



Ken Danby Public School

525 Grange Road, Guelph, Ontario N1E 7C4 Principal: S. Marquis; VP: T. Drohan
Tel. 519.836.4545 Fax 519.836.9612 Office Coordinator: L. Smith, Office Assistant: V. Talbot

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE-PRINCIPAL



Welcome back and Happy New Year. We hope the Ken Danby School Community had a wonderful holiday and found time to spend with family and friends.

There are many opportunities for students to participate in a variety of clubs and sports teams. Encourage your child to take part in something outside of the classroom, it's a great way to make new friends and develop a new interest.

We are quickly coming up to the end of the first term, and hopefully students will be well rested and ready to work hard as Term 2 approaches.

Here is to the start of a wonderful and exciting new year of 2018.

Saskia Marquis and Trisha Drohan

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

We have several ways we are communicating information to Parents and School Community:

1. School Website: <http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/kendanby/> Check here for newsletters, calendar items, board news and school council minutes.
2. Aizan Automated phone messages: Please note messages will be sent to the primary phone number that was provided to the office.
3. Twitter @KDDiamondbacks
4. Upper Grand and School Messenger Apps



GET READY! KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS FROM JANUARY 9-19

Kindergarten Registration is from January 9 to 19, 2018, at all elementary schools in the UGDSB.



Kindergarten Registration steps for all new Kindergarten students

1. Between Jan. 9-19, 2018, **pre-register** your child online at www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten
2. Once you have clicked the 'Submit' button, check for a confirmation email indicating you've successfully completed pre-registration
3. Once you have pre-registered, go to your child's home school to drop off required documentation to complete your registration. Required documentation:
 1. Proof of Age (child's birth certificate or passport)
 2. Proof of Immunization (Health Record card)
 3. Proof of residency identifying parent/guardian's current home address (e.g. utility/tax bill, bank statement, purchase/lease agreement)
 4. Verification of date of arrival/immigration documents (if child was not born in Canada)

Junior Kindergarten French Immersion

In the UGDSB, admission into the French Immersion (FI) program begins in Junior Kindergarten (JK), which is the only entry point into the program.

All UGDSB schools that offer JK FI have an enrolment cap, and there is a defined selection process for students if a school exceeds its enrolment cap.

JK FI registration is considered complete when:

- The Student Admission Form is completed and submitted online (pre-registration)
- Required documentation has been verified by the home school (as listed above)
- A 'FI Pre-Registration Receipt' is completed, signed and provided to you by the school
 - Parents wanting to register their child in JK FI must have completed their registration by 19, 2018 at 4 p.m., in order to be considered 'on time.'

For more information on the JK FI registration and selection process, visit www.ugdsb.ca/jkfi.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome Back!

Ken Danby School Council welcomes back all students and staff after what was hopefully a wonderful winter holiday. We hope everyone feels rejuvenated and refreshed and ready to tackle 2018!

What's next you ask?

Well, the next scheduled School Council meeting will be **Thursday January 18th at 6:30pm** in the library. We look forward to seeing you there as we discuss the upcoming Valentine's Day Dance Fundraiser.

School Council News



School Council is always looking for volunteers or parent involvement to ensure the success of fundraising activities that benefit the school. If you'd like to see what your School Council is up to, please follow us on twitter: KenDanbySC. If you'd like to donate some time but don't want to commit to attending council meetings, no problem. Please contact Jennifer Goody-Brown at SC.Kendanby@ugdsb.on.ca and see what opportunities fit best with your schedule. You can also stay informed by reading the [School Council meeting minutes](#) that are posted on the school website

BUS PATROLS SCHEDULE DURING COLD TEMPERATURES



At minus 25 celsius (including the wind chill), safety patrol duty is reduced to the last five minutes of the morning scheduled time and the first five minutes of the afternoon scheduled time. Parents and patrols should check the local radio stations or internet weather reports for temperature readings.

