



PAISLEY ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2016 NEWS LETTER

NOVEMBER NEWS

We have been lucky to have had wonderful weather in October and were able to get outside and take advantage of the sunshine and warm temperatures!

November is promising to be a busy month with progress reports going home November 15th and a P.D. Day on November 25th.

The purpose of the progress report is to give parents and students early feedback on student achievement. The reports are designed to give parents specific information about learning skills and work habits, as well as subject specific details. Hopefully the reports will lead to good discussions between teachers and parents about how we can

all work together to support our students. Open lines of communication between home and school are vital to student success. Parents are always welcome, at any time, to talk with or meet with their children's teacher to discuss academic progress or other school-related issues.

Here's to a great November!



R. Wagner, Principal
S. Hare, Vice Principal

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HOLIDAY FAIR

Thirty students from Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute are participating in a service learning trip to Cambodia in July 2017. In support of the team's outreach projects, the students are hosting a Holiday Fair at the school on Saturday, November 26th from 11am-3pm. This family friendly fundraiser will include activities such as pictures with Santa, a craft area/play area for children, a bake sale, and a silk and crafts sale from the artisans who work for Tabitha Cambodia. All proceeds raised at the fair will go directly to the team's outreach projects in Cambodia. The cost to attend is \$10 for each family, or \$3 per person. Your entry fee includes four tokens to get your family fun started! Additional tokens are available at the cost of \$1.00 each. Your participation will help us bring dignity to Cambodian families living in poverty. Thank you for your support!

Special points of interest:

- November 11th Remembrance Day
- November 15th Report Cards go Home
- November 17th Picture Retake Day
- November 25th P.D. Day
No school for students

Board Wide Fundraising Initiative for Syrian Newcomers in our Community



We have been pleased to welcome almost 75 Syrian newcomer students into our Upper Grand schools since last January. We are hoping that you will consider helping us in a board wide fund raising initiative to raise funds to help Syrian newcomers settle into our schools and community. We have partnered with Orca Book Publishers to raise funds by selling their newly published book entitled, "Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey" by Margriet Ruurs through our school and board websites. For every book that is sold through our board or school websites, Orca will donate \$10 to our local resettlement agencies to support Syrian refugees.

This unique picture book was inspired by the stone artwork of Syrian artist Mizar Ali Badr, who was discovered by chance by Canadian children's author Margriet Ruurs. She was immediately captivated by the strong narrative quality of Mr. Badr's art, and, using many of Mr. Badr's already-created pieces, she set out to tell a story about the Syrian refugee crisis. Stepping Stones tells the story of Rama and her family, who are forced to flee their once peaceful village to escape the ravages of the civil war raging in their homeland. With only what they can carry on their backs, Rama and her family set out to walk to freedom. Mr. Badr's stunning stone images illustrate the story. This book is a dual-language (English and Arabic)

edition.

To order this book, please visit your school's website or the board website and click on the buy button to place your order. Payment is made directly to Orca and the books are shipped directly to your address from their warehouse. Payment for the order will go through at the time of purchase and it will include shipping. Orca will keep track of how many books are sold in our board and will send us \$10 for every book sold, which will then be donated to a local resettlement agency.

For more information, please see the attached flyer or contact Bonnie Talbot at bonnie.talbot@ugdsb.on.ca or 519-824-4420.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Celebrate Buy Nothing Day on November 25th!

Buy Nothing Day is an awareness day highlighting society's habit of buying too many things.

Founded by Vancouver artist Ted Dave, "The first Buy Nothing Day was organized in Canada in September 1992 as a day for society to examine the issue of over-consumption. In 1997, it was moved to 'Black Friday', which is one of the busiest shopping days in the United States."

Repair, reduce, re-use, recycle – 4 R's are best!

"It's time for a new kind of

materialism, based on an economy of better, not more... that makes things which last and can be repaired many times before being recycled, allowing us to share better the surplus of stuff we already have, from furniture to tools, cars, fridges, clothes and food. 'Repair, reduce, re-use, recycle', could be the basis of a new economic model."

<https://www.theguardian.com>

•Instead of shopping, enjoy a day in the great outdoors by walking trails or going to the park.

•Recycle school supplies such as binders, workbooks, pens and pencils instead of buying new.

•Donate clothes, books, toys and games your family does not need any more.

•Think of things you can make or do for people as gifts without spending any money.



Helping your child with difficult situations

Life is full of things that are hard to deal with. Sometimes children need help in dealing with these events. "Resiliency" is what helps adults and children to "bounce back" from the difficult events in life. The best way to help your child be more resilient is to model the skills for them. Here are some ideas that you can try:

1. Starting at birth, respond to baby's smiles and cooing by smiling and cooing back often.
2. Comfort your child when he or she is upset. Hugs and a quiet voice can go a long way in calming a child.
3. Teach your child to take deep breaths to calm down when they are upset and then talk when they are relaxed.
4. Help your child to see another way of looking at things: "I know that you want to play with that toy. Tom waited for the toy and now it is his turn. He would be sad if you took it away."
5. Instead of making your child say "sorry", talk about his or her

feelings and the feelings of the other person involved in the event.

