



Primrose Elementary School

October 2022 Newsletter

It is hard to believe that the month of September has come and gone! It was wonderful to see so many families at our Meet the Teacher Evening! We were also very thankful to have a number of parents come out to our first School Council meeting. If you are interested please join us on Wednesday October 5th at 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons/Library or virtually <https://meet.google.com/pm-q-hreh-qpj>

Opportunities for students to participate in Clubs and Sports outside of the classroom have started. I would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude to the teachers who are making these extra-curricular events possible. On Monday, many of our staff and students will be celebrating Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is a day to celebrate family and reflect on our good fortunes. Many people celebrate by having a feast with family and friends. Whatever you choose to do on Monday, enjoy the long weekend and take time to reflect on all of the positives in your life.

UGDSB Student Census

[Help the UGDSB make positive change – complete the Student Census today!](#)

The “UGDSB Counts Student Census” has launched for all Upper Grand District School Board students in grades Kindergarten-12. Participation in the Student Census will help the UGDSB make systemic changes that will create more equitable outcomes for all students. A reminder that the Census survey closes on October 9, 2022.

Safety Week

This coming week Oct 11 - 14 will be “Safety Week” in our school. Each year we are required to have six fire drills (3 in the Fall), two lockdown drills, a tornado drill and a bomb threat drill. We will also be sounding the alarm bell so students know what it sounds like and to test our various pull stations in the school. We will be reassuring students that there are no concerns and that it is a drill. You may want to let your children know, particularly if your child gets anxious with drills.

Terry Fox Run 2022

Students from K-8 participated and joined in the Marathon of Hope by participating in a run to raise money for cancer. We raised \$1850.52 in both cash and online donations. Primrose set a new record with donations. Thank you to all who donated and to Madame Di Felice and Ms. Hughes for all their hard work organizing and making this a fun and worthy event.

Soccer Teams

Students from Junior (Grades 4 - 6) and Intermediates (Grades 7-8) participated in a soccer tournament at Centennial Hylands in September. The students had fun even though it was cold and rainy. Thank you to Mr. Long who coached the Intermediate team and Ms. Di Felice and Ms. Hughes who coached the Junior team and Ms. Robertson who helped with organizing..

Cross Country Running

Students from Grade 1 - 8 participated in cross country this week in Orangeville. We had over 120 students run their hearts out at the Orangeville Fair Grounds. Thank you to Ms. Williamson for organizing such a great event. Also, thank you to Ms. Mesesnel, Mr. Stiles and Ms. Kelk for coaching and getting everyone ready for this event. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to make this happen. Seeing all the exhausted, yet happy students returning to school made it all worth while.

Thanksgiving and P.A. Day

Primrose Elementary School will be closed to students on Monday, October 10th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. On Monday, October 24th teachers will be participating in Workplace Violence Prevention Training and Progress Reports. There will be no school for students. - P.A. Day

Photo Day & Retake Day

The photographer from Life Touch will be at Primrose the morning of Tuesday, October 18, 2022 to take photos of all our students. On Tuesday November 22, 2022 Life Touch will be back for any students who were absent from school on photo day or for those wanting retakes.

School Council

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our first Parent Council Meeting of the year last Wednesday. It was wonderful to see so many new faces.

I would like to congratulate our new executive members:

- Co-chair - Karen Kennedy
- Co-chair - Carly Ferris
- Vice chair - Amber Gallagher
- Treasurer - Lourdes Mehlhorn
- Secretary - Melissa Irwin

To volunteer in the school, you need to complete a vulnerable sector check, please reach out to Mrs. Millsap, Mrs. Hopkins or Mrs. Boynton to receive a volunteer letter from the school. Then visit opp.ca/record_checks to complete an easy online application and send it into the school. You'll be all set to assist with our pizza days and many other initiatives.

