# Christmas is around the corner hi-res stock photography and images - AlamyPrincipal’s Message

December Principal’s Message

WOW!  I can’t believe we’re already into December and planning for the Christmas break and all the events, gatherings and fun that accompanies this time of year. Students have been focused on their studies working diligently through the expectations and activities to grow their learning.

Centre Peel has received a lot of extra learning resources in the way of print material and personnel this fall. As part of the government’s commitment to ‘fill the learning gaps of our students resulting from the reduce in-person teaching over the last two years. We have received new, levelled reading materials to use with students in implementing a new approach to teaching reading (Science of Reading Method). We have been given the services of a new Early Reading Teacher, Ms. Jennica Drake. She will be with us, working with our primary students for 12 weeks (Nov. 28, 2022 – March 2, 2023) in an effort to support growth in foundational reading skills, improve phonics knowledge application of skills to their language work. We have also been designated for support as a Math Strategy school. As we work to build plans around our next steps targeted at student’s needs in this area, we have access to teacher work time with a specialized math coach and opportunities to learn about new resources available through the Board’s Educator Hub. This has made for a busy teaching/learning time for both staff and students this fall.

Our volunteers have been busy organizing and delivering the many fundraising lunch meals for our students. Students appreciate the warm lunches: hot dogs, hamburgers, grilled cheese, and Enchiladas. Our Salad days are well received with rarely anything left. Due to the high cost of lettuce, the lunch committee altered the last salad day turning it into a soup and chili day. Another big hit and again, no leftovers. Thank you to the moms on the committee for their skill in preparing such wonderful lunches and for the shopping, prep, cooking and serving time they put into providing such nutritional lunch options.

The bake sale committee is busy planning for the annual bake sale that accompanies our Christmas Concert. Families have received their form for a requested contribution to the plates that will be available on December 13. Mark your calendars as Tuesday, December 13th is the night that our grade 7/8 class presents their Christmas play and bake sale.

As we enter this Advent Season may we be reminded of all that we have that is good: family, friends, and community. and may the spirit of love gently fill your homes and in this loveliest of seasons may you find many reasons for happiness. Oo komt, aul jie Christen!

This is the season of Advent. Throughout this season it is my hope is that during this time of waiting we will find peace, and when excitement and anticipation overwhelms us, we will find comfort and calm and that joy is present in all our gatherings with family, friends and community as we celebrate Christmas, together.



Have a blessed and Merry Christmas

Christine Kay

Principal

## Winter Recess Fun

With the weather being very unpredictable, it is important that students come dressed appropriately for current and changing weather conditions that may occur during the day.  Fresh air and exercise are important for all, especially children who are taking a break from their learning.  Remember, students at Centre Peel are outside for a portion of the day in all types of weather and our field is very open to the wind.   Outdoor play is reduced according to our guidelines in very cold weather, but the goal is for students to be able to play outside at all recesses. Students are encouraged to wear a warm coat, snow-pants, winter boots, hats and gloves or mittens.  An extra pair of mitts is also a good idea.  For younger children an extra set of socks in their bag can also help in the event of wet feet. Parents are also highly **encouraged to label all clothes coming to school** so that items found can be returned to the owners.

If families are finding it difficult to provide any of these items, please call the office or send your child to talk to Mrs. Moore or Miss. Kay.  We have a great clothes closet with many extra of these items that can be loaned to students for the day or given to them so they can participate comfortably and safely in all outdoor activities. Thank you for ensuring your child is dressed for winter weather.

## Winter Use of Playground

As per Policy 308, as of November 1 our creative playground is closed for the winter season. It is the position of the Upper Grand District School Board that all playground equipment cannot be safely operated during winter conditions.  Thank you for reminding your children to play away from this area until its re-opens in the spring.

## Battery Recycling

Centre Peel Public School has joined with RMC, Raw Materials Company to participate in the Ontario Schools Battery Recycling Challenge. We have received collection pails and are ready to receive used batteries. Any size battery can be recycled through our collection pails including: 6- & 9-volt, primary lithium, and button cells.

Please send in all your used batteries with your children

## Staying Healthy While at School

With the variable temperatures and ups and downs in the weather, the ever-changing strains of the Coronavirus, many germs are surfacing, regenerating, and mutating with each new resurfacing. At all times, but during these unprecedented times it is important to maintain healthy habits: wash your hands (use sanitizer if soap and water is not available), wear a mask when in public spaces (over your nose, covering your mouth and under your chin), get lots of rest, eat plenty of fruits and vegetables and dress for the weather. We appreciate your efforts in helping to keep our school environment healthy.    Please continue to screen your children every morning before school and if they are ill, please keep them home. We can all do our part to continue making Centre Peel a safe and healthy environment for our students.

