



The Mount Joy Messenger

April 2018

Principal—Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes

Vice Principal—Lily Leung

Superintendent—Dan Wu

Trustee—Allan Tam

April at a glance

2 — Easter Monday No Classes

4— Chef a l'ecole Grades 5&7

19 — Spirit Assembly & Jump Rope for Heart kick off!

27— Queen's Park Grade 5s

May 3— Arts Night (MJAFF)
Grades 6-8 6pm

You're the Chef: on Thursdays
March 29th—
April 19th



From the Principal's Desk

Welcome Back! We hope that everyone had a wonderful March Break and enjoyed the long weekend. As we look forward to the beautiful spring weather outside, inside, we continue to work hard to achieve our academic goals for the final three months of the school year. Our expectations for success remain high for all the students and we are equally committed to ensuring that your child's social and emotional well being is always at the forefront of everything we do here at Mount Joy PS.

At school, we honoured Earth Hour on March 23rd by shutting off all our lights and powering down our computers for an hour. We will continue to honour the Earth throughout the month of April through a series of challenges presented by our Eco Team. It's tremendously important for us to do our part to protect and care for our Earth! Now that the warmer weather is here, why not encourage your children to continue this effort by walking or riding their bikes to school. The health benefits of this are significant and so are the benefits to our Earth!

Our Family Adventure Night on March 22nd, hosted by School Council was also a great success. These are events and initiatives that contribute to the spirit of our school and engage our students and families. Our Swish4Kids fundraiser was held on March 29th and all money raised supported 360Kids, an organization that supports homeless youth in York Region. Events organized by our students and run by our students help to develop an awareness about how important it is to be not only committed to academics but to global citizenship. Our grade 8 students did an awesome job!

Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes & Lily Leung



STUDENT ALLERGIES

Due to the severe allergy to peanuts / nuts and shellfish of several of our students, we are asking that NO peanuts / nut products or shellfish be brought into the school for snacks or lunches. If you would like a list of nut free snack and lunch ideas please visit:

<http://snacksafely.com/>



Please **DO NOT** send any food items to school to celebrate your child's birthday or other holidays. Mount Joy is a Healthy School and we do have students who are allergic to certain food items. Thank you for your understanding.



FOREST OF READING

We are excited to announce that the Forest of Reading will begin at MJPS after the March Break! This reading program will be an in school program run by teachers and students themselves in the Library. Please visit the Library to see our selected nominees and books for Forest of Reading 2018.

There are eight programs in the Forest of Reading®, a project of the Ontario Library Association, each planned for a different age group. This year, our school will participate in Red Maple, Blue Spruce, Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch Fiction and Nonfiction this year. All are designed to promote reading for enjoyment, to increase awareness of quality Canadian literature, to enhance student powers of discrimination and skill in evaluating books, and to provide opportunities to engage in discussions about books whether at school or at home. Last year over 250,000 readers across the country read and voted for the best book in each category.

This is how the program works: Readers read the ten Canadian titles on the list, and then vote for their favourite (must read a minimum of 5 to be eligible to vote). Our students will participate in selecting the winner of the Blue Spruce and Silver Birch Awards. Based on voting across the province, the best book is announced and the author is honoured with an award at the Festival of Trees™ in Toronto in May.

Our Silver Birch Club will meet on Day 5s in the Library at morning recess. The Blue Spruce Program will run in classes and in the Library during instructional time with students.

Thank you to the MJPS Parent Council for helping us make the Forest of Reading program happen here this year!

For more information, please come visit us here in the library!



Swish4Kids

This past Thursday, Mr. Berger's Grade 8 Class hosted the first ever "Swish 4 Kids" event. This event was to fundraise for "360 Kids"; a local charity that helps troubled or homeless youth by providing programs to keep them safe and off of the street. Mount Joy took this event very seriously because every child deserves to be safe and have someone they can trust. This event brought the community together through a variety of basketball games. Everyone seemed to have a great time and close to 100 students participated. Together, as a team, we raised \$500 dollars with all the money going to "360 Kids". We would like to thank everyone for coming out to participate and make this event such a success.

- Jasmine J., Grade 8 Student



Scholastic Book Fair

The **Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to our school again! What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event.

We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Your support of this literary event is a key part of helping us obtain new books and resources for our library and classrooms. You'll find hundreds of quality books at our Book Fair with a wide assortment for all reading levels.

Visit the Scholastic Book Fair's website at www.scholastic.ca/book-fairs to get more detailed information about these books. You can also watch book trailers and author videos with your child on the BookTube page.

Students will be bringing home a Book Fair flyer that provides a preview of only a FEW of the many books available to purchase at our Fair. Don't forget to mark the Book Fair dates on your calendar!

We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great opportunity. Thank you for believing in books and the impact of reading on your child's future.

Sincerely,

Mount Joy Public School

Book Fair Dates: May 7-11th, 2018

Location: MJPS Library

Time: Every day at morning recess from 9:55 to 10:25 am

We accept cheques made payable to our school. Visa and MasterCard are welcome, too!

