

PALMERSTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

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“Be The BEST That You Can Be”
“Fais De Ton Mieux”

2016-2017

Newsletter #2

October 1, 2016

MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

October has started off with lots of excitement. We have an adventure group here that is giving students a special opportunity in gym class to be active and engaged. Ask your child about their day!

Teachers had their first PD Day recently and we spent a lot of time reflecting on practices in Math. You will notice that many classes are working on ‘Number Talks’. If you are interested in learning more about this topic, please come and join us at the School Council meeting this week on Thursday, October 6th at 6:30. As always, literacy continues to be a focus as well. Many teachers use RAZkids and your child may have an account which allows them to read at home too. In addition, the UG2GO site has great learning links and students can download books in an on-line library. Every student in the board has a user name and password for this website.

We hope to see everyone at the Open House on October 13th as well. Please take the time to come and meet your child’s teacher and other staff in the school. This evening is set aside for parents to see their child’s classroom and make a connection with the teachers. At this point in the year, teachers and students are still getting to know each other so the ‘meet and greet’ is very informal. Parent-teacher interviews which are more formal and allow for personalized conversations about students, will be taking place after progress reports go home later this fall.

Palmerston Public School staff would like to wish you an enjoyable October. Please keep the lines of communication open and do not hesitate to call your child’s teacher or arrange a meeting if you have any questions, concerns or compliments. Our office doors are always open if you have any questions or suggestions.

Tracy Baker
Principal

Shannon Spike
Vice-Principal

SCHOOL PICTURES

Individual and class pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 12, 2016.

PIZZA

Pizza will begin Tuesday, October 4, 2016. Funds raised from pizza sales will go to support various field trips, sports teams and equity.

PITA DAYS

Pita Days will be offered this year to students. The cost of a pita will be \$5.00. There will be one scheduled Pita Lunch for the months October to May. Order forms will be coming home soon. Funds from Pita Days will be used to purchase new gym equipment for the school.

OPEN COMMUNICATION

Our staff here at Palmerston feel that open communication between home and school is vital in order for all our children to be successful. Parents are encouraged to inform the teacher of any concerns or information about your child.

Our staff are very busy at the beginning of the day meeting our children as they arrive at school preparing for lessons that begin as soon as all the children are in their classes. In order to ensure that we can begin our teaching time immediately after entrance and that we are not overcrowding our halls, we ask that ***all parents remain outside the school doors during this busy time.*** If you wish to meet with a teacher we request that you do not just drop by their classroom in the morning or during the school day but that you call to set up an appointment. We thank you for your support and understanding concerning this issue.

PET FREE ZONE

Drop off and pick-up times are busy and there are many children on the hard top at those times. For safety reasons, we ask that our parents and caretakers leave their pets at home when they drop off or pick up their children at school. Your co-operation to ensure everyone's safety is appreciated.

P.A. DAY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28th

Friday, October 28th is a PA Day. There is no school for students.

FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, INUIT SELF-IDENTIFICATION

If your child is a member of a First Nation, the Métis or the Inuit, then please consider having him or her self-identify.

Self-identification helps in several ways:

1. Students will have access to more culturally relevant programming and opportunities for unique cultural and academic experiences.
2. The school system will have an opportunity to focus efforts and resources, as well as an increased awareness of the diverse needs of indigenous families.
3. The school community will have an opportunity for building relationships to increase student success and well being.

Share your pride in your heritage!

Please come to the office (or have your child do so) to get a card that can be filled in and submitted if you wish to self-identify.

Data will be protected and governed by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

OTHER

- » Milk tickets can be purchased when required. Tickets are sold in sheets of 10 chocolate or 10 white for a cost of \$7.00. Milk is available at both nutrition breaks.
- » **When sending money to school with your child please send the correct change.**
- » Bicycle helmets are mandatory for children riding bikes. A potential hazard exists when students wear bicycle helmets when playing on playground equipment. Please reinforce with your children the dangers and hazards associated with bicycle helmets being worn when playing on playground equipment.

