



MacKillop Monthly

Volume 1, Issue 11

Summer 2014

Principal
Arlene Potashner

Superintendent of
Schools
Karen Friedman
905-884-4477

Trustee
Diane Giangrande
905-770-0826

School Council Chairs
Cecila Correia

Secretaries
Bessie Papadopoulos
Mary Anne Bernardinis

School Start/End Times

**9:05 - Start Time
Supervision in
yard begins at
8:50 a.m.**

**3:35 - End time
No yard
supervision after
end of day bell**



Principal's Message

As I sit at my desk the morning after grade 8 graduation I can't help but think of the word "transition." Last night marked a milestone, and a transition point for our grade 8s as they along with their families celebrated the end of their elementary school career. What a special night it was and our students not only looked very grown up but certainly they conducted themselves that way as well. Special thanks to Mrs. Herd for her donation of the most incredible and delectable graduation cake! And Mrs. Painter shared that the class impressed during their recent trip to Niagara Falls – in fact they were complimented by others enjoying the sites throughout the day!

And last Friday our KG classes had their very own celebration and graduation. So many parents and family members took part in the afternoon of singing, dancing and sharing. It was remarkable to view the slideshow and see how the students have changed and grown over the past year. And now the SKs are on their way to grade one!

Our School Council Fun Fair which took place a few weeks ago was a huge success thanks to the incredible work of Mrs. McClelland and her team of volunteers. The weather was fantastic, the activities provided lots of fun and our bands performed several numbers – the audience was no doubt impressed by the talent and hard work of our very capable students.

Congratulations to our Regional Track and Field competitors Callum, Erik, Sara and Cole M who performed exceptionally well at the event last week. It was at our closing character assembly when we heard that Callum and Sara were awarded ribbons for their

strong showings (Callum 2nd and 3rd, Sara 2nd) and the whole school cheered incredibly loudly upon hearing the news. Well done all of you!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff, students and parents for your incredible support. Farewell and warm wishes to our graduating class and to our families leaving the MacKillop community. We wish you the very best and hope you have enjoyed your time at this wonderful school.

As you read over your children's report card and think about the past school year consider all of the learning that has taken place both in terms of academics and of learning skills, along with social and personal growth. As a parent I always felt it was important to praise effort over achievement. Use the summer to reconnect as a family, get outside, play and have fun!

As I think about transitions as you know I am also transitioning to a new school for September and I have been supporting the transition of Mrs. Linton to MacKillop. She has been at our school on a few occasions, has spoken with staff and students, was most impressed with our June Character assembly and what she has seen and heard so far. She is so excited to be coming to this school! Transitions provide opportunity – I thank you for this wonderful opportunity to serve as principal of O.M. MacKillop. Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Arlene Potashner



Important Reminder

The school office will re-open on:
Monday, August 25 Hours: 9:00 - 4:00

The first day of school for students is:
Tuesday, September 2, 2014



Summer Registration Information

If you know of any families who will be moving into the area during the summer months, school registration can be done at:
**Central Education Centre
317 Centre Street East, 905-884-4477,
Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00
p.m.
Week of July 7th and August 5 to 7th**

First Day Procedures for September, 2014

Our first day in September will look similar to last year. We are asking you to go to the following doors between 8:50am-9:00am, on Tuesday September 2nd:

Kindergarten Grades 1,2,3	Kindergarten areas Primary Doors (south east)
Grades 4,5,6	Junior Doors (south west)
Grades 7,8	Intermediate Doors (west)

Teachers and staff members will bring students into the school. This proved to be a very efficient process last year, and we will go with it again in September. We do not want parents coming into the school on the first day, as this often provides additional anxiety for the students. We thank you for your support.

Attention Parents: Save our Subscriptions!

Our QSP Family Reading Magazine Program will be returning this FALL, so please save your magazine orders (new or renewals) and order them through our school program.

Regional Track & Field

MacKillop had 4 students qualify for the regional track and field meet that was held on June 19, 2014. Cole, Kevin, Callum and Sara represented MacKillop in fine fashion with each athlete performing very well. Callum was second in the 400m race and third in the running long jump. Sara finished second in running long jump. Congratulations to all athletes.

Mrs. Painter



School Council

Dear Parents and Guardians,
How quickly a school year flies by. School Council would like to thank all families for supporting our fundraising efforts and volunteering for events this year. The following is a list of items purchased and events we sponsored with funds raised:

Technology Cost Sharing
Scientist in the School
Mathematician in the School
Spring Concert with Glenn Marais
Support for Grade 8 Grad and Trip
Fun Fair
Stage Curtains

Teacher support for athletic events

We would also like to thank the teachers and staff at MacKillop. They support our initiatives and work with us to bring exciting events to the students.

And to our grade 8 grads, we wish you all the best as you continue your education in high school.

We wish everyone a safe, happy and relaxing summer vacation.
See you in September.



Important Bussing Reminder to Parents

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- **All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation**
- **All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation**

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

Important Message from the Office

If you are going to be away over the summer and your child will not be in attendance on the first day of school, Tuesday September 2, 2014, please ensure you notify the school office in writing. It is very important that we know if your child will be returning to MacKillop in September.

You may send an email to the school email account:

o.m.mackillop.ps@yrdsb.ca

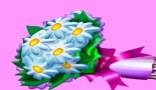
Eco Club News

We are Certified! Thanks to all of you for supporting the Eco club's initiatives this year and in the past, we have received a silver certification as an Ontario Eco School! The children in the eco club worked diligently everyday, creating reminders to conserve our environment by reducing, reusing, and recycling. Our goals to save more and waste less are certainly reflected throughout our school. Our new "wet bin," system has reduced garbage and helped minimize contaminated recycling, allowing less recyclable products heading for the refuse dump. Our eco-students lead their classes by helping to educate their peers on "what goes where," and even enforced the system by checking every recess to make sure all waste was in the proper bins. Our compost green bin program that was set up in previous years is still running strong and is very effective. We have certainly reduced the amount of waste we send to the dump by a dramatic amount over the past few years. We intend to keep working hard and instilling the importance of protecting our precious resources and our environment in the school and community as we strive for gold for next year!



Farewell and Best Wishes Mrs. Bernardinis

Last week we were informed that our wonderful school secretary Mrs. Bernardinis, who works half time in our school and half time at another school, Charles Howitt P.S, has accepted a position to be full time at that school. Her commitment to our school, and her warmth and compassion towards students, staff and parents will be dearly missed. All the best!



June Happenings

Rock Band performs at the Fun Fair



Kindergarten Celebration



We would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs. Herd, Ginger Cupcakes and Deserts, for making the amazing graduation cake for our Grade 8 graduates