## Travelling to Mexico?

Students who leave for Mexico or other destinations for long periods of time fall behind in their studies which makes reuniting with learning in the classroom when they return, difficult. Sometimes when they return they are in a different class than the one they left which can create a harder transition back to our school. For families who travel to Mexico we now have a connection to keep students connected to their learning by attending Tu Puente, a program run by the MCC and the Thames Valley DSB in conjunction with 5 other Ontario school boards including the Upper Grand DSB. The main school is in Durango and this year we are excited to inform you of a satellite outlet in Chihuahua. Families who sign their children up to attend this ½ -2-day program, will be able to remain on register at Centre Peel ensuring them their place back in their original classroom. They will complete course work provided by their teachers in Math and Literacy and will therefore not be behind when they return. Tu Puente also offers evening programs to accommodate students who are needed at home during the day.

Students also have the option of connecting directly with their own teacher through google classroom and completing the work provided in their personal folder. Signing up for on-line learning and completing work provided by their classroom teacher and submitting back on a weekly basis will also ensure they return to the class they left. Students can access their learning on-line 24/7 from anywhere in the world.

Please consider signing your child up for one of these programs while you are away. If you have any questions about any of the programs or sign-up procedure, please contact the school.

## Parent Council

### A big thank you to the following families who have volunteered to sit on parent council for the 2022-2023 school year.

## School Council 2022-2023

Stuart Martin Rick Martin Melvin Martin Isaac Thiessen

Marlene Martin Wilma Martin Maria Thiessen Helena Friesen

Jacob Friesen

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

Moie Weinacht!

***From all the staff at Centre Peel Public School we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.***

***School returns Monday, January 9, 2023.***

## Christmas Food Drive

In the spirit of giving our school is holding our annual Christmas Food Drive from December 1st- 16th. Student donations will be supporting the Drayton Food Bank and our school snack program. Last year we collected over 100 pounds of food and we are hoping to beat that amount this year! Please bring in items that are non-perishable such as dry cereals, rice, noodles, flour, peanut butter or canned items like soups, fruits, vegetables or stews. All toiletries such as shampoos, toothbrushes, facial tissues, diapers and toilet paper will also be accepted. Items must not be opened, dented or past the expiry date! We will also gladly accept hats, mittens and scarves.

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for September of 2023 will take place from January 9th-20th, 2023. Please contact the school to make an appointment to register your son/daughter as soon as possible. If your child is born in 2018 or 2019, they are eligible to attend school.

## Inclement Weather Days

A reminder to parents that on inclement weather days you will receive a phone call from our automated telephone system. This call will notify you if buses are cancelled and that our school is closed to students. Information can also be found on the school board’s website.

Please make sure we have your most up to date contact information, so we can contact you.

## Christmas Hot Lunch

Our annual Christmas Hot Lunch will be held on Tuesday December 7th, 2022. Our menu this year consists of:

Cheese rolls, Turkey, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, stuffing, corn, a layered jelly salad and Caesar Salad. For dessert we will serve a delicious Oreo ice cream treat!

This meal will be provided at no cost to our students with thanks to our Food and Friends donations for this meal.

## Life-Threatening Medical Conditions

If your child has health concerns of any kind, and you have not informed us here at Centre Peel, please do so as soon as possible. This will enable us to take the necessary health protection steps needed here at school.

If your child requires medications throughout the day, forms must be filled out and kept in the office along with the medication. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Moore

## Hot Lunch Program

Our hot lunch program will resume in January.

## Upcoming Events:

Please check our website for up to date information and any changes that are taking place in the events for the month.

December 1- Pizza and Chocolate Milk

December 7- Christmas Luncheon

December 13- Christmas Concert and Bake Sale

December 15- Snow date for Christmas Concert

December 16- Bus Patrol Christmas lunch

December 22- Last Day of Class for 2022

## Weather Reminders

Winter weather has arrived at Centre Peel! With the weather being very unpredictable, it is important to remind the children that it is necessary to dress appropriately for all weather conditions that may occur during the day. Please remember our students are outside in all types of weather. Please remind your child to bring hats, mittens or gloves, snow pants and boots for the yard. It may be a good idea to have an extra pair of mittens, socks and pants in their backpacks. Thank you for ensuring that your child in dressed for winter weather.

# Parents, Mark Your Calendars…Kindergarten Registration for September 2023 is Just around the Corner.

If you or someone you know has a child born in 2019, those children are eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten and if they were born in 2018, they are eligible to attend Senior Kindergarten. **Please contact the school to set up a registration time.**

**Registration will occur January 9-20, 2023.**

Monthly environmental activities to help celebrate our planet

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# December 10th is HUMAN RIGHTS Day!

““You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” —*Jane Goodall*

# Celebrate Human Rights Day on December 10th!



<http://calendarholidays.xyz/holiday/168/human-rights-day>.

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. Recognize that human rights include the right for everyone to have access to clean water, unpolluted air and healthy food. <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.** Find out about their schools or traditional food and language.
* **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.
* **Make a World Wishes Dove with your family.**Cut feathers from white paper. Have everyone in the family write their wish for the world on a feather. Cut out the body of a dove and glue all the feathers on it.
* **Start a tradition of doing a family service project on Human Rights Day.** Find an opportunity to volunteer in your local community and make a difference.

“*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*” by Melissa Breyer.

  