

UNIONVILLE MEADOWS MESSENGER

December 2015

Principal - Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes

Vice Principal - Tina Diavolitsis

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

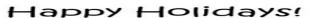
Phone: (905) 479-4795 Fax: (905) 479-1105 Website: www.unionvillemeadows.ps.yrdsb.ca

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE!

- 1- Grade 8 Mental Health Session #1-Myth Busting
- 1- Music Orientation from Markville for Gr. 8s
- 4- School Council Movie Night, UMPS Gym at 7:00 pm
- 7- & 8- Gr. 3 Gifted Screening
- 9-Kindergarten Winter Wishes Concert-6:30 pm
- 10-Bring Bag 2 School Donation to UMPS
- 10- Winter Wishes Concert-7:00 pm
- 11-A RTS Series Dufflebag Theatre T'Was the Night Before Christmas for Grades 4-8
- 11-Progress Reports Go Home
- 18-Wacky Hair & Hat Day & Healthy & Effective Schools Assembly

WINTER HOLIDAYS

December 21- January 1
See you back at school on January 4th!





Kindergarten Registration to Commence January 15, 2016

Kindergarten registration will commence on January 15, 2016 for the 2016-17 school year. Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: www.yrdsb.ca. Children who turn four or five years old during 2016, 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 the school.

Message from the Principal's Desk

In a few short weeks we will be off on our Winter Break! Teachers and students have worked hard these past few months and, have certainly earned this upcoming break! We hope you and your children take time to relax and rejuvenate and spend memorable moments together with family and friends!

Thanks to all of you who visited the school for Parent/Teacher Interviews and engaged in thoughtful discussions about your children's learning. We must continue to always work as a committed team in our efforts to ensure that all our students are working and achieving to their full potential!

December promises to be an exciting month. Our students are busy preparing for our Winter Concerts. We look forward to connecting with many of you at the Winter Wishes Kindergarten Concert on December 9th and the Winter Wishes Concert on December 10th! We are holding 2 performances due to the large number of students we have in Kindergarten and to accommodate our parents with available seating. As well, there are fire code restrictions that dictate the number of people we have in the gym at any one time.

Finally, as 2015 comes to an end, the staff at Unionville Meadows P.S. would like to take this opportunity to extend its heartfelt wishes to all of our families for a safe and happy holiday and to wish you the very best for the upcoming year of 2016!

Leeanne Hughes-Fernandes & Tina Diavolitsis

Superintendent: Dan Wu: 905-940-7800 Trustee: Billy Pang 647-461-9965

French Immersion Information Sessions and Registrations

Information sessions for the French Immersion (FI) pro-

gram will take place at French Immersion schools on January 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. Please visit YRDSB's website in January 2016 (http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/fi/ Pages/Program-Locations.aspx) to find the FI program location for your elementary school location. FI registration will begin January 15, 2016. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2016, 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 the designated FI program location to register between January 15 and February 12, 2016. 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.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.

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



Winter Weather

With the coming of cold weather, students need to come to school dressed to play outside during recesses (hats, scarf, gloves/mittens, boots, etc.). It is advisable for children to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet.



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 or 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.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



In efforts to work with parents/families in supporting the academic and social-emotional success of their child (ren), we would like to introduce parent workshops at Unionville Meadows P.S.

Please take a moment to complete a survey at the link below. Select your top three (3) topics of interest for upcoming workshops. We will use this feedback to plan for upcoming workshops. A paper version with Chinese translation will be sent home with your child with their progress report. Thank you for your support and we look forward to your participation in upcoming workshops!

Click here for Parent & Family Survey: https://goo.gl/b5iftb

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Unionville Meadows Public School's

Student Council



FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

is preparing its annual

FOOD DRIVE!



November 30 - December 11, 2015.

Please donate non-perishable items to our Food Drive!

The <u>Markham Food Bank</u> is in need of the following items:

Canned vegetablesJam

Hot and Cold cereals

Hearty soups (Canned/Dry)

Tea and coffee

Canned fruit
 Canned fish (Tuna, Salmon)

Canned meats

Canned stews

Juice (canned/boxes/crystals)

Canned milk

o Rice (small bags)

Macaroni & Cheese

 Snacks for school lunches: granola bars, fruit rollups, cheese/crackers, raisins/craisins, rice krispie squares

Reminder: Please check expiry dates and make sure that only nonperishable food items are donated. Also all items must be shellfish/nutfree!

Kiss and Ride and Parking Lot Expectations



We believe strongly that UMPS students benefit from walking to and from school! However, for those parents/guardians who choose to drive their children to school, we would like to remind you of the procedures to follow at the beginning and end of the day to ensure everyone's safety.

Front Loop:

Safety pylons will be placed in the two left lanes so that only one lane is operable. When you enter into the loop, drive up along the inside curb lane as far up as the car in front of you. We expect a single file line with no passing. Please drive all the way to the east end of the kiss and ride loop. All students must exit from the passenger side of the car, directly beside the curb. No one shall let their child(ren) out of the car from the middle lane or the driver's side of the car, where they would need to cut in between cars. Your child(ren) will be directed to go to the playground and /or their proper entry door. No one shall enter the main doors. Please continue, by signaling, checking your blind spot and proceeding into the exit lane once the drop off has been made. Please do not get out of the car.