6. At night when you put your child to bed ask them to think of one positive thing that happened to them that day. You could share something too.
7. Point out your child's strengths: "Hey you rode that bike by yourself!"
8. Encourage your child to keep trying even if something is hard.
9. Read positive, happy stories together.
10. Give your child lots of time to play. Help them play with other children in a positive way.

If you would like more ideas and information on raising a resilient child go to <http://www.reachinginreachingout.com/resources-parents.htm>



SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENTS IN UGDSB

Students who require special education programs and services receive support through the classroom teacher and the special education resource teacher at their home schools. However, in some circumstances, students can be referred to a special education class placement where focused instruction in the area of need is provided. These classes have smaller numbers and can provide targeted instruction to meet student needs. In elementary there are four specialized class placements for the following exceptionalities: Learning Disability, Mild Intellectual Disability/Language-based Learning Disability, Developmental Disability (Intellectual Disability), and Intellectually Gifted. Students need to have a diagnosis of an Exceptionality before they can be eligible for class placement, and parents and the school team should feel like the placement would best meet the student’s learning needs. Contact your school team if you would like to have more information on special class placement options.

TALKING MENTAL HEALTH

Technology and Video Games

Between checking text messages and playing the latest video game, how much time do you and your children/youth spend on technology?

“Technology is not really the problem, the lack of balance is,” says Doriann Shapiro, Social Worker, Problem Gambling Institute of Ontario (PGIO). “Because we are in a technological age, youth are often also using tech for writing and research. But when they are totaling over seven hours a day, finding balance between that is the challenge.”

“Problem video gaming has harmful effects on an individual’s social, occupational, family, school, and psychological functioning,” says Lisa Pont, Social Worker, PGIO. “It can result in a loss of control, withdrawal, and escape from difficult feelings.”

Here are some tips from Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

1. Consider how you use technology. You are modeling behaviors for your children/youth.
2. Before giving your children/youth access to technology, talk to them about safe use. Communicate openly and honestly. Discuss possible effects and the dangers of using the Internet and social media.

3. Talk to your children/youth about how to integrate technology into their lives in ways that respect others. For example, some families have “no texting” rules during mealtimes and family events.

4. Be aware of your children’s/youth’s Internet activities and what they access. Create rules that both you and your child agree to, based on their age and past Internet use. You can also consider V-chip technology for the TV, which can block access to programs and channels, and parental controls for smartphones and computers.

5. Spend time learning about the Internet and video games popular with youth. Participate with your children/youth in these activities. They are more likely to listen to you if they think you know what you’re talking about.

6. Have your children/youth use a shared computer in an open area of your home where you can monitor what they’re doing.

7. Help your children/youth lead balanced lives. Set limits around your children’s/youth’s use of technology.

Encourage them to take part in “offline” activities such as sports, music, drama and in-person get-togethers with friends and family.

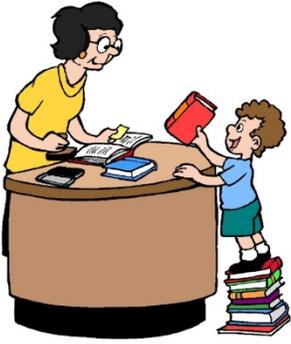
8. Help your children/youth set priorities. For example, doing homework comes before spending time texting or playing video games.

9. Remember that you own the equipment

(e.g., computer, cell phone) your children/youth are using—or you’ve likely given them the money to buy it. If your children/youth are not using the technology in ways that you approve, you have the authority to cut off access or control their use in other ways (such as using a secret password to set the administrative rights on your home computer).
10. If you have seen signs that indicate your child/youth may be developing a problem from their technology use, (such as: increased time playing/online, avoiding other activities including other interests and school, sleep problems, poor hygiene, less time with friends/family, lying about their gaming/internet use) talk with your child/youth about your concerns. You could also contact your family physician to get guidance and support for the whole family.



LIBRARY NEWS



[Our October Library Contest](#) inspired some great artwork! Congratulations to our winner Aaryan! He will receive \$20 in free books from the Scholastics Book Club flyers.

This month's contest takes you out of the school and into the public library! All you need to do for this contest is go to the public library this month. Ask for a Paisley Ballot each time you visit the Public Library in November. Both the West End Library and the Main Branch will have Paisley Ballots. Bring the ballot into our school library and you are entered in this month's draw. The Bookshelf Bookstore on Quebec Street has kindly donated a \$20 gift card for our prize this month. We would like to say a big thank you to this great bookstore. The draw will be held November 30th during the morning announcements.

[Panther Prides - School Wide Community Building and FNMI Teachings](#)

In October our students participated in our first School Wide Panther Pride event of the year. We are embedding some of our new curriculum in First Nations, Metis and Inuit learning in these special events. This past month, we learned how we are all unique but are connected in a community. We looked at the features of Haida art and Mr. Martin led the group with a demonstration of art inspired by this style. In Panther Pride groupings, students participated in a game and then produced Haida inspired art using their name and pictures that support their identity. All the art will be put together in a big display around the gym symbolizing our theme...we are all connected. Kindergartens had a special assembly just for them with a story and demonstration of Haida inspired Art. They will create a collaborative art piece for our school wide project in class with their teachers.

This year our students will continue to be engaged in activities that support curriculum while we focus on learning about First Nations, Metis and Inuit cultures. Together we will foster our Paisley sense of community and creating a culture of understanding following the Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Report.

We look forward to these special days where the students can see how the actions of each individual add up to do great things in our community as we explore how we are all connected.

[Grade 3 Knitting Club](#)

Cast on...knit...purl...untangle...fix stitches... If this sounds like fun to you maybe you would consider helping out. Knitting club will begin with Grade 3's. Knitting club is a chance for students to learn a valuable skill to create something that will be given as gifts to seniors in the Community. If you are interested in lending a hand please contact Mme Thompson, Mme Murphy or Ms. Richer. Knitting club will be Tuesday and Thursday's from 10:40-11:10am beginning in November.

[Social Action Club \(Grade 1-6\)](#)

Students can make a difference! This month our club will choose it's first action. Encourage your kids to come out and see what they can do to help others and make a difference in the community. We will meet to vote on our top 3-4 ideas for making change locally and globally this year this week and then we will have work to do!

[Primary Choir](#)

We will have a choir again this year...coming this December! We will sing together soon!

PARENT COUNCIL

The Paisley Road School Council is composed of a volunteer network of: parents, Principal, Vice-Principal and teaching staff members. Our goal is to:

- Provide valuable resources and support for our families
- Identify ways to enhance student life within our school
- Provide fundraising support for enhancements & programs
- Have our activities reflect the goals and values of our school community
- Foster community engagement and strengthen the ties between school and home

Our first event ("Movie Night") was held on Thursday October 27. Thank you to all who were able to participate. The event successfully raised \$600 for the Forest of Reading Program!



***Families looking for
Holiday support, who are
not with another agency,
please contact Mrs.
Mackie by next Friday at
519-822-0675 ext 227.***



EQAO RESULTS

On behalf of EQAO, I am pleased to provide you with the results of the 2015–2016 Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics for the primary (Grades 1–3) and junior divisions (Grades 4–6).

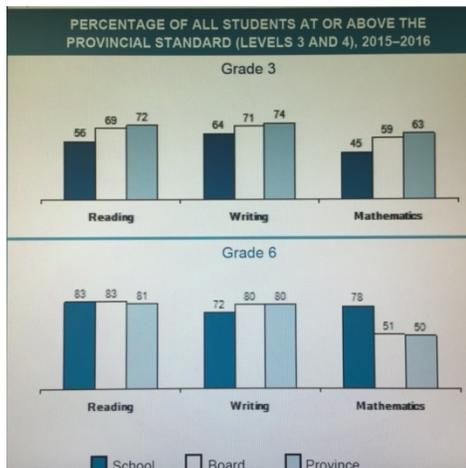
This report presents the 2016 results for your school and board. EQAO data should not be used to make simplistic comparisons of outcomes between schools or boards, but rather be used to provide valuable information about each community’s unique student population. EQAO assesses and evaluates important aspects of the quality and effectiveness of elementary and secondary school education.

EQAO provides schools and boards with a wide range of data about their students’ achievement, attitudes, behaviour and demographics. By intersecting different types of data, schools gain rich insights to help evaluate the effectiveness of their programs and inform improvement planning.

We are pleased to provide reliable and useful information about student achievement to school communities and all partners in the education system. A thorough evaluation of student achievement requires the review of data from many sources. The information EQAO provides allows schools and boards to have richer discussions about their programs and practices, with an eye to improving them to meet their students’ needs more effectively.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rodrigues
Chief Executive Officer
Education Quality and Accountability Office



HALLOWEEN

We are looking forward to our Halloween here at Paisley Road School on Monday October 31st, 2016. Students may, (but are not required to) dress up for the last block of the day (1:35-3:15 p.m.) This may include their costume or wearing Orange and Black. Please do not send costumes that may be frightening to younger students (blood, gore, weapons etc.) Students will be wearing their costumes home. If your costume has many pieces, please be sure to label them all so that no one is disappointed Halloween Night.

Just a reminder that students must be able to put on costumes independently and costumes should not involve makeup.



November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Pizza 	4	5
6 	7 Acorn fundraiser money due	8 Knitting club  River Run 5A and 6A	9	10 Knitting club  Pizza 	11 Remembrance Day assembly 	12
13	14	15 	16	17 Photo retake day Pizza 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Dance-A-Thon  Pizza 	25  Parent teacher interviews	26
27	28	29	30			

