



Kortright Hills Public School

23 Ptarmigan Drive,

Guelph, Ontario N1C 1B5 (519)-827-160 Fax (519) 827-9251

Wendy Donaldson, Principal

Della Broderick, Office Coordinator

Amy Ewing, Vice Principal

Linda Peyton, Office Assistant

Newsletter for September, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome Back!!!! I hope you have had a wonderful summer and that you have had some time to put your feet up and enjoy time with family and friends!

There has been lots of activity at the school over the summer preparing our site for the fall. I would like to formally thank our custodial team for the work they have done to get us ready for the school year: the school looks incredible. I would also like to thank the educational team for their ongoing preparations for our students-we are excited to get started on another school year at Kortright!

When people arrive at school you will notice a new kindergarten playground structure that has been funded by our playground committee based on fundraising dollars. It looks wonderful. Thank you to Brandy from Council for leading this committee as well as to the community for your ongoing support to enhance our school community for our students and neighbouring groups.

As we head into the fall, I hope everyone has a great start and I look forward to seeing you at school.

Wendy Donaldson
Principal, Kortright Hills P.S.



We would like to welcome new staff Mrs. Peyton and Mr. Ackroyd to Kortright Hills!!!

Going off Property at Lunch

We have made a change this year for our lunch time procedures. Students will not be allowed to leave school property for lunch unless they are heading home or being picked up by a parent. This means that students will not be able to sign out with friends and go to buy Pizza or go to the Hasty Market over the lunch hour. Having students, who do not regularly go home for lunch, stay at school enables us to be able to supervise them at school as well as ensure their safety during the school day.

Agendas

Our School Council works very hard to support programs within the school. This year they have contributed \$500 towards student agendas, to help our students be more independent and responsible for their learning. To offset the cost of the agendas this year students are asked to contribute \$4. Please forward this money to the school. We encourage you to get involved in our school community, and we truly appreciate the support that all parents give to making our school a great place to be!

Library News

Welcome back to the library!

I hope everyone had a relaxing summer and was able to read a good book or two. I have heard from the Guelph Public Library Bookmobile that many of our students participated in their summer reading challenge. Congratulations! I would love to hear about the books you read. Are there any that you think we should add to our library collection? The Bookmobile will continue to visit our school every other Thursday from 3:00 -



5:00 pm. Bring your library card and check out books, movies, games, and more. Don't have a Guelph Public Library card? Ask your parent to come too and they can sign you up for one.

Did you know that you can visit the Guelph Public Library website and request books and other items to be delivered when the Bookmobile visits? This is a great way to access the wide variety of materials that are available. Visit the GPL online to learn more about the many exciting programs that are offered.
<http://www.library.guelph.on.ca/>

Our school library will be open to students beginning the second week of school. All classes will be invited to attend a library orientation session and then students may begin to check out books. Parents are welcome to drop by the library to check out our Parent Resource section. These books may be checked out under your child's name.

Sheila Morgan
 Teacher Librarian
sheila.morgan@ugdsb.on.ca
 Library website:
<https://sites.google.com/a/ugcloud.ca/khpslibrary-learning-commons/>

School Stuff

Classes

Each year many students move in and out of our school. This can sometimes impact the numbers in our classrooms. The classes your child(ren) have started the school year in are considered temporary until we have determined the population changes for the 2015-16 school year. If changes need to be made, as directed by the Board, school administration at the school will contact parents directly to work through this process.

Bell Times

Kortright Hills will be following a balanced day schedule. **Please note that there will be no Intermediate Bell and the Nutritional Break/Recess times have changed.** The balanced day schedule is as follows:



Time	Event
8:50 a.m.	School Starts
8:50 - 9:40 a.m.	Instructional Time
9:40 - 10:30 a.m.	Instructional Time
10:30 - 11:15	Nutritional Break/Recess
11:15 -12:05 p.m.	Instructional Time
12:05-12:55 p.m.	Instructional Time
12:55-1:40 p.m.	Nutritional Break/Recess
1:40 - 2:30 p.m.	Instructional Time
2:30 - 3:20 p.m.	Instructional Time
3:20 p.m.	Dismissal

2015-2016 School Calendar

We have attached a copy of the 2015-2016 school year calendar with this newsletter. You may wish to print a copy and keep it in a handy place to allow you to make a reference to it when making vacation plans and arranging babysitting on PD days next year.