Parking Lot Entry: For Kindergarten Parents Only

Drivers will enter the parking lot and continue along the sidewalk area, close to the Kindergarten playgrounds to drop of their children. Children will get out of the car on the passenger side (Like a Kiss'n'Ride) at the Kindergarten area and staff will direct them to their kindergarten yard. Please continue, by signaling, checking your blind spot and proceeding into the exit lane once the drop off has been made. Please do not get out of the car. When entering the parking lot to pick up kindergarten students, please do not block our handicap parking spots. Parking in the middle of the parking lot in the aisle also makes it difficult for cars to enter and exit the parking lot safely. The school bus and school transportation vans also enter to drop off /pick up students at the Kindergarten area. These vehicles have priority for entering and exiting. Please respect their "right of way".











It's time for our... Kindergarten Winter Wishes Concert

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Evening Concert: 6:30 pm

Featuring...

Junior and Senior Kindergarten classes

We look forward to you joining us in our Music making! See you there!



It's time for our... Winter Wishes Concert

Thursday, December 10, 2015

School Concert: 9:00 am Evening Concert: 7:00 pm

Featuring...

UMPS 6-8 String Ensemble
Ms. Doyle, Gr.2 Adatia, Gr 3 Hoselton, Leung,
Love, Gr 4 Clarke, 4/5 Caplan, Gr 5 Patel, Piedimonte

We look forward to you joining us in our Music making! See you there!

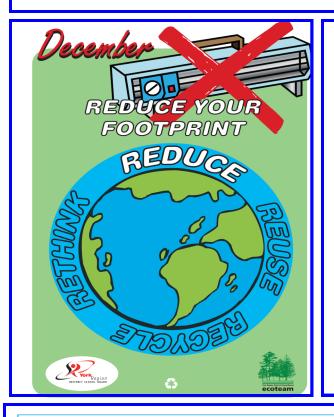
Message from Our Trustee

It is that time of year when our schools brim with energy and excitement for the many diverse celebrations taking place across our region. I am always happy to join the festivities happening in our schools and appreciate the efforts of our students, staff and community members to bring the holiday season alive.

As we wind down 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and guardians for their support of our students and staff over the past few months. A school community is only as strong and welcoming as the people who make up that community. Our students, staff and community members have continued to demonstrate respect, character and commitment in their work and interactions over the last few months. As a trustee, I consider myself very fortunate to work with such supportive community and staff members.

On behalf of all of the trustees and staff of the York Region District School Board, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday season.

All the best for 2016!







Winter sun safety

It's true. The winter sun contains UV rays and sunburns do occur, even though it is cold outside.

Winter Sun Facts:

- Snow reflects up to 80 per cent of UV rays, which bounce off the ground, so sunburns can occur in unusual areas (e.g., under the chin)
- Sports at higher altitudes increase the risk of serious sunburn, as there is less atmosphere to block the sun's rays
- "Snow blindness" can occur if your eyes are unprotected eyes can temporarily feel gritty and watery

- Cover up! When outside, wear protective clothing and a hat
- Wear sunglasses with 100 per cent UVA and UVB protection. Close-fitting, wrap-around styles can offer greater protection
- Use a sunscreen and lip balm SPF 30 or higher
- Remember to apply sunscreen 15 to 30 minutes before going outdoors and reapply every two hours

For health-related information visit www.york.ca/healthyschools



Community and Health Services







School Council News

for parents by parents

Unionville Meadows Public School **Dec 2015**





Bag2School

All donations need to be brought to the school on **Thursday December 10th**

What to donate:

Clothing, belts, purses, shoes(tied together), stuffed toys

Do not send in:

Books or regular toys

Contributing clothing to B2S directly reduces the volume of textiles sent to landfill sites. In most western countries, 6-12% of landfill waste is made up of discarded textiles. Instead of being thrown into landfills as garbage, quality textiles can be re-used as affordable second-hand clothing both in North America and overseas. Any items deemed unsuitable for resale will be taken to textile recycling facilities where they will be broken down and remade into useful materials, such as fleece jumpers and even US dollar bills.



Winter wishes

Water & Popcorn Sale + 50/50 draw

kindergarten: Wednesday December 9 The rest of the grades: Thursday December 10

Popcorn and water: \$1.00/ea

50/50 draw tickets: \$2/ea or \$5/3 tickets

* Please bring your change

Winner gets 50 percent of the money raised from the 50/50 tickets and the other 50 percent will go back to the school to support student learning and initiatives.



Movie night

7:00pm, Friday December 4th @ School Gym

Movie: Inside Out

We will be selling popcorn & water



Aussie X

Coming March 31 Details to follow



Popcorn days

Coming back in February Forms will be sent home in January



Direct monetary donations to the school are welcome



Next School Council meeting

6:30 - 8:00pm January 28th, 2016 @ Library



unionville.meadows.ps@yrdsb.ca Email us! School Council will be in touch