



BYRON SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOL

175 Whisperwood Avenue, London, ON N6K 4C6
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<http://www.tvdsb.on.ca/byronsomerset.cfm>

Principal : J. Pratt
Superintendent : S. Builder
Secretary: B. Ovtsherenko
Trustees: J. Bennett, J. Skinner

Newsletter #3

December 1, 2019



Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that we only have a few weeks remaining in 2019 - the years just seem to go faster and faster! The students and staff at Byron Somerset continue to be busy in their classrooms, as there is still a great deal of work to 'wrap up' ☺ before the holiday season begins! As well, congratulations to both the boys' and girls' volleyball teams as they recently completed their season! Thank you to our coaches Mr. Thomson and Mrs. Fleming for all their enthusiasm and time. Gr. 7 & 8 basketball will begin in January!

On Wednesday, December 18th, Byron Somerset students, led by Mr. Lee, will be hosting our Holiday concert at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Please be sure to come out for this special performance of holiday music!! As always, you will not be disappointed!!

Parking Lot Woes . . . As our school population grows, so does the amount of parking spots our staff require on a daily basis. Additionally, winter months always create more parking congestion, as we lose further spots to snow plow piles. I am worried that this increased congestion will not only be frustrating for parents who choose to drop off their kids on a daily basis, but will also have an impact on student safety.

The issue has been brought forth to School Council and we have agreed to share some united messaging to our Somerset school community:

- 1) Please avoid driving your child(ren) to school whenever possible. If they're not 'walkers' then they should be arriving by school bus on most days.
- 2) If you choose to drive your children (especially, parents of K1K2 students), please consider parking on the street at both drop off and pick up times. Additionally, please do not park directly in front of the school as this is our school bus zone.
- 3) IF YOU MUST enter our school parking lot, PLEASE **do not park your vehicle**, but instead, proceed around the one way loop until you reach the front of the parking lot by the FLAG POLE. Beginning on **Monday, January 13, 2020** a 'Kiss and drop' zone will be located in this area, marked by TWO fluorescent green 'turtles' with a red flag. These 'turtles' will serve as a SAFE ZONE to stop your car for 10-15 seconds, while your child(ren) exit(s) your vehicle and proceed(s) safely around to the back of our school where the portables are located. This drop off zone will also be supervised to help direct students to the school yard.

- 4) After dropping off your child(ren), please **TURN RIGHT** and follow Whisperwood Ave. back to Griffith St., so as to avoid any further unnecessary congestion at this point.
- 5) The **exact same process will occur at dismissal time**, where you will circle the parking lot (PATIENTLY ☺) waiting for your child(ren) to be present at the 'Kiss and drop' zone. When your kid(s) see your car, they will simply hop in your vehicle and away you would go. If you circle around to the 'pick-up zone' and your kids are still not there, you will simply re-enter the circle of traffic once again and swing around for a 2nd or 3rd time until your child(ren) arrive.
- 6) **ADULT student supervision, will be present at the beginning and end of the day to help facilitate this process smoothly.**

The busiest periods of time at school are **between 8:45 – 9:05 a.m. and 3:30 – 3:45 p.m.** Your flexibility and cooperation are most appreciated by School Council and School Administration. Thank you.

Has your child lost an article of clothing these past several months?? If so, our custodians will be putting ALL 'Lost & Found' articles on display across from the lunch room during the week of December 9th. Please check out the display and claim what's yours. All remaining clothing will be shipped to Goodwill before the holidays begin.

Once again, I would like to wish each of you a wonderful holiday season with friends and loved ones. All the best in 2020!

J. Pratt, Principal

Elementary Schools Coach of the Year

Kathy Russell has been a teacher a coach for 31 years working first in the Durham Region, then the former Elgin Board and finally the Thames Valley District School Board. She has taught the last 28 years with TVDSB, plus coached and volunteered for many sports, including cross country, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics and track and field. She has been an area convener for cross country, track and field, and basketball. Kathy has been a strong advocate for female participation in sports by encouraging young women to become involved in all aspects of athletics, be it as a player, coach, referee or administrator. She also loves to develop younger athletes through junior programs and developing intramural activities and games to promote a healthy lifestyle in children. Congratulations Kathy!!!

Spirit Wear

Spirit Wear is back by popular demand!

Source for sports has agreed to re-open the online store for anyone that missed the deadline. This will be the last time this school year to get your clothing items. The store will be open from December 1st-16th. Please indicate in the notes which child to send the items with.

Visit <https://sourceteamworks.com/byron-somerset/>

Mrs. Brosnan

School Council

Instead of on-going fund raising efforts, we've made it simple by collecting cash (or cheque made out to Byron Somerset) donations in two ways:

- 1. Visit the collection box at the upcoming **Winter Concerts on December 18th and 19th**.*
- 2. Send with your child or drop at the main office, in a sealed envelope labelled 'Attention: Parent Donations'.*

Tax receipts are available for donations of \$20 or more (for the 2020 tax year), please **include your name and address**.

*Don't forget, Byron Somerset is registered on **Flip Give**. This means that whenever you shop online, Byron Somerset can earn cash back – **with no cost to you at all!** How, you might ask? Go to <https://www.flipgive.com/teams/219881-byron-somerset-ps>, search for a store, brand, or product, and do your online shopping. It is that easy! A variety of stores and brands (Costco, Amazon, SkiptheDishes, Indigo, etc.) all help support our fundraising at Byron Somerset. And if you make a purchase before November 30th, we'll get a bonus \$10!*

Student Council

As the holiday season approaches, the Student Council will be celebrating with 3 festive Fridays. Each Friday in December will have a different spirit day. Friday, December 6th is festive hat day; Friday, December 13 will be festive clothing day (sweaters, shirts, pants, socks) and Friday, December 20 will be pyjama day (regular or holiday ones). Happy Holidays! 🎄🎅

Mrs. Armeniakos



Soup from Somerset

Thank you so much for your generous support of our recent food drive. We took 477 cans to the London food Bank, weighing in at just over 525 pounds. Together with our parent volunteers, we enjoyed sorting food and making food hampers for people in need. We learned about the operation of the

food bank and the importance of volunteering. It was a wonderful "signature learning experience" for all!