School Staff

Below is a listing of staff and their voice mail extensions:

Mr Ackroyd	2/3	#306
Mr. Adamo	Junior Core French	#300
Ms. Andrews	6A	#312
Mrs. Astins	Custodian	
Mrs. Awad	3/4B & Resource	#309
Mr. Beaumont	Custodian	#331
Mrs. Bechtel	1A	#430
Ms. Bowden	2B	#343
Ms. Brindle	8A	#327
Ms. Broderick	Office Co-ordinator	#221
Mr. Cade	Gr. 1-8 Music	#308
Ms. Cameron	KB	#304
Mrs. Collins	1B	#321
Mrs. Di Ilio	2A	#305
Ms. Donaldson	Principal	#223
Ms. Ewing	Vice Principal	#224
Mrs. Farrow	4A	#337
Mrs. Fulton	3A	#332
Mr. Hemsley	Planning	#322
Ms. Hunt	Child & Youth Counsellor	#227
Ms. Jameson	Resource	#345
Ms. Jones	7A/Int. Core French	#346
Mr. Keunen	4/5C	#323
Mrs. Mason	8B	#339
Mrs. McCreight	E.A.	
Mr. Minogue	7B	#425
Mrs. Moreau	5A	#412
Mrs. Morgan	Teacher Librarian/Planning	#340
Mrs. Petersen	Phys. Education	#311

Ms. Pettit	E.C.E.	
Mrs. Peyton	Admin. Assistant	#200
Mrs. Phelan	KA	#302
Mrs. Snell	6B	#301
Mrs. Zanyk	3/4B & Resource	#336

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!

Guelph Police Reminder

Parents/guardians are reminded that the Guelph Police Service will be patrolling all school zones in the City of Guelph on a consistent basis and will levy fines to motorists not obeying traffic rules. Please note that there are reduced speed limits in the school zone.

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.) parents are asked to come to the office and sign your child(ren) out. If you would like your child to leave school on their own and travel to an appointment, please call the school in advance to let us know or leave a message in the morning on the attendance line.



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.

Dress Code



This is just a brief reminder about our dress code and what constitutes appropriate attire - for all grade levels. We ask students to dress appropriately at all times. Muscle shirts, spaghetti straps, and low-scooped necklines are not permitted. Bare midriffs and backs are unacceptable. Shorts and skirts must be a reasonable length. Undergarments should not be visible.

Electronics



It is strongly suggested that parents/students make a cooperative decision about their child bringing items of value (IPad/iPod, MP3 players, Nintendo DS, cell phones, sentimental items, etc.) to school. These items are attractive and the school will not accept responsibility for their safety.



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.



Interested in Volunteering?

There are many volunteer opportunities within the school...helping in the library, reading with students, preparing materials, helping in many ways in the classroom. If you would like to volunteer, please contact your child's teacher or call the office.

Also, if you are available to assist as a volunteer on a school field trip, your help as a supervisor would be greatly appreciated. Occasionally, when a class trip is planned, an insufficient number of parent volunteers are available to help supervise the trip. If you would be interested in



offering your services as a volunteer on a class trip, beyond your child's class, should the need arise, please contact the office and let Ms. Broderick or Mrs. Peyton know your availability.

Roller Shoes

The Board of Education has expressed deep concerns about the use of roller shoes on school property. Their concern stems from a number of accidents involving individuals wearing shoes with rollers imbedded in the soles. As a result, such shoes are **not** to be worn on school property.



Student Accident Insurance

As a parent or guardian, you are responsible for expenses related to student injuries on school premises or during school activities. Accidents can and do happen, and the costs involved may 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 will be sent home with respect to Students Accident Insurance offered by the Reliable Life Insurance Company. 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 Reliable Life). Reliable Life Insurance Company 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 Reliable Life by mail or on line. Questions should be directed to Reliable Life at 1-800-463-KIDS (5347) 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. You can find additional information on the Board's website at www.uqdsb.on.ca

Forms

Student Verification forms will be going home this week. Please review any changes, sign and return them to school by Friday, September 18, 2015



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

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, and we will ensure that your child receives this item during the next break.

ONLINE PAYMENTS!

Benefits:

- Convenient:** Make payments anytime...Online!
- Easy to Use:** Fill a shopping cart and check out.
- Safe:** No need to send cash or cheques to school.
- Secure:** Our website is protected and PCI compliant.
- Save Time:** It takes less than 5 minutes to register.

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. School related expenses such as pizza days, field trips, spirit wear, yearbooks, etc. will be available for online purchase. More information will be available soon.



Scouts Canada

Beaver Scouts (ages 5,6,7)

Cub Scouts (ages 8,9,10)

Scouts (ages 11,12,13)

Venturer Scouts (ages 14-17) meet in the gym at Kortright Hills Public School.

Registration for new members will be Thursday September 10th at 7pm in the community room at the side of the school. Interested parents can email 26thguelph@w.scouter.ca or call 519-821-6948.

From School Council

Welcome back to all returning and new students and parents to Kortright Hills. The Council is involved in many aspects of school life including the food programs, special events and fundraising. We meet once a month on Monday evenings at 7pm in the school library. Meetings are generally about one hour long. The first Council meeting of the year will be held on **Monday September 21st**

A huge "Thank you" to the parents of Kortright Hills who have contributed over the past couple years in our fundraising programs for the kindergarten area. We are happy to announce the installation of a new three panel activity area that we know the kids will have a great time making music on, rolling marbles and having imagination play.

