



Dundas Central School News

DUNDAS
CENTRAL



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Education is "Central"

B. Morlog, Principal
J. George, Vice-Principal

February 2012

From the Principal's Desk -

"Good things happening at Central."

For an electronic version of this newsletter (and to keep up to date with current DC Public news) please go to the website, and click on subscribe.

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Staffing Update/ Transitions

Ms. George's last day at Dundas Central will be Friday Feb. 3/12. Once again we thank her for her ideas, efforts and contributions over the past years and wish her all the best in her new position as Principal of Mary Hopkins School in Waterdown. She will be an elite leader in our Board.

Ms. Hensen who has served as our Literacy Improvement Teacher for a number of years moves into the Vice-Principal position. She will serve half time in our school and half time in G.R. Allan School in Westdale. It's nice to have a familiar face lead our school and she too will make big contributions. Ms. Morris comes to us from Prince of Wales School to serve as our Literacy Improvement Teacher. She will be shared with Spencer Valley School on a half time basis. We welcome her aboard!

Grade Eight Option Sheets

As you are aware, the secondary schools have, or are in the process of, distributing Option Sheets. High Schools would like them as soon as possible to begin the entry process for our grade eight students. However, they must understand that the elementary report cards are not going out until Feb. 15th and parents would like the opportunity to read and discuss results with their children. They may also wish to contact staff. Please take the time to address the report card and complete the option sheet and forward them to our school as soon as possible. We will forward them to our respective high schools by Friday February 24th.

When should I keep my child home from school?

Your children should stay home if they...

- vomit or have diarrhea through the night or in the morning
- have a temperature of 38C (100.4 F) or higher. See the doctor if fever continues.
- have any discharge from the ear or an earache. Go to the doctor the same day.
- have pink eyes or yellow discharge from the eyes. See the doctor.
- have a runny nose with thick mucous, a night cough, or any continuous cough.
- have a stomachache or headache. Go to the doctor if symptoms continue or happen often.
- have a sore throat.
- have a toothache. See a dentist as soon as possible.
- have a skin rash of unknown cause. Go to the doctor.



Be sure your current home, work and emergency contact phone numbers are on file at the school. Call the school when your children will be absent.

For more information: Call Telehealth Ontario 1-866-797-0000
Visit the City of Hamilton Public Health Services website
www.hamilton.ca/HealthandSocialServices .

Need to Address Late Students



Over the last few months we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of students arriving late to school. As the Education Act and Regulations outline, it is the duty of a pupil to attend school punctually. Late students do not hear the announcements for the day and thus miss activities and meetings. In addition, there is a disruption of the learning environment in that class with a late entry and the student misses the instruction that takes place. Attendance, punctuality, bringing learning materials and assignments are all essential skills required to be successful in life. We have to emphasize and model their importance to our children.

Set that alarm clock at little earlier please!

It is imperative that all late students report to the office. Teachers may have taken attendance and forwarded it to the office. If a student shows up in class without reporting to the office, that student will remain absent and a call will be made home. It is stressful to parents to get an "absent" phone call from the school when they assume the child is there. In most situations, the student did not report to the office and the secretarial staff follows up on the absence in the attendance book. Occasionally, errors can also occur as a result of teacher error. They too must be addressed. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters. It is greatly appreciated.

Parent Involvement on the Home Front

Recent studies strongly indicate that children whose parents engage them in educational activities tend to do better in school. Families have a major influence on their children's achievement in school and throughout life. When schools, families and the community work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, like school and stay in school longer. As documented, the three most important family influences on student achievement are:

1. Students' and parents' **expectations for academic performance**
2. The extent to which **parents are engaged in support activities**
3. Students' **attitudes toward effort as a necessity to success.**



Parents who instil a solid work ethic and the importance of education most certainly contribute to their child's success in school and their future. Parents need to be role models of character education so our child understands the morals and values we deem so important. Parents should serve as teachers in the home.

Set aside time every evening for your child to complete homework. That homework might be work not finished at school, assignment completion or test preparation. It could also involve reading to and with your children and then asking comprehension questions. You're not supposed to do their work for them but it is quite beneficial to instruct them, provide suggestions or revisions. Memorizing multiplication tables is not outdated. Model the importance of education.

