

Schools observe National Sweater Day today

Things might be a little chilly today (Thursday) in Dufferin-Peel Catholic schools and board sites.

The board is turning down the heat in its facilities and encouraging everyone to put on a sweater in honour of World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) National Sweater Day. The event is held annually across Canada to raise awareness about the importance of energy conservation.

According to WWF, heating makes up 80 per cent of all energy used in homes and schools across Canada. If every Canadian home and school turned down the temperature by two degrees during the winter for four months, that would save enough energy to close an entire coal-powered plant.

"By turning down the heat on February 5 and putting on a sweater to keep warm, we are providing an opportunity for our employees and students to learn about the importance of saving energy, while at the same time, reminding us to use less heat throughout the winter," said Superintendent of Early Years and Community Partnerships Marianne Mazzorato.

Dufferin-Peel has adopted the theme of "My sweater has a story day." Staff and students will be encouraged to wear their favorite sweater and tell about what makes it special. Pictures and stories will be posted on Twitter using the hashtag #mysweatermystory. Follow @dpweewonder or @DPCDSBSchools.

The board will also be collecting gently used sweaters today. A drop off box will be located in the main foyer of the Catholic Education Centre at 40 Matheson Blvd., West in Mississauga. The sweaters will be donated to Canadian Food for Children. Participation in the observance of National Sweater day is invitational (staff and students can choose to have the whole school participate or individual classrooms within the school can participate). Departments in board facilities are also be invited to participate in the day.