



Mount Albion Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

24 Kennard Street, Stoney Creek, ON, L8J 2E5 P: 905-560-0908 F: 905-560-0913

mountalbion@hwdsb.on.ca

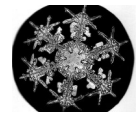
Follow Us on Twitter (@mountalbion)

C. E. MacKenzie - Principal

L. Quinn - Office Administrator

J. Gillies - Superintendent of Student Achievement

FEBRUARY 2016



A Message from the Principal:

As I begin writing this entry for our February newsletter, I realize that Groundhog Day is next Tuesday and I sit in anticipation that we will soon learn that Spring is just around the corner...although our winter so far has certainly been a very different one from last year. But we do still have weeks ahead of cold, and potential snow and ice. So! Please ensure your child(ren) arrive at school each day with outdoor clothing and footwear so that on the days we are outside for recess breaks, everyone can play and have fun and keep warm and dry. Please remind your child(ren) that snow throwing is not permitted at school.

At Mount Albion, we continue with our vision of educating the whole child and we focus on the 4 A's: Academics, Athletics, Arts, and Attitude. Part of our "Attitude" development is through our Character Education strategy of posting the Cougar Compassion Challenges each week. The students listen to the challenges in the morning, and then for a couple of weeks, we challenge the students to participate in the "challenge". For example – for the first 2 weeks of February, our Cougar Compassion Challenge is: A "Random Act of Kindness" is a selfless act performed by a person to help someone else or to cheer someone up, or just to let someone know that you care about them and appreciate them. Complete a "Random Act of Kindness" every day this week! My challenge is now to you as parents! Ask your child(ren) what the Challenges are every other week! If they can't remember, suggest they write it down in their agenda. Talk to them about the messages, since we know in the end, this is about developing kind and caring students with an emphasis on building a great sense of family at Mount Albion. At Mount Albion School, Cougars Care!

Report cards will be going home on Thursday, February 18th. Do take some time to sit with your child(ren) and discuss the report card. Look beyond "just the marks" and share the comments. The Learning Skills on the first page of the report card are equally important as the evaluations and comments for the subject areas. Ask questions. Reflect together on the successes achieved! Then together set some goals for next term, and write them on the bottom of the last page before returning this form to the school in the Report Card Envelope. It is important to realize as well, that by the time you have received the Term 1 Report Card, that Term 2 will have already begun in the classroom! And if you want an interview, our teachers will be pleased to meet with you at a time that is convenient for you.

Finally, along with your School Council, I encourage you to register for a Special night where you can attend with your child(ren) on February 24th – you will participate in two 45-minute mini workshops – one on fun yoga exercises, and the other on making healthy food choices! More information is within this newsletter, and a registration form/flyer will be sent home next week....But mark the date on your calendar now, so that you won't miss it!!

Mrs. C. E. MacKenzie

Principal

2016/2017 JK Registration
begins on Monday, February 1, 2016



Please come in to the office to pick up your registration package. If you have completed the form online, please bring the printed copy to the office along with the child's birth certificate, health card and proof of your address (e.g. utility bill, drivers license).

**We are looking forward to meeting
all of our new little friends!**

**ALL visitors and parents must
report to the office upon
entry to the school.
Visitor Passes will be issued there.**

Friday, February 19th

Grades 6, 7 & 8

CHICOPEE SKI HILLS!



GRADE 8 GRAD PHOTOS!

Friday, February 5th



Gentlemen—please wear
light-coloured shirts

Ladies—please wear
light-coloured clothing
on your upper body

P. D. DAY

FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 25th



Please remember—dogs are not permitted on school property between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.!

Thank you for understanding that we all need to follow this guideline. Even the friendliest and cutest dog can be startled by a child and “nip” or “bite”. And some of our children are fearful around your pets. If you want to walk your dog to school to meet your child, please arrange to meet out on the city sidewalk, off of school property. Thanks!



FAMILY DAY—Monday, February 15th

Have a wonderful day enjoying extra family time! :)



REPORT CARDS GO HOME ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18th



Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is pleased to offer School Cash Online, an online service that allows you, as parents/guardians, to pay for your child's school fees and purchase items related to their school experience in a secure and convenient way.

Our school is enrolled with School Cash Online. In order to help us improve the service for families, HWDSB would appreciate feedback from you by completing a short survey, which can be found on our school website.

The survey is voluntary and should take about 5 minutes to complete. All survey responses are anonymous and will be reported on in a summarized format.

The survey will remain open until the end of the day on February 12, 2016.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Carrie Salemi, Manager of School Support / Compliance, at 905-527-5092, x 2461 or csalemi@hwdsb.on.ca.

https://hwdsb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6FCuYJF3rJaEj4x



School Cash Online – What is MyWallet?

