



# MacKillop Monthly

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## Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that June is upon us! As we enter the final month of the school year we have so much to look forward to and yet our work here is by no means nearing the end. The office is essentially running two years at one time as we prepare our organization of the 2014/2015 school year and finish off the many tasks of this year.

We have had much to be proud of over the past month. Firstly I would like to congratulate Daniel in grade 6 students who received a Celebrating Student Success award last month along with a Community Character award. Two of our students, Sierra and Marcus, were the recipients of York Region District School Board "Yes I Can" awards at a special ceremony last month and our school was nominated for a Community Character Award for all of the outreach activities the school has been involved in this year. And our eco team worked incredibly hard to prepare for the annual eco review – the students were most impressive in their knowledge and advocacy for our eco initiatives. Huge thanks to Mr. Potyok and Mrs. Fairy for their leadership. My congratulations to our grade 8 class who will be graduating very soon - their positive influence and impact throughout our school will be greatly missed.

In staff news as we prepare for September I would like to wish a fond farewell and deep appreciation to Mrs. Kleiner, Mme. Kimmerly, Mr. Rochweg and Ms. Jewitt, who have accepted transfers to other York Region schools. We thank them for their many contributions to the MacKillop school community. Best wishes to Ms. Leesti who will be preparing for the arrival of her second child. And thank you to Ms. Caesar, Ms. Yu and Mr. Leibel who will have completed their long term occasional assignments with

us. Ms. Abel will be returning in September from her parental leave. Additional hiring is currently taking place.

Our school track and field meet was another huge success, the weather cooperated, and many staff and volunteers contributed to the success of the day. Thanks to Ms. Painter for her leadership and organization. June will see the area track meet, the School Council Fun Fair and our final character and year end assemblies. In addition Ms. Soper is working hard to create a yearbook of memories for our students – look forward to information about that shortly.

I would like to recognize and thank all of the members of our school council for their commitment during this school year:

Diana Cowie, Brian Crew, Penny Cummings, Jasna Duric, Dawn Knowles, Brian Crew, Lisa Johnson, Peter Davison, Anne Lovegrove, Margaret Kemp, Carol Phillips, Sophie Zhang, Rachel Ussher, teacher representative Mrs. Bowden and Council Chair Cecilia Correia. These members have worked tirelessly to support our school community!

The caretaking staff will be very busy over the summer with the school undergoing renovations to move the office to the front of the school. It will be a new look when you return in September.

As you know by now I have been transferred to Kettle Lakes Public School for the coming school year. I will be spending the next few weeks preparing the school for the incoming principal Mrs. Linton and reflecting with staff on the past four years as I have had the privilege to serve O.M. MacKillop. I thank you for all of your support and hope to see you at our Fun Fair next week!

## School Happenings...

- True Colours Spirit Day on Thursday June 5
- Annual Fun Fair on Tuesday June 10th, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Area Track & Field on Wednesday June 11 at Langstaff S.S.
- Gr. 1 and 2 students to Safety Village on Friday June 14
- School Council meeting to be held on Monday June 16
- Grade 8's to Niagara Fall on Friday June 20
- Kindergarten End of Year Celebration on Friday June 20
- Gr. 8 Graduation Ceremony on Monday June 23
- **Last day of school on June 26, dismissal at 12:05 p.m.**

## Important Transportation Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### Re: Student Busing Eligibility

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**

## Order Your Yearbook Today!

Yearbooks for the school year 2013/2014 will go on sale in June for \$20. Order forms will come home soon. Yearbooks will be delivered in September. Posters with more information will be up soon!



## Early Dismissal - June 26, 2014

All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to improving student achievement and well-being. On **Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan as well as year-end and transition activities that support student success.

As has been our practice over the past four years, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at **12:05 pm**. Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bussed to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule.

## Appropriate Dress and Footwear

As the weather turns hotter, and the humidity creeps up, we want to remind all students of the importance of appropriate clothing and footwear. We expect all undergarments to be covered up at all times. Shorts should be an appropriate length. Footwear should be supportive and secure to prevent injuries. If you have any questions please speak to your child's teacher. Hats,

sunscreen and water bottles are encouraged throughout the spring and summer. We also remind students of the importance of good hygiene as the weather becomes hotter!



## End of Year Reminders

As the school year winds down, parents are asked to do the following:

1. Check the Lost and Found by Friday June 20st, at which point all remaining belongings will be donated to a needy organization.
2. Collect all medications and epi-pens on the last day of school.
3. Advise the office if your child(ren) will not be returning in September or if you are leaving early.



## True Colours Spirit Day

The Character Council, along with grade 6 students Jake and Sylvia, who recently attended the YRDSB Your Voice conference, have organized a True Colours Spirit Day for this Thursday June 5. Students are encouraged to wear their favourite colour and think about what is it about that colour that makes them special. The goal of the day is for students to learn more about each other's similarities and respect each other's differences. Thanks to Ms. Caesar, Jake and Sylvia for planning the day.



