

M A R C H 2 0 1 5

Mount Joy Public School

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News from the Office

We have an exciting opportunity to be part of Canadian history! Mount Joy has been selected to participate in a nationwide initiative to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Canadian Flag. We have the honour of being **one of only 80 schools across Canada** who will be featured on a special recording of our national anthem. Our recording date is March 5, 2015. Mount Joy students from grades 1-8 will sing O Canada in class groups and a professional audio recording will be made. Their voices will then be added to those recorded by the other selected schools. The finished audio recording featuring students from across Canada will be available for free download. We will also get a recording featuring our school alone that will be used with our morning announcements and can be shared with Mount Joy families. This is an initiative funded by Canadian Heritage and is intended for grades 1-8. This special opportunity is thanks to funding from Canadian Heritage.

For more information please visit www.FlagofCanada.ca.




Please Join Us For the **Mount Joy Film Festival**

For Families with Children in Grades 5-8

Thursday, April 30th

6:00-7:30 pm

Stay tuned for more
information coming to you
soon!

-  **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
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Literacy

February was Black History Month, a time when communities and schools give special attention to learning about the contributions and history of African Americans. We've gathered some great resources that we shared with students in February — and will continue to throughout the year.

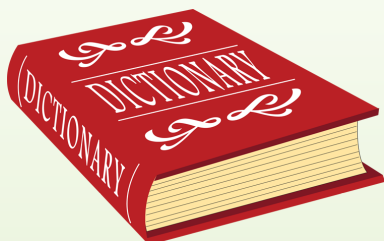


The following are some of the amazing ways that students at Mount Joy have participated in Black History Month:

- In Mr.Henderson's Class, students wrote their own "I Have A Dream" speeches.
- In Mrs. Braiantsis' Class, students created Pic Collages of Important Historical Figures.
- In Mrs. Coote's Music Classes, students have been exploring the roots of Rap/R&B.
- In Mme. Judd's French Classes, students have been reading the story of Viola Desmond and acting it out

ELL Tips for Parents

Try to limit the amount of time students spend using a dictionary. Asking students to memorize words and phrases is fine, but make sure that the majority of the child's time is spent putting these words and phrases into practice. Using a dictionary can become repetitive and boring, and provides little context to making words relevant. Using new words and phrases should always be used a fun and meaningful way.



Equity and Engagement



Drummers Alive

On February 25th, Drummers Alive visited Mount Joy Public School. The drumming presentation engaged students in our junior and intermediate divisions with an aim to eliminate social barriers while creating a fun and dynamic environment. The students all enjoyed a day of music, learning, creativity, teamwork, communication and a sense of community. Throughout this hands-on experience, students learned how to create and build rhythms together.

Digital Literacy

Technology provides a wealth of opportunities for learning and communication at our fingertips, but it can also present many serious concerns, especially for our children. *Media Smarts* offers resources to help you become more technologically aware and media smart.

This site is organized into sections that addresses issues ranging from the basics of digital technology to how youth engage with different media and problems they may run into. There is a segment on the Internet that covers areas such as blogging, instant messaging and online commerce. Useful tips and strategies for forming appropriate guidelines for children with respect to Television are also presented. The Movie section discusses issues relevant to a variety of age groups, such as violence and stereotyping. Concerns about Video Games and how to make them a positive experience are addressed. There are many other topics of interest discussed on this site, including online safety, cyber bullying, protecting privacy and managing online relationships.



Community Tea



Join us in the Library for some coffee/tea and treats on Friday, March 27th at 8 am 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 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

Are you looking for something to read with your child? Are you wondering whether your child's reading material is appropriate? It can be difficult to choose books and videos that are exciting and age appropriate for your child. The website below rates, summarizes and explains the content of books and movies. It also gives an age appropriateness and outlines content that may be unsuitable or require a discussion. Check it out and find something to read with your child.



<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>






Spot Light on Student Voice Risk Taking at Mount Joy

By Harshan in Mrs. Petropoulos Grade 6 Class

Recently at Mount Joy, our goal has been to take risks and accept challenges. I've learned a few things about myself over the course of this school year. For one, that taking risks doesn't have to be that scary, it's just about discovering new things. Everyday many people take risks but you don't notice it. As for myself, being an ordinary kid and all, I don't do many "big" things but taking risks is huge for me. For example, on February 25th it was Pink Day and many people like myself took a stance against bullying and wore pink for a good cause. In 2007, a boy in Nova Scotia wore pink and two teens bullied him just for wearing pink. After this incident many people around the world wear pink on this day, including Mount Joy! Our Peace Club has even been making posters to spread awareness in the school community. This month I plan to continue to step out of my comfort zone and stand out in order to encourage others to follow my path of self-discovery and acceptance.



March 2015

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 <i>Subway Day</i>	6
9	10 <i>Sushi Day</i>	11 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	12 <i>Subway Day</i>	13 <i>P.A Day</i>
16	17	18	19	20
 MARCH BREAK				
23	24 <i>Sushi Day</i>	25 <i>Pizza Day</i>	26	27 <i>Community Tea</i> <i>Sushi Day</i>

Looking ahead to April

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
March 30	March 31 <i>Sushi Day</i>	1 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	2	3 <i>Good Friday</i> NO SCHOOL
6 <i>Easter Monday</i> NO SCHOOL	7 <i>Sushi Day</i> <i>School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	8 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	9	10 <i>Sushi Day</i>



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

