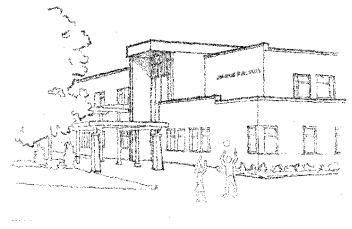


École John McCrae

NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2020

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Principal: Leslie Newman

Vice Principal: Lynn Michelle Fortier

Office Co-Ordinator: Kathy Lambkin

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It seems that January came and went in a blur. Our students returned ready to work hard and I think, for the most part, they were happy to be back into a routine. They have enjoyed playing outside and we have had many wonderful creations made out of snow. We even have a snow tortoise in the back of the portables! Our students are so creative and really take advantage of the wonderful space that they have outside of our school doors.

I know many of you have had a chance to meet Mme Fortier, our new vice-principal. While we will always miss M Reay (and know that he is doing well at Gateway), Mme. Fortier has stepped into the VP shoes with enthusiasm and kindness. She is doing an outstanding job and is looking to do her best for your children. Please, if you are in the office, feel free to take a minute and introduce yourself. I know that Mme Fortier is looking forward to meeting as many parents as possible over the next few months.

Please join us for our annual movie night (this Thursday January 30). The doors will open at 5:30pm and the movie "Small Foot" will start at 6:00pm sharp. Wear PJs and bring blankets and pillows!

Leslie Newman

TERM 1 REPORT CARDS - From our Director, Dr. Martha Rogers:

Dear parents/guardians of UGDSB elementary students:

I am writing with an important update on the term one report card for elementary students. Currently, public elementary teachers across Ontario are taking part in a legal strike. This job action includes not writing report card comments and not inputting student marks electronically for the purpose of producing report cards. As a result, the Upper Grand District School Board will not be distributing term one report cards for elementary students.

Marks will not be provided to families or students at this time. In addition to the logistical challenges, providing marks without comments and proper context would not be considered fulsome feedback on student achievement of curriculum expectations.

I understand that this is disappointing - and I share that disappointment. At the same time, the report card is not the sole source of assessment data we have for your child. It is a summary of student progress. Our elementary teachers are skilled professionals and I am confident that throughout the school year they have kept you informed on the progress of your child.

As always, if you have any questions about the progress of your child, I encourage you to contact your child's teacher prior to the end of the school year to discuss your child's progress.

SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

School Council Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month in the school library. The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday, February 11th from 6:30-7:45pm**. Please join us! If you would like to be on the School Council mailing list, please write to johnmccraeschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Thanks to everyone who may attend our School Council's annual Movie Night! Not only will the event bring us together as a community, but we will also raise money for our kindergarten play area. Remember to bring blankets and pillows. We wish to extend a big thanks to our hard-working volunteers for all their efforts!

Parent Event – On Tuesday, April 14 from 6:45-8:00 p.m. we will have an excellent guest speaker, Dr. Lynn Woodford, Chief Psychologist for the Upper Grand District School Board. She will talk to parents about children's mental health. Dr. Woodford has a lot of experience and knowledge and we know that this will be a worthwhile evening. This is a free event, and for adults only. More information will follow, but please save the date.

Family Fun Night – We are looking forward to this year’s event. Mark your calendar for Thursday, June 4! Lots of help will be needed, so please watch for more details about how you can help out.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In case of severe winter weather, with poor driving conditions and bus cancellations and delays, please listen for announcements on radio stations 1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, 900 AM CHML, 107.9 FM CJXY (Y108), Oldies 1090 AM, 105.3 Kool FM, News Talk 570 AM, 96.7 FM CHYM, 1150 AM CKOC, 102.9 FM CKLH, 820 AM CHAM and ,CKCO-TV. Announcements for John McCrae PS are included in “**South Wellington and the City of Guelph**.”

Please note: *If buses do not operate in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. If you elect to drive your student to school, you must make arrangements for them to be picked up at the end of the day (please communicate the arrangement with your student, or leave a note in their agenda, prior to drop-off). Likewise, if you choose to keep your “walking” student at home on an inclement weather day, you must notify the office (Attendance line #100) of the student’s absence, otherwise the office will contact you to confirm your student’s absence.*

GRADE 8 GRAD PHOTOS

Get those smiles ready! Lifetouch will be taking our Grade 8 Grad Photos on Wednesday, March 25th. This will be the only time that Lifetouch comes to the school to take these photos. If you miss this date, or require re-takes, you will have to schedule an appointment in their Kitchener office.

