

J U N E 2 0 1 6

Mount Joy Public School

Website: www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.on.ca

Email: mount.joy.ps@yrdsb.ca

Phone: (905) 202-1684



News from the Office

Summer is upon us and the staff and students of Mount Joy continue to be busy working hard on curriculum expectations, participating in various clubs and initiatives around the school, as well as having fun while doing so. With the school year quickly coming to an end, we encourage everyone to reflect upon all the wonderful progress and achievements made and to set new goals for the new school year in September.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our School Council, under the leadership of our co-chairs Karen Ngai and Anita Jarchow, for their unwavering commitment over the school year. Not only have their fundraising efforts helped support the school in purchasing resources and technology to support students' academic learning, but their tireless efforts to ensure the social-emotional well-being and safety of all students has been at the forefront of all their decision-making. We are also so thankful of all those who have volunteered their time in some capacity to help support students. Your dedication to help out is truly appreciated. Mount Joy is so fortunate to have the support of the families who make this the special place that we are so lucky to be a part of!

Although June is a time for farewells, we look forward to a summer that will allow everyone to rest and rejuvenate prior to the start of another school year. On behalf of the staff at Mount Joy Public School, we wish all our families a safe and relaxing summer.

Sincerely,
Mr. Pettigrew & Mrs. Di Stefano

Please join us for Mount Joy's
**10th Anniversary
Celebration**
Thursday, June 2nd
5:00-7:00 pm

Come and enjoy the wonderful activities we have planned at Mount Joy that highlight the amazing things that take place each and every day. The evening will be run by student leaders, and will be supported through the generosity of the School Council and the volunteerism of staff and community members!

On this special evening, there will be family sports games, arts performances, sface painting, henna and much more!

We look forward to seeing you!

Principal: Mr. Ken Pettigrew

Vice Principal: Mrs. Christina Di Stefano

EOAA: Ms. Alison Meechan

Secretary: Ms. Kristy Miller

Trustee: Mr. Allan Tam

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Dan Wu

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



Literacy Corner



SUMMER LITERACY: 3 FUN, FREE, EASY & SEMI-HIDDEN WAYS TO KEEP YOUR KIDS READING ALL SUMMER...DON'T PUT READING ON SUMMER BREAK, TOO!

There is no doubt that a teacher's worst fear is that the students he/she worked so hard to bring up to grade level all year long, will slide back a reading level or more, over summer break.

1. Go To The Public Library

During the summer, especially, make it a habit to go to the public library once a week. Find a day in your schedule that is not too busy because you will not want it to be a rush-rush trip. Your child's teacher has taught them to peruse books, look at the cover, read the blurb on the back and browse through books to decide if it looks interesting before committing to check it out.

2. Keep Books Everywhere

Think about all the places kids are sure to be this summer and keep a bag or basket of books there. Here are places kids are guaranteed to be this summer--in the bathroom. They gotta go! Some kids are quick in the bathroom and some kids are not, so keep a basket of books near the toilet, within arms reach so they can easily grab them without falling off the toilet. Kids are also sure to be in the car--going here and there, thanks to you. So keep a basket or bag of books in the car.

3. Read Real World Text

Summer is the perfect time of year to read informational text and environmental print. In life, this is the text that is most useful to living and functioning in society as a productive, healthy, informed citizen. Be a role model by actively stopping to read all the signs you see or point them out to your kids so they can try to read and understand them too.

Strategies to support Reading:

- * Have a wide variety of reading materials at home
- * Help your child read print in the community
- * Talk about books and magazines, especially in your first language

Strategies to Support Writing:

- * Try writing in different forms (email, letter, grocery lists, recipes)
- * Encourage your child to write in a diary or keep a calendar of important events
- * Write to your child and have them write back to you

Consider these activities:

- * Write letters or send e-mail
- * Create invitations, birthday cards or thank-you notes
- * Keep a family diary of events or a journal while on vacation
- * Play word games
- * Complete crosswords or word searches
- * Jot down grocery lists
- * Create a family cookbook



ELL TIPS For The Summer

The summer holidays will often mean students move away from books and more towards electronic devices. If T.V. and iPad time are allowed, choose quality shows and apps that promote literacy. Dual language shows and apps can also be beneficial. If there is the option, choose closed captioning so that students can read along.

Make time to read and write every day, whether it is to read a book or dictate and write out a grocery list. Try this in your home language and translate it to English. Google Translate is a very helpful tool. Make reading and writing authentic whenever possible. A child will be excited and motivated to write a birthday message in a card to her friend, and through repeated writing of unfamiliar words, will increase her vocabulary and spelling proficiency.

How can you incorporate math into your everyday lives? Watch a sports game with your child. Look at the score often and compare the numbers. Read a menu and compare the price of different foods. When you are driving home from an outing and your child asks how much longer until you get there, tell them for example, 15 more minutes. Have them tell what time it is and what time it will be 15 minutes later. Encourage your child to use both English and their home language.

Have fun reading, writing, speaking and exploring the mathematical world with your child.



