodian - M. Roy

Clerk - C. Holley-Lord

Secretary - J. Millar

Vice Principal - T. Dugan

Principal - M. Lowes

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE PRINCIPAL ...

Dear Southwood Families,

Happy November! Welcome to another month of learning here at Southwood. Many new things have been happening in these first couple of months at school. We are so proud of how well all of our students, staff, and families have worked together to make our school a safe place where learning is the priority. We are excited to be sharing progress reports with families. Progress reports will go home with students on Monday, November 13th. We value the communication and partnership between home and school and the importance of discussing strengths, areas of growth, and next steps for your child's learning. Interview night is Thursday, November 16th, please book an interview to discuss your child's progress with their educators through Edsby beginning November 13th.

In partnership with our School Advisory Council, we are excited to present renowned Cyber/Online Safety Educator, Paul Davis on Tuesday, November 7th from 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the school gym. All families from K to 8 are welcome to hear Mr. Davis share his message about social networking and online safety. Topics include: Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, Smartphone and Digital Trails, Cyberbullying, Texting, Sexting, Online gaming, and Online Security and Accountability. Please send in your RSVP and join us for this important event!

Thank you for continuing to support our school! Our Fall Ricco Frozen Food Fundraiser was a success. We raised over \$4,000 to support our students and their educational needs. Purchased Ricco Frozen Food products can be picked-up on Thursday, November 16th from 1:00pm to 7:00pm.

Finally, with the cooler weather also comes the challenges of snow, rain, and the impending winter. We ask all families to carefully check the weather regularly and have your children dress accordingly. Also, if inclement weather is being predicted, please check www.publicboard.ca, buskids.ca, AM 800 CKLW or CTV Windsor for closures and bus cancellations notifications.

Your Partners in Education,

Mrs. Lowes
Principal

Mrs. Dugan
Vice Principal

School Bell Times

Supervision Begins - 8:00 AM

Instructional Time Begins- 8:15AM

1st Nutrition Break - 9:55 to 10:35

2nd Nutrition Break - 12:15 to 12:55

Dismissal: 2:35PM

Scan this QR code to access our website!



Promoting Spirit, Strength, Success and Kindness!



Every year, Canadians wear a poppy as a visual pledge to honour Canada's Veterans and remember those who sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today.

At Southwood Public School, we also recognize the sacrifices made by our past and present members of our Armed Forces.

This month we will be observing Remembrance Day and honouring those who have served our country on Friday, November 10th with an in-person assembly at approximately 10:40am planned and conducted by Ms. Noble and Mr. Scherer's classes. Families are welcome to join us!

Revised 2023 Language Curriculum

In response to the recommendations made by the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read Inquiry Report, the Ministry of Education has updated the Language curriculum to emphasize the foundational knowledge and skills in both oral and written language.

The curriculum is designed to support students in developing the language and literacy knowledge and skills they need to succeed in education and in life, and to encourage students to experience the joy and possibility that literacy learning can ignite.

The curriculum emphasizes evidence-based systematic and explicit instruction of foundational knowledge and skills, including oral language, word-level reading and spelling, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

The new strand structure is as follows:

- Strand A. Literacy Connections and Applications
- Strand B. Foundations of Language
- Strand C. Comprehension: Understanding and Responding to Texts
- Strand D. Composition: Expressing Ideas and Creating Texts

[Click on the Ontario Ministry of Education Language, Parent's Guide for more information.](#)

Student Attendance Procedures



At the Greater Essex County District School Board, **"Every Day Counts"**. Ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives on time is the best way to get the most out of our programs. If your child will be absent, please call the school at **(519) 969-3470**. You can leave a message before and after school hours, 24 hours a day on our attendance line.

Edsby is also available 24 hours a day to report absences and planned absences. If it is necessary for your child to be dismissed early, please send your child's teacher a note or call the office. If you are picking up your child before dismissal, please come to the office to sign your child out. Thanks to our parents for helping to make our school a safe and secure place to learn!



