Kortright Hills Public School

23 Ptarmigan Drive, Guelph, Ontario N1C 1B5 (519)-827-160 Fax (519) 827-9251

Farhan Hussain, Principal — **Hanna Morris, Vice Principal**

Della Broderick, Office Coordinator — **Linda Peyton, Administrative Assistant**

Newsletter for May, 2017

Principal Message

A thank you goes out to the many parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who volunteer at Kortright Hills PS. Your help in the classrooms, on class trips and in many areas of our school programs is greatly appreciated.

Over the month of April students were given time to provide feedback on peers that they will work well with for the 2017-2018 school year. Over the next couple of months the staff at the school will spend many hours developing class lists based on a detailed set of criteria, focused on student learning and success for the following year. As always, these classes are set as temporary until September when we are often asked to make changes due to the population growth and decline in our neighbourhood. We take this process very seriously and do our best to plan for the success of all of our students at Kortright.

Farhan Hussain
Principal, Kortright Hills P.S.

Ice Cream Social

Save the Date: June 8th , 2017
More info to follow

Upcoming Drills for May / June

- Severe Weather Drill / Tornado Drill - Wednesday, May 8th at 9 a.m
- 3 Fire Drills

Dogs on School Property

Please note that there are children who have allergies to animal hair, and who have a fear of dogs. There is also a possibility of a child being scratched or nipped by a dog (perhaps excited by all the children who enter and leave the school at the beginning and end of the day). We have also, unfortunately, had dog droppings found on our school property. In order to prevent a potential concern for our students, please do not bring your dog onto school property during school hours. **Please note that this does not apply to "Service Dogs".**

Thank you

Feedback welcome on draft policies

The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review is Policy 413 Safety (Behaviour Prevention and Intervention) and Policy 603 Provision of Learning Resources. You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy. **The deadline for public input is May 25, 2017** at 4 p.m. EST. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 (or toll-free 1-800-321-4025) ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

Information from the Library

Our Library continues to be a very busy place! Students participating in the Forest of Reading programs have voted for their favourite books and are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the winners at the Festival of Trees events in May. We have 110 students, parents, & staff attending the festivals on May 16th & 17th. In addition, 22 of our students will be participating in the awards ceremonies as sign carriers, author presenters, and award winner announcers. This is an amazing opportunity for our students to be able to meet individually with their favourite authors and be part of the celebrations! At the Festival of Trees event authors are "Rock Stars" and so are readers!

Coding, Robotics, and Video Creation clubs will begin in May. So far, we have over 60 students in Grades 3 - 8 who have signed up to participate. It's not too late to join! A sign up form was sent to each student via their UGCloud email, or students may come to see me in the library to be added to the list.

The Book Fair has arrived!

The Book Fair will be open for sales at the following times:

Monday, May 1st

8:00 am - 9:30 am

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Tuesday, May 2nd 8:00 am - 9:30 am

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Wednesday, May 3rd 8:00 am - 10:30 am

We accept cash or cheques made payable to our school.

Visa and MasterCard are welcome, too.

Thank you for your continued support of our library programs,
Sheila Morgan
Teacher Librarian
sheila.morgan@ugdsb.on.ca
http://bit.ly/KHPSLibrary

Yearbook Order Information

Personalize your yearbook! When you place your yearbook order online, you will be able to add an additional 4 pages of pictures from your child's year at no additional cost. The back cover can also be customized.

Order Link: kortrighthillsps.picaboo.com

Passcode: khps

Once on the order site there are two options for ordering:

1. K-8 Yearbook 2016-2017 (delivery in June)
   - $14 Softcover
   - $23 Hardcover
   - This is our full school yearbook that will contain one page for each class and additional pages with photos of events, teams, clubs, & candids.

   The order and personalization deadline is June 1, 2017

2. Grade 8 Yearbook 2016-2017 (delivery in September)
   - $12 Softcover
   - $21 Hardcover
   - The Grade 8 yearbook will only contain photos of the Grade 8 students, and will include the Quebec trip & Graduation.

   The order and personalization deadline is August 15, 2017

If you do not wish to order online, please see the office for a paper order form, but please understand that you will **not** be able to personalize your child's yearbook.

Please note: **The order deadline for Yearbook Orders through the office is May 12th.**

New option this year... order now & create throughout the school year! All pages must be completed by June 1st, 2017.

PERSONALIZE YOUR YEARBOOK

1 Go to your school's customized Picaboo Yearbook website. Click on the red **CREATE & ORDER PERSONALIZED YEARBOOK** button and follow the on-screen instructions. If you have previously ordered from Picaboo Yearbooks, log in with your existing credentials. If you haven't, you will be prompted to set up an account with your email address and a password.

