



JD Hogarth P.S.

March 2017 Newsletter

Principal's Message:

I'm sure you will all agree that the weather has been very unpredictable. Over the past couple of weeks we have certainly experienced fluctuating temperatures. Last week, we watched the snow and ice melt away quickly causing our playground to become very wet and muddy. With this in mind, we remind parents that we do access our field area as often as possible; therefore, we encourage students to come prepared with splash pants and boots for those times when our field is a little wet and muddy. The recent snow melt did not stop our School Council with their planning of Winterfest that took place on February 25. A very special thank you to our School Council who worked hard to organize another great event to bring our community together. Chili, soup, zumba, story telling, drumming, games and a silent auction were enjoyed by all. Thank you to all our School Council members for their time and effort in planning Winterfest.

Term two is now underway and it is important that we continue to work together to support the students at school and at home to complete all assigned work. Reading each night is a must to improve fluency and continual practice of basic math computation facts is key to developing strong math skills. The students will also be encouraged to focus on strengthening their learning skills such as collaboration, working independently, taking initiative, being organized, taking responsibility and setting goals.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the JD staff for their continued hard work, dedication and professionalism in providing a positive, safe and active learning environment. Not only are staff focused on improving student learning in the classroom, but many staff volunteer their time to offer many extra-curricular activities, teams, and clubs for the students at JD Hogarth. Take time to ask your child(ren) about the activities they are involved in at these times.

As March break is approaching, I would like to wish all our JD Hogarth families an enjoyable break spending time with family and friends!

Ms. Barrow

French Immersion Scribes Needed!



EQAO is fast approaching! On May 24 - 26, May 30 - 31, and June 1, our Grade 3 & Grade 6 students will be writing the test. JD Hogarth requires French immersion scribes. If you are available for any or all dates, can you please contact James Coleman at the school by phone, or email james.coleman@ugdsb.on.ca
Thank you!

Digital Saturday returns this March!

All parents in the UGDSB are invited to attend Digital Saturday, which will be hosted at JD Hogarth PS in Fergus.

See a variety of technology used in the UGDSB. Meet with Special Education staff to learn more about how they support all students. Discover the rich online digital resources available to your children from home and at school.

Presentations include: devices in our schools, Homework Help, Cospaces and Ozobot, Google Apps for Education, UG2GO, Coding in the Classroom, MIT App Inventor, Grandpals, Virtual Reality, SEA, and My Blueprint.

Digital Saturday is on March 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Engaging Your Child in Mathematics At Home!

As parents we have the wonderful opportunity and responsibility for nurturing our children's growth. Parents play a key role in the physical, emotional, and intellectual development of their child. As parents we can usually find time to read a story to our children, thereby instilling a love of literature, but we are often at a loss as to how to instill a love and appreciation for mathematics.

Like reading, mathematics is a subject that is indeed necessary for functioning adequately in society. More than that, mathematics is a subject that should be more enjoyable than it is perceived to be. Parents' attitudes towards mathematics has an impact on their children's attitudes. Children whose parents show an interest in and enthusiasm for mathematics around the home will be more likely to develop that enthusiasm themselves.



Activities in the Home

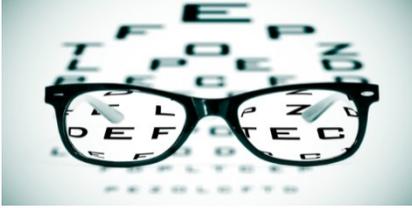
If you have dice, playing cards, and a bit of time....oh the "number sense" fun you can have.

1. Work on Place Value-use a grade appropriate number of dice and use the numbers rolled as digits to "make the biggest number you can, make the smallest number you can, make a number close to 100" etc.
2. Work on Number Sense-use 2 die to add numbers together....to make it harder, you can use the 2 die to subtract, and multiply.
3. War-Use a deck of cards to compare numbers. Each person flips their cards at the same time, the person with the higher number gets both cards.
4. What's My Number-Someone holds a card on their forehead and asks the other person questions to try to guess their number (for example, is it greater than 5, is it odd or even).

Give it a go and have fun building number sense fluency together.

Vision Health:

If you suspect that your child is struggling with vision issues, there are several things that you can do. First, book an eye exam with an optometrist. Basic OHIP coverage for eye exams, is available free of charge, for children from birth to age 19. Speak with your child's teacher regarding your concerns and encourage your child to clearly express to the teacher the difficulties they are having (Are they having trouble seeing things on the board? Are they having trouble copying information? Are they having trouble seeing the information in novels/textbooks/notebooks etc.?) There are a number of



accommodations that can be made to quickly address potential problems, including seating closer to the board or larger print on computers or photocopies. You can also discuss with the classroom teacher or SERT the possibility of making a referral to one of the Vision Itinerant Teachers who provide support to your school.

