



Kortright Hills Public School

23 Ptarmigan Drive ♦ Guelph, Ontario ♦ N1C 1B5 ♦ (519)827-1601 ♦ Fax (519)827-9251

LEAD~LEARN~INSPIRE~TOGETHER

Wendy Donaldson, Principal
Della Broderick, Office Coordinator

Amy Ewing, Vice Principal
Linda Peyton, Administrative Assistant

Newsletter for October, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

I hope you have all enjoyed the sunshine this past month and that your child is feeling like they are getting into routines this year at Kortright. Things at school have been going quite well and many have indicated that they felt this was a smooth start, which is great news.

When Kortright staff work with our students in classrooms and during recess, they are working to regularly coach and model the new Board mission statement of *Lead~Learn~Inspire~Together*. At Kortright these words mean the following:

***Lead**-Share your gifts and support others to get better in your area of strength*

***Learn**-Be open to learn from others (all of us have areas we need to improve)*

***Inspire**-Work to motivate and inspire yourself and others.*

***Together**-You are not alone. A healthy community is one that works to support each other to be their best.*

One of the more difficult ones for our students is LEARN. They struggle to see mistakes as natural stepping stones to building understanding. They have a hard time "not knowing" or "not understanding" because it makes them feel vulnerable and not strong. We are working as a school to change that mindset in our students so that they understand it is a strength to determine what you don't know/don't understand and be willing to get help from others to grow.

As we do this work with our school population, I would invite parents and guardians to share any ideas they have to continue this work in our school as well as at

home. It takes a village to raise a healthy community and we appreciate your partnership in this work. Hope you have a great month and I look forward to seeing you around the school.

Wendy Donaldson
Principal



A Warm Welcome from the Library

Our library continues to be a very busy place. All classes have visited the library for orientation sessions and students are reading, reading, reading!

A special thank you to the 56 students who have volunteered to be a Library Helper this year. These Grade 6 - 8 students have begun training and will be invaluable in helping to keep our library well organized throughout the year.

Book clubs for Grade 4 - 8 students will begin in October. A variety of books will be provided to read and then students will be invited to meet during snack time to discuss the book that they have chosen. All students are welcome! Listen for announcements.

I ♥
Book Club

Thank you for your continued support of our library programs,



School Stuff

Cobra Creed

We greet each day and each other with kindness and appreciation.

We respect each other and our school.

We treat our peers, our teachers, and all others that work or visit here as we would like to be treated.

We respect the belongings, opinions, and learning of others, just as we respect ourselves.

We share, we listen, we work, and we play with fairness, compassion, and honesty.

We are responsible in our actions, our thoughts, and our commitment to do our best.

We demonstrate respect, learn with passion, and lead with integrity.

KHPS School Song

We, are the kids of Kortright Hills

We come to school each day,

To laugh and learn and play,

This is our home,

We'll shout it out and say:

Kortright Hills

We, are the kids of Kortright Hills

And when you look around our place.

You'll see a smile on every face

This is our home,

We'll shout it out and say:

Kortright Hills

We, are the kids of Kortright Hills

We show our spirit every day

In what we do and what we say,

Other schools watch out

When Cobras come to play:

"HISS"

Kortright Hills...Kortright Hills...**Kortright Hills...**

We are proud to be Kortright Cobras!

Dropping Off Items for your Child

Students are expected to come to school with their materials for the day. If you are dropping off something your child has forgotten, please leave it at the office, complete the drop-off form and we will ensure that your child receives this item during the next break.

Forms

Student Verification went home a few weeks ago. If you haven't already done so, please review any changes, sign and return them to school a.s.a.p.



Safety, Safety, Safety!

The front of the school is a very busy place between 8:30 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. and 3:35 p.m.

Buses, cars and students are prominent during these

times and parents are reminded to respect the safety measures that are in place.



The parking lots of the school are **not** to be used as drop off points

for our students. Parking is available in designated areas along Ptarmigan Drive, Merganser Drive and

Mallard Court. Parents are also reminded to have their children cross at the cross-walk at the front of the school, if they should be picking up on the other side of the street. During the first few days and weeks of school, we tend to not pay attention to the traffic and have had a couple close calls with students crossing Ptarmigan, not at the cross-walk, being encouraged by parents on the other side of the road.

We ask that you **not** block anyone's driveway when picking up your child(ren). Please be respectful of our neighbours.

Please choose safety over convenience!

Notifying the School of a Student Absence - Safe Arrival

The rules of the Safe Arrival program state that the school must know why a student is not present on any particular



day. This means that school office staff will continue to try to contact parents until one is reached; we sometimes make four or five calls for one child. This takes an inordinate amount of time and often stretches the office staffs' ability to carry out other duties. Please assist us in speeding this process up and calling when you know if your child(ren) is/are going to be late or absent. Messages can be left by phoning the school (519-827-1601) and choosing extension 200. Please send any notes or information about absences to the office as well as the teacher.

