

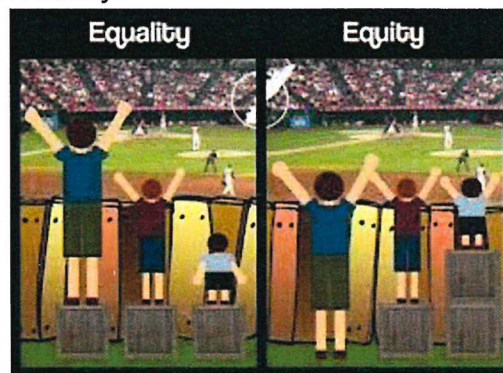


L' École Edward Johnson School
Learning for Life Apprendre pour la vie
397 Stevenson Street North Guelph, Ontario N1E 5C1
Telephone: 519 - 763-7374 Fax: 519 - 763-6344
Katherine Wainman: Principal
Jylian Buitendyk: Office Coordinator



February 2018

Hard to believe that February is already here. January, as usual, was a busy month at Edward Johnson. Students have been busy helping to spread kindness throughout the school and playground. Thanks to Mme Potwin's class for leading the school with this initiative. During the month of February we will be focusing on Fairness as a school. The concept of equity versus equality is always a challenging concept, but we hope to bring an awareness of its importance to our school community.



Students have been happily participating in a variety of activities here at Edward Johnson. We have our Comic Drawing Club (primary students), LEGO club, chess club, ECO club, and Basketball tryouts. In addition, students have been busy searching for “bijoux” in our playground. Little bijoux (jewels) have been hidden all over our playground. When a student finds a bijoux he/she can bring it in for a “surprise” at the end of the second recess. It's been a lot of fun seeing the students race out the door to find those jewels. This is a weather dependent activity as they are hidden in the snow.

Be sure to check our school website and online calendar for updates as they occur!

Sincerely,

Katherine Wainman

Important Dates:

- Mon., Feb. 5 School Council Meeting in Library (6:30 - 7:30)
- Tues., Feb. 6, National Sweater Day at EJPS
- Wed., Feb. 7, Kindergarten field trips to Guelph Lake Nature Centre
- Fri., Feb. 9 "New Kid on the Block" Play presentation for grades 1:30 start
- Mon., Feb 12 to Tues., Feb.13 First Aid Training for Staff after school
- Wed., Feb. 14 Red, Pink and White Day
- Thurs., Feb. 15 Chris D'Souza Presentation at Guelph Lake School (6:30 - 8pm) sponsored by EJPS and Guelph Lake School Councils
- Fri., Feb. 16 Dress-up as the Future You Day
- Mon., Feb. 19 Family Day (no school)
- Friday, Feb. 23 Dance-a-thon All Day!! School Council Fundraising Event
- Wed., Feb. 28 School Council Community Event (6pm- 7pm) more details to come.

February 2018 School Council News

School Council Meeting

Join us on Monday February 5th from 6:30-7:30 in the Edward Johnson library. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!



Parents Reaching Out Event

We have collaborated with Ecole Guelph Lake P.S. this year for the Ministry of Educations Parents reaching out grant. We are featuring Chris D'Souza as our keynote speaker. The topic is "Unpacking bias in the classroom, curriculum, school system and beyond". You will not want to miss this informative evening. The event will be held on Thursday February 15th at Ecole Guelph Lake, 595 Watson Parkway in the school's gym. The doors open at 6 for refreshments and the presentation begins at 6:30. The first 25 parents will receive a book by Chris D'Souza with a limit of one per family. If you have any questions email ejschoolcouncil@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

Dance a Thon

The Dance a Thon will be held on Friday February 23rd 2018 in the Edward Johnson gymnasium. Our theme this year is Disco, we will play a variety of child friendly disco hits and the gym will be decorated with a fun disco theme. Parents are welcome to attend to get their disco groove on. Class time slots will be sent out in advance. Pledge sheets will be arriving home soon, we have added some fun new prizes for the children and classes that generate the most donations! We thank you for your support!

Safe Arrival Program

We appreciate your calls when your child(ren) are going to be absent or late. Please call the school at 519-763-7374 and leave a message. You do not need to speak to Mme Buitendyk to report an absence or late arrival. The school's answering machine is available to the community 24 hours a day. Calling in advance also alleviates early morning telephone congestion. Thank you for your support.

Helping Your Child with Report Cards

On Thursday, February 15, 2018 Report Cards will be going home with students. You are encouraged to read this report card thoroughly and talk about it with your child/ren. There is a section for students and parents to complete and send in. Please take the time to fill in these sections as it is helpful for students to reflect on their learning and to communicate this to teachers. Should you wish to discuss the report card you're your child's teacher, please contact them to set-up an appointment.



School Routines

Thank you so much to everyone for making sure that your children are well prepared for the winter weather at school with warm mittens, scarves, hats and snow suits. These little steps go a long way to make their experience at school a happy one.

