

# October Newsletter

## Upper Stewiacke Elementary

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### Change in Late Arrival procedure:

We understand that there are times when your child may arrive late to school. When you arrive, please come in and sign him/her in at the office. You will notify the office of any after school changes at this time. The sign-in sheet is a regular occurrence at many schools, and it allows us to keep track of after-school plans more effectively. Thank you for your understanding in regards to this change.

### School Advisory Council and Home & School

Our first School Advisory Council (SAC) and Home & School meetings will be held on **Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**, starting at **6:30pm**. Please come out and see what the council and committee are all about! We are always hopeful that we will see new faces to help us out with these important groups that create a partnership between home, school, and the community! There will be pizza and soft drinks provided, so please rsvp (if you have not already) by calling the office (902-671-3000) before 3pm on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Cafeteria Notice:

Please note that once a month on a set day, all students will receive a free lunch in the cafeteria. Teachers will ask students what their choice is for that day, and record. If, for any reason, you do not wish your child to receive this free lunch, please contact the office.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### October

6 – Picture Day

9 – Thanksgiving Monday – **No School**

27 – Provincial Conference Day – **No School for students**

#### November

13 – Remembrance Day  
Observed – **No School**

17 – Assessment & Evaluation Day  
(Elementary) **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

30 – Parent Teacher Interviews

#### December

1 – PD Day and Parent Teacher – **No School for Students**

## Stand Up, Speak Out!

On Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> students gathered in the gymnasium to recognize Stand Up, Speak Out – What's your story? Student leaders Kaitlyn and Addison led the assembly, and they discussed how we can learn each other's stories to help develop empathy, as well as the importance of respect. Students watched a video with a rap about respect and sang the song "Don't Laugh at Me". Special thanks to Kaitlyn and Addison for their leadership in this first assembly of the year.



## Student Success Planning

In the past, school improvement has been a cyclical process in which schools selected goals that they worked on for a period of 3 or 4 years. Now, SSP will be a yearly process where schools choose to implement specific strategies that will help improve student achievement in mathematics and literacy throughout the year. Our goals for the 2017-2018 school year are:

1. Increase student achievement in literacy.
2. Increase student achievement in mathematics.

Teachers will be completing a book study to focus in on guided reading best practices (this is small group instruction). They will also focus on problem-solving skills in math, and this will include talk moves to encourage students to not just solve problems, but to communicate their understanding and solutions.

In addition, we are working on updating the school logo and school-wide expectations. More information will follow in the coming weeks/months.

## September Recognition Assembly:

### P/1/2:

**Virtue Recognition (Helpfulness):** Ben (Grade 2)

**Literacy:** Lincoln (Grade P)

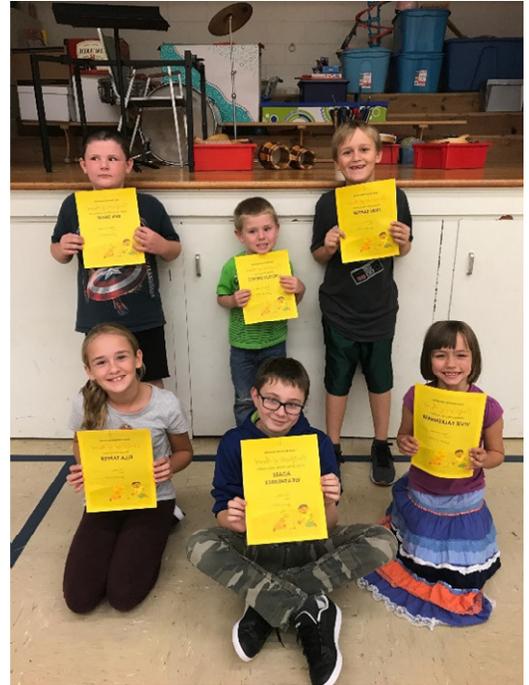
**Mathematics:** Vivie (Grade 1)

### 3/4/5/6:

**Virtue Recognition (Helpfulness):** Adam (Grade 6)

**Literacy:** Ella (Grade 5)

**Mathematics:** Finn (Grade 3)



## October Virtue: Thankfulness

### Thankfulness is...

- ... having an attitude of gratitude.
- ... being receptive to gifts.
- ... appreciating your own abilities instead of envying others.
- ... seeing the difficulties of life as opportunities to learn.
- ... appreciating the beauty of this world.
- ... counting your blessings every day.

### Use the following reflection questions to discuss the virtue at home:

1. Who would you like to thank?  
How would you like to thank them?
2. What things in your life are you most thankful for?
3. What is someone like who rarely, if ever, experiences gratitude?

Credit: The Virtues Project Educator's Guide, by Linda Kavelin Popov