Allergy Aware School & Scent-Free Environment



Within our school community there are several students who have potentially life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to foods. Food allergies are predominately to peanuts and/or nuts, but may also include eggs, egg by-products, fish, and berries. Parents/Guardians are asked to **please check the ingredients of all the foods your children bring to school** (snacks and lunches), and avoid sending peanut butter or products with peanuts or nuts listed in the ingredients. We feel the best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these students is to respectfully ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians within this school community to NOT send in any food for special events, birthdays, etc. The only food that should be coming to school should be for your child's own personal consumption. Thank-you for your assistance in keeping all of our students safe! We appreciate your co-operation and understanding. For more information regarding these types of allergies, please visit www.anaphylaxis.ca.

We would also like to remind our community that we are a scent-free environment to protect our students and staff who have allergies and sensitivities to the chemicals contained in products with fragrances. Please help us maintain a safe environment to make our school a comfortable learning environment for all members in our community.



Important Safety Message for Families

As parents and educators, one of our foremost concerns is the safety and well-being of our children. Periodically it is important to remind our children of how they can keep themselves safe while in the community. Please reinforce with your children the importance of the following safety precautions:

- Never walk alone.
- Choose one route to school and always take that route.
- Walk to and from school directly, don't stop to play and let a parent/guardian know when you have arrived home.
- Walk on the sidewalk well away from parked or moving cars (not down an alley).
- If you are at a traffic light, remember to continue across the street if the sign turns to "Don't Walk" while you are crossing.
- You should cross the street only at corners or pedestrian crosswalks.
- Do not cross the street from between parked cars.
- Never talk to a stranger or accept anything from a stranger.
- If someone approaches you or tries to speak with you or follow you run to the nearest store, school or familiar location.
- If you are approached or notice someone watching you tell your parent/guardian or a school staff member immediately.
- Never touch or pick up sharp objects such as needles or broken glass. Report the discovery to an adult.

This message is a precautionary measure to keep our children safe. If you have any concerns regarding something you observe or child reports you should contact the police immediately.

School Advisory Council News



School Chair:

Andreas Maniatis

Co-Chair:

Shana Holmes

Treasurer:

Thi Thi Pham

Secretary:

Elita Laios

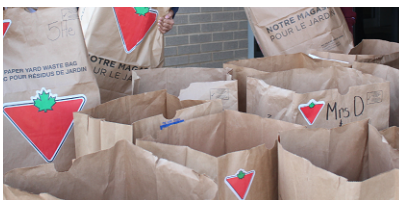
Thank you to all of the parents/guardians who provide their input at our meetings on behalf of all the parents/ guardians, staff, and students of Southwood Public School. We appreciate the support of Council during our "Meet the Teacher night" and Family Engagement Sessions the past two months.

As a reminder, the meetings are open to all members of the school community. No invitation or RSVP is needed to attend the meeting in person.

Our next SAC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 15th, at 6:00 p.m. in the library**. The meetings are a great way to make sure you have a voice in and around the school!

Cereal Box Challenge

Southwood will be participating in the **Cereal Box Challenge** again this year to support School Breakfast Programs! We will begin collecting breakfast cereal donations on **Nov. 1st, 2023**. All cereal is due no later than **Friday, Nov. 24th, 2023**. Thank-you for supporting GECD SB schools and students!



CEREAL BOX CHALLENGE

Bring a box (or more) of your favourite cereal to benefit other students!

YOUR CLASS MAY WIN

A fun activity!

