

January 10, 2012

## **PRINCIPAL'S CORNER**

Welcome back! I hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing holiday and that our students are ready to plunge back into the business of learning.



### **After School Scholars**

We are lucky to have been given Board support for a Grade Three After School Scholars' Program at our school this spring to give a boost to Grade 3 students who might need some extra help. I will be making phone calls home this week or next week to those families of children who are eligible for the program. The After School Scholars' Program is part of the Board's array of early intervention strategies for literacy.



### **Peer Mediation**

We are excited to have our Junior students participate in Peer Mediation training later this month. A number of the 4s and 5s have signed on and we hope to have the program up and running in February. This is a great leadership opportunity for students, where they learn problem solving techniques and active listening skills.

The program offers students a chance to make a real, positive difference in the lives of Greensville students. Peer Mediators are students trained to help peers and younger students negotiate solutions to playground conflicts. They will be trained to do the following:

- interrupt emerging disagreements, disputes or bullying episodes
- offer students the opportunity to resolve the problem
- outline the rules of mediation
- facilitate communication between disputants
- encourage students to find a solution to conflict
- plan a strategy for preventing future problems.

Students will be on duty one or two nutrition breaks per week. There will be substitutes built into the system to cover kids who are absent or are attending other lunchtime activities. Our teacher champions for the Peer Mediation Program are Mrs. Plunkett and Mrs. Green. Thank you both for taking on this important role!



### **Family Literacy Day**

Family Literacy Day is coming up on Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup> of January and we will be celebrating by having a morning assembly with special guests, an author visit subsidized by the Home and School Association, pyjama day and buddy reading throughout the day. The visiting author will be Frieda Wishinsky who wrote the Canadian Flyer series.

In addition, Jared Bennet will be doing an after school presentation on ways to use technology at home to enhance your children's literacy skills. This will take place at 4 pm on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.



### **Knitting Club**

Knitting will start this Thursday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of January and will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays, second break, until March break for grades 4 and 5. Students should bring knitting needles, size 5 or 6 and some wool. There are a few needles and some wool here at school for students who do not have access to them from home.



### **Annual Mitten Tree and Food Drive**

Once again our Greensville Community members have opened their hearts and donated a heap of mittens, hats, scarves and gently used winter clothing. These items will be presented to Memorial (City) School at an assembly later this month. Food items were donated to the food bank. Thank you all for your generosity.



### **Milk Cheques**

Milk cheques will be cashed this month.

### **School Council**

Happy New Year! The next School Council Meeting is on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 in the Library. Please join us if you are able.

#### Council Members 2011-2012

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| David Arbuckle          | Chair  |
| Sasha Spycher –Sulentic | Parent Member, Past Co Chair, Communications Rep |
| Steve Hadcock           | Parent Member, Past Co-Chair                     |
| Sarah Mann              | Parent Member                                    |
| Brian Csermak           | Parent Member                                    |
| Marc Brittain           | Parent Member                                    |
| Colleen Evans           | Parent Member                                    |
| Rosina Harvey-Keeping   | Parent Member                                    |
| Ramona Jerome           | Parent Member                                    |
| Aimee VanMeeteren       | Parent Member                                    |
| Susan Hill              | Community Rep, Secretary                         |
| Cairine Grantham        | Teacher Rep                                      |
| Laura Santaguida        | Umbrella Family After School Care Rep            |
| Kate Fischer            | Principal  |

### **Home and School**

Welcome to 2012! The next Home and School Meeting is on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 in the Library. All are welcome.

#### Home and School Members, September 2011:

Tania Brittain, Co-President, [tbrittain@cogeco.ca](mailto:tbrittain@cogeco.ca)  
Lisa Spenler, Co-President, [spenlers@cogeco.ca](mailto:spenlers@cogeco.ca)  
Colleen Evans, Past President, [bevans4@cogeco.ca](mailto:bevans4@cogeco.ca)  
Dawn Brittain, Treasurer, [dawn.brittain@sympatico.ca](mailto:dawn.brittain@sympatico.ca)  
Cindy Goodes, Secretary, [rcgoodes@hotmail.com](mailto:rcgoodes@hotmail.com)  
Jennifer Smithyes  
Ramona Jerome  
Sue VanEgdom  
Anne Campbell  
Stacey Spence  
Megan McGran  
Nancy Johnson, Teacher Liaison