Joint School Council & Home and School Meeting

This month we will break from recent tradition and have two separate meetings. On Tues. Feb. 7 at 7 pm we will host the next School Council Meeting. Our new vice-principal Ms. Hensen will be introduced that evening. The following night at the same time, the Home & School Association will meet. The big item on that agenda will be drawing up a user friendly constitution. Plan to attend both meetings and bring a friend!

Lost and Found

The Lost & Found is located in the basement of the school in the room beside the Umbrella Family Child Care. Mr. Verschoor and the custodians usually bring items from around the gym and school down to this room within 2 days. A staff member can let you in. We keep lost items on racks and bins for at least one month before we bag it up to go to charity or other school's clothes closets.



Home + School News

"Food for Thought" - because they need fuel to learn

There are many students in our school that do not bring the food that their young growing bodies need to sustain them throughout the day and support learning. They may not have a lunch, have forgotten their lunch, did not bring enough, or they have a hollow leg ... As a result, we have developed the "Food for thought" (F4T) Program at Dundas Central. Implemented in April 2009, the F4T program stocks a central supply of healthy foods on an as needed basis. A student may ask staff for assistance, or can go directly to the Office who can provide that student with a snack located in the Office Fridge.



This week is Teacher Appreciation week!!!!

Appreciating our School Staff

WANTED - Parental offers of:

Sumptuous savoury food donations.

Kind loans of table settings & decorations.

Help organizing this event & volunteering on the day for a very civilized Staff Buffet Lunch
On Wednesday, 15th February.



Contact: helen.bartley@cogeco.ca for further information & your offers

The Ultimate Cake Challenge...the imaginative but healthy cake, **without nuts.**

What about a Valentine theme? Is it Possible?

At H&S we think it can be done by DC parents!!

We aim for 20 but, 50 cakes would be great!

Proceeds go to the Grade 8 Graduation.

**If you can donate a cake before school on Tuesday, February 14th
please email: helen.bartley@cogeco.ca**



Listen for announcements regarding ticket sales

Save the date

Hamilton, Halton, Niagara & Brant Boards of Education together with Public Health are hosting the 11th Ontario Healthy Schools Coalition Forum: **Defining Healthy Schools in the 21st Century**
Mental Wellness...building capacity within the school community.

Pre Conference Tuesday, April 17th, **Forum** Wednesday April 18th and Thursday April 19th, 2012

Location: Carmen's Banquet and Convention Centre, Hamilton, ON

Contact: Ann Tyrrell, Chair, 2012 OHSC Forum planning committee ann.tyrrell@hamilton.ca

Making the Most of our Canadian Tire Money Together!

We would like to remind everyone that we will be collecting Canadian Tire money until the end of the Summer. Please leave your Canadian Tire money in the Home and School folder in the school office until a box is provided.

If you have any further questions, please contact staceylewis@sympatico.ca



Grow for Green

Thank you for your continuing support. Since we began this program in 2008 we have made over \$400 for the school. This ongoing program at the Holland Park Garden Gallery gives back 3% of your purchase to the school. The cashier will ask for the Grow Green Member Number which is the school's phone number, 905 627-3521.

Thank you for the Home & School!



The BIG Easter Chocolate Fundraiser for big ticket technology at Central

On March 20th, the Home and School Association will be launching a major fundraising effort on behalf of Dundas Central Public School, and we are asking for the support of all our families. Our goal is to raise \$13,000 to purchase smart board equivalent technology to be used throughout all grade levels within the school (primary, junior and intermediate).

We will be selling a nut free variety pack from World's Finest Chocolates. The bars will sell for \$3.00 each. We chose the \$3.00 bars because they offer the highest return to the school - \$1.50 from every bar sold remains at the school as our profit. That's \$45 per box sold! If every family at Dundas Central sells just one box of 30 bars, we will realize a profit of more than \$13,000 - a result that is well worth our efforts! Even better, each chocolate bar will be personalized just for our school and each bar will include a coupon for \$2.00 off a medium pizza, or \$3.00 off a large pizza at Pizza Hut. Sellers will also have a chance to win some great prizes including an iPod touch, an iPad or a family weekend to Great Wolf Lodge - and, each complete box sold will also earn the seller a ten inch chocolate Easter bunny! In addition to individual prizes, there will also be prizes for the top selling classes, so be sure to check the March newsletter for updated prize information! Permission forms will be sent home before March break, and the sale will wrap up after Easter weekend.