MyWallet is used when you want to load funds from your bank account in advance of paying for items online. The process of adding funds to MyWallet and paying for items are two separate processes. It's like buying a gift card and then using it later to pay for items. There may be a slight time delay between when funds are loaded in your MyWallet and when they are available for making purchases.

Funds may be retained in MyWallet over the summer. As students progress to other HWDSB schools, all MyWallet funds follow the student. If necessary, refunds for unused MyWallet balances may be requested via email to mywallet@kevgroup.com. Details on the information requirements to obtain a refund may be found on the "Refund Policy" link on the School Cash Online website.

News from Mount Albion School Council

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.!

On Wednesday, February 24th, the School Council will be hosting a Family Fitness & Nutrition Night. Come on out to enjoy a 45-minute fitness routine as well as a 45-minute Nutrition Make & Take event. All participants will go home with information they have learned throughout the evening. This event is for parents and children to do together. All children must be accompanied by an adult. This special evening is made possible through the “Parents Reaching Out” grant received by your School Council this year.

Students will be bringing flyers home closer to the event with more details, and a registration form.



Snowballs—Snow Clearing & Salting



As the snow season settles in for the remainder of the winter, we have reminded our students of the dangers of throwing snow/ice, and sliding on any icy spots outside. Serious injury can often result from what is often considered “just good fun” in the snow. At school we enforce the age old rule of **NO SNOWBALLS** at any time. Please reinforce this important rule with your children at home. This helps us all to remain safe while walking to and from the school and during the school day.

The city is responsible for our sidewalks by the road. School personnel and board contractors are responsible for pathways and the parking lot. This involves both snow clearance and salting in certain areas. Playgrounds will not be plowed or otherwise cleared. The head caretaker will check the grounds conditions early in the morning and salting in some areas may take place. In extreme cases of ice and dependent on weather, the principal may decide to restrict certain play areas, or decide to have indoor recesses! At all times, students are reminded to be cautious when outdoors.

Valentine's Day Dance **Friday, February 12th**



POPCORN DAYS!

EVERY FRIDAY!

1st nutrition break

3 flavours! \$2.00/bag

Light Butter & Salt!

White Cheddar!

Dill Pickle!

ONLY \$2.00 a bag!





ONTARIO TOBACCO ACT

As part of the **Ontario Tobacco Act**, we must remind you multiple times per year that there is **NO SMOKING** on school property, both inside and outside the building, inclusive of the parking lot.

Cold Weather Apparel



It's here—the cold and the frost and snow and the blowing wind! And with that comes the need to dress appropriately to stay warm and comfortable during outdoor activities and breaks.

Please ensure your children have hats, boots, mitts, scarves and snow pants. There is no supervision inside of the school during break, and so they must come prepared to be outside at least twice during the school day.

Please remember that if students are too sick to go outside for break, then they are too sick to come to school. Unfortunately, we cannot offer indoor supervision at those times. Please refer to your child's agenda for the HWDSB policy on cold weather alerts.

ILLNESS



Please keep your child at home when they are sick. In cases of vomiting, please ensure they stay home for 24-hours once it has stopped.

Thank you!

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL



This is a reminder that the school cannot dispense medications without the signed authorization of **both** a parent/guardian **and** physician. This includes such items as cough syrup, Tylenol and other over the counter medications. Please ask the school office for the proper form for your doctor to complete for this purpose. We are sorry for any inconvenience or added expense this may cause, we must however follow HWDSB medical protocols.

FEBRUARY 2016 WINTER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 (2) Kindergarten Registration Opens Today	2 (3)	3 (4)	4 (5) Pizza 	5 (1)  Popcorn sales Grade 8 Grad Photos CHEESE! 	6 
7 	8 (2)	9 (3)	10 (4) Junior BULLDOGS HOCKEY trip 	11 (5) Pizza 	12 (1)  Popcorn sales Valentine's Dance 	13 
14 Valentine's Day 	15 Family Day! NO SCHOOL 	16 (2)	17 (3)	18 (4) REPORT CARDS GO HOME! Pizza 	19 (5)  Popcorn sales Chicopee Ski Hill Trip 	20 
21 	22 (1)	23 (2)	24 (3) School Council Presents: FAMILY FITNESS & NUTRITION NIGHT	25 (4)  SCHOOL COUNCIL 6:30pm Popcorn sales Carousel Players Performance WESTERN SPIRIT DAY! Pizza 	26 P.D. DAY	27 
28 	29 (5) LEAP YEAR! 29 DAYS!					