



PINE GROVE P.S.

January 2014

Pine Grove P.S.
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M. Ierullo & M. Sauder

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Administrators' Message

On behalf of the staff at Pine Grove Public School, we would like to welcome everyone back from the 2013 Winter Holiday. Although the weather created many challenges for many people, we trust that you had an opportunity to rest, relax and reconnect with your family and friends. We extend our sincerest wishes to the Pine Grove community for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014.

As we begin a new year, we often set personal goals for self-improvement. In our previous newsletter, we asked students to reflect upon and refine if necessary, their learning goals set in November 2013. First term Report Cards will be sent home in February, 2014 so now is the time to revisit, reflect and revise those earlier learning goals. What do you want to accomplish or achieve within the next month, prior to the completion of First Term Report Cards. Who can support you in achieving these goals? Is your goal specific and achievable? Is it necessary to speak with the homeroom or subject specific teacher to clarify learning strengths and needs? Academic success and personal well-being is achieved through the setting, reflection and refinement of goals. Set some time aside to talk with your child or children about the accomplishment of their goals.

This month our students will have many opportunities to get involved in the life of the school. Junior Mixed Volleyball tryouts have started, as well as, mixed Intermediate soccer intramurals and Intermediate boys and girls basketball. We encourage all of our students to show their school spirit by participating in Jersey Day on January 24th, 2014. In addition, School Council has planned a Movie Night for Friday, January 24, 2014. Starting at 7 p.m., Mr. Popper's Penguins will be showing in the Pine Grove gym. This is a fantastic event, where our families and students from our community can connect with each other and enjoy time with their family. We hope to see you on January 24th.

Have a great start to the New Year!

Brian Fisher
Principal

Karen Birnie
Vice Principal



Upcoming Dates to Remember in January 2014

- January 16 - Information Meeting for French Immersion
- January 17 - Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) Registration Begins
- January 17 - Registration for French Immersion Begins
- January 17 Elementary P.A. Day - NO SCHOOL**
- January 24 - Jersey Day - Wear your favourite team Jersey!
- January 24 - Family Movie Night @ Pine Grove 7:00 p.m. Mr. Popper's Penguins
- January 29 - 7:00 p.m. Mandatory Parent Information Meeting for
Grade 8 Quebec City Extended Field Trip
- February 6 - SK & Grade 8 Graduation Pictures

Character Trait for January - Fairness

We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights.

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) program will take place at Elder's Mills Public School, located at 120 Napa Valley Avenue, Woodbridge, L4H 1L2 on January 16, 2014 at 7 p.m.

FI registration will begin **January 17, 2014**. In order to streamline the registration process, parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2014, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can visit or call the school office and request an *Office Index Card - short version*. The Office Index Card must be signed by the principal of the home school. Parents or guardians then take this form, along with one piece of identification showing their address to Elder's Mills Public School, to register between January 17 and February 14, 2014. This eliminates the need to provide duplicate enrollment information or to pre-register.

YRDSB's FI Accommodation Plan provides long-term consistency and equity of access to all students in York Region and will enable YRDSB to continue to offer the FI program to all who wish to enrol. The FI program will be offered in Dual Track or Single Track settings, in a variety of configurations. In order to meet community needs and optimize available space in our schools, a community's Grade 1-8 FI program may be provided over more than one school during the course of a student's FI education. This will allow flexibility in addressing community needs and the opportunity to use existing space in schools. More information is available on the Board's website:

www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. Please note: Some of the FI accommodation plans will require facility modifications or the development of new schools and will require short-term transition plans that might include overflow while we work toward the long-term vision. Overflow refers to situations in which the Board directs students to attend a school other than their community school or optional program for a specific period of time, as defined in Policy #108.



Kindergarten Registration to Commence

January 17, 2014

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 17, 2014 for the 2014-15 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca.

Children who turn four or five years old during 2014, 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.

Please contact Mrs. Skoko and/or Mrs. Kahr in the Main Office at Pine Grove Public School for further Information regarding Kindergarten Registration for the upcoming 2014/2015 school year.



