



Kortright Hills Public School

23 Ptarmigan Drive, Guelph Ontario N1C 1B5

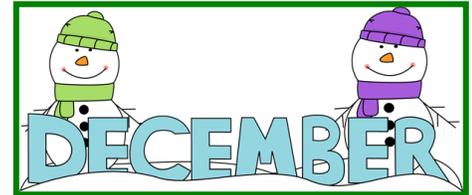
Farhan Hussain, Principal
Della Broderick, Office Coordinator

Hanna Morris, Vice Principal
Lee Davis, Administrative Assistant

Newsletter for December 2017

From the Principal's Desk:

Season's Greetings



November has been a month full of wonderful things. As I visit classrooms I see great things happening, for example guided reading groups, math problem-solving, writing, and music just to mention a few. Here are some events from November: Remembrance Day, school-wide Anti-Bullying Week and Treaty Recognition Week.

The school is bustling with holiday spirit and activities to celebrate this special time of year. There has been a lot of great thinking throughout all of our classes, and in all of the subject areas. We are impressed with how hard our students are working and persevering. On page 7 you will see all the great things happening at our school. Go Cobras!!

The Winter Break is only a few weeks away! I hope that everyone has a safe and restful holiday. Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

From School Council

Thank you to all who volunteered and all of those who supported the dance-a-thon. \$3108 was raised for the Library Learning Commons!

Join fellow parents and students at Family Fun Day on December 2 from 10-1 in the gym! This always popular event features a bake sale, pizza, raffles and crafts!

- The Family Fun Day Raffle proceeds to Children's Foundation and Food and Friends,
- Bake sale table proceeds to families in the school community in need,
- Poinsettia proceeds to naturalization of our schoolyard.

Parent council meets on a monthly basis in the library, all are welcome to attend. Email kortrightpc@gmail.com for information on our next meeting.



Pizza La Villa

Just a reminder for every pizza order from Pizza La Villa on a Monday or Tuesday night, if you mention KHPS, \$2.00 goes towards the schools recess equipment fund.



Dance-a-thon update

On behalf of the staff and students, we would like to thank School Council for supporting our Library Learning Commons by organizing and running the Spooktacular Danceathon on Hallowe'en. We also appreciate the generous support of our Kortright Hills families and community. The Danceathon was a very successful event, raising \$3108.45.

This year the decision was made to hire a DJ, which was a great addition to the event! Students and staff both commented on how professional the dance was with the sound system and lights. We hope your children enjoyed their time at the Danceathon and had fun dancing with their classmates!

Winners of the individual prizes were announced on November 3rd and Mrs. Farrow's Grade 4 class enjoyed their pizza party! Thank you for your continued support of our school and library programs.

Holiday Assemblies

Holiday Assemblies will be held on **Thursday, December 21st and Friday, December 22nd** starting at 9:00 a.m. in the gym. Please feel welcome to attend. More info will follow later in the month.

Anti-Bullying at KHPS

Kindness – it is a word that means so much! Whether it is stopping to help a friend, holding the door open for another person, or using nice words to solve a problem, kindness is important not only at school, but in the world around us. We all play a role in helping students to develop this skill.

By working together, we can help all students to see the importance of kindness, and the benefits that come when we interact positively with one another.



Important information about Kindergarten Registration this January

We're getting ready to welcome our newest group of little learners to the school! Kindergarten registration for the 2018-19 school year takes place from **January 9 to 19, 2018**.



New this year: All Junior and Senior Kindergarten students new to the UGDSB must pre-register online. (SK students attending a UGDSB school for JK do not need to pre-register online).

Pre-registering online between January 9 - 19 will save families time by allowing you to fill out important forms and documentation when it's convenient for you. Once you've pre-registered online, parents/guardians must go into their child's home school before the Jan. 19th deadline, in order to drop off documentation and complete their registration. **You must bring your child's birth verification and his/her immunization record and proof of address to register to the school.**

Please note that all parents hoping to register their child for JK French Immersion must complete their registration document verification by Jan. 19 at 4 p.m. For more information on how to register and the JK French Immersion selection process, please visit www.ugdsb.ca/jkregistration.

Parents, Mark Your
Calendars...



Kindergarten Registration for September 2018 is Just Around the Corner.

The UGDSB will be hosting registration information evenings to share our ***new online registration process*** for both English and French Immersion JK and new SK students. Parents are welcome to attend any evening that suits them.

Kindergarten Registration Information Nights

Monday November 27th, JD Hogarth P.S., 7 p.m.
Wednesday November 29th, Westminster Woods P.S., 7 p.m.
Monday December 4th, Palmerston P.S., 7 p.m.
Thursday December 7th, Mono Amaranth P.S., 7p.m.
Monday December 11th, King George P.S., 7p.m.

For more Registration information visit www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten
Registration will occur January 9-19, 2018 at your home school.



