



CMES NEWS

January 2018

FROM THE OFFICE...



Welcome back to everyone! We hope you had a chance to rest and visit with family and friends over the holidays. We are looking forward to a fantastic 2018 school year!

December was a whirlwind of activity at Credit Meadows. A big thank you goes out to our wonderful CMES School Council for a great "Christmas in the Meadows" event. In addition to the performances by our Kindergarten classes and our Credit Meadows Band, we had a Christmas store, craft rooms, pictures with Santa, face painting, and hot chocolate and cookies. Thank you to everyone who made this evening event a success. Thank you to our CMES Community for your generous donations of food to the Orangeville Food Bank.

We also had great musical performances from a number of Primary and Junior classes during the last three days before the holidays. Thank you to the many families who came to watch the performances and our staff who worked hard to organize and prepare students.

Many more special events took place during our last week of school before the break. Mrs. Horan's grade 8 students took time to share books that they had written and illustrated. All of our Junior and Intermediate students had an opportunity to attend the Theatre Orangeville Christmas production of "The Last Christmas Turkey". Several classes participated in a variety of special "Pot Luck" lunches and we were able to end the 2017 year with some fun spirit days (i.e., Sparkle & Shine Day, PJ Day/ CMES spirit wear day, Favourite Holiday Hat Day, Holiday Sweater Day, and Favourite Holiday Colour Day) and assemblies. One special assembly included welcoming back CMES teaching alumni to lead the children in Christmas caroling with their instruments.

Looking ahead, staff will be focusing on assessment and evaluation in the coming weeks and preparing Term 1 report cards.

Please check the Upper Grand District School Board website and our Credit Meadows website and UGDSB app for the latest information and important dates. Our website can be found at:

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<https://www.ugdsb.ca/creditmeadows/>



You can also check out the app store for the free UGDSB app and add CMES as your school for important school updates and calendar items.

We look forward to January being a productive and busy month, as well as, a wonderful beginning to a New Year!

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

REMEMBER:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2018 IS A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY.



Teachers will be focusing on Assessment and Evaluation practices.
THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS

CMES PARKING LOT IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Similar to many other schools, our Credit Meadows' parking lots can become congested during drop-off and pick-up times. This can be a safety concern for our students, as well as a concern for staff and school buses that need to access parking and bus lanes.

In order to improve this situation and encourage healthy active living for our students, we would like to suggest that parents support their children in walking to and from school each day; or at the very least, consider parking on a side street or other nearby parking lots that would still allow for a short walk to the school. By doing this our students will benefit from the physical activity, and our parking lots will be less congested.

Safety Of Our CMES Students - Remember the Following:

- Drivers MUST STAY IN CARS AT ALL TIMES and pull into a space at the curb when a spot is available.
- Drivers do not leave your car, students can meet you.
- If you plan to stay/visit at the school, please park in the lower parking lot.
- Students must exit cars (am) or enter cars (pm) on the passenger/sidewalk side.
- Drivers must pull out as soon as students exit cars (am) or enter cars (pm) .
- Students should NEVER be dropped off in the middle of the driveway lanes.

During extreme/inclement weather, please be patient as the safety of our children is our highest priority.

GRADE 8 PARENTS' NIGHT at **Orangeville District Secondary School:**

Thursday, January 18th @ 7PM
in the ODSS Cafeteria.

(Please arrive early due to parking)

Administration and staff will present information on the Grade 9 program. They look forward to seeing you then.

Inclement Weather Days **(no bus days and school closures)**



Remember that should the buses be cancelled in Dufferin County, or the school closed, the transportation icon on the UGDSB website will have notices posted.

CMES students are within walking distance to school and do not ride a school bus, however if you decide not to send your child due to the weather conditions, it is very important that you call and report the absence. This cuts down on the number of calls that have to be made to parents regarding the safety of their children, and in turn allows us to get through other safety calls more quickly.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Exciting changes are coming as we get ready to welcome our newest students to our school.

Kindergarten registration for the 2018-2019 school year will take place from January 9 to 19, 2018, and will feature a new online pre-registration process.

All Kindergarten students (JK and SK) who are **new** to the Upper Grand District School Board must pre-register online at www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten. Students entering SK next year who are already attending an UGDSB school this year are not required to pre-register online.

Pre-registering online will allow parents to fill out a Student Admission Form at a time and place that's convenient to them. Our school will have a computer available for families to pre-register online here, if desired. If you're not sure which school your child is eligible to attend, visit www.findmyschool.ca.

Once they've pre-registered online, parents must come into their home school before the Jan. 19th deadline, to drop off required documentation and complete their registration.



Cold Weather and Seasonal Safety

Winter can be a wonderful time to play. Many children enjoy the crisp air, the freshly fallen snow and participating in a whole host of exciting winter sports and activities. Although we feel it is important for students to spend some time outside each day exercising and socializing with their peers, there are times when bitterly cold temperatures and other inclement weather conditions require that we keep children inside.

The decision whether or not to hold recess outdoors is made by the individual school principal. When making this decision, the principal will check the temperature outside, along with the wind chill factor, as well as, consulting with neighbouring schools. If the decision to send children outside is made, we will equip yard duty staff with walkie-talkies so that they can communicate with the office to sound the bells to bring students in earlier if needed.

The health and well-being of our students is our top priority at Credit Meadows Elementary School and if it is determined that the weather conditions pose a risk to their safety, students will be kept indoors. Extreme cold weather alerts are often good indicators that students will stay inside.

Even when temperatures are not low enough to necessitate an indoor recess, it still may be quite cold outside. Here are a few tips to help ensure that your child stays warm during the cold winter months.

- Send children to school with plenty of layers, such as long underwear, snow pants, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers. Layering their clothing will allow them to add or remove items depending on the weather.
- Students should have a warm winter coat that repels the snow, sleet and rain, while blocking the wind.
- Warm socks and boots are a must to keep their feet warm and dry in the snow.
- Hats are one of the most important parts of dressing warmly in the winter. A thick winter hat will keep students from losing too much of that essential body heat.
- Put on a good pair of gloves or mittens that are water-resistant as well. Gloves will keep kids' hands toasty warm and protect their skin from becoming damaged by the wind and chill.

Children are reminded when walking home to be careful by trying to be visible if traffic is nearby, to stay away from snow banks close to driveways, roadways, banks around ponds, lakes, streams and rivers during any thaw.