Please note that the school day begins at 8:30 am and it is very important for all students to be at school and ready at this time. Routines are fundamental to the beginning of each day and help students succeed throughout the entire day.

Please remember, if your child is arriving after 8:30 am, they must report to the office to receive an admit slip prior to arriving in class and all late arrivals are documented in the school attendance files. Taking these steps now will establish routines and help to ensure that your child has a positive and successful experience throughout their school career.

Lost and Found

As is often the case by mid-winter, our school's Lost & Found Bin is overflowing with student clothing. As prior to the break, we will again display the items from the bin on tables and students will be encouraged to take a look and gather any clothing that belongs to them. Unfortunately, many clothing items remain unclaimed and we have no other choice than bagging and sending unclaimed clothing to a charitable organization. Please continue to encourage your children to visit the Lost and Found bin when clothing items are missing.



Life-Threatening Allergies

Please remember we have a number of students with life-threatening allergies (dairy products, eggs, peanuts and tree nuts). We are especially asking that students not bring food items to school that contain nuts and/or peanuts. WOW butter as a substitute for peanut butter is not permitted. Unfortunately, we are not able to determine the difference between the substitute and the real thing.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN CANADA

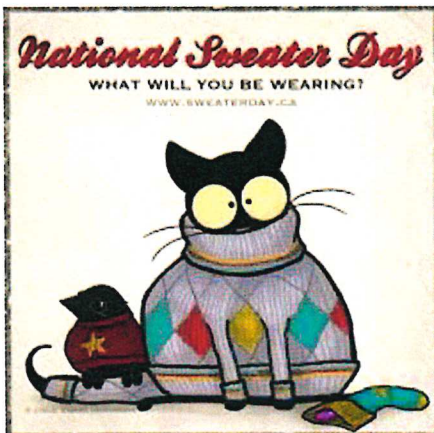
Edward Johnson Recognizes February as Black History Month

Every year Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present, during Black History Month. Black History Month exists to remind us all of the rich contributions within our society from people of African and Caribbean decent, and of their ongoing struggle for equity and social justice. This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of black Canadians in our society, and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history.

Edward Johnson is in the midst of planning a very special event to mark Black History Month. Stay tuned for more details.

Edward Johnson is Celebrating National Sweater Day on Tuesday Feb. 6!

Make the Earth better by wearing a sweater!



National Sweater Day is about valuing energy. It's a chance to think differently about how we use energy, where our energy comes from and how we can play an important role in fighting climate change by using energy wisely, not wastefully. It is designed to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy consumption in Canada. The school thermostat will be lowered by 2 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, Feb. 6, so your child should be prepared by wearing their warmest, coziest sweater!

Engaging Your Child in Science at Home!

As parents we have the wonderful opportunity and responsibility for nurturing our children's growth. Parents play a key role in the physical, emotional, and intellectual development of their child. As parents we can usually find time to read a story to our children, thereby instilling a love of literature, but we are often at a loss as to how to instill a love and appreciation for Science. Science encourages problem solving skills, curiosity and questioning, creative and critical thinking, observational skills and reinforces both literacy and math skills....and it's FUN! Here are some ideas for fostering Scientific skills in your children.

6 Tips to foster Scientific Thinking at Home

1-See science everywhere. Parents can take opportunities to ask "What would happen if...?" questions or present brainteasers to encourage children to be curious and seek out answers. Children need to know that science isn't just a subject, but it is a way of understanding the world around us.

2-Lead family discussions on science-related topics. Dinnertime might be an ideal time for your family to have discussions about news stories that are science based, like space shuttle missions, severe weather conditions, or new medical breakthroughs. Over time, children will develop a better understanding of science and how it affects many facets of our lives. Movies and TV shows with science-related storylines are also great topics for discussion.

3-Encourage girls and boys equally. Many girls are left out of challenging activities simply because of their gender. Be aware that both girls and boys need to be encouraged and exposed to a variety of subjects at a very early age.

4-Do science together. Children, especially elementary-age children, learn better by investigating and experimenting. Simple investigations done together in the home can bolster what your child is learning in the classroom. Check with your child's teacher on what your child is currently learning in class and what activities you can explore at home.

5-Connect science with a family vacation. Family vacations are a great way to explore science. It could be a hiking trip where you explore nature or a discussion on tides during a beach vacation.

6-Show excitement for Science!

Reference:

"NSTA Science Matters: Tips for Busy Parents - National Science"
<http://www.nsta.org/sciencematters/tips.aspx>.