All cereal is due no later than:

Nov 24th, 2023



SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE SAFETY AN EVENING FOR PARENTS WITH PAUL DAVIS

SOUTHWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NOV 7, 2023

6:00 PM

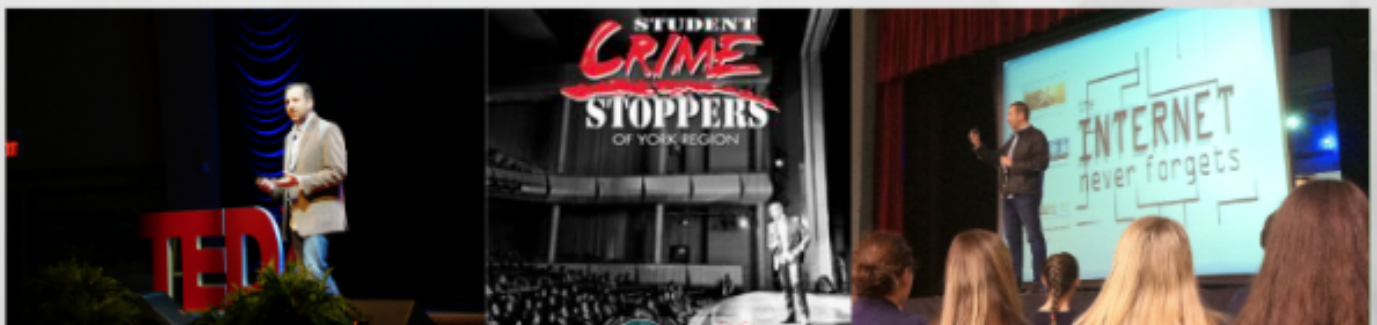
TOPICS INCLUDE:

- SNAPCHAT / TIKTOK / INSTAGRAM / DISCORD
- SMARTPHONES AND DIGITAL TRAILS
- CYBERBULLYING / SEXTORTION
- PRIVACY & ONLINE SECURITY

**EMPOWERING
PARENTS IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

Return your RSVP to school by Friday, Nov. 3rd to be entered in a draw for a Tim Horton's gift card!

All Southwood families are welcome to attend this important presentation!





Resources for Parents

Ontario 

Ontario's Ministry of Education website has a wide variety of materials for elementary and secondary students and their families to access. The site [Education in Ontario | ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca/education) has information for parents/guardians about the province's publicly funded education system in many languages.

[Home](#) > [Education and training](#)

Some languages (other than English) are Chinese, Gujarati, Farsi, Urdu, Tagalog, Polish, Somali, Russian, Korean, Tamil, French, Arabic, Hindi, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Punjabi, Mohawk, Spanish, Bengali, Pashto, Nepali, Romanian, Cree, Ojibwe, and Ojicree. We hope these materials help to support your child's learning at home.

ACCESS FREE ONLINE MATH TUTORING AT STUDENTS – TVO MATHIFY
www.tvomathify.com/students

tvo  Mathify

[Students](#) [Educators](#) [Parents](#)

[Register](#)

[Login](#)

Welcome to free 1:1 Grade 4-12 math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers!

Build your math skills and confidence with a personalized math coach. Tutors are available online Monday to Friday from 9 am to 9 pm ET, and Saturdays and Sundays from 3 pm to 9 pm ET.

NEW Grade 12 tutoring!
 Permanently serving Grades 4-12.

Sign-up, choose a tutor, and get started.

[Register Now](#)





November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1 Cereal Box Challenge Begins!	2 Día de los Muertos	3	4
5 Daylight savings time ends Turn back the clock 1hr	6 Treaties Recognition Week	7 Social Media & Online Safety Presentation with Paul Davis @ 6:00pm	8	9	10 Remembrance Day Assembly at 10:40am	11
12 World Kindness Day!	13 Bully Prevention Week Progress Reports go home!	14	15 Grade 8 Shadow Day @ Massey SAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library	16 Parent/Guardian Teacher Interviews 4:00pm to 7:00pm Ricco Frozen Foods Fundraiser Pick-up	17 PA Day - No school for students	18
19	20 Universal Children's Day!	21	22 Picture Day Retakes!	23	24 Cereal Box Challenge Ends!	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2