Monthly Environmental Activities to help Celebrate our Planet March 25th is Earth Hour!

It is vital to teach our children to respect and take care of the environment.

Join the global Movement! Celebrate Earth Hour on March 25th at 8:30 pm.

Earth Hour's mission is uniting people to protect the planet by raising awareness of about climate change and encouraging positive action.

"Earth Hour was famously started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia in 2007. Since then it has grown to engage more than 172 countries and territories worldwide."

Earth Hour is more than an event. It is a movement that has achieved massive environmental impact, including legislation changes by harnessing the power of the crowd."

Click [here](#) to see a short video clip of Earth Hour's story around the world and click [here](#) for highlights of 2015

Ideas for your family to do for Earth Hour!

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community or at work - in your own way.

A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights on March 25th from 8:30-9:30 pm. For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet. To celebrate, you can:

*prepare a candle lit dinner,
talk to your neighbours, or invite people over
stargaze, or go camping in your backyard
play board games, or charades
host a concert, or a sing-a-long
create or join your own community event
have an Earth Hour every month*

The possibilities are endless!

Quotes and information taken from: <https://www.earthhour.org/>



Your Child's Hearing is Important!

Seventy-five percent of a child's day is spent listening; listening to complex language, directions and instructions which need to be comprehended. Being able to hear peers is important for developing social skills and friendships. That is why it is important that any hearing difficulty be discovered as soon as possible because even mild hearing loss can put a child at risk for academic and communication difficulties. **Audiologists** are experts who assess hearing sensitivity and functioning that provides a window into the language/listening parts of the brain. Since listening is a critical learning skill, test results can be helpful in planning a program of intervention. Students who wear hearing aids, cochlear implants, or use personal FM systems should routinely visit an Audiologist to have their equipment checked. If you suspect your child has difficulty with hearing or attention it is recommended that you have your child tested by an **Audiologist**. To find an Audiologist in your community, visit the website of the College of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists of Ontario (www.CASLPO.com) and click on "Find an Audiologist" and search for Private Practice.



At UGDSB you can call 519-941-6191 ext. 231 for information.

School Council Corner - March

March is upon us. Hopefully the groundhog was right and we will be keeping some of this warmer weather around for a while. With no school during the week of March Break, School Council will not be meeting this month. We hope to see you at our next meeting in April. Spring is peeking round the corner, a time for renewal, rebirth and fresh starts and we are working on some new ideas.

Winterfest was held on February 25th and School Council hosted some fun winter activities both inside and outside the school. We had soup and chili offered, as well as a visit from Puppets Elora performing Stone Soup, Sandra O'Connor the clown, Story Time, Outdoor Activities including Zumba and Connect 5. We want to thank all the Volunteers and Donations from throughout the community. Thanks to all of you, School Council was able to raise over \$2000, which will go towards math and technology (Chromebooks in particular).

Just before the break, the school will be holding our annual **Dance-A-Thon** on Friday, March 10th. Your children will be bringing home information regarding this event in the next week. All students will have the opportunity to have fun and get active while dancing and raising money. In addition, trinkets and snacks will be available for purchase. Funds raised with this campaign, support our school's Arts Night. What a great way to kick off March Break!

Have you ever marveled at the ease with which kids can learn and adopt new technology? The Upper Grand District School Board has created a recurring digital open house where parents and guardians can learn more about the technologies used in our classrooms. JD Hogarth will be hosting the next **Digital Saturday** on Saturday, March 25th from 9 - 11:30 am. Mark it on your calendar and come visit the school with your children to learn all about the technology available in our schools. Check out the Board's information page here:

<http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/digitalsaturday/>

Coming up soon, we are working on another Community Movie night. On April 7th, we will be showing a movie, title to be determined, open to the school community. Details to follow.

Contact Us:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1810548639172149/>

Twitter: [@JDHogarthSC](https://twitter.com/JDHogarthSC)

Email: sc.jdhogarth@ugdsb.on.ca

Ongoing fundraisers FundScrip is a gift card purchase program that provides a percentage of the face value of every gift card you purchase back to the school. THERE IS NO COST to you the purchaser, nor to the recipient of the Gift Card. Please visit: www.fundscrip.com to get more information about this wonderful fundraising program. When you sign up please use our school code EDM6PZ. So far this school year, your purchases through this program have helped our school raise over \$1300! THANK YOU!

Meetings: The next UGDSB Parent Involvement Committee meeting will be held Monday, March 27, 2017 at the Guelph Board Office at 500 Victoria Road at 7:00pm with refreshments at 6:45 pm.

Our next School Council Meeting is Tuesday, April 4, 2017, at 6:30 pm in the school library. We hope you can come out and join us!