DRIVING, PARKING, DROP-OFF – PLEASE OBEY THE RULES!

It’s always busy at our school, especially during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up! Please note and follow the points below:

*The parking lot is closed to parent vehicles for student drop-off and pick-up from 8:20-8:35am and 3:05-3:20pm. Please help keep our school community safe by following the instructions of our street/parking patrollers and not asking them to move pylons.

*Obey the parking signs posted, remain one meter from a private driveway, and park 9 metres from a stop sign. Do NOT park in the middle of the intersection.

*Cross the street at the cross walk. Do NOT walk between parked buses.

*Consider having your child walk home from school or part way home where a less busy pick-up point can be arranged.

MOVING IN? MOVING OUT?

If you are planning a move to another school this summer, or know of someone moving into our school area for the 2020-2021 school year, please notify the office as soon as possible.

COLD & FLU SEASON

Winter is far from over and so are the illnesses and contagious bugs that come with it! If your child has flu-like symptoms, cold, coughs, fever, or rashes, please keep them home to rest and recuperate before returning to school. When our students come to school ill they do not work well and they pass on their illnesses to others. When we are sick, we all feel better at home in a warm bed with our favorite things.

FAMILY DAY

The Upper Grand District School Board will be observing Family Day on Monday, February 17th and our school will be closed. We hope you enjoy the day with your family.

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS – IMMUNIZATIONS

In Ontario, the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requires that all students attending school be fully immunized or have a valid exemption on file. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) has recently mailed immunization notices to elementary students with incomplete vaccine records. To avoid suspension, please update your child’s immunization record by March 6, 2020.

If the student has already received the immunization(s), report them using one of these methods:

- Online: View and report immunizations at www.immunizewdg.ca. Sign-in using your Ontario Health Card Number or the Ontario Immunization ID (provided on your Immunization Notice if received by mail from WDGPH).

- Email: Send a copy of the record to vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca
- Call: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396

If the student needs the immunization(s) do one of the following:

- Make an appointment with student's health care provider, bring the notice from WDGPH with you, and follow up by reporting the immunization(s) to WDGPH.
- Call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4134 to make an immunization appointment at WDGPH.

If the student is not being immunized for medical or conscience/religious reasons:

- Access the appropriate exemption form at www.wdgpublichealth.ca/your-kids/vaccination

For the Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief Exemptions a parent/guardian must also complete an immunization education session at WDGPH. For an appointment call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4134.

GRADE 7/8 GUIDANCE

Christine Drumm is our school's grade 7/8 Guidance Counselor. She currently works alongside grade 7 and 8 teachers, as well as high school staff in the Guelph region to explore pathways and provide support for the transition from elementary to secondary.

Great work is being done to explore pathways with all intermediate students! From gaining a deeper understanding of personal interests and learning styles, to examining occupation matches, each student is compiling this foundational work in their very own digital portfolio.

If you have any questions, feel free to email her at cdrumm@ugcloud.ca. She would be happy to answer any questions that you have. You can also follow the UGDSB Grade 7/8 Guidance Counsellors on Twitter (@UGDSBGuidance).

GRADE 8 PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS INFORMATION NIGHTS

In November, Grade 8 students had the opportunity to participate in a tech day tour at John F Ross. They toured around the different tech rooms and created a picture frame name plate to take home.

John F Ross had a great turn out at Grade 8 parent night on Nov.27th. Students and parents toured around the school and visited different programs offered at John F Ross.

During the month of January, Grade 8 students had an opportunity to meet the John F Ross high school guidance department. They also had a Pathways Planning presentation that gave them information about course selection for grade 9. Important dates will be clearly outlined on all forms! Grade 9 course selection is due February 14th, 2020.

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to learn more about the great opportunities Upper Grand high schools have to offer – including academics, electives, skilled trades, sports, extracurriculars and much more. Both parents/guardians and their children can also tour the school and ask the high school staff more about programs and other opportunities.

