



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2015

Regency Griffins

March 2015

WELCOME SPRING

From the desk of Ms. Leoni

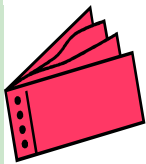
The songs of Disney's High School Musical still resonate in the building as students of all ages keep singing as they skip around our school hallways. What a great performance and certainly a proud Regency memory!

March Break is fast-approaching - **March 16 through March 20 is March Break!** School is closed this week.

1. Read a story and ask your child "what if" questions (i.e., What would happen if we didn't shovel the snow?)
2. Use medicine droppers to add food colouring to water - to experiment with mixing colours.
3. Ask your child to help you prepare a grocery list. Visit the grocery store and let him/her help you find the items on the list.
4. Make a "touch box." Fill it with cotton balls, rocks and items from the environment. Can your child guess what they're touching?
5. Ask your child to find as many different shapes in the bathroom as he/she can (the soap is oval, the washcloth is square).
6. Encourage your child to keep a journal of his activities this year. Years from now, you can look back at it and reminisce.
7. Start a list of Canadian places you'd like to visit. Have your child write letters to obtain information about these places.
8. Write your child's name in a vertical line. Ask him/her to choose a word (that starts with the first letter of their name) that best describes him/her.
9. Play a game that uses math skills. You might try Monopoly or Go Fish.
10. Listen to some of your favourite music today and ask your child to identify the different instruments they hear in the song.
11. Give your child a measuring tape. Ask him/her to measure and record the dimensions of objects in your house.
12. Dedicate at least one day as "TURN OFF THE SCREEN DAY" (that's T.V. or computer) to just sit, chat, share ideas, your childhood stories and just laugh!

We wish you all an enjoyable week, filled with fun, laughter and rest. **School resumes Monday, March 23rd**

MILK PROGRAM



Milk tickets will continue to be sold in

the office. Each ticket is \$.75 or a sheet of twenty can be pur-

chased for \$15.00, $\frac{1}{2}$ for \$7.50.



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ECO TIPS and HEALTHY SCHOOLS



On Wednesday, February 11th, our Healthy Schools Committee and a very dedicated group of Regency parents, held a free Yogurt Parfait Day at Regency. Each student had the opportunity to enjoy a healthy yogurt parfait, made with love, as a Healthy Valentine treat for all! This initiative was student driven and selected by our student team members, Yasmeen and Sidney, after a Healthy Schools Network meeting in the Fall. The recipe is simple, nutritious and delicious. Vanilla yogurt, thawed berries and nut free granola. Students are encouraged to create their own version of these healthy parfaits at home this month.

Cart. Donations of fresh fruit and healthy snacks are greatly appreciated and will be used daily on our cart for all students to enjoy, free of charge. "At Regency we believe that our greatest wealth is our students' health!"



think of a better way to think 'green' as the snow starts to melt. Other than having the pleasure of just drinking coffee, their grounds have a number of uses within our homes. Treat your flowers to a rejuvenating supplement. Coffee grounds are high in acidity and full of nutrients. Use as mulch in the soil for those acid-loving plants. Another use in the garden is that it can also deter ant infestations and snails/slugs from around your flowers and bushes. You can also use coffee grounds as part of your beauty regime. Mix together with a little coconut oil and brown sugar to make a natural skin exfoliator, then rinse off in the shower and experience how irresistibly soft your skin feels." (<http://www.dailycotips.com/>)

ECO TIPS

Did you know that your coffee grounds and tea leaves can be recycled, reused? Spring is around the corner and I can't

Thanks also goes out to our Regency community for continued support of our Healthy Snack



Daylight Savings Town of Aurora

REMINDER:

March 8th, 2015 at 2:00 A.M., please remember to change your clock to one (1) hour ahead.



The Town of Aurora has recently launched a school travel planning campaign with a dedicated webpage containing information for schools.

<http://www.aurora.ca/safe>

Please review the link and consider sharing it with your school communities:



Scent Free School

Dropping off an item? Volunteering? Attending a meeting? Picking up your child? Please be aware that due to sensitivities and allergic reactions of students and staff, all visitors to the school are asked to please refrain

from wearing scented products in the school. Scents remain in the air for long periods, and can affect the physical well being of others. We appreciate your support in making our school a safe

place for all students and staff.



Team Sports at Regency Acres P.S.

Congratulations to our Junior Mixed Volleyball team for their success at the Area Tournament on Wednesday, January 28th! 13 teams competed in the CEC Central "A" Tournament. The tournament began with a round robin format of 6 games and Regency won all 6 sets and placed 1st in their pool. This advanced Regency to the semis where they beat Hartman P.S.. In the finals, they met up with Highview P.S. It was nail biting! Aiming for best 2 out of 3, Regency fought hard in the first game, but came up short with a loss. Going into their second game, they were even more determined and won! Due to the tie, a final game to

15 began. Highview squeaked by with a win, earning Regency a respectable second place overall. Well done Regency!

A big high-five goes to our athletes: Colin, Aly, Myles, Markus, Sam, Alexa, Maya, Kaylee, Marley, Melanie, Bradley, Anastasia and Jordan for a great tournament and fantastic season. A very special thank you goes out to our coaches: Ms. Deckert and Mrs. Moffitt and our student coaches: Craig and Kit, for their hard work and support. Fantastic season everyone, and we can't wait until next year.



Basketball

Our intermediate basketball teams are in full swing now. We have a girls team and two boys teams representing our school. In the month of February the three teams played a total of ten games in three weeks prior to the area tournament. All three teams showed great growth in game concepts and fantastic sportsmanship.

Well done Griffins!



REGENCY SPRING FUNDRAISER

REGENCY FAMILIES CAN HELP TO MAKE THIS THE BEST SPRING FUNDRAISER WE'VE EVER HAD!!!!

