



ELLEN FAIRCLOUGH P. S.
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PRINCIPAL: PAUL BATTLER
SUPT. OF SCHOOLS: RASHMI SWARUP
SCHOOL TRUSTEE: JUANITA NATHAN



FAIRCLOUGH GAZETTE

September 5, 2012

Principal's Message

As another wonderful Canadian summer comes to an end, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back to another exciting school year at Ellen Fairclough P.S. I hope that everyone in our school community has had a safe, active and fun summer. It is also my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to a number of new families to the Fairclough community. We have had people moving into existing homes in the community, as well as into the new Gates of Golden Mills development at Markham and Denison. Also, as shared with you in the spring newsletters, we are receiving new registrations from the David Suzuki P.S. community at some grade levels as they have reached capacity in their ever growing community. This enhanced enrolment is helping us to grow and we are so excited to have so many amazing new students and families joining us for the 2012 – 2013 school year!

As per usual at E.F.P.S., our amazing caretaking team, consisting of Mr. Masseau, Mr. Goodwin and Mrs. Emmanouil, has worked tirelessly over the summer months cleaning all areas of the school and the building looks immaculate. I thank them as always for their dedication to ensuring that our school is a safe and clean place to learn. It is not an easy task during our hot summer months but they do an incredible job! It is also my pleasure to welcome, and in some cases welcome back, the following staff members to E.F.P.S.: Mrs. Beckford, Mrs. Clarke, Ms. Ginsler, Mrs. Iyer, Mrs. Kangal-Goodwin, Ms. Lowry, Ms. Walji, and Mrs. Wascher.

Please see the list attached to this newsletter that highlights our tentative staff assignments for the 2012 – 2013 school year. As always, I remind everyone that the class organizations are tentative and caution that a re-organization will likely be necessary pending our final numbers in mid-September. If a re-organization is required, the changes will occur during the third week of September. Any changes that impact your family will be clearly communicated with you ahead of time. I thank everyone in advance for their patience as we deal with the exciting challenge of meeting the needs of our expanding school community.

We have many exciting events and activities planned already for the coming year. Please follow the 'Important Dates to Remember' in our monthly newsletters closely to ensure that your family is aware of these events and activities as they occur. We are asked by the Board to remind you that these events and activities throughout the school year may require the use of student names, age, grade, etc. and while notices will be sent for most events, parents are welcome to discuss any restrictions they require with me at their earliest convenience. As always, we are looking for volunteers to help us in a variety of capacities. Please come into the school office to pick up a volunteer form if you are interested in helping us out.

As an Eco-school, most correspondence at E.F.P.S. is done electronically using the e-mail address that your family has provided previously to the school. If your e-mail address has changed, or you don't receive the September newsletter electronically, please come in to the office to provide us with your contact information. Please note, that regardless of whether you receive the newsletters electronically or not, they are always posted on our school's website under the Newsletters tab.

I regret to inform the community that due to under enrolment Upper Canada Daycare will **not** be offering a Before and After Program at E.F.P.S. this September. If you are interested in formal Before and After school care for your child(ren) please let us know and we will direct you to the Board contact so that you can make your wishes known. If there is enough interest, it is possible that they will run the program later in the fall or early in the new year.

Finally, all students from grades 1 to 8 will be receiving agendas again this year. Please take the time to read over the insert pages at the front of the agenda with your child/ren and return the tear out pages signed and fully completed. New this year, there will also be a booklet sent home with your child entitled 'Guide to the 2012-2013 School Year'. This guide replaces the Board pages that used to be located in

Important Dates to Remember

Monday, September 10—Breakfast Program begins (7:35 am—8:00 am)

Wednesday, September 26 – Gr. 7 Hepatitis B and Gr. 8 H.P.V. Vaccinations

Thursday, September 27 – Meet the Staff Night (details to follow)

Friday, September 28 – P.A. Day – no school for students

Tuesday, October 2 – First School Council Meeting of the year (6:30 pm in Library)

Tentative Staff List/ Phone Ext.

