



# MARCH 2023

## Kate S. Durdan Public School

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### Happy March KSD Families!

Welcome to the month of spring, where we start to enjoy some more daylight and cross our fingers for some warmer weather! March Break is right around the corner, and we sincerely wish you all a fantastic week with your children, whether you are enjoying some relaxation at home or visiting with friends and family.

February was a great month for us at Kate S. Durdan. Our PINK Day was a wonderful celebration this year, as we saw many staff and students wearing pink, and we all were involved in classroom pledges and anti-bullying activities during the day. Our bulletin boards also came to life with art that highlighted Chines New Year! KSD students are so talented, and they enjoyed making various creative works. Break times were very busy for our pupils. Chess Club, Art Club, Dance Club and Intermediate Basketball offered some fun opportunities for our kids!

As we move into March, we look forward to exciting events ahead in the last quarter of our school year. Junior Boys and Girls Basketball has begun, and our athletes are quite pumped to participate in this sport! Go KSD KNIGHTS!

Have a great March KSD Families! You all MATTER!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Donofrio and Mr. Dickson



### SAVE THE DATE...

**Mar 1st— Grade 3s to Lincoln Museum**

**Mar 7/8— KDG to Sugar Bush**

**Mar 7/21—Pizza Day via Gino's Pizza**

**Mar 12th—Daylight Savings Time**

**Mar 13th—18th MARCH BREAK**

**Mar 20th—First Day of Spring**

**March 28th—Grade 7/8 Vaccines**

**March 28th—Parent Council Meeting**

**March 31st—Wear Blue for Autism Awareness Day on Apr. 2**



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# Intermediate Girls Basketball



Thank You



The Choir Performing at our February Assembly

## Jeong's Family Taekwondo

### Niagara Falls!

Edu-kicks is a unique course that focuses on a 5 sessions character development program, which incorporates physical exercise with life lessons. It's open to grades 1-6 and introduces students to basic marital arts, but also improves concentration, listening skills, cooperation and courtesy. 4 classes are done at school during our breaks with the 5<sup>th</sup> one being a Graduation Ceremony at Jeong's Family Taekwondo. As well, Edu-Kicks is a fundraiser that has raised close to \$2400 for our school. Thanks so much to Master Won and the staff of Jeong's Family Taekwondo for providing our students with this wonderful opportunity!!



# KSD Cultural Wear/Colours Day



Students dressed in the traditional wear of their culture or in the colours of the country's flag!



## Colours Day



On February 28th. Students wore a colour to represent the grade they are in! We loved seeing our staff and students show their school spirit in this fun and creative way!

