

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 5

Mount Joy Public School

WEBSITE: WWW.MOUNTJOY.PS.YRDSB.EDU.ON.CA

EMAIL: MOUNT.JOY.PS@YRDSB.CA

PHONE: (905) 202-1684



News from the Office

On behalf of the staff at Mount Joy Public School, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the families who helped make our annual Family Literacy Night a huge success! The evening was filled with a multitude of fun and unique literacy opportunities for our younger readers and writers and their families to enjoy. We hope that you were able to take in the campfire stories shared by Ms. Gorman in the makeshift camp sight in Mount Joy's very own gymnasium, as well as the sing-a-longs around the school lead by Mr. Lindo with his guitar. The beautiful creations produced by our students in the Eric Carle and Barbara Reid stations were fantastic! Exploring dual language texts and iPad apps were also another fun way to engage with literacy and were accessible for all of our families. The positive responses to the scavenger hunt and literacy picture book trivia was so overwhelming that it was difficult to choose all the lucky winners. And finally, the ever popular 'book swap' of both new and gently used books could not have been so successful without all the families and staff who were more than generous with their donations. The engagement by staff, students and their families is a testament to the strong commitment to literacy that we all share as a school community.

Term 1 Report Cards

**will be going home on
Wednesday, February 18th**

This month your child will be receiving their 1st Term Provincial Report Card outlining their progress from the beginning of the school year until the end of the term. Areas of focus will be their learning skills and their strengths and next steps with Ministry expectations with respect to their grade level.

We encourage you to continue to have conversations with your child and their teacher to help support their success at school. Thank you for your continued partnership with the school.

-  **Principal:** Mr. Ken Pettigrew
 -  **Vice Principal:** Mrs. Christina Di Stefano
 -  **EOAA:** Ms. Alison Meechan
 -  **Secretary:** Ms. Nuria Costa
 -  **Trustee:** Mr. Allan Tam
 -  **Superintendent of Schools:** Mr. Dan Wu
 -  **School Council Chairs:** Ms. Anita Jarchow
Ms. Karen Ngai
- 

Literacy

As many of you know, January 27th was International Family Literacy Day and we would like to share with you some of the suggestions that you can use going forward into February.

International Literacy Helpful Hints

Talk with your child:

Having conversations with your child helps him or her to

- ✓ Learn new words and phrases
- ✓ Explore how language works
- ✓ Express feelings, opinions, and reactions
- ✓ Ask questions to clarify his or her thoughts and feelings

Listening to your child helps him or her to

- ✓ Understand that his or her opinion is valued
- ✓ Learn to listen to others



Read with your child:

Reading together every day is really important, and can take place anywhere and anytime. You can try reading some of the following with your child:

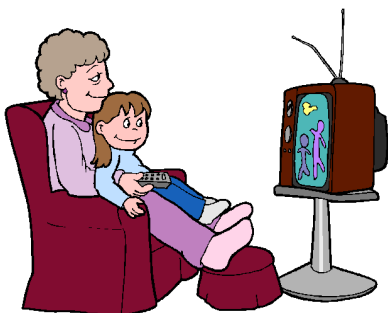
- ✓ Picture books and alphabet books
- ✓ Food labels and recipes
- ✓ Traffic and construction signs
- ✓ Newspapers and magazines
- ✓ Television guides and flyers
- ✓ Card, letters, e-mails, and Web pages



Share with your child:

Participate in a variety of experiences with your child, including

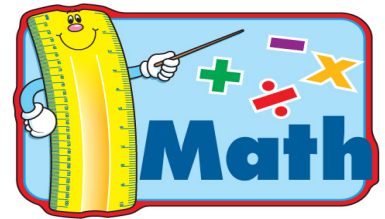
- ✓ Going to a library event such as story hour
- ✓ Watching a television show and discussing things such as what might happen next or what the characters were like
- ✓ Going to a social, cultural or recreational activity in your neighbourhood



Math Tips

Illuminations is a project designed by the NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) that offers free online games that align with curriculum expectations. It also provides instructions for simple games you can play together at home. Why not sneak some math into your family game night? Games range in skill level from pre-k to grade 12 so there's something for everyone. Having a positive attitude about math is a simple thing every parent can do to help his or her child. Check out this free online resource.

