



@PONTIACSCHOOL

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## October happenings at Pontiac

October was a busy month at Pontiac with a lot of sports activities occurring along with some experiential learning opportunities and local field trips. The month ended with a school wide event celebrating our families and loved ones.

The month continued with our Cross Country team participating in three events. The first was the Wikwemikong Invitational with the following students placing in their individual categories: Victoria T. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Francesca P. (3<sup>rd</sup>), Ian D. (2<sup>nd</sup>), and Gabriel T. (3<sup>rd</sup>) with the overall team placing second.

The cross country team's second event was hosted by Shawanosowe where the following students placed: Destiny B. (3<sup>rd</sup>), Novaleigh P. (2<sup>nd</sup>), and Ian D. (3<sup>rd</sup>). Finally, the cross country team participated in the Island Cross Country held in Gore Bay where they once again represented Pontiac with great sportsmanship.

Our school was also represented by two flag football teams at an Island Wide event hosted by Assiginack. Our Senior B team won two games in the round robin play but unfortunately had a tough loss in the semifinals losing by one touchdown. The Senior A team lost to Gore Bay in their round robin play by one touchdown but came back to beat them in their championship game by three touch downs. Great job Eagles!

Our students participated in a mock federal election hosted by Mr. Wood's grade seven class where the outcome was favorable for the NDP candidate Carol Hughes. Prior to the election many classes were provided with information regarding each party's platform to ensure they made an informed decision.

Our 7/8 classes engaged in a workshop to inform them about a future in the trades and all classes were visited by local elders and community members on October 30 prior to our school

community feast. It was a day celebrating our loved ones and learning about Tahswenang.

### Events in November

**November 4** – Early Dismissal at 2p.m.

**November 6** – Picture retakes starting at 11:00 a.m.

**November 9** – National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces presentation on Veteran's week and Remembrance Day

**November 12** – Turtle Concepts (5/6s)

**November 16** – PD DAY – NO SCHOOL

**November 24** – Parent/Teacher night with Student Led conferences. Progress reports will be handed out and students will be leading you through conferences.

**November 30** – Parent Council Meeting at 4:30

### PUBLICATION RELEASE FORMS

Please ensure the publication release forms are returned. This will allow us to plan publications for the upcoming school year. They will also be applicable to our website and other forms of social media our school uses.



**Sexual Health Lessons**

This month we will be welcoming Registered Nurse Olvie Li to deliver a portion of the Health curriculum; Human Development and Sexual Health. She will be visiting each class once a month to deliver this portion of the curriculum.

“Learning about human development and sexual health is one part of overall health education. It starts at birth. Human development and sexual health education involves much more than simply learning about body parts and reproduction.

In today’s complex and fast-paced world, there is much more that children and youth need to know to be safe and healthy. Human development and sexual health starts with children learning about themselves, their feelings, their bodies and about showing respect for themselves and others. As students grow, it includes learning about things like healthy peer and family relationships, hygiene, reproduction, identity, including gender identity, sexual orientation, online safety, mental health and much more.

In all parts of the Health and Physical Education curriculum, students learn “Living Skills.” These are skills that help students develop self-awareness and social skills, communicate in relationships with friends and family, cope with challenges and think critically to make decisions, set goals and solve problems.” - taken from <https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/HPEgrades1to6.pdf>

Please visit the above link for more information regarding the health curriculum.



7W students created creative Halloween art



7/8 students work collaboratively as a group to create the tallest structure out of Spaghetti noodles during a Skills Ontario presentation.



using wood, string and nails!

8H students visited Quanja Lake and Kaboni Beach to learn about local historical stories of the area. This was a part of a literacy unit of study that ended with the students writing a nonfiction article on the area.



8H students visited the ELK program to read Halloween stories to the students



## Empowering Students to Think Mathematically

Many students feel “math is too much answer time and not enough learning time.” To respond to this and to give students the knowledge and skills they need for the future, math classes are different than you may have remembered.

Math in classrooms today is not about learning and memorizing procedures or finding one solution to an isolated question. Today mathematics is about giving students the opportunity to inquire about and engage with the math. Children get a chance to problem solve and think critically about math; they invent and assess their own procedures and become empowered.

Mathematics is meaningful and as a result, students develop a deeper understanding of numbers. In other words, they come to understand that math is everywhere!

### All children can learn and enjoy math.

#### You can help your child succeed in math by:

- keeping a positive attitude about math
- believing in your child's ability to learn math and grow as a mathematician
- talking about the math in everyday situations (think about all the things you do that involve mathematics)
- asking what they are learning in math class. If you don't understand something, ask them to explain it; having your child communicate their understanding of a concept is one of the best ways to reinforce it and to uncover gaps in understanding.

### Show your children how math is part of their everyday activities

- Look at maps and draw maps (of your kitchen, bedroom, neighborhood)
- Estimate, estimate, estimate (distances, time, the cost of items) - e.g. how long will it take to get to a friend's house, estimate the number of meters from your door to the edge of your yard, how many shoe boxes might fit inside your bedroom, or how many litres of water will fill up a large pot—make it a game!
- Think aloud when performing mental math calculations; notice and share different strategies your family members are using.
- Take family tallies and votes.
- Bake and cook together, discuss the measurements (e.g. how much of each ingredient do we need if we halve or double the recipe?).
- Discuss how math is used in everyday life be fun!
- Make up games using playing cards and/or dice (e.g. turn over one card from the pile. Double the number. Play double plus one or double minus one.
- Play number games and board games (e.g. Yahtzee, Set, Battleship, Bingo, puzzles, Sudoku)

Teach your children that strength doesn't come from what you CAN do. It comes from overcoming the things you once thought you COULDN'T.



7W students led the school in a mock federal election



Our staff and students got into the Halloween spirit.