Breakfast Program

With the support of our School Council, our community and community partners, we are excited to share that we are continuing to offer the Breakfast Program for all students again this year. Each morning, Breakfast bags containing a dairy option (typically yogurt or cheese), a fruit or vegetable option and a grain option (usually a bagel, muffin or biscuit) are delivered to each classroom and available to any student. These bags remain available in each classroom in the morning and then again at the second

nutrition break for students. Students are encouraged to bring their own snacks that they can enjoy during these times as well. Please remember to send a water bottle with your child as we are an Eco School and will not be handing out cups. If your child needs a water bottle and/or would benefit from their own individual snack bag please do not hesitate to reach out to our Vice Principal, Mrs. Hopkins, for more information.

Equity and Inclusion

The UGDSB is committed to ensuring policies and procedures that promotes a safe and inclusive school climate for all students and staff. As educators we have a greater responsibility to ensure equity, diversity, and inclusion in our classrooms and school. There are lots of resources available at the board's site to support our considerations of planning events, celebrations, assessment, and curriculum contents in connection with dates of importance for diverse students and families. The month of October is full of some important days of celebration, commemoration, and observance for students, staff, and families which includes Hispanic/Latin America heritage, Islamic heritage, Learning disability awareness, etc. You can find more on the UGDSB Equity and Inclusive Education Calendar using the link [2022-2023-CALENDAR \(ugdsb.ca\)](https://ugdsb.ca/2022-2023-CALENDAR)

Fond Farewell

We wish Ms. Cote a fond farewell as she has left Primrose to begin her permanent new position at Parkinson Centennial Public School in Orangeville. Also, Zanitta Grant our Administrative Office Assistant has left to take on a new online job. Danielle Taylor ECE with Ms. Stevenson has returned back to Hyland Heights for a permanent position. We wish them all the best and they will be missed at Primrose.

New Staff

We would like to welcome our new staff members to Primrose for the 2022-2023 year. They have made a great addition to our school.

Amanda Flindall - Administrative Office Assistant

Amy DeLuca (happy to have her back) - ECE in KD with Ms. Stevenson

Lisa Cullen - Grade 1 with Ms. Burgess

Mackenzie Haughton - Grade 2/3 with Ms. Wellman

Jennifer Smith - EA

Kiss and Ride

A reminder to all parents that are picking up students at the end of the day that there is NO PARKING in our Kiss and Ride loop. If you need to pick up a primary (K-4) child from the gym you must park in a designated parking space. Our Kiss and Ride is well used by parents of our older students and having parents in this area poses a safety risk to our older students and causes congestion. Please respect the signage and the routine of the school and use parking spots if you need to park. Thanks for your attention in this matter.

STUDENT PICK UP AT THE END OF THE DAY

We ask that if you are picking up your child at the end of the day that you call in by 2:30 pm. Since we are a fully bused school the office is very busy at the end of the day and your call may not be answered and returned right away. Thank you for understanding.

Thank You

We wanted to extend a huge thank you to our Primrose community, staff and students. The first few weeks of school definitely had some challenges as we were dealing with water issues. I am so grateful to be working in such an amazing community and staff. We all rallied together and were committed to making sure all the children were safe, well and looked after.

Report a Bully – On-Line Reporting Tool

As part of our Safe Schools policy, the Upper Grand District School Board has launched an on-line tool that can be used to report incidents of bullying. Reports that are made through the web-site are forwarded to the Principal of the school for follow-up. The web address is: <https://webapps.ugdsb.on.ca/reportbullying/>

Please also take a moment to review our updated Bully Prevention Plan that is located on our school website.



Dates to Remember

October 4-7: Grade 3 CCAT Practice Tests

October 5: World Teacher Appreciation Day

October 10th – Thanksgiving Monday (no school)

October 11 - 14 Safety Week

October 11-14: Grade 3 CCAT Tests Administered

October 18: Picture Day

October 18: IEPs Go Home

October 21: ECE Appreciation Day

October 24th – P.A. Day (no school)

October 31st – Halloween

November 7-11: Treaties Recognition Week

November 17: Progress Reports Go Home

November 21-25: Bullying Awareness Week

November 22: Picture Day Retakes

November 25: PA Day (no school)

Have a fantastic week Primrose families. Please continue to check the UGDSB website, our school website, your child's classroom, Twitter, and email for important information from our school.

Marianne Millsap

Principal

Happy Thanksgiving