Dia de Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a holiday celebrated in Mexico and other parts of Latin America. It is a time to remember and honor loved ones who have passed away. The holiday is typically celebrated on November 1st and 2nd. During Dia de Los Muertos, families create altars in their homes or at grave sites to honor their deceased loved ones. The altars are decorated with offerings such as flowers, candles, and food. It is believed that the spirits of the dead return to the living world during the holiday, and the offerings are meant to help guide them back home. In addition to the altars, Dia de Los Muertos is also marked by parades, music, and other festivities. The holiday has gained popularity outside of Latin America in recent years, with celebrations taking place in many parts of the world. Through its vibrant colors and traditions, Dia de Los Muertos serves as a beautiful and meaningful way to remember and celebrate the lives of those who have passed on.

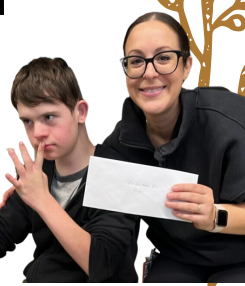


Diwali is a festival celebrated by Hindus all over the world. It is also known as the festival of lights and is one of the most important festivals in the Hindu calendar. Diwali is usually celebrated between mid-October and mid-November, and it lasts for five days. During this time, people light up their homes with candles and diyas, which are small oil lamps made of clay. They also decorate their homes with rangoli, which are colorful patterns created on the floor using colored powders, rice, or flower petals. Diwali is a time for family gatherings, feasting, and exchanging gifts. It is a time when people forget their differences and come together to celebrate the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. It is a time for joy, happiness, and new beginnings.





Thank you for supporting our Ricco Fundraising Fundraiser!



Top Earners!

1st Place - AJ (JSKT)

2nd Place - Caleb (7C)

3rd Place - Sybella (1/2C)



Top Classes win a Pizza Party!



Mrs. Tessier's Early Years raised \$1772

Mrs. Coulter - 1/2A raised \$1330

Mr. Trudell - 6A raised \$936

Mr. Cichon - 7A raised \$1396

Mrs. McKane - GAINS C raised \$802

We raised \$4000 for our school walking path fund!





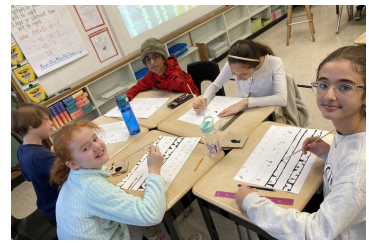
Congratulations!

5 Noble

GOLDEN RECYCLERS!



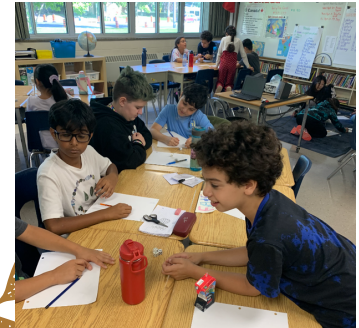
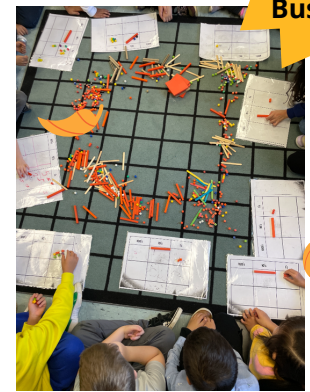
GAINS A opened up a Starbucks! YUM!



Cooking in Early Years!



Bus Evacuation Drills! Thank you Bus Monitors!





Spotlight

ON OUR FABULOUS GRADE 5 TEACHERS



Miss. Dragicevic



Ms. Noble

This Grade 5 team is unparalleled! It is hard to imagine that they have just met this year. Their teamwork is truly impressive! They work seamlessly together and bring their unique strengths to the table to teach our grade 5s! Miss Dragicevic's long-term experience at Southwood and Ms. Noble's fresh outlook provide a positive impact that benefits our entire school. #GoSabres!