# "Anything Pink" Day for Anti-Bullying

Wear pink to show your support against bullying

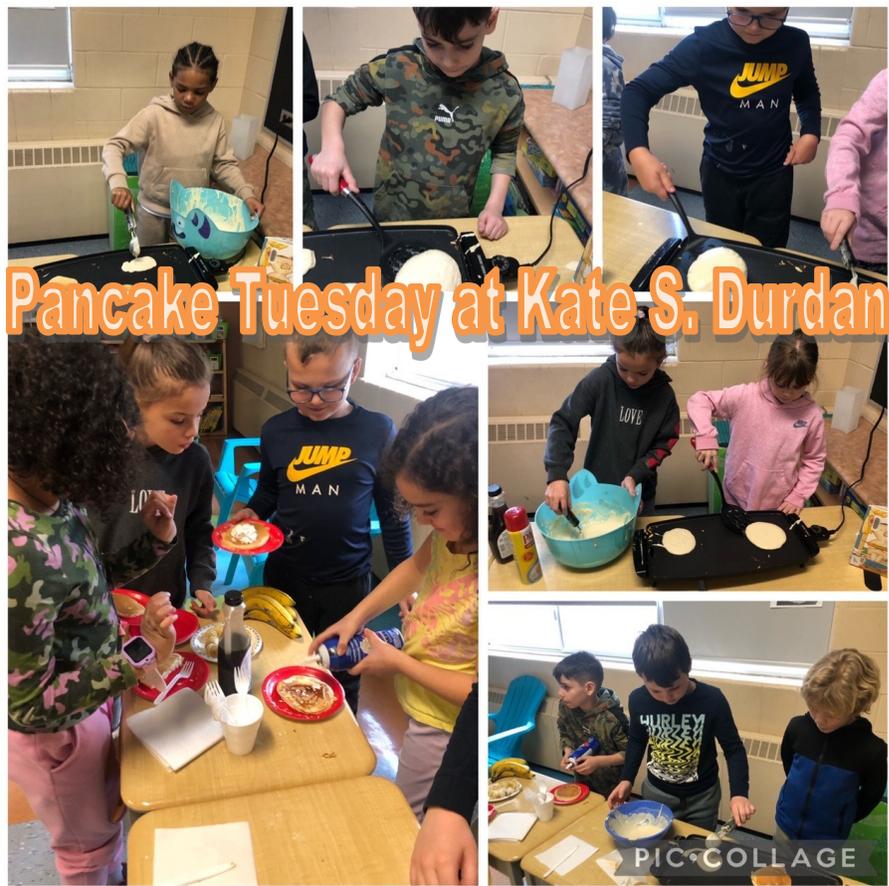


"End Bullying: Change begins with us", was the theme for KSD's Anything Pink Day 2023. Pink Shirt Day began with students in Nova Scotia standing up to a bully and wearing pink shirts the day after a student was bullied for wearing pink. To show commitment to a change, KSD completed school-wide pledges to be an upstander and model this behaviour all year, not just on a specific day. Students took part in many activities within their classrooms, but thoroughly enjoyed a joint task of coming up with characteristics of a "Supa Buddy", based on a beloved character, *Bark Knight* from the children's book series, *Dog Man*. Classes enjoyed seeing their ideas displayed on a large bulletin board in a busy school hallway. Anything Pink Day Organizers Mme. Dilts and Mrs. Maurice planned the cooperative school-wide tasks to provide students a way to communicate their feelings and experiences within their classes, and then collectively share them with other students in classes from kindergarten to grade 8. "It's a way for all classes to be included, regardless of their ages or interests" stated Mrs. Maurice, "and it allows all students to feel included." The organizers were excited to add "the pledges and 'dog tags' took the school over a week to complete, which drove home the idea KSD cares about the school community every day, and not just on Anything Pink Day."



On February 21st, students celebrated Pancake Tuesday by cooking and sharing delicious pancakes!

