NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

What a wonderful Fall and a wonderful two months at Meadowview! The weather has been excellent and our students have had lots of active play outside.

I have been getting to know the students and parents better and am extremely impressed with the teamwork that has been shown when working with parents, students and staff. I have been using our weekly staff meetings and our weekly assemblies to let the staff and students know that I believe in a caring, supportive learning environment where we all try to improve every day. We talk about GRIT and working through tough school work and trying our best at everything we do.

Our school council has had two excellent meetings and it has been a pleasure to work with such a dedicated group. This year we have co-chairs of our council – Rachel Kloosterman and Meagan Simmons are sharing the duties. Our next meeting is on November 23 at 6:30. As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Mr. Corney
Principal

STAFF CHANGES

We are pleased to welcome our new Learning Commons Informationist – Ian McLeish who is replacing Laura Johnston.

GRADE 1-6 PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress Reports will be sent home with grade 1-6 students on Wednesday, November 8. These reports give an overview of Learning Skills and Work Habits as well as academic areas that have been assessed so far.

A very important part of the reporting process is the time families take to review these reports and write goals for improvement.

Parents are asked to work with their children on goal-setting and then return the Progress Reports to the school. We’ll make a copy (that includes these goals) for our records, and send the original back home.

Thanks for your participation in your child’s learning.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARENT COUNCIL

Hello fellow parents. Just a bit of Parent Council information.

Fresh from the Farm Fundraiser

The “Fresh From the Farm” fundraiser was a huge success. We received 40 percent of the proceeds sold. A big thank you to the Parent Council for all their work on this project! Orders can be picked up on Tuesday, November 7th starting at 3:00 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to help package the orders. If you can help, please let us know.

Family Photos

Family Photos will be postponed until NEXT Sunday November 5th. The schedule will remain the same. Please notify Emily Morrison if your current time slot doesn’t work. There are still some openings between 11 and 12. Sorry for any inconvenience - Blame it on the Rain.

Parent Council Meeting
Thursday, November 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

Initial Observations Reports: JK/SK
Progress Reports: Grade 1-6
Initial Observations Reports and Progress Reports will be sent home on Wednesday, November 8th.

P.A. Day
Friday, November 24
Students do not attend this day.
Christmas Luncheon

Our annual Christmas Luncheon for staff and students will be held on **Monday, December 18**. Watch for a note from the organizing team with the “ingredient” your family will bring. As we’ve done for the past four years, students and staff will enjoy a turkey and ham dinner with all the fixings. This event allows students and staff to gather and enjoy a delicious meal and great company.

We would appreciate hearing from people who could cook a ham or turkey (we provide the meat), then cut the meat for serving, and then deliver the meat to the school on the day of the banquet. Volunteers are needed to help serve. You don’t have to be part of the Parent Council to volunteer, so the more the merrier. Watch for more information in e-mails and newsletters!

Meadowview Parent Council Facebook page

Also thought we would share that we have a Meadowview Parent Council Facebook page, if you are interested in joining it. Just look up Meadowview Public School Parent Council. We share a variety of information on it, also a great way to ask questions if you have any. Thanks and hope you all have a great November. Our next meeting is November 23rd at 6:30.

ECOSCHOOLS CHRISTMAS SHOP

We will be running the Christmas Shop the week of December 11th.

Donations of sale items and wrapping materials, i.e. wrapping paper, gift bags, tape and bows are needed.

We are looking for volunteers that can spare some time to help wrap the gifts that the students purchase. Call the school or e-mail Ms. Mooney at paula.mooney@ucdsb.on.ca if you can help.

FOOD FOR HUNGER - DONATIONS

On Thursday, October 5th, Meadowview students donated 370 pounds of food to the Athens Food Bank. Their generosity will make a difference. A huge thank you to everyone who sent in donations!

TERRY FOX RUN

On Thursday, September 28th, students ran for Terry Fox. They raised $231.80 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

We are very proud of our Hawks!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

We will have an assembly for Remembrance Day on Friday, November 10 at 10:45 a.m. Parents are most welcome to attend this assembly.

The Toledo Legion is providing poppies for our students. Donations are very welcome. Poppy donations will be collected in the office. Poppies will be given to children on November 10th.

Meadowview Public School will be represented at the cenotaph service in Toledo on Saturday, November 11.

