



The Mount Joy Messenger

March 2018

Principal—Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes

Vice Principal—Lily Leung

Superintendent—Dan Wu

Trustee—Allan Tam

March at a glance

- 1 — Family Math Night K-3
6:00 pm
- 9 — Spirit Assembly
- 10—18 — March Break
- 22—School Council Family
Adventure Night 6:30pm
- 30 — Good Friday—no school

From the Principal's Desk

It is hard to believe that we are more than half way through the school year. By now, you have received your child's report card and have reviewed his/her strengths and next steps with them. If not, it is extremely important to do so and that there continues to be a strong relationship and communication between home and school. Should parents have any questions about their child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's homeroom teacher. Staying informed as to how to help your children at home is a key component to academic success.

February was a very busy month once again with students being involved in a wide variety of activities. Our Gr.4-8 students enjoyed the Winter Carnival Week focusing on French culture and fun at school. Our Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon was a huge success and we raised over \$500 to support our Grade 8 Graduation. We also recognized Pink Shirt day and our Healthy Schools Team prepared a presentation at our Spirit Assembly about anti-bullying and cyber-bullying. We have been busy at Mount Joy!

In just another week, we will be heading off for a week of rest and relaxation before embarking on the final few months of this school year. When reflecting on the first half of the year, this is a very appropriate time to thank the Mount Joy Staff for the hard work and dedication that they show on a daily basis at our school. Thank you also, to the many Parent Volunteers who support our staff and students on a regular basis in a variety of ways. The commitment of all staff and our parent community is a large part of what makes Mount Joy a special place to be!

Have a safe, restful and enjoyable March Break!

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!



Junior Volleyball Team

We would like to thank the Junior Volleyball Team for their consistent hard work, effort and dedication for an outstanding performance throughout both the Areas and Regional tournaments. Congratulations to the Junior Volleyball Team on their first pennant win at the Areas tournament. As the season comes to an end, we look forward to building the Mount Joy Volleyball Club as the years progress. Keep up the outstanding work!

Mr. Morris, Ms. Baker & Ms. Juma
Junior Volleyball Coaches



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/bookfairs 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,

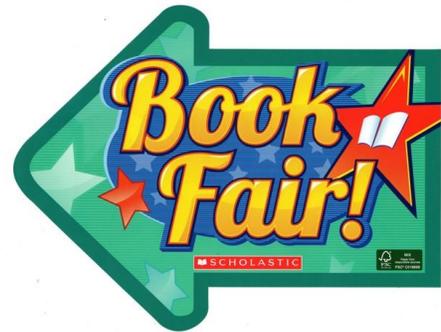
Mount Joy Public School

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!



Basketball

The Intermediate Girls Basketball team has had a very successful regular season finishing with a record of 4-1. They competed on Tuesday February 27th at the Area tournament and had a strong finish to their season. A congratulations goes out to all the players from the team. Grade 8's Dillani, Lucy, Charlene, Akshayaa, Coey, Chloe, Dhruvika and Aparnaa and Grade 7's Amna, Tobi, Tiana and Niloja should be proud of all the hard work and dedication they put into the team this year.

Mr. Berger



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/



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. 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



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.



March 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 (Day 1) Subway lunch Dental Screening JK/SK/Gr.2/ Gr.8)	2 (Day 2)	3
4	5 (Day 3) Pasta Lunch Music Festival— Grade 7 & 8 Band	6 (Day 4) Sushi lunch	7 (Day 5) Pizza lunch	8 (Day 1) Subway lunch	9 (Day 2) Spirit Assembly	10 March Break
11 Daylight Savings time begins 	12 (Day 4)	13 (Day 5)	14 (Day 1)	15 (Day 2)	16 (Day 3)	17 St. Patrick's Day 
18	19 (Day 3) Pasta Lunch	20 (Day 4) Sushi lunch	21 (Day 5) Pizza lunch	22 (Day 1) Subway lunch	23 (Day 2)	24
25	26 (Day 3) Pasta Lunch	27 (Day 4)	28 (Day 5) Pizza lunch	29	30 Good Friday (no school)	31 Pesach