Staff Member	Room #/ Exten- sion	Assignment
Ms. Darcie Sutherland	148	JK/SK
Mrs. Ruby Talwar ext 357	148	DECE
Ms. Anahid Dolabjian	145	JK/SK/ Primary LEAD
Mrs. Sonya Kangal- Goodwin ext. 350	145	A.D.H./E.C.E.
Ms. Lakshmi Iyer	145	DECE
Mrs. Natalie Mascoll	142	JK/SK
Ms. Kelly-Marie Robin- son ext 351	142	DECE
Mrs. Michelle Hudspith	128	Primary Prep.
Mrs. Aleksandra Clark	128	Grade 1
Ms. Rosie Porco ext 358	128	Sp. Ed. Assistant
Mrs. Ajhantha Sivarajah	127	Grade 1/2
Ms. Brooke Ginsler	129	Grade 1/2
Mrs. Claudine D'Adamo	134	Grade 2
Mrs. Megan Scott	219	Grade 3
Ms. Sandra Crawford	220	Grade 3/4
Mr. Tom Nolson	221	Grade 4
Ms. Lena Pang	222	Grade 5/6
Mrs. Lalita D'souza	223	Grade 5/6
Mr. Ethan Andersen	211	Grade 7
Mrs. Rita Hughes	212	Grade 8
Mrs. Angela Beckford	209	SSC - Primary
Mrs. Tamra Walji	210	SSC - Junior
Ms. Katherine Yiu	217	S.S.C – Intermediate
Ms. Megan Robb	136	Community Class Teacher
Ms. Rebecca Cullen ext 361	136	CYW
Ms. Nicola Ranson ext 352	136	A. D. H.
Mrs. Tracy Wascher	135	Community Class Teacher
Ms. Anne Chen ext 356	135	A.D.H.
Ms. Jenna Ralph ext 353	135	A. D. H.
Mrs. Lynne Girdler	216	Literacy Lead/Gr. 7
Mrs. Shirley Legault	218	AST/ELL/J.I. Lead
Ms. Wendy Piowarek	114/116	Learning Resource Cen- tre /Reading Recovery/ T.L.T.
Mrs. Deborah Partch	130	Music
Mme. Jennifer Ram- partab	224	French
Ms. Heather Lowry	229	P+ Teacher
Mrs. Harpinder Kaur	229	P+ C.Y.W.
Mr. Bradley Gibson	229	P+ C.Y.W.
Ms. Bibi Hussain	180	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Vasuki Suresh	183	Secretary
Mr. John Masseur	122	Lead Caretaker
Mr. Sean Goodwin	117	Caretaker
Ms. Tina Emmanouil	117	Caretaker
Mr. Paul Battler	111	Principal

*** Principal's Message Continued***

the student agendas. There is also a tear out page at the centre of this booklet that we require you to sign and return. Doing this helps to ensure that we are all on the same page in regards to how things work at Ellen Fairclough P.S., as well as in York Region District School Board schools. The cost of agendas this year are being subsidized by the school, and as a consumable item that your child will keep, we are asking families to voluntarily contribute funds to partially cover this cost. We are asking that if you have one child receiving an agenda that you contribute \$5, if you have two children receiving agendas that you contribute \$8 total, and if you have three or more children using agendas that you contribute \$10 in total.

As a staff, we are really looking forward to the coming year with excitement and I remind you that your child(ren)'s teachers and I are always available to discuss the needs of your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

P. Battler

FIRST SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Our first School Council Meeting is on Tuesday, October 2 @ 6:30 pm in the Learning Resource Centre. Our fantastic School Council executive members from last year encourage you to come out and get involved. The executive positions of Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary are all available for nomination/election. Please contact the school and ask for Mr. Battler to put your name forward for any Executive position.

We are also looking for voting members! And great participation!

We are looking forward to seeing many new parents at our First Council meeting.

YARD SUPERVISION TIMES

A reminder to all parents and guardians that supervision in the school yard begins at 7:55 am and dismissal time is at 2:40 p.m.. Please do not leave your child unattended in the yard prior to that time as we cannot be responsible for their safety or wellbeing prior to 7:55 am. As well, please do not leave your child in the office area or foyer prior to 7:55am or have them wait there for extended periods of time after school . If you have any questions, please contact the office at 905-294-9455.

SABRINA'S LAW/NUT SAFE POLICY

On January 1, 2006, the Ontario Government passed Sabrina's Law. The Board is in compliance with this law and has developed an Anaphylactic Reactions Policy. We have a number of students and staff in our schools that have a life-threatening food allergy. If some of these students or staff smell or come in contact with foods to which they are allergic, they may go into "anaphylactic shock"— a potentially life-threatening condition. Medication must be administered by injection within minutes to those individuals in order to keep them safe. **To ensure the health and safety of all of our students, please let the school know if your child has a life-threatening allergy.**

In response to these food allergies, we continue to promote our nut safe policy at Ellen Fairclough P.S. **To ensure the safety of all students, we ask that parents continue to check labels to ensure that products containing peanuts, nuts or "possible peanut traces" do not come to school with your children.** If your child inadvertently brings food items that contain nuts to school they will be brought down to the Health Room to eat their snack or lunch and parents will be contacted. We thank all parents for helping to support this important safety policy.

ATTENDANCE—SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM



Ensuring the safety of our students is our priority. Our Safe Arrival Program is in place so that we can account for the whereabouts of absent students. It is for this reason that we ask all parents to inform their child's school of their child's absence. Where it is possible, we ask that this is done in advance. Call the school at 905-294-9455 and leave a message on the answering machine or with the school secretary.

