

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 5

Mount Joy Public School

Website: www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca

Email: mount.joy.ps@yrdsb.ca

Phone: (905) 202-1684



News from the Office

November has certainly been a busy month here at Mount Joy. Extra curricular clubs and activities have been happening all throughout the school and more are added each week. Please encourage your child to take a risk and try something new. There are so many benefits to joining a school club or group such as being exposed to new learning, working collaboratively towards a shared goal, forming new friendships, gaining insight about one's own interests, in addition to building self confidence. We hope that each student at Mount Joy will take a chance and try something new.

It brings us great pleasure to recognize the passion and efforts of Ms. Gorman, who has enthusiastically led the school in a variety of Cancer awareness and fundraising initiatives that have resulted in well over \$1000 raised towards finding a cure for cancer. The primary, junior and intermediate floor hockey, movie days, kindergarten dance-a-thon and of course, the "Running of the Moustaches", could not have been possible without her leadership and the tremendous help from teacher organizers such as Ms. Kujaristi, Ms. Malden, Ms. MacIsaac, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Morris and Ms. McCulloh's Spirit Team. Thank you to all staff, students and families who have also helped support this very worthy cause through your donations, time and inspiring messages written on our Student Voice graffiti board! We can all make a difference in the fight for cancer.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our Mount Joy families in helping keep our parking lot safe by abiding by the new changes. We have received overwhelming support and positive feedback about these new adjustments. We always welcome your feedback and encourage you to please join us at our monthly school council meetings so that your voice and ideas may be shared with the greater school community.

Sincerely,

Mr. Pettigrew & Mrs. Di Stefano

Please Join Us For **Family Math Night**

For Families with Children in Grades 3-5
Thursday, December 10th
6:30-8:00 pm

Come and enjoy the wonders of math with your children and partake in an exciting evening of hands-on learning activities and games!

Learn about EQAO, visit our storytelling station in the library, discover some engaging math apps, and find out if you and your family have what it takes to hunt for math clues around our Escape-It rooms using teamwork and logic to free yourselves in a race against the clock.

We look forward to seeing you!

Principal: Mr. Ken Pettigrew

Vice Principal: Mrs. Christina Di Stefano

EOAA: Ms. Alison Meechan

Secretary: Ms. Nuria Costa

Trustee: Mr. Allan Tam

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Dan Wu

School Council Chairs: Ms. Anita Jarchow
Ms. Karen Ngai

MOVEMBER



8 Reasons Why Reading is Important

1. Kids who read often and widely get better at it. This is pretty much just common sense. After all, practice makes perfect in almost everything we humans do and reading is no different.
2. Reading exercises our brains. Reading strengthens brain connections and actually builds new connections.
3. Reading improves concentration. If they read regularly as they grow up, they develop the ability to do this for longer and longer periods.
4. Reading teaches children about the world around them. Through reading, they learn about people, places and events outside their own experience. They are exposed to ways of life, ideas and beliefs about the world which may be different from those which surround them.
5. Reading improves a child's vocabulary, leads to more highly-developed language skills and improves the child's ability to write well. This is because children learn new words as they read but also because they unconsciously absorb information as they read about things like how to structure sentences and how to use words and language effectively.
6. Reading develops a child's imagination. This is because when we read our brains translate the descriptions we read of people, places and things into pictures. When we're engaged in a story, we're also imagining how the characters are feeling. We use our own experiences to imagine how we would feel in the same situation.
7. Because reading does all the things I've mentioned above, children who read do better at school. And they don't just do better at subjects like reading, English and history. They do better at all subjects and they do better all the way through school.
8. Reading is a great form of entertainment! A paperback book doesn't take up much space so you can take it anywhere and you'll never be lonely or bored if you have a book in your bag.



ELL/Literacy News

Websites! Websites! Websites! There are many great online resources that you and your child can benefit from when learning to read and reading to learn:

- **News in Levels:** www.newsinlevels.com – real, every day short news articles written in three levels that you can read and listen to
- **Canadian Food Guide:** http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/order-commander/guide_trans-trad-eng.php#4 – translated versions of the guide
- **Britanica School:** <http://school.eb.com/levels> non-fiction information - login: dsbyork password: dsby7692
- **Bookflix:** <http://auth.grolier.com/login/bookflix/login.php?bfs=N> fiction and non-fiction texts - login: dsbyork password: dsby7692
- **Tumble Books:** fiction texts - login: mountjoy password: books
- **Unite for Literacy:** <http://uniteforliteracy.com> – multilingual audio books
- **Lexipedia:** <http://lexipedia.com> – look up words for their meanings and associations with other words or concepts
- **Visuwords:** <http://www.visuwords.com> similar to Lexipedia but more expansive; a graphic dictionary and thesaurus; although it is not multilingual, they provide many examples and are very thorough when a word is searched
- <http://www.eslgamesplus.com> games and activities

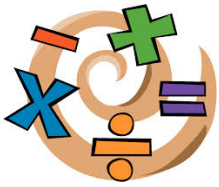


ONLINE PAYMENTS COMING SOON!

