



LOUISE ARBOUR FRENCH IMMERSION NEWS

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December 2020
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December 2020 Message from Mme Cianci et Mme Moore-Bridge

Hello Louise Arbour Families! We hope this newsletter finds you and your family safe. It's hard to believe that we have only three weeks left until our winter break. December's Character Trait theme is generosity. To tie in with this, we will be doing a Food Drive beginning December 1st. Students are invited to bring in canned goods or packaged dry goods to put into the box outside of their classroom door. Items will be collected by the London Food Bank on December 16th. This is a wonderful opportunity to give to others and support those in need.

As you know, one of our LAFI families experienced a tragedy on November 21st. For those who would like to support Sarah and Ahmad and their father, please go to the link:

<http://LaunchGood.com/Fatensfamily>

We are sending positive thoughts to Sarah, Ahmad and their family. We were also able to support them as well through the Thames Valley Education Fund. We appreciate the generosity of this organization.

If you are on Twitter, please consider following us @louisearbourfi. Many of our educators have an account and tweet about the amazing things that are happening in our school in the areas of achievement and well-being, equity and building relationships. We love it when parents and families "heart" and 're-tweet' our educators' posts.

Thank you to the parents/families who have joined us during our monthly virtual assemblies! Homeroom teachers send the link out a few days before the last day of the month. Our virtual assemblies always fall on the last day of the month but for December, our virtual assembly will happen on Thursday, December 17th at 11:15 am. We hope you can join us!

As the cold (and wet) weather approaches, please ensure your children are dressed for the outdoors. Please send extra pairs of socks and mittens, as well as extra masks. We will be outside whenever possible.

With our fountains turned off, it is very important that students bring filled water bottles to school. We have two water bottle filling stations, but having bottles already filled saves a lot of time, and keeps students in class during learning times.

Thank you once again for your support in reminding students about wearing masks, hand washing, and most importantly, social distancing. We are working very hard each day to keep everyone safe.

~ Mme Cianci & Mme Moore-Bridge



What's Happening with Home & School

1. We approved to help provide the school with much needed outdoor play equipment (footballs, soccer balls) and classroom aids) clipboards and whiteboards) for outdoor use when the classes go outside.
2. Congratulations to the graduating class of 2020!! As the Grade 8s from last year were not able to have their year-end celebration, the Home and School will be sending a special note to them with their graduation certificates.
3. Our fundraising efforts are reduced some as we cannot meet in person, but we encourage you to watch for the initiatives we can run (ie Flipgive) in order to help support our school community. Stay tuned!
4. We will be working on a proposal for a school sign. A proposal must be put forth to the Board before we can start fundraising. Please email louisearbourhomeandschool@gmail.com if you are interested in joining this committee.

There is still time to become a member and help the planning to ensure Louise Arbour the BEST school there is!! Send us an email so you can be added to the virtual meetings we are holding. Membership fees are budgeted to be paid for – donations welcome. The next meeting is scheduled for December 14 at 6:30pm.

NOVEMBER CHARACTER TRAIT AWARD

Congratulations to our Character Trait and "J'aime parler français" Award Winners for the month of November! Our November Character Trait was Respect.

Teachers award "J'aime parler français" to the student in their class who speaks French on a continuous basis throughout the month.

Félicitations!

Le respect

- Jackson G. (1JB)
- Nixon V. (1KR)
- Hudson R. (1TP)
- Khalil L. (1MW)
- Leila R. (2TF)

Le français

- AnaLucia T. (1JB)
- Rayoon S. (1KR)
- Alicyn S. (1TP)
- Anika S. (1MW)
- Kennedy V. (2TF)

Félicitations!

Le respect

- Mayaar (2NAAP)
- Eubeen S. (2EO)
- Johann (2SF)
- Naser A. (3JG)
- Kanhjackna S. (3MK)
- Jaxson F. (3PW)
- Dylan D-C. (3MG)

Le français

- Arij (2NAAP)
- Charlie B. (2EO)
- Kyla B. (2SF)
- Maya E-R. (3JG)
- Marian V. M. (3MK)
- Aythen G. (3PW)
- Sienna C. (3MG)

Félicitations!