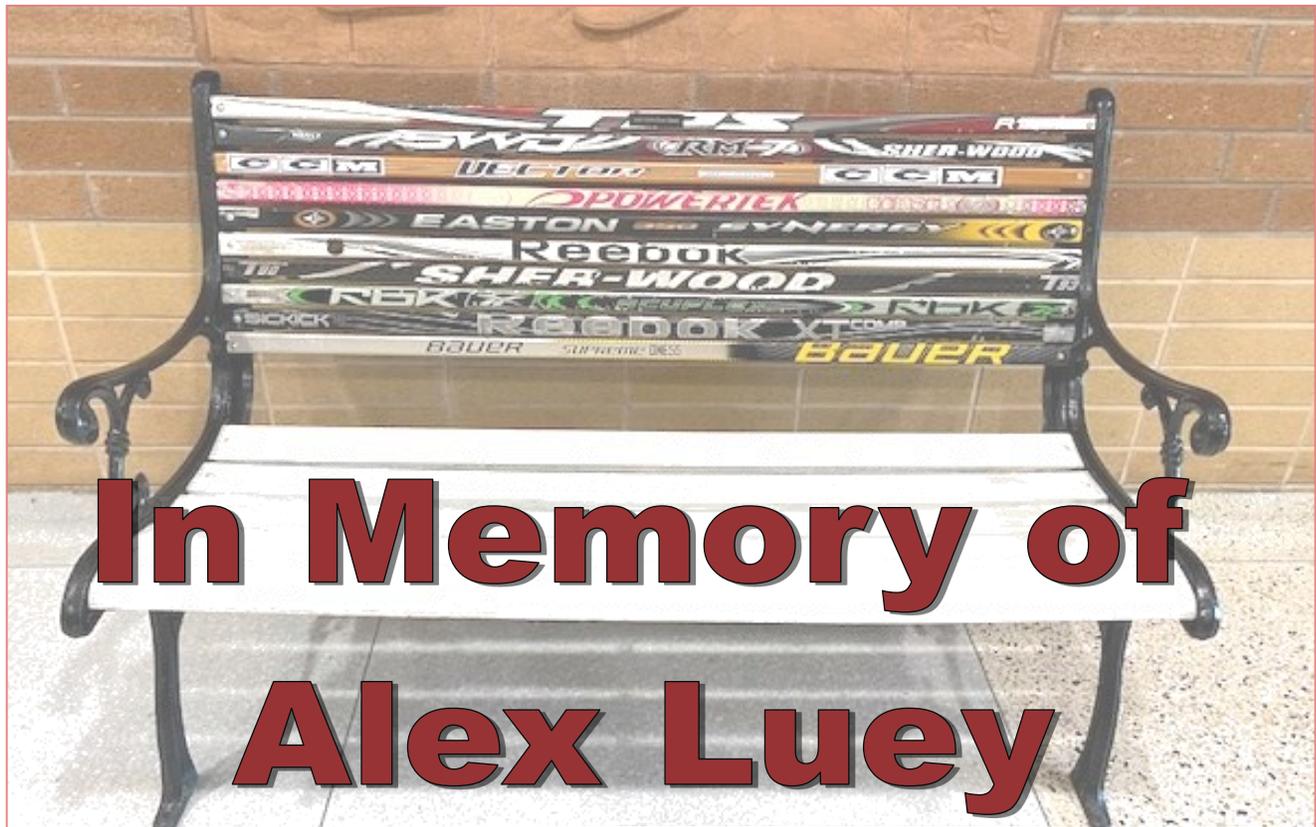
# Pancake Tuesday at Kate S. Durdan



# 100th Day Fun

On February 10th, the Primary Grades dressed like they were "100 years old" to celebrate the 100th day of school!





On Friday, February 24th, the KSD Parent Council and staff had the pleasure of presenting a Buddy Bench we had made in honour of Alex Luey.

For any who are new to our community, Alex was a student at KSD when he was diagnosed with cancer above his right knee. Alex underwent many surgeries and treatments to fight his battle including receiving a prosthetic leg. Unfortunately Alex passed away in December of 2019 when his cancer returned.

Alex was a fierce competitor in many sports but his first love was hockey! Alex played for the Niagara Falls Flyers in his competitive career. Besides his competitive streak Alex had a great sense of humour and never let his health struggles stop him from trying his best. He was an example to his peers and adults alike with his positive attitude, bright smile and sense of humour!

When it came time to honour our fallen Knight at KSD, the Parent Council couldn't think of a better way than to have a Buddy Bench made of hockey sticks. We called on the help of Mr. John Lyon from @thehockeystickguy. Mr. Lyon specializes in making unique furniture made out of hockey sticks. When we explained the situation to Mr. Lyon he jumped right on board! Thank you for helping us honour Alex.

For those unfamiliar, Buddy Benches are common at most DSBN schools. They come in all shapes and sizes. They are a calm, quiet place for children to rest and think, giggle with their friends or sit and patiently wait with the hopes that someone else that day may also be in need of some company. The benches represent kindness, innocence and courage - all traits that Alex himself showed.

We also wanted to honour Alex's family. His mom, step-dad, dad, step-mom and his sister and brother-in-law were in attendance at our February assembly. The Luey family has shown their own kind of courage and bravery by standing behind their son and being there for him when he needed them most. It is a privilege to know the Luey family and we take great pride in honouring one of our bravest KSD families with the Buddy Bench. We hope Alex's new nephew will come and visit his Uncle's bench so we can tell him stories of his Uncle Alex and how special he was to us all

. At Kate S Durdan we have a saying, once a Knight always a Knight.

**(Submitted by Carrie Soucy of the Parent Council)**

## KSD Celebration Virtual Assembly

On February 24th staff members presented the following students with *Citizen of the Month* Certificates during our assembly. **Congratulations to our KSD Citizens of the Month!**

KDG1 - Samarah M.

KDG2 - Shaan P.

KDG3 - McKenaa G.

KDG4 - Elena M.

Grade 1-1 - Anika D.

Grade 1-2 - Jovie B.

Grade 1/2 - Anne Y.

Grade 2-1 - Nevaeh O.

Grade 2-2 - Mohamed M.

Grade 2/3 - Nevaeh O.

Grade 3-1 - Mohamed M.

Grade 3-2 - Yasmina Z.

Grade 3/4 - Kinney G.

Grade 4-1 - Dhariya P.

Grade 4-2 - Umer R.

Grade 5-1 - Emilie P.

Grade 5-2 - Shiya J.

Grade 6-1 - Bao D.

Grade 6-2 - Ava G.

Grade 6-3 - Harry B.

Grade 7-1 - Charlotte C.

Grade 7-2 - Jessica K.

Grade 7/8 - Leo W.

Grade 8-1 - Viswa P.

Grade 8-2 - Parisa O.

Dilts (French) - Lucie Y.

Patterson (French) - Ada H.

Diamond (French) - Liza B.

Larouche (French) - Noah D.

Chen (Art) - Emily T.

Cahill (Art & PhysEd) - Zoe O.



**Kate S  
Durdan  
KNIGHTS**

