



PARKINSON CENTENNIAL JUNE NEWSLETTER



PAOLA ARGENTINO, PRINCIPAL • KAYE MARTIN, VICE PRINCIPAL • ATTENDANCE (519) 941-2461 EXT. 100

Administrator's Message:

Where has the year gone? It's June and activities, events and trips continue to run non-stop at Parkinson in addition to the regular academic classroom programs.

We have a number of year end class trips and events coming up this month including: Aerosports (trampoline fun) for the juniors, Highland Nordic outdoor education facility for primary students, grade 1s going to Elmvile Zoo, grade 3 swim to survive lessons, Grade 4s on a habitat trip, Mrs. Papav's class pen pal trip, and a junior swim trip, Olympic Leadership Camp trip for our grade 8s, a visit of our new to JK students and their parents and many more events. Also, on June 15th at 1:30 Mr. Buchan's grade 5 class will be hosting a celebration with their Grandpals. Parents are welcome!

I would like to thank our small, but mighty parent council who have done so much to enrich the quality of your children's' school lives. They have organized: fundraisers, school lunch programmes, Christmas with Santa, Mental Health Wellness days, just to name a few of the events. With your generous support parent council has helped the school pay for the following: new Parkinson student t-shirts for them to wear when on a trip or representing their school (for ease of identification), contributed to replenishing outdoor play equipment for all classrooms (net bags filled with all types of balls, skipping ropes etc., for use at recess time), Scientists in the School Programmes for each class K-8, sponsored the curling team and hockey team and Artspllosion, our first ever annual arts night which was a giant success, along with other events and causes.

As always, this time of year is bitter sweet. Parkinson Centennial will be saying goodbye to Mrs. St. Louis who will be retiring. Congratulations on a tremendous career in which you have touched and molded a great deal of the future. Many other staff will be leaving us including: Mr. Styles, who covered for Mrs. Mall's maternity leave, Mrs. Papavasiliou, who will be vice-principal at Credit Meadows, Mr. Henderson, who has been confirmed as vice-principal at Montgomery Village. Mrs. Martin, our vice-principal for the last year, will also be leaving us and transferring to Glenbrook Public School. I wish all our departing staff the very best in their future journeys and send them my warmest regards for their unique and valued contributions to our school community.

We will have some new staff coming to Parkinson Centennial next September. Ms. Amanda Myer will join our staff as new Vice-Principal. Mr. Paul Panagiotou will be returning to Parkinson as a grade 7 teacher.

This is the end of my second year as at Parkinson I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank all of you who have helped me: to our Parent Council, who have been so patient and who have supported me, to the amazing parent community who have taught me that it takes a village, to your children with whom I have fallen in love, they are precious, beautiful gifts and I consider it to be a blessing to spend my days with them, and to the Parkinson staff who understand that we inspire the future and that teaching is about the whole child. I am grateful to all of you.

P. Argentino,
Principal



June 8 – 10	Grade 8 Trip – Camp Olympia
June 9	Grade 4 Trip – Habitat
June 10	Luther Marsh – Ms. Firth's class
June 14	Aerosport Trip – Junior Division
June 24	Mrs. Papav's class Penpal trip
June 24	Grade 8 Graduation
June 27	Junior Swim Trip
June 27	Sr. Kindergarten Graduation
June 29	Last Day of School
June 30	PA Day

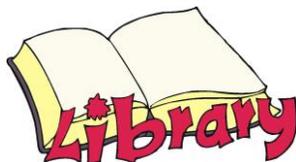
During social studies. Mr. Boston's class researched, designed and then painted medieval shields. Each shield had a background design with heraldic animal representation of each student's personality. We were lucky to be able to display them during the school arts night.

The class did a fantastic job and made me very proud. The making of the shields would not have been possible without the support of Mason Renovations who graciously donated the wood and cut it so that your children would have the opportunity to create a work of art that they will cherish forever.



Important:

If you will be moving over the summer, please inform the office as soon as possible as our school organization is dependent on student enrolment. Thank-you.



Battle of the Books

Another successful year for the gr. 4-6 team. They made it to the Grand Battle and finished in second place. They had the best cheer and the most fun of all the teams! Congratulations to Neveah H, Tomas N., Madison L., Alisha H., Griffin W., Natasha S. and Clare B. Thanks to Isaac P. our gr. 7 coach for his help and enthusiasm!

