



École FA Hamilton

March 2018

Newsletter

Important Dates

March 2 - Live Free Day; dancED performances at 1:30 and 5:30 PM; Safety Patrol Storm Game at 6:30 PM

March 7 - Swiss Chalet lunch

March 12-16 - March Break

March 21 - Grade 6 Garage Sale; Subway lunch

March 22 - Lockdown drill with police

March 23 - Earth Hour

March 28 - East Side Mario's lunch

March 29 - Backwards Day

March 30 - Good Friday - no school

Tuesdays/Thursdays - popcorn

Fridays - Pizza lunch



[Click here to see our whole calendar!](#)

NEEDED! LUNCH SUPERVISORS!



We are in need Lunch Supervisors to cover a shift once and a while when a regular Lunch Supervisor is unable to come in. You would need to be available some days either from 10:20-11:20 AM or from 12:40-1:40 PM. This is a great way to get involved at school and earn a little money to go out for lunch when you're done!

We also need someone for six weeks on Mondays and Thursdays for the afternoon shift, starting after March Break.

If you are interested, then please call me at the school (519-836-0080 ext. 223).

Virtual Math Manipulatives

“Manipulatives are necessary tools for supporting the effective learning of mathematics by all students”. (The Ontario Curriculum: Mathematics; 2005; p. 25).

Across the province, teachers are working hard with students to help them build a conceptual understanding of math. Gone are the days when children memorize a series of steps they don't understand simply to get an answer. In today's world, people need to be thinkers and problem solvers and that just isn't possible if one's understanding of mathematics has a shaky foundation.



Many parents came to the November School Council meeting to learn about how we are working with our students to build flexibility of thought in terms of numbers. We call it Number Talks and these are happening regularly in all classrooms in the school. Students are building their capacity to do mental math calculations and they are learning a wide variety of strategies for getting the right answer.

Students then transfer those skills to more complex problems in their collaborative and independent work in the classroom. In order to continue to build a sound understanding of concepts rather than simply learning steps, students are taught how to use different manipulatives. I've included links to two sites that offer free virtual manipulatives so students can access these important tools from home. If you're curious to know what a manipulative is, then check out the site and talk with your child about what they do with these items in the classroom. You could even try to solve a problem together using them! Here are some to get started!

Kindergarten - [Choose a ten frame](#). Put a few counters into the frame and ask your child how many more are needed to make 10. Developing a deep understanding of the value of 10 is a huge goal of the Kindergarten Mathematics program.

Primary - [Choose a number line](#). Choose a start number between 1 and 10 Write the next 5 numbers in the pattern rule of your choice.

Junior - [Choose base ten blocks](#). The population of Rockwood was reported as 12,380 in 2011. Model three ways to model this population using base ten blocks.

Find more manipulatives here!

<http://mathies.ca/>

<https://www.mathlearningcenter.org/resources/apps>

Fundraisers for Grade 6 Trip!



Please consider sending a toonie to school with your son or daughter on Tuesday or Thursday over the next few weeks. Our grade 6's are selling packets of popcorn to raise money for their trip to Mansfield!

On March 21st, grade 6's will be hosting the annual "garage" sale where students who are going to Mansfield sell gently used toys and books. Students from the rest of the school will have an opportunity to visit the sale to see if there are any treasures to bring home. Please consider sending a dollar or two to school with your child in order to

help support our grade 6's as they get ready to go to camp.

Climate Survey

Until March 9, students in grades 4-12 in our board will be completing a School Climate Survey. The purpose of this survey is to determine whether or not our students feel that their school provides a safe and inclusive learning environment. The survey asks general questions about how the student is feeling at school, as well as specific questions about bullying. Staff and parents are also being asked to complete a climate survey about their school. Parents can use the following link to access the survey, or the survey can be accessed through our school website. I encourage you to take the survey and share your thoughts with us so we can continue to make our school as inclusive as possible. Here is the link: https://uoguelph.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9NxSF6jZm5I11Hv



CASL-compliant Emails From School



Legislation has been passed that requires everyone who sends an email with commercial content to have express consent from the recipient to send that email. At first, one may not think that schools send emails with commercial content, but we do. We remind you that pizza orders are due, ask for a donation to a charity, let you know when picture day is, and so on. All of these examples are classified as commercial content. As a result, families who wish to receive emails from their child's school must [register here](#). Once you are registered, then Weekly Updates and the other periodic reminders that I send

out will arrive in your inbox. If you wish to stop receiving school messages at some point, then scroll to the bottom of a message and click unsubscribe.

Live Free on March 2nd

Many schools in Guelph receive funding for school snack programs through Food and Friends. We are asking families to consider sending a toonie to school this week to help them to continue to provide nutritious snacks for local students. All the money that the FAH school community sends in will go directly to a Guelph program.

To raise awareness of the fact that many people do not have enough to eat, we will be asking students to “live free” from something they might normally have as a food treat on Friday. I usually choose to live free from coffee for the day. Some people choose sweets or snacks like chips. Missing our usual treats reminds us that most of us are very fortunate to have plenty to eat, but many are not so lucky. Giving up a coffee and sending the toonie to our snack program is an easy way for me to do my part in ensuring that all of our students are able to grow and learn. Please consider a way you can contribute if you are able.



Days of Significance for March

March 1	Purim	Judaism
March 2	Holi	Hinduism
March 8	International Women's Day United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace	United Nations
March 14	Sikh New Year	Sikhism
March 17	Saka New Year (Nyepi)	Hinduism
March 17	St. Patrick's Day	Christianity
March 18	Hinduism New Year (Uganda)	Hinduism
March 20	Ostara/Lady's Day (Spring Equinox)	Wicca/Pagan
March 21	Eid-e-Navroz International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	Islam United Nations
March 22	World Water Day	United Nations
March 30	Good Friday	Christianity
March 31- April 7	Pesach/Passover	Judaism