Summer Vacation & Math



Tips for Brain Gain Not Brain Drain!!

It's almost summer and the school year will soon be coming to an end. As parents make vacation plans they often wonder how to encourage their young learners to continue to engage in developing mathematical thinking over the break. Of course, these days many students and their technological devices are inseparable so why not use this as a way to motivate them to practice math skills? The Internet offers a wide variety of online mathematical learning resources for students of all ages. For example, "Prodigy" entices participants to use their math skills in the guise of a video game format. There are also a variety of non-tech board games that incorporate math. Why not make "Family Game Night" a "Multiplication Bingo Night"? These games are entertaining and motivate players to think math! One of the most important strategies to utilize when encouraging children to develop mathematical thinking is to apply it to everyday life. They probably do this anyway but they don't consider it as practicing math. Facilitate opportunities to incorporate mathematical language into daily conversations ... how many, how small, how big, or how much? Provide opportunities to use numeracy in everyday undertakings such as shopping, cooking, watching or participating in sports events and even reading the newspaper. These authentic applications of mathematical concepts demonstrate how math is relevant to real life. The following are some everyday math applications.

Shopping

- Talk about the price of things and how much multiple items would cost altogether.
- Practice making change
- Work out a budget

Cooking

- Measure ingredients, set the oven temperature, weigh food or figure out cooking time using kitchen tools such as measuring cups and spoons, thermometers, scales and a clock.
- Discuss the use of fractions, volume and weight measurements in the kitchen.
- Double a recipe and record the new measurements.
- Look at abbreviations for measurements such as tsp.(teaspoon) or ml(milliliters)
- Read the measurements on the labels of products and compare the different sizes containers ... fill them up with water to get a real sense of the amounts.

Sports

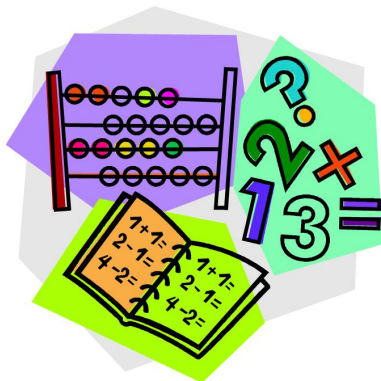
- Tally the score.
- Calculate the length of time your favourite sports game goes on for and record it in hours and minutes.
- Is the time of game play divided into halves, quarters, or anything else?
- Look at the shapes, sizes, edges and angles of the various playing fields.

Newspapers

- Look at various pages and estimate the percentage of pictures compared to text.
- In the weather section, compare the minimum and maximum temperatures or precipitation of a variety of locations.
- Complete the Sudoku number puzzles.



Practical usages of mathematics are effective ways to inspire children to discover and explore the relationships between mathematics and their own lives. The summertime does not have to be a time of academic digression and “brain drain”. It can actually be an ideal time for students to strengthen their mathematical knowledge while still having fun. So relax, think math and enjoy the summer!





Healthy Bits and Bites



Fight the Bite!

Protect yourself against West Nile virus and Lyme disease

If you are heading outdoors to keep active, go camping or work in your garden, protect yourself and your family against West Nile virus and Lyme disease. West Nile virus is spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito; Lyme disease is spread through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick.

What you can do:

- Cover up when you go outdoors with light coloured long sleeved shirts and pants
- Use an insect repellent containing DEET
- Check yourself and your children for ticks
- Remove attached ticks as quickly as possible
- Clean up standing water around your home where mosquitoes like to breed

You can still enjoy the great outdoors; just remember to ***Fight the Bite!***

For more information about West Nile virus and Lyme disease, including the safe removal of ticks, contact York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit: york.ca/westnile or york.ca/lymedisease.



1-800-361-5653
TTY 1-866-252-9933
York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services
Public Health
www.york.ca



Be Sun Safe

One bad sunburn in childhood can double the risk of developing skin cancer (Canadian Cancer Society). Help protect you and your family:

- Reduce sun exposure between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. or when the UV index is three or more
- Seek shade or create your own shade
- SLIP! on lightweight clothing that covers your arms and legs
- SLAP! on a wide brimmed hat and UV protected sunglasses with wraparound frames and even shading
- SLOP! on sunscreen and lip balm with SPF 30 or higher and reapply every two hours
- Keep babies under one year out of the direct sun



For health-related information visit www.york.ca/healthyschools

Dress Code

At school we strive to create an effective and safe learning environment that supports mutual respect, social and emotional growth. It is important that students dress appropriately for the task of learning. Clothing which demonstrates respect for self and others is expected at all times. During the warm weather, students are expected to wear something comfortable but appropriate for a school setting. Crop tops, spaghetti straps, short shorts, tube tops. Spandex, muscle shirts or any clothing that is transparent or contains offensive words or messages is not suitable for school wear. Tops should be long enough to completely cover the stomach and lower back areas. No undergarments should be visible. Staff members will require students who have clothing seen as inappropriate dress to change into something more acceptable.