Le respect

- Hailey M. (4MN)
- Mason B. (4DA)
- Luca D. (4MNakeyar)
- Lilly B. (5BL)
- Anna G. (5ES)
- Finne O. (6JA)
- Shiala M. (6KM)

Le français

- Fayer Z. (4MN)
- Mme Anderson (4DA)
- Kayla H. (4MNakeyar)
- Ali A. (5BL)
- Nathan P. (5ES)
- Patrick L. (6JA)
- Ian K. (6KM)

Félicitations!

Le respect

- Keller R. (7/8TS)
- Emily L. (7/8MP)
- Keitlyn K. (7/8LR)
- Emma K. (7/8JL)
- Keyten G. (8XMC)

Le français

- Sam C. (7/8TS)
- Fiona P. (7/8MP)
- Wissal N. (7/8LR)
- Aaron S. (7/8JL)
- Tangia B. (8XMC)





INCLEMENT WEATHER & BUS INFORMATION

**WINTER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY!!
Be prepared for bus cancellations!!**

Bus cancellations are posted on Mybigyellowbus.ca

The policy document entitled "Inclement Weather Causing School Bus Cancellations" is available on the mybigyellowbus.ca website.

- If the buses are cancelled in the morning, there are **NO AFTERNOON BUSES**.
- If the buses are cancelled in the morning due to **FOG**, the buses **WILL** run in the afternoon
- The decision to cancel student bussing resides with the bus company.
- Cancellation information is posted in the morning between 6:00AM and 6:30AM

Bookmark www.mybigyellowbus.ca. If school buses are cancelled, a special icon will appear on the homepage. Click on the icon for an alphabetized list of buses affected. If buses are late for pickup greater than 15 minutes, the information will be posted on mybigyellowbus.ca per school bus number and run. Please remember that our school is identified as bus number LA##.

Please note if buses are cancelled and the school is still open, parents must arrange for the safe arrival and safe pickup at 2:45pm of their children. If you decide they will stay home, you still need to contact the school via the SchoolMessenger reporting system toll free at **1-844-305-3756** or by using the SchoolMessenger app.

ESPRIT VENDREDI

Hello Louise Arbour Families.

The last week before winter break LAFI will be getting into the spirit of the season! We decided to make a theme for each day of that week, and we are looking forward to seeing how many people participate in them!

The LAFI Spirit Squad came up with these Esprit vendredi days for December:

Friday, December 4th - LAFI Spirit Day (Spirit wear or LAFI colours)

Friday, December 11th - LAFI Spirit Day

Monday, December 14th - Winter Wonderland (*think snowflakes, sparkles, or dressing in blue or white*)

Tuesday, December 15th - Dress as your favourite winter character (*could be a holiday character, Jack Frost, Elsa, or whomever*)

Wednesday, December 16th - Festive hat or hair day (*in the past some people have done hair like Cindy Lou Who, or made Christmas Trees in their hair, or added festive bows or bells, they've also worn elf hats, Santa hats, etc*)

Thursday, December 17th - Multicultural outfits & Holiday sweaters

Friday, December 18th - Pyjama day!

Looking forward to counting down the days together until Winter Vacation!

Your **LAFI Spirit Squad**



ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

Spending time outside can improve mental wellbeing.

- Discover local trails
- Go for a walk in your neighbourhood
- Try a scavenger hunt
- Share your creativity with sidewalk chalk

Remember to wear a mask when you can't keep a 2m distance from others not in your household.

ML BUREAU DE SANTÉ DE MIDDLESEX-LONDON HEALTH UNIT
www.healthunit.com

Every Student Belongs Survey

The Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) is working to gain a better understanding of the diverse backgrounds of students and families across the district. To provide information that will help achieve this goal, TVDSB is launching **the Every Student Belongs Survey** in December, 2020. The survey is guided by Ontario's Equity Action Plan, which asks school boards to collect information about students and staff related to their background (for example, their race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability).

Students in grades seven to twelve will be invited to complete the survey during the school day throughout the month of December. Families will be receiving a letter with more detailed information. Families of children in kindergarten to grade six will be invited to complete the survey on behalf of their child in January 2021.