Many of our students are working on Posters and Literary submissions for the Toledo Legion Branch Remembrance contests. There is a great deal of thought and effort put into these submissions. Many thanks to our students for their care and effort in creating their posters, essays and poetry.
Students enjoyed Spirit Week (October 16-20)

Monday was School Colours Day (red and blue)!
Tuesday was Hat Day
Wednesday was Crazy Hair Day
Thursday was Mismatched Day
Friday was PJ Day

The Junior Boys soccer team had a fun filled day at their soccer tournament on October 17th. Despite going winless on the day, the boys got better each game. They gave their fans and family members reason to cheer them on and kept them on the edges of their seats! Mr Scott was very proud of the boys’ progress, effort, sportsmanship and perseverance. Thanks to Mrs Morrison and Mrs Simmons for driving players to and from Elgin and taking pictures.

SCHOOL SPORTS

JUNIOR SOCCER

The Junior Girls soccer team had a good day in Elgin on October 16th for their tournament. Mrs. Taylor couldn’t be more proud of her girls’ soccer team. They played hard, they played long and their attitudes made them all winners.

THE UPPER CANADA CUP

On Thursday, October 19th, the Upper Canada DSB held the fifth Upper Canada Cup for Cross-Country. Eleven Meadowview runners qualified for this year’s event.

More than 1,200 athletes competed from 77 different schools across the UCDSB. Volunteers worked hard to make this meet the board’s biggest sporting event. The result is a collection of the best runners in Eastern Ontario. Competition was tight in every race as every runner earned their spot on the start line.

Ms Mooney and Mrs Wichers were impressed with our devoted team of runners at the Upper Canada Cup! Thanks volunteers and organizers for coming out to support our runners at all their meets this year.

Go Hawks!
ECOSCHOOLS UPDATE

Golden Sunglasses

Classes can get into the spirit of the season and help save energy at the same time. EcoSchools members will be looking for the first class or room which they notice opening the blinds and using natural light whenever possible. This class or room will win the LOL “Golden Sunglasses” award. It becomes the winning class’s or room’s job to find the net winner!

Energy Hog

A long standing tradition here at Meadowview is that empty classrooms caught with leaving their lights on get the Energy Hog Award. The only way to get rid of it is to find another empty room with their lights on. It has become difficult catching another classroom which has left their lights on. You are making a difference, Hawks!

WASTE-FREE LUNCH CHALLENGE

During the week of October 16-20 we challenged everyone to send waste-free lunches every day. Students that had a waste-free lunch got to put a ballot in to win a popcorn party for their class. We had a lot of ballots! Mr. Corney drew Presley’s name from Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. MacDonald’s JK/SK class.

We really appreciate the amount of thought that goes into waste-free lunches. We want to spark “re-think” (in addition to reduce, reuse and recycle). We don’t want to create additional stress for families. Ms. Mooney and the EcoSchools team will continue to visit classes to show and teach about waste-free lunches, and our next newsletter will have some helpful waste-free lunch hints, specifically what we recycle here at school and what can be taken home to be recycled in Elizabethtown-Kitley.

Thanks again for your support of waste-free Wednesdays!

COLDER WEATHER

In November there can be some pretty big swings in temperature and precipitation. Dressing for the weather is important.

All students go outdoors three times a day. At lunch time students are outdoors for 30 minutes. In the afternoon, they are out for 20 minutes. Even with high activity levels, students can get chilly. We recommend sending more clothing than might be needed, rather than less. Layers can help. Several teachers and the office have a supply of extra mittens that we lend out.

Once the frost settles into the ground, the play structures and swings close for the winter.

When snow arrives, students in JK/SK – Grade 3 will need to be wearing snow pants and snow boots to play in the snow. Wearing appropriate clothing is HIGHLY recommended for older students who wish to play in the snow as well. We generally do not phone home for wet feet and clothing.

INCLEMENT WEATHER/ TRANSPORTATION

If transportation is cancelled, the information will be posted on the STEO website http://www.steo.ca. It will be announced on many media outlets, and will be available at 1-855-925-0022. This information will also be posted on the school Facebook page.

On most days when transportation is cancelled, the school is open to receive students. The students who come to school will have a modified day (based on the number of students and staff who are able to get to school). All regularly scheduled events (show and tell, tests, homework or projects, field trips, hot lunch, etc.) for the day are cancelled/postponed.

Please remember, this includes all forms of transportation (buses and vans), and if transportation is cancelled in the morning, there is no transportation at the end of the school day.
SNACK BASKETS

Nutritious snacks are distributed to each classroom at the beginning of the school day and are available to all students to supplement the food they bring to school each day.

A great big thank you to Jonelle Easter for all the time she gives to purchase and prepare food for the snack bowls.

We receive a grant from Nutrition for Kids (N4K) and to cover some of the costs of this important program that is available to ALL of our students.

