

Primrose Elementary School

March 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are into the start of our second term at Primrose! As you are aware, the first term report cards were made available to families digitally on February 15th. As always, report cards cannot capture everything students have learned or everything that teachers have taught. However, I would encourage you to read the comments with your child. Celebrate the growth in learning and discuss strategies and goal setting to help your child achieve the next steps at school. We value the importance of a home-school connection and appreciate the support that you provide at home to ensure your child is meeting with success in all subject areas. The second term report card will go home at the end of June to reflect achievement from February through to June. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher to discuss questions you may have around their progress and achievement in Term One.

Some general strategies that could support all students in improving their performance by the end of term two would include:

- Regular attendance at school. There simply is no substitute for in-person attendance at school. Each day your child's teacher has prepared differentiated and dynamic lessons to target your child's learning needs. If your child is absent, they are missing out.

- READ! Have your child read to themselves, read to your child, read with your child! Just read each day! I challenge all families to make time for 15 minutes of reading as part of your daily routine regardless of grade level.
- For many skills such as number sense (which heavily impacts student performance in all areas of math), practice makes perfect. Help your child build strong number sense skills through games that require your child to recall number facts.

With March upon us, we are looking forward to the spring and realize that Daylight Savings Time is approaching! Please remember to spring forward your clocks by one hour on March 10th which will bring longer daylight to look forward to! We also have March Break approaching the week of March 11th - 15th. We wish our families and students a wonderful March Break week to rest & recharge for the remainder of the school year. This year Easter seems very early - the school will be closed on Friday March 29th (Good Friday) and Monday April 1st (Easter Monday). We wish a joyous Easter Celebration to those who recognize these dates of significance.

MARCH BREAK & EASTER

This is a reminder that March Break holiday begins on Monday, March 11, 2024. Good Friday is on March 29th and Easter Monday is on April 1st. There will be no school for students on either day.

VACCINATIONS PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Clinics at Public Health

Appointments exclusive to students on suspension list open now until March 22

- All three offices (Guelph, Fergus, Orangeville)
- WALK-INS on suspension days and the 3 days following
- Call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006 to book.

2. Speak to a Public Health Nurse: Call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006.

- Parents, guardians, students, teachers, school leaders
- Health Care Providers

Key Vaccination Dates:

- February 21st Robocall to elementary students in Wellington and Dufferin that remain overdue.

- March 5th Suspension orders delivered to elementary schools.
- March 5th/6th Robocall to all elementary schools on the suspension list
- March 15th Deadline for elementary students to update their vaccination record to avoid being on the suspension list
- March 20th Elementary suspension day

Parents can report immunizations:

- **Online:** www.immunizewdg.ca using Ontario Health Card #
- You can also view current, overdue, and upcoming immunizations. **Email: Send a copy of your record to** school.vaccines@wdgpublichealth.ca
- Call: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006

JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for September 2024

If you have not already registered your child for full day everyday Junior Kindergarten in September 2024, please complete the registration online (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, 2024.

KISS & 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. Our Kiss and Ride is well used by parents of our older students and having parents parked 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. If you need to pick up a primary (K-4) child from the gym and an older student from the Kiss and Ride you must park in a designated parking space. **Younger students will not be permitted to go with older students to the Kiss and Ride. This is a safety concern with cars coming and going and the office not handing off our younger students to their guardians.**

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 your support in helping make for a smooth end of the day.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next School Council meeting is **Wednesday, April 10th, 2024 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.

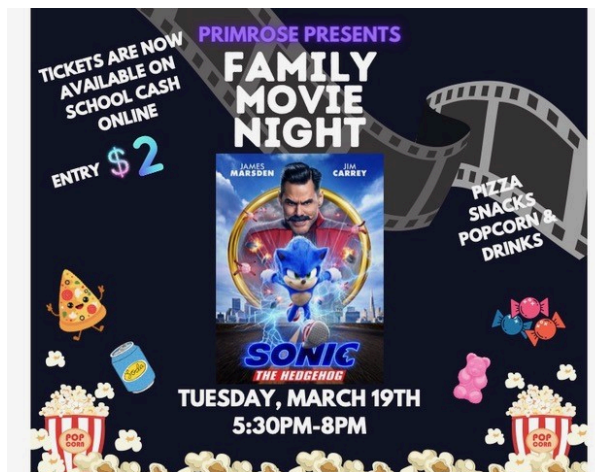
Family Movie Night

We are excited to be bringing back our Primrose Family Movie Night!! Grab your family and friends and join us for the screening of Sonic The Hedgehog, **Tuesday, March 19th 2024 from 5:30-8pm.**

The world needed a hero -- it got a hedgehog. Powered with incredible speed, Sonic embraces his new home on Earth -- until he accidentally knocks out the power grid, sparking the attention of uncool evil genius Dr. Robotnik. Now, it's supervillain vs. supersonic in an all-out race across the globe to stop Robotnik from using Sonic's unique power to achieve world domination!