KHPS gives back to the community

1. Me to We Team – We make hats and scarves over the next few weeks to donate to the Shelldale Centre and around downtown Guelph on our annual “Chase the Chill” trip in the end of January.

2. Adopt –a – Family – Thank you for all the donations from our Primary and Junior students. Our two families will have a great Christmas. Also thank you to the Intermediates who will be fundraising to support 2 independent youth.

3. Global School of Service - As a “Global School of Service”, our students have set two volunteering school goals for this year: one, to ask all of our students and their families to volunteer at least one hour in the community and two, to volunteer more than 150 hours as a school. Several of our intermediate students collected food for Halloween for our “We Scare Hunger” campaign and several more volunteered on a Saturday in our school gym for the “Boonanza” event. We also handed out flyers around the neighbourhood offering to rake lawns for free and several junior/intermediate students gave up their recesses to rake 15 lawns in the last few weeks. We are thrilled to announce that we have already surpassed our 150 hours goal.....but the volunteering will continue until the end of June!

Next on our volunteering list? Several students will be helping out with the Santa Claus parade and helping the Salvation Army to pack holiday hampers. (You can still sign up to do this as a family too!) Now that winter is upon us, we plan to have teams of junior/intermediate students go next door to the townhouse complex during the recess times to help shovel snow for those people who need assistance.

We are still collecting ideas for how our students, staff, and families can volunteer in the community this year! Please send your ideas in!! When you do volunteer with your kids, please take a photo and send it in so we can add it to our ever-growing photo collection in the front hall (no names will be posted). Thanks a million for your help!



Welcome from the Library

Have you completed your Christmas shopping yet? Books make great gifts!

The Scholastic Book Fair arrives November 30th. Students will be visiting the Library on Friday, December 1st for a preview, and sales will begin after school. The Book Fair will be open on Saturday, December 2nd during the Family Fun Day event and will continue until December 6th.

Friday, December 1st 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Saturday, December 2nd 10 am - 1 pm Family Fun Day
Monday, December 4th 8:00 am - 10:30 am 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Tuesday, December 5th 8:00 am - 10:30 am 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Wednesday, December 6th 8:00 am - 10:30 am

Thanks in advance for supporting our Literacy fundraiser which will help us to continue to provide a variety of books for students to access through the Library, as well as providing our staff with high quality resources and literacy materials to support learning in the classroom. A special thank you to the students who have volunteered to help with the Book Fair. I couldn't do it without each one of you! Thank you!

Our Library Learning Commons is a busy place!

Thank you to School Council and to our students & families who supported our Library Learning Commons Danceathon fundraiser! The funds will be used to allow us to continue to offer a wide variety of learning opportunities for our students; including the Forest of Reading program, tech clubs, and makerspace.



**Forest of
Reading**[®]

by the Ontario Library Association

Forest of Reading nominations for 2018 have been released!

Our school will be participating again this year, beginning in January. All students from JK - 8 will be invited to participate. Copies of each of the 50 nominated books by Canadian authors have been ordered for our collection. Please visit the library website to view the lists of nominated titles.

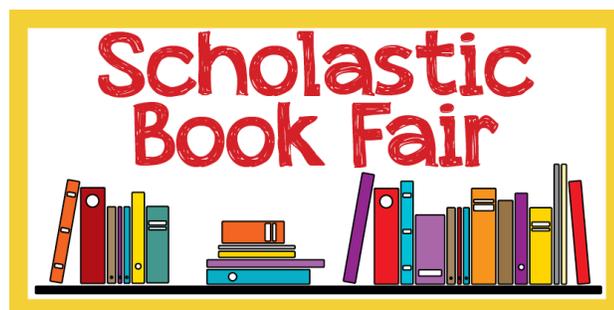
Thank you for your continued support of our Library Learning Commons,

Sheila Morgan

Teacher Librarian

sheila.morgan@ugdsb.on.ca

<http://bit.ly/KHPSLLC>



Grade 8 Parent Night/Open House at College Heights



College Heights Secondary School

371 College Ave. West, Guelph Ontario N1G 1T3

Location – College Heights

Audience - Grade 8 students and parents

Date - Thursday, January 18th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Any questions can be directed to Marian Box at 519 821 4510 x 305



Centennial Collegiate Vocational Institute

289 College Avenue West, Guelph Ontario N1G 1S9

Grade 8 Parent Night/Open House – Thursday, February 8th

More info to come in the New Year

It's About Your Feet!

The snowy season is soon upon us and many of our children have started to wear boots. It is very important that students have both indoor and outdoor footwear. Students cannot wear their boots or muddy and wet outdoor shoes into the classrooms. Without appropriate footwear our students may slip and fall and in the case of a fire (or fire drill) many of our students would be in sock feet outside. Please ensure that your child(ren) has an inside pair of running shoes or other shoes with a non-slip sole. Thank you for your assistance and co-operation!