We also received a grant from the Healthy Kids Community Challenge Leeds and Grenville which is providing veggies on Tasty Tuesday’s and strawberries/apples on Fruity Friday’s. Please stay tuned for free cooking classes to be held at the Brockville Real Canadian Superstore later this month. Details to follow.

“EVERYDAY” FOODS and “SOMETIMES” FOODS: Making food choices

- The Meadowview staff team is making some small, significant changes to eating at school.
- Talking with students about “everyday” and “sometimes” foods rather than describing foods as “healthy” and “unhealthy”.
- Allowing students to make choices about the order they will eat food in.
- Continuing to have scheduled and unscheduled eating opportunities in all classrooms.
- Allowing students the opportunity to use the snack program, even when it means bringing home some food sent from home.

- Continuing to develop safe eating habits: which includes being calm and relatively quiet during snack and lunch times.

ALLERGY AWARENESS:

Due to Life-Threatening allergies, please do not send any foods that have peanuts.

Also, no tree nuts, please!

Non-peanut substitutes are NOT allowed in UCDSB schools.

HEAD LICE

Every year we deal with several outbreaks of head lice.

In order to deal with this effectively, we need everyone’s help.

1. If you find head lice, please let Mrs. Dubois or Mr. Corney know as soon as possible. We need to know!!!

2. If one of your children has head lice, please treat according to the directions in the letter we send home. Financial support for the cost of purchasing products is available. Just ask!

3. Don’t forget to re-treat as indicated in the product directions.

4. If you receive a letter or e-mail from the school that a case of head lice has been reported in your child’s class, please check your child’s head.

Here’s a link to an informative slide show:
http://www.medicinenet.com/head_lice_pictures_slideshow/article.htm

A catchy (sorry for the pun) poem:
Check a head
Stop the spread
Take a peek
Once a week!

Thanks for your help in reducing the nuisance of head lice.
TRUSTEE REPORT
Our local trustee, John McAllister, reports regularly to member of our School Council. His reports are posted on his website at http://www.boarddocs.com/can/ucdsb/board.nsf/public

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION CHANNELS
We e-mail newsletters to all families for whom we have e-mail addresses.

You can follow Meadowview P.S. on Twitter! @meadowviewps

We also suggest you follow @STEO_news and @UCDSB.

Like us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Meadowview-Public-School-Ucdsb/535688249791700
The Facebook Page is updated several times a week.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Parent’s Guide to Stress. In today’s world many families are experiencing high amounts of stress - and that includes our kids and teens. How can you, as a parent, help your child/teen navigate stress?
• Tune into your own stress: how you deal with stress is linked to how you help your child with stress
• Maintain your parent-child relationship: any positive influence you want to have on your child depends on a good relationship

• Recognize the signs of stress: symptoms of stress include angry outbursts, moodiness, irritability, sadness, anxiety or panic, headaches, upset stomach and difficulty sleeping
• Talk about stress, help with problem solving and provide practical support
• Provide a healthy home base: enjoying a variety of healthy foods, getting enough sleep, being active regularly, and having the time and space to relax are the basic tools for coping with stress

For more information: Stress and Your Child. To explore answers to more of your parenting questions, visit www.triplep-parenting.ca or call the Health Action Line at 1-800-660-5853.

School Dental Screening & Fluoride Varnish Program. School dental screening has begun at all area schools - please look for your child’s screening card in their backpacks. School dental screening is a quick look in the mouth with a disposable mirror and flashlight by a Registered Dental Hygienist. It is meant to alert parents of any serious concerns and to offer free dental programs or services to families that qualify. A screening card with our findings will be sent home with each child.

The school fluoride varnish program is a safe and effective way for your child to receive fluoride treatments right at school. A topical fluoride is applied on the baby teeth by a Registered Dental Hygienist or a Certified Dental Assistant twice a year for the next two years. A school fluoride varnish enrollment package will be sent home with all junior kindergarten students.

If you have any questions about school screening or the school fluoride varnish program, please contact the Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit’s Oral Health Team @ 1-800-660-5853.

ATHENS DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL
20th ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW and GIFT MARKET
Saturday, November 11
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Free Admission but a donation jar is available for contributions.
This event helps raise money for school activities, guest speakers and other equipment.
MAKING MARVELOUS MUSIC MATTER

There are still openings for music lessons.
Join in the fun of guitar or piano lessons
Where: Meadowview Public School
When: During school hours
For more information contact
Barbara Withers at 343-320-0089 or
Email: withersbarbara1@Yahoo.ca