Our school will be accepting online payments through School Cash Online. School related expenses such as hot lunches, field trips and fundraisers will be online soon for you to make payment. Watch for more information coming soon.



School Cash Online



Math and Digital Literacy

Mathies.ca is a website, hosted by the Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (OAME), designed for Ontario K – 12 students and parents. There are interactive games, learning tools, activities, and additional supports for children and parents to discover in order to develop and enrich their math skills and comprehension. It is organized into sections, as follows:

Interactive Games

There are engaging and educational games to play print and download in this section.



Learning Tools

Here, there are a large variety of tools to help build mathematical thinking such as various calculators, comparison tools, fraction strips, virtual manipulatives, Geometer's Sketchpad, interactive online simulations (called GIZMOS), money, number charts to name just a few.



Activities

This section includes a wide range of math activities according to topic and grade.



Additional Supports

In this section, ePractice is a series of digital interactive mathematics activities designed to practice and build understanding. Immediate feedback is provided.

There are other resources here, as well, such as *Homework Help* and *Ask a Tutor*.

Parents Section

Resources Include:

How can I help with the learning of mathematics?

What Mathematics activities can we do together?

What digital supports are available?

What additional support is available?





Community Tea



Join us in the Library for some coffee/tea and treats on Thursday, December 18th at 8 am in the Library and find out what's happening at Mount Joy!

Our School Council has a monthly Family Tea inviting all parents, grandparents, and guardians. This is an opportunity for families to meet and mingle, to share ideas, to ask questions, and to find out more about the role of School Council in the life of Mount Joy.

Reminder that the **Fundscrip** campaign is still active and it's an easy way to support our students at Mount Joy. You can register at www.fundscrip.com using our invitation code **JXK336**.

For more information on school council or to be added to our distribution list, please email mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com.



Council Corner



The holiday season is upon us! This month the school council will be running the **Samko and Miko Toy Warehouse** fundraiser. Shop between **December 2nd and December 13th**, request for your receipt to be stamped and submit the receipt to the office and Mount Joy will receive 10% of your purchase!

Coming in January, **Northern Karate** will be running a lunchtime program with all of the profit going to Mount Joy. It'll be a great introduction to Karate for newcomers and a great opportunity for a little extra exercise for everyone.

Come out to a meeting, visit us online (we'll be updating regularly), or sign up for our emails.

December Council Meeting - Tuesday, December 1st 2 6:30pm in the Library
December Community Tea - Friday, December 18th @ 8:00am in the Library

<http://Mountjoyps.wordpress.com>
Mountjoyvolunteers@gmail.com

Your Co-Chairs,
Anita and Karen



Healthy Bits and Bites



Mount Joy P.S. has it's Healthy School Team up and running. This month, the committee members including teachers and students, helped with the school's Movember Activities for cancer research. They created posters to bring awareness and helped to monitor staff/student hockey tournaments in the gym. This month, we are looking to promote **i-walk Wednesdays** at our school. This is an initiative that encourages families to walk to school. The *Canadian Activity Physical Guidelines* recommend that children aged 5-11 should get 60 minutes of **moderate** to **vigorous** intensity physical activity every day (e.g., running, riding a bike). This is a great way to stay healthy and reduce environmental pollution. The Healthy School Team will also be spending some time brainstorming ways we can promote healthy snacks and lunches at our school. York Region's website- www.york.ca/nutrition has a lot of helpful information and programs for families interested in learning more about ways to keep and stay healthy!

Tuck Shop Opening

The school Tuck Shop will be up and running by December 8th at first recess, and will continue to be open every DAY 3 at that same time. Students in all divisions will be given the option of purchasing healthy snacks at prices ranging from \$0.25 to \$3.00. This will be a student run store and all money earned will be used to support your children in their learning, and assist the Grade 8's with their Graduation trip and Ceremony. As always, our goal with the store is to include some eco-friendly packages. Please encourage your child to have healthy eating practices.