Your yearbook includes four personalized pages and a custom back cover — free!

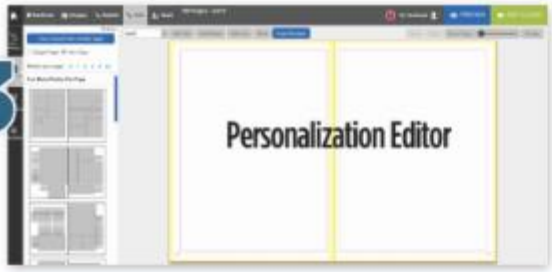
If you would like to take advantage of this offer, follow these directions to complete your order.

2

Enter the yearbook recipient's name and any required information, then click **PERSONALIZE YEARBOOK** to continue.

You may personalize additional books when you are done with step three.

3



At this point, you can upload photos, change backgrounds, layouts, and borders, and add text and stickers. **Access quick video tutorials at picabooyearbooks.com/tutorials to learn more.**

To save your work so you can close the program and come back anytime to personalize your pages, simply log out and log back in later. Once you have finished your personalized pages and are ready to submit them, click the green **FINALIZE YOUR BOOK** button at the top right of the page.

4 Select the product and quantity you would like to order for the yearbook recipient. Click the teal **ADD TO CART** button. To order additional books, return to your school's customized Picaboo Yearbook website. and repeat steps 1-3.

Your personalization includes a customized back cover. If you choose to skip this option, a plain white cover will be used.

5 Once you have completed all of your desired personalizations and added them to your shopping cart, click the blue **CHECKOUT** button. Fill out the required information and click **CONTINUE** to proceed to the payment area. You may pay by credit card or PayPal. Please note that the Purchase Code option is not available for parent orders.

6

Once your order is complete, you will receive a confirmation email which **we highly recommend you save.**

EQAO

Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO testing window will be from May 24th to June 5th. .

Smart Start For EQAO

* avoid absences to the greatest extent possible
* reschedule appointments
* ensure your child gets lots of sleep
* provide healthy food and snacks
* eat a good breakfast

* give hugs and pats on the back
* be positive

Tips for Success

There is no need to study. The EQAO assessment does not count towards a child's marks in grades 3 and 6, so there is no need to increase anxiety by cramming. If you are curious about the questions your child will be asked, check out the EQAO site and run through some practice tests yourself so you have some understanding of the structure of the assessment and can better reassure your child.

- **Remember this is practice.** Let your child know that this is a way to show off what he or she knows and to practice test-writing skills so your child can be prepared for tests in later grades.

- **Be supportive.** It is normal and natural to get nervous and this is a big deal for your child. Do not downplay fears or dismiss them as silly. Instead, encourage your child to talk about these fears.

- **Talk to the Teacher.** If your child is experiencing severe anxiety, there are things the teacher or school can do to help.

- **Set the alarm.** The best thing you can do for your child the day of the assessments is to make sure your child is well rested, fed and gets to school on time.

- **Read more.** For more on EQAO assessments and what they mean for your child, check out our Parent's Guide to EQAO Assessments.

- **Understand the Test.** Don't use your child's EQAO test scores to measure overall achievement. You're better off relying on regular contact with the teacher who can show you your child's portfolio, which is being updated all year long. You'll have a more clear and accurate picture of your child's progress.

Canstruction

Can you help us bring in 1000 cans by the end of May? Any canned food items will help us reach this goal. Tuna cans will especially help us reach our goal.

Jump Rope for Heart

Jump Rope for Heart will be held on Friday, May 20th. Information packages were sent home on the day of our kick-off assembly which was Wednesday, April 27th.

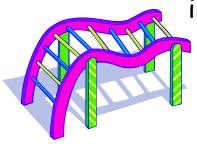
Grade 8 Graduation

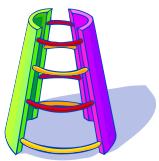
The graduation ceremony for Grade 8 students will be on Tuesday, June 27th at 6:00 pm in the Kortright Hills P.S. gymnasium. Following the ceremony, there will be a reception and dance for the graduates.

Safety on the Playground

With the warm weather arriving and the opening of our playground structures, this is a good time to remind everyone - students, parents, staff and yard supervisors - of the rules that help make these structures fun and safe places to play.

Our playground is designed for users aged 13 and under and we do not provide supervision, maintenance and inspections outside of school hours.





Rules for students:

- **No pushing**
- **No running or tag games on play structures**
- **No fighting**
- **No eating while on the playground equipment**
- **No throwing sticks, stones or other objects**

Bicycle Safety

Now that the warmer weather is approaching, please remember if your child rides his/her bike to school a **helmet** and a **lock** are necessary.

