

# Silver Pines Parent **POST**

October 19 – 25th 2013



## Calendar Events – Important Dates

October 28	Gr. 7 Hep B & Meningitis & Gr.8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female Immunization
Nov 14-15	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Nov 15	P.A. Day—No School
Nov. 28	Gr. 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female Immunization
Jan 23-24	Dental Screening Program
March 25	Gr. 7 Hep B & Meningitis & Gr.8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) female Immunization

### School Council 2013-2014 Meeting Dates:

November 4, 2013	December 2, 2013
February 3, 2014	April 7, 2014
May 5, 2014	

## ECO School Update

At S.P.P.S. we are proud to be an ECO School! As part of this certification we have a green bin and blue bin recycling program at our school. In each classroom we have a **green bin for food waste and paper towel only**, and a **blue bins for recyclable materials** only. Our classrooms **do not** have garbage's.

Therefore, we are encouraging students to take home all of the garbage created by their lunches (i.e., food wrappers, tin foil, ziplock bags). This is called a BOOMERANG lunch. This way some of the packaging may be used again. OR - you might find that it is easier to have your child pack a **LIT-TERLESS** snack and lunch to avoid creating garbage. This can be done by buying snacks and other items in larger quantities and then packing them in re-usable containers.

Please help support our ECO initiatives by **re-thinking** the way you and your child pack snacks and lunches.

Together we can make a difference and help protect our planet.

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!**



## Admin Message

The evening of Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and the morning of Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> are set aside for the purpose of Parent-Teacher Interviews. There is no school for students on the PA day, Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and buses will not be running.

Silver Pines P.S. will be scheduling Parent-Teacher Interviews for grades SK-8, during the evening of Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and/or the morning of Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> depending on teacher availability. If you are unavailable on either of these dates, a telephone interview can be arranged with your child's teacher. Please contact your child's teacher to make alternative arrangements. To help us arrange the interview times we ask you to complete the bottom portion of the letter that will be sent home and return it to your child's homeroom teacher by November 4<sup>th</sup>. Requests will be honoured on a first come, first serve basis. Parent-Teacher Interview times for siblings will be arranged as close as is possible. A confirmation of date and time will be sent home, by your child's teacher, with your child by November 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received the confirmation by the 11<sup>th</sup> please contact the school.

We take this opportunity to once again thank Mrs. Zafran, Elementary Office Administrative Assistant (EOAA) for all her contributions to our school and we wish her well in her new position with the Board. We welcome Deidra McPhail, new EOAA to Silver Pines and we know that all of you will help make her feel at home.

We look forward to a busy fun November, full of learning and growth. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. Our door is always open.

Best Regards,

*Aneta Fishman*

Principal

*Sherry Zarif*

Vice Principal

**BE A LEADER~BE A LEARNER~HAVE A OICE~HAVE FUN!**



## C is 4 Cookies!

The students of Silver Pines (K-8) will have the opportunity to buy a delicious chocolate chip cookie every Thursday at lunch recess for the low cost of \$2. The cookies are individually wrapped, 100% Compliant, no preservatives, Kosher and Halal certified.

The Grade 8 Leadership Team will begin their cookie sales on Thursday October 31st. In the spirit of the Harvest/Halloween season, this week's cookies will be pumpkin shaped vanilla cookies (with orange and green sprinkles).

Thank you in advance for your continued Support SPPS!



## GROW @ SPSS

Last week, students in K-8 took part in the Grow Program – in-school field trip. The theme for the GROW session this fall was “What makes a Hero?” Students explored the concept that heroes possess courage, honesty, integrity, determination, trust, and patience. Heroes know the right thing to do even when the answers are not always clear. A hero knows the importance of caring for others, and a hero always shows empathy and respect. We talked about how inside each of us, there is a hero. The Hero is the framework within which this action packed program took place. Students engaged in topics such as leadership, bullying, cyber-bullying, and character development. Faced with a set of fantastic new challenges, Grow Heroes was an explosion of adventure where students discovered the essence of the three I’s –integrity, inclusion, and initiative- while working together to overcome obstacles, discover their strengths, and make positive choices. Students interacted with Grow facilitators, staff and with each other to further explore what makes a hero? They discovered that a hero is someone who strives to improve the world, to help others, and to use their powers wisely. The interactive workshop was followed by in-class discussions and reflections.

