

Priory Park Public School Newsletter

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Principal: Hanna Morris

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OCTOBER 2018

Principal's Message

As we wrap up September and enter October, and even though we have had a lot of rain this week, the long range reports suggest that we are in for a wonderful fall. Although we hope for many lovely, sunny fall days ahead, please ensure that children are dressed for the cooler weather. Layers are a good way to handle the variability in temperatures from morning to afternoon. Children are reminded to bring in clothing they take off when on the yard, since our Lost & Found bin is already starting to fill up. Please try to label all clothing so we can find the rightful owners and avoid the Lost & Found bin altogether! During wet fall and winter weather, parents are asked to ensure that their children have suitable outer footwear for outside play and appropriate indoor shoes.

Priory Park staff and students have done a great job beginning their learning and work together, and co-curricular activities have started. We are excited to hear about the great time the soccer team has at the tournament on the 5th, drawing and animation club have started on Monday and Friday's at first recess in the library, and we will be starting the Cross Country team soon. We are fortunate that Frontier College has offered to run the Reading Circle afterschool sessions once again this year, and we got off to a great start this week. Students are never at a loss for something to do or get involved in outside of the classroom during school hours. Active kids make for good learning so encourage your child to get involved in the fun that happens throughout the day.

Please remember that if you have any questions about curriculum, evaluation, assessment or other classroom issues, you can call the school and request to speak to your child's teacher. We are here to work with you to help your children learn and grow, and we look forward to continued focus on providing enriching experiences for our students.

We want to welcome Jackie Smith to our school as our Child and Youth Counsellor; we are excited to have her with us and can't wait to get to know her better. Welcome to the "Park"!

Mrs. H. Morris

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME

Communication between school and home is important. We would like to use email as a means to share important school information, newsletters and information from School Council. Please visit: <https://webapps.ugdsb.on.ca/casl> to sign up for electronic messages about things happening in our school, for example:

- Monthly Newsletter
- Upcoming events
- Messages from School and Board
- Messages from School Council



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Emergency Drills

Each year, schools are mandated to conduct regular emergency fire and lockdown drills to remind students about their roles and responsibilities should an emergency occur. Our first fire drill was very successful. We will continue to practice our safety procedures in the coming months.

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

Individual Education Plans, or IEPs, are developed by schools when assessments show that a student needs special education programming and/or services. The development of the IEP should be a collaborative process that includes parents and the student (if possible). During the development phase, schools are required to seek feedback through

consultation with parents. This is your opportunity to discuss and share information with the classroom teacher and/or special education teacher regarding your child's education. If your child had an IEP last year, you will see a copy of this working document come home within the first 30 school days.

Thank you to those of you who have already completed the Parent/Guardian IEP Questionnaire. Your input will be used to help us improve the IEP process in our school, and help us provide parents/guardians with the special education information they are looking for.

Picture day is coming on Tuesday, October 16th

Make it simple by ordering your portraits online, using your Picture Day ID and child's first name to get started. If you prefer to order on paper, we will be sending an order form home as well.

Remember to smile and have fun!"



Creative Playground Safety

As we enter autumn, students and parents are reminded that while the creative structure remains open until November 1st (weather permitting), playground equipment is off limits first thing in the morning from 8:30 - 8:45 because of dew, frost or rain. Also, students are not permitted to play chasing games on the structures. No bicycle helmets are permitted on the creative playground at any time. In the event of an injury, students and staff are reminded that the injured person should not be moved, and a supervisor must be notified immediately.

Please Sign In & Out

Please note that all visitors to our school are requested to stop at the office. If you are planning to stay a while, please remember to pick up a badge to wear and sign our Visitor and Volunteer Book located on the counter just inside the office. We also require students to be signed out if they are leaving at some point during the day. Thanks for your cooperation in ensuring a safe and secure environment for our students!

Books for Birthdays

At Priory Park P.S., we are very fortunate to have a "Books for Birthdays" program sponsored by Sifton Properties. Students' birthdays are announced on the morning announcements, and they have the opportunity to come to the cabinet at the front of the school to pick a book on his/her special day and get the gift of reading.

Life-Threatening Allergies

We have children in our school with potential life-threatening allergies. This medical condition, called Anaphylaxis, causes a severe reaction to food or other materials, and can cause death within minutes. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students.

Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we are letting you know that you must refrain from sending foods to the school that contain peanuts and nuts. We aim to create an allergy safe environment at our school. If your child is in a classroom with an anaphylactic child, or your child has anaphylaxis, our school has procedures in place to help manage anaphylactic reactions. If your child has health concerns of any kind, please tell your child's teacher or the office and we will take the necessary health protection steps. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring an allergy-safe environment for all!

