



The Greensville Grizzly



February 2, 2010

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

February! Will the ground hog see its shadow? The school year is galloping past and WE HOPE that spring is around the corner. But, before spring puts in an appearance, we would like a little snow—enough here in Greensville so that Mr. Nicole's **Winter Carnival** looks convincing and enough in British Columbia to satisfy our Olympic spirits.

Here on the home front, teachers are wrapping up the second Developmental Reading Assessment of the year. In looking at the results, we see a great need for our learning readers to have a chance to read aloud to listening ears on a daily basis to develop fluency. If you have a few minutes a day to listen to one or two students, **we could sure use your help**. If you pick up your children at the end of the day, consider coming 15-20 minutes earlier and let us connect you to a developing reader or two. Please get in touch with Ms. Johnson if you can help out.

Kindergarten registration has started and Mrs. Wannamaker is taking names at the office. If you have a child in your family who will be starting school in the fall, or you know of a family with such a child, be sure to contact the office. If your child is already in attendance at our school, there is no need to register for next year.

Speaking of next year, we are already scrutinizing our numbers and trying to plan out what our classes will look like in **2010/2011**. Because of the size of our school, we will have a number of combined grade classes next year. Right now, it looks like we will have a split 1/2 and a split 2/3. I will keep you posted as soon as our numbers are confirmed by the Board.

Grade 2 and 3 Choir

The Grade 2/3 Choir has started practicing on Wednesdays during the first Nutrition Break. There are about 30 students participating in the choir and we are looking forward to Choirfest in May. Choirfest is a Board-wide choral performance with adjudication. This will be an excellent opportunity for our choir to see other choirs from schools around the Board. We will be sure to let you know of upcoming in-school performances. Thank you Mrs. Vince, Mrs. Hill and Mr. Carle!

Open House and French Café

Mark your calendars! Our Spring Open House and Annual French Café are scheduled for the first Thursday in May from 5-6:30 p.m. Our grade 4 French class and the French Club members will be running the café and are starting to plan for the event.

Lice Check

Our second school wide lice check was carried out on January 19th and 20th. We had very few cases in the school. Please check your children's heads regularly to keep our lice population low. Let us know if you find any signs of infestation and we will alert the pertinent class. Thanks!

Common Scents

Although it is not a pervasive problem in an elementary school, we would like to remind families that there are a number of folks at our school who are either allergic to or sensitive to scented products such as perfume, cologne, body spray, hair products and detergents. Please avoid wearing scented products when you are going to be in the building and please make sure that Mom's perfume and Dad's cologne or aftershave are out of reach of the children. Thanks!

Lunch Money

Just a reminder: It is that time of year again when Mrs. Wannamaker will be cashing the next round of pizza, sub and milk money cheques.

Character Builds

February is "Caring" month at Greenville School. The affirmation for caring is, *"I care for others and myself. I pay loving attention to the needs of people and animals. I give my best to every job."* During the month of February we will show our caring for those less fortunate than ourselves by raising money for Haiti and for "Sleeping Children Around the World". Stay tuned for more information.

Knitting Club - Mrs. Wannamaker

We started our knitting club about 2 weeks ago with an enthusiastic response from our grade 4 and 5 students. The students have caught on quickly on how to cast on and knit and they're well on their way with their own projects.

Thanks go to Mrs. Kerr and Mrs. Green for helping get the knitters started, thanks to Mr. Carle for letting us use the library and Thank You to all those who have supplied knitting needles and wool.

There have been quite a number of students that would like to knit daily. We have opened the library on Tuesdays and Thursdays during second break and Wednesdays and Fridays during 1st nutrition break for knitting. **Please remember to bring your knitting needles and wool.**

We will continue to meet until March Break.

Cancellation of School and Board Operations

For information on the cancellation of school and board administrative operations due to inclement weather or prolonged power or water outage, go to:

http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/aboutus/policies/approved_policies or call the Hotline #: 905-521-2535

Remember to watch and listen to local media for up-to-date information on the cancellation of events or operations.

Popcorn and Frozen Yogurt

Kernels Popcorn and TCBY Frozen Yogurt is sold, each for a toonie, every Tuesday at the beginning of the first nutrition break in the library.

The B schedule kindergarten students are able to purchase popcorn and frozen yogurt on Wednesday at the beginning of the first nutrition break.

Lost and Found

Kudos to all who are labeling their children's clothing and other belongings! It is so gratifying to be able to return lost articles to their rightful owners. **Please note that the Mabel's Labels fundraiser is still running and is an easy way to keep track of belongings!** Check our website for the link.