Make sure to save the date if your child plans to attend one of these schools:

GCVI: Tuesday, February 4, 6:30pm

Centennial: Thursday, February 6, 7:00pm



CHILDREN & YOUTH WINTER & SPRING PROGRAMS 2020
WELLINGTON CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION 1428 Gordon Street Guelph

Programs	PR #	Age	Dates & Times	Description	Fee
ARBORETUM JUNIOR NATURALIST	5849	6-12	Wed Mar 25, 4:30-5:45 pm, 5 Wks	Outdoor education program led by passionate interpretive biologists. Location: U of G Junior Nature Centre	\$35
ART & BEYOND	5850	11 +	Thu Jan 30, 7:15-9:15 pm, 4 Wks	Open Studio for the creation of a master piece.	\$87
CARTOONING & SCULPTING	5851	7-12	Thu Jan 30, 5:30-7:15 pm, 4 Wks	Cartooning on paper & transform to 3D. All supplies included in fee.	\$87
BABYSITTING	5852 5853 5954	11 +	Fri Jan 31, 9-4:30 pm, 1 Day Fri Apr 24, 9-4:30 pm, 1 Day Fri Jun 5, 9-4:30 pm, 1 Day	Red Cross, certificate course. Learn basic skills to care for infants & children.	\$60
BADMINTON	5855 5856 5857 5858	9-15	Thu Jan 30, 5-6 pm, 7 Wks Thu Jan 30, 6-6:50 pm 7 Wks Thu Apr 2, 5-6 pm, 7 Wks Thu Apr 2, 6-6:50 pm, 7 Wks	A fun program to learn skills and rally.	\$55
COOKING Adult & Child	5859	8 +	Thu Apr 16, 6-8:15 pm, 1 Wk	Greek cooking class with child & parent. Location: College Heights CVI	\$50 includes adult & child
CURSIVE WRITING	5860 5861	8+	Mon Jan 20, 7:30-8:30 pm, 7 Wks Mon Apr 20, 7:30-8:30 pm, 7 Wks	Learn the smooth, flowing curves of writing. Location: Centennial CVI	\$77
DANCE	5862 5863 5864 5865	4-6 7-9	Mon Jan 20, 6-6:45 pm, 7 Wks Mon Apr 20, 6-6:45 pm, 7 Wks Mon Jan 20, 6:45-7:30 pm, 7 Wks Mon Apr 20, 6:45-7 :30 pm, 7 Wks	Ballet to contemporary dance form. Hip hop and rhythm dance form. Location : Centennial CVI	\$60 \$60
FUN WITH FOOD	5866	6-12	Thu Apr 23, 6-7 pm, 3 Wks	Get your taste buds ready. Supplies included. Location: Centennial CVI	\$40
HAND BUILDING POTTERY	5867 5868 5869 5870	6-8 9+	Tue Jan 21, 5-6 pm, 8 Wks Tue Apr 14, 5-6 pm, 8 Wks Tue Jan 21, 6-7:30 pm, 8 Wks Tue Apr 14, 6-7:30 pm, 8 Wks	Play with clay to create usable mugs, bowls and much more in this hand building fired pottery class. \$20 supply included in fee	\$87 \$107
HAND SEWING	5871	7+	Thu Feb 27, 5-6:30 pm, 3 Wks	Learn from a talented fashion designer hand-sewing techniques; Sewing buttons, variety of stitches and embroidery. More info: Visit www.sewkids.ca/cont-ed	\$75 Includes all supplies
HAND SEWING IN FRENCH	5872	7+	Thu Feb 27, 6:30-8 pm, 3 Wks		
MACHINE SEWING	5873	8+	Thu Apr 2, 6:30-8 pm, 6 Wks	Make a bag, pillow and backpack charm on a sewing machine. Sewing machines and supplies included in fee.	\$180 Includes all supplies
YOUTH ONLY YOGA	5874 5875	7+	Tue Jan 21, 5-5:55 pm, 8 Wks Tue Apr 14, 5-5:55 pm, 8 Wks	Movement, poses, breathing & games let us explore stability, strength, flexibility & focus.	\$60
YOGA FAMILY Adults and Children	5876 5877	4+	Tue Jan 21, 6-6:50 pm, 8 Wks Tue Apr 14, 6-6:50 pm, 8 Wks	Poses, games, movement, noises, breathing & loads of laughter. Bring the whole family (grandparents, aunts, cousins, siblings) & you're sure to have fun experiencing yoga together.	\$100 Includes 5 family members total, including min 1 adult

To Register Call: 519-836-7280 or Online at www.learningforyou.ca
View Course Guide online at: www.ugdsb.ca/ConEd or www.ugdsb.ca/kids

Please visit website for more details of the courses. A mandatory email is needed to register for course updates.