Students **must** walk their bikes and scooters on school property.

Road Safety, Safety, Safety!

The two parking lots at the school are not to be used as drop off points for our students, nor is the driveway to be used as an opportunity to do a u-turn. This area of the school is to be used only by staff and visitors to the school during busy times of the day, between 8:30 a.m. and 8:50 a.m., and 3:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. As well, please do not park along the end of neighbouring driveways while dropping off your children. We have had community members call the school to voice their displeasure with respect to trying to get out of their homes in the morning, but are being blocked in by cars along the end of their driveway. Please be respectful of our community members.

Summer Clothing & School

Hopefully we have seen the last of snow for many months. As the temperature rises, we ask you to remember that students must dress appropriately for school. Please follow the guidelines listed below:

- protect yourself from the harmful ultra violet rays of the sun by wearing hats, long sleeve tops and applying sun screen,
- clothing must be free of symbols of hate, gang membership or images that portray violence, death, abuse, alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, racial or obscene words, political or sexual statements.
- muscle shirts, spaghetti straps, low scooped necklines and shirts exposing the mid-rift should not be worn at school.

Information Changes for September

To assist us with enrolment projections for September, please inform the office if you plan to move **out** of the Kortright Hills attendance area. Should you know of any families moving **into** our area and who are planning to attend school here in September, please ask them to call the school at (519) 827-1601.

Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child who will be four years old on or before December 31st, 2017. Please come into our office to register. For Senior Kindergarten (or if your child is new to our school) he/she must be five years old on or before December 31st, 2017.

Morning Attendance

Please help your child to be at school when the bell rings at 8:50. This minimizes disruption for classrooms during learning time, and it places the value of time management on students – a life-long skill. Please also remember to have your child check in at the office, if he/she is late. If the announcements are on, he/she will need to wait quietly in the front foyer until announcements are finished to check in and receive a late pass.

Ecostars Program

Our Grade 5 students will be participating in the Earthkeepers' program offered by the Board on May 15th and May 16th. Ecostars is a 2-day intensive program designed to give Grade 5 students a better understanding of the interconnectedness of living things and how what we do affects many other systems of life. It is held at the Arboretum at the University of Guelph. A great experience and fun time should be had by all!

From School Council

Council has been busy planning two very exciting events. The first is the Multi Cultural Event being held on Saturday May 6th from 11:00 am to 2:00pm in the school gym. There will be various cultures represented, food to sample and entertainment.

Council is also busy planning the annual Ice Cream Social. We are still looking for volunteers to help with this event, so please watch for further information coming home later this month. Again this year, the event will have games, entertainment, activities, pizza and treats. Mark your calendar for Thursday June 8th from 5-8pm and be sure to attend this great event!

The next School Council meeting will be Monday, May 15th, at 7:00pm in the school library.

Great things happening at Kortright Hills PS.

Clubs, Extra Curricular	Time	Staff In Charge
Safety Patrol	Before and after school	H. Morris
Milk Monitors Grade 6	Both Breaks	H. Morris
Primary Games Club	Wednesdays Second Recess	S. Bowden
Band (Intermediates)	Day 1, 1st Break Day 5 2nd Break	Cade
Stage Band (Intermediates)	Day 4 1st Break	Cade
Library Helpers (Gr. 6-8) September - June	First Recess - Daily	S. Morgan
Forest of Reading (Gr. 3 -8) January - April	First break Day 1 - 4	S. Morgan
Robotics Club (Gr 3 - 8) April - June	Second break Day 2 & 4	S. Morgan
Video Club (Gr 3 - 8)	Second break Day 1 & 3	S. Morgan

April - June		
Coding Club (Gr 3 - 8) May - June	First break Day 1 - 4	S. Morgan
EcoLeaders	First break, Day 5, Library	K. Jones, C. Dykstra, N. Johnston
Me to We	Day 3, 2nd break	C. Dykstra, V. Jameson
DASH training (gr,. 5/6)	Wednesday 2nd lunch/break	Gayton, S. Petersen, C. Andrews
Social recess	Wednesday 1st gr 1-3 2nd gr 7/8 Friday 1st gr 7/8 2nd gr 4-6	Gayton
Primary/Junior Choir	Day 2, 1st Recess	S. Phelan
Jr. Floor Hockey	Day 5 , 2nd break	S. Hemsley
Intermediate Badminton	First Break, After school	S. Mason
Documentary Film Festival	April 27-May 5	Intermediate Teachers

Guest Speaker

Want to learn how to help your child develop self esteem and resiliency to enhance their wellbeing and success at school??

