



Kortright Hills Public School

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Newsletter for February, 2016

From the Principal's Desk

As we head into February there are lots of things happening of great excitement at KHPS. From a community perspective, many of our students are working with Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Jameson to knit and collect gently used items to support the Chase the Chill event. From an environmental perspective, interested students are working with Mrs. Jones to consider how our school can reduce their impact on the environment starting with the Sweater Day event. From a school perspective the basketball and volleyball teams have been prepping for their tournaments, intramurals are running daily, Ms. Ewing and Mrs. Fairfield are working on the PINK shirt designs/distribution, Black History month work is beginning and many clubs are meeting during the week (e.g., chess, primary games club, knitting, etc.). From a classroom perspective, students and staff have been wrapping up the semester by completing assignments and assessments and preparing for the launch of the new semester. From a parent vantage point, members of Council are working on different committees to prepare for a Dance-a-thon (stay tuned :) and attending local meetings to consider next steps for the Greening/Playground initiative.

What I appreciate is that there appears to be something for everyone. If a member of the community indicates an area they would like to see something (e.g., a group of students recently came to us to discuss the request that we participate in a new community cause for the Humane Society) we sit and discuss how we could integrate their ideas into what we do as a school. This collaborative approach is a Hallmark of Kortright and something new students indicate as something they love about our school. We recently have been reminding our

students about what makes Kortright...Kortright. It is not always perfect, it is a work in progress, but it takes all of us to fight to keep our mission in all the work we do, together.

I hope you have a wonderful month and look forward to seeing you in the community,

Wendy Donaldson

Library News



Forest of Reading[®]

a project of the Ontario Library Association

Our Forest of Reading programs have begun with a record number of students choosing to participate! In addition to all of the students in the Kindergarten - Grade 2 classes who participate in the Blue Spruce program during their weekly library visits, over 100 Grade 3 - 8 students have signed up to read books from the Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch, and Red Maple programs. Our daily "Forest Cafe" will be filled with excited readers during snack and morning recess.

It's not too late to join! If your child would like to join in the fun, please encourage him/her to drop by the library to let me know.

Want to search the library catalogue from your device? Well, we've got an app for that!

Introducing **BookMyne**...the FREE app for your mobile device



- ✓ Search the library catalogue
- ✓ Log into your account and renew checked out items
- ✓ Get reading recommendations
- ✓ Scan barcodes to see if your library has a book
- ✓ Create and add items to My Lists



You now have the ability to search our school library catalogue from your mobile device using a free app called BOOKMYNE. The free app can be downloaded from either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store depending on your device. With the app on your device you can:

- search our library catalogue (UGDSB - Kortright Hills PS)
- renew items
- check your account to see books checked out
- access a suggested reading booklist

Not sure if your books are overdue? The app can tell you that too!

Students will need to know their OEN# to login to their account (located on report card, eg. 123-456-789). Multiple students can be added to the app.

Thank you for your continued support of our library programs,

Sheila Morgan

Teacher Librarian

sheila.morgan@ugdsb.on.ca

[Link]<http://bit.ly/KHPSLibrary>



School Stuff

Honouring Black History Month

Every year Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities and



to

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 descent, 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.

Centennial CVI Secondary School

Grade 8 Parent Information Night.

When: Thursday, February 11th, 7:00-9:00 pm

Where: Centennial CVI Cafeteria

Tour the school and find out what Centennial has to offer.

Come and see Education that Works!

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will take place the week of February 1st - 5th, 2016. To register for Junior

Kindergarten your child must be four years old on or before December 31st, 2016. To register for Senior Kindergarten (if your child is new to our school) he/she must be five years old on or before December 31st, 2016.



If you can't register during this week, please call the school office at 519-827-1601 to arrange an alternate time. You must bring your child's birth verification and his/her immunization record and proof of address to register.

Report Cards

Term 1 Report cards go home on Thursday, February 11th. Please sign and return page three by Wednesday, February 17th.

Parents wishing an interview can check off the appropriate box on page three. Your son/daughter's teacher will contact you to set up a time suitable for both parties.



Inclement Weather

It is the parents' responsibility to determine whether or not it is safe for his or her child to leave for school in inclement or severe weather. A parent must be aware of the following:

- When a bus does not travel a route in the morning due to fog, ice, or snow conditions, it will **not** travel that route in the afternoon.
- While we have an excellent transportation system, buses may be delayed in the morning due to traffic, poor road conditions, mechanical breakdowns, etc.

To ensure your child is not stranded at his/her pick-up point; please make sure they know what to do and where to go if their bus is more than 15 minutes late.

Listen for messages on your local radio station for the City of Guelph - Yellow Card.

