

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 6

# Mount Joy Public School

**Website:** [www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

**Email:** [mount.joy.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:mount.joy.ps@yrdsb.ca)

**Phone:** (905) 202-1684



## *News from the Office*

To all of our Mount Joy families, we wish you a very Happy New Year! With the change of the calendar comes the opportunity to reflect upon achievements from the year that has passed, and to set new goals for the year ahead. We look forward to the continued pleasure of working alongside you and your family in the service of your child's academic and social-emotional well-being.

As we begin 2016, we would like to take this opportunity to remind families to encourage their children to continue to expand their horizons by exploring one of the many extra curricular activities and clubs taking place at Mount Joy Public School. Our very first Fashion Club will be starting in January whereby interested primary, junior and intermediate students may try their hand at designing various accessories that they can proudly don at the school and in our community. We hope to see everyone taking a risk and trying something new this year!

It was a pleasure to have so many of you join us at our Family Math Night on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The evening was an exciting opportunity to bring mathematics alive for families. We hope that you had a chance to try our "Escape It" room adventures where families worked together to solve math problems to escape the mysterious classrooms of Old Miss Crabtree. There were also many math games, recipe station, Joy-A-Rama probability games, computer applications, musical performances and math stories to help us spread the message that, indeed, MATH IS FUN! We hope to make this an annual event.

Once again, happy New Year!  
Mr. Pettigrew & Mrs. Di Stefano

## Please Join Us For **Snuggle Up & Read Night**

For Families with Children in Grades K-2


Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

6 - 7:30 pm

Come and enjoy the wonders of reading with your children and partake in an exciting evening of early literacy activities!

In the coming weeks, you will hear more about our Family Literacy Night, which we will host on Thursday, January 28. This event will be for families of students in Kindergarten through Grade 2. Come in your PJs and enjoy wonderful activities led by MJPS staff.

We look forward to seeing you!

 **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 Corner

Now that Winter Break has ended and the progress reports have gone home, the Literacy team has some suggestions to help continue your child's progress in reading and writing this break:

## **K – 2**

### **Tip 1 Talk With Your Child**

Talking to your child and encouraging him or her to talk to you are extremely important. Listening and speaking are a child's introduction to language and literacy. Activities such as talking and singing will teach your child the sounds and structures of language, making it easier for him or her to learn to read and write.

- Encourage your child to tell you about his or her day – about activities, sports, and games.
- Ask lots of questions so that your child knows you are interested in what he or she is thinking about.

### **Tip 2 Make Reading and Writing Fun**

Reading aloud to your child is the best way to get him or her interested in reading. Not only is it fun for the whole family, but it will also help your child to learn what reading is about. Encourage your child to write also. Here are some things you can do to help make reading and writing fun for your child:

- Read stories aloud with drama and excitement! Use different voices for different characters in a story. Use your child's name instead of a character's name. Make puppets and use them to act out the story.
- Point to the words as you read them. This will help your child make the connection between the spoken words and the words on the page.



### **Tip 3 Talk About Books**

Talking about the books you read is just as important as reading them! Talking with your child about a story or other books helps your child understand it and connect it to his or her own experience of life. It also helps enrich your child's vocabulary with new words and phrases. Encourage your child to read informational materials, such as children's science magazines or websites. Talk about the materials with your child and ask plenty of questions.

Here are some ways to help your child learn the skills needed for comprehension, reasoning, and critical thinking:

- Look at the cover and the title of a storybook with your child, and ask your child what he or she thinks might happen in the story.
- Encourage your child to ask questions and to make comments on the pictures and the story before, during, and after reading it.
- Encourage your child to think critically about all books. Does he or she agree or disagree with the author? Why? Is the information accurate or not?



## Daily Activities That Promote Literacy

### Reading

- use newspapers and flyers to design shopping lists
- read recipes to support following directions on "How to Make Something"
- read books together in your home language

### Writing

- writing postcards, letters to family and friends
- design healthy meals, create family recipe together
- create short shopping lists for menus or family meals



## Understanding the Bilingual Advantage

Students who see their previously developed language skills acknowledged by their teachers and parents are more likely to feel confident and take the risks involved in learning a new language. They are able to view English as an addition to their first language, rather than as a substitution for it. There are numerous positive outcomes that result from continuing to promote the ongoing use and development of ELLs' first languages. Respect and use of the first language contribute both to the building of a confident learner and to the efficient learning of additional languages and academic achievement, including:

- developing mental flexibility;
- developing problem-solving skills;
- communicating with family members;
- understanding cultural and family values;
- developing awareness of global issues;
- expanding career opportunities;
- experiencing a sense of cultural stability and continuity.



Students who are able to communicate and are literate in more than one language are better prepared to participate in a global society. Though this has benefits for the individual, Canadian society also stands to gain from having a multilingual workforce. The children now entering Ontario schools are a valuable resource for Canada.