Graduation

This year's Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony will be held on **Tuesday, June 28, 2016**. Family members of each graduating student are invited to attend the **Graduation Ceremony**, which will take place at **5:45 pm** at Mount Joy Public School. **Graduates** are expected to be at the school by **5:15 pm at the latest**. While at the school, parents will be given the opportunity to mingle, take pictures, and enjoy their graduate on this wonderful occasion. Once the ceremony has concluded a bus will arrive at the school by **6:30 pm** to drive all of the students and supervising teachers to Frankie Tomatto's. At the venue, students will enjoy dinner, dancing and refreshments until 10:00 pm when the bus will arrive to drive them back to Mount Joy Public School. Parents are expected to **pick up their child no later than 10:30 pm** from the school. Thank you for your attention to the timelines this evening.



Niagara Falls – June 9th to June 10th, 2016

On Thursday, June 9th and Friday, June 10th the Grade 8s will be going to Niagara Falls on their graduation trip. They will have lots of fun and experience many new things. They will visit several remarkable places such as Fort George, where they will learn about the British Army during the War of 1812, take a ride on the Maid of the Mist, where they will get a close-up view of Niagara Falls, partake in Rock n' Roll bowling and experience some free time with their friends at Clifton Hill. This graduation trip will be a memory that the Grade 8s will take on to high school and beyond. Thanks to all of the teachers and staff members who are making the trip possible.

Equity and Engagement

The Equity and Engagement Team wants to thank all students, teachers and parents for an extremely successful year at Mount Joy. We look forward to adding more celebrations, House Colour Days, and items to the Mustang Store next year.
Have an amazing summer!

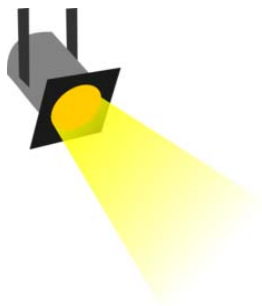
A Message from Ms. Gorman ...

As many of you know, I am retiring at the end of this school year. After 32 years of working with children, and for most of the time with kindergarten students, I feel it is time for me to move on and find new adventures and challenges. I am so glad I was able to end my career at Mount Joy, and I think it is fitting that our first group of JK students at Mount Joy are leaving as grade 8 grads this year as well.

Many children have stopped me in the halls to tell me that they “want to get me something” before I go. What I would love to get is letters and notes sharing stories and memories of our time together. We also thought that my retirement might be a good time to help some children who need a little boost. So instead of a gift, I would love it if you donate a new, unwrapped toy or book. We will collect the items in the library and then give them to Toronto Sick Kids Hospital. Due to health reasons, they have a specific list of items they can accept, so we will have the list available for students to pick up on a table outside the library.

Once again, I want to say thank you for all your support over the last 10 years, and wish you well in the future.

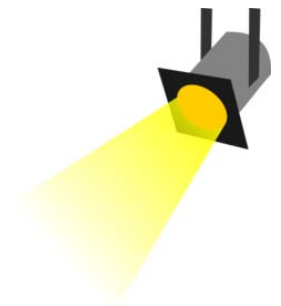
Barb Gorman



Spot Light on Student Voice

Risk Taking


By **Abhishaa Kannathasan**



Here at Mount Joy, we are presented with many opportunities to take risks. Not only do we have chances to express ourselves, but it also allows us to show a part of ourselves that many might not know. Even though I'm not a great volleyball player, with the encouragement of my friends, I took the risk to try out for the volleyball team. Even though I didn't make it, I took that opportunity to make myself better at volleyball. I practiced more and tried to improve at the sport. After trying out, I felt really proud of myself for doing something I normally wouldn't do. Risk taking is an important choice to make. When you take risks, you take on new challenges and set goals for yourself. Even though many think risk taking is dangerous, it is a new way to explore the new talents inside you. Taking risks doesn't have to be something big. Just something simple like saying hello to somebody you don't know is a risk itself.



June 2016

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
May 30	May 31 <i>Sushi Day</i>	1 <i>Pizza Day</i> 🍕	2 <i>10th Anniversary</i>	3 <i>P.A. DAY</i>
6	7 <i>Sushi Day</i> <i>School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	8 <i>Pizza Day</i> 🍕	9 <i>Grad Trip</i>	10 <i>Grad Trip</i> <i>Colour House Day</i>
13	14 <i>Sushi Day</i>	15 <i>Pizza Day</i> 🍕	16	17
20	21 <i>Sushi Day</i>	22 <i>Pizza Day</i> 🍕	23	24 <i>Teacher Look-Alike Day</i>
27	28  <i>Gr. 8 Graduation</i>	29 <i>Last Day of School</i> <i>(Early Dismissal at 11:15 am)</i>	30	

Looking ahead to September

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2
5	6 <i>First Day of School</i>	7	8	9



For the complete newsletter please visit the
 Mount Joy Public School website:
www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca
 School Council's NEW website:
www.mountjoyps.wordpress.com

