



Island Lake Public School



March 2017

<http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/islandlake/>

50 Oak Ridge Drive, Orangeville ON, L9W 5J6 519 941-3292

Fairness, Honesty, Respect, Compassion and Responsibility



Principal and Vice-Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,
 Although the weather has seemed rather spring-like at times, it is still only March!!
 We have had an excellent start to Term 2 here at Island Lake and are looking forward to the next few months of school.
 Thank you to our community and our School council for supporting the Scientist in the School program and providing funds for our Gym and Library Learning Commons through our fundraisers. You are making a difference at ILPS!!! Soon there will be 2 Buddy Benches installed in our K and Primary yards and work will begin on our Outdoor Learning Space.
 Please check out our calendar on our school website to see the amazing events and activities that are going on in the school.
 We wish our families a lovely March Break together. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back on Monday, March 20th!
 Sincerely,
Mr. Sean Singh (x223) Mrs. Janice Dampier (x 224)
Principal Vice-Principal

The Great Big Crunch!

March 9th, 2017 marks the 10th Anniversary of the Great Big Crunch. ILPS has had apples provided for each student by the Headwaters Food and Farming Alliance to help celebrate healthy snacking and our local farmers.

Since 2008, over 900,000 people have joined us for the Great Big Crunch, an annual moment of anti-silence where everyone gets together and bites into crunchy fresh local produce in unison. The symphony is loud, whether you munch on apples or carrots. From coast to coast to coast, celebrate and enjoy healthy snacking with your class, colleagues or friends. Using vegetables and fruits as stars in recipes and fun activities will make you cherish the local bounty around us all.

ILPS Challenge Course

The ILPS Challenge course offered by Escarpment Outdoor Adventures was a huge success!! Students liked the addition of the new Climbing Wall. We would like to thank our amazing School Council for subsidizing half of the cost to run the program this year for all of our students. A special thank you to our Gr 7 and 8 student leaders for providing their assistance. All of the participants enjoyed the challenge and the collaboration! A special thank you to Mrs. Dickson whose photos of the experience are on display on the tv in the front hall.

ILPS Danceathon/ Movie night

On Friday, February 10th, ILPS held its annual Danceathon—complete with disco lights!!!
 Students brought in pledges to raise funds for our Scientist in the School programs. A huge thank you to all who participated. Our intermediate students watched a movie, “Middle School” in the gym and later that evening our community attended another amazing ILPS Movie Night complete with free popcorn! “Pete’s Dragon” was a hit with all who attended.
 A special thank you to our School Council Parent volunteers who organized the events in support of Scientists in the Schools.

IMPORTANT—CANADA’S ANTI-SPAM LEGISLATION

Dear Parents and Guardians,
It is very important that we have your express permission to use your email and that you have the ability to unsubscribe. This falls under Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL). By registering your email, you will receive electronic communication from the school which may or may not contain commercial electronic messages such as school fundraisers, field trips, or similar events and offers. If you have not yet done so, we ask that each of our families go to our Board webpage at www.ugdsb.on.ca/CASL and make sure you have given explicit consent for us to use your email addresses when we post messages to email such as the reminder about the school newsletter coming out.

REMINDER TO CHECK FOR LICE REGULARLY

Unfortunately, head lice (Pediculosis) is sometimes found at school. When this happens, a letter is sent home to the class that is affected. Parents can check for lice at home as well, as a proactive step. While lice are a nuisance, they are not a communicable disease or a Public Health concern.

Below is a link to some resources and information for parents/guardians:

http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/head_lice

NOTE: Some parents/guardians were concerned about the sharing of helmets for the challenge course. We spoke with the operators and the helmets are treated with a spray to prevent any issues with lice/hygiene. Reminders about not sharing hats, not putting heads together and checking hair at home once in a while, go a long way in reducing the number of incidents at school.

