Ken Danby Public School

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Principal: S. Marquis; VP: T. Drohan
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May 2016 Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE-PRINCIPAL

Spring has finally arrived with lots of sunshine and warmer temperatures. Students and staff are looking forward to some wonderful weather in May.

As always, the last two months of school are very busy, both curricularly and extra-curricularly as teachers finish up this year's expectations. Plans are underway for many special in school and out of school learning experiences for our students with their classes, divisions and the school as a whole.

We would like the School Community to mark May 18th from 6-7:30 on their calendar. We are having an ARTS/TECHNOLOGY/MATH OPEN HOUSE. Please join us on May 18 and hear the Choir sing, view the wonderful art students have created, learn about Google Classroom, Raz Kids, Dreambox, Ugcloud, UG2GO, math games and activities.

On Wednesday June 1st from 7:30-8:30 am, we are hoping that all parents and community members who have volunteered at Ken Danby Public School will join us for our Sunrise Volunteer Tea. Come join us for Tea, coffee and muffins. Anyone who has volunteered this year is invited.

As we continue to promote our Character Traits throughout the year and encourage all students to "fill someone's bucket" daily, May's Character Trait is "Fairness": involves actions, feelings and thought that are just, equitable and unbiased, respecting diversity and honouring differences, treating others the way we would like to be treated, being fair does not mean treating people the same, interacting with others without stereotyping discrimination or prejudice. We ask parents to assist us with encouraging this trait by recognizing it at home as well.

Enjoy the months of spring ahead. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Saskia Marquis and Trisha Drohan

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Our school website has monthly newsletters, events, forms, School Council minutes and Board information. The website also contains a school calendar which is updated continually with ongoing school events.

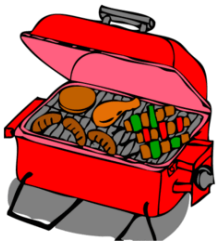
We will continue to send Aizan phone messages home to inform parents of upcoming events.

We are also sharing our daily and weekly learning, events and activities on Twitter.

You are welcome to call your call your child's teacher or office if you have any questions or concerns.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Our Spring Carnival will be held on June 9th, 2016. Watch for information to come home soon.



If are able to lend a hand or help out at the Carnival please contact Liz Hearty at SC.Kendanby@ugdsb.on.ca.

We are looking for you! If you are interested in participating in School Council please join us on **Thursday, June 2nd at 6:30 pm**. All are welcome to attend. If you are interested in helping out "behind the scenes" by volunteering during fundraising events, writing proposals, donating items to our silent auction or with any other skills or talent you possess please contact us at SC.Kendanby@ugdsb.on.ca.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2016

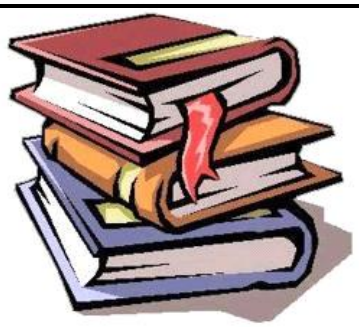
Ken Danby PS welcomes our future Junior Kindergarten students and their families. Please join us at school on Friday, June 3rd, from 9 to 10 am. The kindergarten teachers look forward to playing with the children while parents gather in the gym to learn more about our school and community. We can't wait to see everyone there!

EQAO

At the end of this month our grade 3 and 6 students will complete their Ministry of Education EQAO testing, which takes place on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of May. A reminder for students in these grades is to avoid any scheduled absences on these three days if at all possible.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

News from the Library



Exciting news - the library is transitioning to the Library Learning Commons (LLC)! This is happening to support the changes in teaching and learning brought about by the increased use of technology, inquiry based learning, and

collaborative learning environments. The LLC is an active learning centre, where reading thrives and creativity, collaborative knowledge building and innovative thinking are nourished. It is a shift in thinking of a school library as a place filled with books to a discovery center that emphasizes people and doing, rather than things. For more information, please visit our Board website at the following link:
http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/parents/article.aspx?id=61054

The Library Learning Commons will include hands-on programmable robotics, diverse building materials and highly interesting artifacts to provoke deep thinking and questioning and high engagement. We can use your help! If you have any building materials (e.g. lego, K'nex,.) that you would be willing to donate to the LLC, please contact Carolyn Forde at Ext. 225.