If you would like to help with the event, please contact helen.bartley@cogeco.ca and I will pass on your interest to Jen Racine our team leader on this event.

Thank you in advance for your support.
Dundas Central Home and School Association



NET GAMES! - Spread the Net Campaign

To Spread the Net, Dundas Central is having two days of NET GAMES! As you will recall, "Spread the Net" is Rick Mercer's charitable organization which **challenges Canadian students** to raise money to buy mosquito nets to save the lives of African children.

The elementary school that raises the most in donations will receive a visit from Rick Mercer this year. **Currently, Dundas Central is a reasonable contender, but our fundraising efforts must continue until the challenge closes at the end of January.**

All students will be playing NET GAMES (e.g., basketball, volleyball) on February 1st and February 2nd in their regular physical education classes. Parkside High School students will be assisting with coaching teams and refereeing the games as well as helping Kindergarten students play net games in small groups. All students are asked to bring in donations to increase our donation to the charity. The three classes who raise the most money this week from student donations towards "Spread the NET" will be awarded with an extra gym period to play more NET GAMES!!!



GOPHER DAY IS BACK! February 24th

Student Council's final fundraising activity for "SPREAD THE NET" is our very popular GOPHER DAY! As in years past, Student Council members will be offering themselves as "Gophers" to winning students who have purchased Gopher Draw Tickets.

"Gophers" will accompany winning students to class on February 24th to do such tasks as: copy down notes, clean out desks, fetch work materials, etc.

Winning students will also be treated to our own NET FLICKS movie at the end of the day with popcorn served to them by their respective Gophers".

Of course, all this fun is really to raise more money for our "SPREAD THE NET" campaign which ends at the end of this month.

Gopher Draw Tickets will be sold prior to this event.

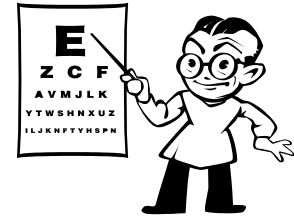
Thank you again for your support.



Eye See...Eye Learn

How Well Can Our Children See?

Our school board encourages all Junior Kindergarten students to have a comprehensive eye exam this year through Eye See...Eye Learn program - a **FREE childhood health awareness program**.



Fact: One in six children has a vision problem but too often children don't have a comprehensive eye exam before starting school.

Fact: Young children don't know what normal vision is supposed to look like and seldom complain to their parents. Some show no signs of a problem at all.

Your current JK students are eligible for a comprehensive eye exam (covered by your child's health card), and if required, one **FREE** pair of brand new high quality eyeglasses until June 30, 2012. There is no cost to participate. Children registering for JK for September can pre-book their exams now to take place after July 1, 2012.

All children up to 19 years of age are eligible for an annual OHIP-insured eye exam by an optometrist. Simply present the child's health card at the time of the exam.

For more information on the program or children's vision, please visit the website www.EyeSeeEyeLearn.ca or call toll free (855) 424-ESEL (3735).

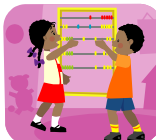
The Eye See...Eye Learn program is funded in part by the Government of Ontario.

Calling all 4 year olds


Registration for Kindergarten starts on February 13 th.
Please come to the school office to fill out a registration form.

Items to bring:

- ◆ Birth Certificate
- ◆ Health Card
- ◆ Proof of Address



Don't forget to subscribe to the Newsletter to get all your on-line Communication.



It's QUESTION TIME!!

✂ _____
Return this portion with the correct answer to be entered into a draw to win a free bag of popcorn or a yogurt. **Due back by the morning of February 10th.**

What do Gophers win? _____

What is our New Vice-Principal's name? _____

Student's Name _____ Class _____