



École King George Public School

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Message from the Principal

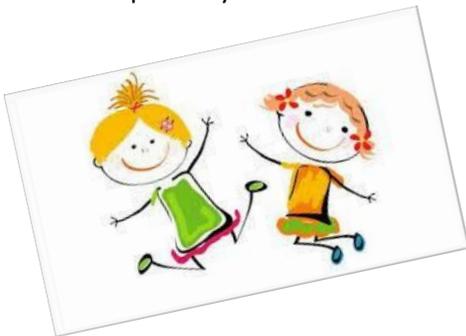


Well we sure know how to beat the February blues here at King George. We have been extremely busy this month. We are ready to head for spring and a well-earned break coming up in a couple of weeks. As we look forward to the warmer weather, it is important that our students are dressed appropriately for the weather. Layers are always best and provide the most options for variable weather. Our Lost and Found bin has been filling up so please remind your children to look thee for any lost items.

Teachers have worked hard to give you a clear representation of your child's accomplishments. We are now well into Term two and students are busy learning inside and outside their classrooms by experimenting, creating, writing, acting, speaking and discussing.

With our School Council February meeting cancelled due to the weather, the next meeting will be March 6th. Hope you can join us in the Library at 6:30. We are very thankful to our School Council for supporting our Scientists in the School programs and our needs for our Music program, Visual Arts program and our P.E. equipment, to name a few. We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing break between March 11th and 15th.

M. Dewey and Mme Tremblay



March Break

The March Break begins on Monday, March 11th. Enjoy your holiday and we look forward to your return on Monday, March 18th. If you are leaving for vacation and your child will be away from school on days other than the March Break, please notify the office to let sawn or Wendy know. Many times, parents rely on students to tell their teachers but the

information does not always get to the office. It would be very helpful if you can call the office directly to relay any information about the days your child will be away.

UGEMTA

71 students from Grades 5 - 8 in the Prep Band, Senior Band, and Glee Club will be performing at the Upper Grand Elementary Music Teachers' Association (UGEMTA) Festival on Wednesday, March 20th. This year, UGEMTA is four days of non-competitive musical performances by groups within UGDSB schools, and is being held from March 19 - 22. Students perform and then receive feedback from adjudicators. This is excellent preparation for our groups to perform in the competitive Kiwanis Festival in April.

Parent volunteers will be needed for this trip, and permission forms will be available before March Break (also on Google Classroom). If you are interested in attending UGEMTA, audience entrance to the festival is free, and the performances will be held at Harcourt Memorial United Church (87 Dean Ave). King George will be performing at 9:00 (Prep Band), 10:30 (Glee Club), and 11:30 (Senior Band). For more information, email emily.petrenko@ugdsb.on.ca.

Looking for Volunteers

Calling all Musical Parents!

The King George Music Program is looking for parent volunteers! Our current instrumentation includes flute, violin, clarinet, alto/tenor saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, electric bass, piano/keyboard, and percussion. If you play one of these instruments and could help out in a class or in band rehearsals, please contact me at: Emily.Petrenko@ugdsb.on.ca.

Thank you for your support of the KGPS Music Program! Mrs. Petrenko

Grade 8 Trip to Ottawa June 18th-21st

Our Grade 8 students will be going to Montreal. Thank you for completing the online registration. For those who have registered, we will be sending home additional forms (blue permission form, yellow medical/dietary form, and pink electronic device contract) that will need to be completed. Regular programming will be provided for students choosing not to go on the trip.

Grad Photos

Our Grad Photo session is set for Tuesday, March 26th. Please plan to have your Grade 8 student prepared for event that day because LifeTouch, the company taking the photos, will not be returning to the school for retakes. Missed photos or retakes would be done by making an appointment at their Kitchener office.

Litterless Lunches

Litterless Lunches on Wednesdays! Please help us reduce our waste at King George! On Wednesdays, we will be promoting Litterless Lunches. Madame Wilson's Grade 5 class has made bar graphs to help track our progress! Please make an extra effort to use reusable containers & water bottles as well as containers that can be recycled on Wednesdays especially. Also purchasing larger quantities of food rather than small "convenience" packages that produce so much of our school waste daily would make our Eco Warriors here very happy!

