



Primrose Elementary School

January Newsletter 2024

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope you had a safe and healthy Winter Break, and that your holidays were filled with happy and memorable moments with your family. Thank you for all of your holiday wishes before the Winter Break. Your kindness is truly appreciated.

A reminder that we do spend time outside for learning and recess each day, regardless of the cold. We keep an eye on temperature, sunshine and wind, and if we can get out, we go out. Please remember to send your child(ren) with warm layers, winter boots, extra gloves and extra socks (these can get quite wet).

January is always an exciting time for us and a time of transition. Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will be held from January 9th -26th, 2024.

On the other end of the spectrum, our Grade 8s are involved in selecting their courses for high school and having visits from the high school guidance counselors. There are big emotions at the beginning and the end of elementary school for families!

Attendance/Pick-up

Please telephone the school at 519-925-3939 if your child will not be attending school on any given day or will be late, and include their teacher's name and bus number. It is extremely important that parents/guardians notify the school if their child(ren) will be absent. If you are picking your child up prior to 3:20 p.m., send a note with your child or call the school before 2:30

p.m. so that your child can be taken off the bus. Please include the teacher's name and bus number. Thank you for your cooperation.

Doors locked during the day

The doors to the school will remain locked during the day. This is a safety precaution to keep our students safe. If you are a volunteer in the school you will need to call or use the buzzer and you will be let in. If you are picking up your child, please call ahead and we will bring your child out to you. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

School Records

Please notify the school if there are any changes in your child's information (such as your work numbers and emergency contact numbers). It is extremely important that we maintain current information in the case of an emergency.

Inclement Weather:

A reminder that, as with every winter, inclement weather conditions may result in bus cancellations and/or school closures. Decisions on buses and school operations due to inclement weather are made as soon as key information is available and no later than 6:30am the morning of. To check the status of school buses each morning visit www.stwdsts.ca, and to check the status of school closures visit www.ugdsb.ca. The BusPlanner Delays App is also available on iOS and Android phones, to receive delay and cancellation notices.

Snow Safety

Forts and tunnels are fun to build. However, forts and tunnels built at the side of the road spell trouble. Passing snow plows and the debris and ice they push can be dangerous for a child who can be buried or struck indirectly or directly. These incidents often happen in the early morning or evening when it is dark, and children are playing. Plows are loud and the driver's visibility is minimal. Please remind your children to play safely and tell them that tunnel building is not a safe play activity. Let's keep all our children safe this winter.

Junior & Senior Kindergarten Registration for the School Year Starting September 2024

Kindergarten online pre-registration will open for parents/guardians on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, and closes on Friday, January 26th, 2024. Eligible students for the Junior Kindergarten program must be four years of age, on or before December 31st, 2024, and students must be five years of age on or before December 31st, 2024, to register for Senior Kindergarten. Please complete the online pre-registration at www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten and then contact your child's home school to make an appointment to meet in person at the school. Parents will need their printed online pre-registration form, child's birth certificate and proof of address (driver's license not accepted). We look forward to meeting you! Please pass this information on to families in our area. For more information visit www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten

Grade 9 Course Selection Happens in January

In January, we will begin working with grade 8 students to select their courses for Grade 9. Please know that the process will be guided thoughtfully by the intermediate team at Primrose, with support from the guidance and student success teams at Centre Dufferin District High School. Parents should also have some discussion at home about courses (based on the course selection packages that were sent home).

Please mark the following date on your calendar: January 31, 2024 - Grade 9 course selections are due on or before this date, within My Blueprint.

Interested in getting ahead of the game?

Check out these helpful resources!

[The UGDSB Parent/Caregiver Guide to support Student Transition from 8-9](#)

[Grade 9 Course Calendar 2024 - 2025 - web version](#)

Destreaming Grade 9

Questions, queries, ideas, or concerns? Please contact your Grade 8 student's homeroom teacher. January will be an important month in planning for the Grade 8s' successful transition to the next stage of their academic journey and we look forward to working with both them and their most important supporters, their family!