Come out and hear Guest Speaker Mr. Chris D'Souza at Kortright Hills Public School!

Parent Council presents a parents's educational evening ***Tuesday May 9th***. Mr. D'Souza will speak to the adults from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Mr. D'Souza will be sharing his life experiences and his perspective on education. His talk will allow us to take a look at the social and cultural barriers our children face. Through his stories, we will be engaged in learning about how we can support all students in establishing a healthy self-esteem and getting along with others by being resilient.
Childcare for school age children will be provided, please ensure that you RSVP for the evening.

Free Event!!

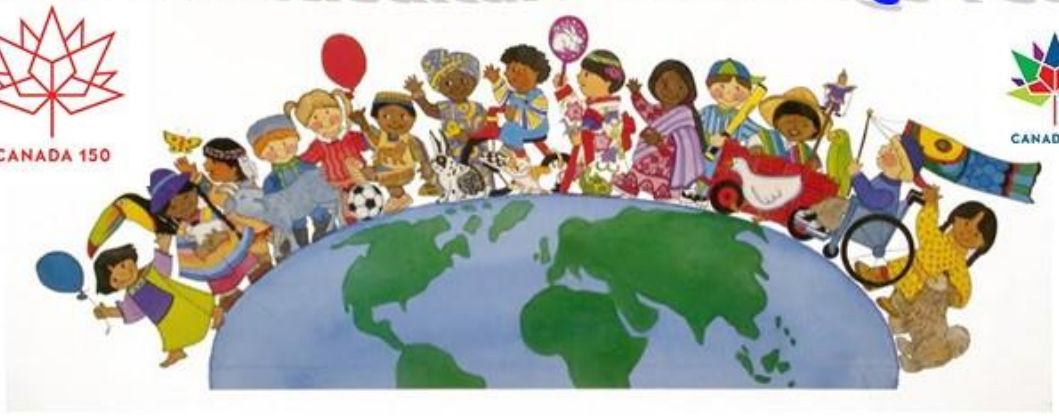
If you plan on attending the Guest Speaker presentation, **please RSVP by May 2nd, at**
Please include the # of children requiring childcare.
kortrightpc@gmail.com

Date of Event – Tuesday May 9th.
Time – 7pm to 8pm
Location – Kortright PS gym

Celebrate

Canada's 150th Anniversary with us at Kortright Hills Public School's

2017 Multicultural Heritage Fest



Saturday May 6th – 11:00 am to 2:00 PM

Join us for a fun family time of music, dance, and stories!
Have a cup of coffee and treats
Travel around the world with your very own passport
Enjoy live performances
Learn about the amazing things Guelph has to offer

Interested in representing a particular group or community? Drop us a line at avalois@rogers.com to secure a table or time for a performance.

23 Ptarmigan Dr., Guelph, ON N1C 1B5

Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet

May 22nd is International Biodiversity Day!

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

Celebrate International Day For Biological Diversity on May 22nd!

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The International Day for Biological Diversity to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.

Biodiversity, a simple word with some very broad implications quite simply means: 'A wide range of life'" reaching to learn more about it in order to protect it. We need

https://www.cbd.int/

"Biodiversity, at the level of species and ecosystems, provides an important foundation for many aspects of sustainability." António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

https://www.cbd.int/idb/2017/

Ideas for your family to celebrate Biodiversity Day!

- *Visit farmers markets in your local area to try new types of produce. Whether you incorporate heirloom tomatoes into your cooking, or try one of the rainbow of colors of carrots out there that aren't orange, biodiversity can bring a great new experience to your table.*
- *View photos of endangered species on the Internet and discuss the reasons why these animals are threatened and why they should be protected.*
- *Join a community group and help to remove invasive plants from your local environment. These teams of volunteers will gather to remove plants that are impacting the local fauna's biodiversity by taking over natural grow areas.*
- *Get out into the world and enjoy all the different types of life your local area offers. Even a local park can have an amazing variety of life you've never noticed, from the insects crawling through the grass, to the flowers we so clumsily lump together as 'wildflowers'.*

Adapted from: https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-day-for-biological-diversity/

Celebrate the diversity of our natural world every day!

Talking about Mental Health - May 1-5 is Child and Youth Mental Health and Well-being Week! Participate! Have Fun! Increase Awareness! Increase Well-being!

