

Priory Park Public School Newsletter

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JANUARY 2019

Principal's Message

Happy New Year! We're looking forward to an awesome 2019 together, having returned to school refreshed, renewed and ready to resume school life at Priory Park P.S. The first four months of the first term were filled with rich learning experiences both in and outside the classroom, and it was especially wonderful to spend the last week of school before the holidays with a festive holiday assembly and activities -- a big thank you goes to staff for their organization of these special activities.

A huge thanks to those of you who so generously donated toys for Emma's Toy drive as well as an out-pouring of socks, hats and mittens donated to the Guelph Drop-In Centre. I know that our generous donation to the food bank will be much needed and appreciated. It is so heart-warming to be a part of such a caring community!

Best wishes for the New Year!

H Morris

JK Kindergarten Registration

On-line registration for all JK students coming to school in September 2019 will begin Tuesday, January 8th until Friday, January 18th. The website application can be accessed by our own school's website (www.ugdsb.ca/priorypark) or the Board's website (www.ugdsb.ca). Children born in 2015 are eligible to register for Junior Kindergarten and children born in 2014 are eligible to register for Senior Kindergarten if they are not already enrolled. Students who are presently with us in JK do not need to register for SK. Please spread the word to neighbours and friends!

Registration documentation required:

- proof of date of birth (Birth Certificate/Canadian Citizenship, Permanent Resident Card)
- proof of address (utility/tax bill, purchase/lease agreement **Driver's License is not accepted**)
- court orders if appropriate

*Proof of birth date must be provided before a child can legally attend school.

The following website allows parents to complete their Birth Certificate Application on line or print off a blank application - www.cbs.gov.on.ca/mcbs/english/4U4V5Z.htm

P.A. Day

There will be no school for students on Friday, February 1st. Teachers will be involved in School Improvement Planning and report card writing on that day.

Visiting Parents

Thank you for continuing to wait outside to meet your children, even in colder weather. This makes a huge difference for the safety of all our children. Our halls stay drier and are not as

slippery, our bus students are able to get to their buses with less congestion, last minute messages are able to get to students, and as well, we are building independence in our students!

If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please plan to wait until the children have left the school and the teacher can give you his/her full attention without concern for student supervision. Thank you for your cooperation!

Safe Schools Protocols

All of our doors are locked during the school day, except our front doors. All visitors are asked to please use the front doors to enter the building and report immediately to the office. If you are picking up your child outside of normal dismissal times, please sign your child out in the book at the office. Your compliance will help ensure the safety of our students and avoid violation of the Ontario Trespass Act and Access to School Premises regulations.

School Council Needs You!

The sayings "The more, the merrier" and "many hands make light work" must have been referring to School Council! Our next meeting is on Wednesday, January 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the library. We would love to have you join this team of adults dedicated to working together for our students. Babysitting is provided!

Traffic Safety and Parking Lot Reminders

Please review safe practices for crossing the street when coming to and from school with your children and encourage them to follow the instructions of safety patrollers on duty. Patrollers are on duty by the driveway and the crosswalk at Scottsdale Drive in front of the school fifteen (15) minutes before and after school.

Our parking lot is always a busy place with buses and taxis. If you find that you have to drive your children to school, there is no stopping in front of the school and the parking lot is not accessible from 8:30-9:00 and 3:15 – 3:30. Please consider dropping your child off on Wilsonview or further along Scottsdale and have them walk on the sidewalk, crossing only at the crosswalk if on the east side of Scottsdale.

Playground Safety

With the arrival of winter weather, we look forward to students enjoying their time outside in the snow. We encourage cooperative play on the yard at all times, and this includes not throwing snow and not digging tunnels that can be dangerous if they collapse. We also ask that no toboggans or crazy carpets be brought to school for sledding at recess. If a class sledding activity is planned, teachers will send a letter home first. Thanks for your help in reminding students of the rules of safe play in the snow.

"No Bus" Days

When the weather is uncertain, remember to check the U.G.D.S.B. website (www.ugdsb.ca) and click on the yellow school bus at the top of the page to check the status of the buses and school closures. We are the YELLOW district.

On days when the buses are cancelled but the school is open, it is the expectation that all students who can walk safely or be driven safely to school attend. If buses aren't running in the morning, they will not run after school and it is your responsibility to pick up your child at 3:15 p.m. if you drove them in the morning.

Information from Public Health

In Ontario, the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requires that all students attending school be fully immunized or have a valid exemption on file. Public Health mailed notices to elementary students with incomplete records at the end of November. If you received a notice that your child's record is incomplete, the deadline to update your child's record with Public Health is January 26th at 4PM in order to avoid suspension on January 31st.

If your child requires a vaccine, Public Health will have drop in clinics during the weeks of January 15-19 and January 22-26. For locations and times, please visit:

www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca/news/drop-immunization-clinics-students.

To report vaccines received from your health care provider, please choose one of the following ways:

-Online: www.immunizewdg.ca

-Email: vaccine.records@wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca

-Phone: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396

-Fax: 519-836-2986

Have questions? Speak with a public health nurse at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4746

Food & Friends

What a great time to get involved with the Food & Friends student nutrition program. We are grateful to those who have assisted in providing the program at **Priory Park P.S.** and would be happy to welcome new volunteers to the program. Contact **Heather McDonald** (hi_mcdonald@sympatico.ca) to see how you can help to bring healthy food to hungry minds.

Talking to Children

How many times have you asked your child what they did in school today and they said "nothing"? Do you feel that most of the conversations you have with your children are just about telling them what to do? Many parents feel this way; life is busy.

Giving children opportunities to have conversations is really important for their growth and learning. What to do? Children often ask a lot of questions, especially young children. Parents answer those questions and the conversation often just ends. How do you keep the conversation going? Instead of answering the question what if next time you ask a question instead? Consider these questions: What do you think it is? What do you think about that? What interests you about that? What do you notice? How do you think that works? If you get a one word answer you might make a comment such as, "tell me more", "I'd like to hear more about that" or ask another question.

Listening carefully is also important when talking to your child. Children respond positively if they know they have been heard and that you are interested in what they have to say. Use comments to encourage your child to keep talking: "Tell me more about that", "that must have been difficult/interesting", "it sounds like you had fun", "you must have felt disappointed/frustrated/angry". Talk while having dinner together, preparing dinner, going out for a walk, at bedtime, on the way to school or while standing in the grocery line. Think of yourself as a partner in the conversation.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="text-align: center;">January 2019</h1>						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Welcome Back! We hope you had a wonderful holiday.	8	9	10 *Pizza Day	11	12
13	14	15	16 *Parent Council - 6:00pm-in Library	17 *Pizza Day	18	19
20	21	22	23 *The Safe Side- Gr.2/3 *Computer Safety-Gr.4&5	24 *Pizza Day	25	26
27	28 *Primary Reading Circle begins	29	30 *River Run - 9:00am- Sol/Rockliffe *Jr. Reading Circle begins	31 *Pizza Day *Spirit Day -wear Green & Black	Looking Ahead: Feb.1- PA Day- no school	