Forest of Reading Clubs

Here are the results from the all-Ontario votes. About 250,000 students voted. The winning books and authors of the following awards are:

Blue Spruce(K-2) - If Kids Ruled The World by Linda Bailey & D. Huyck

Silver Birch Express(gr.3-4) - End of the Line by Sharon McKay

Silver Birch Fiction(gr.5-6) - Masterminds by Gordon Korman

Silver Birch Non-fiction(gr.5-6) - Haunted Canada 5: Terrifying True Stories by Joel Sutherland

Red Maple(gr.7-8) - The Dogs by Allan Stratton

Year End

It's that time already!! Time to return all of the library books. Look high, look low, look in closets, under dressers, behind bed headboards, between magazines, on book shelves etc. You'll be amazed where those books hide. Renovations are being done in the library this summer. All of the books need to be boxed up. **This means all books are due into the library immediately!!!** If any books are lost or ruined please let Mrs. Rea know and a letter will be send home for book replacement options. *****Primary students need to return the book bags too. They cost \$4 to replace if you have lost them.**

Book Fair

There is **no** book fair this year due to early pack up of the library because of renovations.



Special Olympics athlete oath: "Let me win – but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

On Wednesday, May 18th staff and students from across the school district came together for a day to celebrate diversity and perseverance. More than 600 athletes from the Upper Grand and Wellington Catholic District School Boards were at St. James Catholic High School in Guelph for the annual Special Olympics Track and Field Day.

Now in its 15th year, the track meet has grown to one of its largest and most successful in the area. In addition to the 616 athletes from 67 schools in attendance, this year's track meet was also attended by 555 peer coaches, 448 staff members and more than 100 volunteers. Students and their peer coaches spent the day in the sun, enjoying companionship and friendly competition in events including standing long jump, running long jump, softball throw, seated softball throw and the 25, 50 and 100m dash.

The annual track and field day is made possible by the hard work of the organizing committee, Special Olympics Ontario, the City of Guelph, Community Living Guelph/Wellington, the Guelph Police Service and many volunteers. This year, UGDSB is honouring the hard work and dedication of the committee members by presenting them with an "Everyday Hero" award.

June's Environmental Theme: CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



Caring about the environment is all about "doing". So get out there and start doing all the things you've learned about this year. It's time for all of us to start Living Green 365 days a year and make a commitment to environmental stewardship, so we can keep our Earth healthy!

Caring about our planet means being educated about our planet. Learn as much as you can. Earth needs smart people to take care of it! Be curious, ask questions, gather knowledge and find solutions. You need to understand what the problems are in order to fix them.

Every one of us is important when it comes to caring for the Earth and protecting it for the future. An advocate is someone who publically speaks or writes or does actions to support an important cause. What kind of "Earth Advocate" are you? Choose from the following list:

A) Activist: I want to help others to change their habits to help the Earth. I want to host an event or make a website that encourages others to Live Green. I want to write letters to our government to ask them to make positive changes.

B) Motivator: I will help others change their habits by being a role model that others can follow. People will see me living green and making a difference and be motivated to do the same.

C) Educator: I will research environmental issues and tell other people what I learn. I will be curious and ask questions and gather knowledge and find solutions to environmental problems that I will share with others.

So decide what kind of "Earth Advocate" you are. You can be more than one type!

Slogan of the month: Live Green 365 days a year!

Creating Independent (Math) Problem Solvers

I was working in two different classrooms in two very different schools and noticed that the children approached solving problems in math differently. When children were given a problem in one classroom, their hands would immediately go up in the air with cries of, "I don't get it," or "I need help," or "What do I do first?". In the other classroom, when children were given a math problem, instead of asking for help right away, they would give it a try.

I was curious about the different student approaches to solving a math problem and I wanted to know how these students solved other problems. So I asked each group of children, "When you want to play with a friend, what do you do?" Here's what they said:

School A	School B
"My mom calls her mom."	"I go knock on his door and ask if he can play."
"My mom calls and sets up a play date."	"I call her on the phone and then walk over to her house."
"My dad texts her mom to see if we can play."	"Lots of kids meet at the park after school. I go there and play with my friends."
"I ask my mom if she can drive me to his house."	"I ride my bike to her house. If she's not home, I go see if someone else can play."

Which school had children who asked for help with the math problem right away? Which children tried the math problem on their own first?

To be successful in math, children need to be able to solve problems. When children are provided with opportunities to solve their own problems in life, they are more willing to tackle math problems on their own. Think about some of the "problems" children may experience every day:

- Deciding what to wear
- Taking what they need to school for the day (e.g., lunch, homework, shoes)
- Finding friends at recess
- Choosing what do after school
- Being hungry and needing a snack

If parents and teachers solve these problems for children, we take away the chance for children to develop problem solving skills and the belief that they can do things on their own. We cannot expect a child who has everything done for them in life to be an independent problem solver in math.

By stepping back and providing children with the opportunity to solve their own little problems, like what to wear or how to get together with a friend, we prepare them for tackling bigger problems later on, like the ones they get in math class!

Megan Haessler, Curriculum Leader