This movie is rated PG and is 1hr 39 minutes long. There is a \$2 entry fee per person with proceeds from SchoolCashOnline and the concession stand supporting student needs at Primrose. Thank you so much for your continued support. Our concession stand will offer popcorn, chips, candy, Bibly drinks and juice boxes - please bring cash to this event to purchase all concession stand items! Tickets and all other food items such as pizza and fresh veggies, will be available on SchoolCashOnline. The doors open at 5:30, and this movie will be screened in our gymnasium, seated picnic style, so bring your picnic blankets, pillows and stuffies and snuggle in for an amusing and Sonic filled Primrose night at the movies! We cannot wait to see you there!

Please pre-order your tickets and food items here: <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/>



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 THE LLC (LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS)

- Our Forest of Reading programs are moving along. Students involved in Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch Fiction, and Red Maple come to the Learning Commons at least once a week to discuss the books, take part in activities, and watch videos of the authors speaking about the process of writing a book and the challenges they encounter, particularly when trying to get published. Strong messages of perseverance, friendship, creativity, and overcoming challenges are prevalent this year. The Blue Spruce picture books are being read to students in kindergarten through grade three. I've created another "chant" this year in the same style as the past. So funny watching the older students walk through the Learning Commons, joining in, watching the clues, and guessing which book we may be reading that day.
- The Skills Ontario teams are practising in the Learning Commons and in Mr. Benotto's tech room. The competition is just a month away now, so teams are working hard to sort out their approach to the problems they may face on the day of the competition. Vex Robotics is relatively new to Primrose, and the students are on a large learning curve sorting out challenges. Moments of frustration, feelings of accomplishment, teamwork, and grit are all evident as these teams work through their recess breaks. Very proud of our Pumas.
- The Newsies Jr. show is approaching, and when you enter the Learning Commons you will see evidence all around the Maker Space. Each week we are working through a list of tasks to bring the stage to life for our performers. The current project has been turning pizza boxes into stacks of newspaper! A special thanks to Ms. Jack and Ms. Prevost, both retired Primrose Staff, for their help! You know what they say . . . once a Puma, always a Puma.
- The JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) club is working in the Learning Commons on the "welcome project". Each family will be receiving a very short survey to learn about languages spoken in your family. The data collected will be used to create a "welcome" sign at the entrance of the school. We are excited to create a sign that authentically represents our own, unique school community.

Sherie Anderson - Teacher - Librarian

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

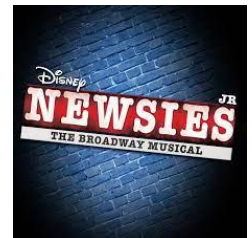
As the Kindergartners conclude their pattern learning for this month, they will be having a pattern party in the gym. All Kindergarten students from all four classes will gather and participate in a variety of activities involving creating, extending and identifying patterns. This is a time where students can work together or independently or meet new friends from other classes to solidify their understanding of patterns in our world.

The date is set for **March 21st at 11:45am.**

Each kindergarten class is asking for two adult volunteers to come and help facilitate patterning stations as our students rotate from place to place. Please reach out to your child's educators if you are interested in volunteering for this event. Please remember all parent volunteers must have a current Vulnerable Sector check submitted to the office before attending.

SCHOOL SHOW UPDATE:

Our Newsies Jr. team is working hard, preparing for the big musical that runs **May 7, 8 and 9, 2024!** Individual headshots of each cast member will be taken starting next week, and eager students have been gathering items for costumes. Sets and props are being planned and designed in our Learning Commons, while choreography, acting and vocals are part of many recesses and even after school. Cast members are encouraged to keep practising their songs and lines, look for costume pieces (or let us know what they can't find), and to check the Newsies Jr. Google Classroom regularly for resources, schedules and announcements. **T-shirts by Town Tees** are available for purchase through our school website spiritwear link or by clicking [HERE](#) and looking under **Musical Gear**. We still have a lot of work to do, but as they say in the show, "Now is the time to stare down the odds and seize the day!" Thanks for your ongoing support in this Primrose arts opportunity!



Newsies Jr. Headshots Information

We are excited to announce that a local photographer will be coming to Primrose to take “headshots” of our Newsies Jr. cast. A headshot is a portrait that is taken from the shoulders up and is in black and white. These photos will be put on display in the front hallway on the performance dates. Each cast member will get to take their headshot home after the play. We will not be sharing digital copies.



We ask that on your child’s assigned date, they come wearing a solid, dark shirt (no designs). Please see below for the schedule. If your child happens to be absent on their scheduled date, they will take their photo on the retake date.

