

OCTOBER 2015

Mount Joy Public School

Website: www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca

Email: mount.joy.ps@yrdsb.ca

Phone: (905) 202-1684



News from the Office

September has been quite a busy month at Mount Joy for both the students and staff. With start up procedures and routines now in place and students feeling settled in their classrooms, many activities have started up with the help of School Council, staff and countless volunteers. Mount Joy's pizza and sushi programs are now underway, as well as cross-country, volleyball, technology teams and much more. Be sure to check out all that Mount Joy has to offer on our informational posters in our Student Voice hallway detailing the various activities, projected dates and age groups available for students. This is a great opportunity for you and your child to find out about the range of activities that they can take part in at school.

Mount Joy is also embarking on a journey to create more natural play and learning spaces for our school community. Our vision is to create an active and stimulating outdoor learning environment to promote our students' emotional and physical well-being. To assist us in this project, Mount Joy has paired up with an organization called KidActive. They are supporting us with designing spaces that promote discovery, exploration, and an active lifestyle. Our first donation towards this huge endeavor has been from the Ngai family who has generously donated four trees that have been planted by staff volunteers. We are very excited about the work that lies ahead and look forward to working with our school and community members.

Sincerely,

Mr. Pettigrew & Mrs. Di Stefano

Halloween Dance-A-Thon

Friday, October 30th

Mount Joy will be having its first Dance-a-thon of the year, the Halloween Dance-a-thon. The goal of the dance is to raise money for our school and your child in a way that is active and fun for all.

On the day of the dance, all divisions will be given a chance to dance for the money they have raised. To attend the dance, each student is encouraged to bring in a minimum donation of \$2.00. Please remind your children to start bringing in their toonies.

Thank you for your on- going support.

Principal: Mr. Ken Pettigrew

Vice Principal: Mrs. Christina Di Stefano

EOAA: Ms. Alison Meechan

Secretaries: Ms. Nuria Costa & Ms. Diana Scheddin

Trustee: Mr. Allan Tam

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Dan Wu

School Council Chairs: Ms. Anita Jarchow & Ms. Karen Ngai



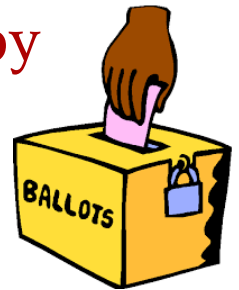


Tips For Supporting Your Child

- 1. MAKE LEARNING A PRIORITY:** Your attitude towards attendance, education and involvement influences your child. Be positive when discussing school. It will make a lasting impression. Send your child to school ready to learn. This means having enough sleep, eating breakfast, and having all of the supplies they need for the day.
- 2. SHOW INTEREST IN SCHOOL WORK:** Talk about school each day and ask to see class work. Read with your child and ask him/her questions (e.g. to make predictions, discuss the storyline, question the author). Have a variety of reading materials available for our child (e.g. magazines, newspapers, fiction, non-fiction).
- 3. SCHEDULE STUDY-TIME AND PROVIDE A QUIET AREA FOR STUDYING:** Have supplies available so homework can be completed effectively. Use a family calendar to schedule due dates, field trips, extra-curricular activities, and other special events.
- 4. HELP SET ACHIEVABLE GOALS:** Determine new goals together at the beginning of each term.
- 5. SUPPORT 100% ATTENDANCE:** Some absences are unavoidable, but try to schedule appointments before and after school.
- 6. BE GENEROUS WITH YOUR PRAISE AND ENCOURAGE "PERSONAL BEST" EFFORTS:** Observe your child and comment on the things that are done well. If you see areas for improvement, find a positive way to talk about it with your child. Remember that all students learn differently. Personal best doesn't always mean high grades and perfection. Encourage your child to do his or her best. Children need opportunities to learn from mistakes.

Student Vote is Coming to Mount Joy

On October 14th, 2015 students from Grades 5 to 8 will be participating in Student Vote. This program is organized and run through CIVIS for schools across Canada. It is a parallel election for students to participate in that coincides with the 2015 Federal Election. The purpose of Student Vote is to provide students with an opportunity to experience the voting process firsthand.



Mrs. Grech's Grade 5 class will be running the parallel election on October 14th. The gym will be set up in a similar style as the Polling Stations on Election Day. Students will be invited to cast their ballots throughout the school day.

