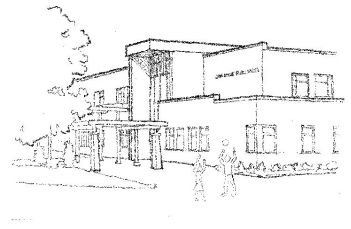


# École John McCrae School

## NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2020

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Principal: Leslie Newman Vice Principal: Lynn-Michelle Office Co-ordinator: Kathy Lambkin

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### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This is the newsletter that I have not been looking forward to writing - my last one. It is truly bittersweet to be saying goodbye to the many wonderful people who surround John McCrae. It is also bittersweet to leave a career that has been the best a person could ever hope for. Throughout my time as a teacher and administrator I have learned so much from the students that I taught or worked with, from the parents (many of whom I consider friends), and from the many schools that I have had the privilege of being a part of. I thank them all. Most especially, thank you to the John McCrae students and parents.

My last seven years have been spent at John McCrae. This is a special place. It is an extraordinary place. What I hope more than anything is that the gift of John McCrae continues. I truly believe that you have people teaching and working with your children that put their heart and soul into what they do. They truly care about everything they do and they work so hard to teach your children. I know that this will continue. I thank them.

My vice-principals over the last seven have been diverse and great to work with. M Dewey, M. Cutz, M. Reay, and Mme. Fortier all brought their unique styles and gifts to the job. Thank you.

Thank you to Mme Lambkin. There is nobody at any school better than her. It has been a true honour to work by her side for the last seven years. Thank you Kathy.

Finally, goodbye to our grade 8's and those that are leaving us this year. I know for our grade 8's there were many disappointments but I also know that you will move on and never forget this past year and the years you have spent with us. As you move to highschool remember what I say on the announcements all of the time: be kind to everyone, each and every day. Good luck to you as you move on.

To the staff leaving us this year: we have enjoyed having you with us and wish you luck at your new schools. Unfortunately, there are a number of teachers moving on. Goodbye to M Henke, Mme Natarelli, Mme Dimartle (congratulations on your new daughter), Mme. Henry (who will be having a baby at the beginning of September), M Kaufman (going to King George), Mme DiFrancesco (going to Ecole Guelph Lake), Mme. Vollrath (going to Ecole Guelph Lake), M James, Mme Scheunemann, Mme Metcalfe (she too will be having a baby in early September), Mme DiLeonardo (who will be going to Paisley Road) and Mme Wilson.

I want to welcome M VanderVaart who will take over as principal. He has many years of experience and he is very excited to join the JMC Community. He recently moved to Guelph from Orangeville with his wife and children and I know he is looking forward to getting to know Guelph and the many wonderful things about it. I truly believe that you are in good hands and that you will enjoy working with him.

To everyone else: have a safe, happy and healthy summer. Keep supporting each other, and when school returns in person I know that each and everyone of you will be there to support each other.

Au revoir mes amis.

Leslie Newman

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## SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

Please join us for our final School Council Meeting of the year on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. (this will be a virtual meeting)..

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## ON-LINE LEARNING

Thank you to all of our parents for your help and support as we navigated our way through the Google Classroom. We learned together and will continue to do so. Please stay tuned throughout the summer for any updates on the fall.

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## JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

While it will not be the usual Jump Rope / Hoops for Heart Day we will be doing this virtually on Friday, June 19 (or anytime during that week that you would like to participate)! More information will be coming out, but we will still be collecting donations and jumping from our homes (or doing anything physical) to help raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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## LOST AND FOUND

We hope that you were able to check out our Lost and Found items on Thursday (when you picked up your child's belongings) Any unclaimed items will be bagged and donated to a local charity.

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## PLEASE CHECK AT HOME

Please make a special effort to check at home for any text books, library books, school supplies or patrol equipment. If you find anything hiding under the bed or behind the door, please return it to the school so that we may complete our year-end inventory. There will be a day at the end of June to do this. Stay tuned for more details.

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## 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. It is especially important that you contact the office if your current JK student will moving away before August 31<sup>st</sup> in order to give their spot to a student on our waitlist. Contact [johnmccrae.ps@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:johnmccrae.ps@ugdsb.on.ca)

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## CLASS ORGANIZATION AND CLASS REQUESTS

We are well into the process of planning for the 2020-2021 school year. The following class organizations have been approved.

4	JK/SK Classes	2	Grade 4-5 Classes
2	Grade 1 Classes	1	Grade 5 Class
2	Grade 1/2 Classes	2	Grade 5 Classes
1	Grade 2 Class	2	Grade 6 Classes
2	Grade 3 Classes	2	Grade 7 Class
1	Grade 3/4 Class	1	Grade 7-8 split
1	Grade 4 Class	2	Grade 8 Classes

Students have already been assigned to classes for next year. As a staff, we have reflected on a variety of factors, such as achievement, work habits, behavior, ratio of boys to girls, friendships, learning styles, and teaching styles. Our goal is to maintain a balance in each classroom in order to facilitate each student's ability to achieve to his or her potential. In the growing community of John McCrae, and as we experienced last September, we know that the classes we make in June may not be the classes we have during the 2020-2021 school year. Please know that we have the best interest of all our students and staff in mind when classes are created.

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## TRANSITION PLANS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Spring has sprung and it's a great time to be reviewing your child's transition plans. Students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) must have a transition plan, whether or not they have been identified as an exceptional student. A transition plan includes goals for ensuring successful transitions, and the actions for meeting those goals. It is required if a student may need support making any transition, which may include entering, during, or leaving school. A plan to support the student must be developed as part of the student's IEP.

Some transition goals may help with changes throughout the day, such as moving from recess to the classroom, while other goals may assist with larger transitions, such as moving from one school to another or changing grades/teachers within the same school setting.

For many students, the supports provided to the whole class are all they need to have a successful transition, which means they may not need an individualized transition plan on their IEP at this time.

When planning for any transition, the student's strengths and needs are considered, as well as their physical, emotional, and learning needs.

Please communicate with your child's teacher, Mme. Griffiths [sarah.griffiths@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:sarah.griffiths@ugdsb.on.ca) (grades 1-5), Mme. Bird [krista.bird@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:krista.bird@ugdsb.on.ca) (6-8) or Mme. Fortier [lynn.fortier@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:lynn.fortier@ugdsb.on.ca) if you feel additional transition supports are required on his/her IEP.