



# Drayton Heights Public School

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Mr. Mike McNamara,  
Principal (extension 223)

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## Principal's Message

Life is busy at Drayton Heights P.S. A number of primary students are involved in the ECO club. They are setting up events like 'Wear A Sweater Day' on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 'Winter Walk To School Day' on February 7<sup>th</sup>. They are also completing a waste audit on January 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a time consuming activity to measure how well we are doing at sorting our waste and recycle materials. The Junior students are busy with intramural floor hockey. The intermediates are playing volleyball twice a week at recess. Other clubs and activities include: guitar club, bucket drumming, tone chimes, Big Kid Little Kid mentor program, Art Club (gr. 6 – 8), Me to We (gr. 5 & 6), Students Create Change (gr. 7 & 8). Student involvement is closely linked to a sense of belonging and positive self-esteem. We also know that students who contribute to the school and others are connected and more successful. Take time to share this idea with your child and encourage participation. The classroom teacher can share more details about increasing involvement.

Report cards come home on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Please take a moment to celebrate successes and set new goals. Teachers have focused on "Next Steps" to guide you in your efforts to support your child. Please complete the last page of the report, cut it off and send it back to the teacher. If you have any questions or concerns, please communicate with the teacher.

Our Child and Youth Counsellor (CYC) is Jill Hope. She offers a primary games club during Tuesday morning recess and a junior/intermediate games club during Thursday morning recess. Please note this is an open program where students do not require any consent to drop in and participate in board games.

Mike McNamara  
Principal

**February 2018**  
**Newsletter**



## Canada vs. Japan Wheelchair

### Basketball Game

On Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 180 students and family members travelled to the Pan Am Centre in Pickering. The trip was a great success. We had the opportunity to see a world-class athletic facility and numerous top athletes training. The basketball game was fast paced and exciting. Keep in mind, these are the world's best wheelchair basketball players. Canada is striving to qualify for the 2020 Olympics. The team is led by Pat Anderson, the gentleman who presented at our school. During the game, numerous players flew with their chair out onto the court. The game just continued while the player uprighted themselves and got back into the play. We witnessed some fabulous shooting and aggressive defence. Japan was leading by a few points at half-time, but Canada had a strong second half and won by 12 points. What a fabulous learning opportunity for our students. A BIG thank-you to Mr. Speers for organizing this trip.

### DATES TO NOTE:

Feb. 1 – Turn down the heat – Wear a Sweater Day

Feb. 7 – Dairy Presentations

Feb. 7 - Winter Walk to School Day

Feb. 8 – Dairy Presentations

Feb. 15 – Heritage day “Wear Red”

Feb. 15 – Report Cards sent home

Feb. 19 – Family Day Holiday

Feb. 22 – Gr. 7 & 8 Ski Trip

Feb. 26 – Gr. 8 Grad photo day

Feb. 28 – Anti-Bully National Pink Shirt Day

### THANK YOU DRAYTON HEIGHTS P.S. COMMUNITY

A big thank-you to our school council and our school community for all the fundraising and financial support you provide for Drayton Heights P.S. The following funds have been provided to our school and students this year:

Scientist In The Classroom	\$4000	Empowerment Day	\$1125
French Chef Program	\$250	Headset Mics	\$360
Chromecast (broadcasting tech.)	\$500	Kindergarten Supplies	\$1000

## February Newsletter

We are excited to be entering the second half of the school year and with that comes some exciting new events and activities! Please continue to check our calendar each month to see what is coming up!

Hot Lunch order forms are coming home on February 20th, 2018. Please return these, to your child's teacher, by February 28th, 2018. This will ensure that your child's order will be received in time and be included in the next round of lunches. As always, a HUGE thank you to all of the volunteers who make this happen each week! We are so grateful! If you are available on a Tuesday morning to help, please contact Kim Detweiler ([kimberleydetweiler@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberleydetweiler@hotmail.com))!

Parent Council is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help organize and run a "Spring Fling". If this is you, please contact Ashley Freeman ([ashley.freeman17@hotmail.com](mailto:ashley.freeman17@hotmail.com)) to receive more information.

Lastly, at each School Council meeting we hear about all of the wonderful things that are happening around our school. From Council, to all of the students, teachers, administrators and parents who make Drayton Heights a fabulous place to be - THANK YOU! Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated. Our children are so very lucky to be a part of a such a committed community!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns or would like to be part of council, do not hesitate to contact me at [ashley.freeman17@hotmail.com](mailto:ashley.freeman17@hotmail.com).