Vision Health

If you suspect that your child is struggling with vision issues, there are several things that you can do. First, book an eye exam with an optometrist. Basic OHIP coverage for eye exams, is available free of charge, for children from birth to age 19. Speak with your child's teacher regarding your concerns and encourage your child to clearly express to the teacher the difficulties they are having (Are they having trouble seeing things on the board? Are they having trouble copying information? Are they having trouble seeing the information in novels/textbooks/notebooks etc.?) There are a number of accommodations that can be made to quickly address potential problems, including seating closer to the board or larger print on computers or photocopies. You can also discuss with the classroom teacher or SERT the possibility of making a referral to one of the Vision Itinerant Teachers who provide support to your school.

Your Child's Hearing is Important!

Seventy-five percent of a child's day is spent listening; listening to complex language, directions and instructions which need to be comprehended. Being able to hear peers is important for developing social skills and friendships. That is why it is important that any hearing difficulty be discovered as soon as possible because even mild hearing loss can put a child at risk for academic and communication difficulties.

Audiologists are experts who assess hearing sensitivity and functioning that provides a window into the language/listening parts of the brain. Since listening is a critical learning skill, test results can be helpful in planning a program of intervention. Students who wear hearing aids, cochlear implants, or use personal FM systems should routinely visit an Audiologist to have their equipment checked. If you suspect your child has difficulty with hearing or attention it is recommended that you have your child tested by an **Audiologist**.

To find an Audiologist in your community, visit the website of the College of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists of Ontario (www.CASLPO.com) and click on "Find an Audiologist" and search for Private Practice. At UGDSB you can call 519-941-6191 ext. 231 for information.

MONTHLY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES TO HELP CELEBRATE OUR PLANET

It is vital to teach our children to respect and take care of the environment.

Join the global Movement! Celebrate Earth Hour on March 25th at 8:30pm.

Earth Hour's mission is uniting people to protect the planet by raising awareness of about climate change and encouraging positive action.

“Earth Hour was famously started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia in 2007. Since then it has grown to engage more than 172 countries and territories worldwide.”

Earth Hour is more than an event. It is a movement that has achieved massive environmental impact, including legislation changes by harnessing the power of the crowd.”

Click [here](#) to see a short video clip of Earth Hour's story around the world and click [here](#) for **highlights of 2015**

Ideas for your family to do for Earth Hour!

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community or at work - in your own way.

A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights on March 25th from 8:30-9:30 pm. For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet. To celebrate, you can:

*prepare a candle lit dinner,
talk to your neighbours, or invite people over
stargaze, or go camping in your backyard
play board games, or charades
host a concert, or a sing-a-long
create or join your own community event
have an Earth Hour every month*

The possibilities are endless!

Quotes and information taken from: <https://www.earthhour.org/>



**UGDSB Dufferin Joint Council and
the Ministry of Education Regional PRO Grant Present:**

Are You As SOCIAL As Your Kids?

Getting on the same page as our kids when it comes to social media.

Social Media Responsibility



Key Note Speaker

Chris Vollum

Learn How To Use or Create A Social Media Account (Bring Your Own Device)

Social Media plays a critical role in student anxiety, self-worth & wellness.

Used skillfully, Social Media can drive positive influence & create opportunity.

Internet Safety



Seminar Presenter

Scott Davis

(Constable, Orangeville Police)

Scott is best known for his passion in the area of Cyber Safety. He stresses the importance of everyone exercising the safe, respectable and responsible use of Social Media.

FREE Educational Tools UG2GO



Seminar Presenter

Michelle Campbell

Michelle helped create the Virtual Learning Commons (UG2GO) which provides 24/7 access to quality digital resources to all Upper Grand students and staff. Currently she is leading the transition from Library to Learning Commons as the board has recognized that learning environments must change to meet the needs of students today.

Come and Join Us!

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Location: Westside Secondary School Theatre



**CHROME BOOK, I-Tunes Cards,
Jungle Oasis Passes, Plus a whole lot more!**

This is a FREE Event!
For more details, and to register,
please go to our link at
www.ugdsb.on.ca/pic
and click on the **EVENTS** page.
Child Care is provided for school age children.
(Registration is required - see link for details.)

Contact Information: dufferinjointcouncil@gmail.com