Winter Dressing

We try to go outside for each recess and we do monitor the weather carefully. Our students need fresh air and love to play outside. Students have two outside 25 minute recesses each day. All students



are expected to be outside for fresh air and activity. Thus, students must dress appropriately for winter weather. Thank you to all parents for providing hats, snowsuits, scarves, mittens and footwear for your children.

In the event of inclement weather, students will be supervised inside the school.

Bus/Taxi Cancellations

During times of inclement weather, please listen to our local radio stations: 1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM or 900 AM CHML, 107.9 FM CJXY, Oldies 1090 AM, 105.3 FM CHYM, 1150 AM CKOC, 102.9 FM CKLH, 820 AM CHAM, CKCO-TV for school transportation cancellations. Information on bus/taxi cancellations and school closures are also posted on the Upper Grand District School Board's website: www.ugdsb.on.ca.

If your child(ren) regularly travel(s) by bus, parents do not need to inform the school when the buses are cancelled. If, however, your child(ren) regularly walk to school, you are asked to leave a message on the 24 hr attendance line (519 827-1601 ext. 200) for any absence or late arrival.



PLEASE NOTE: On days when buses/taxis are cancelled, unless otherwise informed, the school will be open and a regular school program will be offered. Also, if parents of bus students drive their child(ren) in the morning, they must also pick them up at 3:20 p.m.

Extra Clothes

Now that our weather is turning considerably colder, it is a good idea to send along some extra clothes with your child. An extra pair of dry socks and an extra pair of mittens are always good things to have tucked into the backpack.



Weather for Safety Patrols

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.



Dates to Remember

February 15 th	Family Day	School Closed
March 14-18 th	March Break	School Closed
March 25 th & 28 th	Easter Break	School Closed
April 25 th	P.A. Day	No Classes
May 23 rd	Victoria Day	School Closed
June 3 rd	P.A. Day	No Classes
June 30 th	P.A. Day	No Classes

Lunch Options

Tired of preparing lunches? The Grade Eight class is selling lunches as a way to help with their fundraising for their Quebec trip. Orders can be placed online at www.lunchboxorders.com.



Swiss Chalet & the Shed Market (alternating Tuesdays).

Subs (from Subway) are available on Wednesdays for a cost of \$4.10 (4 inch) or \$4.45 (6 inch).

Choices: ham, turkey, turkey and ham, veggie.

Family Day Holiday

The Upper Grand District School Board will be observing Family Day on Monday, February 15th and our school will be closed. We hope you enjoy the day with your family!



March Break



Just a reminder that the March Break is **Monday, March 14th to Friday, March 18th**. School will resume on **Monday, March 21st**.



Head Lice Watch

Winter is the time of year when head lice is most common in our school. To try to keep it under control, we ask parents to periodically check their children's hair and inform the school if head lice are found.

Homework for Family Trips

We have reached the time of year when many families plan trips to exotic locations. This has become evident because the number of requests for homework from teachers has increased sharply. Parents are asking for work that their child(ren) will be missing so that they won't fall behind. Teachers are not always able to provide this advance work for students. A valid



alternative that parents should consider is having their child(ren) complete daily journals or researching local features. This is very practical and educational.

It also is something he/she can present to classmates and teachers when they return to school.

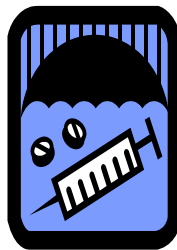
Sabrina's Law

Sabrina's Law, an Act to Protect Anaphylactic Pupils came into effect January 1, 2006. Each student with a life-threatening allergy must have a detailed Life Threatening Illness Management Plan. All staff have copies of these plans and have training in the administration of the epi-pen. Parent volunteers must be aware of these plans as well. If you are volunteering in a classroom, please check with your child's teacher about any students who have a Life Threatening Illness Management Plan.



Allergies

Many students suffer daily from allergies. Reactions to allergic substances vary from relatively mild irritations, such as itchy eyes, sneezing, scratchy throat, etc., to potentially fatal conditions where the sufferer experiences breathing problems and/or anaphylactic shock. A student who is allergic to peanuts often falls in this second category. There are students at Kortright Hills P.S. who react to nuts.



Please be aware that there may be restrictions in your child's class to protect a student with such an allergy. We ask you to abide by any restriction(s) that may be imposed in these cases and in the case of nuts or nut products; we ask that you avoid sending any to school. Thank you for your co-operation.



Concussion outside of school hours

A concussion is a type of brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. It can affect a student's performance in both school work and physical activities. Rest is very important after a concussion because it helps the brain heal. While a child has a suspected or diagnosed concussion, full participation in school academic and physical activities can worsen symptoms and make for a longer recovery period. In the best interest of your child, parents and guardians are requested to contact the principal when a suspected or diagnosed concussion occurs outside of school hours (i.e. during outdoor play, sports, or a car accident). The principal will work with you to develop a plan for an individualized, gradual return to full participation in school activities. For more information, visit www.ugdsb.on.ca/concussions.