Open House
January 21, 2014
7-9 p.m.

For all interested parents,
students and teachers

Emily Carr Secondary School
4901 Rutherford Road
Woodbridge, ON
L4H 3C2
Phone: 905-850-5012 Fax: 905 850 7591

arts@baythorn



Would your child enjoy learning the Ontario curriculum through the Arts?

If so, the York Region District School Board offers an Elementary integrated Arts program at Baythorn Public School. Students currently in grades four and five may apply for the arts@baythorn program, where they will have the opportunity to explore the disciplines of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Music while meeting the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum for grades five, six, seven, and eight.

To learn more about the arts@baythorn program, students and their families are invited to attend an information evening at Baythorn Public School on Thursday, January 16, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.

Applications will be on line via the school website and available after January 16, 2014. www.baythorn.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Please call us at Baythorn Public School (905) 889-7992, if you require further information.

Jacqueline Linton
Principal

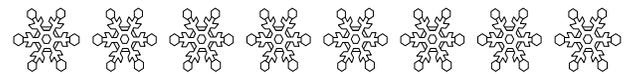
Jennifer Rosenberg
Vice-Principal

New Front Door Security

Last December, the Government of Ontario announced funding to support elementary schools to lock their front doors during the school day.

All elementary schools are being equipped with front door cameras, monitors, intercoms and buzzer locking systems.

Beginning **Monday, February 3, 2014**, elementary school doors will be locked 15 minutes after the school bell rings in the morning and will stay locked for the remainder of the school day. All visitors, including parents/guardians will be required to use the buzzer at the front door and to sign in at the main office.



Winter Weather & Outdoor Play



Winter has arrived in full force. With the colder temperatures and accumulation of snow, we ask that you:



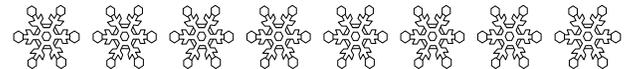
◆ Ensure your child is dressed properly for the temperature, complete with winter coat, hat, mittens, snow boots and snow pants.



◆ Consider sending your child with extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months.



◆ Label all articles of clothing, including but not limited to boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves and snow pants.



Pine Grove Learning Commons Presents...

The Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading Program



A Literacy Initiative

The Forest of Reading Literacy Initiative 2014 is well underway at the Pine Grove Learning Commons. All book selections are written by Canadian authors. Students in the primary grades have the Blue Spruce books read to them during their library time. They subsequently engage in reading response activities related to the book. After ten books are read to the students, they are eligible to vote for their favourite book in April 2014. These votes will be tallied and sent to the Ontario Library Association so that one Canadian author can be presented with the Forest of Reading Award. All students will receive a Blue Spruce reading certificate once the program is completed.

As for the Silver Birch and Red Maple Clubs, it is exciting to see the students' enthusiasm for books and reading. Students from grades three to eight are busy reading their fiction and non-fiction book selections in order to cast a vote for their favourite book and author in April 2014. Students are reminded to continue to exchange books in a timely manner so that they can be read by all members of our Forest of Reading clubs. Students in grades three to eight are asked to meet in the library once they have completed reading a book. Students are asked to respond to and tell about the books they have read. Students who read five books and successfully participated in the book discussions and activity, are eligible to vote for their favourite book in late April 2014. All successful members will receive a certificate from the Ontario Library Association. Keep up the great enthusiasm and happy reading! For more information about the Forest of Reading please visit

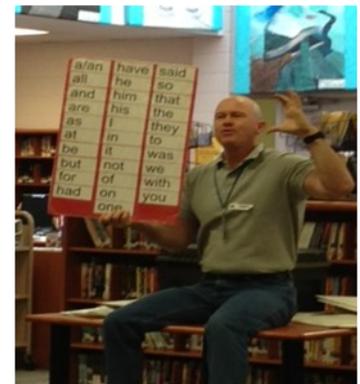
<https://www.accessola.org> or contact Mrs. Meleca.