Happy February!

Ashley Freeman  
School Council



## FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> IS WINTER WALK DAY!

Lots of UGDSB schools participated in Walk to School Day in October. Did you know that there is also a walk to school day in February? Let's keep the momentum going! February 7<sup>th</sup> is Winter Walk Day across Canada. It's the perfect opportunity for parents and kids to get outside together and stretch those legs! Walk to school or at school for daily physical activity, a healthier environment, safer streets, making friends and...having fun! Walking helps kids get those 60 minutes of daily physical activity they need. It's also a great cure for those winter blues and helps students concentrate better in class.

As a parent you can help your child learn about walking or riding to school safely:

- Be a good role model. Demonstrate road safety rules with your child (e.g. looking both ways when crossing the street).
- Plan a walking or riding route. Assess potential hazards with your child. Encourage your child to stick to the route.
- Remind your child about personal safety. Point out the houses of people you know where they can go for help if needed.
- Adopt a buddy system. Walk with a "walking buddy" – a sibling or a friend.
- Ask that electronics like iPods and cellphones be put in their bag while walking to school. Pedestrian safety is compromised by texting, earphones and cellphone conversation.
- Talk about the rules of the road and pedestrian safety.

Visit [www.saferoutestoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca) for more information and resources on active school travel.



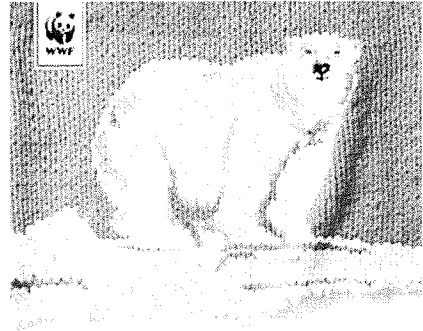
Monthly environmental activities to help celebrate our planet

## February 1<sup>st</sup> is Sweater Day!

*Make the Earth better by wearing a sweater*

### Celebrate International Sweater Day on February 1<sup>st</sup>!

National Sweater Day is a fun way to learn about the importance of saving energy and to inspire you to use less heat all winter. Heating accounts for 80% of residential energy use in Canada and is a significant source of emissions. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 4 megatons – that's equivalent to shutting down a 600 megawatt coal-fired power station or taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road! [http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater\\_day/](http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater_day/)



National Sweater Day is about valuing energy. It's a chance to think differently about how we use energy, where our energy comes from and how we can play an important role in fighting climate change by using energy wisely, not wastefully. It is designed to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy consumption in Canada.

[assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd\\_2017\\_en\\_school\\_toolkit.pdf](https://assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd_2017_en_school_toolkit.pdf)

February 2 is National Sweater Day  
Turn down your heat and put on a sweater

Turn down your heat and put on a sweater  
[SweaterDay.ca](http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater_day/)

Loblaws  
GreenSmart  
Partners

### Ideas for your family to celebrate Sweater Day!

- Turn down your thermostat and wear a sweater!
- Ask your children to brainstorm with you about ways to save energy at home. Make a pledge to implement as many as you can.
- Research the differences between climate and weather. Ask your child to characterize some different climate types (polar, tropical, coastal, etc.).
- Read a children's book on conservation such as: *Why Should I Save Energy?* by Jen Green. Encourage lots of discussion and questions.
- Valentine's Day is just around the corner - use recycled materials to create your cards this year!

For more ideas and fun things to do on International Sweater Day, please take a look at this pdf supplied by WWF [assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd\\_2017\\_en\\_school\\_toolkit.pdf](https://assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd_2017_en_school_toolkit.pdf)

# Teen Video Contest

What does distracted driving mean to you?

Create a video **60 seconds or less** about distracted driving!



- The hazards
- The consequences
- How to avoid it
- Whatever is important to you!

**Deadline**  
**April 18**

**WIN!**

Municipal prize

**\$75.00**

County Prize

**\$225.00**

**One Video. One Message. Countless lives saved.**

Open to any resident in Wellington County,  
19 years old or under!

safe**communities**<sup>®</sup>  
wellington county

See Contest Rules at <http://wellington.safecommunities.parachutecanada.org/documents/>