Stay Well Month

Reduce the risk of serious infections - proper hand-washing is one of the best ways to avoid getting sick.
Stay home when you are sick and limit contact with others - Children should not be in school with a fever, undiagnosed rashes, vomiting, or diarrhea and should stay at home at least 24 hours following the end of symptoms.
Cover your mouth and nose - when you sneeze or cough; use a tissue or the bend of your elbow.
You can prevent many serious illnesses by keeping immunizations up-to-date for you and your children. Call 1-800-265-7293 for more information.

Class Disruptions

A major goal for staff is not to disrupt classes during the day. To assist them in this goal, the office will keep interruptions to a minimum. If parents are bringing in something for their child(ren), please bring these items to the office with their name and grade on it or complete the drop-off form provided in the office. These items will be distributed at recess breaks throughout the day. Parents picking up students are asked to come to the office and wait for their children to meet them.



Reminder

Adults entering the building are asked to come to the office and sign in. Please do not walk your child(ren) to their classroom without checking into the office first. If you are staying to volunteer or as a visitor, please pick up and wear the appropriate badge from the office.

Adults in our building who are not wearing a visitor's badge will be asked to return to the office to sign in.



Keeping Our Children and Youth Safe Online

Over the last few years, there has been a significant increase in the number of reported cases of young people involved in self/peer exploitation. This is generally defined as youth creating, sending or sharing sexual images and/or videos with peers via the Internet and/or electronic device. The Board recently purchased a resource for every elementary and secondary school called *Self/Peer Exploitation, School and Family Approaches to Intervention and Prevention*. The resource was created by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, which is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to promoting safety of all children. Principals and Vice Principals also received an in-service on the guide.

The following two links may assist youth and families who have been impacted by child sexual exploitation: **Cybertip.ca** may be used to report child sexual exploitation.

NeedHelpNow.ca is a website that offers find some practical information for youth on how to deal with this (for example, how to get pictures removed from the internet, how to deal with peers, how to talk with someone, etc.).

February, 2016 is international Safer Internet Day. Please consider using this day to talk to your child(ren) about internet safety. The Canadian Centre for Child Protection also produces several useful resources for parents that may be found using the following links:

https://www.cybertip.ca/pdfs/C3P_SafetySheet_SelfPeerExploitation_en.pdf

https://www.cybertip.ca/pdfs/C3P_SafetySheet_Cyberbullying_en.pdf

Chromebooks

The Upper Grand District School Board now has Chromebooks for student use in all 25 public libraries across the district. The program first launched in April at three pilot sites within the Wellington County

library system and has grown to include all 25 public library branches that serve our region.

Each branch has been outfitted with five Chromebooks that are available exclusively for Upper Grand students to access and complete their homework and assignments. For more information, visit the board website at ugdsb.ca.

Here is a link to the full story on the board news: http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/news_article.aspx?id=61593&blogid=32405

From School Council

If all this frigid weather has you thinking about spring, perhaps you may want to help the School Council plan the up-coming spring events. We are starting to plan for a "variety of activities" including a Multi-Cultural Event being held in May and the popular Ice Cream Social in June. Further details on both events will be sent home over the next couple of months.

The School Council is always looking for new people with new ideas on fundraising or other events. If you have an idea or suggestion for future fundraising initiatives we would like to hear about them. Even better, join us at a future meeting which is a great opportunity to connect with other parents and school administrators. Our next meeting is Monday February 22nd at 7:00 pm in the school library.





February 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Day 1	2 Day 2 Groundhog Day	3 Day 3 12:55 Mad Science	4 Day 4 JK/SK Vision Screening Cardboard Boat Races	5 Day 5	6
7	8 Day 1 Safe Internet Day Chinese New Year	9 Day 2 Pancake Tuesday	10 Day 3 12:55 Mad Science Ash Wednesday	11 Day 4 REPORT CARDS GO HOME Int. Basketball CCVI Gr 8 Parent Info Night CCVI 7-9 pm	12 Day 5 JK/SK, Gr 2 Dental Screening	13
14 Happy Valentine's Day ♥♥♥♥	15 FAMILY DAY SCHOOL IS CLOSED	16 Day 1	17 Day 2 12:55 Mad Science	18 Day 3	19 Day 4	20
21	22 Day 5 7:00pm School Council Meeting	23 Day 1	24 Day 2 12:55 Mad Science 6:30-8:30pm Performance Dance Club An Evening Of Arts & Entertainment	25 Day 3 Gr. 7/8 River Run	26 Day 4	27
28	29 Day 5 Gr. 8 Grad Pictures Police Presentations Gr 6 -8					