



CMES NEWS

April 2018

FROM THE OFFICE...



Hello to All,

Spring is arriving slowly, but what a beautiful time of year as the days are longer, the warm sunshine, and the flowers and trees will hopefully begin to bloom soon.

With Spring's arrival, we encourage students to keep coats on as it can be cool outside and remind students of our school dress code. With warmer weather, there are more puddles and mud in our back school yard. Please make sure to send extra clothing for younger students. All students need to have indoor shoes and outdoor shoes at school at all times.

The year seems to be going by quickly. This last term is one of the busiest parts of the school year for students and staff, with many year end events happening such as: concerts, field trips, completion of projects and areas of study, and the EQAO provincial achievement test. Please make sure to be checking our website or app calendar for all the latest information and dates.

This month we are looking forward to our school wide CMES Ropes Course (April 9-13), Grade 8 "Career Exploration" day, Intermediate presentation by Eva Olsson (Holocaust Survivor), Forest of Reading Club, Basketball teams, Tech Club, Adopt-A-Shelf, Creation Station, Skills Canada Competition, Getting to Know Fire Program, Guide Dog Presentation, Jump Rope For Heart Kick Off Assembly and this to name only a few events that will be happening around CMES.

Provincial EQAO testing for Grades 3 and 6 students will take place May 23 – May 25, 2018, catch up days will be May 28—June 1, 2018. Please make sure that your child (ren) are not absent from school on these days and that they arrive to school on time. It is essential that students are rested so that they are able to perform to the best of their abilities on these Provincial assessments. Please reassure your child (ren) that these assessments are an opportunity to demonstrate what they know.

EQAO assessments are based on the Ontario Curriculum and provide parents, schools, and school boards with valuable information concerning what children know and understand, and are able to do. They provide an opportunity for our Credit Meadows Elementary School students to practice test-writing skills and to prepare for other assessments. EQAO results allow our school to identify gaps in learning and provide teachers and administrators with information on what students have learned in their studies. If parents want to check out learning resources for students, go to www.eqao.com/.

As always, a friendly reminder for Parents/Guardians to please remember to regularly check out the UGDSB web site and our own CMES web site or app for the latest news in the Upper Grand: www.ugdsb.ca/creditmeadows/

We are looking forward to a productive and busy month ahead. 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.

Sincerely,

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

ANAPHALAXIS AND PRODUCTS THAT MIMIC PEANUT BUTTER



Anaphylaxis is an allergy to something that is potentially life-threatening to an individual.

We have students who have life-threatening allergies in our school. Recently there have been products available at the grocery store that are being offered as an alternative to peanut butter. For example, Pea Butter and WOW butter, which are a soy-based product. Both products have the appearance and taste of peanut butter.

Our UGDSB policy/procedures for Life-threatening Allergies indicate that these products (or any others that imitate a known life-threatening allergen) are not permitted at Credit Meadows Elementary School. This is not because of a health danger, but because it is confusing for students in the class and for staff monitoring the room. Products that imitate peanut butter create a false sense of safety for our students and staff. We cannot find ourselves in a situation where we have to decide whether something is peanut butter or not. A sticker or note from a parent is not sufficient.

We understand that this may cause challenges in finding a variety of items for student lunches, however, we ask for your understanding and support in this situation.

parking lot



CMES Parking Lots :

Similar to many other schools, our 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 in 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.

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

Thank you.

World Autism Awareness Day

Light it up BLUE!- World Autism Awareness Day
World Autism Awareness Day is April 2, 2018. CMES recognized it on the 3rd because of the long weekend. Every year autism organizations around the world celebrate the day with unique fundraising and awareness raising events. This year, global landmarks will light up blue to raise awareness. In Canada the CN Tower will participate by shining blue to shine a light on autism and turn awareness into action. Please join Upper Grand District School Board, Credit Meadows E.S., in our effort to inspire compassion, empowerment and hope by wearing BLUE on Tuesday, April 3, 2018. Use #LIUB to share your experience across social media and help light the world up blue this April! <https://www.autismspeaks.org/liub> , [Autism Ontario](#), [Kerry's Place Autism Services](#)



Dance-a-thon



Our annual Dance-a-thon took place in March and it was a huge success with our students. Thank you to our amazing School Council for all your hard work in hosting this event. The money raised will go toward supporting Arts Days, sports equipment, as well as, helping to offset bussing costs for students. These are a few examples of how the money raised goes directly back to our CMES students. Thank you to all families who supported this initiative—your contributions are greatly appreciated!

Friday, April 27th, PD Day

On April 27, 2018, staff at CMES will be having a Professional Activity Day. The school will be closed to students. On that day one of the tasks for staff will be completing our annual School Effectiveness Framework survey to assess the progress we have made in achieving the goals that were set for this school year. The information we gather will help in setting goals for the 2018-2019 school year.

LOST and FOUND



Now that spring is here and the weather is starting to get warmer, this would be an excellent time to have your child check the Lost and Found bins for winter wear (i.e., hats, mitts, boots, etc.).

Our lost and found pile is always growing. Unclaimed items will eventually be bagged and donated to charity.





April Environmental Theme: ECOSYSTEMS

In April we celebrate Earth week and Earth Day so it is fitting that the environmental theme is all about what we are really trying to protect. We are working together to save our Ecosystems. An Ecosystem is a group of plants and animals living in their own environment of soil, water, air and sun. So examples are a garden, or a forest, or a lake, or even a fallen, decomposing log.

As humans on planet Earth we have a responsibility to take care of all Ecosystems. We need to have thoughtful, long-range plans on how many forests to cut down and turn into houses or parking lots or factories. We need to think about the long-term effects of turning good farmland into a subdivision. There are more and more people living on this planet every year and we need to make plans on how to give everyone a place to live without destroying our essential Ecosystems. With good planning this can be done.

We need to get outside and learn more about all of the many different Ecosystems on planet Earth and do everything we can to protect them. When we pollute, or destroy habitats, the plants and animals can no longer live there and species become endangered or extinct. When we buy too many things we don't need, or don't buy locally, or use the car too often instead of biking or walking, Climate Change speeds up and Ecosystems can't survive the new temperature changes or flooding or drought. So all the suggestions we have been talking about all year - including turning off the lights, or not wasting water and reducing, or using cloth bags instead of plastic, and recycling, are really very important. Together we can make a difference!



*Slogan of the month: Go
Ecosystem today!*

outside and explore an