

Byron Somerset

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Principal: M. Merrimen
Superintendent: S. Builder
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March 2022 Newsletter



Dear Byron Somerset Families,

Spring is just around the corner! Students are working very hard, and we continue to celebrate the learning in our building! We have created a school Twitter account to capture some of the great learning every day. You can find us at: @byron_somerset

In February, we celebrated Black History Month. Students and staff engaged in full and rich learning opportunities. We recognized the achievements of many Black Canadians and individuals who have had significant impacts inducing change in our society.

Finally, a reminder to please return loaned devices so we can continue to support technology-embedded learning for in-person learners. Families are asked to ensure that both the device and power cords are returned when technology is collected at the school.

Thank you to all families for your continued diligence in completing the daily screener.

Thank you,

Marie Merrimen

Principal

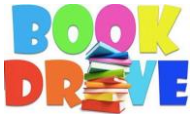
Upcoming Events

- ★ March 4- PD Day
- ★ Book Drive- Ends March 7th
- ★ March 7- Parent Council Meeting
- ★ March 9- Pizza Day
- ★ March 11- Snack Day
- ★ **March 14-18- March Break**
- ★ March 23- Plaid Day



Thanks to your amazing support, the Caring Hearts Campaign was a wonderful success! With your generous donations of breakfast foods, we were able to assemble 168 Breakfast Bags that were distributed at the overnight shelter downtown, by Ark Aid Street Mission. We were also able to pack over 20 huge boxes full of juice boxes, granola bars, fruit bars, hot cereal, applesauce, and fruit cups to help feed unsheltered people at the Out of the Cold Program - Centre Branch YMCA. Thank you for proving that TOGETHER, we can change the world, just one act of kindness at a time. We feel blessed to be part of such an incredibly caring school community!

With appreciation,
Mrs. Singer and Mrs. Fleming



Investing in Children's **Live Different Circles** students are collecting new and gently used children's and YA books! The books will be given free to children and youth across the city through their Blue Boxes for Books Program. Donations will be collected this week and picked up on March 7th.



Parking

There is no parking available in the school parking lot. We continue to encourage families to utilize our Kiss and Ride program. The only area for drop off and pick up is at the front of the school in the supervised Kiss and Ride Lane.



Board Survey:

You are invited to provide input into the development of the Board's 2022-2023 Budget. The voluntary and anonymous survey can be accessed at the following link: [TVDSB 2022-2023 Budget Consultation Survey](#) and takes just a few minutes to complete.

London Attendance Area Review

Byron Somerset is currently part of an attendance area review process. The Attendance Area Review work was initiated by Board of Trustees and is a system-level review. The purpose of the review is to balance enrolment across elementary schools in London to ensure that, where it is logical and practical to do so, enrolment is evenly distributed across facilities.

There will be a sub-committee meeting led by a parent group from Byron Somerset. All Byron Somerset parents/guardians are encouraged to participate to learn about the attendance review process and provide input and feedback. A date for the meeting will be shared in the coming weeks.

More information can be found at [LAAR](#)

Cultural Corner

Holi - March 18, 2022 Holi is a Hindu festival celebrated on the last full moon in the lunar month of Phalguna, which is usually in March. People welcome spring and celebrate goodness, love, and friendships. Holi is also known as the festival of colours because people use bright colours to mark the occasion, including throwing colourful powder. Bonfires, sweets, and traditional folk music also add to the celebrations.

Home Connections in Mathematics

Supporting the Understanding of Multiplication and Division

Understanding the meaning of multiplication and division is essential for success in mathematics. When we multiply, we can think about 'groups of' or 'copies of' the same number. Organizing items into rows and columns allows students to build and see their multiplication facts; we call this type of organization an 'array'. By organizing concrete objects into a rectangular shape, it is easier to see the groups. Many things in the real world are organized this way to determine the quantity easily with multiplication.



Arrays make it clear to see why 3×4 is the same as 4×3 . Knowing this relationship allows students to reduce the number of facts that they need to know.

The array is very powerful because it also shows students how to divide. From a single array, 4 operation statements can be determined.



This array of donuts shows:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 4 \times 3 = 12 & 12 \div 4 = 3 \\ 3 \times 4 = 12 & 12 \div 3 = 4 \end{array}$$

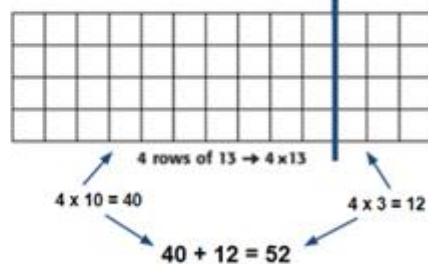
Arrays also provide a great opportunity to count by different numbers. The donut array can be counted by 3's and 4's. Children can count the donuts by saying, "3, 6, 9, 12" or "4, 8, 12". Counting on a regular basis by numbers other than 1 allows children to be more efficient in determining their facts and explore different number patterns.

Arrays can also show fractions of a number. The donut array makes it easy to see that $\frac{1}{4}$ of 12 is 3 and $\frac{3}{4}$ of 12 is 9 by looking at the vertical rows.

By noticing and naming arrays wherever you see them, children can see multiplication in the world around them. They can also understand the connection between multiplication and division.

When the numbers in multiplication get larger, children can move from organizing concrete objects to using grid paper. By drawing the rectangles on centimetre grid paper, they are also drawing and determining the areas of a rectangle. The grid can be split up to make finding the area easier.

On grid paper, draw a 4×13 array.



Eventually, children can create proportional drawings that represent their multiplication without the grid.

$$6 \times 23$$



Multiplying with arrays helps students to break up multiplication into parts that can be added together. In the above array, 23 groups of 6 is broken up into 10 groups of 6, 10 groups of 6 and 3 more groups of 6. Flexibility in breaking up multiplication allows students to multiply together easier numbers to find the total.

The same process can be extended into double and triple digit multiplication. This method ensures that children are multiplying with meaning, and not starting with memorizing a procedure. Increased understanding of multiplication leads to increased fluency of multiplication facts. For more information on the area model of multiplication, go to :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sfi4QUIQ4co>