The Book Fair is coming to our Library! All proceeds will go towards purchases for the Library. We hope to see you there! The hours will be as follows:

Tuesday May 17th: 12:55 - 3:30 p.m. (During lunch recess and students may come during school hours with teacher's permission.)
Wednesday May 18th: lunch recess (12:55 - 1:20 p.m.)
During Open House (6:00 - 8:00 p.m.)

The Ontario Library Association reading program voting results are in for Ken Danby! The big winner for Blue Spruce (Kindergarten to Grade 2) was "If Kids Ruled the World" by L. Bailey. "Sportorama" was the winner for Silver Birch Express. The winner for Silver Birch fiction was "Rainshadow" and the Non-Fiction winner was "Colossal Canada- 100 Epic Facts and Feats". It was at 3 way tie in Red Maple (Grade 7-8): "The Gospel Truth", The Truth commission" and "We Are all Made of Molecules".! It will be interesting to compare our results with the rest of Ontario, which will be announced mid-May. Congratulations to the 72 Grade 3 to 8 students who qualified to vote - our largest group of participants ever! Well done!

Carolyn Forde
Teacher Librarian

LIVE FREE/SNACK PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Live Free campaign. We raised $902.51 for our snack program. This will keep a lot of tummies full. Excellent work, Diamondbacks!

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY TREE PLANT

May 3th students at Ken Danby and the City of Guelph planted trees in the park area.
City of Guelph is working hard to increase the Tree Canopy in Guelph.
May 7th and May 14th is a Community Tree Plant in the Park. City of Guelph is planting a number of trees in the park area south east of the baseball diamond. Drop by if you are able to help with this event.

ONTARIO SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Thank you so much to everyone who bought popcorn from Room 103 to support Special Olympics Ontario and our adopted athlete, Jessica Porter. We were able to raise $450 dollars! Also, thank you to our **School Council** who will also be adopting an athlete! A special shout out to **Clara G**. who has raised enough money to adopt three athletes as well! Way to go, Ken Danby Public School!

Our athlete, Jessica Porter, will be competing in Powerlifting in the Athletic Centre at the University of Guelph on Thursday, May 26. Some students have made posters to encourage Jessica and these will be posted at the University of Guelph as well.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SCHOOL BASED SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The UGDSB/WCDSB Special Olympics Track and Field meet with take place at St. James High School on Wednesday, May 18th. We are looking for a few volunteers to assist our team that day. If you would be willing to assist with either of the jobs below, please contact Kim MacKay-Hoogkamp (Mrs. H.) 519-836-4545 ext. 258:

We have a tent for our team and we need a volunteer(s) to put up the tent in the morning (before 9am) and to take it down following the event (anytime after 3pm).

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to assist with supervision of athletes and peer coaches during the event (9:00 to 2:30).

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Ken Danby is pleased to host a **Jump Rope for Heart** event on **Friday, May 20, 2016**. Jump rope teaches students about heart-healthy living and the importance of giving back to their community. No donation is too small and every dollar collected makes a real difference to those affected by Heart disease. Thank you in advance for your support!

MAY ENVIRONMENTAL THEME: CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change refers to any changes in long-term weather patterns (temperature, precipitation, wind, storms) that have been caused by humans polluting the atmosphere with too many greenhouse gases like methane and carbon dioxide. We need to act now, because who can argue with reducing pollution? Pollution can't possibly be good for us!

The world is tracking climate change. Weather and temperature has been changing too quickly over the past few decades, which seems to be caused by the industrial revolution here on Earth. We are sending too much pollution (from cars, trucks, factories, and power plants using coal) into our atmosphere. Over the past hundred years the temperature of the Earth has risen and this has caused many changes in nature. For example, species of plants and animals are either migrating or becoming extinct. Some seaside cities may soon be underwater from rising sea levels. We are having more severe weather patterns like tornadoes and hurricanes and ice storms. Drinkable water sources are drying up.

What can you do to help be part of the solution? Well, all of the things we have been talking about this year can help. It you buy less and reduce, then less energy will be used and less pollution will be sent into our atmosphere. If you don't waste electricity you help out too. If you walk or bike to school or carpool you are doing your part. If you buy locally you reduce the greenhouse gases emitted through shipping and this helps planet Earth too.

You can Google: *"Top 10 ways you can stop Climate Change"* to get more ideas on how you can help.