Currently in our Lost and Found, we have (unlabeled):

- **MANY MITTS AND GLOVES, BOTH PAIRS AND SINGLES**
- **Sportek "High Peak" polar fleece top – size 6**
- **H & M L.O.G.G. pink hoodie – size 5-6**
- **Old Navy dark green (aqua) sweat shorts with a "5" on the front – size large**
- **Navy Sport Crew navy blue with light blue stripe with "55" on it – size 6**
- **The Children's Palce Stretch white zipped hoodie – size 4T**
- **Truly kids dark grey hoodie – size 1, L???**
- **Light grey polar fleece OshKosh zipped hoodie – size 6**

If any of these belong to one of your children, please have them claim it at the office or from the hooks across from the office. Remind the children to listen for the lost and found announcements each morning. Thanks.

School Council – Steven Hadcock

In the last newsletter, you may recall that we were talking about a new school sign and that the various options were presented for your input. By the time this newsletter goes out, all of the feedback will have been collected and we will review this at our February meeting and keep you up to date on the final vote. It is certainly an exciting endeavour and will bring recognition to our school. Once again, thanks to Jennifer Kleven for starting the ball rolling on this project.

We look forward to ongoing joint meetings and collaboration with the Home and School group to bring future projects forward and to maximize parental input within the school. Our next joint meeting will be taking place the third Tuesday of February at 7:15 p.m. in the library.

Remember to acknowledge your special Valentine this month on February 14th. Love is in the air. Let's hope that spring and the warm weather will follow.

Home and School

Well, it's that time of year already when we start to think about Fun Fair! We are in desperate need of volunteers to help organize this big event. This is only made possible by the help and participation of all parents. You do not have to be a Home and School member to help out!

Fun Fair generates money for things such as the piano, smart boards, computers, guest speakers and gives the teachers a bit of money to spend in the classroom— all things that benefit our children!

Please come out to our Fun Fair meeting at the Collins on Feb 2ND AT 7:00PM! Our kids' school really needs our support!

Our next Home and School meeting will be on Feb 16th at 6:30 in the library.

President:	Colleen Evans	Members:	
Vice President:	Jennifer Smithyes	Tania Brittain	Tara Gunn
Past President:	Jackie Sinclair	Laura Smith	Ramona Jerome
Secretary:	Erin Rooney	Diane Robertson	Anne Campbell
Treasurer:	Cindy Goodes	Robin Wilson	Sue VanEgdom

Helping Make Schools Safer (from *The Virtual Blackboard*) *New Legislation Outlines Reporting Requirements*

Even one incident of bullying or harassment in school is one too many. Schools must be places where everyone feels welcome, safe and respected. The *Keeping Our Kids Safe at School Act* that comes into effect February 1, 2010, is the latest step in the strategy to help make Ontario's schools safer. It will affect how all school boards handle incidents at school.

This new law requires that all school staff report serious incidents that could lead to suspension or expulsion to their principal and that principals notify parents of victims when a student has been harmed. In addition, all staff who work directly with students, for example teachers or educational assistants, must respond not only to serious incidents but also to inappropriate or disrespectful behaviour among students. This could include racist or sexist comments, graffiti or vandalism, behaviours and activities that are unacceptable in Ontario schools.

Students need a safe and positive learning and teaching environment to succeed at school. But it isn't just the school's responsibility to make that happen. All of us have a part to play in making and keeping schools safe.

Ontario's Code of Conduct sets out clear standards for behaviour for everyone involved in the publicly funded school system. This includes students, parents/guardians, teachers, other staff

members, volunteers and community partners. The code applies on school property, on school buses, at school-authorized events or activities or in other circumstances that could have an impact on the school climate.

Find out more about Ontario's strategy to help make schools safer. Check out the Safe School section of the Ministry of Education's [website](#) for more information on the *Keeping our Kids Safe at School Act* and what it means for you and your child. You'll also find information on the code of conduct, bullying prevention and other programs designed to help build a positive school climate.



Local Children Need Foster and Adoptive Families

Foster and adoptive parents are needed to provide temporary and permanent care to children in our community. More than 600 children, age newborn to 16, are in the care of The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton.

The CAS strives to keep children living with their natural families whenever possible but sometimes parents can't provide adequate care for their children. In situations like these, children may be brought into the care of the CAS. In time, some children will be reunited with their natural family; others may remain with their foster family; and others may move on to an adoptive home.

Could you provide a safe and a supportive home for a child in our community? For information, please call Rachel at Homes for Kids, 905-546-KIDS (5437) or visit www.homesforkids.com.