For more information, please visit the website: www.tvdsb.ca/everystudentbelongs.

News from the Library Learning Commons (LLC)

As usual, it has been an extremely busy start to the school year with book exchanges and class collaborations well underway! Our Kindergarten and Primary students have been thoroughly enjoying the new English picture books that arrived earlier last month and are making good use of building materials –new and old- that are available for classroom Maker projects.

New Schedule: Class book exchanges continue; however, all students will now be visiting the library only twice per month. Students are, therefore, strongly encouraged to make use of the online booking system. If your child isn't sure how to access the online booking system, I have posted a step-by-step video in all virtual learning environments (Google Classroom and Brightspace) that walks parents and students through the process of reserving a library book online. The video is posted under 'Library 2020-2021'.

Damaged Books: We have some very well-loved books in our school library, and they are starting to show their age. If your child brings home a book that needs repair, please bring the book back to library to be fixed. The books will last longer if I can repair them with the appropriate supplies and techniques.

Please continue to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mme N. Allen
(n.allen@tvdsb.ca)





Home Connections in Mathematics

Supporting Subtraction Understanding

"What people who are numerate really do is that, when they are given a problem, they look to the numbers first, they look for a strategy—a strategy that will be a really efficient, elegant strategy given those numbers. Someone who is not numerate uses the same strategy for all problems no matter what the numbers are."

Many TVDSB students have been working with their teachers to develop a deeper understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division and strategies that may support them in producing reasonable answers.

Parents/guardians often express concern that their children are learning methods that they, as parents, did not learn in school and wonder how they can support their children in this context. This newsletter is intended to offer some support for parents/guardians.

Subtraction is more than 'take-away'

When we subtract, we find the difference between two numbers. We do this in a variety of contexts.

- a) **Separating/Removing:** "Faizal had 3 erasers and gave 2 to his friends. How many does he have left?"
- b) **Joining/ Adding:** "Cara had some markers and got 3 more. She now has 11. How many did she have at the beginning?"
- c) **Parts-Whole:** "The fruit bowl has 8 pieces of fruit in it: all are bananas or mangoes. If 6 are mangoes, how many are bananas?"
- d) **Comparison:** "The green team has 3 more players than the yellow team. The yellow team has 6 players. How many players are on the green team?"

Each of these situations is important. Students need to understand that these situations call for finding the difference between two numbers. Ontario students are quite good at performing subtraction, but have learning to do when it comes to seeing that subtraction is required.

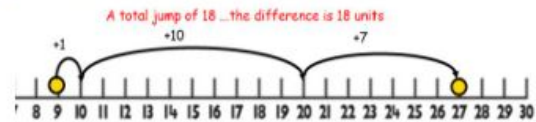
What strategies help deal with difference?

Consider the following subtraction: $27 - 9$
 High-achieving students deal with this difference using reasoning strategies which may include strategies shown below—they may rarely use the standard North American algorithm.

Splitting: This strategy involves an understanding that all numbers can be broken up to make working with the numbers easier. This student sees the hidden 7 inside the 9 and subtracts in two parts (7 and then 2) to make the work easier.

$$\begin{array}{r} 27 - 9 \\ - 7 - 2 \\ \hline 20 - 2 = 18 \end{array}$$

Jumping: This strategy involves an understanding that numbers can be shown on a number line and if subtraction is difference or distance, we can travel that distance in a way that makes sense. This student jumps to a friendly number (10), jumps by 10, and then covers those last 7 spaces to see a big jump of 18.



Compensating: Sometimes it may be more helpful to do too much and then undo the extra that you did. In this case, the student knows the patterns in

subtracting 10 to get to 17 and then knows she took off 1 too much and puts that back on to get to 18. Ultimately, we would like our students to understand how our number system works and what operations mean. When those understandings are in place, students will have a variety of strategies at their fingertips and be truly numerate.