Wednesday March 6th - Grades 4 & 5

Wednesday, March 20 - Grade 6, 7, 8

Wednesday, March 27 - Absent Students

Thank you for your ongoing support with our Newsies Jr. production. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Jones (bjones@ugcloud.ca), Mrs. C-P (acarsonpedri@ugcloud.ca) or Mrs. Anderson (sanderson@ugcloud.ca).

EARTH HOUR

Started by WWF and partners as a symbolic lights-out event in Sydney in 2007, Earth Hour is now one of the world’s largest grassroots movements for the environment, engaging millions of people in more than 180 countries and territories. Join millions of people around the world and switch off your lights in support of nature and our planet on Saturday, March 23rd, 2024 at 8:30 pm. - <https://www.earthhour.org/> Spend 60 minutes doing something positive for our planet.

Ideas for your family to do for Earth Hour!

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community or at work - in your own way. A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights on March 23rd from 8:30-9:30 pm. For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet.

To celebrate, you can:

- prepare a candle lit dinner,

- talk to your neighbours, or invite people over
- stargaze, or go camping in your backyard
- play board games, or charades
- host a concert, or a sing-a-long
- create or join your own community event
- have an Earth Hour every month

The possibilities are endless! Please see ideas for your family to do for Earth Hour! [50 Earth Day Activities and Ideas](#)

GREAT BIG CRUNCH - The Coalition for Healthy School Food

Primrose will be participating in the Great Big Crunch on March 7th, 2024. The Great Big Crunch is a Canada-wide movement and annual moment in which students, teachers, parents and others passionate about food join the food movement and crunch into apples (or other crunchy fruit or vegetable) to make noise for healthy school food! On March 7th at 1:00 pm, all of the students and staff will be eating a healthy apple supplied by Lennox Farm for our Healthy Schools Team. All at once, we will 'crunch' together to remind us of the value of good health and farm fresh food! **Thank you Lennox Farm for donating 600 apples. We really appreciate your generosity!**

HELP KIDS LIVE FREE FROM HUNGER DAY - STUDENT NUTRITION PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Live Free From Hunger campaign! The Primrose community donated \$757. Your support is invaluable and helps provide free healthy food for all Primrose students.

For more information on the Live Free From Hunger campaign visit <https://www.childrensfoundation.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [HERE](#) to access the Primrose school calendar to see upcoming events.

March 1 - Favourite Sports/Hobby Day & Pizza Day

March 4 - Pita Day

March 5 - Junior Sideline Basketball Team Tournament 4 pm
March 5 - Boston Pizza Day
March 6 - Newsies Headshots Grade 4 & 5
March 7 - Smoothie Day
March 7 - The Big Crunch 1 pm
March 8 - Beach Day & Pizza Day
March 10 - Ramadan Begins
March 11- 15 March Break
March 18 - Pita Day
March 17 - St. Patrick's Day
March 19 - Boston Pizza Day
March 19 - Family Movie Night 5:30 pm
March 20 - Newsies Headshots Grade 6,7,8
March 21 - Smoothie Day
March 22 - World Water Day - The Big Gulp
March 22 - Rock Your Socks (World Down Syndrome Day) & Pizza Day
March 22 - Grade 8 & SK Graduation Pictures
March 23 - Earth Hour 8:30 - 9:30 pm
March 25 - Wear Multi-colours for Holi
March 25 - Pita Day
March 26 - Salad Day
March 27 - Retake Newsies Headshot
March 28 - Smoothie Day
March 29 - Good Friday (no school)
April 1 - Easter Monday (no school)
April 2 - Rainbow Colours Day (World Autism Day)
April 2 - Skills Competition Team at Guelph 9 am
April 2 - Boston Pizza Day
April 4 - Custodian Appreciation Day
April 4 - Smoothie Day

April 5 - Pizza Day
April 8 - PA Day (no school)
April 9 - Boston Pizza Day
April 9 - Intermediate (Boys & Girls) Basketball Team Tournament
April 9 - Wear Purple and Gold for Ramadan
April 10 - International Day of Pink - Anti-Bullying & Anti-Homophobia
April 10 - School Council Meeting at 6 pm
April 11 - Smoothie Day
April 12 - Pizza Day
April 12 - Hat Day
April 15 - Spring Colours Day
April 15 - Pita Day
April 16 - Boston Pizza Day
April 18 - Smoothie Day
April 18 - Family Movie Night 5:30 pm
April 19 - Pizza Day
April 22 - Pita Day
April 23 - Boston Pizza Day
April 24 - Fluoride Varnish - Oral Health Screening
April 24 - OC and AOA Day (Tricia and Amanda in the office)
April 25 - Smoothie Day
April 26 - Pizza Day
April 26 - School Colours Day
April 29 - Pita Day
April 29 & 30 & May 1 - Primary Choir and some Newsies Cast to Orangeville and District Music Festival (Exact Day TBD)
April 30 - Salad Bar Day

Wishing you an enjoyable break & month ahead!

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