

# The Mount Joy Messenger April 2019



**Principal—Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes**

**Vice Principal—Lily Leung**

**Superintendent—Paul Valle**

**Trustee—Allan Tam**

## **From the Principal's Desk**

Welcome Back! We hope that everyone had a wonderful March Break! As we look forward to the beautiful spring weather outside, inside, we continue to work hard to achieve our academic goals for the final three months of the school year. Our expectations for success remain high for all of our students and we are equally committed to ensuring that your child's social and emotional well being is always at the forefront of everything we do here at Mount Joy PS.

During the month of March we were very busy connecting with our natural world. Our grades 2, 4 and 7 students visited the Vivian Outdoor Ed Centre and enjoyed learning outdoors. We also honoured Earth Hour on March 29th by shutting off all our lights and powering down our computers for the afternoon. We will continue to honour the Earth throughout the spring through a series of challenges presented by our Eco Team. It's tremendously important for us to do our part to protect and care for our Earth! Now that the warmer weather is here, why not encourage your children to continue this effort by walking or riding their bikes to school. The health benefits of this are significant and so are the benefits to our Earth! We enjoyed our A Mazing Race STEAM Night here at Mount Joy on February 28. We enjoyed engaging in fun STEAM activities with our students and families! We also supported World Down Syndrome Day on March 21 and started off the day with a spirit assembly. We raised over \$300 to support this important cause. Our students and their grade 7 buddies were excellent ambassadors for our school while they were at the Cornell Community Centre, raising awareness of the day. Finally, we would like to extend a big congratulations to our Intermediate Band who were awarded Silver Plus at the Music Alive Festival in March!

As we begin the process of organizing classes for September 2019, it is valuable for parents/ guardians to understand the procedure used in student placement decisions. The ultimate goal in all our efforts at Mount Joy P.S. is to enhance student achievement and well-being. We attempt to place students in the most positive learning environment possible given each individual pupil's skills, knowledge, attitudes, and work and social habits. A great deal of time is spent ensuring that each student's academic and social needs are met. Classes at each grade level are formed using the following criteria:

- Class sizes must be consistent with YRDSB and Ministry guidelines
- A fixed number of classes to organize around
- We strive to have a gender balance in each class
- A range of performance levels within each grade, taking into account the skills, knowledge, attitudes and work habits of individual students
- Placement of ELL students and students with special learning needs in classes that will have access to the support required for these students
- Promoting positive social relationships

If you have any information about your child that you feel would be pertinent in the placement process (e.g., learning styles, twins' placements), please inform the principal in writing by Friday May 3, 2019. In order to assist us in our efforts to create balanced classrooms and to create optimum learning environments, we respectfully ask your assistance in not making

requests for specific teachers or specific friendship groupings as they will not be considered. While your input is carefully considered, the final decision about a child's placement rests with the school.

Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes & Lily Leung

## April at a Glance

**April 2** — Parent Council Meeting 6:30 pm

**April 5** — Dental Screening Gr. JK, SK, 2, 7 & 8

**April 9** — Area Band at Mount Joy 10:25 a.m.

**April 10** — Firefighters Visit Grade 3s; Grade 5 Trip - St. Marie Among the Hurons

**April 11** — Dental Screening Gr. JK, SK, 2, 7 & 8; Logics Academy Parent Council PRO Grant Event 6:00 - 8:15pm

**April 12** — Dental Screening Gr. JK, SK, 2, 7 & 8

**April 19 - April 22** — **Good Friday & Easter Monday (No Classes)**

**April 23** — Crime Stoppers of York Region Gr. 4-8

**April 25** — Spirit Assembly 10:30am

**May 1** - Grade 7's (Hep B, HPV & Menactra Vaccinations - Boys & Girls)

**May 2** - *Just Spring It!* Arts Evening Gr. 5-8 (Music, Drama, Dance, Visual Arts)

### Kindergarten Registration Continues at Mount Joy

Kindergarten registration commenced on January 18, 2019 for the 2019-20 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). Children who turn four or five years old during 2019, 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 your local school.



Our school community would like to thank Van Spall's No Frills in Markham for their donation to our school's morning snack program. They have generously donated bananas for our students every week! Thank you to everyone at Van Spall's No Frills! The

students appreciate being able to have access to healthy snacks each and every day here at Mount Joy.