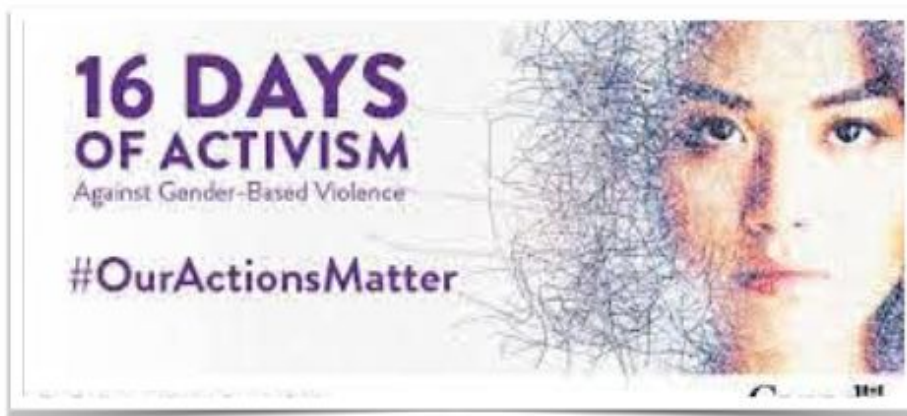
I jumped back up 1 row (removed 10) then put 1 back on ... the difference is 18.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

"Learning a range of strategies and the connections among them will contribute to overall number sense"
 Van de Walle et al., (2014)

Equity Newsletter

Newsletter of Upcoming Initiatives and Dates of Significance



TVDSB schools are invited to recognize the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence** taking place from **Nov. 25 - Dec. 10**. Schools wishing to learn more are invited to review information on the **Government of Canada** website listed below.

<https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/commemoration/vaw-vff/index-en.html>

Meet the TVDSB Equity Team

The TVDSB Equity Team is excited to meet with staff about promoting equitable and inclusive education initiatives throughout Thames Valley.



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Important Dates of Recognition

- International Day of Persons With Disabilities (Dec. 03)
- National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women (Dec. 06)
- Hanukkah (Dec. 10 - Dec. 18)
- Christmas (Dec. 25)
- Death of Prophet Zarathustra (Dec. 26)

Supporting Social Justice Education and Conversations.

Educators wanting to build their capacity related to including social justice concepts and lessons are invited to review the resources listed below.

- 1) **Cult of Pedagogy Resources:** A collection of websites and resources on best practices for social justice education

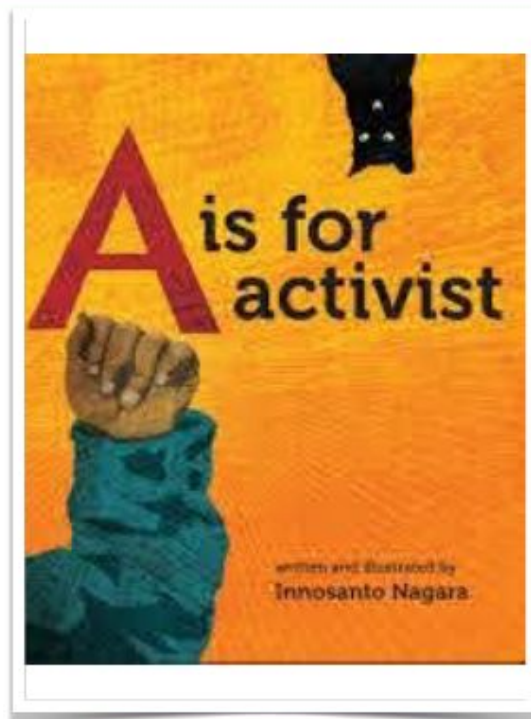
<https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/social-justice-resources>

- 2) **Recording of A is for Activist:** This book examines issues from a social justice lens and allows students to enter into conversations about equity and inclusion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldCCKDGF4>

- 3) **Teaching Tolerance Social Justice Standards:** "Road map for anti-bias education at every stage of K–12 instruction.

<https://www.tolerance.org/frameworks/social-justice-standards>



*Educators are reminded to use a Trauma Sensitive Approach when discussing identity. For more information, go to: <https://bit.ly/33RmHNT>

In recognition of the various religious & faith-based holidays occurring this time of year, the TVDSB Equity Team would like to wish everyone *Peace and Good Fortune*.

Classes wishing to explore conversations about Peace are invited to watch a read aloud of the *Peace Book* by Todd Parr at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xohl5m-EyYA>

