



# Primrose Elementary School

## April 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have had a great few weeks after March Break! We welcome the milder spring temperatures, and as the ground thaws and becomes muddy, please consider packing an extra pair of pants and socks in your child's school bag. We also encourage boots to be worn at recess.

Wellness Works! UGDSB's April theme is Gratitude. This month will focus on the benefits of gratitude and being able to notice and acknowledge what exists around us as a key component of well-being. **Gratitude is:**

- The quality of being thankful
- An acknowledgement of goodness
- Readiness to show appreciation and return gratitude
- Recognizing sources of goodness outside of ourselves and how they contribute to our lives

We want to wish all of our students and families who celebrate Ramadan a month full of joy and happiness. Primrose has a multi-faith meditation and prayer space in our school which is available to both staff and students. It is located in the west wing, in the Learning Commons seminar room. The location is indicated with signage on our front door. The space is equipped with mats to aid in comfort. We will accommodate student participation in learning and school events that may vary during Ramadan, assessments and cumulative tasks will be scheduled with Ramadan in mind. As a reminder **students and families who require religious or creed-based accommodations as supported by the Ontario Human Rights Code can**

**make those requests by contacting school at any time.** If you would like accommodations made for your child who is fasting, please contact Mrs. Millsap or your child's classroom teacher directly.

The last few months of school are going to be very busy. Please carefully make note of all school events and return permission slips promptly.

Enjoy the longer days and sunshine!

### **REMINDER**

There will be Board Holidays on Friday, April 7th (Good Friday) and Monday, April 10th (Easter Monday). The school will be closed to staff and students.

### **THANK YOU**

- for all the donations to help kids live free from hunger and helping to support our snack/breakfast program at the school.
- for supporting the natural playground through our pizza orders each week.
- to the School Council for organizing and running a fun family movie night. It was great to see so many Primrose families in attendance.
- to the School Council for supporting Family Transition Place (FTP) for Grades 5-8 and running our pizza days.

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The next School Council meeting is Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm in-person at the school. We will be meeting in the Learning Commons (Library). There will be free babysitting if needed. If you would like to look at past agendas and minutes they are posted on the school website under the school council tab. Minutes will not be posted until the next Council meeting after they have been approved.

### **Volunteers Needed**

Some of our ongoing programs need your help to run effectively. Below are the ongoing programs in need of immediate assistance. Please contact the person listed beside each initiative if interested in helping. Please see full details on each program on the school website.

- **Pizza Fridays** Email Karen Kennedy kpeters7@hotmail.com
- **Salad Bar** Email Amy Ouchterlony amy.ouchterlony@gmail.com
- **Milk Days** (previous program we would like to bring back)
- **Daily Breakfast / Snack Program** Email Ashley Hopkins ashley.hopkins@ugdsb.on.ca
- **Pollinator and Vegetable Gardens** Email Annalea Kidd annaleakidd@gmail.com
- **Fundraising and School Events – BBQ, Movie Night, Spring Fling/Carnival**  
Email Karen Kennedy kpeters7@hotmail.com

Please note that you must have a current vulnerable sector check on record with the office in order to volunteer in the school or go on field trips. You do this by requesting a letter from the school and filling out an application here: [www.opp.ca/index.php?id=147&lng=en](http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=147&lng=en). Email Ashley Hopkins at [ashley.hopkins@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:ashley.hopkins@ugdsb.on.ca)

### **PIC (Parent Involvement Committee)**

Dufferin Parent Support Network's April schedule of free parenting workshops is available. Please see this link for more information. [April 2023 PIC.pdf](#)

### **PIC HOSTING FREE SCHOOL COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT EVENT – APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>**

The UGDSB's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is hosting a free event for parents and guardians on April 26th at Centre Wellington District High School in Fergus beginning at 5:30 pm. PIC presents “**Building Engaging School Councils.**” Whether currently part of a School Council or if they are looking to become involved, this event is an opportunity open to all parents and guardians to discuss, learn and share with each other. Administrators and staff school council representatives are also invited to attend with their Council representatives. Here is a link to more information about this event and instructions for registering:

[School Council Engagement Event - April 26th](#)

### **JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for September 2023**

If you have not already registered your child for full day every day Junior Kindergarten in September 2023, please complete the registration online ([www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten)) and call into the office so a meeting can be scheduled to complete the registration. Eligible students for the JK program must be four years of age on or before December 31st, 2023.