CDDHS School Council Event for parents/caregivers of Grades 7-8.

Wednesday, Jan 17, 2024

6:15 pm - 8:00 pm

School Address: 150 Fourth Ave, Shelburne ON, L9V 3R5

All Grades 7-12+ parents/caregivers in our community are invited to attend a special presentation by Family Transition Place next **Wednesday, January 17th from 6:15 pm - 8:00 pm** at CDDHS (in the Library). Barbara Mason will be our special guest and will be leading us through an informative session on the topic of Anti-Human Sex Trafficking with a focus on parents of middle-school / high-school aged children.

The Anti-Human Sex Trafficking training is approximately 90 minutes in length and was presented to most of our Grade 10 students earlier this semester. This event will be an opportunity for parents to see the information that was shared with students and also provide an opportunity for Q & A. The presentation will be a slideshow that will feature an interactive tool that allows youth to experience what it feels like to be targeted and recruited by a sex trafficker through an immersive online chat experience. It features scenarios based on real-life

experience which helps students learn the skills they need to stay safe and helps parents stay informed and aware.

Grade 8 Graduation 2024

Mark your calendars, the 2023 – 2024 Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Monday, June 24th, 2024.

Head Lice Checks

Winter is a bad time for head lice. Please check your children weekly under bright lights, parting and lifting strands of hair. This weekly check will save you a great deal of time and work in the long run. While head lice are a nuisance, they are not a health hazard. Head lice cannot fly or jump. They are spread from direct head-to-head contact or indirectly on hats, combs, headphones etc. Please remind your child not to share these items with other children. Please contact the school if your child has lice and treat your child and remove all nits. We have products on site for families in need; please ask at the office. After treating your child, it is important to recheck for eggs 7 days later. Thank you for your help.

Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy week will be celebrated at the school from **January 22nd to 25th!** Family Literacy Day takes place every January 27th to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Below is a link for ideas:

[Family Literacy Day 2024 | abclifeliteracy.ca](https://abclifeliteracy.ca)

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.

From your Library Learning Commons

We would like to thank Kyon Kennels and Adelle BarrKlouman for helping to make an extra special experience for Mr. Stiles' class who performed the story "Dear Zoo" for the primary students on December 21. It was only in the last hour they learned that the story would end with a REAL PUPPY as a character on stage! What a surprise for the audience!

We have purchased our Forest of Reading books and are inviting interested students to participate in the reading program. Our younger students will read all of the picture books in the Blue Spruce contest with their teacher or in the Learning Commons with Ms. Anderson. Multiple copies of the "Silver Birch Express" books have been purchased and will include students in grades 4 and up who wish to participate in this reading club as an extracurricular activity with

meetings and a celebration at the end of the program in May. Books in the other categories (Silver Birch, White Cedar, and Red Maple) are also available for avid readers who wish to take on an extra challenge. The Shelburne Library is a supportive reading partner and will offer these books as well. To learn more, go to <https://forestofreading.com/>

In December, the Streams Community Hub dropped off a plaque to recognize our participation in the Word of Mouth Monologue Competition. Our students made up 19 of the 26 entries in the competition. Thank you to Streams for recognizing that we as a school are winners! The students all worked hard, and really supported one another's efforts. Way to go Pumas!

Eco Update

We are continuing to work on achieving platinum eco status at Primrose. Our Dufferin Waste presentations continued through the month of December for many of our Primary students. These presentations focus on waste sorting and helping our youngest students to ensure they are recycling items correctly. Additionally, we continue to encourage all students to bring waste-free lunches to school. In early February, we will be participating in National Sweater Day. On this day, we will turn the heat down in the building by two degrees and encourage everyone to wear a sweater in support of the World Wildlife Foundation. We are looking forward to great participation from everyone!