<http://www.nctm.org/illuminationsgames/>



Food Alert Regarding Allergies

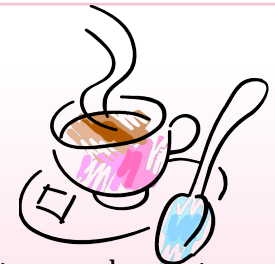
"WOW BUTTER" IS NOT RECOMMENDED AT SCHOOL

Regional Health Departments state that schools must exercise due caution and refrain from allowing soy bean butter and other similar peanut-free spreads, like "WOW" soy butter, into schools. The risk is that these types of products look, smell and taste like peanut butter. It is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish these products from real peanut butter. As a result, it makes it very challenging for school personnel to maintain a safe environment for all students. As alternatives, other peanut-free spreads that don't look, smell and taste like peanut butter can be used as part of a nutritious lunch. (eg. hummus, low fat ricotta cheese, vegetable purees, bean dips, or guacamole). We thank the Mount Joy families for helping us keep our students safe.



Community Tea

Join us in the Library for some coffee/tea and treats on Friday, February 27th at 8 am and find out what's happening at Mount Joy!



Our School Council has just initiated a monthly Family Tea inviting all parents, grandparents, and guardians. This is an opportunity for families to meet and mingle, to share ideas, to ask questions, and to find out more about the role of School Council in the life of Mount Joy.

Reminder that the **Fundscrip** campaign is still active and it's an easy way to support our students at Mount Joy. You can register at www.fundscrip.com using our invitation code **JXK336**.

For more information on school council or to be added to our distribution list, please email mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com.

Library News

ONLINE RESOURCES

Mount Joy students have access to many online literacy resources. Students can use these reading resources to help develop and strengthen their reading skills.

TUMBLEBOOKS

This website has many different picture books in a few different languages. You can read the stories or have the computer read them to you.
www.tumblebooks.com/library/

Login: mountjoy
Password: books



BOOK FLIX

This website pairs fiction and non-fiction books to provide information on a variety of topics. Learn about animals, people, countries... You can read the books or listen to them online.
http://www.scholastic.ca/education/bookflix_ontario/

Login: dsbyork
Password: dsby7692

TEACHING KIDS NEWS

This site provides up to date news for kids on a variety of interesting events. Keep up to date on the world around you.
www.teachingkidsnews.com



Spot Light on Student Voice Risk Taking at Mount Joy





By Anagha, Tiana and Trudy, Grades 3/4

At Mount Joy we have all been working on taking risks! Even writing this paragraph is taking a big risk for us. If you don't know what we mean, taking risks are doing something new, like something you haven't done before. Sometimes taking risks can be scary but if you do, you will overcome your fears.

Every week in Mrs. Baker's class we take risks. Some ways that we have taken risks are partnering up with new people in class when we work in groups. When we go outside we try to play with new friends that may not have anyone else to play with. In gym class we aren't afraid to play a new sport that we may not be so good at. These are just a few examples of taking risks!!! Your child takes risks every day, why don't you?



February 2015

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
2 <i>PA DAY</i>	3 <i>School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	4 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	5 <i>Subway Day</i>	6
9	10 <i>Grad Photos Sushi Day</i>	11 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	12 <i>Subway Day</i>	13
16 <i>Family Day</i>	17 <i>Sushi Day</i>	18 <i>Reports go home Pizza Day</i> 	19 <i>Subway Day</i>	20
23	24 <i>Sushi Day</i>	25 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	26 <i>Subway Day</i>	27 <i>Community Tea at 8:00 am</i>

Looking ahead to March

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
2	3 <i>Sushi Day School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	4 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	5 <i>Subway Day</i>	6
9	10 <i>Sushi Day</i>	11 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	12 <i>Subway Day</i>	13



For the complete newsletter please visit the
Mount Joy Public School website:
www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca

