



CMES NEWS

DECEMBER 2017

FROM THE OFFICE...



Dear Parents & Guardians,

The month of November was a busy time as staff and students were engaged in many extracurricular activities in and outside our school. On November 16, 2017, our Director of Education of the Upper Grand District School Board, Doctor Martha Rogers visited our school and had the pleasure of hearing the CMES Band play O'Canada, under the direction of our talented band teacher, Ms. Neal. As well, our wonderful grade one students from Ms. Ecclestone's class, sang a song about Peace. On the following day, we had the opportunity for our Superintendent, Denise Heaslip to visit and she was also treated to a beautiful performance from Ms. Ecclestone's class.

At CMES, we wanted to demonstrate our respect for our heroes past, present, and future who have served our great country, Canada. Our grades four to eight students had the pleasure of hearing Cpl. Kelly Scanlan speak on November 8, 2017. Cpl. Scanlan shared her experience serving in Afghanistan in 2010 with our students. She also talked about how she became involved in the Invictus Games established in 2014 by Prince Harry. Cpl. Scanlan represented Canada in the recent Invictus Games held in Toronto September 2017. The students listened intently and were able to ask questions. We had a wonderful Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 10, 2017. Many of our students from primary, junior, and intermediate divisions participated in the assembly. Thank you to Mr. Barron and Ms. Zantinge for organizing, leading, and carrying out a respectful time of remembrance for our heroes, past and present.

Bully Prevention week took place across the UGDSB during the week of November 20-24, 2017. During the month all of our students had an opportunity to discuss and learn about "Peace" as part of our school-wide social justice and character ed programs.

Thank you to all parents, and guardians who were able to attend the Progress Report Interviews. It was a great opportunity for parents/guardians and teachers to meet and discuss your child's progress, share highlights of your child's strengths and areas to improve upon.

Many thanks to our amazing School Council who work hard to help support our students through volunteering in our building, providing hot lunches, snack programs, supporting the purchasing of items in the classroom, and off setting the bussing costs for field trips, through many fundraising initiatives. Your time, hard work, and dedication to our Credit Meadows students is much appreciated!

Continued next column over...

As always, a friendly reminder for Parents/Guardians to please check the Upper Grand District School Board website and our Credit Meadows website for the latest information and news happening in our board and school. If you have not already done so, please download the UGDSB app for access to updates that come from our website.

The school will be closed from December 25, 2017 until January 5, 2018 for the Christmas Holidays. **The first day of classes for our Credit Meadows students will be on Monday, January 8, 2018(Day 1).**

On behalf of the staff at Credit Meadows Elementary School, we want to say thank you to our parent community for the many ways you support your children. Have a restful, fun holiday season with family and friends. Wishing you all a happy holiday and a joyous new year!

Ms. Lagundzija-deFreitas (P) & Mrs. Papavasiliou (VP)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Please check our app or website for dates



December is a time to celebrate....

Some important days of commemoration for our students and their families this month include:

Bodhi Day , Maun Agiyaras , Milad-un-Nabi , Birthday of Imam Agakham, Amitabha Buddha's Birthday , Yule/Winter Solstice, Chanukah, Christmas, Boxing Day, Zarathosht-no-diso...

Spirit Days at Credit Meadows:

We have planned the following **Spirit Days** for December:



Monday, December 18th—Wear your favourite holiday colour day

Tuesday, December 19th— Holiday Sweater Day

Wednesday, December 20th— Wear Your Favourite Holiday Hat

Thursday, December 21nd— Sparkle & Shine Day

Friday, December 22rd—PJ Day or CMES Spirit Day (Green & Orange)



What is an IEP?

An Individual Education Plan, or IEP, is “a written plan describing the special education program and/or services required by a particular student.” (Ontario Ministry of Education, *Individual Education Plans: Standards for Development, Program Planning, and Implementation*, 2000, p. 3). IEPs can be developed for exceptional students (as identified by an Identification Placement and Review Committee), or based on student need, regardless of identification. IEPs can address academic and behavioural learning needs; they are written by teachers in consultation with parents, as well as students, where appropriate.

All IEPs must include a student profile which identifies the child’s name, their date of birth, teacher’s name, grade, class placement (if applicable), relevant assessment information, relevant medical diagnoses, as well as their strengths and needs (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2000, p. 6). IEPs including modified or alternative expectations must include **annual program goals**.

IEPs must also list any **accommodations** that are required for the student to learn. Accommodations can be **environmental** (e.g., a quiet place, a special chair), **instructional** (e.g., reading instructions aloud, breaking tasks down into shorter steps and chunks), and **for assessment** (e.g., allow oral responses, allow more time on tests). Some accommodations are offered to all students (e.g., use of graphic organizers), however, they are essential for a student if listed on the IEP.

Modified and **alternative** IEPs include goals for each semester. Modified goals can be goals from a different grade curriculum (e.g., for a child in grade 4 who is reading at a grade 1 level), or can be at grade level (i.e., when a child can do some grade level work but is completing fewer or less complex expectations). Alternative IEPs can address behavioural goals and life skills. Report cards for children with alternative or modified IEPs are based on the IEP expectations and goals.

For more information about IEPs please speak to your child’s teacher, principal, or consult the following websites:

The IEP Process: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/individu.html>

The Individual Education Plan (IEP), A Resource Guide (2004): <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/guide/resource/>

People for Education: Special Education Tip Sheet <http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Special-Education.pdf>



PLAYGROUND REMINDERS:



Now that winter weather is upon us, we’d like to remind students that snowball throwing is not permitted on school grounds.

Parents please take a moment to review this school expectation with your child(ren).

While throwing snow can be fun, it also has the potential of causing injury to others, especially when small stones or ice chunks accidentally get mixed into the snowballs. For the safety of all students it is very important that this expectation continue to be reinforced.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

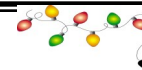
Dress for the Weather!



This is a reminder to students (especially older students) that winter is here and it is important to dress appropriately for the cold.

We have had a number of students going out for recess without appropriate warm clothing on, or students are removing their jackets once outside. Some reminders from parents may be helpful in this matter.

CMES School Council Corner



- Our 4th annual Poinsettia: Please remember that plants will be ready for pick up on Tuesday, December 5th in the gym in the afternoon.
- CMES School Council would also like to thank everyone who has supported our food days
- Our next CMES School Council meeting will take place in library learning commons at 630pm, on January 15th, 2018 Meetings are open to all parents, and we would love to have you join us!
- **Christmas in the Meadows 2016** will take place from 6 pm – 7:30 pm on Wednesday December 20, 2017, at the school. There will be music acts, a family sing-a-long, a photo booth, crafts, snacks, and beverages. Students can visit the CMES Holiday Store, to purchase small gifts for their family members. Gifts will be wrapped, and priced \$5.00 or less. It promises to be a very fun evening, and we hope to see you there!
- Please note that the Scholastic Book Fair will also be open during Christmas in the Meadows.