Michael Wade Author Visit



Pine Grove Public School students in grades three to eight had the opportunity to meet Canadian author Michael Wade. He visited the Learning Commons on the afternoon of December the 6th, 2013. Author Michael Wade shared his love for reading and writing. Students had the pleasure to enjoy his dynamic, humorous presentation which focused on the power of words and the fun and importance of reading. He inspired Pine Grove students to become creative writers and avid readers of fiction. Students were engaged in the presentation and very excited to have their purchased books signed by the author. Michael Wade books are available for students to check-out from our school library if they are interested.

If you would like more information about author Michael Wade please visit the following website <http://www.boysbookshelf.com>.





Eco Club News

January 2014

Pine Grove's Energy Footprint



In January our students are reminded to monitor the amount of energy used by tracking their energy footprint. Pine Grove's energy consumption can be followed on the **Y.R.D.S.B. ECO WATCH website**. In doing so, students are able to monitor Pine Grove's energy usage throughout the day. In 2014, our students hope to keep lights out during the lunch hour to save energy.

Every Friday is **sweater day** during the cold winter months. If we wear a few more layers, we can lower our heat and reduce our carbon footprint. Many of us experienced losing heat and/or power in our homes during the recent ice storm. We value what we have most when it is lost. Fortunately this was temporary and eventually restored.



These two initiatives remind our community of students and families our appreciation for heat and power. Restoring our resources and minimizing the amount of waste we consume are Eco friendly practices and continue to be our school focus in 2014.

G.O.O.S. Paper

The January focus is minimizing the amount of waste we consume. January is G.O.O.S month, an acronym for **Good On the Other Side**. Pine Grove has been busy reducing waste and recycling paper throughout the years. G.O.O.S. bins are currently set up in all classrooms (good on the other side bins). Students are encouraged to use recycled paper for their notes, rough work and sketches at home and school.

Paper is always good on the other side especially if it is blank because it can still be reused. Rather than recycling construction paper that we have in our classroom, our students have found creative ways to use the other side or pieces of the paper for other work. Some blank pieces of paper that we may throw in the recycling bin can be reused as note paper or rough paper in our homes. This is a great way to reduce the amount of waste we produce and a creative way we can recycle paper without much effort. Parents, the Eco club encourages all families to set up a G.O.O.S bin in your homes. This month remember to reduce our carbon footprint and minimize the amount of waste we consume.

Pine Grove let's continue to protect our planet!



Family Movie Night

Mr. Popper's Penguins

Friday, January 24, 2014

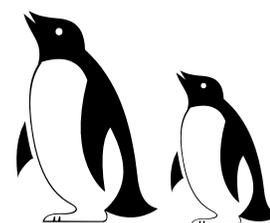
at 7:00 p.m.

Pine Grove Gymnasium

This is a **FREE** Family Event!

Refreshments will be served

Thank you to the Pine Grove School Council for planning and organizing this event!



Pine Grove Public School's **FAMILY SKATE NIGHT**

WHERE: Woodbridge Arena – 5020 Hwy 7
Woodbridge, ON L4L 1T1

DATE: Saturday, February 8, 2014

TIME: 7PM – 8PM



ADMISSION IS FREE
COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE & HOT CHOCOLATE

Children must be accompanied by parents/guardians
Children must bring their own skates and helmet

Thank you to the Pine Grove School Council for planning and organizing this event!

Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellations

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Bus Cancellations will be made by 6:00 a.m. Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO

590 AM	640 AM	680AM	860AM	1010AM	1050AM	
1540AM	1580AM					
88.5FM	89.9FM	92.5FM	93.1FM	94.9FM	95.9FM	97.3FM
98.1FM	99.1FM	99.9FM	101.1FM	102.1FM	104.5FM	100.7FM
107.1FM						

TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB on twitter.

School bus charters will not operate when home to school bus service is cancelled.

Please note the following:

- ◆ A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- ◆ Unless otherwise stated, **schools will remain open** and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon.** Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.

