



UNIONVILLE MEADOWS MESSENGER February 2017

Principal - Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes

Vice Principal - Nancy Tsang

Unionville Meadows P. S. 355 South Unionville Avenue, Markham, Ontario L3R 5C8

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FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

February is Black History Month

- 2 International Sweater Day
- 3 PA Day (no school)
- 7 Winter Activity Day Gr.6-8
- 9 Meningitis Immunization for Gr.7 only
- 9 Scientist in the School (Ms. Adatia's Gr.2/3 class)
- 14 Spirit Day—Love Day (Wear red / pink / white)
- 15 Report Cards go home
- 17 Int. Girls Area Basketball Tournament at Milliken Mills HS
- 20 Family Day (no school)
- 21 Chai & Chat "My child is out of control" at 1:20—2:45pm in the Learning Commons
- 24 Int. Boys Area Basketball Tournament at Middlefield CI
- 27 Gr.5 only at the Community Safety Village
- 27 Gr.8 Grad Picture Day
- 28 FDK at Pigmania at Markham Theatre

Junior Kindergarten Registration Continues

If you have not registered your child for JK for the 2017-2018 School year, please come to the office to do so. Also, if you have neighbors with children who are Kindergarten age (children who turn four or five years old during 2017) please remind them to come to our school office to register their child.

Any questions please call our school office at 905-479-4795.



Message from the Principal's Desk

Unionville Meadows has been a busy place and will continue to be in the month of February! We had another wonderful turn out at the Gr.1-8 Winter Wishes concert. Thank you to all the families who came to support the great performances that staff and students worked very hard on. In the months ahead, our students will be involved in a wide variety of activities including Scientist in the School, Spirit Day, Community Safety Village, Pigmania as well as Winter Activity Day. Of course we will squeeze in a lot of learning with and from each other as well!

On February 15th, your child(ren) will bring home their Term 1 Report Cards. Please take some time to read the Report Card with your child(ren). The Learning Skills section on page one of the Report Card is incredibly important and has a profound impact on your child's success at school and beyond. Please take some extra time to talk about these with your child(ren). Once you have read the Report Card and celebrated your child's successes set some goals for Term 2. You have the opportunity to record these comments and goals on the last page of the Report Card and we appreciate you taking the time to do this and sending it back to the school so we can work as a team to achieve the goals. Communication between home and school is something we value at Unionville Meadows so if you have any questions about the Report Card please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. They will be happy to speak to you.

*Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes
& Nancy Tsang*

Green Team Update - National Sweater Day

Over millions of Canadians have participated in the Sweater Day challenge. This month we are also going to be participating on Thursday, February 2nd! This means that the school's heat will be turned down 2°C so make sure to wear your sweater to school! We are doing this to help bring awareness to climate change and involve many people to take action and help protect our planet. If you do this at home, you probably wouldn't even notice a difference. By doing this, you are lowering your heating cost and reducing your carbon footprint! Take this opportunity to challenge yourself by going home and lowering the heat so that the Earth won't have to suffer! The purpose of National Sweater Day is to teach everyone, not just students from our school about how much of an impact lowering just a few degrees would make to our planet. If every household were to lower their heat by 2 degrees on the 2nd of February, this can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 4 megatons! Research shows that this is equivalent to shutting down a 600 megawatt coal-fired power station or taking off 700,000 cars off the road! Lastly, the Green Team would like to inform everybody that a non-profit organization called **World Wildlife Fund** is trying to encourage everyone to work towards a future where by 2050, we will be using only 100% renewable resources. By participating in National Sweater Day, we are one step closer in making the Earth a safe place to live! We hope that this newsletter taught you how much of a difference you can make in the world and we look forward to seeing everyone in their sweaters on Thursday, February 2nd!

Keep thinking
Green!



Handwashing

Children share many items throughout the school day and at home including books, puzzles, computers, water bottles and sports equipment. Sharing can spread germs that can cause sickness, especially during cold and flu season. Correct handwashing is the best way to prevent the spread of infection.

To help keep the people in your home healthy, follow these simple steps:

- Encourage children to sneeze into the bend of their arm rather than into their hands
- Make time for handwashing, especially before eating, after using the bathroom, blowing your nose, sneezing, handling garbage, touching animals, playing outdoors or visiting someone who is sick
- Wash your hands whenever they look or feel dirty

Together we can make the healthy choice the easy one!

For more information about preventing infections and proper handwashing, visit york.ca/preventinginfections

This material is provided by York Region Public Health.



NO NUTS or SHELLFISH at school!

Please remember to send forks and spoons with your child(ren). We cannot provide these on a daily basis.



Congratulations to the intermediate girls basketball team for winning a tournament at David Suzuki. The girls beat defending regional champions Ashton Meadows in a close game, 10-8. The girls then proceeded to win against Randall, 28-6, and beat David Suzuki in the finals 16-12. The girls started off the season 9-0 and are getting ready for their area tournament on February 17th. GO MUSTANGS!