Lost and Found

Items will be on display in the main foyer on Saturday, December 2nd during our Christmas Family Fun Day. Please take a look to see if any of your children's lost clothing has been found. Any items remaining after Thursday, December 21 will be taken to the Salvation Army.

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. 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!

Inclement Weather

It is the parents' responsibility to determine whether or not it is safe for their 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 he/she knows what to do and where to go if the bus is more than 15 minutes late.

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

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: <https://www.ugdsb.ca/>.

If your child(ren) regularly travel(s) by bus, parents **DO NOT** need to inform the school of their child(ren's) absence when the buses/taxis are cancelled. If, however parents of bus students drive their child(ren) in the morning, they must also pick them up at 3:20 p.m.

For students who walk to school, you are asked to leave a message on the 24 hr attendance line (519 827-1601 ext. 200) to inform the school of any absence or late arrival during bus/ taxi cancellations.

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.

REGISTER FOR BUS and SCHOOL CANCELLATION NOTIFICATION

As a parent of a student in our school you can have bus cancellation and school closure notifications sent to your email by registering at "Find My School".

Here are the steps:

1. Go to <https://www.findmyschool.ca/Default.aspx>
2. Click on "Delays and Cancellations" in the top right hand corner of the screen
3. Click on "Subscriptions"
4. Create an account, using your email address that is forwarded directly to your phone or device
5. Follow the prompts to choose your child(ren)'s school or route #'s for cancellations/school closures/general notices that you want to have forwarded to your email address
6. Sit back and wait for the emails to arrive in your inbox on uncertain weather days



Playground Safety

Our play structures are now closed for the season. They will reopen at the beginning of April or when the ground thaws out in the spring.

Safety Patrollers & Winter

As the chilly weather fast approaches, the school safety officers provide hot chocolate as a special treat to street patrollers on duty. In order for students to take advantage of this special offer, they must bring in an insulated mug with a lid, to be kept at school until the March Break. Please bring in a mug when it is your safety patrol week.



Snowballs

With the cold weather comes the falling of snow. Snow is a very fun part of the winter season for our students; however, it can generate trouble if it is not used appropriately. Please help us remind our students that snow stays on the ground at school.



Great things happening at Kortright Hills PS.

Clubs, Extra Curricular	Time	Staff In Charge
Safety Patrol	Before and after school	H. Morris
Milk Monitors Grade 6	Both Breaks	H. Morris
Library Helpers (Gr. 6 - 8)	Morning recess each day	S. Morgan
Kortright Puppet Team (3-8)	Day 1	V. Jameson
Lego Club	Day 4	V. Jameson
ECO Leaders (5-8)	Day 5, first break	K. Jones, C.Dykstra
ME TO WE (5-8)	Day 2, first break	V. Jameson, C.Dykstra
Chess Club (1-8)	Day 1, both breaks	S. Morgan
Coding Club (1-8)	Day 4, first break	S. Morgan
Robotics Club (1-8)	Day 3, second break	S. Morgan
Video/Animation Club (1-8)	Day 2, both breaks	S. Morgan
Writer's Circle (6-8)	Day 3, first break	K. Jones, A. Leader
Concert Band		R. Cade
Intermediate Volleyball Tournament	Late November-Early December	G. Ackroyd, C. Andrews
Arts & Crafts Workshop (4-6) -Origami Ornaments	December, Day 4, 2nd break	H. Vandahl
Primary Games Club	Late November - March Day 3	S. Bowden
Cobra Choir (1-5)	Day 1, first break	S. Phelan

Talking About Mental Health, December 2017

Taking Care of Ourselves and Our Families

As we head through December and towards the holidays, it is important to be aware that this can be a very exciting time of year, but for some it is also a difficult time of year. Here are some tips and resources to make sure that you and your family have a safe and mentally healthy holiday season.

Self-care

What do you do to support or take care of yourself? What do your children/youth do?

It is important to look after yourselves:

- exercise
- sleep well
- eat well
- reach out to and spend time with family & friends
- reading, writing
- music, art
- spend time with pets
- spend time outside

Stay connected

- Have dinner together as a family, no phones or devices
- Plan a family outing to a friend's or a park or a local event
- Have friends or family over for a game night
- Have a family movie or game night
- Take a few moments each day as a family to say what you are all grateful for
- Volunteer at the foodbank or other community organization as a family

Signs to look for that someone is struggling

Sometimes it's hard to tell that someone is suffering. Here are some signs that someone is struggling.

- not coming to school or work
- not engaging with friends or family
- not participating in activities that they used to enjoy
- withdrawing
- feeling hopeless
- increase use of drugs or alcohol
- changes in behaviour
- anger/irritability

Getting help

If you, your child/youth or someone you know is struggling, it is important to know where to reach out for help.