OUTDOOR RECESS

It is chilly out and all kinds of weather has come our way! Please remember to assist your child in wearing the proper clothing to school. This includes a warm jacket, hat, mitts and waterproof, footwear. Thanks for sending extra socks in your child's backpack just in case! All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess, as this important, active break aids concentration and success in the classroom.



shutterstock - 66375160

LIBRARY/LEARNING COMMONS

Silver Birch (Grades 3-6) and Red Maple (Grades 7-8) reading programs are up and running! Students were lined up down the hall to sign out the books. It is wonderful to see so much excitement about reading! A number of parents asked if they could have a list of the titles so that they can get them from the public library if their child wasn't able to sign them out from the school. That is awesome! Your child can pick up a bookmark, with a list of the titles on it, from the school library. You can also see a list of the titles, as well as a brief summary of each book, by doing the following:

Go to the Ontario Library Association Website at: www.accessola.org

Click on "**Forest of Reading**" on the left and then select "**Nominated Lists**" on the left column. Click on the link to the reading program your child is interested in.

Silver Birch Express (Gr. 3-4 reading level), Silver Birch Fiction (Gr. 5-6),
Silver Birch Non-Fiction (Grade 5-6), Red Maple Fiction (Gr. 7-8).

To qualify to vote and join in the celebrations, they need to read and conference at least 5 books from 1 category before voting day (at the end of April).

Don't hesitate to call if you have any questions. (Ext. 225)

Thanks,
Carolyn Forde
Teacher-Librarian

WELLINGTON-DUFFERIN-GUELPH PUBLIC HEALTH

January 2018 – Elementary Schools

WDG Public Health is pleased to provide elementary schools with up-to-date information on health topics for their monthly newsletters and announcements to parents. Please find below an insert you can include in your school newsletter and/or announcements if you wish. If you have any questions please contact us at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4111 or email schoolhealth@wdgpublichealth.ca

Information from Public Health

In Ontario, the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requires that all students attending school be fully immunized or have a valid exemption on file. Public Health mailed notices to elementary students with incomplete records at the end of November. If you received a notice that your child's record is incomplete, the deadline to update your child's record with Public Health is January 26th at 4PM in order to avoid suspension on January 31st. If your child requires a vaccine, Public Health will have drop in clinics during the weeks of January 15-19 and January 22-26. For locations and times, please visit: www.wdgpublichealth.ca/news/drop-immunization-clinics-students.

To report vaccines received from your health care provider, please choose one of the following ways:

- Online: www.immunizewdg.ca
- Email: vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca
- Phone: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396
- Fax: 519-836-2986

Have questions? Speak with a public health nurse at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4746

TALKING TO CHILDREN

How many times have you asked your child what they did in school today and they said “nothing”? Do you feel that most of the conversations you have with your children are just about telling them what to do? Many parents feel this way; life is busy.

Giving children opportunities to have conversations is really important for their growth and learning. What to do? Children often ask a lot of questions, especially young children. Parents answer those questions and the conversation often just ends. How do you keep the conversation going? Instead of answering the question what if next time you ask a question instead? Consider these questions: What do you think it is? What do you think about that? What interests you about that? What do you notice? How do you think that works? If you get a one word answer you might make a comment such as, “tell me more”, “I’d like to hear more about that” or ask another question.

Listening carefully is also important when talking to your child. Children respond positively if they know they have been heard and that you are interested in what they have to say. Use comments to encourage your child to keep talking: “Tell me more about that”, “that must have been difficult/interesting”, “it sounds like you had fun”, “you must have felt disappointed/frustrated/angry”. Talk while having dinner together, preparing dinner, going out for a walk, at bedtime, on the way to school or while standing in the grocery line. Think of yourself as a partner in the conversation.



Monthly environmental activities to help celebrate our planet

JANUARY is the time to carry out your resolutions!

“There will be more waste plastic in the sea than fish by 2050” Dame Ellen MacArthur

It’s a brand new year and the perfect time for positive change. For example, let’s end plastic pollution.