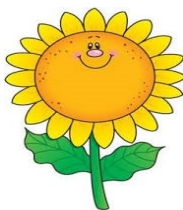


From the Eco Team

Spring is here and gardening is (almost) in the air! The **Eco team is holding a fundraiser selling non-GMO seeds**. The company uses vegetable-dye ink and recycled paper. When seeds are purchased through Make It Sow, we are making a positive impact on our planet. When an order is made, indigenous seedlings will be planted in non-harvest areas in Canada. For every 10 packs sold, one tree will be planted! That is definitely worth celebrating! Information was sent home with youngest and only students!

The price ranges from **\$10-15 per pack (5-10 packets in one pack)**.

The fundraiser will run from Wednesday, March 28th - Friday, April 13th



Hand-washing

Children share many items throughout the school day and at

home including books, puzzles, computers, water bottles and sports equipment. Sharing can spread germs that can cause sickness, especially during cold and flu season. Correct handwashing is the best way to prevent the spread of infection.

To help keep the people in your home healthy, follow these simple steps:

Encourage children to sneeze into the bend of their arm rather than into their hands.

Make time for handwashing, especially before eating, after using the bathroom, blowing your nose, sneezing, handling garbage, touching animals, playing outdoors or visiting someone who is sick

Wash your hands whenever they look or feel dirty

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE
THE HEALTHY CHOICE THE
EASY ONE!**

For more information about preventing infections and proper handwashing, visit york.ca/preventing-infections



Check out Mount Joy's 2018 Twitter Feed:

<https://twitter.com/MJPSMarkham>



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration commenced on January 19, 2018 for the 2018-19 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2018, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. A kindergarten information session for parents is being planned for this spring. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact the school.

Summer Institute

Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum.

The program runs for six weeks during July and August. It is offered at 11 school sites around York Region.

For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the Summer Institute page on www.yrdsb.ca.

Registration opens March 7. Families can now register online, as well as in person or by mail.

Eco News!

Do you have markers, pens and highlighters that have run out of ink? Do you have mechanical pencils that no longer work? Hold onto them! You no longer need to throw them in the garbage. We at Mount Joy P.S., are collecting them to recycle. Teracycle in partnership with Staples Canada are running this recycling program to allow us to divert these used writing instruments from going in landfills and give them a second life.

Accepted waste:

Any brand of pens and pen caps

Mechanical pencils

Markers and marker caps

Highlighters and highlighter caps



Our Website!

Please bookmark this website so you can check to see what is happening at Mount Joy PS.

<http://mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca/>

Our website aims to be more environmentally friendly by reducing the amount of communication sent home on paper.



April 2018

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|-----|
| 1 Easter Sunday | 2 | 3 (Day 2) Sushi lunch | 4 (Day 3) Pizza lunch Chef a l'ecole | 5 (Day 4) Subway lunch You're the Chef | 6 (Day 5) | 7 |
| 8 | 9 (Day 1) Pasta Lunch | 10 (Day 2) Sushi lunch | 11 (Day 3) Pizza lunch | 12 (Day 4) Subway lunch You're the Chef | 13 (Day 5) | 14 |
| 15 | 16 (Day 1) Pasta Lunch | 17 (Day 2) Sushi lunch | 18 (Day 3) Pizza lunch | 19 (Day 4) Subway lunch You're the Chef Spirit Assem- bly | 20 (Day 5) Bag2School pick up | 21 |
| 22 | 23 (Day 1) Pasta Lunch | 24 (Day 2) Sushi lunch | 25 (Day 3) Pizza lunch | 26 (Day 4) Subway lunch | 27 (Day 5) Grade 5s at Queen's Park | 28 |
| 29 | 30 (Day 1) Pasta Lunch | 1 (Day 2) Sushi lunch | 2 (Day 3) Pizza lunch | 3 (Day 4) Subway lunch Arts Night (MJAFF) Grades 6-8 6pm | 4 (Day 5) | 5 |



Bag2School!

This program encourages our community to think about **reducing, reusing and recycling textiles**. It brings awareness to the amount of textiles produced, purchased, worn and eventually thrown into the landfill. It allows us to make a positive environmental impact by **donating our unwanted used clothing**. The textiles will be taken to sell as used clothing in Canada and abroad or taken to recycling facilities where they will be recycled into new products. There is an added bonus. The textiles will be weighed and exchanged for money that we will put towards environmental activities/products.

Some of the benefits of reusing textiles:

- The vast majority (89%) of discarded textiles still have 75% wear left
- Extending the average life of clothes by just three months of active use would lead to a 5-10% reduction in each of the carbon, water and waste footprints

Some of the benefits of recycling textiles:

- Reduces the amount of pesticides used in growing cotton or to make fabrics from petroleum sources and the water needed to dye fabrics
- Cuts down on the pollutants, greenhouse gases and volatile organic compounds released into the water and air from manufacturing processes.

(source: bag2school.ca)

Items that can be collected are:

- **any clean clothing** in reasonable condition
- soft toys
- shoes (tied together, please)
- belts
- purses
- drapes
- linen

Now is the perfect time to declutter and clean out that closet!

Collection dates: **Wednesday, April 19th- Friday, April 20th** in the office conference room

Thanks again for taking care of our planet and supporting our green program,

The Eco Team