## Thank You Parent Volunteers

On Wednesday, May 28th we were thrilled to honour the many outstanding volunteers we have at O.M. MacKillop P.S. As a school community, we are so fortunate to have the commitment of our parent volunteers. Thank you for all that you do!



# Fun Fair -Tuesday June 10th!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our Fun Fair BBQ is next Tuesday, June 10 from 5:30pm - 8:30pm, rain or shine. This is the last chance to pre-order food for the BBQ. Please send in your order with payment by this Friday.

The class theme baskets are ready for the raffle draw and they look amazing. See the photo below. If you haven't done so already, please donate a toonie towards your child's class theme basket. The Fun Fair BBQ is not a fundraiser and the raffle draw helps cover costs of our entertainment.

We also need parent volunteers to help us run the BBQ. If you can volunteer for 30 minutes, please contact Sandra McClelland at [mcclerlands@rogers.com](mailto:mcclerlands@rogers.com).



Raffle Class  
Theme  
Baskets



## Library News

Many thanks to all the volunteers that have helped the library over the year! Many hands lead to great adventures. We are well underway to discarding books and keeping our collection updated. The library has purchased new books that accompany the needs of both the teachers and students.

On May 28, 2014, we recognized our many volunteers who have donated their time and energy this year. This year each volunteer is remembered by placing their names on a book plaque. This book label will be placed in a chosen book and shelved on the library shelves. If you are a volunteer and didn't get a chance to choose a book, please come to the library at your convenience and we will recognize you. Many thanks again to the volunteers in making our school a better place.

We are also renovating the library very soon. All carpet will be removed and the walls will be painted this summer!

HENCE, the last day to take out picture books and non-fiction books will be the last week of May. We will need this time to begin to pack these books for the summer renovations. These books need to be returned the first week of June.

The library will continue to function as a library with the fiction books being available.

**All Fiction books must be returned by the week of June 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**We are always looking for help in the library especially during the month of June.**

**If you can spare some time, please come to the library!**

Happy reading and have a safe summer,  
A.Keimel



## Report Cards

**Second Term report cards will be sent home Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are leaving earlier, you may pick up your report cards after school finishes, or you may leave a self-addressed stamped envelope with the office. You may also pick up the report card the last week of August.**

## Track & Field

Thanks to all of the jumpers, runners and throwers, from grades 4-8, who competed with effort and enthusiasm in the annual MacKillop school track and field meet held on Thursday May 22, 2014. We are now in the process of determining which students will compete at the Area track and field meet which will be held at Langstaff S.S. The Area meet is on Wednesday June 11, 2014 and it is an all day event. If your child qualifies he/she will receive a letter by the end of May that contains the details of the meet. Thanks also to the adult volunteers who helped us during the day.  
Mrs. Painter



## Eco News

June's theme is 'put everything in the right place'. In other words be bin friendly. Consider, if just one piece of waste goes into the wrong bin, a whole bag of recycling could end up in the garbage that is buried in our earth.

The ECO Club wants to remind everyone at home about the 4Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink). Rethink by asking yourself these questions. Could I or someone else reuse this item instead of getting rid of it in the garbage? How can I reduce the amount of garbage I make? Am I recycling all I can? and rethink, am I throwing this trash into the correct bin?

We at MacKillop are very proud of the progress we have made this year towards helping to improve the environment. We appreciate your continued support in our 'Environmental' endeavors. The Eco club wishes you and your family a safe, 'environmental' green and blue summer.

Mr. Potyok, Ms. Fairy and the 'Friendly Eco Kids' :))



## School Council News

The end of the school year is almost here! School council would like to thank everyone that supported us by volunteering and participating in our fundraisers for all of their efforts. Because of you, we have new stage curtains, new technology to support student learning, and the students have benefitted from activities such as Scientist in the School and a wonderful school-wide performance with the aid of Glen Marais. This is just a short sample of the many things your efforts enable us to do for our school. Thank you!

We hope everyone will join us on June 10th for our annual fun fair. This is not a fundraiser - any money collected is strictly to cover the costs of the fun fair. It is a great way to celebrate a successful year with the rest of the school community.



We hope that you have a safe and happy summer. See you in September!



*Butterflies emerge in the Kindergarten rooms*

### Yes I Can Awards

Congratulations to Marcus W. and Sierra M. for winning a Yes I Can Award. Both students were honored in a ceremony at Richmond Green S.S. on Thursday, May 22nd.

Marcus won his award for his impressive work in the area of self advocacy and Sierra won her award for her outstanding contributions to the school community. The MacKillop family is very proud of their accomplishments and are thrilled they were recognized.