Life Threatening Plans of Care

A Life Threatening Plan of Care is required for any student who has a serious health concern such as severe allergies, epilepsy, seizures, asthma, etc. Parents/guardians have the responsibility to inform the school Principal and teachers of their child's life-threatening conditions. Forms are available from the office. Thank you to the many families that have already shared this important information.

Safe Arrival and Pick-up

We appreciate the efforts of so many parents to contact the school office when their children are going to be late or absent from school. By doing so, you help ensure each child's safety on his/her daily journey to school and that our "Safe Arrival" program works.

A gentle reminder that parents/caregivers should not enter the building during drop off and dismissal time, but meet their child(ren) out back on the tarmac. At this stage in the year, even our younger students know the routines and where they need to go, and we want to begin to foster their independence. Our halls are very busy at this time and having even more adults in the building creates crowded and unsafe hallways. If you do need to speak with one of us, you are welcome to enter the school after the students have been dismissed.

Please remember that school corridors are made safer for all students, staff, and visitors when strollers, wagons, and sleighs are left outside. This will become even more important as winter approaches, as melted snow on the floors can be very treacherous. Everyone's efforts help make a safe environment at Priory Park!

Walking Trips

From time to time during the school year, classes will participate in a variety of short walking trips as part of their educational program. Such learning experiences could include visits to a local park or walk around the block as a DPA activity. A blanket permission went home to be signed and returned to the school. When walking trips are being planned, your child's teacher will provide you with written notice of the date, times, destination and purpose of the visit. This information could appear in classroom newsletters or specific announcement flyers informing you of the planned trip. If you do not wish your child to participate in such informal trips, please inform your child's classroom teacher. For all formal trips that require bussing, a separate blue trip permission form will be sent home.

Terry Fox Walk/Run

On Tuesday, September 18th, we had a very inspirational kick-off to this year's Terry Fox campaign when 15 year-old Centennial C.V.I. student Lara Turner came to speak to us about her year-long battle with osteosarcoma, the same cancer that Terry had. Thanks to the fund-raising dollars that the Terry Fox Foundation and Canadian Cancer Society have contributed to cancer research, huge gains have been made in treatments and ultimately survival rates. On Thursday, September 27th, the entire school and staff took part in the Terry Fox Walk/Run. Many thanks to all for their involvement in making this event such a huge success, we raised close to \$900.00!

Please Help to Eliminate Head Lice

Lice can be an issue in the fall and various times throughout the year. We want to keep this BIG problem down to a minimum. Remember that shampoos are only part of the job... the nits and lice must also be removed. Thank you to all the parents who keep checking their child(ren) on a regular basis, and calling into the school to let us know when your child has been treated so we can send a reminder lice check letter home to classmates.

School Council News

School Council will have its second meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 10th at 6:00 pm in the library. If you are interested in coming out to Council or you would like to be added to our email list, please call into the office and let us know. Thanks again for your continued support!



Days of Significance October 2018

October 1	Shemini Atzeret	Judaism
October 1	Orange Shirt Day	FMNI
October 2	Simchat Torah	Judaism

October 3	St. Francis Day	Catholic Christian
October 6	Durga Ashtami	Hindu
October 8	Thanksgiving Day Canada	Interfaith
October 9-16	Navatari	Hindu
October 10	World Mental Health Day	
October 11	International Day of the Girl	
October 12	El Dia de la Hispanidad	Hispanic
October 13-20	Sukkot	Judaism
October 17	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	
October 18	Spirit Day	LGBTQ+
October 19	Dassehra	Hindu
October 20	Birth of the Bab	Baha'i
October 20	Installation of the Scriptures as Guru Granth	Sikh
October 29	Rett Syndrome Awareness Day	Wear Purple
October 31	All Hallows Eve	Christian

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="color: blue;">October 2018</h1>						
	1 *Orange Shirt Day *Primary Read Circle begins	2	3 *Jr. Reading Circle begins	4	5 *Soccer @ CCVI	6
7	8 NO SCHOOL 	9	10 *Pizza Forms Due *Jr. Read Circle *School Council-6:30pm, Library	11	12	13
14	15 *Pr. Read Circle	16  PICTURE DAY	17 *Jr. Read Circle *Gr. 6 Camp meeting for Parents-6:30pm	18 *Pizza Day	19	20
21	22 *Municipal Elections@PPPS *Pr. Read Circle	23	24 *Jr. Read Circle	25 *Pizza Day	26	27
28	29 *Pr. Read Circle	30	31 *Costume/ Orange/Black day *Jr. Read Circle	Newsletter will be available online @ https://www.ugdsb.ca/priorypark by Oct. 5/18. If you require a paper copy, please contact the office. Thanks!		Looking Ahead: Nov.2-PA Day Nov.9-Remembrance Day Assembly Nov.30-PA Day