On January 26th our Junior Coed Volleyball team played in the area tournament at Armadale Public School. During round robin play they won 3 of their 4 games in convincing fashion! They continued playing hard in the playoff rounds, but came up a bit short in the quarter finals. They did an incredible job representing Unionville Meadows both on and off the court.

Congratulations to the entire team, including co-captains Sophia and Paris, Lauren, Hena, Emily, Celine, Susanna, Mathuhan, Jeevesh, Nathan, Javan, Mason and Simon on their performance, positive attitudes and strong work ethic throughout the season.

A big thank you goes to coaches Ms. Juma, Mr. Biesok and Ms. Palmateer!

French Immersion Registrations

For students entering Grade 1 in 2017, and wishing to enroll in the French immersion Program, please return the request slip (sent home on January 9th) such that an Index card can be prepared for the registration at Coppard Glen Public School.

February 2017 Trustee Greetings for school newsletters

Message from our Trustee

We are now halfway through the school year. This is a good time to reflect on all that your child has learned and to look at setting goals for the rest of the school year.

Our Board believes that student well-being and achievement go hand-in-hand. One of our goals set out in the [Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Plan](#) is to "continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture of caring and learning."

The Ministry of Education has recently identified [four priorities for well-being](#): positive mental health, safe and accepting schools, healthy schools, and equity and inclusive education. As a Board of Trustees, we will continue to further work in all of these areas to support student well-being in line with these priorities.

There are many resources on the Board website to help support student well-being, including tips for [talking about mental health](#), [managing stress](#), [packing healthy lunches](#) and [addressing incidents of bullying](#).

Creating a healthy, safe and welcoming learning environment is key to helping our students reach their full potential. All of us have an important role to play in creating an environment that enables our students to thrive.

I wish you all the best for a healthy, happy and successful 2017.



Parents for Children's
Mental Health
SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

Monday, February 13, 2017



FREE SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:



DJ Cunningham, CEO LearnStyle

Have you ever wondered about your child's future dealing with a LD? DJ's story of inspiration is likely to make you laugh, cry and most of all hope.

PARENTS' Support Group

Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?

Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
 - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
 - learn how to access resources in the community

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| When | Second Monday of every month NO pre-registration. Free childcare sign up parentengagement@kinark.on.ca Meetings run every month all year. Chapter leader email york@pcmh.ca | Second Tuesday of every month NO pre-registration info@theyorkcentre.ca Meetings run every month except August. |
| Time | 6:30-8:00pm | 7:00- 9:00 pm |
| Where | Aurora Kinark Office at 24 Orchard Heights Blvd. Unit 101A Aurora. (Entrance is at east side of grocery store) Free parking & very close to Yonge St for public transit. | The York Center at 11225 Leslie Street, Richmond Hill. Free parking. |
| Next Meeting | Monday, March 13, 2017 Group discussion session | To be announced |

York Region District School Board School Climate Survey for Students

Students in Grades 5 to 12 at the York Region District School Board will be invited to participate in a survey between **March 20 and April 28, 2017**. **The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential**, and will take place at school.

The YRDSB survey fulfills the Ontario Ministry of Education's requirement for schools to conduct student surveys and is aligned with the YRDSB's Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being. Survey questions will address topics related to Math, Modern Learning, Mental Health and Well-Being, Equity and School Safety.

This survey provides an opportunity to hear directly from students and the results will be used to identify student needs and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

If you do not wish your child(ren) to participate in the survey, please contact the school by March 10, 2017.

Arts Camp for students from Gr. 7-12

Application deadline: Friday, February 17, 2017

For information and application, please check out the following website:
<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/arts/Pages/Arts-Camp.aspx>





February 2017

| Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|------|
| February is Black History Month | | | 1 (Day 2) | 2 (Day 3) Sweater Day | 3 PA Day (No School) | 4 |
| 5 | 6 (Day 4) | 7 (Day 5) Winter Activity Day for Gr.6-8 | 8 (Day 1) | 9 (Day 2) Immunization for Gr.7s only Gr.2/3 Scientist in School | 10 (Day 3) | 11 |
| 12 | 13 (Day 4) | 14 (Day 5) Spirit Day: Love Day (Wear pink / white / red) | 15 (Day 1) Report Cards go home | 16 (Day 2) | 17 (Day 3) Int. Girls Area Basketball at Milliken Mills HS | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Family Day (No School) | 21 (Day 4) Chai & Chat "My child is out of control" at 1:20 - 2:45pm | 22 (Day 5) | 23 (Day 1) | 24 (Day 2) Int. Boys Area Basketball at Middlefield CI | 25 |
| 26 | 27 (Day 3) Gr. 5 at Community Safety Village Gr. 8 Grad Picture Day | 28 (Day 4) FDK at Pigmania | | | | |

Please remember to call the school if your child is missing school due to illness or an appointment.

Please call **905-479-4795** anytime (24 hours/day) and leave the following information:

-Your child's name (please spell), the reason for the absence and the name of the teacher

Notes