**Reminder to Parents**  
The following days have been set aside as  
**Professional Activity**  
days:  
**June 6 and June 26, 2014**  
**There is no school on these days.**

### Healthy Schools

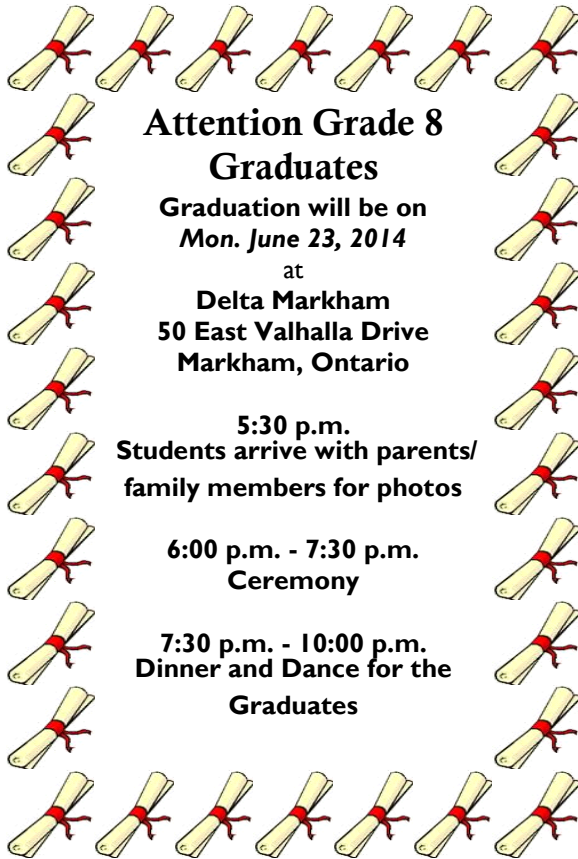
#### Last Month for the Snack Team!

This year has just flown by, and we are so proud of all our helpers! Some of the snacks have been very popular, and have required supervision in order to make sure everyone got what they wanted. A special thanks goes to Aaron Wolf, who has been a wonderful help in making sure that the snacks got out in time, and that everything went smoothly with the distribution!

As we wrap up this year, we like to encourage all our families to remember to eat healthy snacks throughout the summer, and to have fun and be safe. Have a wonderful summer vacation!

Congratulations to Daniel in grade 6. He was recipient of a Celebrating Student Success Award and a Community Character Award





### The O.M. MacKillop Touchstone

At O.M. MacKillop, we care about our learning  
because we care about our future  
Everyone deserves the support they need; we value  
everyone as equals  
Whether on the playground, sports fields or in the  
classroom we show sportsmanship--  
no matter what the outcome  
We are global citizens; the world is our best friend  
We are one  
Using the right words at the right time, we know  
that words are powerful  
We understand that a little change today can lead  
to a big change  
tomorrow  
Taking a stand for what is right, we stop what is  
wrong  
We reflect on our actions  
We are the smallest of the small with the biggest  
heart of all  
We are  
The MacKillop Mustangs

### Summer Reading Tips from Scholastic

#### **Make reading important.**

Be a role-model for reading. Let your child see you reading throughout the day and use daily routines as reading opportunities. Cooking, reading TV listings, looking for information on-line, reading directions, or following a map all provide authentic reading experiences.

#### **Give your child the power of choice.**

Having reading materials available is key to helping kids love to read, and the reading materials kids choose themselves are best. In fact, 92% of children and teens say they are more motivated to read and are more likely to finish a book they have picked out. Help your child find texts that appeal to his or her interests, yet are age appropriate and 'just right' in difficulty.

#### **Set aside time to read every day.**

We know that the more kids read, the better they become at reading and the more they will enjoy reading. During the summer, encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes per day. Make reading 'down-time'—an opportunity for family members to read together, either aloud or quietly to themselves. Keep track of progress by recording book titles, pages read, and minutes spent.

#### **Talk it up.**

Talking about books during and after reading helps improve comprehension. Encourage kids to share their ideas and opinions by asking open-ended questions. Talk about what you read to let them know that reading is an important part of your life. Tell them why you liked a book, what you learned from it, or how it helped you—soon they might start doing the same.

#### **Be part of a reading challenge.**

Most local libraries have summer reading programs that help engage and motivate readers. Kids set a goal, track books they read, and receive incentives for achieving goals. Summer programs also promote reading club opportunities where children can discuss and share books with others, either on-line or in-person. You can even create your own family reading challenge.

June 2014

York Region District School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	EQAO Assessments—Grade 3				PA Day No school for students		
		 Pizza Lunch	Today is a FRIDAY Schedule				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
		Fun Fair 	 Area Track & Field - Langstaff S.S.		Gr. 1 & 2 to Safety Village		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	 School Council Meeting	 Pizza Lunch	 Regional Track & Field meet		Gr. 8's to Niagara Falls  Kindergarten End of Year Celebra- tion		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	Gr. 4's to Swan Lake  Gr. 8 Graduation 		 Term 2 Report Cards go home	<b>Last day of School-Early Dismissal 12:05 p.m.</b>	PA Day No school for students		
29	30	<b>We are the smallest of the small with the biggest heart of all</b>					