Late Arrivals

The curriculum is so packed now that teachers need to use every period they have to complete it. Lessons need to start on time. Late students disturb the lesson flow, because teachers have to re-teach to ensure the late student is brought up-to-date. The consequence to the class increases when students are repeatedly late for class. The policy for students arriving late for class is that the student must report to the office for a late slip.



Taking Students from School

To ensure student safety, if you are taking your child from school during the school day (appointments, etc.) you must come to the office and sign your child(ren) out after talking to a secretary. Students may not sign themselves out of school.

This is true for all students, including Intermediate students.



Home Safe

After being dismissed from class, either at lunch or at the end of the day, students are requested to go directly home or to a caregiver before proceeding to other activities. This includes playing after school on the playground. Please reinforce this message with your child.



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 severely react to nuts. As a result, 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. Parents of students with potentially life threatening allergies are asked to inform the school.** Thank you for your co-operation.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Kortright Hills students have decided to help fellow citizens of Guelph who are less fortunate by sponsoring a thanksgiving food drive this year. Collections for the Food Drive will begin Monday, October 5th till Friday, October 9th. All non-perishable items will be very much appreciated.

Medication at School

A reminder to parents; if your child requires medication during school hours, i.e., Puffers, Tylenol, allergy medicine or any other doctor prescribed medicine; you are required to fill out the proper paperwork giving permission to our administrative staff/school representative to administer the medication. Forms are available at the office. For security, all medication is kept in the office.



All prescription medication must be in the original container with the child's name and proper dosage clearly printed on the container.

Bus Behaviour

Students are expected to follow the rules of the bus, listen to the driver, remain in their seats, refrain from eating or drinking anything while on the bus, and follow the directions of the bus patrols when entering or exiting the bus.



Bus Reminder



Bus transportation is provided to students based on the distance their home is from the school. Such students are placed on a regularly scheduled bus route and **must** travel on this route and no other. Bus students may not switch buses for any reason. In addition, students who walk to school may **not** travel on a regularly scheduled bus route.



Student Picture Days

Personal student and class photos will be taken on Tuesday, October 20th.



Newsletters & Special Notices



Monthly school newsletters and special notices will be posted on our school website. Our newsletters will be posted at the end of every month.



www.ugdsb.on.ca/kortright.home.htm

School Council

If you are interested in helping in your child's classroom in a fun and creative way, consider volunteering with our Art Image program. This volunteer program exposes students in grades 1-6 to fine art by discussing works by well-known artists and doing an activity related to the artwork. It is not necessary to be creative, as all curriculum materials are provided. For more information about Art Image, contact Angela Krueger at akrueger@golden.net.



We held our first meeting in September and it was great to see many new parents joining School Council this year! The Council has undergone some changes this year with some new faces on the executive. We are looking to build upon the many successes from 2014/15 including an amazing Family Fun Day and the crazy popular Ice Cream Social.

Paul Clarke and Chad Newsome are your co-chairs on council. Paul has twin girls Acadia & Brianna in grade 2. Chad has a boy Nathan in grade 3. Chantalle Pellizzari is secretary and has 2 girls, Taliah in grade 3 and Addison in grade 1. The treasurer position is currently vacant as Janet Weigel who has held the position for many years is stepping down. If anyone is interested in taking over this position, please contact a member of Council.

The new executive and the rest of parent council would like to give their deepest thanks to Janet who served tirelessly for over 12 years. A special thanks also goes out to John Morton who served as Co-Chair last year.

Our next meeting will be Monday, Oct 19th at 7pm in the school library.



Blue Jay Fever

Have you caught Blue Jay Fever yet, or are you already thinking about the NHL pre-season? Maybe you're not a sports enthusiast, and instead are busy taking your children to dance, swimming or music lessons. Whatever the case, why not incorporate math into these afterschool activities? Here are some quick and easy connections to share with your children on those early mornings, after school or late night drives that connect math to our everyday lives.

1. **Batting average**

This number tells fans how many times a player gets a hit compared to the amount of times he gets up to bat. Simple division is used to figure out a batting average. For each game divide the number of hits the player gets by the number of times he is at bat. The answer should result in a decimal answer. (For example: Bautista gets up to bat 8 times, but he only hits 5 times. The equation would be 5 divided by 8 giving a batting average of 0.625.)

2. **Staying out of the penalty box**

Which fraction is largest: $5/4$, $4/3$, $3/2$ or $2/1$? If the Leafs have a 5 on 4 advantage, and Phaneuf has to decide whether to draw an opponent away from the play, it's important for him to know that $4/3$ is a larger fraction than $5/4$. Math tells us that 4 skaters have a better advantage over 3 than 5 skaters have over 4.