Mrs. Singer's Grade 2 Class



Stream of Dreams

A special THANK YOU to all the parents and community volunteers who assisted with our Stream of Dreams Program. The fish mural will be installed on a warm day in the early spring.

Please email Mrs. Singer @ t.singer@tvdsb.ca if you are interested in assisting with the installation project.

United Way



Through hat day, staff events, etc., we were able to raise \$739.85 to donate to the United Way. Thank you for your support!



Pizza Day Orders

This month's pizza days are **December 5th & 12th**. Orders must be done online if you wish your child to have pizza these days. **NO LATE ORDERS** will be accepted.

2019 CBC Music Class Challenge

IT'S LIVE!! Mr. Lee would like to thank everyone involved with the CBC Canadian Music Class Challenge. A select group of students worked very hard to prepare this year's entry! We at Byron Somerset are very proud of our student's hard work and dedication!

Here is the link from CBC, check it out on YouTube ☺

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ExdgVhWall>

Best Wishes!

Mr. Lee



Boys' Volleyball

The Boys' Volleyball team has had a very successful season! The boys have worked hard and continually improved their skills and ability to play as a team. The team entered two tournaments in November, capturing first place at Chippewa and finishing with the silver medal at Sherwood Fox. They started their playoff journey on November 18, sweeping the pool play and winning the regional semi final in convincing fashion. On November 26, the boys played in the regional final against a very talented team from Sherwood Fox. After playing in the most exciting and closely contested match of the year, the boys fell just short of the victory, but captured the regional silver medal. The boys then ended their season with another hard fought battle in the wild card game. Mr. Thomson would like to congratulate the boys on all their hard work and determination throughout the season. Their enthusiasm and dedication have made them a lot of fun to work with! Mr. Thomson would also like to congratulate Mitchell Z. on being selected to attend the TVDSB Volleyball Night of Excellence in December. Way to go boys!

Team members: Quinn B., Will L., Jack C., Liam H., Marcus B., Eugene S., Aidan H., Ryan R., Caden S., Colton O., Mitchell Z., Peter P., Tyson S., Nicolas C.

Coach: Mr. R. Thomson.



Girls' Volleyball




The Senior Girls' Volleyball team has played regularly since early in October. To gain more exposure, the girls played in a mini Tournament at Somerset, a tournament at Chippewa PS and Sherwood Fox this year. They have had a successful regular season, they placed second overall in the West Region. The thirteen players from grade 7 and 8 competed in the West Regional Playoffs and placed first in their pool and won their semi-final match against Mountsfield. In the Regional A West finals, the girls unfortunately lost to Sherwood Fox A and Byron Southwood to end their 2019 season. The team had a great season and congratulations to the following team members: Morganna, Bella A, Bella P, Maya, Erin, Amanda, Charlotte, Ashley, Shannon, Gabrielle, McKenna, Grace and Lexa. Also, a big thank you for a very enjoyable season from Mrs. Fleming



November Award Winners

Grade	Somerset Star	Mathematicians
Ms. Parkes' Gr 1 Class	Nathalia Q.	Clarke N. Zoya Y.
Ms. Newell's Gr 1/2 Class	Kayden C.	Sofia G. Leon V.
Mrs. Singer's Gr 2 Class	Leo B.	Evan G. Ava M.
Mrs. Fleming's Gr 2 Class	Mackenzie T.	Georgia G. Tristan S.
Ms. Weightman's Grade 3 Class	Leilah O.	Kirk H. Ayaan S.
Mrs. Armeniakov's Gr 3/4 Class	Lucas B.	Soren A. Fiona H.
Mrs. Varey's Gr 3/4 Class	Luciana I.	Sydney B. Sebastian S.
Mrs. Mikel's. Grade 4/5 Class	Holden B.	Oliva B. Graham L.
Mrs. Best's Grade 4/5 Class	Benjamin C.	Eve G. Christopher C.
Ms. Pasko's / Mr. Thomson's Gr 5/6 Class	Maya M.	Dylan A. Jason S.
Ms. Kieken's Grade 6 Class	Keira C.	Ella H. Mohammad S.
Mrs. Russell's Grade 7/8 Class	Jackson B.	Sihoo B. Joanne R.
Miss Desrochers' Grade 7/8 Class	Kayla V.	Mohammad B. Tabitha T.
Mr. Dawson's Grade 7/8 Class	Tessa G.	Rockwell C. Morganna Y.

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Day 1	3 Day 2 Saunders Grade 8 Tour	4 Day 3	5 Day 4 Pizza Lunch 	6 Day 5 Festive Hat Day 	7
8	9 Day 6	10 Day 7	11 Day 8	12 Day 9 Pizza Lunch 	13 Day 10 Festive Clothing Day (shirts, sweaters, socks, etc.) 	14
15	16 Day 1	17 Day 2	18 Day 3 Winter Concert 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm 	19 Day 4 K1K2 Winter Concert 11:00 am Snack Day 	20 Day 5 PB&J Day 	21
22 Christmas Break through to January 3rd	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31	Upcoming Events in January 2020: 6 th – Pizza Lunch 20 th – Pizza Lunch 20 th – School Council 24 th – PA Day 31 st – Gr 5/6 & 6 Classes to Museum London			