What can you do to help support this learning opportunity? To help familiarize yourself and your child with the Federal Election, you can visit pollenize.org/Canada. Pollenize breaks down the platforms into student friendly summaries. Another great website to visit is votecompass.ca. Vote Compass helps students to determine where they stand in relation to the parties. Students are given a chance to answer a short online questionnaire, after they learn which party their views align with.

Please ensure you preview all websites and content before viewing them with your child. Social media is also a great way to involved in the election. #studentvote15, #elxn42, @ElectionsCan_E, @studentvote, @CIVX_Canada are just some of the accounts and hashtags you can use to get involved in the campaign trail.



School Council Message

Dear School Community,

What a busy month it's been! Time to breathe and settle into routine now.

Our pizza lunch started on Wednesday, September 30th and Sushi will be starting on Tuesday, October 6th. We are exploring additional lunch ideas and will be looking for volunteers in the near future. We also have after school programs returning to Mount Joy including piano, chess, Active Kids, and iPad creations.

Looking to the year ahead, we received a Pro-Grant for \$1000 to fund a Family Fitness event at Mount Joy. Our subcommittees for Movie Events and Healthy Schools are also busy planning for events in the upcoming months. If you are interested in lending a hand, please join our mailing list or let us know at mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com.

Our next monthly meeting is on Tuesday, October 6th @6:30pm in the library.
Hope to see you there,
Anita and Karen



Community Tea



Join us in the Library for some coffee/tea and treats on Friday, October 30th at 8 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 using our invitation code **JXK336**.

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



ELL INFO

For students who are new to Canada and are learning English, it is important to continue to read in their native language. Families can help their children or friends with their reading by using dual language books. Mount Joy has over a hundred dual language books in our library in eleven different languages. If anyone would like information about learning English, please feel free to contact Mr. McWilliams and Mrs. MacIsaac.

Nut-Free Snacks and Lunches



If you are bringing your child's lunch, please leave it on the table in our front lobby, labeled with your child's name. Inform your child in advance that his/her lunch will be left at the office to be picked up by the child at noon.



Please do not go to your child's class without first checking in at the Office.

We all have an obligation to protect the learning environment and to minimize interruptions to our students and staff at work. In addition, for everyone's safety, and in case of an emergency, we need to ensure that we know exactly who is in our school at all times.

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.

Thank You Saputo Foods Limited

Once again, we would like to thank Saputo Foods Limited for donating Pizza Boxes to our school. The boxes will be used by some of our students to create portfolios in which they will proudly display their work.



Saputo's generosity is greatly appreciated.



Cross Country

On October 6th, our Mount Joy runners from Grades 4-8 will be competing in the annual Cross Country race at Milliken Park. Our runners have been practicing hard and have been working on building their endurance. Our coaches, Mr. McWilliams, Mrs. Woods and Mr. Nobes are so proud of our students for taking a risk and joining our running team. Keep challenging yourselves and keep running!



Spot Light on Student Voice






Risk Taking

By: Mayee, Grade 8



Grade seven was a year that was tough on its own, and taking a risk wasn't something that I thought I would ever do. I'm certainly not the type of person who is really outgoing as I'm more of an independent person. Even though people know me as being somewhat shy and reserved, last year I was somehow able to summon the courage to read the morning announcements for the school. By taking this risk, it helped me not only gain confidence in myself, but I also learned something about taking initiative. It also encouraged me to participate in the classroom more. I would suggest to all of you to get involved and take risks. This doesn't just increase your self-esteem, it also allows you to show others who you really are. You may think this is pointless, but it all adds value to your lives. From what I have learned, no matter what challenge you take on, big or small, it will have a positive effect on you and others.



October 2015

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		September 30 th <i>Pizza Day</i> 	1	2
5	6 <i>Sushi Day</i> Cross Country Meet School Council Meeting 6:30 pm	7 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	8 School Photos	9
12 Thanksgiving Day (No School)	13 <i>Sushi Day</i>	14 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	15	16
19	20 <i>Sushi Day</i>	21 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	22	23 Gr. 7/8 Immunizations
26	27 <i>Sushi Day</i>	28 <i>Pizza Day</i> 	29	30 Halloween Dance-A-Thon

Looking ahead to November

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



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