The UGDSB is participating in Mental Health and Well-being Week and so are our community partners.
Here are some of the events in the community for you and your family to participate in:
CMHAWW is presenting the following:
(see http://mailchi.mp/2d253253c223/mental-health-week-events-2017?platform=hootsuite for details)
May 1st Canadian Comedian and Mental Health Advocate **Mike MacDonald** - $20 - CIGI - Waterloo - 7:00 p.m.
May 1st Free film viewing of **'Resilience'** - Recital Hall at the Guelph Youth Music Centre - 7:30 p.m.
May 2nd - **Free SafeTALK training in Guelph** - provided by our Education and Promotion - 6:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.
May 3rd - **Clint Malarchuk** - Former NHL Goalie and Mental Health Advocate speaking - $10 - Bingemans - 7:00 p.m.
May 4th - Free **'Room to Breathe'** Mindfulness film viewing and panel discussion - 7:00 p.m. Kitchener Public Library
May 4th - Free - **Clint Malarchuk** - Former NHL Goalie and Mental Health Advocate will also be speaking at the Arthur Arena Hall – 7:00 p.m. - Admission by donation.
DCAFS is presenting : (see https://dcafs.on.ca/building-better-tomorrows-2/ for more details)
May 3rd – Sheldon Kennedy - former NHL Player and author of Why I Didn't Say Anything will be speaking at the Caledon Ski Club. $100, all funds raised to support Dufferin Children's Fund.
CMHA Dufferin Peel is hosting: (see https://cmhapeeldufferin.ca/events/bbqart-show/ for more details)

May 3rd - A BBQ and Art Show at Edelbrock Centre. The BBQ is from 11:30 to 1--hamburger, chips and drink for $5. Art show is from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Have a SUPER Week!

Dr. Lynn Woodford is the Mental Health and Addiction Lead for Upper Grand District School Board

Special Olympics

600 students from the Upper Grand District School Board and Wellington Catholic District School Board will be joining together to celebrate sport at the Special Olympics, May 17, 2017. The event will be held at St. James sports fields, and includes track and field events as well as adaptive events. Athletes flock to the sports fields for the opening ceremonies at 10:00, and compete in 3 events each throughout the day. Family and friends are welcome to join in the fun and cheer on the athletes. Parking is available at the Grange plaza.

KHPS Presents Thank You

Our large fundraising event, KHPS Presents took place on Saturday, March 4 at E.L. Fox Auditorium. This fundraiser was put together to support the naturalization project for our school yard, we raised an amazing $7000 towards the project! However, the evening resulted in so much more then just a fundraising activity. A lot of memories were made that night and in the preparation of the event for the students of Kortright, it was a fantastic experience!

Over 150 students participated in the performance and they all deserve a HUGE thank you. So much time went into rehearsing for this event, Thank You! KHPS Show Dance Teams, and Show Choirs, the Concert Band, Stage Band and Orfesstra; the environmental club, black light puppetry and Ms. Dykstra's class; as well as, to the Kindergartens. Also, to the former KHPS students and staff who joined in on the fun! Behind the scenes also deserve a special Thank you! Marketing team, Ushers and Ticket Sellers and to the Backstage Helpers who helped occupy the younger students and kept the backstage area organized.

We also had a number of parents and high school students assisting us during the day and evening. Thank you for donating your time and helping to keep the event running smoothly. This event would not have been the success it was without the amazing staff of Kortright donating their time leading up to the event and on the day of the event, thank you Staff for being so wonderful and helping to create so many memories for the students of Kortright. A special thanks to Mr. Hussain, Mrs. Morris, and Ms. Broderick for doing everything they could to assist with this event, and for truly going beyond what we ever imagined.

All students at Kortright participated in creating the class canvases that were displayed at the performance. We had so many compliments about these creations, they were all very well thought out and put together, each was a true piece of art. We hope that the families who won the canvases through the raffle are able to display them and enjoy them for years to come.

A number of community members donated prizes to our raffle table, thank you for all of the amazing donations and for making the raffle a success.

There were a number of special guests at KHPS Presents, a big thanks to the Professionals that joined us that evening; these performers and crew donated their time to our fundraiser. Our hopes are that the students of Kortright enjoyed their exposure to a bit of theatre and enjoyed working along side these professional artists.

Finally, a very special thank you to Brandy Douglas and Janet Kubik for creating, producing and directing KHPS Presents and again, to ALL of those who made the event such a great success!

As we continue to fundraise towards the naturalization project in the coming years we hope that we can again see the support of the Kortright Community. The Naturalization Committee is hard at work gathering quotes and applying for grant funding to ensure a great school yard for the students at Kortright. This will be a multi year process, but we hope to see some new additions to the school yard as early as the end of spring.

Julia
Chantal
Angelina
Stefanie
Avery
JACOB
Lauren
Aidan
Benny
Samantha
Kids can...
explore
create
dance
dream
Oh, the Places
COBRAS