*-Supporting English Language Learners A practical guide for Ontario educators Grades 1 to 8*

Keep using your first language while your child is learning English! =)

The above has been translated into Chinese and Tamil. Please let us know if there is an error. If you are interested in translating a part of or all of our newsletters, please contact Ms. Tami MacIsaac at 905 202-1684 ext 622

## 了解雙語優勢

學生看到自己受到老師和家長的承認以前開發語言能力更容易感到有信心，甚至踴躍參與學習一門新語言的風險。他們看英語為他們的第二語言，而不是代替他們的第一語言。有明顯跡象顯示，繼續推進正在進行的運用英語學習者的第一語言和開發許多積極的成果。尊重和使用第一語言，都有助於建立學習者的信心，額外的語言能力和學術成果，其中包括：

- 發展心理彈性;
- 解決問題的能力;
- 與家人溝通;
- 體驗文化的穩定性和連續性感;
- 了解文化和家庭觀念;
- 全球性問題的認識;
- 擴大就業機會。

學生能夠溝通和認識一種以上的語言將會更好地準備參與一個全球性的社會。雖然這是個人好處，加拿大社會亦獲得多種語言的勞動力所帶來裨益。現在進入安省學校的孩子們是加拿大的寶貴資源。

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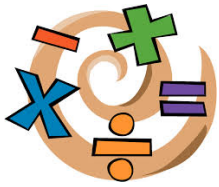
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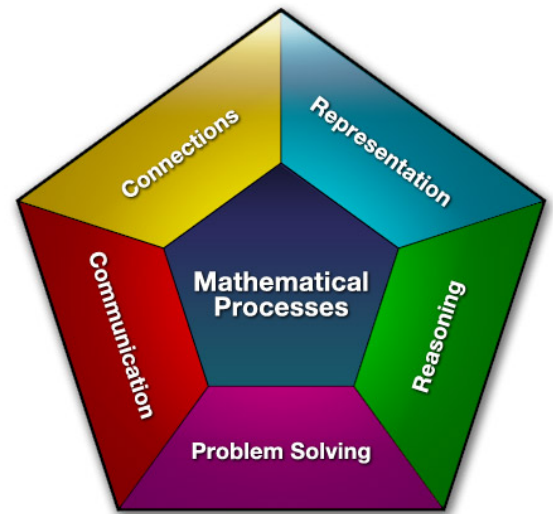
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# Math Messages

## The Mathematical Processes

Mathematical thinking involves much more than knowing what operational strategy to use to solve a problem. It is the capability to think about a problem deeply, and understand what facts are required in order to make sense of the problem. It requires making a plan to examine the problem, thinking about the “reasonableness” of a solution, and then communicating and proving that the answer is correct. In order to nurture and develop mathematical thinking, we need to understand and balance these basic notions. These interconnected mathematical processes support a student’s need to learn and apply as they work to achieve the expectations in all strands of the mathematics curriculum. They help to make the learning activities more meaningful for students. It is important to recognize that students should be actively engaged in applying these ideas throughout the entire program, not just for a particular strand.



Effective learning in mathematics is supported by the following processes:

### 1. Problem Solving

- ❖ Learning activities are structured around a problem or inquiry.

### 2. Reasoning and Proving

- ❖ Mathematical thinking is developed with opportunities for students to make conjectures and justify results.

### 3. Connecting

- ❖ Activities allow students to connect new concepts to what they already know.

### 4. Representing

- ❖ Activities provide opportunities to represent concepts in a variety of ways in order to understand.

### 5. Communicating

- ❖ This essential process allows the students to express their comprehension verbally, visually and in writing.

### 6. Reflecting

- ❖ Students think about and keep track of their own learning.

### 7. Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies

- ❖ With the use of manipulatives, pictures, and strategies, students can represent and do the math given.



## Healthy Bits and Bites



Mount Joy has a “Healthy Lunch Challenge” coming up at Mount Joy January 25-29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We encourage students to work with their parents to pack their lunch and snacks for the week and CHALLENGE students to pack at least *three* food groups each day. We also ask you to consider to pack an extra food group on Wednesdays if your child orders a cookie and pizza on that day. Adding a fruit or vegetable in their lunch bag will ensure that they are getting all the vitamins they need to be successful at school. Just a reminder for the New Year, we are recognized as a Healthy School so if you would like your child’s teacher to celebrate their birthday at school please consider sending non-food items such as pencils, erasers, etc.

Our Healthy School Team is continuing to encourage students and their parents to walk to school on “i-Walk Wednesday”. To make the experience fun, consider creating a “walking school bus” by picking up other friends at their homes on your route to school.

## Community Tea



Join us in the Library for some coffee/tea and treats on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 am in the Library and find out what's happening at Mount Joy!



