

PAISLEY ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL – FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2019

Proud Responsible, Striving for Excellent



Feir, Responsible Viser l'Excellence

INCLEMENT WEATHER

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 posted on the Upper Grand District School Board's website: www.ugdsb.on.ca

Be sure to sign up for notification of bus delays or cancellations.

Go to <https://www.findmyschool.ca> Click on "Delays & Cancellations" and then "Subscriptions". This will eliminate the guesswork when the weather is bad. Please try to avoid calling the school for this information as it bogs down the phone lines and makes for an extremely busy office. Your consideration with regards to this is greatly appreciated.

National Sweater Day

Wear a warm sweater Thursday February 7th because we are turning down the heat!

We are participating in National Sweater Day to raise awareness about the importance of saving energy.

If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by two degrees, greenhouse gas emissions could be reduced by 4 megatons.

Here are some tips to help stop climate change:

- Wear a sweater, and reduce the temperature in your home by 2 degrees for the whole winter!
- Consider participating in Paisley's upcoming 'Walk to School' initiative
- Close outside doors as quickly as possible to keep warm during winter and cool air in during summer
- Brainstorm with your children about other ways to conserve energy and help stop climate change.

** Don't forget...wear a warm sweater to school on Thursday February 14th because the temperature at Paisley will be 2 degrees cooler.

Engaging Your Child in Science 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 Science. Science encourages problem solving skills, curiosity and questioning,

creative and critical thinking, observational skills and reinforces both literacy and math skills....and it's FUN! Here are some ideas for fostering scientific skills in your children.

6 Tips to foster Scientific Thinking at Home

- 1- See science everywhere. Parents can take opportunities to ask "What would happen if ...?" questions or present brainteasers to encourage children to be curious and seek out answers. Children need to know that science isn't just a subject, but it is a way of understanding the world around us.
- 2- Lead family discussions on science-related topics. Dinnertime might be an ideal time for your family to have discussions about news stories that are science based, like space shuttle missions, severe weather conditions, or new medical breakthroughs. Over time, children will develop a better understanding of science and how it affects many facets of our lives. Movies and TV shows with science-related storylines are also great topics for discussion.
- 3- Encourage girls and boys equally. Many girls are left out of challenging activities simply because of their gender. Be aware that both girls and boys need to be encouraged and exposed to a variety of subjects at a very early age.
- 4- Do science together. Children, especially elementary-age children, learn better by investigating and experimenting. Simple investigations done together in the home can bolster what your child is learning in the classroom. Check with your child's teacher on what your child is currently learning in class and what activities you can explore at home.
- 5- Connect science with a family vacation. Family vacations are a great way to explore science. It could be a hiking trip where you explore nature or a discussion on tides during a beach vacation.
- 6- Show excitement for Science!

Reference:

"NSTA Science Matters: Tips for Busy Parents - National Science"
<http://www.nsta.org/sciencematters/tips.aspx>.

PUNCTUALITY

I am including this quotation on punctuality because being on time is an important life-skill. Every family will have appointments or "off" mornings throughout the year that will result in being late for school. These are to be expected. Chronic lateness is what we would like to address. Recently we've had 26 students report to school late. Being late disrupts the learning of your child and of his or her peers. It adds work for our office staff that is required to call home to ensure students are safe, and who must change registers to confirm accuracy. For families who regularly arrive to school on time, "thank-you". For those families who are getting into a pattern of being late, make it a New Year's resolution to be on time.

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

The temperatures have been very inconsistent so far this year. However we have been experiencing very cold temperatures lately and snow is in the air. Please remember to assist your child in wearing the proper clothing to school, warm mittens and hats, snow pants and warm coats. Outdoor shoes/boots for all students is necessary. When wearing only one pair of shoes both inside and outside, dirt and mud are tracked into the school and it becomes difficult to keep the floors clean. Please help your child in remembering outdoor shoes/boots. All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess, as this important, active break aids concentration and success in the classroom. Students will be kept in if the temperature and wind chill make it dangerous to be

outside, otherwise recesses may be shortened. These decisions will be made by administration in accordance with board regulations on wind-chill etc.

February 6th is Walk to School Day

Paisley Road Public School and St. Joseph's Public School want to bring together parents and caregivers who would like to explore ways to safely get their kids walking to school.

On Thursday, February 19th from 6:30-7:30 please consider joining likeminded parents and caregivers in the Paisley Library for a meeting to develop a Neighborhood Walk to School Initiative.

Help your child spend more time outdoors, in the fresh air

Meet other parents and caregivers in your neighborhood

Learn about the Safe Routes to School Map

Find ways for your kids to walk to school safely

Identify barriers to walking, and brainstorm solutions

Improve your child's sense of the neighborhood and make new connections

Help reduce traffic congestion around our neighborhood schools

Stay tuned for the Time and date for the meeting! Hope to see you there.

February is Winter Walk to School Month!

Hope to see you on Tuesday, February 19th at 6:30!

Forest of Reading 2018

It's that time again! Our very popular Forest of Reading Clubs are back this year with a new selection of great books. We are starting up our Forest of Reading Program this month.

Our school will be participating in the following clubs:

Blue Spruce-

A club for Kindergarten and Primary classes; led by their teachers in collaboration with Mrs. Richer. (Teacher-Librarian). Teachers read the books to students in the class and complete a passport. They vote for their favourite book in April and celebrate the winner at a Blue Party in May.

Le Prix Peuplier - This is the Primary French Immersion reading club 'en francais'! Students will listen to stories in class, complete a passport and participate in voting in April and a special party in May.

Silver Birch Clubs- Students read books, complete passports, blog, summarize or conference (other creative approaches encouraged) to prove they read books with Ms. Richer. In April students vote for their favourite book in any categories they read at least 5 of the books. In May students who read at least 5 books in one of the clubs

are invited to our walking Trip to the Boathouse for Ice Cream and then to Royal City Park for activities, games and the unveiling of the winning books.

Express –A mix of fiction and non-fiction at approximately 3/4 reading level (Grade 3 students and up can join)

Silver Birch Fiction – Novels for junior readers

Silver Birch Non-Fiction – Various non-fiction texts for junior readers

Le Prix Tamarac Express- Easier level Junior French fiction and non-fiction

We would like to say thank-you to Parent Council for their ongoing financial support that assists with this program.

Also a thank-you goes out to the many teachers that work to support this program in their classrooms. Thank-you to our wonderful student readers who have showed such great enthusiasm over the years!

Black History Month Library Contest- Everyone's a winner! Tout le monde gagne!

1. Check out a book from our Black History Month display in the library.
2. Draw a picture inspired by the book and fill in the something you learned about Black history.
3. Bring it to the library and win a prize from the treasure box!

Library Volunteers welcomed- I could really use some help shelving in our library! If you are able to commit to one afternoon per week please contact Julie Richer (ext. 417) Training provided.

Music Fridays

Singing together brings us together! It has been great to see how students show respect, attentive listening, school spirit and take initiative during Music Friday assemblies. Students are invited to share and lead songs by coming out the preceding Monday first recess to pitch the song they wish to sing and arrange to practise. A note will go home with students who are leading a song. Parents are also welcome to join in the fun. If you have a musical talent or a cultural song to share (any language) this will help enrich our students learning experiences. Contact Julie Richer Extension 417 for more information or to get involved.