Junior Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration was held in January. We look forward to welcoming new kindergarten students to King George for the 2019-2020 school year. If you need information about the Kindergarten process, please do not hesitate to contact us at King George.

Moving in or Moving Out

If you are planning a move to another school this summer, or know of someone moving into our school area for the 2019-2020 school year, please notify the office as soon as possible.

Basketball Tournament

Junior Basketball tournament will be happening at Winegard P.S. on March 8. Parents are welcome to watch and cheer on our Knights. The schools that will be attending include Edward Johnson, Guelph Lake, Arbour Vista and Ottawa Crescent. The boys play from 8:45-11:15 am, while the girls begin play at 11:45 pm and finish at 2:30 pm.



Linamar For the Performing Arts

Thanks to Linamar's sponsorship, our King George students have been able to see shows at the River Run Centre for free. We are close enough to the Centre that most grades can walk so we don't even have to pay for a bus. Linamar appreciates any thank you notes or posters that the students make.

Yearbook News

The King George PS Yearbook will have a slightly new look this year. The cover will feature a design created by one of our talented knights! We will be launching our "Design the Cover" Contest after March Break. Details and contest rules will be shared with students after the break. We are looking forward to our school's art skills being on full display! Good luck!

School Council Corner

Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 6th, 2019 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Dance-A-Thon Recap

The decorations were hung, the lights twinkled, the music played, and the students danced ALL DAY LONG! Congratulations to all of our students who helped raise \$5785 for our Nature Playscape. From the early bird grand prize winning class of Mme McCormack's to the top 5 fundraisers & 17 other lucky winners who took home some cool prizes, excitement was abound. A huge THANK YOU to all of the wonderful donors from our community who provided us with these fantastic prizes.

Guelph Gryphons Athletic Centre~Guelph Youth Dance~Guelph Grotto Climbing Gym~Guelph Nighthawks~Downtown Guelph Business Association~Ctrl V~Funmazing Playcentre~Guelph Museums~Sky Zone Kitchener~The Soccer Fanatic~Dino's Athletic Direct~Reids Chocolates~Mastermind Toys~Speed River Bicycle~Stone Road Mall~The

Boardroom~Simply Wonderful Toys~ONE AXE Pursuits~Play With Clay~Bingemans~Zehrs (Eramosa)~Mauricio Flores of Canadian Youth Football Academy

And we cannot forget all of our parent volunteers who contributed their time and efforts to pull off this exciting fundraising event. THANK YOU!!

Save the Date: Saturday, May 4th, 2019: School Council presents the Craft Market. 10 AM to 2 PM

Milk Orders - Term 3

White and chocolate milk will soon become available to pre-order for your child(ren) via School Cash Online. Term 3 milk orders will run daily from Monday, April 8th until Friday, June 21st. The deadline for Term 3 orders will be March 31st. Also please keep in mind, white and chocolate milk are readily available in the school's milk vending machine on the second floor for \$1 each. Thank you for supporting your KGPS School Council!

Library Update

Primary, Junior and Intermediate students have been participating in our Forest of Reading Café. They are demonstrating their reading through blogging and other creative responses of their choice. They will vote for their favourite book in April. For more information on the Forest of Reading go to the Ontario Library Association web site at www.accessola.org and clicking on "Forest of Reading"

Live Free Campaign

On March 1st, students and staff participated in a "Live Free" campaign to help kids live free from hunger. Students and staff were encouraged to make a promise to give up something they take for granted every day—a daily coffee, an extra treat in their lunch box, a car ride to school, computer time, gaming, cell phones and so on. Staff and students filled in a pledge card stating what it was they would do without in order to join the fight against child hunger. Every dollar raised goes to support Food & Friends nutrition programs in our schools. Thank you for sending in your toonies in support of our "Live Free" campaign. To make a donation to help the King George snack program. Select the following link:

<http://childrensfoundation.donorpages.com/LiveFree2016/kinggeorgeguelph/>



EQAO: Save the Date!

This year Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will write the provincial assessments. Grade 3 students will be writing May 21 st to May 23rd and the Grade 6 students from May 27th to May 29th inclusive. Please avoid scheduling appointments or making plans to be away during this time, if your child is involved in the testing.

Lockdown Drills

We are required to do 2 lockdown drills every school year. The students talk about the drill with their teachers so they recognize the importance and significance of these drills. We appreciate it, particularly for our younger students, if you are able to share the importance of these drills with your child, as it is imperative that they understand the importance of the drill without being fearful.

