

# December

## Erin Public School December 2018 Newsletter

### Important Dates

- Dec. 2 -Advent begins (Christian)
- Dec. 3 -Hanukkah begins (Jewish); Pizza Lunch
- Dec. 4 – **Digital Intelligence presentations**
- Dec. 5- EDHS presentation to grade 8s
- Dec. 6 - Drama workshops for grades 3-6; Winter Event @ 5:30 PM
- Dec. 7 – Hot Dog Orders due on SchoolCashOnline
- Dec. 10 – Pizza Lunch; Hanukkah ends (Jewish)
- Dec. 11 – Intermediate Volleyball Tourn., Elora
- Dec. 12 – Hot Dog Day
- Dec. 13 – Superintendent Heaslip visits EPS; Tech Day at EDHS for gr. 8s
- Dec. 17 – Pizza Lunch
- Dec. 18 – **Holiday Concert 11:20am and 6:30 pm**
- Dec. 19 – Christmas Bazaar
- Dec. 21- **Pancake Breakfast, bring a plate & fork;** Winter Solstice; 1<sup>st</sup> day of winter  
**Pajama Day**  
Last Day of school 2018
- Dec. 24 - Advent ends (Christian)
- Dec. 25 - Christmas (Christian)
- Dec. 26 - Kwanzaa begins (African)
- Jan. 7- School recommences



community and belonging.

- Our **Colour Houses** are going strong! We are very excited about that! The idea is to have students of a variety of ages to be in a “house”, while they participate in a wide variety of activities, spirit days and friendly competitions to foster a sense of
- At EPS, we take bullying very seriously. Although anti-bullying week was in November, our school has been running programs on a continuous basis throughout the year. It starts with a hands-off policy at our school, because hands-on games can often very quickly escalate into serious conflict. We have had several speakers in to address the student body, such as No Time For That Bullying Thing Assembly, daily announcements during the Bullying Awareness Week, classroom activities spearheaded by our CYC and classroom teachers and classroom reading swap, where teachers went to a classroom they don't teach to read a book and get to know students from a different class. As noted above, programs such as Student Council, Colour Houses, spirit days as well as the upcoming Digital Intelligence Presentations are also meant as preventive measures.
- This Tuesday we have presentations by Chris Vollum about social media and Digital Intelligence. Grades 4-6 will hear Chris at 11:50-12:50, grades 7-8 at 1:40-2:40 and the

parent evening presentation is at 7 pm in our Library. We will have some light refreshments. The presentations are free of charge. We hope to see you there!

- **New and improved UGDSB app!** Our school board app has been upgraded and it has some great features! Tons of features are available all in one place on your phone or tablet. ★ Read website posts from only EPS or from multiple schools in our board on one newsfeed ★ Access the school calendar from only EPS or have events from multiple schools appear on one calendar list ★ See what buses are late or if buses are cancelled ★ Have easy access to SchoolCashOnline. ★ Notifications that are sent from the school will ping your phone if you set it up to allow notifications from the app. This will eventually replace the current email system used except for the monthly newsletter. Search Upper Grand District School Board wherever you get apps and make it easy to stay completely up-to-date with what is going on at EPS and all your kids' schools!



- **Immunization:** In January, Public Health will be sending letters home to families who have children with immunization records that are not up to date according to their records. Please take action if you receive this letter. If immunizations are up to date, then contact Public Health so their records can be revised. If your child needs some shots, then you can go to your doctor or you can go to the Public Health office to get them caught up. It is up to you to report immunizations to Public Health. Not all doctor's offices do that. If you do not take action and the records at Public Health indicate your child is behind in immunizations, you will receive a notice and then s/he will be suspended on March 19, 2019

- **Our Winter Concert will take place on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Please Lug-A-Mug for a complimentary cup of hot apple cider!**

- We would love your donations of board games such as Candyland, Jenga, Snakes and Ladders, Connect 4, Guess Who?, Headbands, etc. for our Mentors Program, which runs once a week and pairs older students with younger students for some fun in the library at nutrition break. Thanks in advance!



- Just a reminder that this is the last opportunity for parents complete the government's survey to have their say on STEM, job prep, life skills like financial literacy and the Health and Physical Education curriculum. Along with students having personal technology in the classroom, standardized testing and a parents' Bill of Rights. The last day is December 15, let your voice be heard, because not every voice out there will echo yours.  
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/for-the-parents>
- The Grade 8 year-end trip is in the planning stages. There will be a parent information night in January, shortly after we return back to school. Stay tuned for more details.
- This year, we are running the FundScrip fundraiser to help families offset costs of the grade 8 trip and the grade 6 Mansfield trip. Students from grades 6-8 are eligible to participate in

the fundraiser. Grade 7 students will be able to save what they raise until next year for their grade 8 trip. Information has been e-mailed to every student's google account with order forms. This will only run for one week, so please get your orders in fast! Thank you to Mr. Nethery, Ms. Waddell and Mr. Wain for the many hours it takes to run the trips and all of the associated organizing.

- Intermediate Volleyball tournaments for both the girls' and the boys' teams are at Elora on December 11 all day; December 12<sup>th</sup> is snow day date.
- Hot Dog Day is on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Forms have been sent home. The deadline for payments is on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Please pay online [www.ugdsb.SchoolCashOnline.com](http://www.ugdsb.SchoolCashOnline.com). Thank you for your support for helping our students enjoy a variety of field trips without charging families for bus costs. A huge Thank You to Parent Council for running these events!
- It is now starting to get chilly, especially in the morning. Please send weather-appropriate clothing and spares for the younger students. If your child frequently comes home in wet (from rain and snow) clothing, then maybe some spare dry clothing is in order. Students in younger grades definitely require extra mitts. We are also noticing that students in the Intermediate grades are not dressed for the weather. Our recesses are 25 minutes long and they do need hats, mitts, boots and scarves to stay warm.
- We have recently had some requests to keep students indoors during recess because they are not well enough to go outside. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide adequate supervision both indoors and outdoors during recesses. If your child is too ill to go outside during recess, they are likely too ill to be at school.
- If you are at the school, our **Lost and Found** bin is getting full. Please have a look through and claim any lost items. Anything left behind after December 21st will be donated to Goodwill.
- Please remember to call our Safe Arrivals line when your child is ill. This helps us ensure that everyone is safe.



## Council Corner



-Council has had a great start to fundraising this year! Our fundraising efforts enhance the classroom experience for all students. Our QSP fundraiser raised over \$3,000! This is incredible considering we are a small school community. A huge thank you to all who contributed. You guys are amazing!

-For the third year, Council is putting on a Christmas Bazaar for the K-6 kids. Students have the opportunity to purchase presents for their family members. Gifts are sold anywhere from 25 cents to \$1. This was a great event for the last two years and the kids enjoyed it so much! In order for this to work we need gently used items donated. Are you doing a clear out before Christmas? Bring your used items to the school! Nothing too large as students will need to carry it home. Anything you can contribute would be appreciated!

-The next Council meeting is on Tuesday January 15 at 7pm in the Library. There is no meeting in December. All are welcome to attend!



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL**

**from all of us at EPS!!!**