### **MOVING**

If you know you will be moving and will not be attending Primrose Elementary School in the Fall, please let the office know as soon as possible.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Just a reminder to guardians when their children are away to call into the office in the morning to let us know. Due to safety protocol, we call each family to check in when a student is away. Guardians calling in ahead of time speeds this process up and allows us to know all our students are safe. Also, if you receive an attendance letter it is because your child has missed over 25 per cent of the school year. Being on time for school and attending school regularly plays a critical role in any child's academic and social success at school.

### **GRADE 8 & KINDERGARTEN GRAD PHOTOS**

Grade 8 celebration photos are scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> and Kindergarten photos are scheduled for April 11th. Please see the attached flyer [GRADE 8 CELEBRATION FLYER.pdf](#)

Proofs will be sent back to your school and sorted by homeroom approximately two to three weeks after photo day for distribution to the students. Parents will have their own unique access code and will order directly from our website; no money is collected by the school.

### **GRADE 7 & 8 VACCINATION PROGRAM**

Nurses from the Public Health Unit will be in the school on Thursday, April 20th, 2023 to administer the second round of vaccinations (Hepatitis B and Human Papillomavirus).

Public Health is also returning to complete the Gr. 7 vaccine program. Students who missed or did not return a consent can start their series when Public Health is back on April 20th, 2023. Please advise inquiring parents to complete a consent on the online portal at [www.wdgppublichealth.ca/gr7consent](http://www.wdgppublichealth.ca/gr7consent). If you have questions, concerns, or require assistance completing the consent, you can call the client and community support line at 1-800-265-7293, X 7006.

### **UPCOMING FUNDRAISER:**



Exciting news! The Primrose Grade Eights are pleased to announce that they will be offering the sale of COLD, FRUITY, REFRESHING, 8-ounce Yogen Früz **SMOOTHIES** from Pita Pit, delivered right to us at Primrose. Students and staff will have the opportunity to order these DELICIOUS, TASTY snacks for only **\$5.00 per smoothie**. They will arrive once a week for six weeks during the FIRST nutrition break.

The dates are: **April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 29**. You can order for ALL weeks, or just selected days. **Payments MUST be made ONLINE only, through [www.schoolcashionline.com](http://www.schoolcashionline.com).**

The smoothies are made with 100% fruit juice, no added sugars and REAL flash frozen fruit, with low-fat yogurt, as well as a dairy-free option. There are **three different flavours**:  
**Tropical Storm** - pineapples, mango, low-fat yogurt, and bananas, mixed with orange juice  
**Peach Berry** - cranberry, peaches, low-fat yogurt, and strawberries, mixed with cranberry juice  
**Strawberry Banana** - strawberries, low-fat yogurt and bananas, mixed with orange juice

What a fun and healthy taste of SPRING! All profits from this fundraiser will go towards supporting the cost of this year's Grade Eight Graduation. Questions? Please contact [jrobertson@ugcloud.ca](mailto:jrobertson@ugcloud.ca). Thank you in advance for your support.  
Sincerely, *The Primrose Grade Eights*



### **CHILD ABUSE PROGRAM**

Yearly, teachers are to deliver the Child Abuse Prevention Programs. This program is delivered to Grades 1, 3, 5, and 7 students. Your child's teacher will be delivering this program during the month of April. The following personal safety programs that will be taught are: Be Safe (Grades 1 and 3), Kids in the Know (Grade 5) and It Is Not Your Fault (Grade 7). A letter went home last week explaining the program. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's classroom teacher.

## **ECO AWARENESS**

Celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd!

This year marks the 53rd anniversary of the very first Earth Day celebrated in 1970.  
<https://earthday.ca/about/>

Earth Day 2023 Theme: "Invest in our planet"

This is the moment to change it all – the business climate, the political climate, and how we take action on climate. Now is the time for the unstoppable courage to preserve and protect our health, our families, our livelihoods... together, we must Invest in Our Planet.

Ideas for your family to celebrate Earth Day:

- Review previous Earth Day Themes. For example, there is an ongoing focus on ending plastic pollution. Make a pledge to always carry a reusable shopping bag, use alternates to Ziploc bags, buy in bulk, refuse to buy over packaged products and make litter-less lunches. Download your Plastic Pollution Primer to learn more about this problem. Help End Plastic Pollution!
- Spend a day outside. In the garden with your family, plant vegetables, trees or native flowers and attract native animals and pollinators. Or join a local community event to help clean your neighbourhood by picking up discarded plastic, cans and bottles. Or restore local plant life. Choose a good location for a compost pile – start recycling coffee grounds, egg shells etc. to decompose and to ultimately enrich your garden for the upcoming growing season.
- Help build a bird feeder. Build a bird feeder using a plastic bottle and filling it with bird seed.
- Make commitments to cut down on your energy usage as well as waste. Turn lights off, power down electrical devices, turn down your thermostat and only do full loads of laundry and dishes.
- Learn more about the environment and the effects of global warming. Encourage awareness and promote the Reduce (buy less), Reuse (repurpose it) and Recycle (sort it right!) way of life.