BUSES AND INCLEMENT WEATHER

Board Policy – Parents

It is a parent's responsibility to determine whether or not it is safe for their students to leave for school in inclement or severe weather. A parent must be aware of the following:

- a) 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.
- b) If a parent elects to drive their pupils to school, they are responsible for their pupils' pick-up at dismissal time. Students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. School ends at 3:00 p.m. on a "no bus" day.
- c) Buses will not be delayed, buses will either run or be cancelled. Students will not be sent home early during inclement weather.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Each driver is ultimately responsible for deciding if it is safe to complete his or her route. If they decide to cancel or delay their route, they will ensure that every effort is made to inform parents of their decision.
2. We suggest that if you are planning a special occasion for your son/daughter and wish other classmates/friends to attend that you arrange to pick up everyone at the end of the day. Please make arrangements prior to the end of the day of the event.
3. Please let us know if your child is not going home on the bus. Notification to the office is important. If we do not have a note or call then we will send them home on the bus.

BUS TRANSFER REQUESTS

Our Board Transportation Policy does not permit bus students to ride a different bus at the end of the day for various reasons (sleepover, birthday parties, etc.). Non-bus students are not permitted to ride a bus at any time.

BUS LOADING AND UNLOADING

As you are aware, the school zone for Palmerston P.S. is a very busy place in the morning (8:35 a.m.) and at the end of the day (3:15 p.m.). We have students crossing the street at the crossing guard, in front of the school by the baseball diamond and in good weather we have students riding their bikes to school using this crossing with the walkers. While buses are loading and unloading there is traffic in front of the school, as well as parents who are dropping off/picking up their children. To ensure the safety of the students we need your help and in order to keep this area safe for our students, we have the following requests and reminders for our students, parents and neighbours:

1. Park in the Palmerston Evangelical Missionary Church parking lot and walk down the sidewalk if you are dropping off or picking up students.
2. Please do not ask your child to enter the vehicle from the driver side facing oncoming traffic, and do not load the vehicle at the crosswalk. Parents set the example for road safety.
3. Please do not cross the street except at the designated area. Students should not be called to a vehicle mid block, and we ask parents to use the crosswalk to set a positive safe example for all of our students.
4. Bikes must be walked across the street in the crossing area and along the sidewalk in front of the school.
5. Students must follow the directions of the crossing guards and the staff members on duty. We ask parents to do the same as a positive model.

REMINDER: Cars need to stop when the buses are flashing their red lights. Failure to do so could result in a fine.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

RECESS OUTDOOR TIMES

The morning and afternoon recesses are an opportunity for students to “burn off” some of their energy after being in class. Often the fresh air will make a child feel better when they are “stuffed up” with a cold. If a child is sick, the best place for this child is at home. Thanks for your cooperation.

QSP MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

Our QSP Magazine Fundraiser will be running again this year from Friday, October 7th to Friday, October 21st. This is a great opportunity to encourage literacy among family and friends. Everyone enjoys reading a timely magazine and there are hundreds to choose from. Subscriptions make great birthday and Christmas gifts, and children especially love getting mail on a regular basis!

A percentage of each order will be returned to the school to help raise funds toward our Grade 8 year end trip. The website is available to shop throughout the year. Go to <http://www.qsp.ca> to place an order at any time and pay by credit card. Our school I.D. number is 3713302, but if you forget it you can input Palmerston as the organisation under "Find my group".

To place orders through the forms that will be sent home, payment will be accepted by cheque or credit card. Please return paper work to the school by Friday, October 21st.

Thank you to our supporters who renew their subscriptions with us year after year!

Happy reading!

ASTHMA FRIENDLY SCHOOLS POLICY

Asthma is a very common chronic lung disease that can make it hard to breathe. The Upper Grand District School Board adopted a new policy in June 2016 to provide support for students with Asthma. If your child has asthma, the policy requires an Asthma Management Plan (AMP) to be completed by parents, a child's doctor and the principal of the school. A copy of this plan is available on the Board's website under Policy 516. Parents are requested to complete the AMP and return it to the school as soon as possible at the beginning of the school year. Authorization for the collection of this information is in the Education Act. The purpose is to collect and share medical information and to administer proper medical care in the event of an emergency or life-threatening situation. Users of this information may be principals, teachers, support staff, volunteers, bus operators and drivers. This form will be kept for a minimum period of one calendar year. Contact person concerning this collection is the school principal.