Feedback welcome on draft board policies

The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review is the following policy:

Policy 210 – Environmental Education and Management

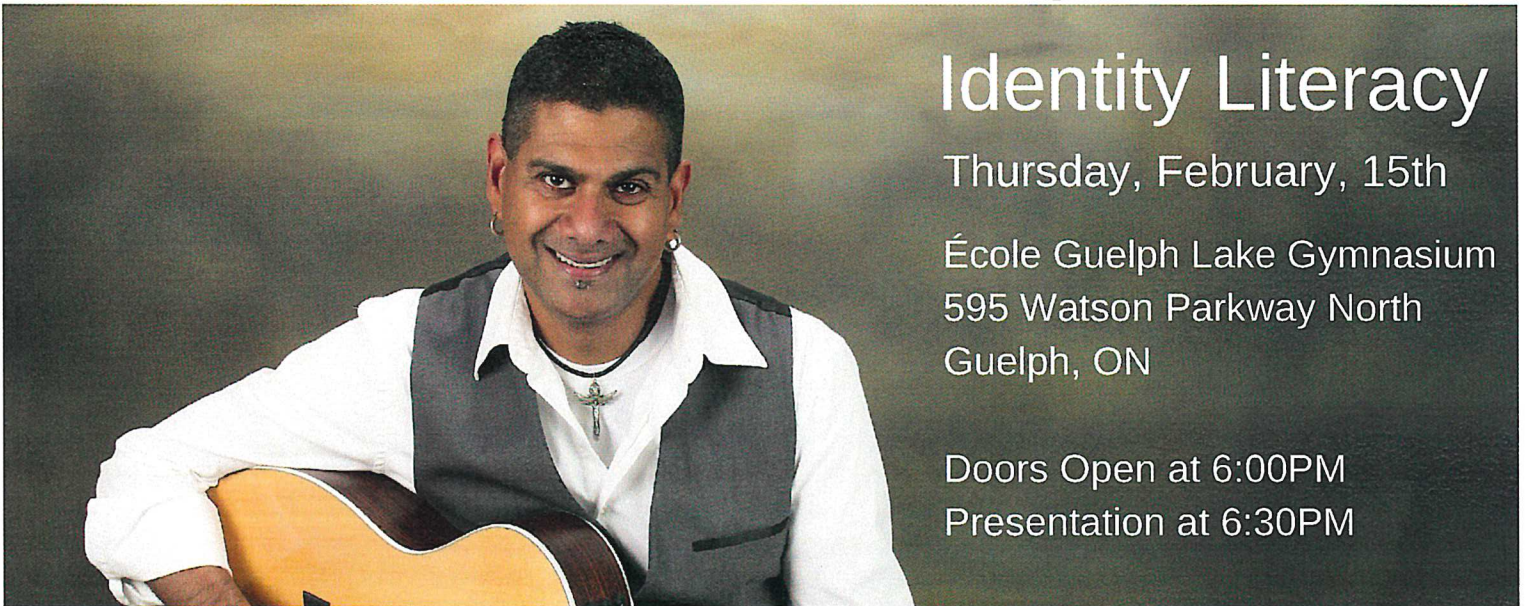
This policy is important as it is vital that staff and students are provided with the skills, perspectives and practices they will need to become environmentally responsible citizens in order to meet the sustainability challenges of the future. You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy.

The deadline for Public input is March 1, 2018 at 4 p.m. EST. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 (or toll-free 1-800-321-4025) ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

THE PARENT COUNCILS AT ÉCOLE EDWARD JOHNSON &
ÉCOLE GUELPH LAKE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR

AN EVENING WITH

Chris D'souza



Identity Literacy

Thursday, February, 15th

École Guelph Lake Gymnasium
595 Watson Parkway North
Guelph, ON

Doors Open at 6:00PM
Presentation at 6:30PM

Unpacking bias in the classroom, curriculum, school systems and beyond.

Human interactions are often "tainted" with different levels of identity bias, reinforced by media and societal representations of race, ethnicity, gender, culture, sexuality, human ability, socio-economics and the intersection of these identities. These biases can be analyzed and eradicated with tenacious critical thinking around the forces that perpetuate them.

Join us as Chris discusses how parents and guardians can also use this way of learning to better engage others.

Don't be late! Our first 25 guests will receive a free gift!
Complimentary drinks & snacks will be available.





EDWARD JOHNSON PUBLIC SCHOOL
IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR FIRST EVER

Cookbook Fundraiser!

We are looking to put together some of the best kept secrets at our school and they start with you!

We are looking for all types of recipes from appetizers to main courses, from lighter fares to stunning desserts. Whether it is a home-grown Canadian recipe passed down from your great-grandmother or a rare delicacy from the far regions of Tunisia, we would love to hear from you!

Our first ever EJPS Cookbook will be available for purchase at our Family Fun Night in June! Proceeds from this fundraiser are essential in funding various programs for your children to attend/use.

YOUR HELP MAKES THIS POSSIBLE!

TO SUBMIT YOUR RECIPE:

Please send a **Word Document** to ejschoolcouncil@gmail.com that contains the following information:

- Your Name (first and last) & phone number
- Name of your Recipe
- Type of Recipe (ie: Dessert, app, etc)
- Origin of the Recipe (ie: grandmother, Zanzibar, etc)
- Special notes about the Recipe (ie: why you love this recipe, etc)
- Ingredients with measurements
- How to process ingredients (method)
- Temperature & Cooking time
- Best method or notes about the Recipe

ENTIRES REQUIRED BY MARCH 1, 2018