**Mount Joy P.S would like to acknowledge and thank President's Choice Children's Charity for their significant donation of \$900.00 this school year. This money was used to purchase food for our school's Breakfast/Snack Bin Program from our local VanSpall's No Frills.**

## STEM Family Night

School Council is hosting a STEM family night on Thursday, April 11th. Logics Academy will be running two sessions (6-7pm and 7:10-8:10pm) of fun family workshops involving Aerospace projects and Robotics games (Dash or mbot). Each workshop has a limit of 30 participants, so please pre-register to avoid disappointment. Workshops will be determined by the age of registered participants. Parent attendance is required and participation suggested.

You can email us at [mountjoycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:mountjoycouncil@gmail.com) with the following information or return this form to school:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred session: 1 (6-7pm) or 2 (7:10-8:10)



## KIDS KITCHEN

It's official! Spring is here!

### Highlights for April 2019:

#### **Spring Feature Lunch**

**Chicken parmesan with pasta in tomato sauce & chocolate pudding**

*Also available in a gluten-free option.*

## April Specials

**Beef soft taco or Bean soft taco**

### **Please help us spread the word & stay GREEN!**

We kindly request you to send out the Monthly Update attachment via email to your parent community. We appreciate your assistance in helping communicate these updates to your school community.

### **Staff can order too!**

Remember that our meals are available for the school staff too! Please also share our updates with your staff. Have a hot, healthy lunch delivered to you on the days we service your school!

For everyday inquiries about the Kid's Kitchen program at your school, please feel free to contact our Customer Service Team at: 905-944-0210 or [information@kidskitchen.ca](mailto:information@kidskitchen.ca) .

We're here to help!

Sincerely,

## **Kid's Kitchen**

**Leave the lunches to us!**

**905.944.0210**

[www.kidskitchen.ca](http://www.kidskitchen.ca)

## **ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL HELPS TO KEEP THE EARTH CLEAN!**

### **EARTH DAY: APRIL 22**

We are all stewards of the Earth and as such it is our responsibility to be aware of how our actions affect the environment, including ways that we can make a positive impact. One easy way to do this is by reducing the number of times children are driven to and from school. Active travel, including using the school bus, helps to lower our carbon footprint. Driving your vehicle, even for short distances, requires a lot of energy, which contributes to the burning of fossil fuels, creating pollution and sending greenhouse gases into the air we breathe. These gases harm the Earth's atmosphere and contribute to pollution, smog and climate change, which are all harmful to both our physical and mental health.

Earth Day is an annual worldwide event and is celebrated on April 22. Earth Day is a time to reflect on our habits and consider making small changes to our routines. Do your part to keep the Earth clean by using Active School Travel to get to and from school! For those who are unable to walk or cycle to school every day, you could choose an active mode of travel two or three times a week. You can also consider parking a short distance away from the school and walking a block or two to decrease the pollution around the school playgrounds. For Earth Day suggestions, as well as school and classroom activities, visit the [Ontario Active School Travel Website \(press here\)](#).

**BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK: May 27<sup>th</sup> – May 31<sup>st</sup>**

Let's get rolling! Bike to School Week runs from May 27 – 31. We ask all schools to register their schools by May 10<sup>th</sup> and actively promote Bike to School Week! All schools that register by May 10<sup>th</sup> will receive a package of incentives via school courier from York Region, while supplies last. The package includes a bike repair kit, valve lights, reflective bands, bicycle bells, front lights, posters and stickers! This package can be used as prizes to motivate students. Schools that registers after May 10<sup>th</sup>, will be notified where they can pick up an incentive package.

To register visit the [Bike Month Website \(press here\)](#).

To assist in promotion at your school, visit the [Getting Started Page \(press here\)](#).

For free York Region general and event posters, visit the [Event Posters Page \(press here\)](#).

If your school is planning a Bike to School Week event or celebration or require assistance to get started, email: [activeschooltravel@yrdsb.ca](mailto:activeschooltravel@yrdsb.ca) for assistance.



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](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Families can register on-line, as well as in person or by mail.

**Base Registration Weekly Fees:**

**York Region District School Board students: \$110 (4 day weeks) \$125 (5 day weeks)**

**Non- York Region District School Board students: \$135 (4 day weeks) \$160 (5 day weeks)**