House Colour Update

In the month of December, all of our students participated in our House Colour Week making holiday cards for Seniors. These cards were shared with local Seniors and brought a lot of joy to many over the holiday season. It was wonderful to see our Colour House Teams working together and to see our oldest students stepping into leadership roles. This month, our Colour House Teams will be getting together during Literacy Week. At this time, our students will engage in literacy-based activities in their teams, working with students from all grades. It will be a great learning opportunity for everyone. Remember to wear your colour on our House Colour Days to continue earning points for your team!

Primrose Roar:

Stay tuned for the first edition of our grade 4-8 student newspaper, the "Primrose Roar". With over 20 students involved as reporters, writers, creators, photographers, editors, and layout experts, we are excited to support student voice in the form of a great paper. This coming week, links to digital copies will be posted on each Google Classroom and on the announcements, and a paper copy will be given to each student contributor. A few paper copies will also be printed for the Library Learning Commons and our front foyer. Thanks for taking some time to check out our student work!

French Cultural Presentations:

The week before the winter break, our grade 6, 7, and 8 students participated in free, live, virtual presentations that supported some of the cultural components of the Core French curriculum.

Students were engaged in discussions and learning about Métis language, people and history, and even had a chance to play the spoons! Thanks to the UGDSB for funding our presentations. A great day of learning was had by all!

Pitas and Smoothies:

Thanks to everyone who purchased pitas and smoothies earlier this year, in support of our grade eight student fundraiser. Pitas and smoothie sales will continue in the new year. Please check out School Cash Online for details.

Newsies Jr. Comes To Primrose:

Congratulations to the over 107 grade 4-8 students who took the initiative and had the courage to audition for our upcoming school musical. The cast has been decided and is posted in each grade 4-8 Google Classroom and on our school announcement slideshow. The show Newsies Jr. is based on a real historical event, and brings to life the story of kids who work together to stand up for what they believe in. It's inspiring and energetic and we are thrilled to start work on this huge performing arts project. Many staff members are involved, and students who aren't onstage will have a chance to support the show through lots of behind-the-scenes opportunities. If you'd like to support our efforts, please contact shawkins@ugcloud.ca or jrobertson@ugcloud.ca. Stay tuned for more details later this year!

School Council

Our next School Council Meeting will be held virtually and in person on **February 1st at 6:00 pm**. A meeting link will be sent out and made available on the school website that day. If you would like to look at past agendas and minutes, they are posted on the school website under the School Council tab.

Thank you for your support

We wanted to extend a huge thank you to many organizations that donated to our breakfast/snack program.

- The Rosemont Firehall had a carwash which raised \$1020.00. We were very excited for our Kindergarten students to get a tour of the fire truck.
- Premier Equipment (Tupling Family) donated \$1000.00
- Searchlight Service Dogs (Amaro Family) donated \$1000.00

We appreciate your generosity!

Upcoming Events:

January 8 - Welcome Back!

January 9 - Kindergarten Registration Begins

January 11 - Smoothie Day

January 12 - Backwards Day & Pizza Day

January 15 - Pita Day

January 18 - Smoothie Day

January 18 - Cross Country Skiing (Williamson & Funston am, Parsons & Hawkins pm)

January 19 - Knights in the Classroom Presentation (Grade 5 & 6)

January 19 - Hat Day & Pizza Day

January 22 - Pita Day

January 22 - 25 Literacy Week

January 25 - Comfy Clothes Day & Smoothie Day

January 26 - PA Day (no school)

January 27 - Family Literacy Day

January 29 - Pita Day

January 30 - Salad Day

February 1 - School Council @ 6:00 pm

February 1 - Cross Country Skiing (Parsons & Zanardo am, Rigby & Hawkins pm)

February 1 - National Sweater Day

February 2 - Primrose School Colours Day & Pizza Day

P. A. Day – There will be a Professional Activity Day on January 26, 2024. There will be no classes for students.

March Break – March 11th to March 15th, 2024.

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
Ashley Hopkins Vice-Principal 519-925-3939 ext 224 ashley.hopkins@ugdsb.on.ca*

Marianne Millsap
Principal