## Halloween Reminder...

**Under the Province Safe School legislation, students may not bring toy replicas or other items resembling guns, knives or any other weapons, as accessories to their Halloween costumes. Such items may cause unnecessary fear, anxiety and misunderstanding and must be kept away from the school. In addition, staff will remind students that they cannot bring to school any toy costume accessories, including fake blood, as part of their Halloween costume.**

This applies to all students at all levels, including Kindergarten. Please note that while the celebration of “Halloween” is not part of Ontario Curriculum, some classes may choose to weave Halloween celebrations and/or traditions as part of the daily work and curriculum expectations for specific grades. Individual teachers may send notes home to inform you of expectations and / or options for wearing a costume. Please do not send your child to school in a costume in the morning. If wearing a costume is part of what the teacher decides to do with their class, they will inform you. Regular instruction and programming will continue as we take extra care to be inclusive in our practice at school and to ensure that everyone feels safe as per Board policy and protocol. If you have any concerns / questions, please don’t hesitate to let your child’s teacher know.

In addition, following Halloween, please refrain from having your children bring candies to school. Aside from the candies not being a healthy snack choice, they also may contain nuts, peanuts or other allergens. Please check the snack ingredients carefully if you choose to send it to school with your child. Thank you for your understanding. As always, if you have questions, please contact your child’s teacher or a member of the administration at the school.

### Silver Pines P.S. Contact Information

Phone: 905.508.7303

Fax: 905.508.7351

Website: [www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

## Support Our Healthy Snack Program

Did you know that students at our school are provided with healthy snacks everyday through our Food for Learning Program? Students are offered foods that are fresh and nutritious including vegetables and fruits. Research shows that when students are provided with daily healthy snacks, they are more likely to choose healthier food options in the future. Good nutrition is critical to a child’s health, ability to learn and physical and emotional growth. Now you can help enhance our program by donating healthy snacks. Just simply provide us with any of the items listed in the chart below and we will add them to our daily snack program. We are only accepting items in the chart below that meet the Ministry’s Healthy Food Guidelines. These items must be in their original packaging that has not been opened.

Thank you for supporting our snack program and making it nutritious, delicious and fun!

List of Cereals and Crackers that meet the Ministry of Children and Youth Services Student Nutrition Program Nutrition Guidelines include:



Cheerios (multigrain & plain)  
Bran Flakes  
Life Cereal  
Corn Bran Squares  
Raisin Bran Cereal  
Melba Toast (whole wheat)

Wheaties  
Toasted Oat O’s  
Oatmeal Squares  
All Bran Cereal  
Triscuit (whole wheat)



## Peace Tree Spirit Conference

On Wednesday October 23rd, four Grade 5 & 6 students and Ms. Malach attended the Peace Tree Spirit Conference, **‘Think Globally, Act Locally’**.

Students participated in workshops learning about less fortunate groups in our world, conflict resolution, and more.

We are excited to work with past years’ participants as Peace Ambassadors on initiatives that bring peace, equity, and inclusivity to our school and community.



# School Council Corner

**Thank You Volunteers!** Thank you to all of our volunteers who organized and continue to manage the delicious pizza, pita and sub lunches! Thank you as well to the volunteers who are organizing this year's Bag2School fundraiser! Your time and support are truly appreciated!

**Bag2School** is coming back to Silver Pines! It's easy to participate! Simply clean out your closets and donate your previously enjoyed clothing and toys to support Silver Pines fundraising efforts. You can donate any clean clothing, hats, belts, purses, footwear (tied in pairs please) - and soft/stuffed toys. A Bag2School blue bag will be sent home with your child in the coming weeks. Last fall, we collected 1.1 tons which raised \$225 for Silver Pines! Let's try and collect more than 1.1 tons this fall! Please bring your bags to school from **November 18th to 28th**.

**Council Meetings** - Everyone is welcome to attend the Silver Pines School Council Meetings. To give you an idea of what we discuss, here are some of the items that were on last month's agenda:

- Michael Waxman from Jewish Family & Child Services was at the meeting and he gave us an overview of what he does to support our students and our school.
- We talked about the EQAO results and we experienced some sample questions.
- We sampled cookies and pizza and discussed our lunch/treat vendors.
- Mrs. Dynes, Mrs. Elson and Mr. Samuels gave an update on school wide events.
- Mrs. Fishman and Ms. Zarif gave an Administrative update.
- We discussed fundraising ideas for the school year.

The next School Council Meetings are on November 4th and December 2nd from 7pm to 8:30pm in the SPPS Library. Everyone is welcome to attend!

**Volunteers Needed** - Our fundraising efforts are largely dependent on volunteers. The Scholastic Book Fair is coming up in November and volunteers will be needed! Please email Amanda Ginsberg (parent volunteer) at [amandaginsberg@rogers.com](mailto:amandaginsberg@rogers.com) to sign up.

**Questions?** Should you have any questions about School Council, please contact Mrs. Fishman, Ms. Zarif or email Amanda Ginsberg at [amandaginsberg@rogers.com](mailto:amandaginsberg@rogers.com).