If you, or any of your friends or family, have sports tickets, unused toys or kids' gift items, we would love to have them to make gift baskets for our fundraiser. We are looking for prizes that will help motivate your kids to raise money for their school.

We are organizing an action packed Fitness-a-Thon consisting of Zumba, martial arts, basketball games and obstacle courses. The more money they raise, the more tickets they will have to try and win prizes. Thank you in advance for your help.

Please drop your donations off at the office.

Thank you in advance!



Dressing for Cold Weather



Students need to come to school dressed to play outside during recesses (hats, scarves, gloves/ mittens, boots, etc.) It is advisable for children to bring extra pants and socks, in case they get wet. Please ensure that your children have indoor shoes at school that they can

change into when they come inside. Being physically active during winter is an essential part of a healthy lifestyle. The school administration keeps a close eye on weather conditions including wind chill. When conditions necessitate, students will remain inside for recess. When conditions allow, reduced outdoor recesses may take place. **If a student is well enough to attend school, then he/she will be expected to go outside for recess.**



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

We said goodbye and gave a warm thank you to Principal Cathy Martino at the end of January. Mrs. Martino was a great supporter of school council and made it possible for us to implement some wonderful events, new ideas, and successful fundraising campaigns. We wish Cathy all the best at her new school!

Our last meeting was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015.

Council welcomed our new principal, Ms. Lisa Leoni! Lisa shared with us some of her plans for the school and her goal to increase student engagement. School council is excited to work with Ms. Leoni on many new, and exciting ideas that she has already brought forward!

Spending news... School council approved the purchase of:

1. Water Bottle Filling Stations. One for each floor. Total cost: \$5000 (for 2).

You may have seen these stations in other schools or featured in the press. The stations provide cold, clean, filtered water as students fill their own water bottles.

2. New Regency Sports Team Uniforms. Total cost: \$4520.

The school team uniforms have been in need of replacement for a few years. We are thrilled to approve this request and thank Mrs. Moffitt for overseeing it.

3. School Front Entrance Enhancement/Upgrade: Total cost \$7000 (\$3500 from council + \$3500 from Ms. Leoni's school budget). This project will involve students, teachers, and parents. The final work will reflect the spirit of our school and community. A **Front Entrance Committee** has been formed and students, teachers and parents are welcome to join. Please contact Ms. Leoni at lisa.leoni@yrdsb.ca, if interested.

More spending news... Ms. Leoni has purchased new mats for the gymnasium after they were identified as in need of repair or replacement. The mats will be made in the school colours and provide a safer environment for all students.

ME to WE: Mrs. Walsh and students, Alex McLeod and Karsen Roy, gave a presentation to council on Me to We. This wonderful organization will be presented to grades 6 - 8 students shortly with the goal of encouraging students to become involved in leadership opportunities and give back. Details coming soon!

Kid's Kitchen: The kid's kitchen spirit days continue to grow. An additional spirit lunch has been added on Friday March 6. Remember that the school earns \$1.00 for every lunch that is ordered. Thank you to Sandy Kennedy for managing this lunch program!

Parfait Day: was held on Feb. 13 and was a sweet success! Thanks to Gwen Al-Kas for sharing the idea with council and for organizing all of the volunteers that were needed. What a nice treat for Valentine's Day!

Family Ski Night: Regency's final ski night was Feb. 20. Thanks to all of the families that came out this year! A big thank you goes to Deb Corrick for running the ski nights at Regency. We are happy to announce that 2 new families will take over in 2016: the Fraser & the Mooy families. Thank you to both!

Spring Fundraiser: is on track and Anne Ross & Pat Morton will be sending details soon. To make this event a big success, **PRIZES ARE NEEDED!** No prize is too small. Please contact Pat Morton at pat_morton@sympatico.ca, if you are able to donate.

BAG-TO-SCHOOL: Regency's annual bag-to-school clothing/soft goods drive will be held in the spring. Please hang on to your items! This is a fabulous program and great way to give back to the community. Dates and details will be sent home soon.

New Committee... volunteers needed! An **Outdoor Play Committee** has been formed by Ms. Leoni to address the outdoor play area. She is looking for students, teachers and parents to join this committee and bring forward ideas for the area. Please contact Ms. Leoni at lisa.leoni@yrdsb.ca, if interested.

Traffic & Transportation up-date: The town of Aurora has approved a new stop sign at Willis and Seaton and a **NO U TURN** in front of the school on Murray. The No U Turn will change the way parents enter and exit the kiss & ride. Communication to be sent home soon.

The next school council meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 8, 2015**. Please feel free to join us!

Joan Lash— Chair, School Council

AROUND REGENCY



SKATING ON OUR RAPS RINK!

January 23rd, 2015



MUSICAL

The enthusiastic cast and hardworking stage crew of 57 students in grades 4-8 delighted audiences at the Newmarket Theatre on Tuesday, February 24 and Wednesday, February 25, 2015 with 2 daytime and 2 evening performances of *High School Musical Jr.* Students thrilled their audiences with their wonderful characterization of teenage life at East High. **Go Wildcats!** Fantastic performances were provided by all our young actors who sang and danced their hearts out for capacity crowds. Since auditions were held in June 2014, these students have been rehearsing at least twice weekly to prepare for these performances – congratulations everyone on a spectacular show. We are so proud of your commitment and hard work. Everyone involved in H.S.M. would like to thank those who were able to attend the shows – your encouragement is greatly appreciated and we hope to see you again next year at another Regency Acres P.S./S.T.A.R. Production. Auditions will be announced in late May/early June for those interested in our next school show, so keep listening for details on our next musical production...yet to be revealed!

Sheryl Thomas (Director) & Brenda Hillaby (Production Co-ordinator)

