

Principal’s Message

February 1, 2024

Hello Centre Peel families.  Welcome to February 2024!  It has been wonderful to have students back into the building again after the Christmas holidays.  Students have been working hard on their learning as we approach report cards coming home and we’ve also been having fun with things like skating as the weather permits.  It may be cold outside, but the feelings of warmth and community are well established here!

As previously shared, if you haven’t shared your email address yet, please do so as it will help you to get weekly “5 Things” emails with messaging for events that are still being planned at the time of this newsletter being written.  It’s your easiest way to see what’s coming up next.  As always, if you have any questions throughout the month, please call the school office.

We have been fortunate to have many children who were born in 2019 and 2020 complete their kindergarten registration for the fall.  We know that sometimes people miss being registered or move into our community after the process has been completed.  If you are in contact with someone like this, please have them reach out to the school office for support in being registered for the fall.

The Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health unit is helping to support members of our school community who need to update their immunization records.  Letters from Public Health have been sent to families and we are here to help avoid the suspensions which can occur if this is not done.  A special clinic is being held in the school library on February 21 where families can ask questions and get support to fill out any necessary forms, receive a religious exemption or receive the immunizations they need.  For further information, please contact the school office.

Please know you are welcome to attend our next School Council meeting on Tuesday, February 6 at 7:00 PM in the school library.  Everyone is welcome to attend.  We are working on planning a spring event for families and will be sharing about exciting events and learning our students are taking part in.  We hope to see you there!

Report cards will be printed and sent home on Wednesday, February 14.  If your child has an Individual Education Plan it will be updated and sent home at that time as well.  We look forward to sharing what your child has worked hard to do and share next steps of how you can support their learning at home.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call the school office.  We are more than happy to help support you and your family.

Jason Boyce

Principal

## Family Day

**Monday February 19th** is **Family Day**. Family Day was originally created to give people time to spend with their families, but it also provides a day off between New Year’s Day and Good Friday as they are approximately three months apart. We hope everyone can take this opportunity to focus on family time, engaged in activities together.

## February Special Events: Please check the calendar for all the special National Days that we will recognize at school.

### PIZZA DAY

Pizza Days for February are on Feb. 1st and Feb. 15th.

Upcoming Events and Hot Lunches for February

Tuesday February 6- Parent Council Meeting at 7 pm

Wednesday February 7-Grilled Cheese

Wednesday February 14th- Free pancake and fruit lunch to Celebrate Shrove Tuesday

Thursday February 15- Pizza Day

Monday February 19- Family Day Holiday-no school

Wednesday February 21- Hamburgers

Wednesday February 21st- Vaccine Clinic in library

Wednesday February 28th- Hot Dogs and Pink Shirt Day

Soup is on Feb.29th.

Thank you to all our amazing moms on the Hot lunch committee for your hard work and dedication.

## Vaccinations

Our school will be hosting Public Health on February 21st in the library. For those students who need immunizations updated. All families are welcome to attend and receive their vaccines or to fill out the religious exemption paperwork. Please contact the school to let us know if you will be attending.

Groundhog Day is celebrated on **February 2nd** of each year. It focuses on the concept of a groundhog coming out of its home in mid-winter to ‘predict” if spring is on its way in the northern hemisphere. Groundhog Day is a day of wonder and curiosity for many people based on the activities of a groundhog arising out of its winter slumber to check for his shadow. In Canada, an albino groundhog named Wiarton Willie annually climbs out of his hole to predict the future forecast. According to folklore, if the groundhog sees its shadow on February 2 it will return to its burrow, indicating that there will be six more weeks of winter. If it does not see its shadow, then spring is on the way. What will he predict for the end of this year’s winter?

### National Sweater Day

Our planet is getting hotter! Since 2010, National Sweater Day has engaged over one million Canadians in turning down their thermostat and wearing a sweater to keep warm to help raise awareness about climate change and energy conservation, and show how together – classroom by classroom, school by school – we can be a part of the solution to reduce our carbon footprint. Centre Peel will observe **National Sweater Day** on **Thursday February 1st, 2024**. The heat will be lowered by 2 degrees so wear a cozy sweater to stay warm and help CPPS be a part of a world solution to global warming and Climate Change.

### Random Acts of Kindness Day

Friday February 16th, 2024 is Random Acts of Kindness Day. The work to create a kinder world never ends. There is no limit on the amount of goodness we can put into the world, but we need your help! We invite you to join the annual Random Acts of Kindness Day celebration on Friday February 16, 2024.

## Pink Shirt Day

***February 28th is National Pink Shirt Day***

Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. Each year, on Pink T-shirt Day, We encourage all of you to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere. Take the message and remember it all year long.

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It is so important that victims of bullying know they are not alone and there is help and support available. Wearing a pink shirt on this day sends a strong message to them that others care. Often, the simple act of wearing a shirt can start conversations - conversations can be a big step towards healing and helping!

On **Wednesday, February 28th** Centre Peel will be joining the Nation in recognizing **‘Pink Shirt Day’**. Our Centre Peel students are encouraged to wear something pink to show that we are all working together to promote kindness and acceptance within our school community.

## Black History Month

Every February, Canadians are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present. The Black History Month 2024 theme, “[African Americans and the Arts](https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/),” explores the key influence African Americans have had in the fields of "visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression."

## Newsletters and Calendars

Just a reminder that all our newsletters and the monthly calendar can be found on the Centre Peel PS website. Our website has some great and useful information for all of our Centre Peel families.

## Cold Weather Reminders

Now that the colder weather is here, it is very important to remind our children that it is necessary to dress appropriately for the weather conditions that may occur during the school day. If they get wet while playing outside it is a good idea to have an extra pair of mittens, socks and pants in their backpack. If your child forgets any of these items at home please remind them it is ok for them to see Mrs. Moore at the office for them. Thank you for ensuring that your children are dressed for winter weather.

## Kindergarten Registration

DID YOU KNOW??……If you or someone you know has a child born in 2019 or 2020, they are eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten or Senior Kindergarten here starting in September. Please call to set up an appointment as soon as possible for registration. Our planning for classes has already started and we are in need of JK and K students to maintain our current class organization**. If you are considering sending your child to JK please know that we do offer part time attendance to help them get used to coming to school**. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Moore at the school.

Snow Balls: ***Throwing of snowballs, or ice, or any type of snow is not allowed due to major safety concerns.***

Snow Forts:A snow fort is for that recess only – no one owns the snow or a snow fort. We share snow and we are considerate of others’ forts (e.g., we don’t break down what they are building). If someone is not using cooperationin building the fort, try and work it out before involving the teacher. Snow structures may not exceed shoulder height.

Snow Hills**:** If hills are too slippery or too high, they are out of bounds (and may have a pylon on them). You may slide feet-first down a snow hill only if you are wearing snow pants. People on the bottom of the hill must move away quickly. People at the top of the hill must wait until the bottom is clear.

Ice:Sliding or walking on ice patches is not permitted. All ice patches are out of bounds (and may have a pylon on them).

## 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. Our school is now open to students on no bus days if parents are willing to drive students to school and pick them up by 3:15 pm.

## Student Absences

Thank you to our parents who continue to phone us or send a note to let us know when their child(ren) will be absent from school. As part of our Safe Arrival Program, we *must* have contact with a parent or guardian when a child is absent. Our answering machine is available 24 hours a day for your convenience.