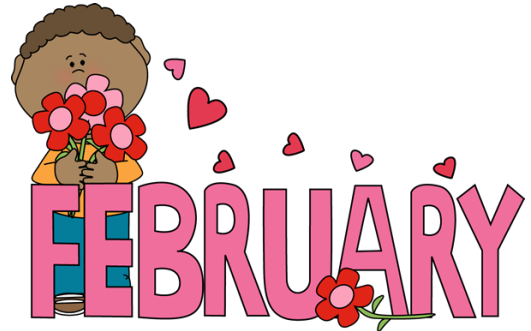




The Mount Joy Messenger

Principal—Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes
Vice Principal—Lily Leung
Superintendent—Dan Wu
Trustee—Allan Tam



From the Principal's Desk

Mount Joy has been a busy place and will continue to be in the month of February! We had an amazing turn out at our “A Evening at Hogwarts” for our Gr.3-6 families. Thank you to everyone who came to support our Family Literacy Night. A special thank you to the Mount Joy staff for all of your hard work in making the evening such a success! In the months ahead, our students will be involved in a wide variety of activities and of course we will squeeze in a lot of learning with and from each other as well!

On February 13th, your child(ren) will bring home their Term 1 Report Cards. Please take some time to read the Report Card with your child(ren). The Learning Skills section on page one of the Report Card is incredibly important and has a profound impact on your child's success at school and beyond. Please take some extra time to talk about these with your child(ren). Once you have read the Report Card and celebrated your child's successes set some goals for Term 2. You have the opportunity to record these comments and goals on the last page of the Report Card and we appreciate you taking the time to do this and sending it back to the school so we can work as a team to achieve the goals. Communication between home and school is something we value at Mount Joy PS so if you have any questions about the Report Card please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. They will be happy to speak to you.

February at a glance

- 2 — P.A. Day
- 6 — School Council at 6:30pm
- 13 — Report Cards Go Home
- 16 — Lunar New Year
- 19 — Family Day Holiday
- 21 — Grade 8 Graduation Photos



新年快樂
Happy Chinese New Year

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.



Healthy Schools Update

There will be updated news and events about Healthy School initiatives and information in the front hall cabinet. Currently, we are encouraging students to “BOOMERANG” their snack and lunch waste every Friday. Reminder boomerang cut-outs have been created and distributed to every classroom by student members on the Healthy School Team. Our goal is to bring awareness to all the excess garbage and packaging created and hopefully encourage more families to buy in bulk and use reusable containers.

The other initiative for the months of December & January was for staff and students to pack at least three of the four food groups each day for snack and lunch. This is called the “**Healthy Lunch Challenge**”. All classes have been provided with a tracking calendar. Each class has a Healthy School Representative(s), and they have been recording the number of students in their classroom that participate in this challenge. Students are also encouraged to initial their name on the Student Voice Board located outside of the library on the days that they participate in the challenge to remind and encourage others to think about healthy food choices. Continuing from last year, Mount Joy has received funding so that healthy snacks can be provided in “grab and go” bins three times a week outside of the library. These snacks include a fruit and/or vegetable and one other food group for students to take if they choose to.

What's in your child's lunch?

All parents want their child to eat well, but packing healthy lunches can often be a challenge! Here are some ideas to make lunches a little less stressful:

- Keep a list of healthy lunch and snack ideas.
- Involve your children in planning their lunches; let them pick their fruits and vegetables.
- While packaged cookies and granola bars are convenient, pack fruits or vegetables for at least one snack.
- Soup, leftovers, rice or pasta dishes can be heated in the morning and stored in pre-heated thermal containers.
- Send a reusable water bottle.

Children will not always eat their entire lunch. Be sure to offer other healthy meals and snacks throughout the day.



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. Terracycle 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

**Permanent markers
and marker caps**



Check out Mount Joy's 2018
Twitter Feed:

[https://twitter.com/
MJPSMarkham](https://twitter.com/MJPSMarkham)

Our Website!

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

**h t t p : / /
mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca/**

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



Handwashing

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 hand-



washing 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/
preventinginfections](http://york.ca/preventinginfections)



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.

Message From Our Trustee

With report cards coming home, this is a good time of year to review your child's progress and to set goals for the rest of the school year.

As trustees, our goals are set out in the Board [Multi-Year Plan](#). In the coming months, trustees will be reviewing and updating this plan. This process will include opportunities for public input, and trustees will be out in the communities talking about this. More information will be shared about this in the spring.

Developing and reviewing the Multi-Year Plan is just one of our responsibilities as publicly elected officials. Trustee responsibilities also include hiring the Director of Education, setting [Board policies](#) and the [annual budget](#), and communicating with the public.



This is a good time to learn more about the [role of trustees](#) with the next [municipal election](#) taking place later this year on October 22, 2018. York Region District School Board has [12 trustees](#), elected by ratepayers. As a trustee, listening and communicating with families is an important part of my role. Students, families and members of the public are welcome to attend and observe any public Board, Advisory or Board Committee meetings and to share their views with us on policy and Board governance.

As we move into the second half of the year, I hope that you are seeing evidence of your child's learning and progress, and finding opportunities to get involved in their learning and the life of the school.

I wish you all the best for a successful second term.

Allan Tam

February 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 (Day 3) Subway lunch	2 (Day 0) PA DAY	3
4	5 (Day 4) Pasta Lunch	6 (Day 5) Sushi lunch	7 (Day 1) Pizza lunch	8 (Day 2) Subway lunch	9 (Day 3)	10
11	12 (Day 4) Pasta Lunch	13 (Day 5) Sushi lunch	14 (Day 1) Pizza lunch Dance-A-Thon Valentine's Day	15 (Day 2) Subway lunch	16 (Day 3) Lunar New Year 	17
18 	19 (Day 0) Family Day	20 (Day 4) Sushi lunch	21 (Day 5) Pizza lunch Grade 8 Graduation Photo Day	22 (Day 1) Subway lunch	23 (Day 2)	24
25	26 (Day 3) Pasta Lunch	27 (Day 4) Sushi lunch	28 (Day 5) Pizza lunch Dental Screening JK/SK/Gr.2/ Gr.8)			