If you have not informed the school of your child's absence in advance, the following steps, in this order, will be executed by the school to ensure your child is safe:

1. We will call your home.
2. If we do not reach you at home, we will call your work and/or cell phone.
3. If we cannot reach you at work, we will call your emergency contact number.
4. If we are not able to obtain information from your emergency contact re: your child's whereabouts, we will speak to a sibling if one is in the school.
5. Should we still not be able to obtain information re: your child's location, we may check with a friend of your child.
6. Should we still not be able to obtain information on your child's whereabouts, we will consider your child MISSING and we will contact York Regional Police.

NO CHILD WITHOUT

Our school is involved in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's *No Child Without* program. There is no cost for students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday to join MedicAlert through this program. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you should consider this program. A child's MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information come to the office for a brochure or go to www.nochildwithout.ca. To register your child you will need a *No Child Without* brochure from the office.

If your child is already part of the *No Child Without* program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-800-668-1507 to update your child's file.



KISS AND RIDE PROGRAM

Please always put safety before convenience and remember that our school driveway and parking lot are extensions of our safe school environment. Travel slowly, obey the staff and safety patrollers, and don't let your children exit the car until you are stopped between the two large orange pylons located in front of the Kindergarten area. The Kiss and Ride Program is organized by the York Regional Police and has set rules for operation. We thank you in advance for cooperating with both staff and our safety patrollers as you safely drop your children off each morning.

PICK UP AT LUNCH TIME AND THE END OF THE DAY

A friendly reminder that the front of the school is a **no parking zone** for all vehicles other than busses. If you are dropping off a lunch or picking up your child, please use the parking lot at the south end of the school or park on the street at the front of the school. Safety vehicles require full access to the front of the building at all times in case of emergencies.

BULLYING, CYBERBULLYING OR INTIMIDATION



Bullying, cyberbullying or intimidation is a combination of power and aggression. It occurs when a student maliciously and repeatedly oppresses, harasses or intimidates another student verbally, physically or psychologically. Instances and consequences of bullying, cyberbullying or intimidation are dealt with under the Safe and Supportive Schools Policy. It is important that parents closely monitor their child's on-line activity and talk regularly with him/her to help prevent or detect instances of bullying, cyberbullying, or intimidation.

PHYSICAL CONDUCT

In order to prevent physical injury and because of our concern for student safety, students at Ellen Fairclough P.S. are expected to avoid activities that involve aggressive play and touching. Activities that are not acceptable include wrestling, piggy-backing, tripping, pushing, shoving, body-checking, poking, punching, and other forms of play in stairwells, hallways and the school yard. During recess breaks, students are able to play organized games such as basketball and soccer as well as activities such as skipping and tag. In order to help our students with this issue, and encourage respectful student interaction, we follow a "HANDS OFF" program at EFPS.



Electronic Posting of Digital Images and Video

Throughout the year, many of you try to capture class and school-wide events with digital cameras or video recorders. Sometimes these experiences then get posted on social networking sites such as Facebook. Please be aware that what you do with those images is of some concern to us at the school. While these internet resources can be a wonderful way to share with family and friends who are not able to attend our many events, it also makes these images available to *anyone* around the world! I urge you to carefully consider what you post on-line. You should not post images of children other than your own without their permission. You should also avoid any mention of names (visually or verbally) and, avoid using or sharing the name of the school. Thank you for considering our request to respect the privacy and safety of all of our staff and students. Please contact the administrative team at the school if you have any questions.



Breakfast Program 2012—2013

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to announce that we will be offering the Breakfast Program once again this year. Studies have shown that the academic progress of students is enhanced when they eat a healthy breakfast each day. We urge all of our families to encourage their children to eat a healthy balanced breakfast on a daily basis.

On Monday, September 10th, we will restart the Breakfast Program and it will run each day from 7:35 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. We ask for a voluntary donation of 0.25 cents each day per child to help us to offset the cost of the program, although no child will be turned away. All menus will be strictly based on Canada's Food Guide. We will be mindful of various religious beliefs and will happily accommodate accordingly.

Please be advised that during the Breakfast Program photographs might be taken for our sponsors and donors. Please indicate below if you wish for your child to participate.

We greatly appreciate your support and contributions, and look forward to seeing your child at the Breakfast Program.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Dadabhoy
Breakfast Program Coordinator



(Tear off and return)

Yes, I would like my son/daughter _____ (name of the child) in

Grade _____ (teacher's name) _____ to attend the BREAKFAST PROGRAM.

- I give permission to the school to take pictures of my child for Breakfast Program sponsors.**
- I do not give permission to the school to take pictures of my child for the Breakfast Program sponsors.**

Please note any specific religious requirement or allergies that your child may have:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

VOLUNTEERS

Yes, I would like to volunteer to support this program.

Name: _____ Phone No.: _____

(* Please note that each child requires this form to be returned in order to participate in the Breakfast Program.)