We look forward to another great year at KHPS!"

Health & Physical Ed Curriculum

In September the new Health and Physical Education curriculum will be fully implemented in Ontario schools. For elementary schools, the new curriculum has existed for several years, but will now include an updated portion of its 'Healthy Living' component to include Human Development and Sexual Health. The document as a whole aims to educate children to understand themselves and others, think critically to make healthy choices, develop and maintain healthy relationships, be safe physically and emotionally, and to be physically active for life. The curriculum is available on the Ministry of Education's website. The Human Development and Sexual Health component of the curriculum had not been updated since 1998. Since then much has changed and kids need to know more to keep themselves healthy and safe. This education starts with children learning about themselves, their feelings, their bodies and about showing respect for themselves and others in a reliable and accurate way. This learning is most effective when parents and schools work together. Parents help their children form values about relationships and their behaviours. Teachers will endeavour to communicate upcoming topics from the Human Development and Sexual Health units to families. Open and honest conversations at home about body parts, their functions, physical changes, healthy relationships and effective living habits help children connect learning and lets them know they have someone to talk to about questions they might

WELCOME BACK KORTRIGHT HILLS STUDENTS

have. Questions about topics can always be directed to the teacher or school principal.

As mentioned above, Human Development and Sexual Health is one sub-component of the curriculum. The document also focuses on skills related to Active Living, which involves physical fitness, safety and active participation; Movement, which teaches specific movement and physical activity skills and tactics; and Healthy Living, which focuses on understanding health concepts, making healthy choices and making connections to healthy living.

There are plenty of ways you can support your children's learning from the Health and Physical Education curriculum. Consider what you and your child can do together that is fun and healthy. Enjoying physical activity or making meals together is a great start. Ask your child and their teacher about what is being taught and have discussions where you provide factual, straightforward answers to your child's questions. Finally, learn how to be safe online and use that information to guide your child's use of any device that connects to the internet. There are plenty of resources available for parents to support the learning from the HPE curriculum. The best place to start is the Ministry of Education's website:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/health.html> or at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/sex-education-ontario>.

Public Health

International Walk to School month (IWALK) is an annual global event taking place each October.

It celebrates active transportation and its benefits such as: increasing physical activity, decreasing traffic congestion, improving safety, developing a sense of community, promoting social interaction, and preserving the environment.



International Walk to School Day October 7th
IWALK week is October 5-9 or
Walk/wheel to school all month!

It is important to keep your child's immunization records up-to-date with Public Health. Students who do not have up-to-date immunization records, may be suspended from school. Please report your child's immunizations to Public Health by calling 1-800-265-7293 ext.4396.

Do you believe that all children can excel in mathematics?

Do you believe that children are born with the math gene?

Do you believe that children can suffer from math anxiety?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then please take a moment and continue reading.

This year our work in math will continue to focus on helping your children understand that math is about learning, not performing. Research indicates that every time any one of us makes a mistake in math our brains grow and connections are made¹. We need to help our children understand that making mistakes is not a 'bad' thing. Making mistakes is how we understand and get better at math.

At school, we want to help your children understand that math is about problem solving, reasoning and proving, making connections, communicating their thinking and persisting when tasks are challenging. We want to help them adopt an "I Can do Math" attitude.

In order for this to happen, we need to teach math differently than the way many of us were taught. No longer is the teacher robotically demonstrating mathematical methods that your children don't understand or care about.

Sebastian Thru, CEO of Udacity, says that we do not and cannot know what mathematics students will need in the future. The best preparation we can give them is to teach them to be quantitatively literate, think flexibility and creatively and pre-solve and use intuition as they develop mathematical ideas². Math is about so much more than plugging numbers into a formula. Math is about children actively engaging with the problems, so that they understand how math is used in their own life. We need to teach our children to use mathematics in the world they will live in now and tomorrow. We're not sure what that world will look like, although we do know that it will be different from the world we grew up in. We also know that we want our students to love math and say with confidence "I can do math". As parents we think you want that too!

For ideas to support your children in math go to www.YouCubed.org

UGDSB Curriculum Department

1. International Journal of Environmental & Science Education 7, no.1 , January 2012
2. What's Math Got to Do With It, Jo Boaler, 2015

UGDSB – ELEMENTARY School Year Calendar 2015- 2016

Legend: **H** - Statutory Holiday Schedule **P** - Professional Activity Day **B** - Board Designated Holiday

*** 1st day back to School for Students – September 8, 2015**

Month	1 st Week					2 nd Week					3 rd Week					4 th Week					5 th Week				
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August 2015	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
September 2015		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30		
October 2015				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
November 2015	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30				
December 2015		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
January 2016					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
February 2016	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29				
March 2016		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
April 2016					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
May 2016	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
June 2016			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
July 2016					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29