

## ◆ January News

Wow, it's hard to believe the year is 2017!



- ◆ Before the update with the new events at school, I would like to extend a sincere Thank You to everyone who has helped our year-end activities at EPS a huge success!
- ◆ Thank you to Mr. Snowball and all of our dedicated staff who have contributed to a great Winter Concert! We have a lot of talent at EPS!
- ◆ Thank You to all the families who supported all of our fundraising activities, such as the Raffle Draw, the Book Fair, and the Bake Sale! And congratulations to the winners!
- ◆ Thank You to our Parent Council, who have organized the Christmas Bazaar for the grade K-6 students. This will be an annual event to be sure because our students loved it!
- ◆ You may have heard that our Intermediate students participated in the Push For Change Rally and met with Joe Roberts who is walking across Canada pushing a shopping cart, a symbol of homelessness, to raise awareness of homelessness among youth. We heard his inspiring story.
- ◆ We also had a successful week of Escarpment Country Rope Climbing, which was enjoyed by all of our students. We have had great feedback about this event for the past two years and have now booked this event for next year as well.
- ◆ More recently, our grade 8 students listened to a presentation about course selections for high school.
  
- ◆ Here are some upcoming News and events:
  
- ◆ We have two new staff members who are joining our team at EPS. Please welcome Mme Cako, who is our new Core French teacher in grades 4-7 and Ms. Eagles, who is our new Educational Assistant.
- ◆ Kindergarten registration continues until the 26<sup>th</sup> of January. If you know of families with children of Kindergarten age, please direct them to this information. Early registration is encouraged and is very helpful for planning for the next school year. Thank you for your help.
- ◆ Pizza Lunches are in the second cycle, which started on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. The current cycle continues until and including March 27<sup>th</sup>. Please mark this date on your calendar.
- ◆ Our grade 6 students have begun their new 10-week program OPP Kids. The program runs for an hour every Thursday. With the use of videos, workbooks, and interactive games, police officers are talking directly with kids about the law, peer relationships, issues relating to online and social media, along with drug and mental health awareness.

- ◆ Mr. Adair will be conducting our annual Waste Audit, with the help of some student volunteers to see how much waste and how much recycling we collect. Awareness and knowledge are power for positive change for the environment.
- ◆ Our Grade 1 students will be participating in the Scientists In the School Program this month.
- ◆ Erin District High School is opening its doors for the Grade 7 & 8 Parents' and Students' Information Night for the 2017-18 school year. The Open House will be on Thursday, January 19, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Theatre. For Parents and students of French Immersion students, specific information about the F.I. program will begin at 6:30 p.m., also in the Theatre.
- ◆ College Heights Secondary School is holding their Open House on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8pm. Parents and students are invited to attend.
- ◆ We will have an Anti-Bullying and Leadership Assemblies on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>; K-4 at 1:25 pm and 5-8 at 2:20 pm. The presenter is Mr. Scott Graham of Kids4Kids.
- ◆ And lastly, there are some exciting events in the planning stages: we are looking at organizing an event to promote anti-bullying and promote leadership skills, which is tailored specifically for girls in grades 5-8, called Fearlessly Kind; we are also exploring some LGBTQ presentations for our Intermediate students as well as a presentation on technological education in high school. And.... are you ready? We may be able to arrange a live SKYPE call with Mr. Chris Hadfield (yes, THE Chris Hadfield!) and have our students prepare and ask him questions they are interested in. Thank you to one of our dedicated EPS parents, Jen Edwards for writing to him. Stay tuned.
  
- ◆ Below is a note from Public Health:

**Avoid school suspension by keeping immunization records up-to-date!**

Student's immunization records must be provided to Public Health in order to attend school. In the next few weeks, Public Health will be sending notices to students with incomplete immunization records. Anyone who gets a notice should contact their family doctor so they can update their vaccines, and then report their new vaccines to Public Health.

Report every vaccine to Public Health using one of the following methods:

Online: Fill in the form at [www.immunizewdg.ca](http://www.immunizewdg.ca)

Email: Send a photo of the immunization record to [vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca](mailto:vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca)

Call: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396

If a student is not getting vaccinated for medical reasons, reasons of conscience or religious beliefs, an exemption form must be submitted to Public Health. The forms are available at [www.wdgpublichealth.ca](http://www.wdgpublichealth.ca).

Public Health is committed to helping students update their vaccination records so they can avoid suspension from school.

- ◆ This is a list of clubs operating currently or planned for the end of the month at EPS, Thank You, Teachers! :

Sewing Club-Ms. Rowe

Girls' Club- Ms. Rowe

Basketball, boys-Ms. Lebon, girls-Mrs. McDonald

Chess Jr.- Mr. Quick

Chess Int.- Ms. Waddell

Cooking- Mr. Adair, Ms. Waddell, Mr. Nethery

Hockey- Ms. Waddell

Art Club- Mr. McLean

Breakfast Club-Ms. Lebon

Cardboard Boat Racing-Mr. Nethery

Spirit Club- Mr. Nethery

Musical- Mr. Snowball

Band- Mr. Snowball

Silverbirch/Red Maple Reading Club-Ms. Rowe

Eco-Schools-Ms. Rowe, Mr. Adair, Mr. Curry, Mr. Quick, Mr. McLean