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

The Upper Grand DSB provides a smoke-free environment for its students, staff and others while on school Board property, in accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act. This policy refers to all forms of tobacco, and any processed form of tobacco that may be smoked, inhaled or chewed, including e-cigarettes.

Smudging is the tradition of using sacred smoke from sacred medicines (e.g., tobacco and sage) that forms part of the indigenous culture and spirituality. Smudging is allowed in schools under the Smoke-Free Ontario

Act. Parents will be informed using the school's usual forms of communication when smudging is going to occur in our school. Participation by staff and students is optional in a smudging ceremony.

LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGIES

We have children in our school with potential life-threatening allergies to various foods and other materials called anaphylaxis. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to food or other materials, and can cause death within minutes. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we are letting you know so that you may refrain from sending foods to the school that contain peanuts and nuts. We aim to create an allergy safe environment at our school.

If your child is in a classroom with an anaphylactic child, or your child has anaphylaxis, you will be contacted by the classroom teacher.

Our school has procedures in place to help manage anaphylactic reactions. If your child has health concerns of any kind, please tell your child's teacher or the office and we will take the necessary health protection steps. Thank you for your understanding in ensuring an allergy-safe environment for all of our students.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY -- pictures NEEDED!

This year, as part of our Remembrance Day assembly, we are putting together a slideshow to honour both past and present service men and women in our community/families. If you know someone who has served or is currently serving in the Armed Forces (Canadian or other), please forward a picture, along with the name and position of the service person/how/where they served, as well as who they are related to. For example:

Donald Orin Ferguson

Tailgunner, WWII

Miss Spike's Grandfather

If we have enough participation, we will put together a slide show to be displayed at this year's Remembrance Day assembly.

Please send submissions to: shannon.spike@ugdsb.on.ca OR you can submit pictures directly to https://docs.google.com/a/ugcloud.ca/presentation/d/1Qr_iDGTi7WApiBxtscx8ztGMtfSRaowHli1ImOadncM/edit?usp=sharing.

If you do not have access to an electronic copy of a picture, you may consider taking a picture of a picture or send in a hard copy to be scanned.

Thank you for your participation.

ME2WE
POPCORN
FOR
SALE!!!

Tuesdays, Thursdays,
First break.

\$1.25



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We Scare Hunger

Hunger is a supervillain who makes life harder for millions of families across Canada. For a kid struggling with hunger, one meal could mean the difference between having the energy to succeed in school and failing a test, or between staying healthy and getting sick.

Please join ME 2 WE and let's scare away hunger. We are asking P.P.S students to bring a **nonperishable food item to school the week of Oct 24-28th** leading up to Halloween on Oct 31. We are hoping to collect at least one item per student, approximately 425.





MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Day 4	4 Day 5 Pizza Day	5 Day 1 Grilled Cheese Day Int. Boys Soccer Tournament	6 Day 2 Int. Girls Soccer Tournament	7 Day 3
10 THANKSGIVING	11 Day 4 Pizza Day Wear Purple for Mental Health Awareness	12 Day 5 Picture Day	13 Day 1 JK/SK Trip To Herrle's Open House 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	14 Day 2 Int. Cross Country
17 Day 3	18 Day 4 Pizza Day	19 Day 5	20 Day 1 Salad Day	21 Day 2 Gr. 7/8 Immunizations
24 Day 3	25 Day 4 Pizza Day	26 Day 5	27 Day 1 Pita Lunch	28 P.A. DAY
31 Day 2 Wear Orange and Black Day or Wear Costume				

PALMERSTON JUNIOR BROOMBALL

Come join the fun and try the sport for free!

Broomball has grown into a popular sport and is easy to learn and fun for everyone. Skills such as skating are not required. Based out of the Palmerston Arena, the Palmerston Junior Broomball League has grown in both skills and size since it's creation.

We are accepting players both male and female between the ages of 5-13. We are offering free" try the sport days" for any kids who would like to come out and see what the game is all about. If any parents are wanting more information about our broomball program and having their child come out and try the sport for free contact us at palmerstonjuniorbroomball@gmail.com or join our Facebook group.