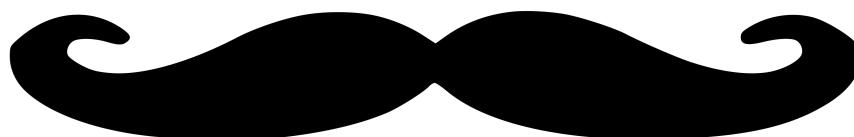
Our School Council has a monthly Family Tea inviting all parents, grandparents, and guardians. This is an opportunity for families to meet and mingle, to share ideas, to ask questions, and to find out more about the role of School Council in the life of Mount Joy.

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](http://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](mailto:mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com).

## November 2016

We had a fantastic time this past month with all the Movember activities. Floor Hockey games between the students and teachers, movies at lunch, and a kindergarten dance-a-thon. Not to mention our first ever Running of the Moustaches. Throughout we also discussed the importance of a healthy lifestyle in avoiding many types of cancer. All in, we raised \$1273.05 for the Canadian Cancer Society. Thank you everyone for your support for this worthy cause.





## Council Corner



Happy New Year! Hope you had a happy holiday season and are ready for 2016! We have some exciting things happening this season. If you'd like to volunteer with school council, we would love your help on some of the following subcommittees.

### **Pizza Lunch subcommittee**

We need help on a weekly basis every Wednesday from approximately 11:30am - 12:30pm for pizza lunch distribution.

### **Family Fitness Night subcommittee**

We received ProGrant provincial funds to hold Family Fitness nights which will be held in March. We are looking for people to share ideas and implement them for the event.

### **Healthy Snack Program subcommittee**

School Council is interested in launching a healthy snack program at Mount Joy. We would like to plan a pilot project for the Spring, and if you're interested in planning, or helping with the actual execution during the school day, please contact us.

### **Community Tea subcommittee**

We are planning to host workshops and discussions at our monthly community teas. We need help promoting within the school community, and also help with organizing sessions which are relevant to our school community.

Please contact us ([mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com)) if you'd like to participate or if you have any questions.

We also have Northern Karate coming to the school for a lunch time program (Grades 1 - 5) so look out for their flyers coming home. There will be a free session the first week back to school so have your kids try it out and get some exercise! All profits will be going to Mount Joy PS.

January Council Meeting - Tuesday, January 5th @ 6:30 pm in the Library

January Community Tea - Friday, January 29th @ 8:15 am in the Library

Your Co-Chairs,  
Anita and Karen

<http://MountJoyPS.wordpress.com>

[mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com)

Twitter: [MountJoyCouncil](#)

# Book Fair

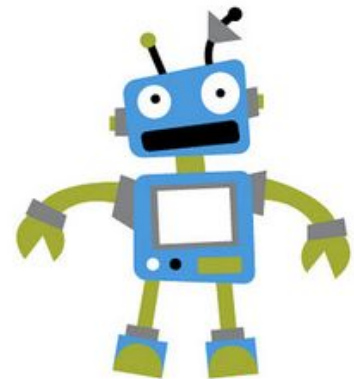
*Scholastic Book Fair Coming to Mount Joy from Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>*

We are having a Book Fair in the library Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday January 29<sup>th</sup>. Students will visit the library to "window shop" with their classes and can bring in money to purchase books throughout the week. We will be open after school until 3:30 pm so parents can come in and check it out too. The library will also be open during the Primary Literacy Night on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Remember, buying books throughout the Scholastic Book Fair supports both your children's reading and helps build the school library collection. Notices will be sent home closer to the event. Thank you in advance for your support.







## Spot Light on Student Voice Robotic Risk Taking By Mathavan Kaneshalingam, Grade 3

There are many ways I take risks while I work on a project in my robotics class. I went through many different projects, but the most difficult for me was the plant project. The plant project was difficult because I had to use new tools that I've never used before. I was doing this project alone and I felt confused and stressed out. My instructor told me how to make it but didn't tell me where to put the tools to make it work. It was a lot of work and if there was an error and I didn't know what the solution was, I would have to start all over again. Since I had to start all over again, I asked my dad for help but he was like my instructor because he only told me how to make it and it didn't help me so I used all my courage and finished it! This is how my courage helped me in my other projects.







# January 2015

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
4 <b>First Day Back from Winter Break</b>	5 <i>Sushi Day</i> <i>School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	6 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	7	8
11	12 <i>Sushi Day</i> <i>Grade 7/8 Immunizations</i>	13 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	14	15 <i>PA DAY</i>
18	19 <i>Sushi Day</i>	20 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	21	22
25	26 <i>Sushi Day</i>	27 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	28 <i>Family Literacy Night K-2</i>	29 <i>Community Tea</i> <i>8:00 am in the Library</i>

## Looking ahead to February

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



For the complete newsletter please visit the  
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[www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca)

