



## SIR ISAAC BROCK PUBLIC SCHOOL

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December 2016

### A Message from the Office:

*Like many months at SIB November was filled with great events happening at SIB. Some of the many exciting things to happen this month included visits from Guelph Storm players, Guelph Police Services, Guelph Fire Prevention Services, the shaving of Mr. Rane's head, and many field trips. We also had a fantastic Pajama day, Pink Shirt day, Chapters Fundraising event, and a successful Toy Drive during November.*

*Our Remembrance Day Assembly was once again incredible. Thank-you to all the Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, and Sparks who participated in our Remembrance Day Assembly, you wore your uniforms proudly. We also had a wonderful Anti-Bullying assembly. Many of our students performed at these assemblies and we had a number of very touching presentations. Thank you all teachers, Spirit Council members, and to all the classes that participated in the presentations. Many mentioned that both assemblies were incredibly well done. We are so very proud of all of our SIB students.*

*During the month of December we have many exciting events planned. During the last week prior to the holidays there will be an assembly on each of the days. Various classes will perform throughout the week; information will be shared from each class as to the date and time if the class is performing.*

*As we head into December, we wish you all the best for the holiday season, best wishes to you and your families for the New Year to come.*

*Natasha Skerritt and Kathy Soule*

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT S.I.B.**

Happy Holidays everyone! Whether you celebrate Eid, Hanukkah, Christmas, Ramadan, Bodhi, Kwanzaa, or Diwali or other celebrations we wish you health, happiness and peace. To live, work and play in peace is something we can all celebrate regardless of our beliefs and customs. Respect, care of self and others, and healthy choices know no boundaries. As a staff, we are proud of all our students and all the work they do each and every day to learn and grow as responsible, respectful citizens. We wish you a peaceful and healthy 2017. See you on January 9th.



## **THANK YOU PARENTS and COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Thank you to all the parents and the community volunteers who have worked to support children's learning during our first term at school. On a typical day at S.I.B., parents help to organize fundraising, volunteer in classrooms, attend trips, and work behind the scenes doing School Council work. We so appreciate all that you do to support students and their learning at S.I.B.



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## **SIB Grade 5 Food Drive**

Dear SIB Families,

This year at SIB P.S, the Grade 5 classes will be organizing a holiday food drive. The food collection will take place from December 5-December 15, and it will be held at the school.

Food donations collected will go to the Salvation Army's Hamper and food programs that they organize each year. We are doing this to help families who maybe don't have as many resources or food as most SIB families do. As well, organizing this event will teach us how to be good citizens and community members. Also, the holiday food drive will help the Grade 5s collect real data for their math, data management unit. As well, it will also help us in Social Studies to learn how government and non-government agencies solve social programs like hunger and homelessness in our community.

When you bring some food to the school, each class will get a box. Each day a Grade 5 student will come to the class and collect the donated food. Then, they will bring it to the front foyer, so the students can count the food. Also, classes are asked to only let Grade 5 students collect the donation, so that they can accurately count the food.

Why donate? What's the prize? The winning class that brings the most donations will get a pancake breakfast made by Ms. Skerrit and Mrs. Soule. Last year the winning class brought in 271 items.

The Salvation Army has also asked us for some specific food that they need the most: peanut butter, pasta, canned meat, soup, and sauces. Please remember that all donations need to be new and tightly sealed. Thank You for supporting the Salvation Army and the Grade 5 SIB Food Drive!

Sincerely, Sashi and the Grade 5 SIB Students

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## **NO BUS DAYS**

If at all possible parents of bus students are encouraged to drive their children to school if the busses are not running. Classes proceed as normal on no bus days, and although your child is not marked as absent, they are missing important school work. In many classes, there are only a few students who do not attend. The only time your child should not attend is if the school is closed. Please listen to your local radio station or check the transportation website for additional information. ([www.stwdsts.ca](http://www.stwdsts.ca))

## **JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE SKATE**

We are looking into continuing our Annual Junior/Intermediate Skate. We have just confirmed December 19<sup>th</sup> (Junior) and 22<sup>nd</sup> (Intermediate) from 1:00 – 2:00. Students from Grade 4-8 will be bused to Centennial Arena in Guelph to skate. If your child is a junior or intermediate student, **please note that it is mandatory that everyone skating wear a CSA approved helmet to keep them safe on the ice.** Unfortunately, it will not be possible for us to find and borrow helmets for students, so students would need to have their own helmet or borrow one on their own from someone they know. We will do our best to help find skates for any children who do not have them if they are able to find a helmet to use. More information about our Junior/Intermediate Skate will be sent home shortly.