3. **Patterns in Music**

Musical pieces often have repeating choruses or bars, similar to patterns. In mathematics, we look for patterns to explain and predict the unknown. Music uses similar strategies. When looking at a musical piece, musicians look for notes they recognize to find notes that are less familiar. In this way, notes relate to each other. Relationships are fundamental to mathematics and create an interesting link between music and math. Listen carefully to the music next time. You'll definitely hear the patterns!

4. **Swimmingly Mathematical**

Speed of swim (measurement of distance and time), surface area of palm (area measurement of odd shape), kicking angle of the legs (trigonometry, angle), rhythm of the stroke (sequence, counting, pattern sector), and breathing (volume of air required, space measurement) are all about the math!

5. **The Science of Dance**

There's the symmetry (between arms and legs, but also between bodies and within a single body), counting, rhythm, momentum, mass, connection, sequence, and shape. Every area of math can be expressed with the human body.

Source: <https://www.google.ca>

Go Math Go! Go Math Go!

Chromebooks in your public library!



Upper Grand students can now get a Chromebook to do assignments after school, evenings and Saturdays



STUDENT PERSONAL INFORMATION ROUTINE USES AND/OR DISCLOSURES



If you have questions about this notice contact your principal or the Freedom of Information Coordinator, Upper Grand District School Board, 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, Ontario N1E 6K2, (519) 822-4420 ext. 721

The Upper Grand D.S.B. keeps **personal information to provide educational services**. Some examples of personal information are names, addresses, phone numbers and date of birth.

School boards have a duty under provincial law to protect personal information (*Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*). The *Act* requires that parents/guardians of students under the age of 16 (and students 16 years of age and older) be informed about how their personal information is used, disclosed and maintained.

All students have an **Ontario Student Record (OSR)**. The OSR is the record of a student's educational history and progress in Ontario. The school principal is responsible for the OSR. In addition to the OSR, we maintain secure electronic student records that contain personal information.

The personal information identified in this form is collected pursuant to the provisions of the *Education Act* including but not limited to sections 169.1-173

Information shared without notification

We will disclose your child's and or your personal information **without further notification to you** in the following ways:

- **If your child suffers from a life threatening medical condition**, a Life Threatening Management and Prevention Plan will be developed and shared with appropriate staff and transportation services.
- **The Board provides the Wellington-Dufferin–Guelph Public Health Unit** with the pupil's full name, address and telephone number; if applicable, every alternate name; gender; date of birth; school; Ontario Education Number; grade or class and the full name, address and telephone number of every parent of the pupil and their preferred language. (As per Regulation 645 made under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA))
- **Secondary schools will:**
 - receive information in advance about incoming grade 8 students
 - share information about individual student's progress with the student's previous elementary school
 - send information about potential graduates (contact information, marks and transcripts) to the Ontario College Application Services and the Ontario Universities Application Centre
- **Names and phone numbers** may be shared with school approved volunteers or parents for safety and information purposes.
Examples include:
 - emergency contact lists
 - safe arrival programs
 - school-related notices
 - safety patrol lists
- **Student names (first and last) and/or photographs** may be printed in school programs for plays and musical productions, on student awards and plaques and in school yearbooks. Some schools may display the names and/or photos of graduating students in their school.
- **Student names** may be included on their work displayed in classrooms or in hallways.
- **Video Recordings:**
 - **The board uses surveillance equipment** in some schools and on buses for safety reasons and property protection. The recording may be shared with authorities if necessary according to board policy.
 - **Video Recording or Photographs:** Board staff and board-approved professionals may **record or photograph** students in school or during school activities as part of their educational program or for assessment. Informed consent is required to share this information outside of the school. (*See below*)

- **Sharing Information with Agencies Working for the Board**

Personal information may be shared with approved agencies that assist the Board in providing educational and administrative services.

Examples include but are not limited to:

- transportation services (STWDSTS) to identify students who qualify for busing
- the Board insurance company and the Ministry of Labour if an **accident** takes place during school and /or on school-sponsored activities
- automated telecommunications provider to notify parents of upcoming events or that their child is absent from class
- school photographers who take individual and class photographs to sell to parents and students, for student identification cards and for school records
- vendors who provide online services to create school yearbooks
- vendors who provide specialized equipment, resources and training for special needs students
- Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association (OFSAA) for secondary students who participate on athletic teams
- service providers endorsed by the Board/Ministry of Education for online learning and educational administrative services (e.g., Homework Help, Desire2Learn, Maplewood, etc.)

What is informed consent?

To protect privacy, no personal information is provided to the public without informed consent.

A parent/guardian gives informed consent when they agree to the sharing of personal information, understand what will be shared, for what purposes it will be used, and who will receive the information.