Preparing your Child for Grade 3 English Instruction

Thanks to Mme Turner, our English Language teacher, for sharing some tips for success to French Immersion parents as their children work toward English language instruction for the first time in Grade 3. Studies clearly and consistently show that within two years, French Immersion students are working at the same level as their peers in the English program.

What can you do to help at home?

- Encourage your child, and provide opportunities for your child, to read in English
- Appreciate their beginning attempts at reading in English and remark on their progress.
- Don't discourage them by being critical of mistakes, but rather make them comfortable with taking risks. It's also very important to continue to read to your child each day, and to discuss and enjoy these stories together. Run your finger along the sentences as you read them, so that they can follow with their eyes and begin to recognize some words.
- As they begin to express an interest in tackling English reading, try reading aloud in unison. Sit side by side with a book of their choosing. Match your reading speed and the volume of your voice with theirs as you read along together (it'll take a little practice). Have a prearranged signal for them to let you know when they want to try a passage on their own, then have you join in with them again. As they develop confidence with simple books, use this technique with more challenging materials. The idea being that as they build confidence, they will be comfortable reading to you on their own.
- Your child should also be encouraged to write grocery lists, notes, cards, to-do lists, short stories, etc.

Engaging Your Child in Mathematics 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 mathematics.

Like reading, mathematics is a subject that is indeed necessary for functioning adequately in society. More than that, mathematics is a subject that should be more enjoyable than it is perceived to be. Parents' attitudes towards mathematics has an impact on their children's attitudes. Children whose parents show an interest in and enthusiasm for mathematics around the home will be more likely to develop that enthusiasm themselves.

Activities in the Home

If you have dice, playing cards, and a bit of time....oh the "number sense" fun you can have.

1. Work on Place Value-use a grade appropriate number of dice and use the numbers rolled as digits to "make the biggest number you can, make the smallest number you can, make a number close to 100" etc.
2. Work on Number Sense-use 2 die to add numbers together....to make it harder, you can use the 2 die to subtract, and multiply.

3. War-Use a deck of cards to compare numbers. Each person flips their cards at the same time, the person with the higher number gets both cards.
4. What's my number? Someone holds a card on their forehead and asks the other person questions to try to guess their number (for example, is it greater than 5, is it odd or even).

Give it a go and have fun building number sense fluency together.

For this month's "Math Bulletin for Parents" please visit:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uav_74UfClMIyTyvmSTkGcU7TOEpKJ583HTCyQfoscg/edit

March 23rd is Earth Hour!

*This Earth Hour, help shine a light on climate change
Switch off your light and switch on your social power!*

Join the global Movement! Celebrate Earth Hour on March 23rd at 8:30pm.

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

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.



raising
action.

Ideas for your family to do for Earth Hour!

A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights on March 23rd 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!

(Select information taken from: www.earthhour.org)

Talking about Mental Health

Random Acts of Kindness

Did you know that there are scientifically proven benefits of being kind! That's right. Just the act of being kind has been shown to stimulate the same part of the brain as those who receive an act of kindness. The simple act of kindness can:

- Reduce the stress hormone cortisol
- Increase sense of positive mood and satisfaction
- Help with physical health including lowering blood pressure
- Increase sense of happiness
- Increase feelings of "calm"
- Improve the mood of somebody simply witnessing the act of kindness

Kindness is also something that is TEACHABLE. Dr. Ritchie Davidson of the University of Wisconsin states that: "It's kind of like weight training, we found that people can actually build up their compassion 'muscle' and respond to others' suffering with care and a desire to help."

As a family, you can:

- Make a conscious effort to recognize and say something kind about each other or someone else
- Give everyone in the family sticky notes to leave kindness notes to each other around the house
- Challenge everyone to do a random act of kindness every day for a week and have dinner time discussion about what everybody did that day
- Make an effort to identify and appreciate kindness that has been received

The weather may not be "playing nice" with us here in Southern Ontario these last weeks but we can still give our brain and our mental health a winter "boost"! So go out and notice kindness, receive kindness and give kindness this month.

Jenny Marino, Mental Health Lead

Follow me on Instagram @ugdsb_mental_health