Remember that every day is Earth Day! Don't restrict yourself to just one day a year. Make environmental actions and caring about the planet a habit - on Earth Day and every day.

## **ECO UPDATE**

We are continuing to work towards various Eco initiatives at Primrose. Our compost and recycling program are in full effect and our older Eco leaders are continuing to support our younger students with this. In the next few months, students will be participating in a school wide waste audit, different environmental-based activities for Earth Day in April and water awareness activities through the months of May and June. In addition, our K students will be growing sprouts and learning about how they can create and maintain sustainable gardens! We will continue to share our exciting eco initiatives as they happen!

## **PRIMROSE CHOIR UPDATE**

On April 25th, our grade 4-8 Primrose Singers head off to Guelph to participate in the Kiwanis Music Festival! These 50 students have been rehearsing since January and will have the

opportunity to hear other elementary school choirs sing and to receive a formal adjudication on their performances. Best of luck, Pumas!

### **COMPASS RUN**

Compass Run for Food 5K School Challenge on June 10, 2023 in-person at Compass. The 10th Annual Compass Run for Food is an opportunity for students to be active, support local food security programs and have fun! This event is NOT organized or supervised by school staff. Register at [Compass Run registration 2023-schools.pdf](#)

### **SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR**

Looking to add some purple and gold to your child's wardrobe? Primrose school spirit wear is available for purchase through a link on our school website, under the School Council tab, or click [HERE](#) to reach the site. Shirts can even be personalized on the sleeve. Makes a great gift!

### **NEWS FROM OUR EQUITY TEAM**

We are pleased to share some of the excellent work that was done in classes during the Black Brilliance, Black Heritage, Black Futures Month. Get a cozy warm drink and sit back to enjoy the [slideshow!](#)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 3 - Rainbow Colours Day (World Autism Day)

April 3 - Grade 8 Grad Photos

April 4 - Skills Competition University of Guelph

April 5 - Custodial Appreciation Day

April 7 - Good Friday (no school)

April 10 - Easter Monday (no school)

April 11 - SK Grad Photos

April 12 - International Day of Pink

April 13 - School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm

April 14 - Pizza Day

April 17 - Wear Spring Colours

April 17 - Smoothie Day

April 20 - Grade 7 Vaccination

April 20 - Ramadan - Wear Purple and Gold

April 21 - Pizza Day

April 21 - Wear Blue and Green for Earth Day

April 22 - Earth Day

April 24 - The Little Red Theatre Presentation (K - 3)

April 24 - Smoothie Day

April 25 - Salad Bar Day

April 25 - Kiwanis Choir Trip

April 26 - Office Coordinator Day & Administrator Office Assistant

April 28 - Grade 8 & SK Grad Photo Retakes

April 28 - Pizza Day

May 1 - 5 - Education & Mental Health Week

May 1 - Smoothie Day

May 2 - Kindergarten Scientists in the School (Jones/Most & Stevenson/DeLuca)

May 3 - Kindergarten Scientists in the School (Carson-Pedri/Hunter & Bax/Duern)

May 5 - Red, White, Green Day (Cinco de Mayo)

May 5 - Pizza Day

May 8 - Smoothie Day

May 10 - June 14 EQAO

May 12 - Pizza Day

May 15 - Smoothie Day

May 16 - EA Appreciation Day

May 17 - International Day Against homophobia, transphobia and biphobia wear rainbow colours

May 19 - Character Day (from movie, book, tv etc.)

May 19 - Pizza Day

May 22 - Victoria Day (no school)

May 26 - Comfy Day

May 26 - Pizza Day

May 29 - Smoothie Day

May 30 - Salad Day

May 31 - 1500 m Meet @ ODSS

*Please remember to check the UGDSB website, follow us on Twitter, visit our school website, go into your child's Google classroom to see announcements and all the wonderful work they are doing, and read the emails for important information from our school.*

*If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or email us at  
Marianne Millsap Principal 519-925-3939 ext 223 [marianne.millsap@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:marianne.millsap@ugdsb.on.ca)  
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Marianne Millsap  
Principal