Information for the General Public

Newspapers, television and radio stations may be invited to schools to report on activities such as graduations, student achievements/awards, and current events. Their reports may include only non-identifying photos of groups of students. Students are only **photographed and/or identified with informed consent**.

Note: If photography or video recording is permitted during events open to the public, such as school concerts or sporting events, it is generally not possible for the Board to control the use of such recordings. However, we kindly remind anyone who may be taking pictures that they are respectful of the privacy rights of anyone they may capture in their recording and that they not share them in any way without the consent of the individual or if the individual is under the age of 16 the consent of their parent or legal guardian.

When informed consent is required

Listed below are some examples of where informed consent is required before sharing or disclosing information:

- to school-based Psychological Services Staff (including Child and Youth Counsellors), Social Workers and Communication, Language and Speech Services staff
- when
 - photographs or videos are taken for educational purposes and are to be shared outside the school
 - students participating in video conferencing (two-way video and audio transmissions)
 - publicly displaying student work that includes their name
 - Identifying students by name and or photograph in school newsletters and on a class, school and/or board websites and other web services (e.g., Twitter, Facebook or teacher blogs or websites)

If you have concerns or questions about any of the information described above please contact your principal as soon as possible. The above will apply unless an objection is made in writing with the principal and an alternative solution found.



Monthly Environmental Newsletter Inserts



October's Environmental Theme: PROTECT OUR EARTH

This year we will challenge ourselves to LIVE green every day, because one small change one day at a time adds up to a world of difference. The environmental theme for September is sustainability. 'Sustainability' means protecting our Earth and using Earth's natural resources carefully, like forests, water, minerals, and fossil fuels.

Part of living in a sustainable way is using, buying and eating only what you really need. This saves resources and cuts down on waste too. For example, do you really need a new pencil case or pencil crayons or a brand new eraser every year, or do your old ones still work? Do you throw your leftover lunch items in the garbage at school, or do you take them home and eat them for a snack after school? Do you buy vintage clothing or wear hand-me downs? Do you eat meat every day, or do you eat vegetarian at least once a week, like those who have accepted the 'Meatless Monday Canada' challenge.

To find out how carefully you use the Earth's resources, Google the following words: "zero footprint calculator" and take the footprint calculator quiz. It will tell you how many Earths we would need to survive if everyone lived like you!

Slogan of the month: Sustainability – choosing to live better with less!

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents or guardians are responsible for expenses related to student injuries on school premises during school activities. Accidents can and do happen and the costs involved might not be fully covered by Provincial Health Care or employer group insurance plans.

The Upper Grand District School Board is empowered under the Education Act to offer Accident and Life Insurance for students.

Information has been sent home with respect to Student Accident Insurance offered by the Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada ("Old Republic"). You should receive the Director's letter, an Acknowledgment to be signed by parents (and returned to school) and a Student Accident Insurance Application form (to be mailed directly to Old Republic). Old Republic offers a variety of options, including family rates and multi-year plans, at affordable prices. The cost must be paid by parents or guardian.

Subscription is directly through Old Republic by mail or on line. Questions should be directed to Old Republic at 1-800-463-5437 or www.insuremykids.com

For today's active children, especially those who participate in field trips, co-curricular and other school activities outside the school day, Student Accident Insurance is valuable.

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)



The Upper Grand District School Board has established a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) in accordance with the Education Act. SEAC is made up of local parent representatives of Provincial Associations, two school trustees and interested local community representatives.

SEAC members receive orientation and training to become informed on important topics in Special Education:

- Sections of the Education Act relating to Special Education
- Regulations and Ministry memoranda
- Board policies regarding Special Education
- The Board Special Education Report
- Roles and responsibilities of SEAC
- The funding of Special Education

What does SEAC do?

- Makes recommendations for the establishment, development and delivery of Special Education programs and services for exceptional pupils in our Board.
- Participates in the Board's annual review of its Special Education Report.
- Participates in the Board's annual budget process and financial statement review as they relate to Special Education.
- Provides information to parents, as requested.
- Supports the Special Olympics Annual Track and Field day.

Procedures for Selecting Members

- nominations from local associations
- approaching local chapters of provincial associations for suggestions
- writing a presentation that can be shared with parent councils, families of schools, etc. to get the information about SEAC into the community

Meeting Times and Dates

The SEAC meets on a regular basis. Meetings occur on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Upper Grand District School Board office at 500 Victoria Road North, in the Board room. Meetings are open to the public. Members of the public should contact Program Services (Krystyna Gazo at 519-941-6191 ext. 254) to confirm the time, date and location of the meetings.

Further information regarding SEAC, as well as Special Education in Upper Grand District School Board can be found on the [UGDSB Special Education Plan.](#), as well as the [Board website](#)