Tuck Shop Dates: December 8, 15 January 5, 12, 20, 27 February 4, 11, 19, 26



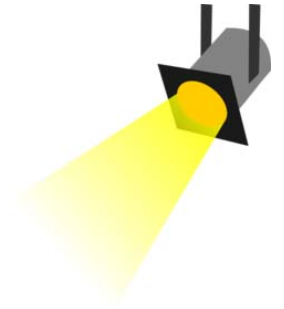
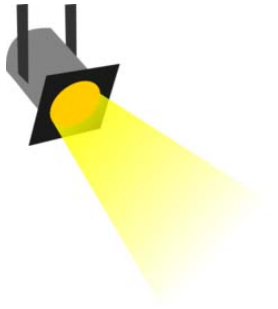
Volleyball Invitational Tournament

On Thursday November 12, 2015, the Intermediate Boys Volleyball team travelled to Donald Cousens Public School to participate in their first invitational tournament of the season. With the likes of the hosting school Donald Cousens, Unionville Meadows, Sam Chapman and an out of district school, Parkland, the boys knew the competition would be strong. After losing only one game in the round robin portion of the tournament, the team played Parkland in the quarterfinals, beating them 21-14 to advance to the semifinals where they then beat Sam Chapman convincingly, 21-6. With the team's momentum building, Mount Joy would face the very team they lost to in the round robin, which was Donald Cousens in a best 2 out of 3 final match up. The boys showed extraordinary perseverance by rallying to support one another and winning the first game, 21-16 and an even closer second game 21-18 bringing home only Mount Joy's third athletic pennant in its 10 year tenure.



Congratulations boys! You all should be proud of your achievement as a team.



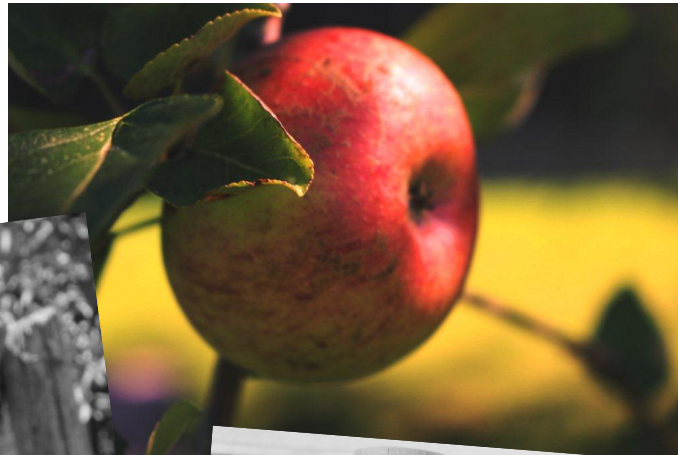


Spot Light on Student Voice Photography Club




By Antjuaan, Grade 8, Mr. Morris' Class





I joined the Mount Joy photography club because I enjoy taking pictures. Last year I began by taking photos for the Markham Fair. I was lucky enough to win first place in the photo contest. I was very proud of myself and I became more confident. Starting in my grade 8 year I wanted to participate in the photography club. First I entered the Markham Fair with my apple photo taken at the Markham Museum. This year I won second place and some prize money! This helped with my confidence and ability however I was still very nervous going to photography club for the first time. After joining the club I feel like I am included with everyone at school because I am able to help others with their pictures and make mine better. Joining photography club is taking risk but you learn how to take pictures, meet new people and most of all to have fun!



December 2015

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
	1 Sushi Day <i>School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	2 Pizza Day 	3	4 <i>Gr. 7/8 Immunizations</i>
7	8 Sushi Day	9 Pizza Day  <i>Mathletes Grades 3-6</i>	10 <i>Mathletes Grades 3-6</i> Family Math Night (Gr. 3-5)	11 Color House Day
14	15 Sushi Day	16 Pizza Day 	17	18 <i>Community Tea 8:00 am in the Library</i> Red & Green Day
21	22	23	24	25
WINTER BREAK				

Looking ahead to January

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
4 First Day Back from Winter Break	5 <i>School Council Meeting 6:30 pm</i>	6 Pizza Day 	7	8
11	12	13 Pizza Day 	14	15 <i>P.A. Day</i>



For the complete newsletter please visit the
Mount Joy Public School website:
www.mountjoy.ps.yrdsb.ca