Who would you talk to if you were distressed, overwhelmed or struggling? Take a moment to make a list of at least 3 people or resources you would reach out to.

Who would your child/youth talk to if they were upset, overwhelmed or struggling? Take a moment to sit down with your child/youth and ask them who they would talk to. Put the kidshelpphone and HERE247 or DCAFS number in their phones (see below).

All children and youth need caring adults in their lives to talk to about their feelings. Parents/guardians can be some of those caring adults, but it is important for the children/youth to have other caring adults in their lives such as:

- Family members, friends of the family
- School staff (teachers, guidance counsellors, principals, child and youth counsellors, social workers, librarian, custodial staff)
- Coaches, instructors
- Spiritual or religious community
- Community members (police, family doctors, librarians, etc.)

Who you can call for mental health support:

- Here 24/7 (for crisis and support with mental health or addiction concerns in Guelph/Wellington)
<http://here247.ca/> 1.844.437.3247
- Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS) (for crisis and mental health supports for children/youth in Dufferin)
<https://dcafs.on.ca/> 519.941.1530
- Kids Help Phone <https://kidshelpphone.ca/> 1.800.668.6868
- Your family physician or family health team

Have a mentally healthy holiday season!

Dr. Lynn Woodford is the Mental Health Lead for Upper Grand District School Board

Follow me on twitter: @drlynnwoodford

Monthly environmental activities to help celebrate our planet



December 10th is HUMAN RIGHTS Day!

*“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects & enhances the freedom of others”
- Nelson Mandela*



Celebrate Human Rights Day on December 10th!

Human Rights Day calls on everyone to stand up for someone's rights. It starts with each of us. Step forward and defend the rights of someone whose voice is not being heard. Recognize that human rights include the right for all of us to have access to clean water, unpolluted air and healthy food. <http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/>

Simple yet meaningful ways for your family to celebrate the rights and responsibilities that we all share as human beings!

- **Learn about how children live in other parts of the world.**
- **Read the book: We Are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Pictures** by Amnesty International.
- **Read the Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights.** Decide if there is a cause your family wants to support, or an Ecojustice action you want to take on.

- **Talk to someone you know who is from another country.** Where are they from? What was their life like there? What language did they speak? Did they go to school? What do they miss? What do they like about their new country?
- **Start a tradition of doing a family service project on Human Rights Day.** There are many opportunities to volunteer, such as preparing and serving meals at a local homeless shelter or simply gathering enough to put together a bunch of care packages of simple needs and necessities.
<https://humanrightswarrior.com>

“For the bigger picture we can (and should) do what we can to fight injustice. But on a smaller scale, in the day-to-day, practicing kindness can help knit a web of compassion to give humanity a boost of resilience” by Melissa Breyer

book fair

Proceeds to the KHPS library

In the library
10am - 1pm



poinsettias

Your orders are available for pick up in the gym on Family Fun Day.



musical entertainment

10:30 - Grade 3 Orff

11:00 - Primary Choir

11:30 - School Band



CHRISTMAS Family FUN DAY

Saturday, December 2nd, 2017
10am - 1pm in the gym



RAFFLE

Raffle Tickets for Sale
1 for \$1 • 3 for \$2
10 for \$5 • 30 for \$10

Draw at 12:30pm!
(You do not have to be present to win a prize)

All proceeds from the raffle table will support

Food and Friends
and
The Childrens Foundation of Guelph and Wellington

gingerbread lane



Draw for houses will take place at school on Friday Dec. 1st

Winners can pick up their masterpieces after 12:30pm on Family Fun Day.

refreshments

Coffee and Hot Chocolate from Tim Hortons



Pizza from Pizza LaVilla (11am)

bake sale

Cupcakes, Cookies, Cake pops and more!



Net proceeds from the Bake Sale and Refreshment Counter will be donated to local families in need.

December 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Book Fair Opens 3-4:30 pm 	2 Family Fun Day & Book Fair Open 10-1
3	4 Book Fair Open: 8-10:30am & 3-4:30 pm	5 Book Fair Open: 8-10:30am & 3-4:30 pm	6 Book Fair Open: 8-10:30am	7 Book Fair Orders Arrive	8	9
10 Human Rights Day	11	12 Tentative Intermediate Boys Volleyball Tournament (Gym)	13 Chanukah Begins	14	15	16
17	18	19 Gr 5 Bullying Assembly 11-12 Library Gr 1 Traffic Safety 11-12	20 Chanukah Ends	21 Holiday Assembly 9 am	22 Holiday Assembly 9 am	23 
24 	25 Merry Christmas 	26 Kwanzaa Begins Boxing Day	27	28	29	30
Winter Break – No School						
31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6
Winter Break – No School						

First day back – January 8, 2018