## **Kiss n' Drive Thank you!**

Thank you to the many families who have been following the Kiss and Drive procedures. If you need to accompany your child into the school, please park on one of the many available side streets and carefully cross onto the school grounds at the cross walk where the crossing guards are located. For all other kiss and drive families, valet service will be provided by our very dedicated staff and student patrols! Thanks again for your efforts to keep all our children safe!

## **TIMELY REMINDERS**



A reminder for the New Year that our school day begins at **8:40 am**. Classroom activities begin before the announcements and teachers need to have everyone in class promptly. Thank you for your help in having your children arrive on time. This one small detail makes a great deal of difference to starting the day off right!

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATON**

Junior Kindergarten registration for the 2017-18 school year begins on January 9, 2017. Children born in 2013 are eligible to begin Junior Kindergarten in September 2017.

Please note that the **registration process for the upcoming school year has changed**. This includes changes to the French Immersion registration and selection process. Information nights are currently underway at all of our JK French Immersion sites. For more information about this process or to find the time and date of our JK FI registration process information nights at a school near you, please visit [www.ugdsb.on.ca/jkfi](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/jkfi)

## **Feedback welcome on draft policies**

The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review are Code of Conduct Policy 213 and Child Abuse and Protection Policy 502 (submit feedback by January 13, 2017). You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at [www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy).

### **Lunch Supervisors Needed!**

We are looking for additional lunch supervisors for occasional coverage. If you are interested please contact the office.

## Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet



December 10<sup>th</sup> is Human Rights Day!

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

### **Celebrate Human Rights Day on December 10th!**

*“This year, Human Rights Day calls on everyone to stand up for someone's rights. It starts with each of us.” Step forward and defend the rights of someone whose voice is not being heard. Demonstrate an understanding of equality, human dignity and justice. Consider and be respectful of the rights and opinions of others, especially if they are different from yours. Recognize that human rights include the right for all of us to have access to clean water, unpolluted air and healthy food.*

***“There is no action that is too small: wherever you are, you can make a difference. Together, let's take a stand for more humanity.”***

*-- UN High Commissioner for Human Rights: Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein”*

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/>



### **Simple yet meaningful ways for your family to celebrate the rights and responsibilities that we all share as human beings!**

- **Learn about how children live in other parts of the world.** Look at pictures on the web and discuss how we are the same and how we are different.
- **Read the book: *We Are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Pictures* by Amnesty International**
- **Read the *Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights*.** Decide if there is a cause your family wants to support, or an Ecojustice action you want to take on.
- **Talk to someone you know who is from another country.** Where are they from? What was their life like there? What language did they speak? Did they go to school? What do they miss? What do they like about their new country?
- **Start a tradition of doing a family service project on Human Rights Day.** There are many opportunities to volunteer, such as preparing and serving meals at a local homeless shelter or simply gathering enough to put together a bunch of care packages of simple needs and necessities. <https://humanrightswarrior.com>

***“For the bigger picture we can (and should) do what we can to fight injustice. But on a smaller scale, in the day-to-day, practicing kindness can help knit a web of compassion to give humanity a boost of resilience”***

## Can Access in the Read & Write Toolbar



*Every student* in the Upper Grand District School Board has access to a handful of incredible tools via an app called **Read & Write** that can help them with reading, comprehension, written expression, & gathering research.

Read & Write is attached to student accounts, so students need to be logged into Chrome to use this feature.

**Check it out!** ... Supports on the R&W toolbar include;



**Word Prediction**



**Quick access to dictionary tools**



**Having text read out loud in English or in French**



**A tracking tool that provides a focus when reading**



**The ability to turn your speech to text**



**Highlight and collect text, & build vocabulary lists**



**Changes to Voice, Speed & Language can be made easily in Settings**

Read & Write tools are powerful for **ALL kids**, but they make a huge difference for those with **learning disabilities**. These tools allow students to read independently, comprehend more of what they are reading, and demonstrate their understanding; allowing them to work smarter, not harder.