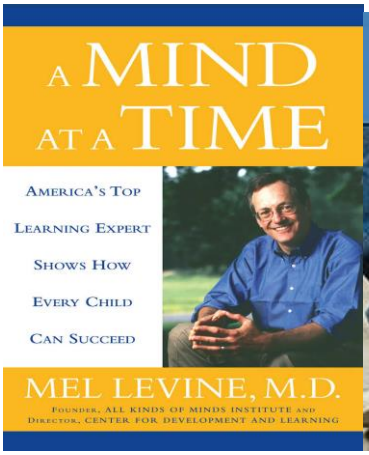
And finally, eat a fresh, local apple - Not only is it good for you, but greenhouse gases were not created in the processing, canning, freezing, packaging or long distance transportation, so local apples are good for the planet too!

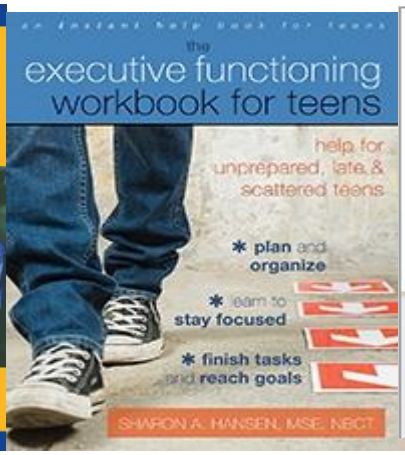
Slogan of the month: *Climate Change is not cool!*

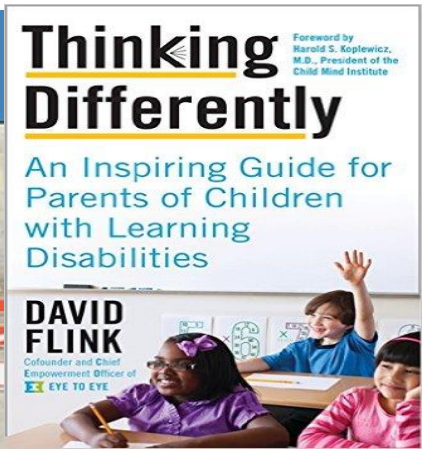
RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Does your child have an LD, ADD/ADHD or both? Here are some great resources to help you:

1. Work with your child to understand how they think and learn
2. Develop some strategies with your child to help them advocate for what they need to learn (technology, accommodations to the environment or learning tasks)







Other great online resources include:
The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, which has lots of good information on LD and ADD/ADHD issues, including topics about how to understand the IPRC and IEP, how to advocate for your child and topics related to specific LDs.
http://www.ldao.ca/introduction-to-ldsadhd/what-are-lds/

The Learning Disabilities Association of Wellington County connects to the Ontario chapter, but provides links and information about workshops and activities that are being held in Wellington.
http://www.ldawc.ca/

Our school board has also worked hard to address the needs of LD and ADD/ADHD students by providing SEA equipment, Google Read and Write training and targeted reading programs to help LD students access the curriculum and develop key academic skills.
Connect with your child's teacher to discuss all the supports that are available to your child!

School Cash Online

Pay now for school fees with School Cash Online

Dear Parents,

We are very pleased that over 200 families have already signed up to use School Cash Online, which provides you with the convenience of paying online for school items such as milk, pizza, yearbooks, trips, club/athletic fees, and spirit wear. We really want to save you time when paying for school expenses, so we can't wait for you to take advantage of this opportunity. School Cash Online is a great way to pay without the need for cash or checks!

Please follow the link below to register online (it takes less than 5 minutes!). Once you have registered your child, you will be able to see when they have a new item posted online for purchase. You also have the option to be notified whenever your child has a new school expense due, so you don't have to worry about missing the deadline. This system of payment supports maintaining our Eco School status by reducing paper useage for milk, pizza, yearbook, and spiritwear orders. **As of September 2016 all pizza, milk, yearbook, and spirit wear orders as well as field trip payments will be available only through School Cash Online.** By signing up now, you can be sure you won't miss any order deadlines in the Fall.

Register Online

Step 1: Please click on this link: https://ugdsb.schoolcashonline.com/

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the "click here" option, login in and add each of your children to your household account. To do this, you will need your student's last name, first name, and date of birth. Questions? Please call the Parent HelpDesk at 1.866.961.1803

✓ Convenient ✓ Safe ✓ Secure