Based on the daily news, it’s never been more critical to increase your environmental efforts. This year the *Earth Day Network* is calling to end plastic pollution. Imagine a future free from harmful plastic garbage! Single-use plastics are especially wasteful and many plastics are also not properly recycled and take up precious landfill space or pollute our oceans, killing marine life and washing up on pristine beaches. Plastic garbage ‘islands’ are appearing in seas and oceans all over the world. One of these - the Great Pacific garbage patch, is estimated to the size of Alberta.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>



PLASTIC FREE

www.wuft.org

Tips on how to reduce single-use plastics:

- Extend your use of cloth shopping bags beyond the grocery store. Use them at all other retail stores too. (You can carry purse-sized, reusable folded bags.)
- Avoid buying over-packaged food. The choice is yours. Do you need to buy the carrots that are shrink wrapped on a Styrofoam tray, or can you buy a bundle that is tied together with a simple twist tie?
- Let the restaurants you frequent know that you would them to join the growing movement to ban the use of straws. Restaurants, organizations, institutions and schools worldwide have gotten rid of plastic straws or implemented a 'serve-straws-upon-request' policy.
- Tap water is best. Bottled water can deplete our precious groundwater resources and produce unnecessary green house gas emissions through the production and transport of plastic bottles. Carry a reusable water bottle instead.
- Lug a travel mug to your local coffee shop. (The plastic lining makes coffee cups unrecyclable, and they all end up in the garbage and in our overflowing landfills.)
- Write letters to the government asking them to fix a problem that you are concerned about such as: mandating the reduction of plastic packaging, banning Styrofoam, or promoting research for recyclable coffee cups, etc.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The school board has new information on its website regarding inclement weather.

This document contains important information on school bus cancellations, school closures due to severe weather and extreme cold temperatures.

You can read the full document at www.ugdsb.on.ca/inclementweather/

The document also contains information on the risks of frostbite in extreme cold temperatures. Frostbite can happen within minutes of skin being exposed to extreme cold temperatures. Please ensure your children are dressed properly for frigid temperatures.



Additionally, parents and guardians should be aware that adult crossing guards are employed by the municipality. As such, municipal crossing guards may not be providing service during extreme weather conditions. Please refer to the document on the board website for information about the municipality's policy on crossing guards.

As you know, Ken Danby P.S. is almost entirely a walking school and therefore bus cancellations do not affect our daily instructional practices. When buses are cancelled, school continues as normal and students are expected to be in attendance.

If you feel it is unsafe for your child to get to school, please call the school to report your child's absence. This will save the office many hours of trying to call parents to comply with our Ministry mandated Safe Arrival program. If your child is absent, we will get them caught up on the work they missed when they return.

The Upper Grand and Wellington Catholic District School Boards use a joint transportation system STWDSTST: <http://www.stwdsts.ca/> Inclement weather cancellations and delays will affect students attending both Boards' schools. STWDSTST will make the decision to cancel buses by 5:30am and, if buses are cancelled, will post the announcement to the STWDSTST website by 6:30am. Buses may or may not be cancelled, and the decision is made by STWDSTST based on a number of factors.

A decision to close schools is made by the Board by 6:00 a.m. to give all parents - and drivers - sufficient notice. The decision is based on a number of factors, including the actual weather and road conditions, as

checked first-hand by designated bus operators in each area, and weather predictions made by Environment Canada. When you hear the radio announce that “South Wellington or City of Guelph” school transportation is cancelled – this means that buses are cancelled but Ken Danby P.S. IS OPEN TO STUDENTS. The only time the school would be closed is during extreme severe weather when the radio announcements would be that ALL schools are closed.

During times of inclement weather, please listen to 1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, 900 AM CHML, 105.3 KOOL FM, News talk 570 AM, or 96.7 FM CHYM for school transportation cancellations or school closures. Current information will be posted on the Board website starting at 6:00 a.m.: www.ugdsb.on.ca (yellow bus at top of home page)

(Please note that Ken Danby P.S. is included in the yellow bus card area.)